

'Involve corporates in primary education, rural healthcare'

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INDIA'S onward march can only hasten if the government brought in the corporate sector into the primary education and rural healthcare sectors, according to Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev of Isha Foundation. He was reacting to Union finance minister P Chidambaram's statement at the India Economic Summit yesterday that these two sectors could not be privatised.

"It is a joy to see the political leadership talking with such clarity. The finance minister is right on dot in his observations about sectors such as agriculture, industry and services. But we need to be more aggressive about reforms in primary education and rural healthcare," the spiritual leader told ET.

He felt that if India started growing at the rate of 10%, it would hit a human resource crunch in just 4-5 years. "To avoid this situation, all the government has to do is identify 100 corporate establishments and ask them to adopt these services in 1,000 villages each," he said.

According to him, this would be a profitable proposition for the corporates as well, who should take it as a viable investment. "These days, some companies hire engineers and other technical professionals in their first year of education itself, thereby paying for their remaining education. I am just proposing a model where these companies could take over a prospective workforce even before it joins



Jaggi Vasudev: Sadhguru's vision for future

the formal education stream. That way they will also have the opportunity to groom people as per their requirement."

To give a concrete shape to his ideas, the spiritual leader plans to undertake an awareness building exercise. As a part of which, he will meet various industry leaders and policy makers. "The government has all the necessary infrastructure in place. All the corporates need is to put that infrastructure to optimum use," he said.

Spiritual exercise will give long-term relief: Jaggi Vasudev

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POP the pill whose chemistry will last. Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev of Isha Foundation today asked the audience at the India Economic Summit to ponder why people crack up at the age of 35 and 40. "People find different ways to get their minds in an accelerated state. Drinking, pumping drugs and driving fast may bring a short-term relief but in the long run they are meaningless," he said. Pills could bring temporary relief or peace, but it is self-realisation which will have a lasting effect. "Peace, joy, anxiety are all matters of chemistry. The chemistry will be short-lived with a pill and can be everlasting with spiritual exercise," he said.

Exhorting the audience to align their physical, mental and energy bodies for supreme bliss, the Sadhguru said the internal world could only be conditioned by paying sufficient attention to oneself. "Anybody can be peaceful in the Himalayas. The internal world should be conditioned in such a way that one feels at peace even in a market place," he said. "It is rather strange that being joyful without reason is logically considered weird whereas being sad without reason is absolutely normal," he said adding that logic should be applied only to the physical dimensions of life and not to life as a whole.