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TAMILNADU STATE COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. S. Bhaskaran
Member - Secretary

Lady Willingdon College Campus,
Kamarajar Salai, Chennai - 600 005.

Date : 29-11-2010

Dear Sir/Madam,

A study of Demographic Explosion of a country is very much important from the point of view of providing necessary facilities for the different age groups for a Socialistic Democratic country like India. This is more so in the case of providing education to the young population who are the prospective architects of our country, India. As per 2001 census, 31.2 percent of the country ie. 337 million were below the age group of 15. Providing higher education for this group is imperative and has to be provided on an unprecedented scale to meet the challenges of this unique demographic trend. The higher education sector currently faces major challenges of quality and excellence and of improving access with inclusiveness. The proportion of our population in the relevant age group (18-24) that enters the world of Higher Education is only about 10 percent (2004-05). Access to higher education in terms of availability of seats in different branches of study in Indian universities is simply not adequate in relation to current demand. A large disparities in the enrollment rates across the States, Rural and Urban areas, Sex, Caste, Religion, and Poor and Non-poor is conspicuously seen in our country. As you all know, our country has 416 (as on 31.3.2008) higher education institution comprising Universities and Institutions of Higher learning offering higher education in the University Departments and affiliating Colleges numbering 22064 (2007-2008). These universities and colleges may not be in a position to cater to the needs of the demand of the young population of our country belonging to the age group 18-24.

In this context, we are in a situation to analyze the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) at the higher education level. At present the Gross Enrollment Ratio in India is about 10 to 11 percent, whereas, it is 25 percent for many other developing countries. Various committees that have examined the higher education scenario in India have

recommended an increase in GER to at least 20 percent by 2020. If India has to achieve the proposed target, it would imply more than doubling the scale and size of higher education system within the next five to seven years. In this context, a detailed study of GER at higher education level is very much relevant, pertinent and imperative.

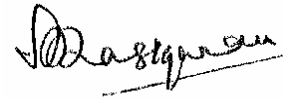
It is also the bounden duty of each state in India to make a detailed study of the GER in order to make the target of our country successful.

In our state, the Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education has undertaken the massive work of studying the Gross Enrollment Ratio at the higher education level, which is the first of its kind. In this regard we solicit the cooperation of Vice-Chancellors and Registrars of the State and Private Universities, The Principal's / Head of the Institutions of higher learning by way of providing data regarding the enrollment of students at the first degree (Graduate) level from the academic year 2006-07 to 2010-11 in the format provided along with this letter of request in hard copy as well as soft copy in CD.

The soft copy of the Table format (in Excel) is given in the CD enclosed along with this. The data may be fed into this file and may be sent within a fortnight (the same format of the Table may be downloaded from the website; **www.tnuniv.ac.in**).

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,



(S. BHASKARAN)

To

The Registrar of all Universities/

The Principal of all Colleges

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