



Vocational education in state to be strengthened

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KOCHI: Vocational training will be developed on a large scale to improve the quality of carpenters, drivers and other workers, said adviser to Prime Minister and chief mentor of Kerala's Development Planning Sam Pitroda to a question on how poverty and unemployment can be alleviated in our country. Strengthening vocational education through information technology is one of the 10 projects suggested for boosting the state's growth.

Pitroda was interacting with Amrita University students of Kochi, Kollam, Coimbatore, Bangalore and Mysore, from Delhi using A-view students platform as part of their technofest.

To a query on how to make communication technology accessible to layman, he said that the government was spending a lot of resources for creating the platform for delivering public services. Rs 15,000 crore is being spent on sharing information and creating new jobs and Rs 10,000 crore will be spent on building local area networks and `30 to `40 crore is being spent on laying optical fibre for various purposes, including education and teaching through cell phones, he said. "The process has started. It will take time," he said.

"We have to focus on the future of 55,050 million youngsters. If each builds oneself with confidence, the nation will build by itself", he said.

When asked why failure was considered a sin, he motivated the students by telling them to accept failure as a part of growing as it would lead to success. "There are plenty of opportunities and one must approach them with discipline, criticism, creativity and respect. Think big and start small. There are problems appearing everywhere in the fields of infrastructure, power, energy and other sectors. These problems should give rise to ideas on how they can be resolved, he said.

Speaking on innovation he said that it should be made in all spheres.



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