

'20pc industry experts to teach in univs'

AICTE's new rule book wants to strengthen ties between industry and academia; provide students with good practical exposure

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In a bid to bridge the gap between industry and academia and deal with faculty crunch, All India Committee for Technical Education (AICTE) has recommended varsities and colleges to recruit industry experts. The technical panel has suggested that 20% industry experts be recruited as adjunct teachers in colleges.

These are one of the many such recommendations listed in AICTE's new rulebook, said its Chairman Anil Sahasrabuddhe at a workshop held at Gujarat Technological University on Wednesday. Various stakeholders participated to formulate national level Start-Up policy. "There is a complaint from industry that graduates are unemployable.



Various stakeholders participated to formulate national-level start-up policy

One of the reasons for this is that many teachers are not acquainted with industry requirements and so it is not taught in classroom. If industry experts teach in colleges, students will have good exposure of practical knowledge. This will also strengthen ties between industry and academia," Sahasrabuddhe

he told mediapersons.

GTU Vice Chancellor Dr Akshai Aggarwal said, "Based on AICTE's recommendation, GTU is formulating a policy for colleges regarding recruitment of teachers from industry."

Sahasrabuddhe said that faculty crunch has been the main concern for

engineering and other colleges offering technical courses. Talking about AICTE's new initiative, he said that a portal Swayam is also being prepared. This will help students to access online open courses. "In the new rulebook, we have suggested all credit-based courses to be run on online open courses, so we are developing a platform to access best of online content from best teachers," he said. The AICTE has also asked technical universities to increase the bandwidth to give more access to internet to students in college. "This year an estimated 1 lakh to 1.5 lakh seats in technical education, most of them in engineering. While nearly 200 institutes across India closed down from new academic year. However, against 600 applications we received for new colleges and courses in technical education, we have given sanction to nearly 200 such

colleges, most of them pharmaceutical," he said.

AICTE is in talks with the state government for land. "We would like to have a centre to organise faculty development programme for new teachers. The centre can also offer courses for faculty members completing a decade in teaching to brush up their knowledge," Sahasrabuddhe said. GTU and EDI are members in the five-member committee to formulate national policy for start-ups. EDI Director Sunil Shukla said that in the discussion with start-ups, incubation centres and other agencies, they discussed challenges the start-ups face. Suggestions given by the participating members will be incorporated in the draft policy. AICTE aims to launch the new start-up or entrepreneurship policy in 200 colleges from coming academic year.