INDUSTRY-INSTITUTE PARTNERSHIP : SUCCESS STORIES

* V. M. THORAT

** M. M. PATIL

ABSTRACT

The Industry - Institute Interaction is a must for the effective utilization of resources from both the sides to increase their respective efficiency, productivity and quality. The feelings, which are, at several occasions, expressed that much less has been effective in this connection are offset by certain success stories proving the effectiveness of this interaction. This paper elaborates these contents with examples.

1. INTRODUCTION :

Since last few decades the issue of Industry - Institute Interaction and Industry - Institute Partnership us being discussed on many platforms. On many platforms, feelings are also expressed, by people, that more has been discussed on this issue but less has been done. Now, a new dimension has been added, to this issue, that of globalisation. Discussions have further continued, now, to see the impact of globalisation on Institute - Institute Partnership.

Authors believe that mere discussions can not lead to a virtual reality of the issue. They are of the firm opinion that information must be collected from various Institutions from all over the country, on this issue, to see what is the status of the Industry - Institute Partnership and what has been done in this connection. The information so collected is then to be consolidated, analysed and interpreted systematically to arrive at concrete conclusions. This approach can only give the real picture on the issue and nothing else can.

However, there are certain known success stories of Industry - Institute Partnership.

EXAMPLES OF SUCCESS :

1. The Cananda - India Institutional Co-operation Project (CIICP) :

Under this project, through a process of structured meetings between polytechnic faculty and Industry personnel, mutual visits and discussions, most

Faculty Members at College of Engineering, Malegaon (BK), (Maharashtra).

of the "project polytechnics" have been able to establish sustainable partnership with local industries and business organization.

Twenty-seven Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) have been signed between project polytechnics and industries and non-grant organizations (NGOs) so far. These include a wide variety of industries and other organizations in India and abroad, such as Karnataka State Women's Development Corporation, New Mangalore Port, HMT Bangalore, Tamilnadu Small Industries Association, World Gold Council Mumbai, Hellen Keller Service Society for the Blind, Gulfar Engineering and Contracting Company, Muscat.

The model developed by CIICP for Industry - Institute Interaction, with its emphasis on the structure and process, has been widely acclaimed in many forums and is being successfully tried out by the ISTE in many other technical institutions in the country.

2. The Tata Steel Experience :

As per its policy which aims at the systematic development of knowledge, skills and competence in people, and as per its formal orientation towards enhancing the skills and the knowledge levels of all those who would, directly and indirectly, be affecting the performance of the plant, Tata Steel set up the Jamshedpur Technical Institute (JTI), in the November 1921, which is now known as Shavak Nanavati Technical Institute (SNTI) Jamshedpur.

Over the 75 years since the founding of SNTI, the Tata Steel has systematically fostered a high degree of interactions with academic institutions, both within India and abroad.

Today Tata Steel, through the interface provided by SNTI, is actively engaged in a variety of ways in providing a fillip to Industry - Institute Interaction.

3. Forbes Marshall (Pune) Experience :

Forbes Marshall, Pune, initiated the Industry - Institute Interaction on a smaller and manageable scale, some five to six years ago. It launched its interaction with the limited number of Engineering Institutions, in Pune and ensured their sustenance all along. The results are excellent, benefitting both the parties.

4. The Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute (Mumbai) Experience :

the Indian Institutes of Technology, some of the Universities and certain engineering colleges have been engaged in consultancy activities. They offer their services to large private and public sector industries and also Government Departments as their clients. Examples can be cited, that of V.J.T.I. in Mumbai, who has undertaken consultancy projects for the Department of Automatic Energy, CIDCO, ONGC, Hindustan Petroleum, Bharat Petroleum, Hindustan Lever, Larsen & Toubro, etc.

5. The Experiences of M/s. Larsen and Toubro Ltd. :

M/s. Larsen and Toubro Ltd. have promoted Larsen and Toubro Institute of Technology (LTIT) on a planned basis and are conducting four year sandwich semester pattern courses. It has constituted a Governing Body as required by the Government of Maharashtra. Representative of the Government, the industry and other experts are thus providing

guidelines and direction. Resources of M/s. Larsen and Toubro are available to LTIT.

AREAS OF INTERACTION :

In context of the above discussion, the table given below highlights, a few examples where excellent results have been achieved in specific areas of interaction, benefitting both the parties.

ORGANIZATION	AREA OF INTERACTION	
	INDUSTRY TO INSTITUTE	INSTITUTE TO INDUSTRY
CIIC Project	• Membership of Advisory Boards / Committees. • Curriculum development • Training of students • Exposure of teachers to Industry environment • Sharing of field experiences • On campus recruitment • Donation of equipment • Examination work.	• Testing • Solving technical problems • Project design • Entrepreneurship Development • Continuing education • Recruitment of technical staff • Sharing library facilities • Pre-service training.
TATA STEEL	• Arranging training programmes for faculties • Sponsorship projects for final year students • Training of students and organizing their placement regularly • Providing industrial expertise to academia • Policy forming for academia • Encouraging P. G. students for live projects. • Sponsoring students for higher education • Offering sandwich programmes for final year students.	• Providing expertise for In-plant live projects of long duration • Providing expertise for application oriented short span projects • Extending expertise in R&D activities.

ORGANIZATION	AREA OF INTERACTION	
	INDUSTRY TO INSTITUTE	INSTITUTE TO INDUSTRY
FORBES MARSHALL PUNE	• Training full courses on specific subjects • Delivering formal lectures on special topics benefitting final year students • Conducting training-cum-demonstration programmes for teachers. • Helping Institutes to set-up their specific laboratories • Permitting visits of Engineering college students • Assigning sponsored projects, to students, on topics of mutual interest. • Assistance in restructuring syllabi for different subjects • Framing the syllabi for new subjects to be introduced at P. G. level. • Inviting eminent professors for delivering talks. • Involving eminent professors in design and analysis tasks. • Inviting teachers from engineering colleges for workshops and seminars • Keeping association with ISTE induction training for college teachers.	• Delivering tasks on state-of-art topics benefitting industry personnel • Help keeping the industry abreast of the latest advancements in engineering and technology • Providing expertise in design and analysis tasks • Spending a good deal of time by being a working member of a project team of the industry • Participating in workshops and seminars conducted by the industry.

LESSONS LEARNT :

1. There is an enhancement of the abilities of the academic faculties, through the short-duration progra - mmes, conducted for them in industries, which in turn helps training their students.
2. There are mutual gains for both the organizations through the provision of expertise for live projects on either side.
3. Regularly organized programmes, such as placement for students and the faculties, offer good opportunities for them to have a comprehensive understanding of the industrial set-up and its environment.
4. The processes and technologies in modern industries are well learnt by the academicians, through their involvement in application oriented short-span projects, fetching substantial gains for the institutes.
5. Strength of R & D experts is enriched and activities are accelerated through the mutual exchange of experts.
6. Students are greatly benefitted, receiving knowledge from industry people, with reference to some special topics.
7. Infrastructural developments, like setting-up of laboratories, are greatly helped and made object oriented, with the help of industries.
8. The involvement of experts, from both the sides, in framing and restructuring the syllabi helps making the contents of the syllabi more industrially oriented.
9. Industry people are greatly benefitted and the industries are kept abreast of the latest advancements in engineering and technology by the way of receiving talks delivered by eminent professors.
10. The involvement of senior faculty members in the industrial projects and also in the design and analysis tasks of the industry proves to be very valuable for the industry.

CONCLUSIONS - CUM - SUGGESTIONS :

There is a feeling, expressed at one occasion or the other, by people, that much has not been achieved in Industry-Institute Interaction. However, there are certain success stories as depicted above.

The foregoing discussion, on these success stories of the Industry - Institution Partnership, proves that this interaction is a must for effective utilization of resource from both the sides to increase the efficiency, productivity, and quality in proper relevance. ISTE is playing an active role in this connection. It is suggested that an Industry - Institute Interaction cell must be started in each and every technical institution to have proper and sustainable interaction with local industries. The bodies like Chamber of Commerce, Association of Industries, Institution of Engineers and like, can play an important role, in this connection, by acting as intermediates and initiating dialogues involving both sides.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT :

The authors are highly thankful to Prof. R. M. Wabale, Principal, I.T.E.

Malegaon (BK), for his encouragement and to M. S. Patil for his valuable help.

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