Globalisation, information technology, the emergence of new market forces and international competition has brought unprecedented challenges to higher education in Japan. In Japan there are national, public and private universities. Of the total, 17.8% are national universities, 8.7% public and 73.6% are private universities. While the national and public universities are financed by the Japanese government, the private universities are largely dependent on tuition fees and other sources for funds. Consequently, the nature of problems confronted by national and public universities on the one hand, and private universities on the other are often quite diverse.

National and public universities have been facing a crisis situation and they are increasingly thinking in terms of transforming themselves into private institutions. In particular, they are concerned about the acute financial uncertainty. Besides this, they are confronted with stiff competition from the private universities. Governance mechanism in national universities is often slow and rigid, which in turn favours the advocates of the principle of privatisation and corporatization that is contrary to social policy. This necessitates the present model of both national and private universities to be reformed and restructured.

The dilemma of choice and coordination between equality and excellence or massification and elitism, stagnant population growth, developments in science and technology, concern about the environment and inequalities, increased cultural sensitivities and pressure for democracy and peace are some of the major factors which need to be taken into consideration while bringing about reforms in the Japanese higher education. Increased cooperation and collaboration between commercial enterprises and universities in
recent times has included even the national universities threatening its academic autonomy. However, it is important for academic institutions to commit themselves to a more rational as well as more rewarding social, open and accountable attitude in management and administration. With the changing situation in the globalized world, Japan also needs to shift its policy regarding higher education.

This is a comprehensive study emphasizing upon the issues of globalization and internationalization, new technology and market mechanism as powerful forces affecting Japanese higher education management. One of the biggest issues is financial uncertainty which demands restructuring of resource management. New initiatives include not only statement of financial management but also human resource management in a constructive way. Resource management has become a domain of new managerialism which needs to be acquired and cultivated keeping pace with the rapid changes at the global level. The involvement and reform initiative of government is also related to the management and administration of higher education in terms of planning, coordinating and providing financial support. Moreover, the input of leadership is one of the major criteria for the improvement of the administration and management of the university.

A field trip to Japan for material collection for my study has been extremely helpful to comprehend the management and administration process of Japanese higher education. During my field trip to Japan, I have met and discussed this subject with many important people, students, and professors of different universities. This study depends largely upon Ministry of Education documents, speeches, statements and conferences and examination of debates and discussions relevant to the subject.
Chapter I is the theoretical understanding which includes the statement of the problem, approaches to study problems, and different theories and debates on Japanese higher education management. Chapter II discusses prewar and postwar development of higher education in Japan. Chapter III points out the forces of change which affect higher education in Japan. It also includes the main problems in Japanese higher education. Chapter IV analyses state involvement in Japanese higher education and various reform initiatives of the government. It also explains the agenda of higher education reform initiative. Chapter V shows the most important areas of change management in Japanese higher education and the developments that have taken place in recent years. This includes financial and human resource management, information management, management of curriculum. This chapter also discusses modernizing university governance in terms of planning, development and coordination. Last chapter is summary and conclusions.

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