

What will The Universities of India in 2020 look like?

The future is a difficult thing to predict. Still, we are trying to visualise what the future might hold for Indian Universities.

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ABSTRACT-

In recent years India's place in the world has changed; a new India is emerging. Indians are carving out their futures, confident that they have something unique to offer the world. To thrive in challenging times, India's must be not only academically and technically equipped, but also creative, innovative and connected. When we look back, we realize that many things have changed remarkably, but others seem not to have changed at all. In this Paper researches have studied two things: First, Many issues that have been with us for the past few years include: how to make the Teaching year more exciting; how to communicate what students actually do; how to improve the overall education system, and how to give students a basic understanding education; But for the most part, things have changed in astounding ways. Secondly: Strategies we should follow to improve the university system and to become global university. In the 21st century we aspire once again to serve and lead as the 'engine' of this new India.

Keywords: Universities, Enrolment Ratio, Higher Education, 21st century, Research

I INTRODUCTION

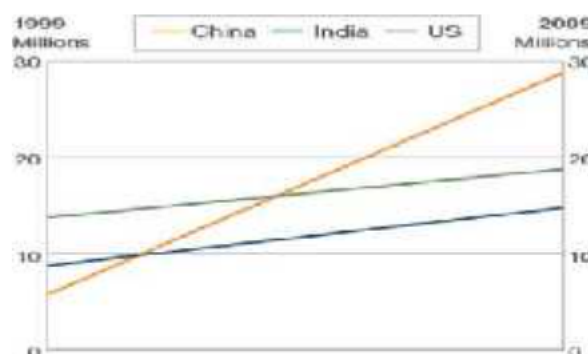
Former President and missile man APJ Abdul Kalam met the students IIM- I. Sharing his vision of a 21st century university, Kalam said such a university should have a global outlook, a scientific temper, close interaction between technology and public welfare, virtual classrooms and a stress on collaborative research. He said research is the backbone for any university and it empowers students. On his vision for the country for 2020, Kalam said that there are still many challenges before it and there are only seven years left. So, we also need to think about the universities of 2020 in India. It is designed to be the 'light on the hill':

India has now come up with new aims. Yes! It is now in a plan to increase its **Gross Enrolment Ratio (GRE)** from 18.1% to 25.2% by 2017 and around 30% increase in enrollment by the year 2020. It wants to expand its university system to meet the aspirations of a growing middle class, to widen access, and become a "knowledge powerhouse".

It will mean increasing the country's student population from 12 million to over 30 million, and will put it on course to becoming one of the world's largest education systems.

"We will very likely be number two if not number one in terms of numbers," says Pawan Agarwal a former civil servant and author of Indian Higher Education: Envisioning the Future.

The amount of money in the central budget for higher education in the current five year plan (2012-2017) is nine times the amount of the previous five years. But there is a steep hill to climb. India's National Growth in university enrolment Knowledge Commission estimated the country needs 1,500 universities compared to around 656 now.



Source: Unosco. US Education Dept.

India's private university sector is also growing rapidly, particularly in professional education in information technology, engineering, medicine and management where there is huge demand from the burgeoning middle classes. But that will not be enough. To bridge the gap, the government last year tabled legislation to invite foreign universities to set up branch campuses. The Foreign Providers Bill is currently making its way through parliament.

Imagine where we might be in 2020, The Pew Research Center 2011 study found survey (1,021 experts and stakeholders respondents) says that by 2020, University will be different by mass adoption of

teleconferencing and distance learning to leverage expert resources. Significant numbers of learning activities will move to individualized, just-in-time learning approaches. There will be a transition to "hybrid" classes that combine online learning components with less-frequent on-campus, in-person class meetings. Most universities' assessment of learning will take into account more individually-oriented outcomes and capacities that are relevant to subject mastery. Requirements for graduation will be significantly shifted to customized outcomes.

The Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (IISc) has taken the number one position in a new ranking of the top 10 Indian higher education institutions based on their global academic prestige. Specialist institutes occupy the top five places in the Times Higher Education India Reputation Rankings, published for the first time this year alongside the full Times Higher Education World Reputation Rankings.

IISc - which was conceived by the Indian industrialist J. N. Tata and founded in 1909 - takes first position. Just below it are the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay in second, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in third, the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur in fourth and the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi in fifth.

Of the so-called "Bric" countries with rapidly expanding economies (Brazil, Russia, India and China), India is the only nation lacking a single representative in the overall world top 100. Times Higher Education, said: "As a country with a rapidly growing economy and a fine tradition of scholarship, it is a cause for concern that India does not have any institutions that are sufficiently highly regarded by international scholars that they feature among the global top 100 of our World Reputation Rankings.

"But it is clear that there is a need to benchmark the country's performance using recognized global performance indicators such as those employed by Times Higher Education, especially as the country's higher education system is going through such dramatic development and expansion. So we are glad to release this inaugural India Reputation Ranking, which not only gives a sense of the pecking order within India but also shows how far its top institutions must travel to join the elite top 100."

Times Higher Education revealed that if the The World Reputation Rankings were to list more than just the top 100, India's top-ranked institution, IISc Bangalore, would be 130th. IIT Bombay would sit in 192nd place, but all other Indian institutions would fall outside a global top 200.

Referring to global university rankings that use a range of indicators beyond reputation alone, he said: "It is a sobering thought that not one Indian university today figures in the top 200 universities of the world today."

India 's Prime Minister, ManMohan Singh, told a conference in February: "Too many of our higher education institutions are simply not up to the mark. Too many of them have simply not kept abreast with changes that have taken place in the world around us...[and are] still producing graduates in subjects that the job market no longer requires..."

II BY 2020, WE WILL BE

Last year there were reports of up to 50 foreign universities interested in setting up in India. The hype reached fever pitch in November during the visit of US President Barack Obama and a large group of US University Presidents. They were enthusiastically talking of university partnerships.

We need to create truly global university, both physically and intellectually. We need to start wide network of research and teaching collaborations, but they are not enough. Joint planning and resource allocation in strategic areas will give us a head start over all other universities. This will result in attractiveness to elite students, new research and research funding opportunities and global partnerships with industry and governments.

Some foreign universities are already in place. The UK's Leeds Metropolitan University provides management degrees on a 36-acre campus in Bhopal in central India. Lancaster University runs courses at the GD Goenka World Institute - a 69-acre site near Delhi.

China is also ready to set up first university campuses abroad. "The Chinese government and its universities have been very ambitious in the reform and internationalization of Chinese higher education," said, director of the Center of Chinese Studies at University of Michigan. "China's global influence and prestige in higher education is best served by strengthening its universities at home and offering a 'world class' education to Chinese students and expanded numbers of overseas students."

"It is not yet clear how we will develop our presence in India. It is a complicated reform bill."

Plan to become among the strongest research universities in the world. We will create critical mass in areas where we are or will become world- renowned and in areas Relevant to the grand challenges the world faces, particularly areas at the intersections of disciplines. We will focus on research that has a high impact on the world, engaging with local communities and industry to ensure we are meeting the challenges they face.

University should promote the highest standards of research and scholarship and be a world leader in research areas of specialization.

III CONCLUSION

(a) **What strategies we should follow:**

Embracing the distinct identities of each of our campuses and developing the competitive advantages that diversity offers. We must turn our identity as a globally networked university with multiple campuses and academies into a major strategic advantage. For this to happen, we need to work together. Our structures need to ensure both that leaders retain the autonomy necessary to effectively deliver outcomes and that there is a clear strategic framework for them to operate in.

(b) **Increasing our focus on Asia.**

With the ever-accelerating rise of Asia, we are now equipoise geographically and culturally between the old and the new at a tipping point in history. What opportunity! In the past, India has punched above its weight because we have lateral thinkers who challenge accepted norms. This is no longer enough. We must access larger talent pools for outstanding staff and students. The development of our joint academy will build up to increase students in science and engineering. Our new joint school and research academy with other international University is arguably the most exciting university project in all of China and offers unique masters, PhD and research opportunities. It is crucial that they are taken up.

(c) **Revolutionizing student learning:**

We will be a leader in providing education that is appropriate for the new era. Amongst other things, we will ensure that students have the ability to locate and use good quality information in a highly complex and overloaded information environment. The environment we teach in will draw on the best information, including open ware, and encompass state-of-the-art learning spaces and blended approaches, conscious development of character and soft skills, and opening students' minds to international opportunities. We will resource necessary investment in educational infrastructure, in part through partnerships.

(d) **Continuing to strengthen academically:**

We will continue the academic strengthening program embraced by the university community, where all research-active academics are required to meet minimum research criteria and are aware of stretch criteria relevant in career building. We need to clear advantages to attract high quality recruits new talent and continue to grow our own. One such advantage is our long-nurtured 'can do'

reputation. Initiatives such as the Warwick partnership and our new research developments in India and China also provide appeal. We must be entrepreneurial in engaging with industry and developing new income sources, and efficient in managing core operations so we can support ambitious research planning.

(e) **Giving optimal attention to each campus:**

Most of academic mass is centered in India. It is these campuses from which our charge to become one of the world's top research universities will be led. Yet much if not most management attention over the last decade has gone to the diasporas rather than the home base. Going ahead, we must pay appropriate attention to both in our management structures.

(f) **Continually improving our systems:**

Resource is tight and people's time precious. We must continue to eliminate red tape. In some areas we may have become uncharacteristically risk averse and adopted unduly tight management protocols. We cannot afford inefficient or suboptimal support processes. Considerable progress has been made under University by consolidating our operations where appropriate and we must keep looking for sensible efficiencies. A state-of-the-art IT system will be essential to delivering the ambitions outlined in this paper, so we must continually improve the management and delivery of IT solutions. We will create systems and structures that draw the best out of our professional staff and engage them in delivering on our institutional goals.

(g) **Establishing of various research centers:**

Universities should establish various research centers to make the standardized curriculum as per advanced technologies and ever growing demand for higher education. Our University has taken initiative to meet out this requirement and Research Centers are putting their efforts in their concern fields by using advanced technology. Our future dream is to establish a Research Hub at global level.

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