

After listening to the report made by Prof. Dr. Du Lô Giang, Secretary of the VCP Party Committee of HUE, on the realization of party committee task since the seventh congress (December 1994) and its direction in the eighth term (1996-2000); and the report of Dr. Lâm Quốc Dũng, Secretary of the VCP party committee of HUP, on the party committee's task realization, Mr. Đỗ gave the following questions:

1. How is the quality of graduates in comparison with their counterparts in other nations, and in comparison between theory and practice?

2. Is the supply-demand relation in equilibrium or in disequilibrium? Could graduates get jobs after graduation?

3. Is self-funding possible in universities? Could education supplying service bring in a profit?

And Mr. Đỗ wanted Prof. Đào Công Tiến, the Rector of the HUE, answer these questions.

As for the first question, Mr. Đào thought that the quality of students graduated from short-term and on-the-job training courses was rather low, because their basic knowledge and learning spirit were poor.

As for students of full-time education, both in graduate and undergraduate schools, their quality showed an upward tendency. This could be seen by many facts: Most graduates could find jobs after graduation and could do their jobs well; seniors who were sent abroad to study didn't feel inferior to foreign students. The quality of these students resulted from their basic knowledge and learning spirit were higher than those of above-mentioned students.

In the past, students had to spend a lot of time on studying theories, now they had chances to put theories into practice. Besides the full-time education they received from universities, many students have learned foreign languages, informatics, etc. Many students have had personal computers. Undergraduates

could grasp the realities better than their older generations.

As for the second question, Mr. Đào said that he didn't know exactly how many graduates from other universities could (or couldn't) find job after graduation, but in the HUE, students from many faculties such as business management, foreign trade, tourism, finance, banking, account-

universities should pay a lot of attention to improving the quality of education process. We have won the war against invasion, but in developing the economy, the victory would depend on the quality of the education process. In order to improve the education quality, we should analyze the economic aspect of the education and put appropriate investments in edu-

cation. The investment in education should be considered as the strategy of top priority, the strategy of strategies if we didn't want to fall behind other countries.

The Government and the Party are carrying out the plan to industrialize and modernize the economy. The realization of this plan depends totally on the quality of education process. Thus, we can say that the task of developing the country depends on the Ministry of Education and Training, and all universities for training an army of qualified and dedicated experts.

Universities should suggest new policies and lines with scientific bases to the Government and the

Party about this problem. In the coming conference of universities' party committees, this problem should be discussed minutely, suggestions about the documents of the Eighth National Congress of the VCP should be made, especially on the strategy for industrialization and modernization of all activities, from relations of production, infrastructure, capital, to the relation between economy and national defense...

At the end of the conference, the VCP General Secretary estimated that in recent years, activities of HUE, and its party committee, had been renovated successfully, they were open but well-managed. This was the right way of carrying out one's tasks ■

Reported by
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INVESTING IN EDUCATION THE STRATEGY OF TOP PRIORITY

This was the opinion of Đỗ Mười, General Secretary of VCP Central Committee, given in the conference with party committees and boards of education of HCMC University of Economics (HUE), HCMC University of Polytechnics, and of other universities in HCMC in Jan. 4, 1996 at the HCMC University of Economics.



ing... could find jobs rather easily. If they didn't have a job just after graduation, it was because they waited for the most appropriate jobs.

As for the third question, the Rector suggested that the current tuition fees should be raised. The current annual tuition didn't exceed VNĐ1 million, whereas in Australia for example it was US\$6,000 a year. This figure was even higher in other countries.

The tuition could be raised reasonably, but in case of poor students or students from revolutionary families, they could be reduced. Only with abundant funds the quality and scale of education could be improved and met requirements of the economic development.

Mr. Đỗ had shared these opinions with the Rector and said that all