



HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION – A CATALYST FOR TRANSFORMING THE INDIAN ECONOMY

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ABSTRACT

Healthcare has become one of India's largest sectors, both in terms of revenue and employment. Healthcare comprises hospitals, medical devices, clinical trials, outsourcing, telemedicine, medical tourism, health insurance, and medical equipment. The Indian healthcare sector is growing briskly due to its strengthening coverage, services, and increasing expenditure by public and private players. India's competitive advantage lies in its large pool of well-trained medical professionals. India is also cost-competitive compared to its peers in Asia and western countries. The cost of surgery in India is about one-tenth of that in the US or Western Europe. The low cost of medical services has resulted in a rise in the country's medical tourism, attracting patients from across the world. Moreover, India has emerged as a hub for R&D activities for international players due to its relatively low cost of clinical research. Education is important for having awareness of almost everything in life and it is a basic right of every human being. The education system is very advanced in urban areas for people with good income sources but still needs to be improved for rural areas and people below the poverty line. The Educational Development of these two sections of the country determines the country's growth. As the government already leads and initiated new programs to motivate people to education still many obstacles prevent these programs from being successful. Some of the issues are lack of awareness, poverty, and poor infrastructure and facilities, resulting in many people leaving or not going to school.

Keywords: Healthcare, Education, Revenue and Employment, Development

1. Introduction:

Education is a significant tool that aids in the creation of a well-developed and progressive nation. Especially in a developing country like India with a population of more than 136 crores, education is the key to a better standard of living and a prosperous future. Not to mention, education is the right of every citizen of India. In this blog, you will read about the importance of education in India and the role of education in Indian society. India is a very vast and populated country but is still a developing nation. Hence, Education is one of the most vital components that will help in changing the status of India from a developing nation to a developed nation. Moreover, if we take a careful look at the demographics of India, we can observe that states and cities that have the highest literacy rates have the superior infrastructure and advanced technology as compared to other states or cities. Hence, global organizations such as

UNESCO and UNICEF are coming up with numerous educational projects in India to create a progressive and developed nation. India has a vast health care system, but there remain many differences in quality between rural and urban areas as well as between public and private health care. Health systems and policies have a critical role in determining the manner in which health services are delivered and utilized and affect health outcomes. 'Health' is a state subject, and despite the issuance of the guidelines by the central government, the final prerogative on implementation of the initiatives on newborn care lies with the states. This article briefly describes the public health structure in the country and traces the evolution of the major health programs and initiatives with a particular focus on newborn health.

2. Objectives of the study:

- a. To understand the meaning of health care and education.
- b. To know about the health care and education system's importance in India.
- c. To analyze the opportunities and challenges in the health care and education system in India.

3. Meaning of HEALTH CARE and EDUCATION:

HEALTH CARE: The prevention, treatment, and management of illness and the preservation of mental and physical well-being through the services offered by the medical and allied health professions.

EDUCATION: Education can be thought of as the transmission of the values and accumulated knowledge of a society.

4. Importance of Healthcare in India:

- India's competitive advantage lies in its large pool of well-trained medical professionals. India is also cost-competitive compared to its peers in Asia and western countries. The cost of surgery in India is about one-tenth of that in the US or Western Europe.
- India has all the essential ingredients for exponential growth in this sector, including a large population, a robust pharma and medical supply chain, 750 million plus smartphone users, 3rd the largest start-up pool globally with easy access to VC (Venture Capital Fund) funding, and innovative tech entrepreneurs looking to solve global healthcare problems.
- India will have about 50 clusters for faster clinical testing of medical devices to boost product development and innovation.
- The sector will be driven by life expectancy, a shift in disease burden, changes in preferences, a growing middle class, an increase in health insurance, medical support, infrastructure development, and policy support and incentives.
- As of 2021, the Indian healthcare sector is one of India's largest employers as it employs a total of 4.7 million people. The sector has generated 2.7 million additional jobs in India between 2017-22 - over 500,000 new jobs per year.

5. Importance of Education to India:

- a. Education plays a major role in a nation's development and is a basic right of every human being. India is the 2nd largest populated country in the world and has a literacy rate of around 74 percent. India's literacy rate continues to rise, however, there are many states in the country with low literacy rates. Since education is so essential for the development and growth of any country, in India, Kerala

tops all states with the highest literacy rate of 94% followed by Lakshadweep at 91.85%, Mizoram at 91.33%, and goa with a literacy rate of 88.70%. On the other hand, Bihar has the lowest literacy rate of 61.80% followed by the states Arunachal Pradesh at 65.38%, Rajasthan at 66.11%, and Jharkhand with a literacy rate of 66.41%. Looking at these literacy rate statistics, it is clear that India has an even greater need for improvement in its education system.

- b. Education is important for having awareness of almost everything in life and it is a basic right of every human being. The education system is very advanced in urban areas for people with good income sources but still needs to be improved for rural areas and people below the poverty line. The Educational Development of these two sections of the country determines the country's growth. As the government already leads and initiated new programs to motivate people to education still many obstacles prevent these programs from being successful. Some of the issues are lack of awareness, poverty, and poor infrastructure and facilities, resulting in many people leaving or not going to school.
- c. The female literacy rate in India is precisely low, which is another reason for the low literacy rate in India. The male literacy rate is 80.89% but the female literacy rate is 64.64%, which is clearly showing a gap of 16.25% between the two genders. To fill this gap and improve the female literacy rate, awareness, encouragement, and appreciation need to be given to females to focus on education. Creating awareness, removing stereotypical thinking, and providing added benefits to females to encourage them to go to school, should be taken into consideration for the effective development of an education system.
- d. Many countries have free education policies for their citizens or they charge minimal e.g. Germany, Norway, France, Finland, Sweden, Austria, Spain, etc. As there is a large population in India that can't afford to go to school, free education policy can encourage those citizens to go to school. As education is important for the development of India, this powerful step can change the future of the whole country and the education system. Education is the strongest instrument for any country to economic growth and development and by offering free education to their citizen any country can follow this path.
- e. The future of any country depends on its youth. Creating a good education and learning system and providing better opportunities to the youth will make them secure a good future for themselves and the country.

6. Challenges of the Education system in India:

a. Lack of money

The absence of sufficient assets is a fundamental issue in the improvement of education. Because of poor economics, most instructive institutions need the framework, science gear and libraries, and so on. Because of this, the desired outcomes can't be achieved.

Every year there is a separate budget for the Education sector but it needs to be well directed through the appropriate pipeline so that it reaches every sector, where it's needed the most.

b. Costly higher education

College and specialized institutions have turned out to be expensive in India. The expense structure of specific and able institutions. Privatization of advanced education has helped the development of benefit greedy business people. Now advanced education is a much expensive undertaking.

c. Neglect of Indian languages

The medium of teaching especially is English because of the focus on education in English, students are not developing foundational literacy and numerical skills. And then they are piled on with more material

in English and as a result, kids mainly from government schools and poorer backgrounds were suffering a lot because of this. Standard distributions are not accessible in native Indian languages.

d. No practical knowledge

In educational institutions, lots of attention is provided to theory and books, and practical knowledge is completely neglected. When these students pass the exam, they forget all the things they have studied due to a lack of practical experience. In India, parents and teachers expect their students to score high in the exam rather than getting quality knowledge. And education becomes a rat race. Practical knowledge and skill-based education are still very far away from scholars who are studying in schools, colleges, and universities.

e. The problem of brain drain

Whenever smart, capable, and meriting candidates don't get reasonable positions in the nation. They need to travel to another country to look for employment. So our nation is denied good ability. This wonder is called 'Brain Drain'. Because of that, we lost so many talents that could be utilized in our nation for the betterment of education as well as the overall development of the country.

f. Cast reservation and paid seat

In the Indian education system, seats are reserved for reserved cast and rich students. The education system should give equal chance to all students irrespective of their caste and creed. In India, the child of a good rich family gets a good education just because of ample money whereas the child of a poor family hardly gets a primary education. The government data disclose the better reality that only 1 child out of 7 that takes birth in India goes to school. That problem should be conveyed into notice as soon as possible and do some severe work to change the circumstances as soon as possible.

g. Mass illiteracy

Still, we are not capable of getting 100 percent education. Even now most of the individuals stay uneducated. In India, the quantity of illiterate individuals is approximately 33 percent of the aggregate uneducated people. Propelled nations are almost 100 percent educated, and the situation in India is very unfavorable.

h. Wastage of resources

Our education system depends on General Education. The dropout percentage is high in the essential and auxiliary dimensions. The huge majority of the understudies in the 7-14 age group leave the school before completing their studies. It implies the wastage of financial and Human Resources.

i. General education structure:

Our education structure is of General Education in nature. The advancement of specialized and professional education is very unacceptable. So our way of instruction is ineffective. Hence the number of educated jobless people is growing by each day. This has changed into a prominent concern for the Government.

j. Problems of primary education

Our primary education is performed with an extreme number of issues. A huge number of primary schools have no structures, basic facilities like drinking water, furniture and study materials, urinals and power, and many more. Large quantities of grade schools are single educator schools and many schools are even without teachers. So the drop rate is high and a basis for concern. We can say that there is a quantitative extension of training but in subjective improvement, we are still falling behind.

k. Outdated syllabus

There is an urgent requirement to modify the present system of higher education in the country. We are required to ensure quality in education as well as quantity. Students are acquiring knowledge from outdated syllabi. Lots of technological and scientific advancements are taking place in India. And hence the courses are Graduate and postgraduate and need to be updated as per modern and technological development.

7. Challenges of the Health care sector in India.**a. Inadequate Access:**

Inadequate access to basic healthcare services such as a shortage of medical professionals, a lack of quality assurance, insufficient health spending, and, most significantly, insufficient research funding. One of the major concerns is the administration's insufficient financial allocation.

b. Low Budget:

India's public expenditure on healthcare is only 2.1% of GDP in 2021-22 while Japan, Canada and France spend about 10% of their GDP on public healthcare.

Even neighboring countries like Bangladesh and Pakistan have over 3% of their GDP going towards the public healthcare system.

c. Lack of Preventive Care:

Preventive care is undervalued in India, despite the fact that it has been shown to be quite beneficial in alleviating a variety of difficulties for patients in terms of unhappiness and financial losses.

d. Lack of Medical Research:

In India, R&D and cutting-edge technology-led new projects receive little attention.

e. Policymaking:

Policymaking is undoubtedly crucial in providing effective and efficient healthcare services. In India, the issue is one of supply rather than demand, and policymaking can help.

f. Shortage in Professionals:

In India, there is a shortage of doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals.

According to a study presented in Parliament by a minister, India is short 600,000 doctors.

g. Paucity of Resources:

Doctors work in extreme conditions ranging from overcrowded outpatient departments to inadequate staff, medicines, and infrastructure.

Conclusion:

India's public expenditure on healthcare is only 2.1% of GDP in 2021-22 while Japan, Canada, and France spend about 10% of their GDP on public healthcare. Even neighboring countries like Bangladesh and Pakistan have over 3% of their GDP going toward the public healthcare system

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