

## **Steps to establish a World Class Institution**

M.J. Gholba, A.M. Deuskar and M.K. Pejaver

### **Abstract:**

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century we observe the growth in the field of education. Our country is becoming a global supplier of intellectual manpower. During last decade Universities and colleges in India have taken serious note of emerging trends and are trying to get the status of World Class Institute. Here is a paper in which we examine the various aspects of world class institute.

The Ws of world-class institute like who, what, where, when, which way are all brazen out in this paper.

Autonomy is indispensable part of a world class institute. Effective leaders are known to motivate and inspire the people around them, the faculty and the students are at the core of the institute which aims to be world class. Once the faculty and students are appropriately complemented with the fitting infrastructure it would definitely ensure abundance of quality research and researchers. The quality in the work output guarantees collaboration with prominent community form the industry. And this in turn would assure a fine contribution to the society – the world society, which yet again should be a direct aim of a world class institute.

### **Introduction:**

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century we observe the growth in the field of education. Our country is becoming a global supplier of intellectual manpower. During last decade Universities and colleges in India have taken serious note of emerging trends and are trying to modify the curriculum, design new programs according to the demand in the global as well as our Indian market. Also institutes are developing infrastructure according to the need of the new programmes. As the younger generation are the torch-bearers of the century, their aspiration in the knowledge and information and communication technology (ICT) have to be fulfilled by the emerging institutions of higher learning. The students are also aware of the fast changing horizons of knowledge and to cope with the same, they have some expectations from the educational institutions. Hence there is healthy competition between Institutes to become World known Institutes.

Various aspects come into the picture when we mention the 'World Class Institutes'. The analysis of these aspects or criteria's gives us a deep insight on the innumerable steps that we need to take to attain the world class status.

- **Autonomy:**

In India majorly the Institutes have to work within the framework set by University Grants Commission and Affiliated Universities. The basic requirement for achieving the Name as "**World Class Institute**" is freedom of choice and action. This is hindered mostly because of the given frame work. There is no qualm that this framework has been working for the majority of our institute and the much required decorum and consistency to them. But a world class institute has to have all the new advanced courses which are the need of the hour, for better functioning of

the society, the system. These courses, the funds required, the course syllabus need a sanction from all the higher bodies. Autonomy could guarantee this freedom to innovate.

The quality of education is determined by what to teach, whom to teach, and who will teach. The quality cannot be maximized unless there is total freedom to get resources from where they are best available without interference from outsiders.

To acquire this freedom institute should get Autonomy to frame the syllabus, add new courses in order to keep pace with the changing time. We have to set benchmark and able to compare ourselves with the highest ranked Institutes from the world. To achieve the goal we need to be innovative.

- **Leadership:**

As autonomy guarantees freedom, another important prerequisite comes into the picture that is of good quality leadership. Leadership is about raising the aspiration of the people. Aspirations build society and lead to economic and societal progress. Therefore, leaders have to create a vision that is noble, rational, and encouraging, which will make people passionate and active to make sacrifices that are required for moving towards that grand vision. The leader also has the responsibility of translating the vision into a very clear set of action which could be executed over a specified period. This would require paying attention to the details, putting in place a good metric for each dimension of progress, and ensuring that it is measured with actual. The leader should have broad vision and should be open minded. So that the aforesaid freedom and innovation are handled in the righteous manner to the stature of the world class institute.

- **Faculty:**

The faculty or the core staffs are those people who are intimately close to the students who form the actual identity of the college. The Institute should have freedom to select the faculty members particularly teachers as teachers are the architect of the future generation of our Nation. The institute should get fully dedicated full-time faculty. The selection of the faculty for a particular subject is based on various parameters like clearing of teachers' eligibility test, years of experience in teaching etc. For the post of a college level teacher in a World Class the passion towards the subject would be accounted as this passion would surely have generated abundance of quality world class research. Since the faculty would spend the most crucial and major section of time in grooming and preparing the students for real world occupations, industry; the selection and appointment of such a staff would need stringent parameters.

- **Students intake :**

A world class institute also boasts of world class students for which the institutes usually conduct an entrance exam, interview rounds. These ensure the similar level of intellect, passion and the need to be a part of the institute. The actual focus and purpose of the educational institute is thus served. The combination of these best of the staff and best of the students would definitely ensure quality output.

To attract sincere and young researchers assistantship and awards are to be given.

- **Infrastructure:**

The main factor of any educational Institute is its infrastructure. An educational institute provides education through various programs and activities. This various programs and activities are possible only after the right kind of infrastructure is at hand. Institutes have to develop the infrastructure according to the need of the programmes. The cutting edge research that takes place in the world class institutes requires the same level research infrastructure. Research infrastructures are the main spirit of the knowledge comprehension.

World Class Research Infrastructures is one of the pillars for strengthening of our future. As a nation this infrastructure would ensure complete supremacy through the existence of and access to leading research.

- **Financial aid from funding agencies:**

The world class infrastructure, faculty, importantly autonomy wouldn't be easily possible unless there is a strong support system that thrives on the right amount of funds required for a world class institute to survive. When an institute believes and claims to be a world class it should be world class in all aspect. World class in the opportunities it provides to the students, world class in the output that it send out in the society and world class in terms of the investment made by the funding agencies to support the further development and ongoing evolution.

Government funding agencies like DBT, DST, and UGC provide funds to the institutes. Though there are times where only the aided sections or the government approved departments receive the grants and funds from these agencies, thus creating a hollow for the unaided departments which are also now increasing in great number.

Hence the autonomy.

- **Quality Research :**

Research and new development are the latest powerful mace that is taken up by the leading countries as this gives an edge to the countries. Innovations and research ahead of time are the craze that dominate all avenues; be it any industry. To keep up with the pace of these immense researches those are being carried out at various levels at various universities a world class institute needs quality researchers to carry out quality researches.

- **Collaboration with Industries:**

Industries are the main area where in the students from the institutes are placed, hence the association with the industry would always be helpful to the students as well as the world class institute. Collaboration with the industry could happen in many ways like: collaboration in continuing education where in the world class institute would provide course specific for the collaborated industry, which could be dealt by the eminent personnel from the industry.

The other kind collaboration would be collaboration in research. It is one of the best ways to improve one's research base as it ensure quality research at all levels from students to teachers. It is a win-win situation for the industry as well as a world class institute to have an industry funded research or course going on as the institutes derives funds and the industry gets the cream students for themselves.

- **Contribution to the society:** A world class institute must strengthen its commitment to the future of the people of its society. For a world class institute the society would be the whole world. The collaborations with industries, the research, and the outgoing students should be of such a bench mark that they contribute to the society in every small or large way. Only then the society would come to acknowledge the institute to be truly world class institute. This accountability that is generated in the world class institute becomes a part of the system of the institute. Through this an identity of the institute is formed which gives it the recognition of WORLD CLASS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE.

Yet again all this is a part of the vicious circle where it would guarantee good intake of students, more enthusiastic faculty wanting to be a part of the institute, hence better research, better funds, better infrastructure thus on the circle goes on.

### Conclusions:

- ✓ Most important thing to remember is “One has to embrace humbleness if they want progress.”
- ✓ There is no universal formula for “making” a World-Class Institute. But certain steps would surely get one at par with the existing ones.
- ✓ Under any scenario, building a World-Class Institute does not happen overnight. No matter how much money is spent at this venture, it is unlikely to expect instant result.
- ✓ The long term goal for creating world class Institute, and its implementation, should be directly expressed with (i) the country’s overall economic and social development strategy, (ii) ongoing changes and planned restructuring at the lower levels in the education system, (iii) plans for the expansion/construction of other education institutions in order to build an integrated system of teaching, research, and technology-oriented institutions.
- ✓ The institute should be able to generate some revenue for the nation’s economy as well.
- ✓ The ranking for world class Institute are commonly equated with top research. But one has to consider those institutes also where there are wide range of programmes to educate and train the students as national builders and responsible citizens.

### References:

- <http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/uploads/Staying-on-Top-The-challenge-of-sustaining-world-class-higher-education-in-the-UK.pdf>
- [http://www.vikalpa.com/pdf/articles/2007/2007\\_jan\\_mar\\_89\\_to\\_103.pdf](http://www.vikalpa.com/pdf/articles/2007/2007_jan_mar_89_to_103.pdf)
- The Challenge of Establishing World-Class Universities  
Jamil Salmi