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School of tomorrow

School education needs to go beyond the confines of the classroom. **Gowri Ishwaran**, Padma Shri recipient and CEO, The Global Education and Leadership Foundation, speaks to **Aaditi Isaac** about the need to take school education beyond rote learning



Gowri
Ishwaran

School education in the 21st Century needs more than just simple teaching and learning within the confines of the classroom. With the dynamics of education undergoing a radical change, educators have to learn how to deal with the changes that affect both teachers and students.

"We have to deal with realities like globalisation, digitalisation, and how our brain works, which requires us to move out of our comfort zone, try different techniques while teaching, and more importantly, understand that risk-taking, decision-making and problem-solving are as important for children as is the curriculum. The CBSE's curriculum is just a benchmark, a tool that can be used to go beyond the curriculum," opines Gowri Ishwaran, Padma Shri recipient

and CEO, The Global Education and Leadership Foundation, who was a participant in the iDiscoveri XSeed School of Tomorrow conference, held recently.

Stressing on the fact that a curriculum should not be the only guiding factor in the classroom, Ishwaran says that teachers hold the future of children in the way they teach. "Teachers should not be restricted by the curriculum but see it as a tool to facilitate the teaching and learning process. We always blame private schools as they don't take underprivileged children; but they constitute eight percent of all schools in India. It is the remaining 92% of schools that have to make a difference. The role of teachers has changed from the traditional chalk-and-talk to enablers," she said.



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