



July 2017

## **WeSchool Collaborates with VHL University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands and ADT (Agricultural Development Trust), Baramati adding Value to Agriculture Education**

S.P. Mandali's Prin. L. N. Welingkar Institute of Management Development and Research (WeSchool), VHL University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands and Agricultural Development Trust, Baramati, collaborate with an aim to add value in agriculture education by including business management perspective. Business management education through research and Agri-Tech start-ups is contributing solutions in agriculture. With this alliance, students will benefit through exchange of educational resources and teaching pedagogy, providing Indian students an understanding of world class practices in agriculture as well as the rural-ground level perspective. The collaboration will work towards designing a joint program that will allow students to benefit from the strength

of all the three institutes and leverage management education to strengthen the Agribusiness sector.



*The signing ceremony conducted in the presence of Mr. Sritanu Chatterjee, Agri-Business & Trade Officer, Consulate General of the Netherlands in Mumbai; Prof. Harry Ankoné, Dean, Delta Areas & Resources, VHL University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands; Prof. Marise Haesendonckx, Agribusiness and Business Administration, VHL University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands; Shri. Rajendra Pawar, Chairman, ADT and Shri. Nilesh Nalawade, CEO, ADT; Shri. S. K. Jain, Chairman, Managing Council, S. P. Mandali's and Local Managing Committee, WeSchool and Prof. Dr. Uday Salunkhe, Group Director, S.P. Mandali's WeSchool, formally announced WeSchool*

*association with VHL University of Applied Sciences (Van Hall Larenstein), Netherlands and ADT (Agricultural Development Trust), Baramati.*

Prof. Harry Ankoné, Dean, Delta Areas & Resources, VHL University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands, expressed his thoughts on the collaboration by saying, "I am glad that we are commencing and exploring the area of AgriBusiness and Agricultural education. Students will be exposed to a combination of national and international programs in agriculture/rural management and can choose specializations from production chain management in AgriBusiness, supply and value chain development and management of development. These programs could be short term and long term. Other areas under the collaboration will include research and student exchange programs."

Shri. Rajendra Pawar, Chairman, ADT added saying, "There are three strengths involved, of three unique institutions namely WeSchool; VHL, The Netherlands & ADT, Baramati. Leveraging on these strengths we plan to provide students a global exposure. Students under this alliance will also be able to access to different Agricultural practices developed by VHL at the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ADT, Baramati, alongside dairy and poultry modules in

agricultural management and landscape & architecture."

Shri. S. K. Jain, Chairman, Managing Council, S. P. Mandali and Local Managing Committee, WeSchool, expressing his sentiments said, "This initiative will strengthen bilateral ties between India and Netherlands through knowledge exchange. It will educate students to adapt to design thinking and open career prospects in AgriBusiness sector, academic research; and motivate them to relook at start-ups in AgriTech. We believe that our students will make the best of this opportunity and gain skills to excel in their future avenues."

Prof. Dr. Uday Salunkhe, Group Director, WeSchool, said, "A typical work role in agriculture requires theoretical knowledge and practical experience in planning produce, managing finance, supply chain and thorough understanding of crop production. With the right business management skills, farming practice can become resilient even without monsoon and apply technology more effectively to overcome challenges. This tie up will ascertain significance of management skills in agriculture education. Our students will be offered opportunities to gain scientific know-how through field-work and research in India and Netherlands."

## August 2017

**The conference 'Industry Disruption & Reimagining the Role of Education' organized by S.P. Mandali's WeSchool and ASSOCHAM focused on the inclusion of technology in education**



**Lighting of the Lamp Inaugural Ceremony**  
**L-R Shri S.S. Chawla, Sr Director, ASSOCHAM; Advocate Shri. S. K. Jain, Chairman, Managing Council, S. P. Mandali and Local Managing Committee, WeSchool; Chief Guest, Mr. Ramesh Iyer, Vice Chairman & MD, Mahindra Finance and Prof Dr Uday Salunkhe , Group Director, WeSchool**

The digital landscape in India reflects a rising trend on role of technology in education through edutech start ups and mobile apps.

'Industry Disruption & Reimagining the Role of Education' was the theme of the national conference organized by S. P. Mandali's Prin. L. N. Welingkar Institute of Management Development & Research and ASSOCHAM on Friday, 11th August, Mumbai. The objective of the event was to propel discussion on new age skills and role of education that focuses needs of the future workforce and equipping education stakeholders to leverage the opportunities offered.

The event was attended by noted disruptors from academia, edu tech and corporate professionals, such as Shri. S.S. Chawla, Sr. Director, ASSOCHAM; Dr. Sudhanshu Rai, Head, Intercultural Communication & Management, Copenhagen Business School; Dr. S.S. Mantha (Former Chairman AICTE); Dr. Vijay Khole ( V.C. , Amity University - Mumbai Campus); Dr. Abhay Pethe, Economist; Mrs. Revathi Srinivasan, Director - Education and Principal, Smt. Sulochanadevi Singhanian School; Mr. D. Y. Patil, Director, Bharti Vidyapeeth's Institute of Management Studies & Research, and corporate stalwarts like Ms. Anuja Shukla, Start up Ecosystem @ Google; Mr. Arup Roy, Research Director, Gartner and Mr. Surya Ramchandran, Chief Innovation Officer, ILFS Education and Mr. Sanjay Podder, Managing Director and R&D Head- Accenture Labs India.

Shri. Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Union Minister, MHRD, in his video message said, "Technology has advanced with the advent of Robotics, 3D printing and Artificial Intelligence. The way we live is also undergoing a tremendous change. With this, education must change too. Updating the curriculum is not going to be enough, human values like empathy, ethics and governance must be inculcated in our youth."

The panel members addressed the questions arising about the academic leadership, acute talent crisis in higher education, quality of teachers and the centers of excellence for research. The conference unfolded solutions to all of these challenges and questions as it manifested the importance of higher education institutes being the producers of information and how industry and academia together can face the phenomena of disruption. The valedictory session saw exchange of ideas and views that emerged from the breakout sessions 'reinventing the role of the teacher and academic leadership, skills for the new world and technology, tools and pedagogy in education.

In the valedictory address delivered by Shri. Suresh Jain, Founder Member, Center for Integrated Development and Research, he emphasized "The role of individuals, education institutions, industry and the government

towards using education to make a difference to society and improve quality of life. Disruptions challenge us to reach higher levels of our potential, so in a way, disruptions pave the way for progress. This progress however needs to be for the many."



**Panel Discussion: Prof Dr Uday Salunkhe , Group Director, WeSchool, Shri Ramesh Iyer, Vice Chairman & MD, Mahindra Finance , Advocate Shri. S. K. Jain, Chairman, Managing Council, S. P. Mandali and Local Managing Committee, WeSchool and Shri S. S. Chawla, Sr. Director, ASSOCHAM**

Prof. Dr. Uday Salunkhe, Chairman, National Council of Education, ASSOCHAM & Group Director, WeSchool, said, "We are moving into

the world of speed, imagination and disruption. The sixth wave is about the various disruptions we are going to experience in our daily life. As we step into the fourth industrial revolution with the advent of Artificial Intelligence, augmented reality and machine learning, time has come to think as to how much education needs to disrupt itself. Our role therefore is to identify the impact of these changes on education, listen to industry and society, assess and prepare for creating models that can deal with these disruptions."



**Prof. Dr. Uday Salunkhe, Chairman, National Council of Education, ASSOCHAM & Group Director, WeSchool presenting his thoughts**