

## *Editorial*

# **Creating Research and Innovative Ideas in Higher Educational Institutions and the role of Teachers**

Research and innovations (R&I) are the two very important arteries feeding the vibrancy of higher education (HE) masses and it is through the HE societies and people are empowered. Despite this critical importance of R&I, the investment in this two sectors is only 0.69% of our GDP as compared to 2.80% in the USA 4.3% in Israel and 4.2% in South Korea. The fruit of such investments is very well understood when one compares the high standard of living of these countries and their economic and military might. Here the role of knowledge creation and research are critical in growing and sustaining a large and vibrant economy like that of ours and for uplifting the society and continuously inspiring the nation to achieve greater heights. It has always been the strong knowledge hubs of various developed countries like USA, Germany, Italy, South Korea and Japan that contribute towards newer knowledge in the realms of science as well as arts, language and culture that enhance and uplifts not only their own civilizations but others around the globe as well. Therefore building a robust ecosystem of research has become more important than ever due to the rapid changes in the spheres of climate change, population dynamics and management, biotechnology, an expanding digital marketplace and the rise of machine learning and artificial intelligence.

The emphasis on research and innovations also are to be rooted through deeper understanding of the various fields of social sciences and humanities and the various socio-cultural and environmental dimensions of the nation or for that matter of the region. For successful addressing of various challenges the need of the hour is the high quality interdisciplinary research across fields which is very well articulated in the new NEP 2020. Thus the creation of a knowledge society for building new knowledge is a must to meet the challenges of the future – the NEP 2020 is here to guide us for building such societal knowledge infrastructure – the most catalytic factor for this is the motivated teacher for creating a learning society. It is only through motivated, energized and capable faculty that the desired level of revamping of higher education can be achieved (NEP 2020).

In today's context of universal adoption of UGC curriculum and CBCS syllabus in most of Universities and Higher Educational Institutions( HEIs) the input of knowledge becomes more or less uniform across the country. To create uniform and equally capable output from HEIs the most important role and responsibility has to be taken by the teachers so that we can create a knowledge society and that will create all the avenues for new knowledge, new ideas, creative and critical aptitude for new thinking that ultimately will open for new areas of research and innovations.

In our state of Assam and in other north eastern states when the Govt. of India is emphasising on the Act East policy and for creation of market for Eastern Asia , it is high time that the HEIs should come forward and involve deeply in the areas of research and innovation for creating generations of youngsters in their graduation courses to motivate them for industry/market oriented projects based on local resources which is so rich and diverse. Such innovative ideas can be in areas of science , social sciences and in multidisciplinary fields, but to build this important infrastructure, the need of the hour is creation of 'knowledge incubation centres' for each HEIs which is yet to take its footings. Various Govt. Schemes are in fact already in place for the HEIs in the form of RUSA grants which requires proper allocation towards the R&I areas. A small beginning of creating and incubating ideas will transform the region and its population towards greater heights which ultimately will replace poverty of mindset for development with areas of attraction, work culture and growth. The skilling of youth as conceived in the NEP 2020 will also be possible through this approach which will focus on the growth of Human Development Product(HDP) which is rooted in education, health, livelihoods, societal norms, political climate , environmental conditions and more others. Thus it is the ideas and motivations for development where R&I can multiply its growth and bring happiness to the masses but the main source of energy must come from the motivated and committed teachers.

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