



A Half-Century of Indian Higher Education: Essays by Philip G Altbach

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A Half-Century of Indian Higher Education features a select collection of writings on Indian higher education by Professor Philip G. Altbach. Professor Altbach's research papers and articles on Indian higher education?published in journals, periodicals, newspapers and books worldwide?not only established him as a noted expert on Indian higher education but also inspired numerous studies in this area.

This volume, edited by Pawan Agarwal, brings together 34 seminal writings of Professor Altbach on universities and colleges, knowledge production and distribution, academic profession, globalization and open-door policies, academic publishing, campus politics and comparative studies on Indian and Chinese systems. The articles provide an invaluable access to the various issues that have profoundly shaped India's higher education system during the last five decades. They give a comprehensive reading of the development of higher education in post-Independence India in a simple yet gripping style and affirm Professor Altbach's enduring commitment to this area.

The book includes in-depth reflective articles for each of its seven sections by well-known experts on higher education. It also features an insightful interview with Professor Altbach that illuminates many vital areas of higher education worldwide.

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Editorial Review

Review

[The book] covers a wide range of subjects...Not a single aspect of higher education in India has gone untouched—ranging from student politics to contemporary challenges.... The book should be read by everybody interested in higher education. It provides opportunities not only to reflect on the past and also to think about the future direction of higher education in India.

(Book Review, Vol 38, January 2014)

About the Author

Pawan Agarwal is serving as Adviser, Higher Education in the Planning Commission, where he has steered the formulation of the country's Twelfth Plan for Higher Education. He has earlier worked as Director in the Ministry of HRD and Financial Advisor, University Grants Commission.

He has been a Fulbright New Century Scholar at Harvard University/Emory University, a visiting scholar and fellow at ICRIER, New Delhi and the Centre for the Study of Higher Education in University of Melbourne. He is the recipient of the Emerging Leaders Fellowship of the Australia India Institute for the year 2011-12 and Bloomberg-UTV Policymaker of the Year, 2012. He has conducted studies for the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Association of Commonwealth Universities, the Inter-American Development Bank, the South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutions, the Observatory for the Borderless Education, and the Indian Council for International Economic Research. He has published on a range of higher education issues in India and comparative perspective in the South Asian context. He has previously authored a book with SAGE India, titled *Indian Higher Education: Envisioning the Future* (2009).

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