

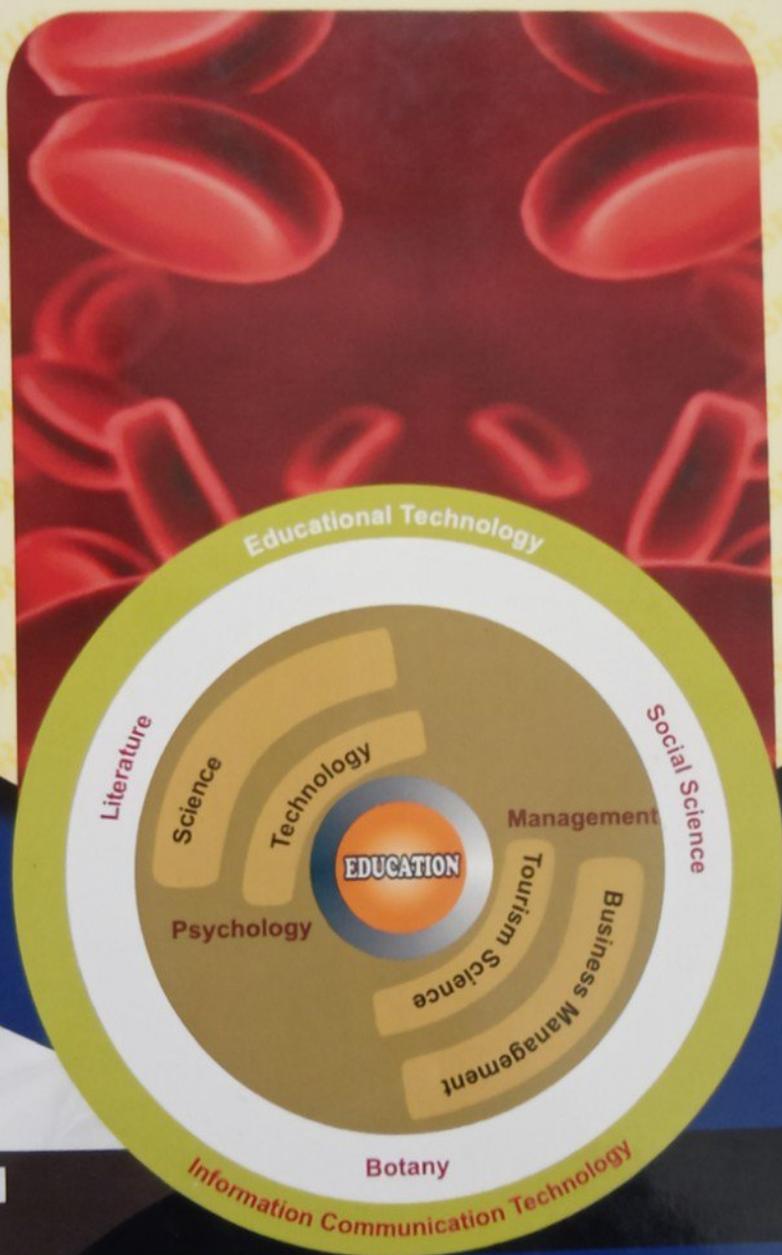
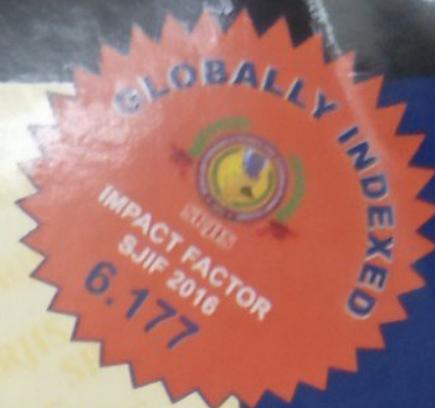
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EDITOR IN CHIEF : YASHPAL D. NETRAGAONKAR, Ph.D.

**38. Effectiveness of Jurisprudential Inquiry Model on the retention of learning among Urban Secondary School Students in Geography Subject**

*Prasad Joshi (281-286)*

**39. Technical Programmes in privately managed Higher education Institutions in Himachal Pradesh: certain issues and recommendations**

*Isha Chauhan & Vishal Sood (287-291)*

**40. Incorporating Values through Curriculum**

*Prakash A Jagtap (292-294)*

**41. Effect of Pyrobrin concentration method on academic achievement of Secondary School Students**

*Sandesh Kadam & Bhagwan Balani (295-305)*

**42. Understanding Emerging culture of cashless transactions among Youth**

*Bhagwan Balani (306-311)*

**43. Impact of Smart Board Technology on learning behaviour of Secondary School Students**

*Snigdha Kadam & Bhagwan Balani (312-322)*

**44. A Study of Emotional Intelligence and Self-esteem among adolescent**

*Satish Kumar Kalhotra (323-331)*

**45. Impact of Social Intelligence and frustration on academic achievement among Secondary School Students**

*Satish Kumar Kalhotra (332-341)*

**46. A Study of Science process skills of Secondary School Students**

*Smt. G.R. Diwatar & Nagappa P. Shahapur (342-349)*

**47. A Study of Health Problems of Women Beedi rollers in Ahmednagar District: With Special Reference to Akole and Sangamner Tahsils of Ahmednagar District Maharashtra**

*Prakash Palande & Prof. S. I. Kumbhar (350-358)*

**48. A Study of Socio-Economic and Working conditions of Women Beedi rollers in Akole and Sangamner Tahsils of Ahmednagar District of Maharashtra**

*Prakash Palande & Prof. S. I. Kumbhar (359-368)*

**49. Floods in Mahad City: their causes and solutions**

*Priyadarshani B. More (369-371)*

**50. Geomorphic assessment of Savitri Basin**

*Priyadarshani B. More (372-377)*

**51. Peace Education from the Educational perspective**

*Dipty Subba (378-384)*

**52. ज्ञानरचनावाद : गणित विषयाचे अध्ययन व अध्यापन**

*श्री आहेर चिंतामणी केशव & प्रा. पगारे पी. वी. (385-388)*

**TECHNICAL PROGRAMMES IN PRIVATELY MANAGED HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH: CERTAIN ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**Isha Chauhan<sup>1</sup> & Vishal Sood<sup>2</sup>, Ph. D.<sup>1</sup>Ph. D. Research Scholar, H. P. University, Shimla-5<sup>2</sup>Deptt. of Education, ICDEOL, H. P. University, Shimla-5**Abstract**

The main aim of the present investigation was to study major issues regarding appropriate functioning of technical education programmes in privately managed higher education institutions in Himachal Pradesh and to suggest measures for bringing improvement. For conducting this study, private engineering institutions situated in five districts of Himachal Pradesh were selected. The managers/owners, teachers/principals and students were selected purposively. Data were collected with the help of self-developed interview schedule and questionnaire. Content analysis technique along with percentage analysis was used for analysis of data. The findings of the study revealed that less admissions, staff crisis, job insecurity among teachers, unavailability of infrastructural, instructional and academic facilities, use of outdated technologies and methods in teaching-learning process and poor placements are the major issues related to proper functioning of technical education programmes in privately managed institutions. To improve the functioning of privately managed technical education institutions, recruiting required teaching faculty on regular basis, giving handsome salary packages, raising the teaching level, emphasizing on practical knowledge involving latest technology in teaching-learning process were the major recommendations for bringing improvements. In the last section of the paper, the findings and suggestions have been discussed in detail.

**Keywords:** Technical Education Programmes, Private Institutions

**Introduction:** The country in which we live, rapid changes are taking place whether politically, socially, economically or technologically. Education, more than any other social activity, is always being affected by these changes. The impact of such changes as seen at global, national, regional, and local levels have been felt in the field of higher education also and has given rise to privatization. Scarce resources, efficiency, competition, choice, quality, and social equity have generated the need for privatization in education sector. Private sector has established educational institutions which has improved the demand-supply ratio of skilled manpower. These institutions consider students of high academic ability and intelligent teachers as assets and thus, to attract and retain them in their institution, they provide them facilities and support services. Furthermore, privatization has increased the accountability of education providers, has provided equitable access of education to students in India, irrespective of gender, social class, race, language, origins or geographical location and improved the economic status of the people residing in the area where these institutions are located. Local people also earn money by allowing paying guests and providing rooms on rent. Shopkeepers can expand their business. New shops get opened which is also in favour of local people. Thus, keeping in mind the demand of industry and society, a good number of private educational institutions have been opened up during last decade but it has also been noticed