



## P. K. Taneja, IAS (Retd.)

President, GSFC University

Warm greetings from the office of the President of GSFC University, a futuristic institution of student centric culture and sharpened focus on developing industry ready & employable students with all round development.

We all are aware that India has one of the largest, diverse, and dynamic education systems in the world, and higher education consistently plays a key role in advancing sustainable Socio-Cultural and Economic Development. Moreover, on a global scale, higher education not only facilitates the preservation of intellectual heritage from the past but also fosters the continuous creation of new knowledge for the future.

The National Education Policy (NEP) - 2020 introduces a new approach to education, focussing on Indian ethos aimed at transforming India into a vibrant knowledge society and fostering growth and development. To strengthen this vision, the Government of Gujarat has crafted a roadmap for implementing the NEP within the state. This roadmap is set to create an all-encompassing learning environment for students and faculty, fostering research, innovation, creativity, and skill development. This, in turn, will empower Gujarat's youth, align with the "Aatma Nirbhar Bharat" initiative, and contribute to achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

GSFC University - GSFCU - is one of such Institutions, established with the purpose of access and opportunity to higher educational pursuits of young aspiring eyes, full of curiosity, hopes and optimism. I am pleased to mention that GSFC University has already implemented many initiatives as envisaged in NEP-2020.

Since its inception seven years ago, GSFC University has undertaken numerous innovative initiatives such as introducing novel and emerging programs, flexibility in curriculum development, Student Industrial Internship (SII), Faculty Industrial Internship (FII), start-up activities for the student, student managed clubs and activities, bridge courses, etc. Our students have developed Learning Management System (LMS) for blended learning with seamless Ed-Tech Integration. They have also developed a Chatbot for quick information access and recently introduced Internet Radio on the Campus.

Keeping in view the Vision and Mission, and our commitment for constant evolution, our course curriculum follows '5C' model i.e., Compact, Contemporary, Cutting-Edge, Customized & Collaborative to match the dynamic industry demands.

Our University envisions to become one of the best compact boutique institutions with a futuristic approach, encouraging a student-centric culture and a sharpened focus on developing industry-ready and employable students with all-round development. The University functions on a Medical College Model, providing students with real-life experience through immersive learning in over 22+ manufacturing plants of GSFC Ltd, in addition to numerous other industries situated in and around Vadodara. In our pursuit of excellence, we have strengthened our programs with a formidable industry presence. 50% of our Academic Council and Boards of Studies are composed of industry leaders. This dynamic collaboration ensures that our courses continually adapt to meet the evolving demands of both our local and the global landscape.

Over the past seven years, GSFC University has established a competitive academic and research structure. "Anviksha," our newest state-of-the-art laboratory building on campus accommodates 22 advanced research and development laboratories in Chemistry, Biotechnology, Microbiology, and high-end computer labs. Over time, 1,700 of our students have graduated, and we've held four successful convocations. Our graduates are now making their mark in multinational companies, leading research institutions, and pursuing further studies at reputable universities abroad.

We are proud to mention that GSFC University, as the CSR initiative by GSFC Ltd - a six-decade-old conglomerate, one of India's leading producers in the fertilizer and chemical industry, and a true Jewel of Gujarat - is steadfastly committed to providing quality education at an affordable cost.

GSFC University, situated in the vibrant urban city of Vadodara and nestled amidst multiple PSUs and industrial estates, enjoys robust industrial connections that facilitate valuable internships for both students and faculty. Within the lush, green expanse of GSFC Township, our university accommodates over 2,150 students across the Schools of Technology, Science, and Management, offering a diverse range of 27 undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs. With a striking 38% female student population, it stands out as one of the safest campuses in Vadodara.

To meet the growing demand for Fire & Safety professionals, we provide a range of specialized programs, including B.Tech in Fire & Environmental Health Safety (F & EHS), Post-Graduate Diplomas (PGD) in Industrial Safety and Fire Life Safety Audit. Furthermore, as part of our commitment to social responsibility, we have taken a significant step by establishing FIREPLEX, a state-of-the-art Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Fire & EHS. FIREPLEX offers comprehensive practical training and live demonstrations for students, professionals, and industry employees, with the goal of making the state of Gujarat safe and secure.

The University is committed to offering our students opportunities to showcase their technical talents and compete with peers from other institutes. Our students have successfully organized the "ANANTA" Techfest for the past three years. We maintain a core principle of practical hands-on experience for all students, providing industrial internships and mandatory Foundation Courses for essential soft skills. Our Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) encourages interdisciplinary education, offering students a wide range of courses.

We have forged strong industry alliances, with multiple MOUs in place, including with GSFC Ltd, providing our students with valuable internship and placement opportunities. GSFC University has established the GUITAR Council (GU Incubation, Innovation, Incubation & Technology Applied Research) as a Section-8 Company. The GUITAR plays a crucial role in promoting start-up initiatives among our students and is well-equipped to develop their skills and transform their innovative ideas into successful start-ups. We are in the process of setting up an Advanced Drone Lab, which will feature cutting-edge drone technology and focus on providing both foundational and advanced education while actively participating in drone-related research and development.

We have witnessed sustainable growth since our inception, marked by an impressive 45% increase in admissions this year. Our commitment to transparency is exemplified by involving students in the management committee and conducting regular townhall meetings.

On behalf of GSFC University, I would like to express my sincere gratitude towards GSFC Ltd and its management for its whole-hearted and unstinted support in the form of providing infrastructure facilities and also making substantial contribution towards the development and growth of GSFC University. We are also grateful to other GoG companies and a host of private sector companies for extending their valuable support and contributions. GSFC University is committed to becoming one of the leading institutions in Technology, Science, and Management.

I convey my best wishes to you all for having success in all your future endeavours.

**Bless all the young aspirants for fulfilling their 'Dream Green'.**