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जुलाई 2025

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विजय गोयल

उपाध्यक्ष, गांधी स्मृति एवं दर्शन समिति

प्रधान सम्पादक

संजीत कुमार

सम्पादक

प्रवीण दत्त शर्मा

पंकज चौबे

परामर्श

वेदाभ्यास कुंडू

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शुभांगी गिरधर

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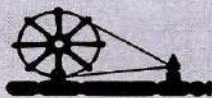
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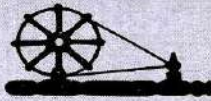
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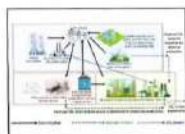
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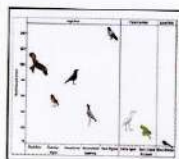
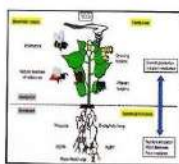
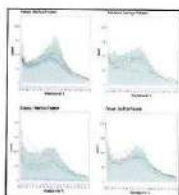
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 থেকে প্রকাশিত এবং আনন্দ অফসেট প্রাঃ লিঃ সিপি-৪, সেক্টর ফাইভ, সল্ট লেক সিটি,
 কলকাতা ৭০০০৯১ থেকে মুদ্রিত।
 বিমান মাণ্ডল : ১.০০ টাকা (আন্দামান, মণিপুর, ত্রিপুরা ও অসম)

এই পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞাপনের বক্তব্য ও বিষয়বস্তু সম্পর্কিত কোনও দায় পত্রিকা কর্তৃপক্ষের নয়।
 প্রকাশিত কোনও লেখা বা ছবি, সম্পূর্ণ বা আংশিক ভাবে, সোশ্যাল মিডিয়ায় আপলোড করা বাস্তবীয় নয়।

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সূচিপত্র

প্রচ্ছদকাহিনি

অঝোর



বর্ষণ আমাদের স্মৃতিলোকে নিয়ে যায়, আবার কখনও চূড়ান্ত দুর্বিসহ
 করে তোলে সমগ্র মানবজীবন। লিখছেন জয়া মিত্র
 স্মরণজিৎ চক্রবর্তী, বিভাস রায়চৌধুরী ও শমীক ঘোষ।

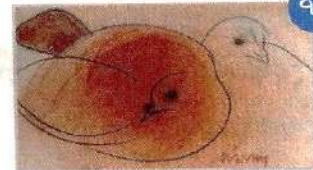
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শুদ্ধ রবীন্দ্রসঙ্গীত গায়ন ও শ্রবণের জন্য রবীন্দ্রসঙ্গীতে তাঁর অবদান
 যেমন স্মরণীয়, তেমনই ফরাসি সাহিত্যে তাঁর পাণ্ডিত্য তুলনাতীত।
 লিখছেন পীতম সেনগুপ্ত।

শিল্পসংস্কৃতি



দুর্বীর চিত্রাঙ্করের ইতিহাস

রামানন্দ বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায়ের একক চিত্রপ্রদর্শনীর
 আলোচনায় সুশোভন অধিকারী।

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সূচিপত্র

প্রচ্ছদকাহিনি

কৃষ্টিরাপেণ



দুর্গাপূজার সময়ে সৃষ্ট শিল্প ও সাহিত্য যেন মাতৃমূর্তির উদ্দেশে স্তুতি।
পূজার দিন বদলেছে, বদলায়নি বাঙালির শিল্প-সংস্কৃতির মূল সুর।
লিখছেন সঞ্জীব চট্টোপাধ্যায়, প্রচৈত গুপ্ত, অমিতাভ নাগ
অভীক চট্টোপাধ্যায় ও অংশুমান ভৌমিক।

প্রবন্ধ

দুর্গাপূজা এবং তৎকালের সাহেবরা



বাংলায় দুর্গাপূজার পৃষ্ঠপোষক এবং কোনও ক্ষেত্রে প্রবর্তক হিসেবে
পরিচিত ছিলেন সাহেবরা। কেমন ছিল তখনকার দুর্গোৎসব?
লিখছেন বারিদবরণ ঘোষ।

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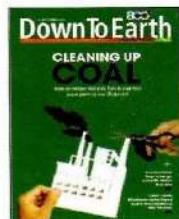
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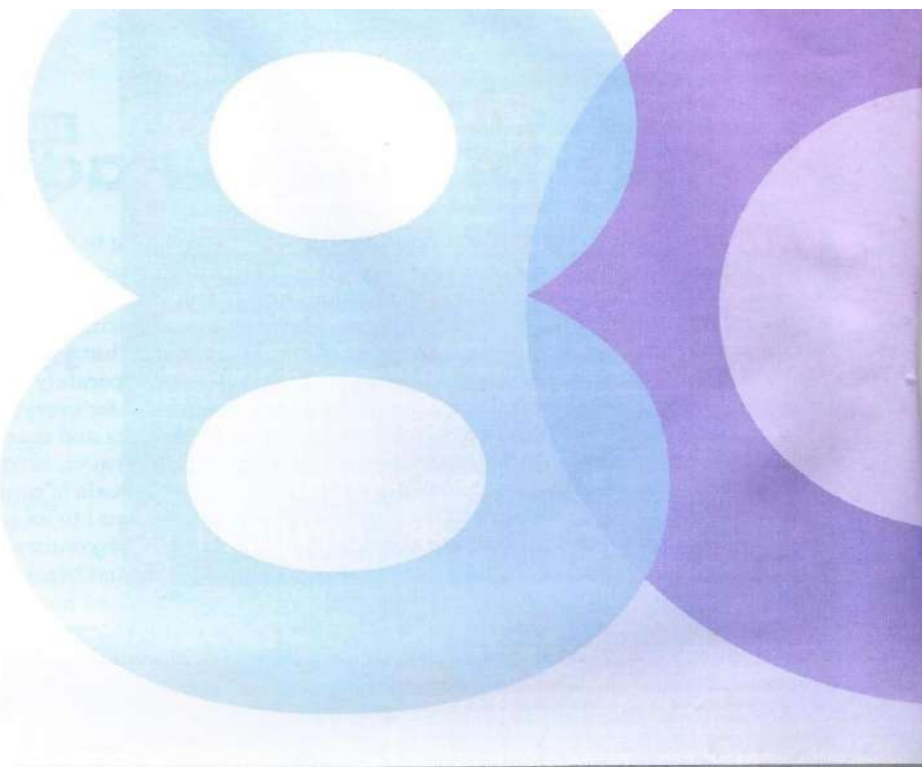
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August 30

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- 13 Despite the private health sector evolving into a large, organised industry in India, the development of a reliable, updated official database or registry at the national or state level on private hospitals is missing. — *Indira Chakravarthi, Shweta Marathe*

The State's Battle against the Kanjurmarg Wetland

- 18 A thriving coastal wetland has been locked in a 15-year legal battle to bury it under garbage. While governments speak the language of carbon sinks and climate targets, they dump on the very ground that makes these commitments possible. — *Mani Prakash*

Jingrwai lawbei: Folk Practice in Meghalaya

- 22 The unique practice of *Jingrwai lawbei* in the village of Kongthong, located in the East Khasi Hills of Meghalaya, gives it the popular name of "Whistling Village." In addition to their conventional names, each resident is assigned an individual whistling tune. — *Nikita Agarwalla*

Why Is Family Planning Women-centric in South India?

- 26 In south Indian states, family planning is predominantly women-centric, with heavy reliance on female sterilisation and minimal male participation. — *Rahul Mishra, Sujit Kumar Mishra*

Premature Deindustrialisation, Not in India

- 35 Analysing the trends in the manufacturing share of the aggregate economy's real gross value added and the share of organised manufacturing gva in the state gross domestic product in eight Indian states, it is found that premature deindustrialisation did not occur in India, at least not in a significant way. — *Bishwanath Goldar*

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- 41 The performance of the Smart Cities Mission, with special reference to Ahmedabad city, is examined by identifying opportunities, innovations, and challenges concerning urban governance. Inadequate matching of financial allocation by the state governments, sluggish work progress in project implementation by local bodies, and poor maintenance of facilities remain grey areas. — *Hastimal G Sagara, Keshab Das & Sonal Jain*

Situating Santhals within the Rubric of Adivasi Identity

- 49 There have been persistent attempts by the Santhal intelligentsia to place their language, religion, historical events and cultural practices outside the rubric of the Adivasi umbrella. This is further accelerated by the recognition of the Santhali language and a shift in the intellectual nerve centre of the community from Jharkhand (Santhal Pargana) to outside its borders in West Bengal and Odisha. — *Sayak Dutta*

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- 57 The birth of the All India United Democratic Front in 2005 heralded a major shift in the electoral dynamics and politics of Assam. The assumed loyalty of the Muslims of the East Bengal community to the Indian National Congress came to an end, and in the long run, the party became the talking point for the Hindutva forces for its politics of polarisation and penetration. — *Parvin Sultana, Akhil Ranjan Dutta*

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- 10 The response of the Supreme Court towards state action demolishing properties associated with persons accused of committing certain crimes indicates an ignorance of the manner in which illegality is structurally produced in relation to land. — *Anindita Mukherjee*

ECONOR 2025 and the Arctic

- 14 A booming but narrow Arctic economy now sits at the junction of new sea routes, wartime geopolitics, and rising climate costs. — *K M Seethi*

Caste and Functional Exclusion

- 16 The article argues for embedding caste as a central analytic in infrastructure and policy design to ensure equitable and socially just outcomes.
— *Sandeep Hegade, Yogini Andalgavkarkulkarni*

Why Electric Vehicles Are Not the Answer Yet

- 19 Myopic policies like electric vehicle adoption face several challenges that exacerbate environmental degradation and mineral dependency, adding to energy security concerns. — *Akash P Poojari, Gopakumar K U*

Dealing with the Liquor Sector in Kerala

- 23 Kerala has grappled with public policy dilemmas regarding the liquor sector, raising questions about the effectiveness of the state's alcohol policy.
— *Rahul V Kumar, Justine George & Akhil Menon*

CGHS Rate-based Private Healthcare Services

- 26 The Government of Bihar has adopted an innovative public-private partnership model to address the critical gaps in healthcare by collaborating with a reputed private hospital under a pre-existing contract. — *Aviral Pandey*

Odisha Migration Survey 2023

- 36 Based on a primary survey of 15,000 representative households, the Odisha Migration Survey 2023 estimates migration from the state, and examines its key characteristics disaggregated by region and social group.
— *S Irudaya Rajan, Amrita Datta*

The Decline in Out-of-pocket Expenditure

- 44 India's National Health Accounts show a declining trend in out-of-pocket expenditure. However, it is prudent to scrutinise in detail the estimates derived from the National Sample Survey before jumping to hasty conclusions.
— *Indranil Mukhopadhyay, Montu Bose & Rahul S Reddy Kadarpetta*

'Hilsa Diplomacy' in Indo-Bangladesh Relations

- 52 The interim Government of Bangladesh has temporarily banned hilsa fish exports to India, contradicting Sheikh Hasina's "Hilsa Diplomacy."
— *Aryama Ghosh*

Economic Development in Indian States

- 59 The nature of convergence or divergence in the level of development across Indian states is re-examined using the coefficient of variation technique and by classification of states. — *Sushanta Kumar Mahapatra, Pareswar Sahu*

The Maharashtra Migration Tracking System

- 67 Considering their precarity, the Government of Maharashtra has developed an app-based Migration Tracking System to enumerate and track inter- and intra-state migrating children, pregnant women, and lactating mothers.
— *Kuldeepsingh Rajput, Manoj Jatav*

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The Crypto Puzzle

- 10 The United States has passed three acts to clarify and strengthen the regulatory framework for cryptocurrencies and digital assets, including one prohibiting the issue of a central bank digital currency by the Federal Reserve. — *C P Chandrasekhar*

Job Retention: Insights from India

- 14 The impact of employer social security benefits on job retention by employees in the Indian labour market is investigated using the propensity score matching technique. — *Swapnanil SenGupta*

TReDS and India's Small-scale Enterprises

- 17 While conceptually robust, actual usage of the Trade Receivables Discounting System trends reveal a gap between intent and outcomes. — *M Manickaraj*

Regulating Coaching Centres

- 21 The Guidelines for Regulation of Coaching Center 2024 mark an assertive regulatory intervention into India's proliferating shadow education sector. A critical reading reveals notable tensions and conceptual disjuncture. — *Nivedita Sarkar, Aishwarya Sharma*

Kulgam's Progressive Path

- 30 The progressive governance and social justice efforts in Kulgam district, Jammu and Kashmir, should be seen in the context of historical endeavours to achieve fair land distribution, improve living conditions, and address local concerns. — *Waseem Ahmad Bhat, Shazia Majid*

Distributional Effects of GST

- 36 Using data from the National Sample Survey (2022–23) on household consumption, this paper examines GST's progressivity across rural and urban India by fractile classes of monthly per capita expenditure. Four measures show GST to be progressive. In rural areas, the bottom 50% and middle 30% each bear 31% of the burden. — *Sacchidananda Mukherjee*

Development Rights, Accumulation, and Segregation

- 45 The transfer of development rights in Mumbai was introduced as a "realistic" approach to achieve public goods and a city without slums. TDR policy has, however, presented the city's uneven geography as a lucrative opportunity for accumulation and facilitated income-segregated urban development. — *Hussain Indorewala, Husain Vaghjipurwala*

The Dalit Movement and the Party–Politics Dilemma

- 53 A study conducted during the 2024 general elections in the Avadh region of Uttar Pradesh reveals the dilemmas faced by two major *jatis*, the Jatav–Chamars and Rawat–Pasis. Despite the diversity in positions adopted by Dalits on party and politics, and in grappling with the predicament of strategy versus tactics, the determination to defend the Constitution has provided a unifying thread. — *Shilp Shikha Singh, Prashant K Trivedi*

Reframing the Rythu Bandhu Scheme

- 61 Utilising secondary data and survey findings from four villages in Telangana, the Rythu Bandhu Scheme's impact on different land classes and social groups is analysed. The paper proposes reframing the scheme to enhance effectiveness and fairness. — *Y Sreenivasulu*

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- 72 *Dalia Ghosh Dastidar* on Bengal's symbiotic relationship with serpents; *Madiha Tariq* on city, identity and memory; *Anannya Dasgupta*'s poem "Passing Time"; and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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**INDIA'S TOP VINTAGE LEGACY DAY SCHOOLS**

Vintage co-ed day schools **230**

Vintage day-cum-boarding **255**

Vintage girls day **264**

Vintage boys day **276**

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INDIA'S SUPER NOVA IVY LEAGUE DAY SCHOOLS

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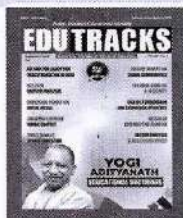
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e-mail : edutracksneelkamal@gmail.com

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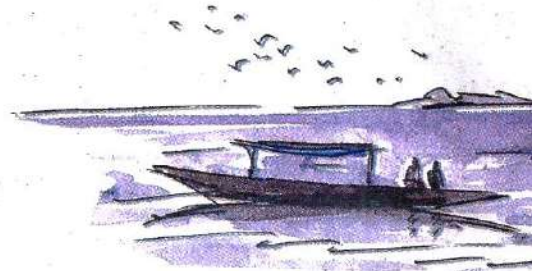


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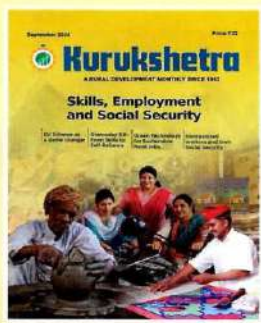
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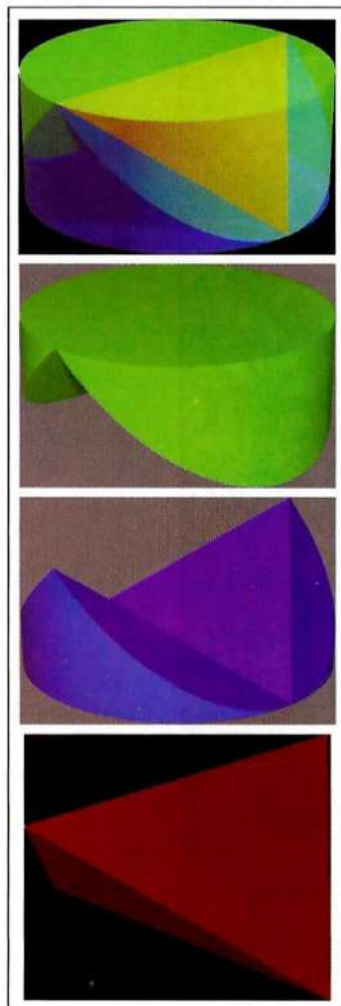
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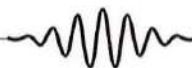
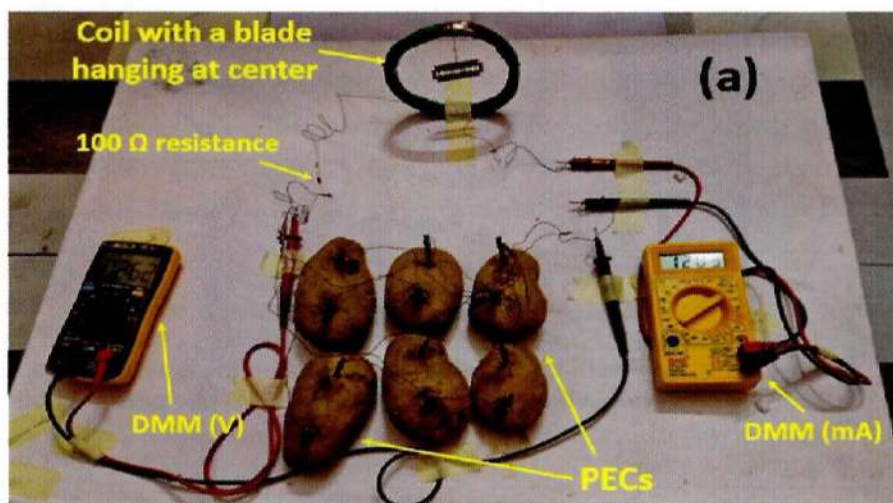
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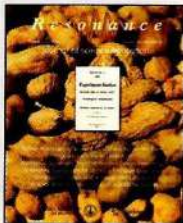
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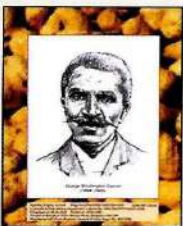
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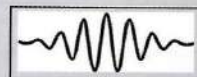
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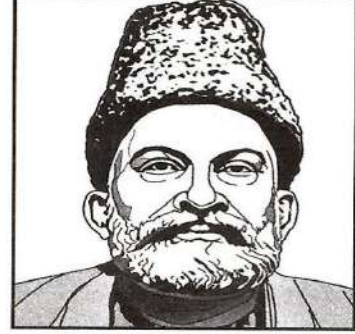
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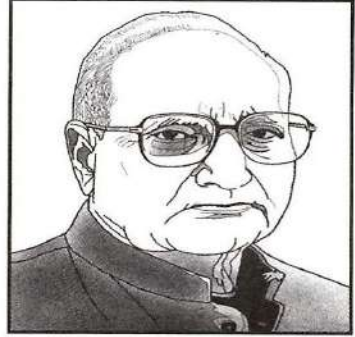
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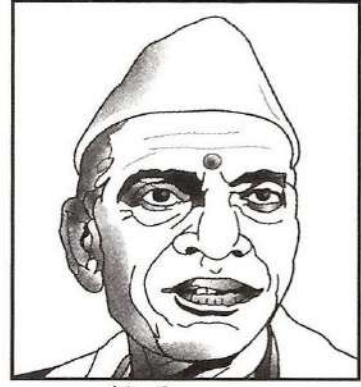
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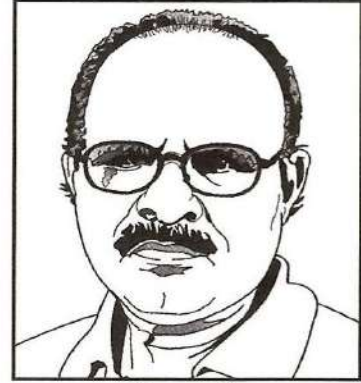
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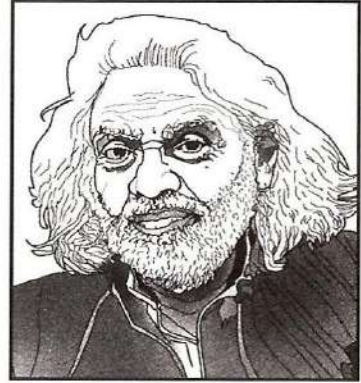
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Reforms in Higher Education: A Case for Establishing a National Examination Authority

K Viyyanna Rao*

The present Central Government, since its first term in 2014, has started implementing reforms in school and higher education. These got further momentum since the declaration of the National Education Policy 2020. In the higher education sector, reforms included the revision of minimum standards for awarding degrees, recruitment of faculty, curriculum designs and credit framework, mode of learning, twinning programmes and dual degrees, binary accreditation system, and internationalisation of higher education. Efforts towards digitising the systems and processes are also on the evil, encompassing academic bank of credits, digital valuation, online content delivery and evaluation.

In this Changing Scenario, it is recommended to the Central Government to set up an Apex Body in the name and style of "National Examination Authority (NEA) to conduct examination and evaluation at the level of under- and postgraduation. This arrangement is proposed to ensure uniformity in the procedures followed in testing the knowledge of the students.

In addition, the Universities, Autonomous Colleges and Affiliating Colleges are relieved of this burden. The aim is also to address the issues that are cropping up in the existing practices followed by the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). Time and again, there is a complaint and uproar on the examination patterns followed by many institutions, prompting the involvement of an independent agency in the matter. Leakage of question papers, erratic valuations, and tampering of results are often reported in the press from one place to another. The students often complain about the inordinate delay in the publication of results by the Universities. It is believed that the proposed reform would address the above issues and ensure efficiency in the System. It would also emerge as a step towards implementing digitisation in the education sector.

The introduction of the proposed system presupposes certain actions at the level of the governments, both Central and State Governments, Regulatory and Academic Standard Setting bodies and the participating HEIs. Firstly, the Standard Setting bodies and curriculum designing and implementing authorities should take necessary measures and ensure uniformity in curriculum and syllabus to pave the way for national-level examination for both Undergraduate and Postgraduate programmes. The Regulatory and Standard Setting bodies, which include UGC, AICTE,

*Former Vice Chancellor, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh-522510. E-mail: kodativrao@gmail.com

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To Sir/Madam, with Respect

Hema V Raghavan*

This article is written to commemorate Teacher's Day on the 5th of September. I look upon Teacher's Day as a Thanksgiving Day to pay respect, express gratitude, and appreciate and acknowledge the hard work of all our teachers in shaping us as human beings to make our humble contribution to society. Teachers' Day, in honour of Hon'ble Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, deserves to be an everyday celebration, though formally it is a one -day affair to express our gratitude to teachers for their lifelong guidance.

My association with Higher Education is six decades old and is deeply rooted. From my early childhood, I had the tendency to hero-worship those who had qualities and abilities better than mine. Most of those whom I admired were my teachers at different points in time. They made me love books, and this has remained a lifelong passion with me. When I started teaching, I always imagined my teachers listening and nodding in my presence as a teacher in approval as a worthy heir to their profession. It is no exaggeration that I could hear the voice of my university professors echoing their appreciation when I delivered my lectures on Eliot and Yeats and the Romantics. Two of my professors-one who taught Eliot, Yeats, and Modern literature, and the other who taught us the Romantics – opened my mind and enabled me to journey through different literary eras and literary genres that glimpsed the distinct intellectual, linguistic, religious, and artistic influences of the times. Allan Bloom famously said, "The essence of education is the opening of the human mind." Teachers give us education that helps us to expand the boundaries of the human mind- an expansion that extends beyond the classroom and allows us to continue to grow and develop throughout our lives. Michael Forbes, the American politician and the publisher of Forbes Magazine, wrote: "The purpose of education is to replace an empty mind with an open one." I followed this precept that I inherited from my teachers when I took up teaching as my profession, which for five decades remained my single focus. I dedicate this article to all the teachers who were before me, who were with me, and who have come after me.

Looking back on education from my student days, I realize Higher education today is not a continuum of the education we went through in the first decade after independence. It is different, and that is to be accepted and not frowned upon as the present ethos, values, beliefs, and priorities are vastly different from those days. Having lived through the two binary eras, I like to see education anchored to continuity with change.

Let me backspace my reflections to my university days. That was in the mid-50s of the last Century when University education

* Former Dean, University of Delhi, Block N, 12 C (Opposite Pushp Vihar) SFS, Apartments, Saket, New Delhi-110 017. E-mail: h.raghavan13@gmail.com

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Culture of Collaborations on Campuses: Need of the Hour

H A Ranganath*

"In the long history of humankind (and animal kind, too) those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed."

Charles Darwin

The science of Evolutionary Biology illustrates the importance of competition, coexistence, coevolution, cooperation, collaborations, and such interactions among species in the sustenance and diversification of life forms on Earth. The present narrative aims to briefly capture the utility of academic interactions among different disciplines, institutions, campuses, and, more broadly, at the global level. This article focuses on the necessity of academic 'collaborations'.

Collaboration is the process of two or more individuals, entities, or organisations working together to achieve a common goal or complete a task. It involves sharing knowledge, skills, and resources to produce something greater than what any individual could achieve alone. Tapping the distributed expertise, experience, and intelligence of a group increases the chances of solving problems more efficiently. Essentially, it's a partnership where people cooperate and contribute to a shared outcome. For me, collaborations promoting cross-talk among different disciplines are an intellectual endeavour.

Success Stories of Collaboration

Tapping the distributed intelligence of a group increases the chances of solving problems more efficiently. These collaborations may involve interdisciplinary, Multidisciplinary, and Transdisciplinary interactions. One of the best examples is the management of the COVID-19 pandemic, which was also labelled as an international multidisciplinary collaboration. This pandemic served as a real-time competition between humans and COVID-19. The disciplines contributed to this success story are Microbiology, Virology, Molecular Biology, Genome Biology, Health Sciences, Immunology, Vaccine Research, Genetics and life history traits of new mutant variants, Evolutionary-biology, Epidemiology, Human Resource Management, Infrastructure, Requirements of hospitals, Pandemic Biology: waves, Lockdowns, Sociology, Psychology, Education, Economics, Modelling-Prediction, Technology, Policy decisions to name a few.

Another example is the contributions of multidisciplinary studies to the present scenario of the field of Genetics and Genomics. Biology (started with Mendel's experiments with the

* Visiting Professor, Centre for Human Genetics, Bangalore-560100 Karnataka.
E-mail: haranganath@gmail.com

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Higher Education Commission of India and Ministry-based Educational Institutions: A Comprehensive Perspective in the Light of NEP-2020

Asheesh Srivastava*

The nature of India's education system has historically been extremely diverse and multi-layered, with its roots tracing back to ancient traditions of Gurukuls and universities such as Nalanda, Takshashila, and Vikramashila, etc., spreading knowledge across India and beyond. In the medieval era, *Madrasas* and *Makhtabs* played their role, while during the colonial period, the *English Education System*, under Macaulay's policies, laid the foundation for modern methods and frameworks, which later gave rise to institutions like the University Grants Commission (UGC) and other regulatory bodies. After independence, Article 45 of the Indian Constitution and various National Commissions on Education like the Radhakrishnan Commission (1948-49), Mudaliar Commission (1952-53), Kothari Commission (1964-66), and the National Education Policies of 1968 and 1986 viewed education as the axis of national development, social justice, and self-reliance, paving the way for many reforms. In this continuum, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 was announced to redefine education in alignment with the rich Indian legacy and global & digital challenges of the 21st century, emphasizing the vision of quality, inclusivity, flexibility, and accountability. This policy prioritised the democratization of education, the development of life skills, and the ambition to transform India into a knowledge superpower. One of the revolutionary proposals of NEP-2020 was the establishment of the Higher Education Commission of India (HECI), which would replace existing regulatory bodies like UGC, AICTE, and NCTE, becoming the single apex regulator for higher education nationwide. The core objective was to institute "light but tight regulation" ensuring transparency, quality, and equality with minimal administrative interference, so that no institution could exploit autonomy as a pretext for inconsistency, thereby creating a uniform and globally competitive educational landscape.

The Present Scenario- 'The Plurality of Ministry-Based Educational Institutions'

At present, India's higher education is primarily managed by the Ministry of Education, which regulates universities, colleges, and other teaching institutions through bodies like UGC, AICTE, and NCTE, prescribing curricula, quality benchmarks, accreditation, and funding mechanisms. However, in view of practical necessities,

* Professor, Higher Education Policy and Dean, Academic & Research, Inter University Centre for Teacher Education, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh-221005. E-mail: profasheesh@iucet.ac.in

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