

VALIDITY OF INDIAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM IN GLOBAL ARENA

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ABSTRACT:

Since Independence Indian Higher Education System has succeed satisfactorily improved its educational setup. The high technology ways have been replacing the conventional methods but not with tremendous velocity. Only fewer Universities/Institutions are currently progressing parallel to the renowned Universities/Institutions in the world which is not enough. Indian Higher Education System needs to process according to the competitive range within the consideration. Our administration has to play more crucial role to raise the higher education system of the country especially regarding quality of education, infrastructure etc. There is yet the less use of science and technology specifically in the research fields; this is reason that education system of India is yet struggling to acquire the noticeable status in the global platform. The paper attempts to suggest the remedial measures to modify the Indian educational system with systematic setting. The focus is also upon the removal of politics in the developmental way of Indian higher education system.

KEYWORDS: Administration, Independence, Competitive, Infrastructure, Research etc.

1. INTRODUCTION

Education is the foundation of development and progression of all the communities of the world. A man humans by education, if he is alienated from the education, he is merely a mortal frame of bones and flesh. A nation meets the developmental pinnacles if its citizens are enlightened with the pursuit of knowledge. Our country in modern times is turning very serious in uplifting its higher education system to enlighten all the nooks, where the light of knowledge is yet to reach. Our past had been very rich regarding resource and education but after the exploitation of British Imperialism the Indian education system had been pacing slowly in the performance. But from last few

decades it is gaining the momentum back to be in the global race. Though Indian higher education system is gaining its progress rate to merit but there are yet so many challenges to mitigate: “Since independence the country has witnessed continuous progress in the field of higher education. However there are serious concerns and issues in the higher education that needs to be addressed in the neo-liberal era” (Ernst & Young, 2012). Since few decades the new trends and policies have been framed to put impetus upon the reformation of higher education system to acquire the global attention. Continuously, our administration is framing new policies to become rewarded in the global platform: “The Yashpal Committee Report once again brought back the issue of education policy in the country keeping in mind the present day challenges facing the education scenario in the country” (Gupta & Damele, 2013).

Indian Higher Education system has improved a lot now because of employment of quality teachers, emphasis upon science and technology including ICT. Leveraging ICT in administrative and academic activities to acquire quality, accountability and efficiency, the use of ICT has the potential to make learning sound and interesting by which the system has been enlisted worthy and contributing in the world. After struggling hard the higher education system of India has achieved enormous rating in the international arena. To improve its validity more and more, we have pointed out the necessary measures to be taken for the further upliftment of Indian Higher Education throughout every aspect as; infrastructure, Quantity, Quality and upgradation etc.

2. OBJECTIVES

1. To evaluate quality and improvement of Indian Higher Education system.
2. To explore the pedagogical ways to strengthen the Education system according to the global competitive range.

3. HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

Accessibility: In last 50 years Indian Higher Education system is in phenomenal growth. To create world’s largest education system the government of India is continuously providing the policies and support to increase its ranking. But most of institutions have almost failed to acquire the goal to a great extent. One of the good things is that the administration is taking the serious stress upon the technical education. And even the education has been made accessible to the rural corners of the country with low-cost, by which it became easily affordable for every citizen to get enlightened with education.

It is not hidden that the ratio of enrollment has been increasing in India and also there is a huge increase of Institutions/Universities/Colleges to a great extent. But compound increase of population is the issue by which the increasing rate of institutions etc. couldn't seem to cover the student enrollment rate. The table below highlights clearly to comprehend the issue in between gross enrollment rate and gross rate of Institutions:

TABLE:1 HIGHER EDUCATION STATISTICS AT A GLANCE									
INDIA	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		
	No./Ratio	Growth	No./Ratio	Growth	No./Ratio	Growth	No./Ratio	Growth	
No. of Universities	723	-	760	5.12%	799	5.13%	864	8.13%	
No. of Colleges	36,634	-	38,498	5.09%	39,071	1.49%	40,026	2.44%	
No. of Stand Alone Institutions	11,664	-	12,276	5.25%	11,923	(2.87%)	11,669	(2.13%)	
Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)	Total	23.0	-	24.3	5.65%	24.5	0.82%	25.2	2.85%
	Male	23.9	-	25.3	5.86%	25.4	0.39%	26.0	2.36%
	Female	22.0	-	23.2	5.45%	23.5	1.29%	24.5	4.25%

Source: All India Survey on Higher Education 2016-17

If we see the figures, total gross enrollment ratio in 2016-17 is 25.2 whenever in 2013-14 it was 23.0 with CAGR of 3.06 percent. On the other side the institutions are hardly enough to provide the education to these enrolled students as there number is so vast. Hence there is yet much need to increase the institutional rate, which will balance to the gross enrollment rate of students. The quality education is too far; whenever we are yet not capable to provide them the basic education.

Quality: Indian Higher Education system is leaving no stone unturned to bring the quality education to all the section of society. The internet, technology, techno-libraries have been introduced to modernize the education system, which has brought a flood of progression and the remarkable achievement to our nation at global level. The conventional tools and methods are declining now and are replaced by smart ways through which the rate of our quality education is in a geometrical improvement. In modern times there is not only the need to provide the basic education, rather it must be updated and qualitative, this is the way by which the students will acquire the capability to innovate and invent new things especially in research fields. By such provisions India Higher Education system will reach to the top rankings in the global scenario. Surely the Indian Higher Education system will be bestowed the further worth and validity in the competitive race of the globe. The Indian Higher Education system is normally improving but it requires further acceleration to reach to the dizzy heights with special regards to its quality. We have pinpointed many debatable aspects below, but before this it is necessary to have a sharp focus upon the index we have drafted below:

Table 2: Global Ranking and Performance Score (1-7) on Higher Education and Training**World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index 2016-17**

Key Indicators	China		India		Switzerland		United States	
	Rank	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	Value
Overall (GCI)	28	5.0	39	4.5	1	5.8	3	5.7
Higher Education & Training	54	4.6	81	4.1	4	6.0	8	5.9
Quantity of Education								
<i>Secondary Education Enrollment rate (gross %)</i>	65	94.3	102	68.9	47	99.8	59	97.6
<i>Tertiary Education Enrollment rate (gross %)</i>	69	39.4	93	23.9	47	57.2	5	86.7
Quality of Education								
<i>Quality of Education System</i>	43	4.3	29	4.5	1	6.2	17	5.1
<i>Quality of Management School</i>	61	4.3	43	4.6	1	6.3	7	5.7

Source: The Global Competitiveness Report 2016 - 2017 (World Economic Forum)

There is the comparative mention of four countries that is, China, India, Switzerland and United States among which Switzerland is ranking highest regarding Higher Education and Training Indicator placed at 4th of Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) while as China at 54th, United States at 8th and India is at 81th place. There is a huge difference between the ranking of Switzerland and India. So to bridge this gap Indian Higher Education System requires the immediate and increasing efforts to bring the quality as well as quantity to strengthen more its foundation of education.

The table above clarifies the whereabouts of quality rate of India Higher Education system vis-à-vis other countries as Switzerland ranking at 1st, United States at 17th China at 43rd and India at 29th. It means Indian Higher Education system has yet a long journey to reach to the qualitative rate of among high ranking countries. Obviously, India although is on the track of progression is still requisite of some fruitful and expert alteration to remain in the ring of global competition.

Lack of Qualified Teachers: The corruption is the biggest hurdle through which our teachers/lecturers get recruited without being well qualified. As a result the education process meets the error in the way of quality. If the teachers recruited will be specially trained they can infuse the students with upper class efficiency which is a constructive signal for qualitative future of the Indian Higher Education System. The forum of teachers needs to be consistently under the strict monitor to check out the rate of their performance. The government must also fund for provision of every facility to the teachers for their merit in training and up-gradation. The qualified teachers is the primary necessity of assure the quality of education. As Tagore asserts “A teacher can never truly teach unless

he/she still is learning himself/herself. A lamp can never light another lamp unless it continues to burn its own flame". So teaching is a more rewarding and stimulating profession and the quality assurance in education which merely lies in the hands of teacher, is being qualitative means the quality of the entire educational system. It pushes forward the national education in the global rankings.

Up-gradation of Curriculum: The curriculum of education must not be rigid rather it must be dynamic in nature; it must change according to the change of time. In our country most Universities do not care about to update and change their curricular policies. They prefer their customs and outdated norms rather than newness in their management. As our Honorable President Mr. Pranab Mukherjee at National Institutes of Technology (NIT) on November 07, 2013 had stressed the importance of revision and upgradation of curricula, examination reforms and promotion of a culture of excellence and that programmes must be periodically evaluated based on industry trends and emphasis should be on research and innovation. But it is unfortunate that the meager number of Institutions/Universities/Colleges have been following such reformative principles, and their conventionality barriers the ways of Indian Higher Education system in the way of quality and global ranking. The need of the moment is that the administration must launch the strict commission to enforce the upgradation of educational system: its violation must lead to the penalization.

Lack of Research in Teaching: The meaning of research in India has been perceived in a vague way that the research is an undertaking of a doctoral fellow for a particular span of time. Broadly speaking, every literate person must be a researcher at every moment of his life. Most of Indian teachers teach without researching about what they teach, which leave the students without any innovative imprint upon their minds. By which the students lack the expertise in their respective fields. To eradicate such a problem the teachers must be re-counseled and aided to conduct continuous research regarding their lectures and topics, it will increase their own efficiency and quality vis-à-vis students as well. As a result the system of education will improve fast; it will led Indian Higher Education system among the top ranking countries. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India is working hard to rank up the Higher Education System in the world. In September, 2015 MHRD launched the new ranking framework known as National Institutional Framework (NIRF) to rank separately the national institutions by which there will be a national competition among the institutions of India. This is the wonderful effort that our institutions will compete with each other to gain the national rank and ultimately the quality of education will rise up, which is better effort to make Indian Higher Education System among head rankings.

4. CONCLUSION:

The Indian Higher Education system has meritoriously taken the path of progression. The large scale efforts of government policies have worked a lot in changing the deteriorating conditions of India. There are now fewer universities/Institutions/College which rank among top ones through-out the global. But often universities are totally dilapidated regarding the quality of their education, which has adversely affected the national qualitative range of Indian Higher Education system in the world. There are countable universities in India which follow the new norms in consideration with global competency, where there are qualitative teachers, non-conventional methods, use of technology and updated infrastructure and curriculum. But the serious problem is that most of our universities are moving somehow backward regarding their quality, it is because of their incompetent faculty which are not able to mend the cracks of their internal system. So it is duty of everyone; a politician, a teacher, a bureaucrat, a student to consider the global competition in their minds to support dutifully towards making Indian Higher Education system an international hub of learning and development.

5. REFERENCES

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