

REPORT

National Conference On “Visualising 21st Century Educational Milieu: Achieving Skill Competence Through Unconventional Practices”

A two-day National Conference on ‘Visualising 21st Century Educational Milieu: Achieving Skill Competence through Unconventional Practices’ was recently organized by Rizvi College of Education, Mumbai on 17th and 18th December 2018 supported by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi.

Dr. Gyanprakash Arya, Principal of the College delivered the welcome address. Convenor, Dr. Radhika Vakharia presented the theme of the Conference and mainly focused on the unconventional practices becoming a norm in today’s modern and fast paced world to ensure future success of students and success of those around them. In her address she talked about the current phase of educational revolution 4.0 that calls for relevant developmental changes in the field of education which is being revolutionised everyday by technology and being made accessible to the untapped masses. She also threw light on the objectives of the conference to explore ways and means to bridge the gap in educational constructs in light of changing paradigms and evaluate strategies and techniques in establishing and operationalizing effectiveness in education.

The chief guest of inaugural session Dr. Shivendra Gupta, Vice Chancellor, Veer Narmad South Gujrat University recognised the importance of research culture in education. The guest of honour Mr. Ramendra Gupta, Ex- Chairman, Uranium Corporation of India contemplated on developing the new visions and practices to match with the changing educational ideologies in the emerging field of education. Mr. K.P.S Mishra, Commissioner, GST and Central Excise emphasised on developing required skills adding meaning to life. The conference also had the best wishes of Mrs. Vidya Thakur, Minister of State, Women and Child Development, Maharashtra. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Coomi Vevaina, Retired Professor, Department of English, university of Mumbai highlighting the gothic realities of education system.

The conference had 7 technical sessions pertaining to various subthemes of the conference topics and various delegates across the nation presented their research papers which included civic responsibility attitude, Metacognitive skills, Spirit of entrepreneurship, leadership and service learning; intelligent game based learning, MOOC, thematic teaching, yoga and music as unconventional practices; impact of storytelling method, peer feedback practices, positive

student teacher relation and physical activities on students. The sessions were chaired by eminent dignitaries in the field of education. Dr. Deepti. Mankad, Director, Mindspeak spoke on strengthening workforce through leadership development. Mrs. Aslesha Thakur, CEO, Lead innovation enlightened the learners on breaking through the boundaries through distance education. Mrs. B. Makoojina, Principal, J.B. Vachha High School discussed on enhancing the learning performance of students in schools. Dr. Veena Deshmukh, Former Professor cum Director, Centre for Distance Education, SNDT University strongly suggested the implementation of innovative strategies to promote effectiveness in education. Mrs. Varsha. Hooja, Trustee and CEO, ADAPT passionately spoke on social justice and psychological wellbeing in Inclusive education. Undertaking research practices for quality enhancement was deliberated by Dr. Pooja Birwatkar, Assistant Professor K.J. Somaiya Comprehensive College of Education and research. Dr. Hutoxi Randeria, English Language Training Expert, British Council discussed on moving beyond the traditional methods of assessment in education.

The valedictory function was graced by Advocate Mrs. Rubina Akhtar Rizvi, Director, Rizvi Education Society who placed higher importance on ethics and social responsibility in present education system envisaging such forums in near future to promote quality education in India and laying a foundation for promotion of non-stereotyped classrooms. Dr. Rajeshri. Varhadi, Head, Dept. of Law, University of Mumbai discussed various laws and addressed the challenges and opportunities for better educational outcomes. Dr. Srivaramangai, Scientist and Head, Dept. of Information Technology, University of Mumbai deliberated on recent trends in educational technology and to bridge the gap between traditional and modern technical research trends. The Convenor Dr. Radhika Vakharia gave two days reflections of the Conference. Dr. Rakhi Sawlane, Organising Secretary of the conference proposed vote of thanks.

The major suggestions which emerged from the deliberations of the event included exploring multi-disciplinary ways to reflect on research practices in the education system, increasing engagement and action of all stakeholders on empowerment, growth, investment, and development of the work force; enhancing capacity and commitment of teachers to facilitate learning experiences, performance and representation in educational process; improving platforms for multidisciplinary education at different levels; Shared understanding of the latest trends in information and technology; demonstrating the need for greater emphasis on 21st century skill competence.