

THE ROLE OF EDUCATION IN MODERNATION: MODERN PERSPECTIVE

MRS. SUPARNA KARAN

Email.suparnakaran.gg@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The word 'Modernization' has been echoing around the world since the dawn of the twentieth century. Modern age is the age of material science and technology. During this age, emphasis is being given to modernization in every aspect of human life and it has become quite inevitable. That is why modernization is considered as the biggest gift of the modern society. In fact, all of us want to be modern. Therefore, all individuals take untiring efforts to be modernized. The craze for modernity is to be witnessed in all the aspect of human life and in all areas. For example, a housewife decorates her kitchen with modern gadgets and uses modern methods to prepare food items. As we have already mentioned, education is a dynamic process which is subject to change in relation to the time and needs of the society. Thus when fast changes are taking place in all the areas, education cannot remain unchanged and untouched by the impact of modernization.

***Key words:** Modernization, features, role of teacher, role of education.*

MEANING OF MODERNISATION

The term 'Modernization' has acquired different meanings which differ from time to time and person to person as a result we have different meanings of modernization. For a common man, it is the use of modern means for a happy and comfortable life, through industrialization and automation. The economist use this term as another word for economic growth, the application of science and technology in the productive process. The psychologist emphasis self reliance and achievement motivation essential to modernity. To the educationist, it implies a new approach not only to the aims and process of education but also to the totality of its entire programmes so as to relate it to the development, needs and aspiration of the nation.

Generally, Modernization is a process of change from the traditional and quasi –traditional order to a desired type of technology. These changes take place in values, social structure and achieve of the pupils. A modernized society is one which adopts a new way of life according to the changing environments and does not remain at the level of the tenth century society. People who follow the traditional life style will not use watches, train, buses, plans, television, radios, calculator, computer and other modern gadgets. Modernizations means neither industrialization nor westernization, but it brings about qualitative and quantitative improvement to produce such citizens who are educated and efficient and have faith in the progress of nation.

MAIN FEATURES OF MODERNISATION

Modernization has some characteristic, these are follows-

1. **New idea:** Modernity is meant to become progressive and to adopt new thoughts and ideas which given a positive direction to the society. After a good deal of thinking and critical analysis, new ideas or thoughts are put into practice.
2. **New knowledge:** The modern age is the age of materialism and science and technology .The development of science and technology is the cause of the explosion of knowledge. As, a result there is a lot of curiosity to acquire new knowledge which modernized the society.
3. **Emphasis on the present:** Modern age does not permit us to stick to dogmas bound with ancient values, faiths, beliefs, customs and traditions we try to give a new direction to our thinking by which we become modernized and forget the past.
4. **New technique and methods:** We use those methods and techniques which are being used in the developed countries. For example, in the place of bullock carts we use cars, trains and buses; in the place of wooden plough we use the tractor. Thus we adopt those methods and techniques that are suitable to the situation of our country.
5. **Faith in equal justice:** Modernization reduces the gulf between the haves and they have not or the lower and the higher classes by maintaining equal justice. The opportunities for the demonstration of talent are given to all without any discrimination.
6. **Practical and realistic attitude:** This is another feature of modernization with a practical and realistic attitude rather than a theoretical attitude .Such an attitude is very important to decide what to accept and what to reject.
7. **Rapid socio cultural change:** Modern society is fast moving and socio cultural changes take place rapidly .This is the most important feature of the present age.

COMPONENTS OF MODERNISATION

The various components which bring about the modernization process directly or indirectly these are as follows:

1. **Scientific attitude:** Scientific attitude keeps an individual away from blind faiths, beliefs, superstition, ignorance and ritualism and makes his mind liberal. As a result, his thinking becomes logical and critical. He arrives at a conclusion only after observation and full investigation.
2. **Faith in change:** Change is the law of nature. The individual who have faith in modernization welcomes change. If not, there will not be modernization. Changes take place in all aspects of life such as social, cultural, scientific and technological areas.
3. **Explosion of knowledge:** Knowledge is expanding fast in the individual and social life due to the increase of the thinking power. It speeds up the expansion of communication through various methods. As a consequence, modernization has become a natural process.
4. **Emphasis on secularism:** Secularism develops a new attitude among the people towards religions. It makes the individual tolerant and liberal. Religious freedom gives a boost to the process of modernization.
5. **Respect the individual:** In a democratic country like India, everybody should be given equal respect without any discrimination. An individual should be respected as an individual. This attitude of humanism is very helpful in the expansion of modernity.
6. **Removing superstitions:** The expansion of education, advancement of science and technology, industrialization and urbanization play a positive role in removing superstitious and conservative views, which hinder modernization.
7. **Emphasis on the present and the future:** We should forget the past in order to relieve us from worries and mental tension. To make our present life happy, we should take efforts to make the present better and the future successful. This kind of thinking and efforts modernize the human society in a better way.
8. **Develop rational thinking:** Educations develop rational thinking and judgment among the students. It makes them wise by removing conservatism and blind faith. The rational decisions give boost to modernization.
9. **Democratic attitude:** The democratic attitude of the individuals or a society helps to bring about changes. This is because people have freedom to discharge their duties and rights.
10. **Industrialization:** In the modern age, industrialization is increasing rapidly. It changes the attitude of the people towards science and technology as a result of its new inventions and discoveries. Industrialization changes the lifestyle of the people their habits of eating and drinking. Society has undergone a change and

it turns the present age into a mechanical one. In this way industrialization accelerates the process of modernization.

11. **Urbanization:** growth of population, increasing unemployment and demand for quality education force the rural people to migrate to urban areas. Such a movement to cities and towns brings about a change in the life of rural people .thus migration expands urbanization and it is helpful in the process of modernization.
12. **Computerization:** This is the age of computerization. In fact, the computer occupies a vital place in every aspect of life. Its use in various vocations, government office, banks and private factories has been increasing day by day. It not only brings novelty in the working process but also modernizes the society.

MODERNISATION ON DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF EDUCATION

We have seen how far education brings about modernization. Now we discuss the impact of modernization on different aspects of education.

1. Aims of education:

The aim of education is justified in the following ways for bringing about modernity.

- a. To inspire the boy and girl students through teaching.
- b. To develop rational thinking among the students
- c. To develop leadership quality.
- d. To develop scientific and optimistic attitude.
- e. To bring out an all round development.
- f. To develop character and promote human values.
- g. To develop democratic value.
- h. To foster creative power of the students.
- i. To speed up the process of modernization.

2. Curriculum:

The aim of education is to modernize the society the curriculum should also be modernized. Therefore, the curriculum should be comprehensive in accordance with the aim of education based on modernity.

- a. The basis of curriculum should be scientific and technical.
- b. The curriculum includes vocational skill in order to increase the productivity of the country.
- c. The curriculum comprises social service, national service scheme.
- d. It should also include health education and environmental education.
- e. There should be diversified subjects in the curriculum.
- f. The curriculum should be organized in order to develop international understanding and world brotherhood.

3. **Methods of teaching:**

Modernity is related to science and technology. Therefore, methods of teaching should be used to develop the scientific attitude among the students. In this regard heuristic method, inductive method, demonstration method and experimental should be used. Television, radio, computer and audio-visual aids can be used in order to make the teaching process more effective and more attractive.

4. **Role of teacher:**

Education is the most powerful instrument by which desirable changes can be brought about in the society. It is the teacher who plays a predominant in modernizing the society. The teacher should be dynamic and active with faith in modernity. He should give clear information about the need and importance of modernization to his students and tell them as to how they can make their contribution in the process of modernization.

5. **Discipline:**

Modernization is not in favors of giving any type of corporal punishment to the students. As students are the future citizens of the country, modernity allows limited freedom to them. Hence the teacher should present an ideal personality in order to inspire the student for self-restraints. This is essential for democracy and modernization.

ROLE OF EDUCATION IN MODERNISATION

Education is an effective and powerful means for modernization .It has lead to the modernization of people aspiration for nationalism, liberalism and freedom. Modernization is the process of bringing change. Education is the only medium through which the traditional men and institutions can be modernized in an advance way. In education, modernization means a new approach not only to the aims and process of education but also to the

totality of its entire programmes so as to relate it to the national development, national needs, and national inspiration.

1. Aim of education and modernization:

The aim of education in modernization is imparting knowledge or the preparation of a finished product, awakening of curiosity, the development of proper interest attitudes and values and the building up of such essential skills as independent study and the capacity to think and judge for oneself and to become a responsible member of a democratic society.

2. Science based education:

Science education has become an integral part of school and college education. The study of science has also become a part of all courses in humanities and social sciences at the university level. The process of science teaching is to develop problem solving, analytical skills and the ability to apply them to the problems of the material environment and social living and to promote the spirit of enquire and experimentation.

3. Education for national integration:

Education plays a vital role in developing and strengthening national integration. Social and national integration has been an important problem of the modern society. It is education that shuns all hindrances by advising the young men to have a judicious mixture of zeal and understanding to play an active role in the process of nation building.

4. Dynamic method of teaching:

Education modernizes the method of teaching by applying new techniques such as the project method, problem solving, play-way method, Dalton method etc. Moreover, audio-visual aids and mass media are applied in the teaching process.

5. Develop democratic value:

Education develops democratic values and qualities in the students. It also helps to clarify the differences between the traditional and modern values. By providing knowledge of the modern values, education can accelerate the pace of modernity.

MODERNISATION ON DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF EDUCATION:

The impact of modernization on different aspects on education is as follows-

1. **Aims of education:** As we are moving towards modernity, the aims of education also have to be modernized in the right direction. For example, the aim of education is justified in the following ways for bringing about modernity.
 - a. To develop rational thinking among the students.
 - b. To develop democratic values.
 - c. To bring out an all round development.
 - d. To develop leadership quality.
 - e. To speed up the process of modernization.
 - f. To foster the creative power of the students.
 - g. To develop social, moral and spiritual qualities.
 - h. To develop character and promote human values.
2. **Curriculum:** As the aim of education is to modernize the society, the curriculum should be comprehensive in accordance with the aims of education based on modernity. The basis of the curriculum should be scientific and technical. The curriculum includes vocational skill in order to increase the productivity of the country. The curriculum comprises social service, national service scheme.
3. **Method of teaching:** Modernity is related to science and technology. Therefore methods of teaching should be used to develop the scientific attitude among the students. In this regard, heuristic method, induced method, demonstration, and experimental method should be used. Television, radio, computer and audio visual aid can also be used in order to make the teaching process more effective and attractive.
4. **Role of teacher:** Education is the most powerful instrument by which desirable changes can be brought about in the society. It is the teacher who plays a predominant role in modernization the society. The teacher should be dynamic and active with faith in modernity. There should be coordination in his thoughts, speech and deeds. He should give clear information about the need and importance of modernization, for this purpose the teacher should use scientific method of teaching.

5. **Discipline:** Modernization is not in favors of giving any type of corporal punishment to the students. As students are the future citizens of the country, modernity allows limited freedom to them .hence the teacher should present an ideal personality in order to inspire the students for self-restraints. This is essential for democracy and modernization.

ROLE OF TEACHER IN MODERNIZATION

The process of modernization has its roots in industrialization based upon the science and technology. Therefore the teacher should make use of science and technology in the routine activity of the school. He should develop a rational, curious, thought full and scientific attitude in his students by encouraging debate and discussion. He should promote the sentiment of liberty, equality and fraternity by providing appropriate freedom to students in the class room and outside. He should develop the sentiment of secularism and respect all religions by respecting the saints of all religions and reading various sacred texts as part of the morning prayers. In this way he can play a crucial role in promoting the process of modernization in India.

HINDRANCES IN THE MODERNIZATION IN INDIAN SOCIETY

The Modernization in Indian society is not an easy task, because our society is suffering from many hindrances and obstacles, which curb the progress of modernization in all aspects of individual and social life.

1. **Lack of unity:** Our country is a country of varied religions, cultures, languages, castes and communities. Therefore a comprehensive progress of modernity of the country is not feasible in the absence of unity.
2. **Illiteracy:** This is another factor which plays a considerable role in curbing the progress of the nation. The illiterate do not know the need and importance of modernization. They stick on to their traditional culture and customs. Such attitudes affect the process of modernization.
3. **Poverty:** The majority of the population in India cannot afford even two meals per day .this is not conducive for creative thinking and rational attitudes. Economic prosperity is essential for the people to modernize the society.
4. **Religion:** People who have a narrow attitude towards religion cannot be liberal. The feeling of fundamentalism creates extremists who become very dangerous for the individual, the society and the nation. Such citizens stand against the progress of their nation.
5. **Communalism:** Communal feelings become very strong on account of diversities leading to violence arson and looting .Their thoughts are very narrow and limited. This becomes a hurdle to modernity.

6. **Social and cultural lag:** Most of the people in India are much attached to the traditions of their culture, faiths and traditions. Such people will not accept any change. Though they adopt any change that takes in material aspects of life, they are not ready to accept the change in the non material aspects of life. This tendency becomes an obstacle in the process of modernization.

CONCLUSION

In order to modernize the present society, Indian education should transmit the culture to new generation and transform the outlook of the young towards life in lights of the past, in the context of cross-cultural influences and in light of the future requirements of the individual and the society. The emerging Indian society can move rapidly towards modernization through an ideal system of moral, social and spiritual education combine with vocational and general education. The Indian education commission (1964-1966) has given the following suggestions to bring out modernization through the medium of education.

- a. Education should be related to increase production.
- b. Education should inspire social and national integration.
- c. Education should be dynamic to bring about changes in the process of modernization.
- d. Education should develop social, moral and spiritual values in order to develop and modify individual character.

Thus in all respects the role of education is important in modernizing the Indian society.

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