

For Engineering Training

The UNESCO regional seminar on 'education and training' held at Dacca recently has aptly emphasised the urgency for intensive collaboration and cooperation among the countries of South and Central Asia for developing all aspects of engineering training. Scientific and technological advancement has become imperative for them to accelerate the pace of their development activities and have lasting results thereof without depending much on others. Individual efforts will take much longer time to produce the desired results. The horizon of collaboration and cooperation among them has to be widened, reflecting sincere efforts for participation in mutually beneficial processes of engineering training so vital not only for exploiting advanced technology and knowhow but also for meeting the skill requirements of their manpower engaged in the development work. The fact remains that there exists a widening gap between skill on the part of manpower of these countries and the technologies adopted on the basis of experiences of the developed nations. This shortcoming has to be removed by augmenting personnel skill and adopting and developing technologies in accordance with their respective conditions and needs.

In view of the existing realities the UNESCO seminar has recommended creation of an information data bank at the UNESCO regional headquarters. This is to generate and disseminate various technical information among these countries. It has also stressed the need for frequent exchange programmes for the faculty of engineering of the concerned countries with the help and assistance of UNESCO. The spirit embodied in the recommendation obviously is to motivate the personnel to be selected for such engineering training in the pursuit of advanced scientific and technological knowledge and research work thereon for proper utilization of their innovative power and ideas.

In this context, it should also be noted that so far as science and technology are concerned these South and Central Asian countries have quite a few problems to solve to quicken their processes of overall national development. Some of these problems are even of an infrastructural dimension. It would therefore be heartening if these countries collaborate and cooperate among them effectively to solve these problems while advancing their pursuits for development of all aspects of engineering training.