

EDITORIAL

Top Priority for Technical Teachers Training Program

That there is an urgent need for a Teacher Training Program for teachers of Polytechnics and Engineering Colleges, both at State and national level, has been amply voiced by the XVIII ISTE Annual Convention held at pune in 1988. One important recommendation made by this convention is

" Modular Teacher Training Program should be prepared and made available to teachers in a distance learning mode in order to cover a large population within a limited time and with limited resources ".

· ISTE has conveyed these recommendations to the Central and State Govts. immediatly, but so far no cognizance seems to have been taken by any one of these recommendations. Holding conventions, passing resolutions and passing on these to concerned authourities is good, so far as it goes, but not enough. The matter has to be persued till action is taken and recommendations are implemented. We cannot and should not rely on Govts. for soultion of all our problems. We have to explore and look for other alternatives for soultion of our problems.

Open Universities at the Centre and in the States can definitely take up this challenging task. Private voluntary organisations can also be expected to undertake these programs. Private Management has already come forward in a big way to conduct acadamic programs both at diploma and degree level particularly in the States of Maharashtra, Kartnataka & Andra Pradesh. If Govt does not come forward to undertake Technical Teacher Training Programs, the open Universities and Private Sector should step in. Govt should encourage and provide neccessary leadership for such agencies, where it canot undertake the task by itself.

Govt / should appoint commites to recommend the syllabi, duration and mode for such Teacher Training programs. The open universities and the private Managements should he persued to conduct these programs. This is a tremendous task and has to be undertaken by Govt / Universities / Open Universities / Private bodies each in its own way & according to its capacity & resources. A beginning must be made, without any further delay, if Engineering Education is to fulfill its objective of providivding technical manpower to the Industry to enable to face competition in the International market on one hand and to help solve the country the problemns of poverty and employment.

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