

HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Nanjundaiah ¹

Librarian, Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola, Uttara Kannada, India

Srinivasa H ²

Librarian, Govt. First Grade College, Holenarasipura, Karnataka, India.

Abstract

The twenty first century is observing extraordinary changes in the subject of development, especially in higher education. Currently the higher education system is weak in these third world countries. The importance of knowledge, technological and demographic changes makes the higher education reforms is most important and essential for this competitive world. Reforms of these factors are helps in development of higher education system has been examining, resulting in several reforms initiatives which are related to expansion, quality, autonomy and financing. Due to the systematic deficiency in Indian education, there is shortage of man power despite of an increasing no. of sectors. As a result students may unemployed due to lack of skills. Affiliating system, Academic structure, unequal no. of intake in various courses, suppressing autonomy of educational institutions and poor public funding are some of the problems of Indian higher education. The challenge for the India in this 21st century is to become developed society by 2030. The transformation of India into knowledge society by 2030 will witness an increase in student enrolment with the actual ratio increasing from 19.5 in 2015 to 35% in 2030. This transformation should be a student's centric and it must show the student needs. Finally the courses which are offering in higher education should match the student requirements. So that they can get employment both at the national and global level.

Kew Words: Issues, Challenges, Suggestion, Higher Education, India

Introduction

The term "Education" is derived from Latin word "educate" which means "to learn" and "to know". We can understand the term in two senses. One is narrower sense and another is broader sense. In narrower sense, education in its meaning, learning process is in schools, colleges and universities. In simple education is limited within the institutional premises. But in broader sense, education in its meaning is a everlasting learning process. This is not confined to four walls of the educational institutions.

Democracy can be strengthened by educating the people and Education provides skill and competencies for economic well being. A well educated knowledge community with having skill is important for Socio-economic development in the twenty first century. Education is important in the Socio-economic development of the

population and develops the society equitably. Education gives skills and competencies for the people and it strengthens the democracy by educating the people. So that the citizens participate in administration. Education also gives the people the values, ethics, national Identity. Identifying the value of education in the development of nation in twelfth plan, keen Interest has taken in the expansion of education. So that education should available to each and every person of the society.

Indian is one of the largest higher education system includes 39000 colleges and 900 universities. Student's enrollment is growing at the rate of 6.3 percent over the last ten years. India needs 50000 colleges by 2025 because of growing demand of higher education.

Objectives of the study

1. To evaluate the issues and challenges of higher education
2. To discuss best suggestions for development of Indian higher education
3. To analyze the set of opportunities in higher education system

Research Methodology

This paper is based on the secondary sources drawn from various reports, journals, books & other published data.

Critical Issues Indian Higher Education

Identifying issues in higher education is the most important task. We must give attention to the challenges we are facing, for the development of higher education. There are some challenges which are very serious is to be taken care to improve quality education. Quality of education is important because India is competing with globally trained professionals. The growth of the economy is mainly dependent on the quality education India. Now it is our duty to improve the quality of the education sector. So that our younger generation compete globally and grabbing the opportunities in the twenty first century.

The Challenges for Higher Education in India

- The great challenge for Indian higher education is to establish new colleges and universities with research oriented subjects and Courses.
- Higher education quality in India is low.
- It is not easy for the layman to assess the quality of higher education in India.
- An administration level in India is very poor.
- Higher education is administered in India is centralized not an independent manner.
- Redefining of funding and investment in higher education is necessary.
- Top ranking institutes are located in big cities rather than small or rural areas.
- Distance education is becoming popular when compare with regular teaching in classes.

Suggestions for Improving Quality of Higher Education

Some of the suggestions and need from educational institutions, government organizations, Industries and students for betterment of quality education.

Learning society: when we are moving towards learning society, each and every people should contribute their skills and knowledge to society. So that higher education sector becomes strengthened.

Industry and Academic world relationship: It is necessary that curriculum is prepared in such a way that it should fulfill the needs of the Industry.

Skill development: Academic Institution should think of skill development of students. So which students can get better and challengeable job.

Motivation: offer should be given to teachers in the form of incentives to introduce specialized courses that fulfill the needs of the industry. This will help the students to open up to the world of specialized courses. Through this students can get employment.

Technology: Technology play important role in the every field of human life including socio-economic development by innovative practices.

Offering job oriented courses: Personality development of student is necessary in this competitive world. The present day education system is not improving the students talent or skill by which they can achieve their goals.

Cooperation between nations: university and colleges primary work is to transmit knowledge in a traditional manner such as teaching, research, Innovation etc. with the increase in communication, Transmission cooperation between nations is necessary to solve the problems.

Long term goals: with the cooperation between the nations, we can uplift the global by sharing synthesized knowledge.

Different cultural activities: after completion of the course, visit to different places, if possible around the world is possible with the cooperation between nations/states. With the tour of different places, we can understand about different people, about their culture, their arts etc.

Plan for improving quality: Audit should be conducted for academic and administration activities once in two or three years by external auditors. Non aided institutions also take initiative to get accreditation by fulfilling accreditation needs. Educational Institution understands the requirement for quality education and takes initiation for plan of action for the development of higher educational Institutions.

Government Institution: In any nation education is the basic necessity for the socio-economic development of the individuals and the society. Nations first priority is education for development of the citizen. Govt. should take necessary steps to take increase in no. of institution.

Personality Development: Education always helps personality development of a student's but not for the suppression of creativity or natural skill.

Stipends to Research Fellows: The number of Ph.Ds from Indian Universities should increase with proper standards. This should be seen in the context of extremely low fraction of Ph,Ds in India in relation to M.SC/B.Tech, as compared to what it is in USA, UK, Germany, Japan etc. Meritorious doctoral students should be recognized through teaching assistantships with stipends over and above the research fellowships Identifying talented, meritorious students and encouraging them through recognition is very important to attract students into research and teaching.

Fair Quality Assurance System: Colleges should set up Internal Quality Assurance Cell and must follow a minimum standard to give degrees. The quality assurance system must be independent of political and institutional interaction and it must have a basis in the legislation.

Reforms in examination: Instead of annual, semester examination, continuous assessment of the students should be implemented. With this we can avoid mug up of whole syllabus in one time. High tech Libraries- Our university libraries have a very good collection of books, but they are all in mess. A library must be online and conducive for serious study. Indian universities should concentrate more on providing quality education which is comparable to that of international standards.

Conclusion

As for as the fastest developing countries concerned, India is one among the world with annual growth rate of 8%. To attain and sustain the same growth rate, need to increase the no. of colleges and Universities with quality education. There is huge gap between demand and supply. Industries need more skilled students rather than average students for their recruitment process. But university and colleges they are producing students in India are not sufficient to meet the needs of the industries. This huge gap is becoming major problem. There is an emergency to change in governance, quality standards. To compete with international standard universities and colleges there should be change in selection process. Teachers and staff should be given promotion and incentives for innovative thinking in helping the quality of international standards. Most of the universities are facing faculty is a lengthy process. However in order to overcome this, government should take initiative to increase the retirement age as a short term measure. At the same time attracting young people to opt for this career as long term measures.

References

1. MHRD. (2018). *All India survey on higher education 2017 - 18*. New Delhi: Ministry of Human Resource development.
2. Naik, S. (2016). The Higher education system in India :Issues, Challenges and suggestions. *Higher education in India - New Paradigms and challenges* (pp. 46 - 48). Holenarasipura: Mysore book house.
3. Program, U. W. (2005). *Education trends in perspective analysis of the world Education*. Montreal: UNESCO institute for statistics.
4. Program, U. W. (2005). *Education trends in perspective analysis of the world Education*. Montreal: UNESCO institute for statistics.
5. Rajesh Kanna, J. R. (2016). Higher education in India : Issues, Challenges and suggestions. *Higher education in India - New Paradigms and challenges* (pp. 415 - 419). Holenarasipura: Mysore book house.

