

**Speech by H.E. Mr. Piyush Srivastava
Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**Talk Series
Changes and Challenges in Global Education**

Organised by the

Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam
[Friday, 30 July 2021, 1700 hrs.]

**Ambassador Mr. T.P. Sreenivasan,
IFS (Retired)**

**Mr. P.V. Radhakrishna Pillai
President, Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam**

Members of the BKS

All other guests who have joined us LIVE today!!!

Good evening

It gives me immense pleasure today to be a part of this programme on the theme of CHANGES AND CHALLENGES IN GLOBAL EDUCATION, being organized by Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam.

2. It is a great pleasure to see my senior colleague former Ambassador Shri T.P. Sreenivasan talk on the opportunities in Higher Education in this occasion.

3. BKS is the largest and one of the vibrant cultural Organizations in Bahrain, which is actively involved in socio-cultural activities as well as reaching out to the community. As India is celebrating 75 years of its Independence, Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam is also celebrating 75 years of establishment in Bahrain. I am delighted that BKS is organizing this student outreach programme in order to connect with children and guide them at this point in their career, which I am sure will benefit students who have joined us today. This definitely is the need of the hour and I congratulate BKS for organizing this unique talk show and making this event a part of India@75 and BKS@75.

4. Education is fundamental for achieving full human potential, developing an equitable and just society, and promoting national development. Universal high-quality education is the best way forward for developing and maximizing our country's rich talents and resources for the good of the individual, the society, the country, and the world.

4. India has made tremendous strides in Education. World class technical and medical universities have made India the educational hub. Moreover, the ITEC (Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation) program, which is fully funded by the Government of India has evolved and grown over the years. Students from across the world have benefited from Education and Training in India.

5. The New Education Policy 2020 of the Government of India paves the way for transformational reforms in school and higher education system in the country. New Education Policy focuses on learning rather than studying and goes beyond curriculum and emphasizes critical thinking. Built on the foundational pillars of Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability and Accountability, this policy is aligned for Sustainable Development and aims to transform India into a vibrant knowledge society and global knowledge superpower by making both school and college education more holistic, flexible, multidisciplinary, suited to 21st century needs and aimed at bringing out the unique capabilities of each student.

6. As the New Education Policy completes one year, Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi launched multiple initiatives yesterday in the field of education that will prove to be a significant milestone in realising several goals envisaged under the NEP.

7. Speaking on the occasion Hon'ble PM said and I quote, "On this day last year, India took a monumental step ahead in the education sector by introducing the National Education Policy. The aim of this policy was Transforming Education sector and placing it at par with world-class systems which bring out the best in our students."

8. Cooperation in this sector is an important area of our bilateral cooperation. We would like to see much more closer and fruitful collaboration between our institutions and concerned agencies of our two countries for which we are working with all parties concerned.

6. I conclude by wishing the Executive committee and the members of the BKS every success in their future endeavours and once again congratulate BKS on achieving the milestone.

Thank you.
