

From the Desk of Editorial Team

From the last one decade or so, the number of business schools has considerably grown with the increase in the number of universities in Nepal, and so is the craze of students for getting admission to these schools. However, the growth of these schools has been only quantitative and not qualitative.

Most of the business schools (colleges) are offering both the BBA and MBA programmes with substandard infrastructure and mediocre faculty, but are charging exorbitant fees. The infrastructure provided is insufficient and of low quality, which by no means meets the requirement of a genuine business school.

The faculty also consists of those teachers who are not trained for teaching at business schools and, therefore, have no proper idea as to how business undergraduates and graduates ought to be taught so that a judicious blend of knowledge, skills and ability will be infused and the reality of business world will be exposed to the students. Almost all of them are 'helmet' (period basis) teachers who visit college after college every hour for per lecture 'honorarium', despite their irrelevant qualifications and insufficient skills and experience.

In most of these business schools, the appropriate pedagogy to be used to these programmes has always been neglected. Real business world cases are hardly used. Lectures are delivered without class and group discussions. Experiential learning seldom exists, so does simulation. Field visits find no place in the pedagogy. Internships are simply a mock. Both students and organizations where the students are placed, do not take internship seriously. Likewise, internship reports are mostly the duplication of senior students' works.

Evaluation of the students seems farce. The methods of evaluation do not properly match with the knowledge, skills and competence that the business students are supposed to have. As a result, the ultimate outcomes are sold and used in the markets as no better than clerks. So, our business schools are engaged in producing simply clerks, not business leaders and entrepreneurs who help create national wealth and also shape the future economy and business towards the right direction.

In such a plight of business schools today, the concerned institutions, universities and government agencies have to be proactive and prompt in facilitating, monitoring, supervising, evaluating and controlling the business schools so that a benchmark of quality will be set and maintained. For this, they first have to design and devise the curricula that cater to national needs and also prepare the globally competitive students. Second, no college with substandard and insufficient infrastructure and mediocre faculty will be allowed to run BBA and MBA programmes. Third, proper trainings will be provided to the teachers who will be assigned to teach in these programmes. Fourth, proper evaluation system will be installed to ensure the quality of programmes and the students is maintained. At the end, the students themselves have to be careful before joining a business school to pursue BBA and MBA programmes, as to whether the school is providing proper education or unduly benefiting from their craze for such a school.

After phasing out of Proficiency Certificate Level from it, Public Youth Campus (PYC) has also begun BBA programme with much hustle and bustle for a month-long students' rage. Finally, everything is now settling down quickly and the admission of the students to the programme is in its last phase. Hopefully, everything will go well now onwards. However, the answer of the hundred million dollar question is still there. Will it provide standard and sufficient infrastructure and right faculty, use appropriate pedagogy, and introduce effective evaluation system that may help produce not business undergraduates, but creative and innovative business leaders and entrepreneurs? For now, only it can be said "time will tell".

For all those who have contributed to initiating, operating and aiding the BBA programme in PYC, the Journal family expresses best wishes. Cheerio!