

Quality education will help to transform society

Says Shail Kumar author of 'Building a Golden India'

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Concerned about the status of higher education in India and the need to reform it urgently, co-founder of Pan IIT alumni movement in the USA and author of the book "Building a Golden India" was in the city for a talk on his book at IITGn. dna interacted with the author and entrepreneur, Shail Kumar.

The book, 'Building a Golden Bridge' is about India, its people and higher

education. The bright future of the country is connected with unleashing people's potential and education is its key. Shail Kumar, said, "If we can transform the higher education system, we can make a huge impact in society. We see a lot of problems in primary and secondary education system. To fix the issues at primary level we need to raise the level of teachers."

Higher education is a nerve center for our society but it is currently in crisis. In the book, there are three chapters based on problems in higher education.

The IIT Kharagpur graduate said, "Around 20 to 26 million kids are born each year.

So in the next 35 to 50 years, we will have to prepare and educate 700 million to 1.3 billion young men and women for their life and career. It is in fact the defining challenge and opportunity for the country. The unrest is going to get worse."

"If you add all IITs, IIMs and AIIMS, they provide education to less than 5% of the students. What about the rest of the students?" asked Kumar.

Talking about bringing about experts to education, he said, "We need to have multidisciplinary research university in our country. And there is a need to bring experts together from all the disciplines."