MOHANLAL SUKHADIA UNIVERSITY

AN AGENDA FOR ACADEMIC REFORMS

In the recent past, the Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur has initiated significant academic and administrative reforms in line with the XI Plan priorities and vision of higher education as advocated by the Government of India. The basic purpose of these reforms has been to promote the goals of equity, access and excellence. Foremost among these initiatives have been the introduction of semester system at the post-graduate level, far-reaching changes in M.Phil. and PhD programme, reforms in the examination pattern, making the admission process more transparent, giving more space to students form the tribal region of south Rajasthan, regular updating of course contents, providing more internet access to faculty, researcher s and students. These and similar such efforts have resulted in generating a better academic ambience in the University. It is however felt that more needs to be done to build this University as a premier institution of learning, research, extension and social outreach.

With this view, the University endeavors to introduce a host of reform measures at different levels. These can be mentioned under the following major heads:

(A) Academic Priorities and Social Responsibilities:

- To increase accessibility to the University resources and employability of students focusing on students from the tribal region in the areas of mass communications, information technology, BPO Operation, English communication etc
- To recruit new teachers at all the three levels (Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant Professor) and to give time bound promotion to the existing faculty as per UGC norms;
- To establish two Study centers of the University in the tribal area, one at Banswara and the other at Dungarpur so that students from this region can have easy access to educational resources, redressal of grievances and other assistance;
- To establish research cells in each faculty to promote research projects, writings and dissemination;
- To establish new Colleges: College of Technology, College of Social Work, College of Performing Arts, College of Languages, College of Mass Communications;
- To establish an Institute designed to promote studies, research, training and extension activities in the field of democratic governance and development with specific focus on the tribal region;
- To form a Centre for Integrated Learning in Professional Courses outside Udaipur in the catchment area of the University to provide easy access to students living in remote tribal villages;
- To increase the space and time span of library and internet services;
- To develop linkages and promote networking with reputed universities, research institutes and corporate houses both within the country and outside;
- To constitute an Alumni Association for better relations with former students of the University;
- To introduce regular coaching courses for students appearing in competitive examinations conducted for different services;

- To establish University Network to connect all affiliated colleges to distribute library resources, online teaching by experts to students of affiliated colleges;
- To introduce tribal banking system to evolve a micro banking process in order to ameliorate the economic condition of the tribal people;

(B) Infrastructure Development:

- Building more hostel facilities for students, especially those coming from the tribal areas;
- Building a Community Centre with medical facilities, cafeteria and teachers club;
- Constructing a new Library building;
- Resolving the long pending issue of property distribution between Mohanlal Sukhadia University and Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology;
- Developing a public park in the memory of Late Sh. Mohan lal Sukhadia and giving a better look to the campus;
- Develop placement bureaus for easy employability of the students;
- Institute scholarships and assistantships to students and researchers;

(C) Administrative Reforms:

- Developing new Act and Statute to bring the University in line with fundamental changes in the field of academic management;
- Creating a College Development Council for better liaison and monitoring of government and private colleges affiliated to the University;
- Establishing Study Centers at respective district headquarters in the catchments area of south Rajasthan to cater to the needs of the students there;
- To appoint Registrar and the Controller of Examinations from amongst the senior teaching faculty of the University;
- To recruit and promote support staff as per vacancies and needs of the University;
- Introduce central evaluation of the examinations conducted by the University to make the system transparent and faultless;
- To review the admission policy with a view to admit more students from the tribal community in all faculties;
- To introduce group insurance scheme for students from affiliated colleges for accidental benefits;

It is most humbly submitted that the measures proposed above cannot be accomplished in a short duration. But having outlined the priorities, the task before the new team is well laid out. All efforts have to be geared in this direction. The University looks forward to necessary support from the Government of Rajasthan in fulfilling these goals.

(Prof IV Trivedi)
Vice-Chancellor