

## **Revamping college education system in India**

Shortly before joining the WTO in 2001, China revamped the college education system through Project 985 in 1998.

The objective was to elevate the universities to international academic standards. The results have been amazing. Here is an example:

### **Peking (Beijing) University**

Total number of students: 33064

International students: 4543

Total faculty: 5878

International faculty: 1235

Number of "research only" faculty: 1195

No wonder Peking University now ranks 17th among the top universities in the world.

Govt funds account for increasingly smaller share in the universities in China. A larger share comes from research and technology transfer.

The universities in India created under the University Grants Commission Act 1956 needs a complete revamp and contemporizing.

Can you believe, our UGC does not even have an updated list of PhDs granted! (Source: RTI).

Scientific misconduct in PhD dissertation is rather rampant in India. For example, in the case of agrochemicals residue analysis, PhDs are awarded to theses without verifiable laboratory raw data and chromatograms.

Unfortunately, there is no specific law in India to punish those who indulge in data fabrication and falsification in the academic research. Repeated complaints to UGC on the research frauds do not fetch any response...!

Can the UGC enjoy budget and power without accountability?

Nearly 70% of the universities in India come under State Acts. This muddles the matter further. 😞