

INDIAN HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE LIGHT OF GATS AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS: A THEORITICAL REVIEW

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Abstract : Education is nation's strength, the economic development of the state is directly determined by their education system. India amongst the developing countries is rising in the field of education. India is facing many challenges in higher education system but uniformly have many opportunities to overcome these challenges and make higher education system more advance and make its identity at international level. To achieve this, the role of Indian Higher education institutions is very crucial in making good higher education system. India need to be very efficient and skillful in order to build our nation forward and make higher education system better and competitive with other countries. To flourish India as an education hub or to become a blooming participant in a global economy, India has to qualitatively strengthen the higher education with research and development in particular. This paper highlights the key challenges that India is currently facing in Higher education and to point out the opportunities and initiatives to meet up those challenges. To examine in detail a theoretical perspective has been reviewed in terms of global ranking, students mobility (inward and outward) Quality benchmarking etc.

Keywords: GATS, Consumption Abroad, Cross Border supply, Higher Education

I. INTRODUCTION

Higher Education is considered one of the important sector for the economic & social growth of a country. As far as India's higher education is concerned, it has shown a massive expansion in terms of access, equity & quality. Number of higher education institution in 1947-48 were 516 higher education institutions including 20 universities and 496 colleges in India, which have now grown upto 864 universities, 40,026 colleges and 11,923 standalone institutions in the country (AISHES). The number of Indian higher education Institutions in the world rankings has also progressively widened, as the number of institutions in ranking increases from 0.75% in 2012-2013 to 3.8% in 2017-2018. The student enrolment in higher education which was 13.93 million in 2006-2007 (Annual Report, Ministry of Human Resource Development, 2006-2007), which has now reached to the 35.7 million in 2017- 2018 (AISHES) which shows 156.28% growth. India's GER in higher education has also shown a growth from 24.5% in 2015-16 to 25.2% in 2016-17, although India aims to attain a GER of 30% by 2020. Latest survey done by (AIHES) launched by Union Human Resource Development (HRD) shows there is a bit improvement in number of students from other countries—from 45,424 in 2015-16 to 47,575 in 2016-17 studying in our country. Higher education sector has verified an enormous growth in many aspects such as institution capacity, enrollment etc.

The Times Higher Education rankings found that the India's representation in the annual Universities ranking for Asia has improved to 42 from last year's 33. Institute of Science (IISc) in Bangalore, the country's highest ranked institution. India now has improved on 12 of the 13 metrics and now has 42 universities in Asia rankings. The comprehensive growth of Higher education institutions and students enrolment has reached to the new level where it is crucial to address the global challenges posed by the GATS & Global developments in the Higher Education.

In the Globalization era GATS has set the framework for trading in Higher education by defining for modes of trade in Higher education where Mode 1 deals with cross border of services, Mode 2 addresses Consumption abroad aspect, Mode 3 focus on Commercial presence of services provider in host country and last Mode 4 refers to the Movement of Natural person in the country of consumer market.

II. INDIA'S POSITION IN GATS NEGOTIATION

India's revised offer on Trade in Higher Education services dated 24TH Aug 2005 submitted to the WTO reveals that under mode-1 limitation to market access is subject to the condition that Foreign education providers would be subject to regulation as applicable to domestic providers in the country of origin, i.e (Home country). In mode- 2 and mode-4 no limitations on market access and hence kept open for trade. In mode-3, Market access limitation is subject to the condition that fees to be charged can be fixed by an appropriate authority and that such fees do not led to charging capitation fees or to profiteering. Subject further to such regulations, already in place or to be prescribed by the appropriate regulatory authority. In case of foreign investors having prior collaboration in that specific service sector in India, FIPB approval would be required.

III. GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

The Global scenario of Higher Education has two fold reflection, one is exporting of students to the other country and the second is attracting foreign students to their countries. While referring to the India's position in terms of exporting Indian students to the other countries the availability of Higher education services in the respective country. U.S.A has been one of the leading country in attracting.

Indian students which has shown tremendous growth by attracting foreign students however Australia, Canada, UK has also kept a intact position at second, third, fourth positions, respectively by attracting Indian students to their countries.

(See Table)

No.of Indian Students studying in Foreign Universities.

Country	2017	2016	% change
USA	206708	97613	111.76%
Canada	52890	13626	288.15
Australia	63283	25562	147.57
UK	14830	19604	-24.35
New Zealand	30000	10255	192.51

(Source: Parliament of India Lok Sabha 2016, FACTLY 2017)

The other side of Global trend in terms of attracting foreign students in Indian universities has also shown a significant growth. From the data collected in the year 2016, it shows that the number of foreign students in India across various higher education institutions in that year was 30,423.

Top 10 countries student who come to India to pursue Higher education in year 2014 are:-

COUNTRY No .OF STUDENTS

Iran	6599
Afghanistan	6511
U.S	5449
Iraq	5444
Yemen	5206
Sudan	4857
Malaysia	4005
Nigeria	3592
Korea	3438
Sri Lanka	2505

(source: Parliament of India Lok Sabha)

According to MHRD, recently asked parliament Question, No. of foreign students, which were 65602 in 2014, has attracted them in subsequent year to 74061, however new competitions for other countries, there has been a slight down fall in foreign students in 2016 by reflecting fall of 72542 foreign students only.

IV. CHALLENGES IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

Indian higher education system comes after U.S and China. India will be one of the largest education hubs. India has shown an immense increase in number of Colleges, Institutions and Universities. In upcoming years India will be one of the leading power in the field of education, India has launched “excellence initiatives” in order to raise higher education system and planned to create cooperation with foreign international universities through research, student exchange mobility. In upcoming years India will be one of the leading power in the field of education. After Independence, India is facing challenges in order to gain a strong Higher Education system. Government established various education policies but were not fully successful. Still India is facing many challenges.

Today India ranks 25th among top 50 higher education system in the world. This shows the potential for improvement, India plans to attain a GER of 30% by 2020, which is very much low and rear as compared to countries like China, which currently shows an enrolment ration of 43.30% and USA where GER is 85.8%. UGC is taking many initiatives and is regularly focusing on quality higher education. Some other challenges include

Enrolment- The Gross Enrolment Ratio has shown a growth from 24.5% in 2015-16 to 25.2% in 2016-17, but is very much behind as compared to developed as well as developing nations.

Quality- Quality in higher education system is chief challenge to be faced by a country today. Many colleges and universities are lacking behind to meet the basic requirements. Although government is focusing to improve quality of education but still is not in position to make its position in top institutions and universities of the world.

Inadequate Infrastructure- Poor Infrastructure is faced by the higher education system. There are poor physical facilities and infrastructure faced by universities.

Financial Constraints – Highly dependent on Govt. funding / very few depend on self finance courses.

Many others like outdated teaching methods. Apart from these concerns there is an inadequate financial support from the government many institutions in rural area are not well established, under-enrolled and very poor facilities for students. Timely education system faces new challenges and government plays vital role to solve challenges and issues, one major challenge is continuous upgradation of curriculum to maintain pace with rapid growth of technology, challenges from international universities and mushrooming of private institutes. So, there is an immediate need to bring revolution in Higher education system and it can be done by cross-culture programmes, quality development, international cooperation etc and lastly, government has to focus on major issues to build a good and competitive education system in India.

V. OPPORTUNITIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

India now bluster of having more than 33,000 colleges and 659 universities, which is quite prominent growth. Indian higher education system is emerging very fast irrespective of many challenges, there are many opportunities too in front of Indian higher education system. Government has taken many steps to meet such opportunities. Many programme and schemes have been launched by (MHRD) to attract foreign students to pursue their higher education in India. Study in India was launched by government to attract foreign students and stated that 15000 seats are on offer in 2018-19 with 55% coming with fee waiver and lastly government is focusing at two lakh foreign students in India by the year 2023. The Govt. has approved an expenditure of Rs. 150cr for the study in India programme for two years 2018-19 and 2019-20 which will be all for promotional activities.

One of the recent and major step taken by MHRD for improving the quality of Higher education and its broadening, the Govt. on 25th May 2018 has approved Rs 5000cr to support 1012 higher educational institution.

Apart from these government initiatives, higher education needs to be stronger and there should be unity among countries in building up well advanced higher education system and countries should also participate in workshops and make easier to have a talk with different countries regarding discussions in higher education.

VI. CONCLUSION

In concluding words, we can say that Indian economy has shown a cogent growth in higher education, but still Indian economy is facing various challenges regarding higher education which need to overcome through proper policy formation and implementation. India today is one of the fastest developing country but still large number of people are illiterate and many of them do not get proper education. India is facing many challenges regarding higher education and which must be solved by taking proper measures. Country should have skill oriented courses like the government's Draft National education policy envisages to include skill and training curriculum to explore employment opportunities for the students. Enhancement in employment opportunities is must so that it gains employment to students at immense level. Many opportunities are available but how to get good out of these opportunities is the matter of concern. In order to have well flourished higher education system in India there is need to increase the number of institutes, universities. To achieve further requirements there is need to again look at the Financial resources, infrastructure, Access and Equity

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