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## International Institute for Higher Education Research and Capacity Building

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*cordially invite you to participate in*

### THINKING THURSDAYS: IIHed Research Seminar Series

on

## Equity and Diversity Management in the Institutions of Higher Education

by



### Dr. Kumar Suresh

Professor and Head, Department of Educational Administration  
National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi

#### Abstract

Higher education in India has experienced significant developments in recent years both in terms of institutional expansion and diversity of social composition of students and faculty. Enrolment of students belonging to the disadvantaged communities such as SCs, STs, OBCs, and educationally backward minorities in higher education has increased significantly in recent years. Similarly students from rural areas have also succeeded in getting admissions in the institutions of higher education in urban areas and metropolis, including those institutions which are otherwise considered to be elite institutions given their background and traditional social composition of students. Girl students are also represented in higher educational institutions in considerable numbers. This has significantly impacted the nature and composition of students in the institutions of higher education. There could be multiple factors responsible for altering the character of social composition of students. Social transformation and expanding middle class across the group and communities, besides a host of affirmative action policies, may be considered as important reasons for this change. These developments have thrown new challenges before the institutions of higher education. How to respond to the challenges of diversity appear to be a major problem for most of the institutions. Growing incidence of group based discrimination and exclusion, increasing number of cases of violence against women and sexual harassment are posing problems for the institutions. Strong and effective institutional support mechanisms in the higher educational institutions are requisite of managing diversity and promoting equity. The proposed talk will address some of the issues related to diversity and equity management in higher education.

#### Short Bio of Speaker

**Dr. Kumar Suresh** is currently Professor and Head, Department of Educational Administration at the National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi. Spanning over two and half decades of his academic career, he has worked in the area of policy and governance specifically on diversity and equity; federalism and multilevel governance. A large number of research papers on these themes are to his credit. He has also organised a number of workshops on the theme of diversity and equity in the institutions of higher education; and national and international competence development programmes for senior level educational administrators.

Prof Kumar has served as Chairman and member of different expert committees of the University Grants Commission, New Delhi; advisory bodies of universities and institutions including Human Resource centres of different universities. He has wide experience of organising national and international competence development programmes including the programmes for educational administrators.

Prof Kumar Suresh is also a member of Asia-Pacific Network of researchers of UNESCO. Recently he has completed the case of India as part of a multi-country research study on Culture of Testing: Socio-cultural drivers and the effects on youth in the Asia-Pacific region of Asia-Pacific region, sponsored by UNESCO, Bangkok Branch. He has also visited different countries in international collaborative programmes which include Switzerland (Fribourg University), Canada (McGill University), Serbia (University of Belgrade), Thailand (UNESCO, Bangkok), Sri Lanka (*Forum of Federation and Burghoff Foundation*) and Nepal (*GTZ and Forum of Federation*).

Date: Thursday, 5 October 2017 | Time: 11:30 am

Venue: IIHed Seminar Room, T1, 2nd Floor, O. P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat-131001, Haryana

Faculty Coordinator: Dr. Mousumi Mukherjee, Assistant Director, IIHed, mmukherjee@jgu.edu.in