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Abstract

This Case Study presents the Campus Diversity Initiative (CDI), a three-phase project lead by the Educational Resources Project Centre Trust, in New Delhi, India. In a historic and cultural context different from that of India, the American Diversity Initiative was launched by the Ford Foundation in 1990 and addressed their diversity issues by challenging the colleges to be creative and to make diversity the central mission in the educational system. Hearing about this program, a group of Indian educators, policy makers and concerned persons saw the value and importance of addressing diversity issues in their own context because the issues of social tension and youth dynamics were parallel, perhaps even global, in their upsurge. It was felt that it was important that some initiative be undertaken in India and there was open discussion and a frank dialogue on issues of nationwide concern. Subsequently, a study of eight colleges in different parts of the country was undertaken. The study clearly brought out the need for a diversity initiative that would improve communication between different socio-economic groups, address their genuine concerns effectively and build

16.2.2026

harmony in and around campuses. The CDI was launched in India in 1994 with the support of the Ford Foundation. This case study presents what has happened since. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)