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HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM: CHALLENGES AND SUGGESTIONS

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ABSTRACT Higher education system plays an important role for the country includes all field like economics, social, industrial etc. Indian higher education system is largest in the world. The role of Indian educational institutes such as colleges and universities in the present time is to provide quality based education in the field of education, research etc. to empower youth for self-justifiable. This paper includes the key challenges that India currently facing in higher education and also includes some initiative taken by the government to meet those challenges.

INTRODUCTION:

Higher education means different things to different people. If we talk about higher education in terms of level, it means to gain higher educational qualification by the teaching-learning process in the higher educational institutes such as colleges and universities. Moreover higher education imparts knowledge, develops the student's ability and also give him/her a wider perspective of the world around. Higher education becomes input to the growth and development of industry and also seen as an opportunity to participate in the growth of the students through an education.

Higher Education in India: Next to China and United States India has the third largest higher education system in the world in terms of size and its diversity and largest in the world in terms of number of educational institutions.

Reforms in the framework of the current curriculum of school education are based on the development needs of the students.

The NEP recommends the 5-3-3-4 pattern explained in the table below:

Years	Stage	Curriculum
5	Foundational	3 years of pre-primary followed by class 1 and 2
3	Preparatory	Classes 3 to 5
3	Middle	Classes 6 to 8
4	Secondary	Classes 9-12

Framework of higher education in India is very complex. It includes various type of institutions like universities, colleges, institutes of national importance, polytechnics etc. Universities are also of different types like central universities which are formed by government of India, by an act of parliament which are responsible for arranging and distributing resources required by university grant commission(UGC), State universities, Deemed universities (aided and unaided) and Private universities. India has a federal set-up and the Indian constitution places education as a concurrent responsibility of both the center and state. Under the department of higher education there are several regulatory bodies and research councils which are responsible for the higher education in India.

Challenges of Higher Education System:

Gap between the Supply and demand: In higher education, India has a low rate of enrolment. Lack of Quality Research work, There is no shortage of funding for the most of universities and institution. However, budget for the Research is not under spent due to the insufficient good quality research work. Due to the limited focus on Research, very few Indian higher educational institutes are globally recognized.

Number of Research papers published in India has increased

continuously for the past few decades but reflected in low citation impact if compared with other countries like Germany, United States, France and China.

Indian higher education is facing with the problem of poor quality of curriculum. In most of the higher educational institutes curriculum is outdated and irrelevant.

Shortage of Faculty and High Student-Faculty Ratio: In most of the state and central universities have very few faculties positions are lying vacant. While the student enrolment in higher education is growing with faster rate in the last few years. Inadequate Infrastructure and Facilities Apart from the highly recognized higher educational institutes in India most of the colleges and universities lack in the basic and high-end research facilities.

Many institutes are running without proper infrastructure and basic facilities like library, hostels, transport, sports facility etc. which is desirable to rank the quality institution. Presently there is a very less collaboration of higher educational institutes with industries.

Low employability of graduates is one of the major problem in India. Only a small proportion of Indian graduates are considered employable. Placement outcome also drop significantly as we move away from the well-known institution. Improving the System of Higher Education: There is a need to implement innovative and transformational approach form primary to higher education level to make Indian educational system globally more relevant and competitive.

In higher educational institutes Industrial co-operation must be there for the development of curriculum, organizing expert lectures, internships, live projects, career counseling and placements.

There is a need to focus on the graduate students by providing them such courses in which they can achieve excellence, gain deeper knowledge of subject so that they will get jobs after recruitment in the companies which would reduce unnecessary rush to the higher education.

CONCLUSION:

In this paper presented the present situation of higher education sector. We also identify the challenges like demand-supply gap, lack of quality research, problem of infrastructure and basic facilities, shortage of faculty etc. in the higher education. To improve the higher education system we need to improve teaching pedagogy, build relationship between research and teaching, and facilitate of higher institutions. Research centers and industries. This is necessary not only to take care of economic growth, but it is also essential for social cognitive and to empower the youth.

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