

President for increasing enrolment in higher education Presents Lakshmipat Singhania-IIM awards

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President Pranab Mukherjee said the country should aim at achieving a gross enrolment ratio of 25 per cent in higher education by the end of the 12th Five-year Plan period from 18 per cent at present.

"The gross enrolment ratio in higher education must be targeted to increase from nearly 18 per cent at present to about 25 per cent by 2016-17, the terminal year of the 12th Plan," the President said at the Lakshmipat Singhania-IIM Lucknow National Leadership Awards function here.

Underlining the importance of providing quality education, he said the 12th Five-year Plan approach paper accordingly focusses on teacher training and evaluation and measures to enforce accountability.

It also stressed the need to build capacity in secondary schools to absorb the passouts from primary enrolments.

Mukherjee conferred the awards to Azim Premji, Chairman, Wipro Limited; Vineet Nayar, Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of HCL Technologies Ltd., Professor Man



President Pranab Mukherjee with awardees of the Lakshmipat Singhania - IIM, Lucknow National Leadership Awards 2011 in New Delhi on Friday

Mohan Sharma, Former Director, Institute of Chemical Technology, University of Bombay, Mumbai; Dr Gajendra Pal Singh Raghava, Head of the Bioinformatics Centre, Institute of Microbial Technology (IMTECH), Chandigarh; Smt. Amla Ruia, Chairperson, Aakar Charitable Trust, Mumbai; Leela Kumari, Founder, Mahila Vikas Samity, Bihar.

JK Organisation Director, Bharat Hari Singhania said, "These awards set a platform for India's young leaders to work towards the betterment of society and lead the economies with their talent."

The jury for the awards included personalities like Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister Chairman, C Rangarajan, Competition Commission of India Chairperson, Ashok Chawla, Hari Shankar Singhania, President, JK Organisation Shri Bharat Hari Singhania, Director, JK Organisation; Dr. Raghupati Singhania, Director, JK Organisation; Dr. JJ Irani, Chairman, Board of Governors & Dr. Devi Singh, Director, Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow.