

Existing Problems of Higher Education in Assam at Present Time and Its Prospects: An Analytical Study

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I. INTRODUCTION

Education is considered as the most potent force of social change. Today we considered Education as basic need as like as food, Shelter and cloths, because without education no people have good knowledge. Only education can modify our behavior. Only educated people can lead a healthy nation. To become a healthy nation we should produce high quality of human resource. So for the quality development we need a problem free education system. But our education Specially Higher Education has been facing a number of problems still now. It unable to caters to the need of the needy people.

If we look back to the history than we will see that from that period our education system had been facing numbers of problems. At that time higher education system was designed according to London university and it only served the colonial people and caters to the need of the elite class people and deprived others lower caste, and poor people, but after independent of the nation deferent commission had formed to improve the quality of education and make education accessible for all.

Since independence we are facing numbers of challenges though UGC takes different actions to upgrade quality education but still now we faces some challenges.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study about existing problems of higher education in Assam.
- To study about its prospects.
- To study about remedial measures.

III. METHODOLOGIES

METHOD: Descriptive method was adopted. This paper is theoretically analytical in nature. Data had been collected by using secondary data.

IV. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

Objectives wise analysis has done in below-

OBJECTIVE NO.1. TO STUDY ABOUT EXISTING PROBLEMS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN ASSAM.

1. ACCESS: Still now education is not accessible for all. Only some selected students can able to go to the colleges orb universities. Due to lack of seat capacity some students are

unable to getting admission because every year hundred and above students go to the particular department from different colleges under that particular university. But seat capacity of a particular department is 40/50. Than what will be the situation for that rest of the students? Ultimately they unable to get admission and wastage their time and money.

2. EQUITY: Equity means gives opportunities according to the needs of the needy people but in general classroom it is not possible to provide according to their needs.

3. QULAITY: Quality is one of the important aspects of higher education. But if we see whether the quality is mai8ntain or not? In real sense we have seen that day by day quality is deteriorating and quantity is increased. Most of the students having master degrees unable to write that " I am a master degree student". It indicates what quality possesses by our higher education.

4. POOR RESEARCH: Higher education should be research oriented. It tries to seek some new problems exist in the society and to provide solution. But our higher education system is quite bookish. Less emphasize upon research activities.

5. POOR INFRASTRUCTURE IN COLLEGES: It is also a problem to provide quality education. Most colleges in rural areas having extremely poor infrastructure. These institutions have not adequate physical facilities like- indoor stadium, fully computerized library with rich collection of reference books and national and international journals to compel the students to spend more time in colleges. Hence such educational institutions are unable to fulfill the need of the students.

6. OUTMODED TEACHING METHOD: This is a techno- scientific era. But still now we have been adopted traditional method. Theoretical knowledge is still disseminated through chalk and talk method of teaching. The new technologies are yet to be introduced.

7. LACK OF SKILL BASED EDUCATION: education should be such type which can develop different skills of the students so that they can adjust any situation of their life.

8. LACK OF PROPER PLANNING: our higher education system is not based upon any adequate planning. Without planning our higher education system is running. Every year batch by batch students are coming out but they have no any proper placement opportunities. After completion of their degree where they has gone? What they will do? There is no any definite answer. They again come back to home and remain the same.

9. EDUCATED UNEMPLOYMENT: Our higher education system creates numbers of educated unemployment. After completion of course most of the graduate students unable to getting a job. So they become educated unemployed.

10. OVERCROWDED OF THE CLASSROOM: In some context it had seen that some colleges facing various problems

due to over students in a class. In recently education has become free in provincialised colleges where numbers of student gets admitted. It crossed to the general ratio of student: teacher ratio, i.e. 30:1. Is multiplied by 100:1. So that it is unable to control the classroom for the teacher.

11. CURRICULUM: Curriculum is also defective. It can't cater to the need of the young people. Curriculum is like that which provide some material for collect marks in examination. It unable to provide proper knowledge.

12. RESERVATION: Reservation itself creates some problems. Due to caste based reservation most of the students belong from rich family having low quality is able to getting admission in reputed institution. But poor family well talented student's are unable to get admission. So reservation should be there but it should be merit basis not caste based. Great economist Sam Pitroda also against this caste based reservation system though he belongs from scheduled caste students.

13. OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING: Open and distance learning is most suitable and acceptable according to the changing time period. It can cater to the need of the numbers of people whom unable to complete their education due to different reason. But its poor administration creates some problems which can indirectly help to increase quantity, decrease quality.

14. EXAMINATION SYSTEM: Examination system is good. But to some extent biasness regarding internal assessment is create some problem.

15. PRIVATIZATION: the higher and technical education in India is being increasingly privatized in multiple ways. Private institutions are mostly commercial and they are profit oriented. So their cost is very high. Only the elite section of the society can admit their child in private education. Daily wage earner students are unable to get opportunity to see that kind of institution. In this context again a question may be arise regarding equal education to all.

16. POOR TECHNOLOGY: In Assam universities and colleges don't have adequate ICT facilities. Still now computer lab, ICT lab, media are not properly utilized.

17. VALUE EDUCATION: value means worth, desirability. Now a-days day by day values among people are decreases. Due to use of power and knowledge they become ego-centric and selfish. They forgot about values, ethics, morality etc. In consequences corruption, indiscipline, violence, exploitation, selfishness etc are being increased and in the contrary external human values like-truth, beauty, goodness, love, honesty, patience, sympathy, etc are being decreased.

OBJECTIVE NO. 2. TO STUDY ABOUT PROSPECTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION:

What will be the future prosperity of higher education? We may assume in this way that-

1. INTERDISCIPLINARY THEMES OF CURRICULUM:

Schools must move beyond a focus on basic competency to promoting understanding of academic content at much higher levels by weaving 21st century interdisciplinary themes into curriculum:

- [Global awareness](#)
- [Financial, economic, business and entrepreneurial literacy](#)

- [Civic literacy](#)
- [Health literacy](#)
- [Environmental literacy](#)

2. LEARNING AND INNOVATION SKILLS: Learning and innovation skills increasingly are being recognized as the skills that separate students who are prepared for increasingly complex life and work environments in the 21st century, and those who are not. A focus on creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration is essential to prepare students for the future.

- [Creativity and Innovation](#)
- [Critical Thinking and Problem Solving](#)
- [Communication and Collaboration](#)

3. INFORMATION, MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS: Today we live in a technology and media-suffused environment with: 1) access to an abundance of information, 2) rapid changes in technology tools, and 3) the ability to collaborate and make individual contributions on an unprecedented scale. To be effective in the 21st century, citizens and workers must be able to create, evaluate, and effectively utilize information, media, and technology.

- [Information Literacy](#)
- [Media Literacy](#)
- [ICT Literacy](#)

4. LIFE AND CAREER SKILLS: Today's students need to develop thinking skills, content knowledge, and social and emotional competencies to navigate complex life and work environments. essential Life and Career Skills are:

- Flexibility & Adaptability
- Initiative & Self Direction
- Social & Cross-Cultural Skills
- Productivity & Accountability
- Leadership & Responsibility

V. MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

It has found out from the whole study –

❖ PROBLEMS

- Lack of seat capacity is stand as a new issue in present higher education system.
- Overcrowded of classroom is another big issue.
- Caste based reservation is also a challenge of higher education
- Open and distance education is also a new challenge.
- Value crisis among students is also stand as a issue.
- Privatization of higher education is also a major challenge of higher education.
- Use of poor technology in rural higher education institution is also a vital challenge.
- Outmoded teaching method is stand as a bar regarding effective teaching learning process.
- Lack of skill based education become students more passive.
- Lack of proper planning in education system which create educated unemployment.
- Lack of carrier oriented courses.

❖ PROSPECTS-

- 21st century education aims to prepare the Lerner for the global society.
- Educations in the 21st century offers a huge variety of learning options like direct instructions from teacher, blended learning environments, virtual learning, peers to peers learning, open and distance learning.
- The whole education system will be innovative and change on the basis of the demand and requirement of the era.
- Most emphasize upon open and distance learning.
- More emphasize upon e-learning, web based learning, blended learning, digital classroom etc.
- Critical thinking, problem solving, reasoning, analysis, interpretation, synthesizing information
- Research skills and practices, interrogative questioning
- Creativity, artistry, curiosity, imagination, innovation, personal expression
- Perseverance, self-direction, planning, self-discipline, adaptability, initiative
- Oral and written communication, public speaking and presenting, listening
- Leadership, teamwork, collaboration, cooperation, facility in using virtual workspaces
- Information and communication technology (ICT) literacy, media and internet literacy, data interpretation and analysis, computer programming
- Civic, ethical, and social-justice literacy
- Economic and financial literacy, entrepreneurialism
- Global awareness, multicultural literacy, humanitarianism
- Scientific literacy and reasoning, the scientific method
- Environmental and conservation literacy, ecosystems understanding
- Health and wellness literacy, including nutrition, diet, exercise, and public health and safety
- Child-centered education.
- Productive learning.
- Group teaching

OBJECTIVES NO 3.SUGGEST TO ERADICATE EXISTING PROBLEM:

- Increase seat capacity so that all students who are suit to getting higher education should be getting admitted.
- Innovative method of teaching should be introduced in every higher education institution. At least power point presentation with LCD projector should be used instead of chalk and talk method.

- Curriculum should be relevance to the practical life.
- Reservation should be merit basis for irrespective of caste, color sex etc.
- To create a healthy environment in colleges the infrastructure of the college should be develop.
- In distance and open learning administration of the college should be strict.
- Most emphasized upon value based education.
- Skill based courses are prefer by the students
- Biasness should be abolished from the internal assessment of the colleges or universities.

VI. CONCLUSION

Education is the most efficient instrument which can enrich the people with the knowledge, skill, capacity and confidence for building a dynamic, vibrant nation that takes care of its entire people. Higher education occupies a place of special importance because it can provide ideas and personnel to give shape to the future.

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