



Research Paper

Globalization and Primary Education in India

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Abstract:

Globalization is a phenomena which has affected to the entire world including education in recent decades. As a branch of globalization, General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) came into force in 1995 was one such agreement aimed to create an open global market for trade in services including education. In today world with advanced information and communication technology (ICT), the concept of globalization is being incorporated in the field of education. The result there is a huge upsurge in the demand for learning English language, inclusion of ICT etc. Due to these massive demands privatization in education started as a trend for all developing countries including India. In the opinion of educationalist this privatization in education can strengthen the quality of education which meets the ability of learning and develops the skill of knowledge. So public and private is a un going debate in education since the day of globalization. The present study is an attempt to define the relation between globalization and education and the effects of globalization on education generally and primary education particularly. It also discusses various issues and challenges faced by Indian education system after globalization. It seeks to suggest few areas are significant for developing an ideal knowledge base for a global education within the present system of schooling in India.

Keywords:

Globalization, Primary education, Privatization, Public schools and Private schools.

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I. Introduction:

Globalization is a complex phenomena of contemporary era, which has affected to the entire world. Globalization can be summed up in two words: Destiny and Speed of the transmission of information. Thus, we can say through globalization one can feel that he/she lives in a unified world, or, as McLuhan puts it, in a global village, in reference to the connectedness among its inhabitants in terms of their close relations and neighbourhood and to the limitation of place in it (Durib, 2013). It started with international trade, along with foreign direct investment and capital market flows for delivering economic prosperity to people throughout the world. However, the extensive period of globalization means the internalization process of communication that had begun during the colonial period. So, globalization does not mean only global economy but it has comprehensive effects on cultural and social field of a country (Salam and Sayem, 2011). Gradually it has affected to all sources. So far as education concern.

The impact of globalization on the education of a nation is inconsistent. In the age of globalization, education is regarded as one of the most effective remaining instruments of national policy (Salam and Sayem, 2011). "As education serves as foundational to global stability, the development of multicultural awareness from an early age may integrate ideologies sourced from various societies in order to arrive at well-balanced conclusion regarding issues that surround the world as a whole. Globalization and education then come to affect one another through mutual goals of preparing young people for successful futures during which their nations will grow increasingly connected. With globalization some of the challenges for knowledge, education and learning will provide today's learners the ability to be more familiar and comfortable with abstract concepts and uncertain situations" (Gupta, 2017).

Primary Education

Primary education is an important resource of the development of a nation. One can say it is the foundation of a country. It gives strength to individuals to achieve higher positions and also provides power to face every challenge of life. That's why people say those children's base is strong they can easily go to surprising levels of life and can easily move to every hurdle, no one can terminate them from success. So

expansion of primary education is most necessary. Because education can strengthen economy as well as human resources of a country. "Primary education is an important sub sector of the entire education system. On the one hand, it provides a middle level of work force for the economy and on the other hand it acts as a feeder for higher education. Primary education is an important stage in the educational ladder. It has well defined objectives and a structure of its own. Its contribution is two field: (I) The overall development of the individual, (II) The balanced development of a region" (Kaushal, 2017).

Policy Initiatives taken by Government for Universalization of Primary Education

With an aim to provide quality education and its equitable access to all section of the country and the vision of the Ministry is to realize India's human resource potential to its fullest in the education sector with equity and inclusion, the government is implementing a number of schemes and programmes (Press Information Bureau, MHRD, Govt. of India). A number of schemes and programmes has formulated by government to universalize primary education such as-Operation blackboard, DPEP, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid-Day Meal Scheme etc. behind these programmes the government has aim to improvement educational status by increasing enrolment, retention, and nutritional status of student in primary classes. Ensuring universal primary education by 2015 is a part of Millennium Developmental Goals, of which India is also a signatory (Bhalotra and Zamora, 2006). Under the Education for All initiative, one of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals, nations have joined together with the goal of providing universal primary education in every country, especially the poorest countries, by 2015 (Stewart, 2012).

Globalization and Primary Education in Indian Context

Globalization has spectacular effects on the field of primary education. Globalization brings the age of ICT (Information and Communication Technology). With the advent of technology, a new system of knowledge, education and learning applied a wide range of synchronous and asynchronous activities which enhanced the ability of students to access, adopt apply knowledge to think on the basis of their independent state of mind and to exercise appropriate judgment and to collaborate with others to make sense of new situations (Gupta, 2017). So innovation of new technology made learning process more and more easy and effective.

Globalization has in numerous effects on Indian primary education. It increased the emphasis on making global citizen who are ready to face all challenges in highly competitive world. There is huge upsurge in the demand for learning English language, schools with an international appeal with unconventional syllabi that focus on overall development personality instead of rote learning, newer means of teaching learning pedagogy etc. When the basic aim of education are to the overall development of a student, the globalization process adds here extra pressure on the education system, that is "winner" who are ready to battle in the survival of the fittest. It has led the preparation of a curriculum that has to be internationally acceptable. So students develop their competitive state of mind. To give them stability in global education privatization started with a new trend. The privatization in education adopts a holistic approach to deal with the problems of new demands of education with the advent of new and sophisticated technologies (Anand, 2015).

A number of studies found that in spite thousands of trial of government still public schools are not performing well. At primary level, there is a large concern that the public schools do not deliver quality education to child. So many reasons are responsible for the poor quality education being imparted in public schools. Early studies considered poor quality of resources as the prime reason. The recent studies highlight the pervasiveness of teacher absence and inactivity in government schools which certainly deteriorate the quality of education. Furthermore, the overcrowded classrooms, poor infrastructure, i.e. lack of computer facility, library facility, inadequate teaching aids, unfilled vacancies, burden of non-academic tasks and lack of training and multi grade classrooms are prime reason behind the poor quality education in public schools (Gouda et. al. 2013). So these reason made an understanding that government can't able to provide quality education alone to all individuals of country.

With the advent of privatization in education the rate of enrolment in public schools are decreasing day by day. Parents are thinking that private schools are more trustworthy which can provide a better future to their children. To teach their children about necessary skills in this ever changing world parents are now mostly preferring private schools. So there is started the PPP model since 11th five year plan.

Public Private Partnership (PPP) in Primary Education- A Comparative Analysis:

The model of PPP has been adopted during the 11th five year plan when government was unable to provide education for heterogeneous masses. At that time the PPP model started with a hope to strengthen education as well as economy of country. This public and private partnership leads commercialization in education using public funds. This model has become a fashionable slogan in new development strategies, particularly over the last couple of decades. It is more forcefully advocated when public resources are projected to be inadequate to meet needs. The model has been proposed various innovative steps to access quality of

education for all i.e. setting up of 6,000 model schools at block level with an aim to make education accessible in the remote areas especially in backward area (Jandhyala B.G Tilak, 2016).

Provision of education at both primary and secondary level is now the responsibility of both government and private sector. The need for the involvement of private sector to meet the expanding needs of educational facilities was again realized. So the responsibility to provide educational facilities to all sphere of society has taken by both public as well as private sector (Iqbal, 2012). Privatization in primary education is closely related to the concurrent reevaluation of decentralization since delegation of educational responsibilities to private organizations has many of the same advantages and disadvantages has many of the same policy issues as does delegation to local communities (James, 1987).

II. Literature Reviews:

Babu (2022), published a paper entitled as “The Impact of Globalization in the Indian School Education System: Issues and Challenges”. The aim of paper to explore the impact of globalization on education system. It also examined various issues and challenges of globalization on education system. The study found that in the context of India globalization has impacted upon the education system in complex and conflicting ways. There is increasing the demand of English language and the technology based education. School facilities have also come under the scanner as there is a demand for quality in available infrastructure that can aid in preparing a different class of people who are ready for a global world.

Patel (2023), published a paper on “Impact of Globalization on Indian Education”. The study explored the impact of globalization on Indian education system and the undergone changes faced by education system of India after globalization.

Anand (2015), conducted a research work on “ Globalization and Indian School Education: Impact and Challenges”. The main objective of study to unveil the impact of globalization on Indian education system. The paper is an empirical work conducted in sixteen government and private schools of Delhi, India. It examined overall infrastructural facilities- physical infrastructure, human and non-human assets and various facilities that are intrinsic in order to provide quality education to the children. It attempts to present the contrasting revelations across the two categories of school education with respect to diverse variables such as strength of teachers and pupils, available infrastructure and its maintenance, co-curricular activities etc. The result showed that there is a very contrasting figure between government and private schools in India after globalization.

KEY ISSUES FACED BY INDIAN EDUCATION:

The Indian education system faces several key issues, which include:

1. **Inadequate Infrastructure:** A significant challenge for the Indian education system is the inadequate infrastructure in many schools and colleges, especially in rural areas. This includes a lack of proper classrooms, furniture, equipment, and sanitation facilities.
2. **Shortage of Skilled Teachers:** The shortage of skilled teachers is a significant issue in the Indian education system. Many teachers are poorly trained, and there is a lack of qualified teachers in many schools and colleges.
3. **Commercialization of Education:** The commercialization of education is another major challenge in the Indian education system. Many private institutions charge exorbitant fees, making education unaffordable for many students.
4. **Rote Learning:** The Indian education system places a significant emphasis on rote learning, which focuses on memorization rather than critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
5. **Low Levels of Student Enrolment and Retention:** Many children in India do not have access to education, especially in rural areas. Even for those who do, the high cost of education, poor infrastructure, and lack of quality teachers often result in low levels of student enrolment and retention.
6. **Outdated Curriculum:** The Indian education system often uses outdated curricula that do not reflect the changing needs of the global economy.
7. **Lack of Emphasis on Vocational Education:** The Indian education system does not place enough emphasis on vocational education, which can provide students with skills that are in demand in the job market.
8. **Gender Disparities:** Gender disparities in the Indian education system are another major issue, with girls often having less access to education than boys. Addressing these challenges will require significant investment in infrastructure, teacher training, and curriculum development. It will also require a shift towards a more student-centric education system that emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, and vocational education. Furthermore, addressing gender disparities in the education system will require targeted efforts to promote girls' education and increase access to education for marginalized communities.

III. Concluding Remarks:

India has been among the fastest-growing economies in the world in the last decade. However, concerns related to the quality of education question the ability to cope with the demands of a globalized world. Ensuring access to quality education is crucial for India if it wants to take advantage of its demographic dividend. An educated population not only drives economic growth, but also has a positive impact on human development indicators (Anand, 2015). Government should not only focus on the enrolment of the children in school also try to make a technical vibrant educated mass who can cope with the demands of globalized world.

Globalization started the trend of global education. The aims and importance of global education can be stated as follows: Let those who participates in educational process obtains skills of new cultures. Develop the ability of distinguishing intercultural differences. Aiding the people for criticizing events from global perspective. Explain how different cultures impact the activities of organizations. Help students realize how attitudes are shaped and how they influence the behaviours (Babu,2022). With the global education the privatization of education started with a greater aim to develop the educational achievements of students in a nation.

There is an increased demand for private players in education. Because government alone can't able to provide education to a large mass have led to grater demand for private schools. There also private schools are imparting very good quality of primary education. Many parents are now preferring the private schools because they are English medium that would provide a competitive edge to their wards in the globalized economy. Along with other public services, involvement of the private sector in education is a growing trend in many developing countries. India has experienced a tremendous growth of public and private schools in developing countries over the past decade (Joshee, 2014). These private schools are now like a trend of hope for parents which gives a guarantee of their child's higher educational achievement. Because generally it showed that private schools are more effective than public schools. So now low income rural households are also preferred private schools.

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