



**Association of Indian Universities
Roundtable of Vice Chancellors
of Health Sciences Universities
October 10-11, 2017**



Organized by
Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences, Tirupati
In Commemoration of its Silver Jubilee Year

Dr. Amarendra Pani, Research Director, AIU – Address at AIU Roundtable of Vice-Chancellors of Health Universities conclave on 10.11.2017 at SVIMS, Tirupati

- Dr. Amarendra Pani informed that he is representing the secretary General of AIU, as the Secretary General could not attend the meeting due to an urgent meeting at UNESCO on new Educational policy Group on 10th of October and he hoped that the deliberations at the that meeting will come out with policy for good reforms in the field of higher education in all disciplines.
- Then he gave brief genesis about AIU. Initially AIU was known as Inter University Board of India and Shillong started on 23rd march, 1925. The then viceroy present at Shimla observed that there was no co-ordination and co-operation among the universities and he organized a meeting with 20 universities in order to promote co-operation and networking of universities so as to have a linking organization for universities an inter-universities body to know what the Universities are doing and that became the genesis for AIU.
- He also informed that Dr. Sarvepalli Radha Krishnan and Zakir Hussain have been the presidents of AIU. He also appreciated the present President Prof. Sharma and his contribution to the AIU specially in the field of research.
- Since then the AIU has become a think tank organization in the country. It is important to know that the deliberations at the AIU meetings and the policies evolved at the deliberations have become policies of Government of India for reforms in higher education in India.

- In 2014, the present Govt. came into power conceptualized new educational policy and a new change has taken place in the educational policy of the country.
- AIU has 10 departments the biggest division being the research department, cultural department wherein the universities are organizing various inter-university cultural programmes. Next is the Sports Department organizing inter-university sports tournaments /events, the cricket players Anil Kumble, Ajith Agarkar are the products of AIU. On the cultural side Ashuthosh Rana, Ashthoshi Vidyarthi are the products of AIU and Kapil Sharma is the direct product of AIU.
- The Government of India has declared AIU as nodal agency for deciding the degree of excellence.
- Three years back the Govt. of India had declared the AIU as National Sports Promotion Organization.
- Thus the role of AIU in Sports and Cultural activities in the Universities has been phenomenal.
- The present Secretary General of AIU's focus is always on research and capacity building programmes. He enquired about any training activities for the VCs. Then it was informed that instead of training round tables of VCs is being organized wherein the inputs are compiled and collated to send it to the Govt. of India.
- The first round table of VCs was held in 2005 at NTR University of health Sciences at Vijayawada. This year in 2017 the second in series round table of VCs is being held in SVIMS if it were a kumbh mela of health education VCs.
- The initiative was to bring all the intellectual leaders of health science, research and education to get inputs to form a policy document for the Govt. of India to bring reforms in the field of health research.

- The AIU organized round table of State Universities, Deemed Universities and round table was held for Universities of Technology and Engineering at Kakinada. In future the AIU plans to organize round table of Agriculture, Law and other universities.
