

“We impart knowledge and inculcate sound character”

The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India University, Jharkhand popularly known as The ICFAI University, offers various under graduate, post graduate and doctoral programs. Apart from imparting academic education, the university also takes care of the holistic growth of the students in order to make the students industry ready. **Professor ORS Rao, Vice Chancellor, ICFAI University, Jharkhand** in an interview with **Roselin Kiro** shares about the initiatives taken by them in the university to groom students into competent and successful professionals



What sets you apart from other universities in terms of academics, infrastructure and other activities?

We are committed to groom our students into competent and successful professionals with values. In order to make it happen, we focus on imparting relevant knowledge and hands-on skills to our students, besides inculcating sound character. We revise our curriculum every year in line with the changing requirements of the industry and developments in science and technology. We deploy technology in Teaching-Learning-Assessment processes using a Learning Management System. One part of our mid-semester and end-semester

examinations are conducted online, wherein results (along with correct answers) are announced immediately after the examination. In collaboration with Rama Krishna Mission Ashram, we designed a course on values and ethics, which is compulsory for all of our programs. All of our students, irrespective of the program, have to undergo industry-internships so that they acquire hands-on skills. Due to the above measures, our students are able to get excellent campus placements in reputed companies.

How do you plan to stay afloat in today's cut throat competition among the universities?

By following a three-pronged strategy, which includes:

- Launching programs that are relevant in our territory (in terms of job opportunities)
- Providing value-based, quality education to the students, thereby making students ready to face industry and society
- Connecting with industry on a continuous basis so that our graduating students are employed fruitfully (as employees or as entrepreneurs).

It is often heard that India does not have a conducive academic atmosphere for research output. How does your university back students to promote research and publications?

Our PhD program for working professionals enables research on topics of interest to industry and society. Facilitation to write articles

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and encouragement to the publishing students and faculty members helped in enhancing our publication activity. Our journal, IUJ Journal of Management attracts excellent articles from students, faculty members and working managers.

What are your policy expectations from the government on the Private Universities?

To create an enabling environment and allow them freedom to operate

The number of affiliated colleges in federal state universities has been dramatically increasing in the last few years making it difficult for the state universities to manage these colleges. Is the quality of output a matter of concern at this point of time? Can autonomy be a way out to achieve excellence?

Yes, gradual autonomy, coupled with accountability, can address the quality issue 