PROBLEMS IN INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

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Abstract

The economic growth of the country not only depends on natural resources, technology and capital but mainly on the quantity and quality of manpower. By quality of manpower, we mean the efficiency and productivity of work force. The efficiency of the manpower depends on many important factors like health and nutrition, education and training, housing facilities, safe drinking water and sanitation. These are considered as important determinants of quality of life. Adequate investment in these fields will increase the productivity and efficiency of the manpower. Economists call it ‘human capital formation’. By human capital we mean “the body of knowledge attained by the population and capacity of the population to use the knowledge effectively”. Education is the most important component out of various components of social infrastructure. The well educated and properly trained manpower can accelerate the pace of economic development.

Introduction

Illiteracy and Poverty go hand in hand. Education plays a very big role in uplifting people from poverty. It also helps one to improve his/her lifestyle or standards of living. Illiterate people miss these opportunities provided by education. Everyone, every girl, boy or an adult should be literate, it not just forms a basis to have a good career but it helps one in handling day to day life issues too. There is no second thought on the importance of education but the current education system is not full-proof. Time is changing fast; technology and research making progress in leaps and bound. The present generation is completely different from the generation for which our education system was designed. The current education system is not keeping up with current needs of education. We are in dire need of extensive changes in Indian education system. Generally, we believe that developed countries have the best education systems. They get a free primary education, no homework, easy loan systems etc. We have to understand that every country, society is different and their problems, situations also different. There is not a single place in the whole world which is heaven. Every system is having problems and will have problems in future too. The only way to deal with failing education system is that they need to adapt with time over and over again.
Problems in Indian education system

1. Education System Promotes Rat Race

Our education system basically promotes rat race among our children. They have to read and mug-up entire text book without any understanding of it. So a student who scores 90 out of 100 and comes first actually remains a rat. I mean to say he or she does not have any analytical skills that a child must have. It is time to change our education system.

2. Education Does Not Builds Persona of a Child

Unfortunately our education system is not helping to develop persona of a child. Remember, it is personality that is more important than academic qualification. As I said earlier, our system demands good numbers from a child in an exam not to show his personality. Hence a child is not well exposed to outer world and he or she might not be able to develop a personality. So this is another flaw in our education system.

3. No Critical Analysis, only Following the Establishment

Our children are not able to do critical analysis of anything, for example our history, culture and religion. They take the line of establishment or the views of predominant majority. They are simply not able to look things from their own perspective. If you want a society should become a lot better than we must develop a culture of looking at things critically. We are simply failing at this because of our education system. Children must learn to criticize our own culture and other established narratives.

4. Too Much Parochialism Rather Global Outlook

Our education teaches too much of nationalism and it could create a negative mindset in our younger generation. Loving your country is good thing but just blind love is dangerous. In our schools children are not able to get a global outlook. It means how to see yourself that you are actually a global citizen rather confined to a place or a country. I myself was not able to feel that I am a cosmopolitan rather I was thought to become a jingoistic.

5. Teachers Themselves are Not Trained and Efficient

To make things worse, our teachers themselves are not sufficiently trained to teach kids. They do not have proper training that how they are going to impart values in children that are going to change the future of the country. If they can teach properly then the government does not have enough salary to pay. Hence, to improve our education system teachers should be better trained and more importantly better paid. You cannot imagine a country without respecting teachers.
6. Medium of Language of our Education System
This is also a big problem that needs to be addressed. We are not able to decide on the medium of language of our education system. Still emphasize is given on English where majority of children cannot understand the language. So how does they are going to understand what teachers are teaching. Moreover, subjects like mathematics, physics and arts have nothing to do with the medium of communication. Hence, over-emphasis on English could be wrong.

7. Education Given is Irrelevant to Job-Market
This is perhaps the most apparent failure of our education system that after completing graduation in any discipline students are not able to get jobs. It is simply because skills that are required in a job market are simply not present in a fresh graduate. All that a student is taught in his entire school and college life is almost redundant for job markets. Skill that is required by them is not taught in schools and colleges. Hence our education system is needed to be revamped and must be designed according to our economic policies.

8. Missing Innovation & Creation because Only Aping West
If we talk about the privileged children in India then even they are not able to innovate and create new things. Although they have everything that a child need but still they lack something in them. What they are doing is only aping western culture and not being able to do something new. On the one hand children are not able to go to schools and on other hand, if they are going then are not able to innovate or solve the problems that the country is facing. Hence, this is yet another fundamental problem with our education system.

9. Students Happy in Getting a Highly Paid Salary Job but Lacks Ambition to Become Entrepreneur
Now, in college campuses it has become a common thing that every young student is interested in a getting a job that pays them well. However, they would never like to become an entrepreneur. This lack of ambition does not allow our country to excel in any field. This attitude of our children making them slaves of few multinational companies. Therefore our education system should be designed to make our children a successful entrepreneurs rather going for a salaried job.

10. Gross Failure of Our Education System to End Social Disparity
The last but not the least failure of our education system is after so many years it has not being able to reduce social disparity in our country. In fact, social disparity has gone up. It is such a shame that education itself has become a tool for creating divisions. A child of a rich
parent would get good education and a child of poor parent cannot afford even a basic education. Government should intervene and make education its prime responsibility.

11. Lack of funds
The lack of sufficient funds is the main problem in the development of education. Outlay for education in Five Year Plans has been decreasing. Due to insufficient funds most educational institutions lack infrastructure, science equipment and libraries etc. Due to this reason, desired results cannot be achieved.

12. Expensive higher education
University, professional and technical education has become costly in India. Fee structure of technical and professional institutes like IIM’s is quite high IIM’s charge Rs. 2 lakh per semester for MBA classes. It is beyond the reach of common man. Privatization of higher education has led to the growth of profit hungry entrepreneurs. Now a day’s higher education is much costly affair.

13. Neglect of Indian languages
The medium of instruction particularly in science subjects is English. So rural students who are not well versed in English, cannot study science properly in English. They suffer a lot; Indian languages are still under developed. Standard publications are not available in Indian language.

14. Problem of Brain drain
When intelligent, talented and deserving candidates do not get suitable jobs in the country, they prefer to go abroad for seeking jobs. So our country is deprived of good talent. This phenomenon is called ‘Brain drain’.

15. Mass illiteracy
Despite constitutional directives and economic planning we are not able to achieve cent percent literacy. -Even now 35 percent people remain illiterate. In India, the number of illiterates is almost one-third of the total illiterates in the world. Advanced countries are 100% literate; the position in India is quite dismal.

16. Wastage of resources
Our education system is based on General Education. The dropout rate is very high in primary and secondary level. Most of the students in 6-14 age groups leave the school before completing their education. It leads to wastage of financial and human resources.
17. General education oriented
Our educational system is of General Education in nature. Development of technical and vocational education is quite unsatisfactory. So our education is unproductive. Hence number of educated unemployed persons is increasing day by day. This has become a great concern for Govt.

18. Problems of primary education
Our primary education is ridden with too many problems. Large number of primary schools has no buildings what to talk of basic facilities like drinking water, urinals and electricity, furniture and study materials etc. Large numbers of primary schools are single teacher schools and many schools are even without teachers. So the drop rate is very high and a cause of concern. Concluding, we can say that there is quantitative expansion of education but in qualitative development we are still lagging behind.

19. Lack of infrastructure
Approximately 95.2 per cent of schools are not yet compliant with the complete set of RTE infrastructure indicators according to survey conducted in 2010. They lacks drinking water facilities, a functional common toilet, and do not have separate toilets for girls. Number of boards causes non uniformity of curriculum throughout India so maintenance of quality standard is quite difficult.

20. Poor global ranking of institutes
Only 4 universities are featured in first 400. This is largely because of high faculty-student ratio and lack of research capacity.

21. System of education
Education is information based rather than knowledge based. The whole focus is on cramming information rather than understanding it and analyzing it.

22. Gap between education provided and industry required education
Industry faces a problem to find suitable employee as education provided is not suitable for directly working in industry so before that a company is required to spend large amount on providing training for employee.

23. Gender issues
Traditional Indian society suffers from many kind of discrimination so there are many hurdles in education of unprivileged sections of society like women, SC, ST and minority
24. Costly higher education
Very minimal amount of subsidy is provided for higher education so if student seeks to get chances of higher education still he misses out because of lack of economical resources

25. Inadequate government Funding
The demand for financial resources far exceeds the supply. Very small amount is available for innovative programs and ideas.

Conclusion
There is no magic formula for education system anywhere in the world there always good and bad things in the system. We just cannot copy paste the Western education culture and use it in India. Definitely, we can learn from the western education systems and take the best part of it, plus we can add our ancient education methods and modernize the way of delivering it. Indian education system needs to implement digital methodologies to improve quality of education. We are in dire need of better teachers in the system and to achieve that teacher needs to have good compensation. There is need of creating awareness about the teaching jobs, we need to bring in the best brains in the teaching industry. Indian education system does have a big problem of bad quality teachers. In rural primary schools, we hardly see the talented staff, and this even happens in universities. University appoints ad-hoc lecturers, there is no loss in recruiting newer talent but there should talent. Primary schools, high Schools, universities, colleges recruit the teaching staff which is not so good compared to other country’s standards. These are the people who are going to shape the upcoming generation and if the quality is not maintained at this level then that is a big harm to the next generation in making. This is one of the raging problems in Indian education system. We cannot blame the system completely for its failure. Major factors causing this are as follows, teaching is not considered as an appreciated job, teachers don’t get corporate equivalent salaries. That is why teaching is not so glamorous job in India. Existing teaching staff needs to improve their skills. The education system needs to bring the processes which will improve the existing teacher’s quality periodically. There should be exams, screenings for existing teachers. Teachers should get promoted on basis of skills and talent not just based on the number years of experience. Seniority or age is the main factor or in the promotion of the teachers, we need to change this attitude. When teachers know that there going to be promoted only because of their seniority then they tend to not to adapt with latest teaching methods, required skills and knowledge of the world around them.
References


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