



Boom in Indian Education –A Study with special reference to Higher Education

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ABSTRACT

In the words of Swami Vivekananda the Great Monk Education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man. Boom means a sudden influx of any product, it may be population. When we talk about education boom, academic and professional education comes to our mind the success of which depends on enhancement of through / all round knowledge of all subjects. Actually the system for such an education is really absent because there is no such educational institution which can inject all round knowledge to a lot of students. In the present article an endeavour has been made by the author to explore the intensity of boom as is prevalent in Indian higher education system. The abrupt changes that are taking place in the realm of higher education has been taken into consideration and studied in details. The study ends with the observation that the quantity and quality in higher education do not go side by side. It is further stated that it has been witnessed that there is a growing tendency on the part of both central and state governments to ensure enhancement of quality with consequent enhancement in enrolment.

Keywords : Education, Higher Education, Boom

Education means enhancement of knowledge in every section such as General Education, Family Education Societal Education. In the words of Swami Vivekananda the Great Monk Education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man.

When we talk about education boom, academic and professional education comes to our mind the success of which depends on enhancement of through / all round knowledge of all subjects. Actually the system for such an education is really absent because there is no such educational institution which can inject all round knowledge to a lot of students.

Boom means a sudden influx of any product, it may be population e.g : It may be in rice production. In the case of population boom for a country i.e demographically sudden boosting of population is not always a positive sign. However it is necessary to activate the boom materials for a fruitful use.

Actually the higher education includes Masters/ PG Level studies. Bachelors/ Under Graduate level studies, Medical, Engineering and Professional education, obtaining Chartered Accountancy degree from ICAI, obtaining Cost Accountancy degree from ICWAI or obtaining Degree from ICSI or obtaining MBA degree/ PGDBM degree from either IIMs or Indian Universities or Management Institutes .

Methodology

In the present article, at the outset the of the article the formal education system has been discussed. The sources of data are different periodicals, E-News papers, journals in the relevant fields, magazines, different reports etc., the details of which have been duly incorporated in the reference section which implies that the data base of the article is secondary in nature. In the present article ,the Indian higher Education system has been studied in details to unearth the prevailing boom in the said sector. The period of study is last Ten years.

Objectives of the Study:-

The present study is directed towards the following objectives:

- 1) To study the formal education system in India

- 2) To ascertain the extent of boom in education sector in India.
- 3) To explore the interpretation of the term boom in education sector in India.
- 4) To study the boom in Higher Education Sector

In countries like India and China having a huge population it may apparently seem that it will result in Education Boom but that is not necessarily true always or in other words that may indicate a sorry state of the standard of education in disguise. Now let us see the systems of formal education that are in vogue in India:

- They are a) Pre-School Education
b) Primary Education
c) Secondary Education
d) Higher Education
e) Adult Education

a) Pre-School Education :

This is an education which is generally provided in the age of 3 to 5 years before going to schools .It is generally provided at home by parents. The basis purpose of this education is to provide a Child with that things which will be very much useful for him/her through out his student life. It may also be described as that education which functions as a bridge between pre school learning and Primary learning .

b) Primary Education:

Primary (or elementary) education consists of the first 5–7 years of formal, structured education. In general, primary education consists of six or eight years of schooling starting at the age of five or six, although this varies between, and sometimes within, countries.

The division between primary and secondary education is somewhat arbitrary, but it generally occurs at about eleven or twelve years of age. Some education systems have separate middle schools, with the transition to the final stage of secondary education taking place at around the age of fourteen.

c) Secondary Education :

In most contemporary educational systems of the world, sec-

ondary education comprises the formal education that occurs during adolescence. It is characterized by transition from the typically compulsory, comprehensive primary education for minors, to the optional, selective tertiary, "post-secondary", or "higher" education (e.g., university, vocational school for adults). Depending on the system, schools for this period, or a part of it, may be called secondary or high schools, gymnasiums, lyceums, middle schools, colleges, or vocational schools.

d) Higher education

Higher education, also called tertiary, third stage, or post secondary education, is the non-compulsory educational level that follows the completion of a school providing a secondary education, such as a high school, secondary school. Colleges and universities are the main institutions that provide tertiary education. Collectively, these are sometimes known as tertiary institutions.

Higher education includes teaching, research and social services activities of universities, and within the realm of teaching, it includes both the undergraduate level (sometimes referred to as tertiary education) and the graduate (or postgraduate) level (sometimes referred to as graduate school).

e) Adult Education:

Adult education has become common in many countries. It takes on many forms, ranging from formal class-based learning to self-directed learning and e-learning. A number of career specific courses such as veterinary assisting, medical billing and coding, real estate license, bookkeeping and many more are now available to students through the Internet.

Boom in Education Sector in India: -

India's education sector is seeing hectic entrepreneurial activity and private equity investors are deploying significant capital in this sunrise sector. Funds focusing exclusively on education have emerged. Recently, education company Kaplan announced the formation of Kaplan Ventures, which will invest in the education sector in India and other countries. There are a few structural drivers to the boom in India's education sector.

The New Economic Policy of 1991 introduced LPG (Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization) which added a new dimension in education system i.e globalization of the knowledge sector. A need was felt to promote a knowledge based economy..

Already, over half of India's population of 1.2 billion is below the age of 25. By 2020, the average age is expected to be 29 years, compared with 37 for China, whose working-age population will peak just five years from now and then gradually decline, partly as a result of its one-child policy.

By 2035, India's potential "youth bounty" will be even more striking, with its total population set to hit 1.5 billion — outdistancing China's — and 65 percent of them of working age.

Indo-French Collaboration to Revive Technical Education in India

It has been found that India has one of the largest higher education systems in the world; still there remains a high growth potential for the development of higher education system. Indian education system requires to match up to the global competence via development of well trained and professional faculty, infrastructure, associations with industry, prioritizing mobility of engineering students, researchers and professionals across countries, and involving in appropriate engineering research. The memorandums of understanding (MoUs) on higher education signed between India and France will fulfill the above mentioned needs of our country.

A research reveals that more foreign collaborations are expected in near future for imparting quality education. For instance, the US-based Georgia Institute of Technology will begin work on its research centre in Hyderabad. Besides the

entry of foreign universities, our report has analyzed other potential growth areas such as, coaching industry etc. It also provides an overview of the number of universities, technical education institutions, and colleges available and required in the country.

Professional Courses to Drive Indian Higher Education

As per recent research report "Indian Education Services- A Hot Opportunity", the number of universities has grown manifold in the higher education and the professional education has seen rapid growth in the recent past. We have found that the number of engineers will rise at a CAGR of 24% during 2011-2013. Besides, other professional courses like medical and management will witness sharp growth rates in higher education services. The number of doctors will rise at a CAGR of 7.6% during the forecast period.

Additionally, the report contains the market size by annual enrollment and by revenues..

"Indian Education Services- A Hot Opportunity" provides quality research and an in-depth analysis of the Indian higher education market. The report facilitates current industry status and forecast for higher education segments, with focus on potential students' enrollments, and college's requirements during 2011-2013.

Academics debate over proposed apex body

The HRD Ministry has made up its mind to replace the central regulatory agencies with an apex body committee to oversee the functioning of higher education system in the country; academicians seem to be divided over the issue. Attributing to the failure of the present dispensation to the dual authority, one of the Centre and the other of state governments, he feels a single authority would be better equipped to stem the rot in the system.

The committee on reforms in higher education headed by scientist Yashpal in its final report submitted to the HRD Ministry has recommended constitution of a powerful seven-member panel to replace regulatory bodies like UGC, AICTE and Distance Education Council. The proposed autonomous body, according to the Yashpal panel, should be formed on the pattern of election commission. The proposal is bound to trigger a debate in academic circles.

NCHER bill seeks control over higher education and appointments

As per the draft legislation by the HRD ministry (MHRD), accreditation is a now must entity for every new university or institution before start functioning. The same draft has given way for hard-hitting rules for selection of vice-chancellors (VCs).

As per the draft NCHER bill, norms and standards would be specified by the proposed body for grant of authorization to a university or a higher educational institution to start its academic activities. The draft also specifies that the new institution will have to provide documents on accreditation at the time of applying for authorization.

Major Findings of the Study

- 1) It is observed that the period under study is full of events comprising abrupt changes.
- 2) It is also felt that a with the growing complexity of higher education in India there has been a tendency on the part of the central government to control the higher education, though to provide quality education is the joint responsibility of both central and state governments .
- 3) It may seem apparently that with the galloping increase of population in India the intensity of boom is increasing in higher education but it has not been able to produce a pool of wealth like students despite intake of good many number of students. In other words the qualitative increase in no of enrolments in higher education does not

ensure quality improvement in real terms.

- 4) The big Business Merchants like Tata , Reliance ,Zee Telefilms Ltd , Kaplan etc have shown their interest to invest in setting up Deemed Universities / Institutions providing higher education and Management education in addition to their traditional business .
- 5) The series of events as is taking place in higher education sector of India definitely ensures boom at least in quantitative terms and it is also an indication of the fact that the higher education system is undergoing substantial changes and there is a increasing concern on the part of both state and central governments so as to ensure enhancement of quality in real terms.

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