ON WHAT basis are the new courses introduced and how do you think it will benefit the students in the job market?
The new programmes are introduced based on a number of criteria including the importance of the courses in terms of overall curriculum of the university and student interest and the availability of excellent faculty members to impart the programmes. Fresh graduates should be equipped with the skills to work on jobs that are not even created today. So it is essential to provide them with broad based knowledge that will help them to be successful in any job. For instance, to become a good historian it is important to understand the politics of the country.

What are the admission criteria for the programmes?
Our programmes are of four-year duration and will be entirely based on merit. The candidates will be assessed on the basis of their class XII board examination results, the aptitude test specifically conducted by SNU and on the basis of an interview where their communication and conversational skills will be assessed. We will also ensure that no meritorious candidate is denied an admission due to the lack of financial help. Our master’s students get ₹1 lakh a year as stipend and our Ph.D students, over ₹5 lakh a year as stipend.

Despite the proliferation of private universities, Indian universities do not figure in any of the internatio

The Greater Noida based Shiv Nadar University (SNU), which started functioning in August 2011, has expanded its multi-disciplinary offerings for the academic year 2013, to include Chemical Engineering, Sociology, History and Life Sciences. Addressing a press conference in Noida last week, the founding vice-chancellor of the university, NIKHIL SINHA explains how the introduction of new courses at the under-graduate level will allow students to choose multiple electives for enhanced learning experience.

In order to figure in the QS rankings for top 200 universities, we should focus extensively on research. But due to the sheer size of our population we should also focus on increasing the enrollment ratio. This means we need to create two types of universities, one that focuses on mass enrollment and the other focusing on research with limited student intake.

By Sangeeth Sebastian