TELANGANA STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION HYDERABAD

Date: 23rd February 2023.

PRESS NOTE

Telangana State Council of Higher Education (TSCHE), Hyderabad has organized a Two-day Workshop on 'Curriculum Development Project' in Telangana State during 22nd and 23rd February, 2023, in collaboration with British Council (South India), Bangor University and Aberystwyth University, United Kingdom at the Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS), Begumpet, Hyderabad. Focus of the workshop is on improvement of quality assurance mechanisms followed by the two participating universities from Britain and curriculum development and embedding employability skills in the disciplines of Commerce, Economics, History and Political Sciences at Osmania University and Kakatiya University.

The inaugural session was held on 22nd February 2023. It was followed by participants being divided into four disciplinary groups: History, Political Science, Economics and Commerce to have interaction session with the delegates from Britain on the best practices followed in the Bangor and Aberystwyth universities related to curriculum imparting employability skills and life skills meeting future challenges. A plenary session was held where open discussion took place between delegates from participating universities from Britain and faculty members from Telangana Universities.

Second day of the workshop started with a recap of activities of Day one and the agenda set for Day-two. Ms. Beverley Herring made a detailed presentation on "Embedded Employability". In the process she conveyed what skills are, nature of the skills, and employability skills. She went into the details of Embedded Employability as to provide the opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills, experiences, behaviours, attributes, achievements and attitudes that enable graduates to make successful transitions benefitting them, the economy and their communities. She conveyed the changing landscape in the areas of Economy, Technology, Education, and timing to aligning with industrial requirements.

She explained the framework on Embedded Employability followed at Aberystwyth University. Issues about faculty Employability action plan, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), authentic assessment, peer assessment were also discussed at length. Unique practices followed in the Welsh universities to make students write "My Five Year Plan" and its implications to know them and shape them were discussed. Prof. Nichola Callow also covered the challenges arising from the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and she conveyed that the students in UK are made to sign an Integrity policy to counter plagiarism and software's to identify the extent of AI usage are in the process to stem the usage of AI tools in assessing the assignments. Later there was an interaction programme with the faculty on imparting transferable skills and the way challenges can be addressed.

In the post lunch session the UK representatives interacted with the students of AV College, Nizam College, Bhavans-Vivekananda College, Government City College to get the impressions from the students about the education system and life skills in Telangana. The students were excited with the opportunity they got to interact with the visiting delegates and spoke their hearts out about the syllabus, assessment mechanism, examination system and their future plans. The UK representatives encouraged them to find purpose in life and follow their passions and enjoy their career choices. Later the teachers and students were combined for a deeper introspection on issues relating to curriculum and employability.

It was a very enriching, value adding, fruitful and exhaustive exchange of ideas and deliberations in the direction of designing a Model Curriculum in the specified disciplines. The Chairman of the TSCHE Prof. R. Limbadri requested the representatives of Osmania University and Kakatiya University to complete the process of developing the curriculum and enable him to implement the same from the academic year 2023-24. He profusely thanked the various government agencies and the support he received from the universities in India and UK in achieving this gigantic task.

Sd/-SECRETARY, TSCHE