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REVIEW OF HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM-A CHALLENGES AND ISSUES

Shubham Patel*, Prabhjeet Singh Rakhra, Sushrut Singh Sisodiya, Shubham Mahajan, Vikas Dosi

ABSTRACT

As from last few years, there have been many challenges to the higher education system of India. Many of the work are being done for the improvement of higher education system. We have tried to maintain these changes for providing better intelligibility and responsibility, but rather because of the chance to reflect on the reason of higher education, the role of institutes and universities in the today's era, and emerging scientific research on how people be trained. The faculties and the students have to taking care of their responsibilities to improve the higher education system. It becomes very necessary that we have highly educated peoples who have excellent skilled with the help of that we can constrain India economy forward. When India can have more skilled and experienced peoples throughout the world then we can relocate our country from a developing country to a developed country very easily and rapidly.

KEYWORDS: Higher Education System, challenges, issues, suggestions.

INTRODUCTION

The present education system of India is at an evolution stage. In this stage, we can make some efficient changes so that the environment will become good and effective. Every country is giving more emphasis on Higher education system. Organization and concord among the international universities across the earth can create sync throughout, wherein the cultivation of the young minds may be habituated to the changes preferred. Another aspect which is very important today is the concept of blended learning. It is just the next step to the previous idea of creating a harmonization of higher education across the globe. Students from all over the world will be benefitted from the expertise of the renowned academicians. The harmony may create a balance in learning and research thereafter. Another aspect of India's higher education woes is that problems are not taken care of at the grass-root level. The students are not engaged in the system. Right from their enrolment they face numerous problems which remain mostly unsaid. They are unable to get quality education because of the concept of mugging up learning being accomplished. Many years are being passed but universities are not focusing upon the updation in syllabus. The syllabus remains traditional which has either no or bit significance in the current situations. Universities are not revising the syllabus on the regular basis. The concept of the whole education system likes to be inconsistent. The overall evaluation system encourages mug up learning and there is little value addition. The teachers are not skilled enough to engage the students.

CHALLENGES IN PRESENT HIGHER EDUCATION

syllabus plan/arrangement

Today the expectation of students and the society is more. Universities need to understand the needs of society before determining the curriculum/Syllabus. To be knowledgeable and to be experienced with global opponents, the H.E. institutions should provide such kind of programs to the students so that they can fulfill the demands of 21st century's. H.E. institutions entail restructuring courses, programs, and structures that fulfills the requirements and needs of the students (Hanna, 2003).

Student Employability

Employability is a very important aspect of H.E. System. Students seek educational opportunities to enter the world of jobs (West, 1999). According to Bridges (2000) the placement of the students in the global companies will become the critical consideration. As far as the placement is concerned, students require developing their interpersonal and intrapersonal skills; they have good knowledge in their respective field and able to do research so that they can come forward and try to improve the economy of India.

Quality of Learning and Teaching

We need to decide the best way to compete with our opponents. This is only possible if we adopt some smart teaching and learning abilities. In this learning cycle if we are able to take some contribution of the industry employees then it will be a better opportunities for the students. Let the students understand what industry is looking for any than they will focus to prepare themselves. Then it can foster towards improved and required set of skills, learning, and teaching (Tiropanis et al., 2009). Therefore, it is more beneficial for the students to aware for the latest development and technologies and the work of teacher is to boost to the students by providing latest real life examples so that students understand the real time scenario. (Hirsch and Weber, 1999; Hanna, 2003). Singh and Sahi (2012) validate the significant relationship between active experimentation learning style and preference for facilitator instruction approach, which could help the teachers to improve the quality of learning and teaching.

Quality of Research

Every H.E. institutions required to improve the quality of their research. We have so many universities and colleges but maximum colleges are not equipped with latest technologies and the faculties also not aware with it. The workshop regarding latest trends and technologies for the faculties will be done in the institutions on the regularly. In a one roof, the institutions required to open different disciplines and need to work among the team so that a variety of ideas will come across which can invent the new research which can be more beneficial for the society and young youth (Hirsch and Weber, 1999; Hanna, 2003).

Compete and Collaborating Globally in Research and Talent

There is an always a global competition in between top students, researchers, & lecturers. Institutions need to compete at a globe level in teaching & research. H.E. institutions should locate a tavern for uppermost standard of research; this would show the way to worldwide acknowledgment which could further bring in senior excellence and superior standard of research (Hirsch and Weber, 1999).

Adopting Emerging Technology

Now everything is available on the internet. Adaptation of new technologies will required the time. H.E. institutions need to understand that they will provide the proper time to their faculties so that they can teach these new technologies to their students. (Fox, 1998; Hanna, 2003). The recent technological aids for H.E., offer mobility and access from anywhere and at anytime (Fox, 1998). Technologies like internet and its associated technologies can increase the capacity of an educator more quickly, easily and more scalable to help students make connections to content, context, and community – resulting in more powerful learning experience (West, 1999). Gupta, Singh, Malhotra, and Rastogi (2003) advocated the role of information Technology (IT) in teaching and education system, they further assert that the IT industry could play a direct role in IT education in particular and education in general. Industry-institutions relationship will provide strength to the education system (Gupta et al., 2003).

Assessment

Assessment is a key process in Higher Education. According to Macdonald and Carroll (2006), the H.E. assessment will be non partial and it should be same for all the students. Student's irregularities will also consider in the evaluation. So that students will learn more from their mistakes and try to improve themselves.

New Generation of Staff

Any organizations cannot become best, if it does not have a qualified teaching staff; untrained staffs means poor training and unoriginal research (Hirsch and Weber, 1999). As per Bridges (2000), to teach the set of courses including employability skills universities need to develop the new capabilities in between their traditional teaching staff and new approaches to their teaching. H.E. institutions will need to develop faculty and staff dedicated to engaging a diversity of learners with more complex and latest learning needs.

SUGGESTIONS

There are some suggestions and Expectations from Government, Industry, Educational Institutions, Parents and Students for improving quality of higher education-

Towards a Learning Society- As we move towards a learning society, every human activity will require assistance from professionals, and such an activity will take place to the entire sector of higher education system.

Industry and Academia Connection- The regular meeting will be happen in between the Industry and Academia to ensure and fill the curriculum gap and skills in order to improve the quality of education. (Keeping in view knowledge + skills+ interpersonal skills+ professional skills = good jobs).

Incentives to Teachers and Researchers

A handsome incentives will be given by the institutions to the teachers and researchers fo that they can provide more their efforts and bring the new change in the education system.

Public Private Partnership-

PPP is most essential to bring in quality in the higher education system. Governments can ensure PPP through an appropriate policy. University Grants Commission and Ministry of HRD should play a major role in developing a purposeful interface between the Universities, Industries and National Research Laboratories (NRLs) as a step towards PPP. Funding to NRLs by the government should ensure the involvement of institutions of higher education engaged in research activities to facilitate availability of latest sophisticated equipment. There has been some effort both by the government and the private education institutions to develop the teaching staff at various levels. However, this needs to be intensified with appropriate attention to all the aspects related in order to prepare quality and sufficient number of educational staff. Such efforts need a very serious structuring for the research base institutions. We have to be optimistic that private-public partnership and the Industry interface will take place in the field of education at all levels, and particularly in the backward regions, which is the need of the hour. To achieve excellence, we thus need to create a real partnership between government, educators and industry– Partnerships that can provide our high-tech industries with skilled workers who meet the standards of their industry.

To Provide Need Based Job-Oriented Courses-

As each and every university need to revise the curriculum and have to include those courses which are actually job oriented. Such a course will encourage to the students and they learn the standards of the organization at the prime level.

Quality development- Quality depends on its all functions and activities: teaching and academic programs, research and scholarship, staffing, students, building, facilities, equipments, services to the community and the academic environment. It also requires that higher education should be characterized by its international dimensions: exchange of knowledge, interactive networking, mobility of teachers and students and international research projects, while taking into account the national cultural values and circumstances.

Fair Quality Assurance System- Colleges and Private institutes 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. There should be operational, financial and academic autonomy coupled with accountability. There is a need of an independent accreditation agency with a conglomerate of government, industry, academia, society etc.

Examination Reforms- Examination reforms, gradually shifting from the terminal, annual and semester examinations to regular and continuous assessment of student's performance in learning should be implemented

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

To attain and sustain national, regional or international quality, certain components are particularly relevant, notably careful selection of staff and continuous staff development, in particular through the promotion of appropriate programs for academic development, including teaching/learning methodology and mobility between countries, between higher education institutions and the world of work, as well as student mobility within and between countries. Internal self-evaluation and external review must be conducted openly by independent specialists, if possible with international experts. India today requires industry smart students. How can that be facilitated? The answer again points towards faculty development. There can be three recommendations for the same which are being followed by some H.E. Institutes in India. The need of the hour is to make this a blanket policy for all H.E. system in India.

- a) To bring industry professionals to deliver lectures to the students or more appropriately provide students with the guidance and mentoring of industry people who are well versed in the system prevailing in the corporate echelons.
- b) To provide training to the faculty members so that they become able to train the budding students in return.
- c) To make industry training mandatory for the students' right from graduation so that they may easily fit on to the tedious requirements of the industry, right from the onset.

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