



## ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN THE INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

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**ABSTRACT** Education is a fundamental to human progress. It plays a prominent role in all around development of individual as well as society. A large number of books have been written on the importance of education. Education plays a key role in creating patriotic, disciplined and productive manpower. Educated manpower constitutes precious assets as well as agents for advancing the nation. Education means the fostering of personality through the unhampered development of innate qualities of human being. It aims at integrate development of personality. Indian education system is broadly criticized in multi-dimensions for its failure to create required employability in its students according to the industry requirements and its inability to contribute to inclusive growth in the nation. The study is based on secondary data from various books, daily reading news papers and websites. Hence, India's education system is a stumbling block in achieving its objectives of economic development. This study intends to understand and evaluate the issues and challenges in the Indian educational system.

**KEYWORDS :**

It is generally overestimated that India has a strong educational structure with premier education system. The different yardsticks such as new courses, changing curriculum, dynamic methodologies and teacher training facilitate in delivery of quality content. Electronic-learning, student-friendly learning, increased adoption of extra and co-curricular activities, etc. In India attract students from other countries such as USA, China, Canada, Germany, South Africa, Canada, UK and Australia. However, if one sees the employability of the output, the status of unemployment and underemployment, the results are not encouraging. It is grieved that there is lack of quality education for the poor, and only a small fraction of students, around one tenth from schools, go for higher studies. It is criticized widely that many students study through memorization, and every programme is planned exam-oriented. Hence, India's education system is a stumbling block in achieving its objectives of economic development. This study intends to understand and evaluate the issues and challenges in the Indian educational system and to provide solutions.

**Objectives of the Study**

- to present the status of Indian Education System
- to evaluate the issues and challenges of Indian Education System

**Research Methodology**

The present study aims to probe in to the various aspects of Indian education system in India. This study is based on secondary data. The relevant theoretical information was collected from various books, journals and periodicals etc.

**Indian Educational System – An overview**

Indian Education has recently gained global recognition with its distinguished diversity character. Different curriculum bodies govern the school education system in India, given below:

- The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
- State government Boards
- Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)
- The Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE)
- The National Institute of Open Schooling Board
- Islamic Madrasah School Boards etc.

**Private and Government schools**

Government schools are affordable and they provide the minimum required infrastructure to meet the basic needs. Private schools do not accommodate the low economic group students. Right to education in the freedom of every in, and government schools provide education to all children without any particularly in the field of education system.

**International schools**

In January 2012 the International Schools Consultancy listed India as having 469 international schools located in throughout the country, attended by 2,68,500 students aged between 3 to 18 years. More than 97% of the international schools offer a dual curriculum (international and a national curriculum like CBSE, ICSE or State board).

**Higher education**

The University Grants Commission coordinates, determines and maintains the standards of higher education at various levels. The bodies responsible for the different professional programmes such as All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Indian Council for Agriculture Research (ICAR), Distance Education Council, National Council for Teacher Education, Central Council of Homeopathy, Indian Nursing Council, Bar Council of India, Pharmacy Council of India, Central Council of Indian Medicine and Dentist Council of India, etc.

**Open and distance learning**

National Institute of Open Schooling provides opportunities for continuing education to those who missed completing school education. Some lakh of students are enrolled at the secondary and higher secondary level through open and distance learning. In various state governments also introduced State Open School to provide distance education system. At higher education level.

**Vocational education**

Vocational education in a much broader sense cover education and skill development at all levels from post primary to tertiary education- both through formal and non-formal programmes. Vocational Education at the intermediate state also known as higher secondary state, develop competences like that knowledge, skill, attitude, personality, required by a specific occupation through diversified vocational courses to prepare a pupil for world of work, especially for self employment.

**A. Major Issues in Indian Educational System:**

India has been a multi-cultural, multi-religious, and multi-linguistic society. Every State has a different and distinct identity. Dealing with various aspirations of such people in a mocratic country is indeed a challenge to the Govt. of India. The various issues are outlined here:

**Low quality education**

Low quality education is crippling India's growth to cope with the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy.

- Lack of funds
- Expensive higher education

- Neglect of Indian languages
- Problems of brain drain
- Mass illiteracy
- Wastage of resources
- General education oriented
- Problems of Primary Education

### Education corruption

As per my observation majority of the institutions its play a dark room bargainings to management seats. So it is one of the major contributors to domestic black money. Payment to Management at dark rooms and seeking admissions is increasing. 'Get full salary in the account, pay back part to Management by blank signed cheques' is also a practice in some private schools.

### No proper value education

Value education is not offered in the schools and colleges. If offered, religion and hatred are spread in the name of value education. Many of the doctors, lawyers, CAs, politicians and Govt servants who are supposed to be the saviours of the society, suffer from serious charges of corruption. Old-age homes are increasing. Suicides are increasing. The meaning of love is eventually changing. The education-led technology, inventions and innovations are being misused.

### Poor Women's education

Women have a much lower literacy rate than men. Conservative cultural attitudes prevent girls from attending schools. Despite Govt's attempts to provide incentives viz. midday meals, free books and uniforms, girls' attendance is poor. Though the minimum age for marriage is eighteen, many girls get married much earlier. Therefore, at the secondary level, female drop-out rate is high.

### Public school workforce absenteeism

Teacher absenteeism in India is exorbitant. World Bank estimates show the cost in salaries paid to absent teachers is US \$2 billion every year. In a study by Kremer, etc, they found 25% of private sector teachers and 40% of public sector medical workers were absent during the survey. Absence rates among them ranged from 14.6% in Maharashtra to 41.9% in Jharkhand.

### Wrong societal outlook

For Governments, more scoring is success. English is becoming the measure of intellect. Hence, parents of today take least interest in vernacular medium of education. Due to the perceived notion of inferior quality, Govt schools are becoming the last choice for many. Education-seeking migration has become a matter of pride for many families. Most of the school students spend majority of their learning time in preparing for competitive exams. Coaching classes too flourish due to this unwarranted competition, leading to a class-divide.

### B. Major challenges faced by the Indian education system

Lack of basic reading and arithmetic skills among the students in Indian schools as per annual states of Education report 2018. As per report suggests that the India is creating another generation that can hardly read and write.

**Infrastructure deficit:** lack of electricity, single room schools, lack of drinking water facilities, unavailability of toilets, poor hygiene etc.

**Quality of teachers:** lack of skilled, trained teachers is another problem faced by our education system. Besides this, teacher is also burdened with non academic workload which diverges their focus.

**Poor salary:** In most of the cases teachers are paid poorly which ultimately affects their interests. Thus they are forced to opt for other alternatives to earn money such as tuitions. Thus the quality of school education drops and the students are forced to spend additional money to avail tuition facilities.

**High Dropout rates:** this is also a serious challenge, especially in case of girls. This is due to various factors such as poverty, parents mind set, lack of toilets in schools, distance to schools and cultural elements.

**Poor governance and lack of accountability:** Absence of teachers during school hours is another problem. School management committees are hardly functional also a parent are unaware of their rights and does not know whom to approach in such suchivations.

**Corruption and leakages of funds:** Most of the funds which is allocated for the development of schools get by corrupt intermediaries. The fund transferred from central govt. to state govt. to schools involves many intermediaries. True beneficiary is able to get only certain part of the fund.

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