



HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA: THE WAY AHEAD

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ABSTRACT

KEYWORDS:

INTRODUCTION:

Education is the third eye of a person. It gives him insight into all affairs. It teaches him how to act justly and rightly. It leads him to realize the true significance of life. Education removes darkness and shatters illusion. A person without education is really blind. Education is an indispensable need of mankind. According to **Vivekanand**- "Education is the manifestation of the perfection already existing in man". In the view of **M.K.Gandhi** about the education-"By education, I mean an all-round drawing out of the best in the child and man-body, mind and spirit". In the word of **Aristotle**- "Education is the creation of a sound mind in a sound body". According to **Herbart Spencer**- "Education is the development of good moral character". We can say that education is a purposive, conscious or unconscious, psychological, sociological, scientific and philosophical process, which develops overall personality of an individual. "Education should be man-making and society-making"- **Dr.S.Radhakrishnan**. Education is a means of developing good citizens (Plato). Education is a powerful instrument of social change and social control. Education as a multicolour process which consists of the passage of the human being from infancy to maturity and the process whereby he adopts himself gradually in various way to his physical, social and spiritual environment. Education is one of the most complexes of all social institutions. Education is a purposive. Conscious or unconscious, psychological, sociological, scientific and philosophical process, which develops overall process both in narrower as well as in wider sense. Ancient people used to collect facts and information about nature for survival. This is nothing but education. Today we are living in the age of technology and computer in an essential part of almost every technology. We are at home office or any space computers in the present time, have not just connected people all over the world but have also a good change of developing more technologies to make life easier and better computers have entered almost every field of life as education, research, space, sports, medicine or films.

Importance of Education: The education is process of instruction aimed at the all round development of individual, providing necessary tools and knowledge to

understand and participate in day to day activities today's world. Education not only impacts on human development and economic growth but also is fundamental requirement of democracy. At the start of a very young age, children learn to develop and use their mental, moral and physical powers, which they acquire through various types of education. Learning subjects in school is not enough one can learn history, maths, science in school and the book smart in addition, one can learn how to live life by knowing what to say when, acting a certain way in certain situations and be street smart. Growth of economy and development of a country is depending upon the education system of particular country. A perfect and successful batch of a country is come from education sector. Education is key which allows people to move up in the world, seek better jobs and ultimately succeed in their lives. So, education is very important and no one should be deprived of it.

Present Education System in India: In India, educational pattern divided mainly in three parts like primary education, secondary education, and higher education. Primary and secondary education knows as school education where student takes basic knowledge about math's science, social science and history of nation etc. Higher education refers to study programmes offered after senior secondary level leading to a degree or a diploma at university level. Distance education is also playing a good role in present educational system. It's provided degree and diploma in different fields by distance mode to whom not takes education regular any colleges and universities.

Higher Education: Higher education systems of India is the world's third largest in terms of students, next to China and United States. Unlike China, however, India has advantages of English being primary language of higher education and research. India educates about 11% of its youth in higher education as compared to 20% in China. The main government body at tertiary level is the University Grants Commission which enforces its standards, advises the government, and helps coordinate between the center and the state. Universities and its constituent colleges are main institutes of higher

education in India. At present in 2011, there are 227 government-recognized Universities in India. Out of them 20 are central universities, 109 are deemed universities and 11 are open universities and rest are state universities. Most of these universities in India have affiliating colleges where undergraduate courses are being taught. Distance learning is also a feature of Indian higher education system. Even as higher education has been based on a Western Universities Model, it has developed in a way that is deeply rooted in societies of which it is a part.

Role of Higher Education in India: The high education system in India includes both private and public universities-

1. Central universities or union universities,
2. State universities,
3. Deemed universities,
4. Private universities.

India's high education system is the third largest in the world. The main governing body at the tertiary level is the University Grant Commission and the higher education system in India includes both private and public universities. Higher education is a most part of a student education. He learns skills and techniques for higher education. Higher education changes society by new knowledge, skills, information and technology. The main roles of higher education giving are below:

Development of Human Resources- For a long time higher education has fulfilled role of producing government and private sector leaders. Most important role of higher education is developing high-level human resources with necessary knowledge and skills for economic and social development. It is becoming important to expand higher education, so that a wide range of human resources can be developed and the entire society's level of knowledge can be raised.

Creations of Knowledge- The ability to apply knowledge and technical skills is extremely important to economic development. Higher education must not merely teach new technology, but must develop human resources who can evaluate the for these technologies and apply them.

Self-realization of People- Higher education helps people improve their income and quality of life through increasing knowledge or skills and then expand on their choices available in life, including those related to work life.

Developments of a Healthy Society- A role in reforming social system and cultivating social cohesion is demanded of higher education. This may be accomplished through production of the common asset of new knowledge, including spread of democratic values and respect for multiculturalism.

Changing of Higher Education in India

Since we have got independence we are facing to establish

a great and strong education system. Various governments come and gone, off course they tried to establish new education policies in education in education system but this is very sad to dictate that they were not sufficient for our country. Still we are facing lot of problems and challenges in our higher education system. They are many basic problems, like inadequate infrastructure and facilities, large vacancies in faculty positions and poor faculty thereof, low students enrolment rate, outmoded teaching methods, declining research standards, unmotivated students, overcrowded classrooms and widespread geographic, income, gender, and ethnic imbalances. There is no creativity in students. Our top class students are hard-worker but not innovative. They are not capable enough to produce new technology. There is a great need to revolution in higher education. There are just some challenges which should cover all aspect in present scenario of education and we have to implement hard on them.

Suggestions For Improving Quality of Higher Education:

Quality is an important factor when it comes to any product or service than it become well. There is four main role of higher education, like a) higher education as the production of qualified human resources, b) higher education as training for a research career, c) higher education as the efficient management of teaching provision, and d) higher education as a matter of extending life changes. So, there is necessary to provide a quality in education to make a good and educate people for nation development. There is some suggestion for improving quality of higher education.

Industry and Academic Connection: Industry and academic connect necessary to ensure curriculum and skills in line with requirements. Skill building is really very crucial to ensure employability of academic to understand and make sure good jobs.

Student-centered Education and Methods: Methods of higher education have to be appropriate to the needs of learning to learn, learning to do, learning to be and learning to become. Student-centered education and employment of dynamic methods of teaching will require from teachers new attitude and new skills.

International Cooperation: Universities in India have been a primary conduct for advancement and transmission of knowledge through traditional functions such as research, innovation, teaching, human resource development and continuing education.

Action Plan for Quality: Academic and administrative audit should be conducted once in three years in college by external experts for ensuring quality in all aspects of academic activities. Universities and colleges should realize need for quality education and come forward with action plan for improving quality in higher education institutions.

Privatization of Higher Education: In any nation education is basic need for socio-economic development of

individuals and society. Only 20% of population is educated in India. Privatization of higher education is absolutely necessary in a vast country like India as government alone is helpless to do so.

Personality Development Programmes: Education should be for flowering of personality but not for suppression of creativity or natural skill. In the globalized world opportunities for educated people are naturally ample is scope. That is way the world can be developed for peace, prosperity and progress by able and skilful man.

Examination Reforms: Examination reforms, gradually shifting from terminal, annual, semester examinations to regular and continuous assessment of student's performance in learning should be implemented.

Conclusion: In the views of **Dr.S.Radhakrishnan**- "Education should be man making and society making". According to former Prime Minister **Dr.Manmohan Singh**- "The time has come to create a second ware of institution building and of excellence in fields of education, research and capability building." We need an educational system that is modern, liberal and can adapt to the changing needs of a changing society, a changing economy and changing world. The thrust of public policy for higher education in India has to be the address these challenges, because we are living in the age of technology.

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