Global Science Innovation Advisory Council

Why in news?

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Visiting Malaysian PM who presided over Global Science Innovation Advisory Council (GSIAC) said India to reap its demographic dividend has to renovate and reinvent its education system.

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What is GSIAC?

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- GSIAC is a joint initiative between the Malaysia Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT) and the New York Academy of Sciences.
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- The new York Academy of sciences is the world's nexus of scientific innovation in the service of humanity.
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- For nearly 200 years—since 1817—the Academy has brought together extraordinary people working at the frontiers of discovery and promoted vital links between science and society.
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- Academy's Membership has featured leaders in science, business, academia, and government, including U.S. Presidents .
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- Today, the Academy President's Council includes 30 Nobel Laureates as well as CEOs, philanthropists, and leaders of national science funding agencies.
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- One of their programmes includes Scientists without Borders.
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What reform needed in India’s education sector?

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- First, our streams of education should change.

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- We need inter-disciplinary approaches in education.
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- But, our current regulatory systems do not provide this space though a large number of private universities are attempting to play the game.
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- Second, a lot is said about experiential learning.
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- But we have not ensured that our teachers and research guides un-learn and re-learn how to impart such experiences.
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- Mostly, these approaches stop at the level of advertisements.
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- Third, self-learning and peer-learning has to be promoted.
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- Examination based education will compromise our abilities to design jobs for the future.
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- This needs support from parents, teachers (read mentors), prospective employers and policymakers.
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- Finally, we need education and training that responds to societal needs and challenges.
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- If artificial intelligence is to rule the science and technology world in the next few decades, we cannot be training students in age-old subjects.
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Source: Hindu Business Line

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