

## Impact of Globalization on Teacher Education



### Education

KEYWORDS :

**Dr. Arti Sharma**

Head (Faculty of Education), ACME Institute, Sikandra Agra

**Dr. Digvijay Pachauri**

3/276, Rui Ki Mandi, Shahganj, Agra

#### Introduction

Education has been around for as long as man has been, though its structure and perception has varied over centuries and civilizations. Now we are living in the highly scientific and technological world. Enormous changes are occurring in day to day life of human beings because of globalization, privatization and liberalization. Education is seen as central to economic competitiveness, the reduction of poverty and inequality, and environmental sustainability. So, it is necessary to provide education for all; then only India will become developed country by 2020.

#### Globalization

Globalization is a term describing the increasing interdependence, integration and interaction among people, companies and corporations in disparate locations around the world. This umbrella term refers to a complex medley of economic, trade, social, technological, cultural and political relationships. The term has been used as early as 1944; however Theodore Levitt is usually credited with its first use in an economic context.

In defining and explaining globalization, Nsibambi (2001), incorporated five concepts. He defined globalization as "a process of advancement and increase in interaction among the worlds, countries and peoples facilitated by progressive technological changes in locomotion, communication, political and military power, knowledge and skills, as well as interfacing of cultural values, systems and practices". He noted that globalization is not a value-free, innocent, self-determining process. It is an international socio-politico-economic and cultural permeation process facilitated by policies of governments, private corporations, international agencies and civil society organizations. It essentially seeks to enhance and deploy economic, political, technological, ideological and military power and influence for competitive domination in the world. Globalization is the worldwide process of homogenizing prices, products, wages, rates of interest and profits. Globalization relies on three forces for development: the role of human migration, international trade, and rapid movements of capital and integration of financial markets.

From the culture point of view, David (2002), states that globalization is the process of harmonizing different cultures and beliefs. Globalization is the process that erodes differences in culture and produces seamless global system of culture and economic values (Castells, 1997). The harmonization, according to Awake (2002), is achieved due to advancement in communication and countries are increasingly being forced to participate. Therefore, globalization can be viewed as a process of shifting autonomous economies into a global market. In other

Words, it is the systematic integration of autonomous economies into a global system of production and distribution.

The world of separate nation-states is said to be enabling the process of globalization to run its logical course. The new technology, based on the computer and satellite communication has indeed revolutionized our traditional conception of the media, both print and electronic. Books, newspapers, radio, television and video programme are now being transposed into the multimedia world of the cyber space and available to all people of the

world wherever they may live. Ajayi (2001) remarks that globalization is about competition and struggle for dominance which encourages more than anything else, the continuation and expansion of western imperialism in the new millennium.

#### Importance of Education

During the Vedic and Upanishadic period, India had some of the prominent institutions of higher education, which attracted scholars from distant places located in different parts of the world to come to India in pursuit of knowledge. The ancient universities of Takshashila and Nalanda, which survived till the end of the fifth and twelfth century AD respectively, imparted knowledge in different areas according to the requirements of the contemporary society.

The importance of education is quite clear. Education is the knowledge of putting one's potentials to maximum use. One can safely say that a human being is not in the proper sense till he is educated. This importance of education is basically for two reasons. The first is that the training of a human mind is not complete without education. Education makes man a right thinker. It tells man how to think and how to make a decision.

The second reason for the importance of education is that only through the attainment of education, man is enabled to receive information from the external world; to acquaint him-self with past history and receive all necessary information regarding the present. Without education, man is as though in a closed room and with education he finds himself in a room with all its windows open towards outside world.

Education means the gradual process of acquiring knowledge. Education is a preparation for life. Swami Vivekananda, the great thinker and reformer of India had remarked: "We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, intellect is expanded and by which one can stand on one's own feet. Education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man." The great Nobel Laureate and writer Rabindranath Tagore was one of the earliest educators to think in terms of the global education village, and his educational model has a unique sensitivity and aptness for education within multi-racial, multi-lingual and multi-cultural situations.

#### Development through Educational Institutions

Independent India has witnessed an upsurge in the growth of higher education. Yet from an international perspective, we are relatively slow, despite being steady in registering advancements in learning. Today India has the second largest education system in the world, next only to the USA. Yet, the total number of students represent hardly six percent of the relevant age group, i.e. 18-23 years, which is much below the average of developed countries which is about 47 percent. The gap is glaring. Hence the phenomenal challenge. The journey from being 'Good' to being 'Great' appears to be long and arduous.

India is a developing country. 70% of people are living in the villages. The rural area literacy percentage is very low when compared to urban area literacy rate. The main occupation of Indians is cultivation. The duty of higher educational institutions is

to introduce courses which help to improve the socio-economic status of the rural people. Through education it is possible to change the world. Because of globalization.

The first citizen of India today, Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, while envisioning India of 2020, recently observed - "Spirit of Inquiry, creativity, entrepreneurial and moral leadership are the capabilities central to nation building in a democracy. Educators should develop in our children these capacities and make them autonomous learners who are self-directed and self-controlled." Earlier all over the world, education, especially higher education, was available only to a privileged few. In the context of a knowledge society and the goals of sustainable development, higher education/teacher education needs to percolate to the masses, not only just in terms of quantity, but also quality. In the last few years, this shift has been slowly taking place. Still, glaring deficiencies remain in the access to higher education, overall development of the student, sensitivity to human needs and equality in our society.

Also come into play, concerns in teacher education that come with globalization and rapidity of change like fast rate of obsolescence of knowledge, quality, competitiveness of education services, networking of institutions and innovations and new practices in delivery, combined with these are the concerns for sustainable development of the world.

#### Role of Teacher in Building Modern India

The role of the modern teacher is not confined to teaching alone. He/she is expected to participate in the development programmes of the community life. The question arises as to how this could be integrated with the teacher education programmes. Mudaliar Commission (1952- 53) Report stated rightly, "we are convinced that the most important factor in the contemplated education reconstruction is the teacher-his personal qualities, his educational qualifications, his professional training and the place that he occupies in the school as well as in the community". On similar lines Kothari Commission (1964-66) stated that, "Nothing is more important than securing a sufficient supply of high quality recruits to the teaching profession, providing them with the best possible professional preparation and creating satisfactory conditions of work in which they can be fully effective".

The importance of the teachers in the Educational Programme of a country is too great. The greatness of a country does not depend on lofty buildings, gigantic projects and large armies, but on the quality of its citizens. If a nation has young men of sterling character and unimpeachable patriotism, she is found to make rapid progress in all fields. Young men are entrusted to the care of the teacher and it is therefore the sacred duty of the teacher to impart the right type of knowledge and make them good citizens. It is the teacher who impresses his children with his personality.

The teacher, a national integrator as he is, is the backbone of society, particularly so in the remote villages. He stands as an outstanding figure among the illiterate and semi-literate families. He is their friend, philosopher and guide. The teacher actively shares the responsibility of reconstructing a social order, with all the cherished values and traditional beliefs, which are being eroded by the surge of new ideals and practices. He acts as a social reformer and counsellor to the community.

#### Impact of Globalization on Teacher Education-

In the knowledge economy, the objectives of a society changes from fulfilling the basic needs of all round development to empowerment. The education system instead of going by text-book teaching will be promoted by reactive, interactive self learning, both formal and informal, with focus on values, merit and qual-

ity: The workers instead of being skilled or semi-skilled will be knowledgeable, self-empowered and flexibly skilled. Finally, the economy will be knowledge driven and not industry driven.

All fields of human activity, including education, have been influenced by the process of globalization clubbed with unexpected advancements in information and communication technology. Within the various sectors of education, teacher education has been affected the most. It is now increasingly realized that knowledge is universal and its creation and dissemination cannot be confined within national boundaries. The world is now like a global village, and continuous international interaction has become an essential component of human survival. The globalization of economy has led to internationalization of higher education including teacher education, not merely for economic benefits, but also for increased social interaction and promotion of international understanding.

#### Positive impact of Globalization on Teacher Education

1. A number of teacher educational institutions were increased.
2. Usage of technology increased in the educational institutions.
3. Information and communication technology were increased.
4. Teacher educational institutions were established in rural areas.
5. Government and private partnership in the field of teacher education.
6. Extension of internet facilities even to rural areas educational institutions.
7. Teachers are less worried for government jobs as MNC's and private or public sector are offering more lucrative jobs.
8. Free education for bright students.

#### Negative impact of Globalization on Teacher Education

1. Indian youths leaving education in mid-way and joining MNC's.
2. There has been an increase in the violence, particularly against women in the educational institutions.
3. Quality in education is decreasing (liberalization).
4. Degradation of values.
5. More availability of cheap and filthy material.
6. Values of teacher are decreasing.

#### Conclusion

It is left to one's discretion to use a knife either to cut a fruit or to kill a person/ animal. In the modernized and globalized world, it is necessary to be very cautious. Every single step should be taken with utmost care. Globalization undoubtedly offers great opportunities for growth and development. However, no one can deny that its benefits are unevenly shared and its costs are unevenly spread among, across and within countries. This is particularly true with respect to developing and underdeveloped countries. In spite of economic reforms the rates of unemployment and poverty in India are still high. Both in concept and practice, while globalization has positive, innovative, dynamic aspects, it also has negative, disruptive and marginalizing aspects (UNDP

HDR 1999). Nsibambi (2001) suggested that globalization must be seen as a change process full of opportunities and challenges that must be carefully and skillfully harnessed and managed to ensure human development.

Teacher is a national builder. According to Indian philosophy teacher is a third god. It is very important to take care about teacher education. Through education only it is possible to preserve values and culture. Through education it is possible to solve any types of problems in the society.

It is apt to quote Mahatma Gandhi “I do not want my house to be walled in on all sides and my windows to be stuffed. I want the cultures of all the lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible. But, I refuse to be blown off my feet “.

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