

Meet seeks progressive changes in education methods

Chennai, Dec 8:

The second edition of iDiscoveri's School of Tomorrow, an XSEED annual international conference on innovative education held simultaneously in New Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Chennai witnessed thought leaders and educationists engage in high quality and stimulating dialogue that could pave the way for progressive change in school education.

Author Gurcharan Das, who gave the keynote address via video conference said: "Only 20% of school students get a decent education, while 80% has miserable schooling.

We need to move away from rote learning and move to more practical methods of education to make a formidable power." Peter Senge from MIT Sloan School of Management said, "We must abandon Industrial Age assumptions about schools. Learning should centre on the student and not on teachers. We need to move away from homogeneity and rote memorisation."

A panel discussion on 'Society's Expectations from Schools' saw the exchange of both, pessimistic and optimistic views from the speakers. Karti Chidambaram, member All India Congress Com-

mittee, Krishnamachari Srikanth, Chairman, Selection Committee of the BCCI, Mala Ramadorai, chairperson of the Citi School of Special Education in Mumbai, Steven Rudolph, director, JIVA Education, spoke at the conference held in Chennai.

X SEED iDiscoveri Education has been providing training and learning tools to more than 400 schools at an average cost of R100 per child every month. "We try to introduce contemporary ideas in methods of teaching as well as learning," said Ashish Rajpal, CEO of iDiscoveri Education.