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Research and Academic Development in our Country

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Abstract

Education in India has different levels such as pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary, technical, and professional and levels of higher education. Since independence, the growth has been very impressive; the number of universities has increased by 18-times, the number of colleges by 35 times and enrolment more than 10 times. India has the largest number of higher education institutions in the world, with more than 550 universities. Promotion of Research and Academic Development will register a phenomenal growth in Higher Education. . At present, with the limited resources and with the age old syllabi, it is very difficult to achieve academic excellence and also to promote research skills in the students to demonstrate their excellence at various levels. Research and higher education are complementary to each other. According to the available official statistics [9] the expenditure on R&D in the field of Science & Technology as a percentage of gross domestic products (GDP) was 0.8 percent during the year 2005-06 in India.

Keywords: *Development, Higher Education, Economic growth, Academic Excellence, Opportunities.*

Introduction:

Education in India has different levels such as pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary, technical, and professional and levels of higher education. Since independence, the growth has been very impressive; the number of universities has increased by 18-times, the number of colleges by 35 times and enrolment more than 10 times. India has the largest number of higher education institutions in the world, with more than 550 universities. At present, India has more than 18067 colleges and just fewer than 10 million students. Increased need to universalize elementary education has resulted in serious focus on elementary education and at the same time rather total neglect of higher education.

One of the most essential requirements of any system in general and education in particular is availability of latest information on different aspects of education on going programmers at different levels periodically. Education in India has different levels such as preschool, primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary, technical, and professional and levels of higher education. Data requirements and level at which information is required varies from one level to another level. Information system for each of these levels in India is at different stage of development. Whatever the information is available on all these levels is scattered and integrated educational management information system as such has not yet been developed.

Promotion of Research and Academic Development will register a

phenomenal growth in Higher Education. To meet the challenges of the society, the research output in various disciplines can only equip the students with the required knowledge and also skills to grab various opportunities to the students at graduate level to adopt latest research methodologies and also to submit dissertations on various subjects to face the challenges of the highly competitive world. It is difficult, but very important to adopt new education policy to prepare the syllabus which is suitable for the students to perform at highest levels to face the challenges. Competent faculty is required for this campaign, steps to be taken for proper orientation for the faculty and recruitment of competent faculty is necessary to achieve this goal. We can not dream about academic development in Higher education with the adhoc faculty and existing infrastructure in many colleges. At present, with the limited resources and with the age old syllabi, it is very difficult to achieve academic excellence and also to promote research skills in the students to demonstrate their excellence at various levels. For this purpose we have in each and every subject in all the colleges.

We have to provide latest research journals, publications and also books related to the research methodology in the college libraries. We have to expand the infrastructure to provide labs with required equipment in all the colleges. We have to take a drastic step to design new syllabus at national level. We have to identify job oriented subjects which are useful for the students to face several challenges. The role of faculty is very important in this campaign and they have to put in sincere and dedicated efforts to achieve quality and excellence in higher education. The central and the state governments have to allocate the required funds to promote higher education in our country and also to adopt new education policy to offer choices to students and to promote their research and academic excellence.

Structure Of Higher Education System In India:

India has the largest number of higher education institutions in the world. The number of students enrolled is 10.5 million, the third largest globally after China and USA. Higher educational institutions in India are of different types, depending on their academic, administrative and financial systems Universities may also recognize institutions as „deemed to be universities" or set up institutes of national importance. The institutions may be funded publicly, be aided by the government, to be funded privately.

The Higher Education sector ensures the quality of the educational process with the help of accreditation agencies established for the purpose. The main agency which accredits universities and colleges in general education is the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) established by the UGC in 1994. NAAC proposes to introduce the India Education Index (IEI) for ranking institutes based on academic, research performance and other parameters.

Research and Development:

Research and higher education are complementary to each other. According to the available official statistics the expenditure on R&D in the field of Science & Technology as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) was 0.8 percent during the year 2005-06 in India. For perspective,

countries spending the most on S&T as a percent of their GDP were Israel (5.11 percent), Sweden (4.27 percent), Japan (3.11 percent), South Korea (2.95 percent), the United States (2.77percent), Germany (2.74 percent) and France (2.27 percent). Among other countries, China (1.54 percent), Russia (1.74 percent), U.K. (1.88 percent) and Brazil (1.04 percent) have spent more than India. India's higher education institutions are poorly connected to research centers. So this is another area of challenge to the higher education in India.

Conclusion

The development and present scenario of higher education in India by analyzing the various data and also identify the key challenges like demand-supply gap, quality education, research and development and faculty shortage in India's higher education sector.

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