Workshop on "NEP 2020 Implementation and Academic Autonomy: Benefits, Challenges and way ahead"

Date: 17th October 2024

Venue: Electronics Seminar Hall

Time: 9.00 am

Key Outcomes of the Workshop

Dr. S. S. Dambhare briefed about the importance of autonomy and along with that moving towards cluster university to implement NEP 2020 effectively. He insisted on increasing the Industry Academia partnership to modernize existing laboratories and teaching-learning infrastructure. Also to promote the spirit of entrepreneurship, industry and environmental awareness, enhancing liaison with industry through collaborative activities and promoting R and D activities useful to society and industry. He pointed out historical sketch of autonomy implementation in state, empowered autonomy, clustering, NEP implementation.

Dr. Anjali Bhalchandra highlighted the importance of autonomy and how it started taking its shape at GECA since its implementation in 2006. She explained the benefits of autonomy in the teaching learning process and the improvement in academic quality. She also stressed about nearby institutes coming together to form a cluster which will help us to deal with NEP induced courses.

Dr. Anil Karwankar explained the road map of implementing NEP 2020 curricula at GECA-CSN for UG and PG courses. He explained advantages of NEP 2020 such as flexibility, ability to select courses of choice, multiple entry multiple exit, on job training, internships and field projects etc. He also discussed the challenges in implementation of NEP and its potential solutions.

Dr. Y.V. Joshi talked about the current scenario, which is learner centric, kinesthetic learning - by doing, experimentation method. There are currently 45000 institutes which will be clustered into 15000 universities in future. For multidisciplinary and allied courses in NEP, varied institutes like engineering, arts, commerce, management, law colleges will have to come together to form a university. He also discussed the concept of unitary universities. He pointed out that the meaning of 1 credit is acquiring skills for that 1 credit.

Dr. Aziz Syed explained about the model of NEP 2020 implemented at Maharashtra Institute of Technology, Chh. Sambhajinagar. He briefed about the NEP 2020 curriculum generation process under autonomy. He also emphasized on challenges posed for implementation of NEP 2020 and improving the skill set of faculties and work in collaboration with industry.

Panel Discussion

Panellist's - Shri Sunil Raithatha, Shri Mukund Kulkarni, Shri Suraj Dumne from Industry and academician Dr. Upendra Kulkarni

Discussion, brainstorming happened on following points:

- Projects similarly NEP 2020 looks good on paper, but challenges start when being implemented.
- Seriousness of institutes must increase while establishing linkages with industry.
- Industry problem statements allotted to students should be solved in a time frame and bigger problems if not solved can be passed on to the next batch.
- MoUs must be signed and should be kept active.
- Industry should
- Requirement of good engineers to industry with strong core fundamentals.
- Core courses should not be sacrificed in any curricula.
- Students with good basic ability can be trained by industry as per their requirements.
- Alumni network can be used to internship training to students.
- Industry and academia will have to take this a step ahead by signing more MoUs, Networking and by increasing interactions with each other and this has become the need of hour.
- Rural institute students can access or avail industry problem statements by sending their students intermittently. Institute faculty can be appointed as co-guide.
- MoUs can be signed with a few good industries like Allen Bradley, Siemens etc. who are the best trainers around.
- Institutions must increase their confidence in solving problems of industry.
- Few good things are also drawn out from an unsuccessful project.
- Large corporates, private management can soon collaborate with foreign universities to start their own colleges.
- Ph.D. research scholars should be encouraged to work on industry / corporate problems and if possible, funding as in foreign universities.
- Alumni network in internship is important.
- Establishment of Industry supported centre of excellence on campus.
- Academic assignments should not be treated as load but as entitlement/engagement.
- Development of ecosystem and support systems in Academic institutes comparable to industry.
- Further discussion on clustering in focussed groups was also suggested.
- GECA-CSN has great potential for industry collaboration and partnerships which should be explored further.