

Swami Vivekananda and Education

Empowering Teacher Educators

Modules



PREFACE

Swami Vivekananda was a patriot saint and seer of highest realization which our country has ever known. His prime concern had been the welfare and the uplift of humans. He was a great luminary who could not only explain grand spiritual truths in a lucid manner, but could also expound on several subjects-be it science, music, arts or society and education. His thoughts and words remain a perennial source of inspiration for policy makers, teachers, administrators and practitioners.

The NCTE as a regulatory body for coordination and promotion of quality concern in teacher education is fully conscious of its role and obligation to draw heavily from the ideas of our epoch making thinkers who have contributed towards the emergence of a vision for educating our children and youth. In this connection, it will be pertinent to mention that, earlier, a series on Sri Aurobindo and Sri Ma was brought out by the NCTE which attracted the attention of our young teacher educators.

In our endeavour to introduce such great thinkers with an eye on empowerment of teacher educators, our first choice is that of Swami Vivekananda to whom our country looks for guidance and support. Swami Vivekananda is an embodiment of human excellence and is a multifaceted personality. The present venture on the teachings of Swami Ji has been piloted to design and develop useful learning materials for the advantage of teacher educators and teachers alike. This will be followed by interactive workshops based on the utterances and writings of such thinkers forming the series.

Towards this end, a committee has been constituted by NCTE with Prof. B.P. Khandelwal, Ex-Director, NIEPA, Dr. Shardindu, Ex-Chairperson, NCTE, and Prof. K.P. Pandey, Ex-Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith, Varanasi as its chairperson and Dr. Anil Shukla, Deputy Secretary (Academic), NCTE as its convenor. It is gratifying to learn that the committee has been able to compile and edit a set of six modules in this form with the academic help and support available from the Vivekananda Centre at Kanyakumari and by tapping various other rich resources for culling out the material.

We are grateful to Sri A. Balakrishnan, Vice-President and other staff of Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari for extending support in this regard. I place on record my sincere appreciation to the committee members who have contributed to the formulation of this document within a stipulated timeframe. I am also looking forward for meaningful deliberations ahead. It will be appreciated if our fellow teacher educators offer suggestions, if any, to further updating and refining this presentation before it is released for wider circulation.

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Santosh Panda
Chairperson, NCTE

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NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION

Hans Bhawan, (Wing-II), 1, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,

New Delhi-110002