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CHANGING ROLE OF TEACHER IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBALIZATION

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ABSTRACT

Globalization is a combination of internationalization in the area of politics, economics, and cultural, social and educational events. Role of teacher for quality higher education has become a primary agenda of the countries worldwide. In the context marked by expansion of higher education and globalization of economic activities, education has become a national concern in developing countries with an international dimension. The globalization is affecting the economy, culture and information, internationalization of relations, mobility of individual communications and media. This is a challenge to the education system as well as the teachers. The globalization in the 21st century calls upon the teachers to change their roles to meet the future demands of the society. In this paper the authors try to discuss the dynamic roles of teachers in higher education in the context of globalization.

Keywords: Role, Teacher, Higher Education, Globalization.

INTRODUCTION

Globalization is a recent phenomenon with its root in trade and commerce. Globalization is a process of free exchange of goods and capitals across globe. The advancement of science and technology, revolution leading to the INTERNET, fastest means of transportation etc. have made the whole world a "global village" and globalization a new impetus. This means that globalization is a process wherein geographic distance becomes a factor of diminishing importance in the establishment and maintenance of cross border economic, political and socio-cultural relations. There is an emergence of global mass culture or a single world civilization. It has created a knowledge based society. There is a shifting from a "real" community to a "virtual" community. At present the impact of globalization on education sector also is quite obvious. UNESCO - Commission on the development of education (1972) rightly observes in its memorable report- 'Learning to Be' and states "Rigid distinction between different types of teaching, general, scientific, technical and professional must be dropped and education as from



primary and secondary levels must become theoretical, technological, practical etc. the same time". In this sense education is not narrowly conceived particularly which relates to nation. Now days it needs to conductive globally because of impact of globalization.

EDUCATION AND GLOBALIZATION

Education is an important investment in building human capital that is a driver for technological innovation and economic growth. It is only through improving the educational status of a society that the multi-faceted development of its people can be ensured. In the post-industrialized world, the advanced countries used to derive the major proportion of their national income not from agriculture and industry but from the service sector. Since the service sector is based on imparting skills or training to the students and youth, the education sector is the most sought after. It must provide gainful employment so that the sector is developed in a big way. It has also given rise to controversies relating to introducing changes in the inter-sectoral priorities in the allocation of resources leading to the misconceived policy of downsizing of higher education. It has also advocated privatization of higher education without realizing the danger of making the system a commercial enterprise (Sagar, 2005).

Further, education, as a service industry, is part of globalization process under the umbrella of General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS). However, there is every possibility that this might force countries with quite different academic needs and resources to conform to systems inevitably designed to service the interest of corporate educational providers, and thereby breeding inequality and dependence. Thus, several teachers' organizations are on record opposing the inclusion of education in the GATS, on the ground that education was not a commodity. Incidentally, there is an emerging threat from the process of globalization in the recent times. Because, in the words of Arun Nigvekar of the World Bank's Task Force, 2000, "Globalization can lead to unregulated and poor quality higher education, with the worldwide marketing of fraudulent degrees or other so-called higher education credentials". It seems that countries like India are likely to turn into "an increasingly attractive market for foreign universities and hence other nations are going to use GATS' provisions to their advantage".

IMPACT OF GLOBALIZATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND ROLE OF TEACHER IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher education in India is basically a state funded sector. Institutions of higher education in India are today under immense pressure and in a miserable condition which transcend to internalize their course and programmes. A country whose 65% of population is under the bracket of 17 to 35 years of age and out of it only 35% is enrolled in the institutions of higher education at an affordable price. The beginning of the 90s witnessed start of a new era of globalization, since then, higher education system has been facing tremendously a massive cut in public expenditure in education. Even after 68 years of independence higher education is not accessible to the poorest group of the population. The changes spearheaded by economic liberalization and globalization are having an impact on higher education worldwide. Under the impact of globalizing market forces, there has been a general trend towards the reduction of per capita public funding to higher education, despite the continuing increase in student enrolments, leading to the current fiscal crisis of higher education (Bhat and Arefeen, 2016). In one line we can say that in the era of globalization, higher education is increasingly treated as business.

The rate of expansion of knowledge appears to be increasing and teaching has enhanced access to information worldwide. Education for 21st century therefore needs to enhance an individual's ability to assimilate, evaluate and apply the available information. The globalization is affecting the economy, culture and information, internationalization of relations, mobility of individual communication, and media. This is a challenge to the system of education as well as the teachers. Thus the globalization in the 21st Century calls upon the teachers to change their roles to meet the future demand of the society (Unnisa, 2007). Regarding the importance of teacher in education system, the Commonwealth Report (1974) said that the teacher has a major role in educational development whether he acts actively or passively. He can influence development adversely by opposing innovation or merely remaining mute in the face of growing need for reforms; on the other hand, he can participate actively as the initiator himself or an interpreter of the plans devised by others.

The National Policy on Education (1986) suggests: "The national strategy of education has ensure the availability of highly educated, trained and motivated manpower for dealing with the challenges which are inherent in the modernization and globalization of economy. India has to be able to compete with the most advanced countries in many fields of education to hold its own. Hence the inescapable need for setting up and maintaining institutions of excellence at all levels to tap the best talent and nurture it with care and competence". Good teacher make good school, Good schools make good students, Good students make good citizens, Good citizen make good





nation. So, teacher education is a nation building activity and a generation moulding institution which always strives to accommodate itself in the era of globalization. The 21st century is witnessing not only an explosion of knowledge in science and technology but also an explosion of student population. Changes in society's life demand corresponding changes in education and role of teachers in 21st century. The changing and challenging role of teachers in the field of higher education can be briefly described below:-

- 1. **Teacher as a manager of teaching-learning process:** As a manager, the teachers need to manage all the variables involved in the teaching-learning process in such a way as to end with the best possible achievements of the set teaching-learning objectives. The teachers of higher education in 21st century has to plan, organize, lead and control the effects of all the available new material resources and variables involved in the process of teaching-learning, in such a way as to achieve stated teaching-learning objectives with maximum efficiency and effectiveness.
- 2. Teacher as a facilitator of teaching-learning process: The main task of teachers is to teach, so they should be warm, understanding and controlling and should observe students' action and reactions skillfully and also ask questions to students, praise and encourage them if necessary. And the teachers should be stimulating and imaginative in approach to classroom behavior and responsible and systematic towards teaching and work oriented.
- 3. Teacher as a community leader: In modern society the teacher should act as an agent for modernization and development of the community. They have to work as a social worker by organizing programs in nonformal and adult education, awareness programme in health, hygiene, population issues, environmental challenges etc.
- 4. **Teacher as a builder of nation:** The teachers should take the lead to create the foundation of a casteless nation in the classroom and should give those lessons on humility, nobility, discipline, humanism, leadership and love for the nation.
- 5. Teacher as a counselor: As a counselor the teachers are expected to solve problems for students. The teachers should help students to choose subjects, career in accordance with their needs, talents and abilities. Besides they should help students to solve their physical and mental health, in developing good habits and should guide them to make proper use of leisure time.
- **6. Teacher as a protector of environment:** The teacher can play an important role in creating awareness about environment and should take active part in keeping the school and community clean and green.



- **Teacher as a promoter of educational technology:** Now a day modernization has affected education system too. In modern society curing illiteracy is the immediate problem in developing countries. It has been estimated that half of the world's population is totally illiterate and then mostly live in developing countries. To deal with this problem we need more teachers but to solve the problem of illiteracy effectively we need to take the help of technology. Modern teacher should try to integrate their instruction/ teaching with technology. Teachers need to acquire 'media competences' in addition to their instructional skills.
- 8. Teacher as promoter of the concept of global citizenship: It is expected that teacher should design and plan teaching learning process in such a way that children can grow with world mindedness. Through teaching the teachers should impress upon the students that barriers of race, colour and distance do not stand in the way of uniting people of different countries.

CONCLUSION

Increasing global competition has meant that innovation, marketing, standard setting, quality control and networking have become as important to universities as to firms in this globalised knowledge-based society of the 21st century. With the growing size and diversity of the higher education sector particularly in terms of courses, management and geographical coverage, it has become necessary to develop a sound database on higher education. In this regard the role of teachers in higher education is very crucial. The 21st century is witnessing not only an explosion of knowledge in science and technology but also an explosion of student population. Changes in society's life demand corresponding changes in education and role of teachers not only in higher education but also teachers including the all stages of education in 21st century. Realizing the roles of teachers for quality and value-based education the National Policy on Education (1986) rightly states that the socio-cultural ethos of the society is reflected by status of the teachers and that no people can raise above the levels of its teachers.

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