



# Stop playing critics! Optimise

**W**e often speak in chorus in our denouncement of modern education, in its failure to match up to the expectation of modern times. What is not clear, however, is what aspect of the system should be put under the scanner to initiate necessary reforms to set the latitudes right. Policy-making bodies suffer from the paucity of scientific research and adequate long-term vision to suggest the right course of action in making the education system relevant to contemporary times. I am of the opinion that, instead of fault-finding exercises, we all as conscien-

who are teachers by choice and do not take upon the role of teaching in a careerist perspective. Following the approach of the hugely successful “Teach for India” endeavor, it is not very difficult a task to adopt for any institution.

I would like to underline the role of institutional counseling in career and behavior as an essential step in maximizing the potential of students to realise their life goals. The number of students graduating out of technical institutions and the magnified problem of their placement in jobs shows the mismatch and points towards the inadequacies in guidance

system, generally followed in our system. The assembly line approach generally followed in our drawing rooms must be deconstructed by the educational system itself.

Though this kind of an approach may sound self-contradictory, but it can be successfully initiated in the schools compulso-



tious members of society can play a proactive role in optimizing the effectiveness of the existing (as the skeptics put it) moribund process.

In this context, I would like to urge the schools and educational institutions to take up their role in mentoring the students to ameliorate the uncertainties and anomie suffered during the most precious time in the journey of life. This entails a crucial role for the educators in the institutions and a lot depends on the recruitment of the most appropriate human resources,

rily as a part of standard operation and both the private and public schools can implement this very effectively.

Parents play a significant role in this “triad” and once the ripple of good counseling and mentoring is initiated with great intent as the first two steps, it would help bring some rational choice into play on the part of the students and parents. Possibly this will trigger the growth of a new paradigm in education, not only as an agent of socialization but as an agent of change.

## MY TAKE

**The greatest** educationists in the annals of history proudly quote antecedent to the role of teachers and parents (including patrons) in shifting the orbit and the direction of the system of education to make it socially useful. I shall clamor for a reinvigorated role for the hibernating policy makers and the education vanguard to get into dialectics to rope in the involvement of the teachers and parents in the institutional process.