

Higher Education Issues and Challenges

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Introduction

Examination At the dawn of the 21st century, we stand balanced between a disintegrating past and an undefined future, when recognized landmarks are on its last legs and new ones are yet to appear. In today's era of knowledge-driven economy and education societies, both formal and informal education is playing an increasingly vital role in promoting economic solidarity, social cohesion, human being growth, sustainable growth, and a culture of peace and world citizenship. Therefore, a new paradigm must evolve that is developmental, human-centered environmentally sound, and all-inclusive, so as to prepare learners to be contributors to knowledge and not just mere recipients of knowledge. It has opened up new challenges and opportunities for higher educational institutions - whether public, private, or hybrid. The issue of higher education in India has always been in the attention for being one of the chief driving forces causal to skyward societal mobility. Sound education, unquestionably, paves the way for a dignified career. However, our Indian Education System is presently confronted with a great contradiction. On the one hand we have the IIMs and IITs that are ranked as one of the best institutes globally, while on the other hand, there are a vast number of schools in the country that have literally no access to even basic infrastructure! We are now 'independent' for over 60 years and the goal of universal literacy appears to be a distant dream. Yet, with a slight tinge of optimism, it may be boast that Indian professionals are regarded among the best in the world are in great demand. This might well signify the intrinsic strength of Indian education system. In this chapter an honest effort has been made to candidly highlight the following topics which are 80 central to our thoughtful of the scenario prevailing in the Indian higher education system

Role of Higher Education in India

Observations require declaration on the outset of any announcement on better training in India: first off, better schooling plays a key position inside the recognition of India's amazing capability and aspirations for monetary and technological advancement. Secondly, this ability and its connotations for individual development name for a top notch call for of better training amongst India's teens. Manifestly, these two reflections are applicable for a number of different nations. But, bearing in thoughts each the sheer size of the USA And the character of its development potential, they grow to be enormously powerful forces for determining the social, financial, and political dynamics of higher schooling in India³. Higher education is by way of and large, identified to embrace coaching, studies and extension. If we critically examine the collection of principles bearing on higher education, we can observe the numerous roles personated by means of better schooling in our society. Better education is the fount or feeder system in all walks of existence and consequently elements the much-wanted human resources in control, planning, design, teaching and research. It is essentially the gateway to multifaceted improvement and prosperity in the United States of America. Clinical and technological development and financial evolution of a country are as dependant at the better training gadget as they may be on the operating class. Something development of indigenous generation and talents in agriculture, meals protection and other commercial areas, we have achieved over time. This can surely be attributed to our world-class better schooling infrastructure. Pointless to say, better schooling also gives possibilities for lifestyles-long studying, allowing people to

upgrade their expertise and competencies every so often focused on their societal needs.

Challenges and Problems of Higher Education in India

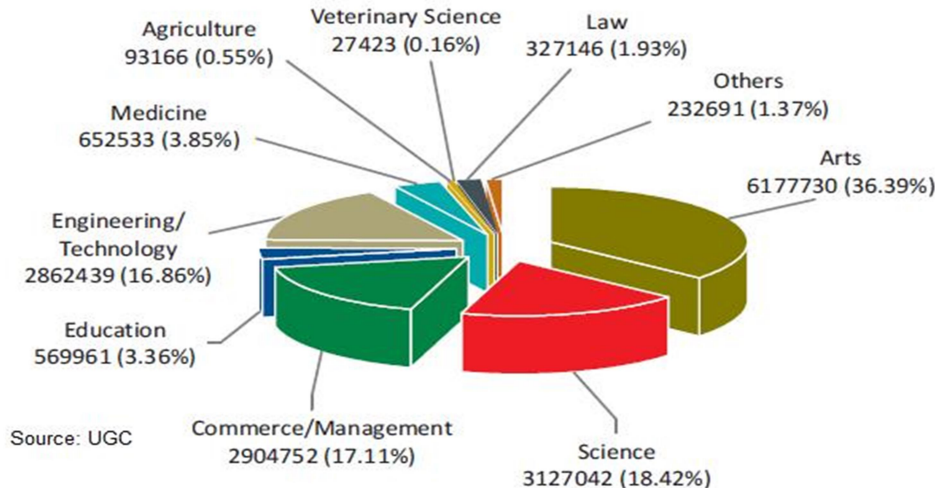
India's big pool of younger people might be taken into consideration its biggest electricity. Unfortunately, India is far from having its act together in relation to figuring out a way to educate those younger human beings. Authorities' data suggests that most effective one out of each seven kids born in India is going to university. What's extra, the kingdom suffers from each a crippling quantity, as well as a best, mission when it comes to higher education.

As an instance, the QS international college scores, an annual listing of the arena's top universities, had no Indian institutes within the top 200 of its lately launched global listing for 2013. Also, India has one of the poorest Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER) for better training in the international. In line with 2010 facts, India's GER was a meagre 13.8 percentage, compared with the global common of around 26 present. Australia, Russia and the U.S., to call a few examples, have GERs upwards of 75 percentages. Although the Ministry of Human resources & improvement had set a target of a 30 present GER for India with the aid of 2020, that focus on is not going to be met.

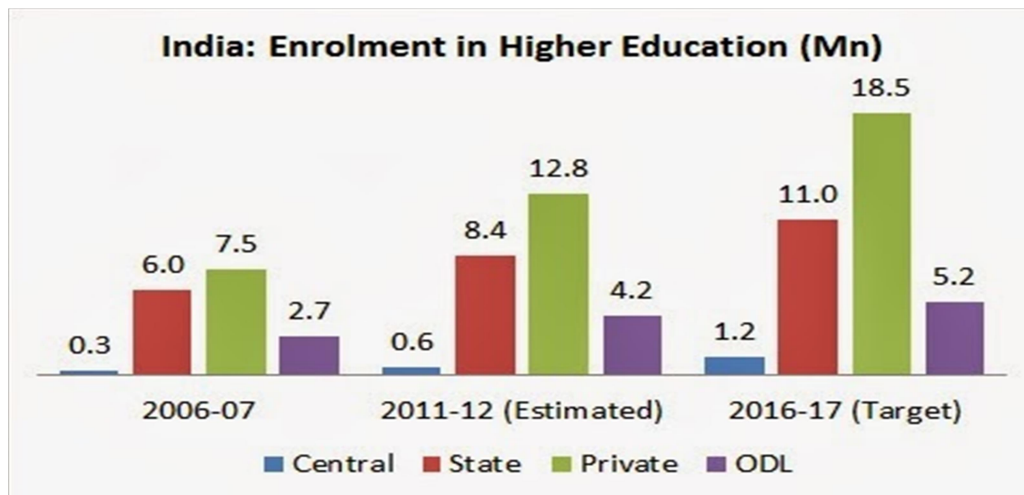
INDIA	
HIGHER EDUCATION STATISTICS AT A GLANCE	

		2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Number of Universities		642	667	723	760	799
Number of Colleges		34,852	35,525	36,634	38,498	39,071
Number of Stand Alone Institutions		11,157	11,565	11,664	12,276	11,923
Enrolment in Higher Education	Total	291,84,331	301,52,417	323,36,234	342,11,637	345,84,781
	Male	161,73,473	166,17,294	174,95,394	184,88,619	185,94,723
	Female	130,10,858	135,35,123	148,40,840	157,23,018	159,90,058
	% Male	45%	45%	46%	46%	46%
	% Female	45%	45%	46%	46%	46%
Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)	All Categories	20.8	21.5	23	24.3	24.5
	Male	22.1	22.7	23.9	25.3	25.4
	Female	19.4	20.1	22	23.2	23.5
	SC	14.9	16	17.1	19.1	19.9
	Male	15.8	16.9	17.7	20.0	20.8
	Female	13.9	15	16.4	18.2	19.0
	ST	11.0	11.1	11.3	13.7	14.2
	Male	12.4	12.4	12.5	15.2	15.6
	Female	9.7	9.8	10.2	12.3	12.9
	All Categories	0.9	0.89	0.92	0.92	0.92
Gender Parity Index (GPI)	SC	0.9	0.89	0.92	0.91	0.91
	ST	0.8	0.79	0.81	0.81	0.83
	Total	55,16,290	58,43,660	63,79,598	63,87,255	66,89,196
Enrolment in University & Constituent Units	Male	33,22,465	34,09,403	36,63,647	36,68,840	37,98,089
	Female	21,93,825	23,74,257	27,15,951	27,18,415	28,91,107
	Total	12,47,453	13,08,571	13,67,535	14,73,255	15,18,813
	Male	7,61,104	7,97,626	8,34,160	9,04,046	9,24,965
	Female	4,86,349	5,10,945	5,33,375	5,69,209	5,93,848
	SC	86,380	87,281	94,802	1,04,654	1,13,295
	Male	56,676	56,867	62,142	69,041	74,399
	Female	29,704	30,414	32,660	35,613	38,896
	ST	25,114	25,951	27,460	31,501	32,174
	Male	15,579	15,901	16,981	19,586	19,872
	Female	9,535	10,050	10,479	11,915	12,302
Number of Teachers	Professor & Equivalent	1,02,738	1,20,156	1,25,338	1,36,966	1,46,021
	Male	76,133	88,543	93,334	1,02,822	1,08,277
	Female	26,605	31,613	32,004	34,144	37,744
	Reader & Associate Professor	1,74,265	1,76,402	1,82,681	1,77,599	1,74,657
	Male	1,15,391	1,16,817	1,19,671	1,16,319	1,13,830
	Female	58,874	59,585	63,010	61,280	60,827
	Lecturer/ Assistant Professor	8,52,894	8,77,556	9,12,178	9,85,085	10,09,196
	Male	5,12,142	5,26,755	5,48,752	5,99,593	6,12,615
	Female	3,40,752	3,50,801	3,63,426	3,85,492	3,96,581
	Demonstrator/ Tutor	49,164	54,608	58,546	71,657	76,933
	Male	21,151	23,046	25,433	30,238	30,645
	Female	28,013	31,562	33,113	41,419	46,288
	Temporary Teacher etc.	68,392	79,849	88,792	1,01,948	1,12,006
	Male	36,287	42,465	46,970	55,074	59,598
	Female	32,105	37,384	41,822	46,874	52,408
Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR)						
All Institutions	Regular & Distance Mode	23	23	24	23	23
	Regular Mode	21	20	21	21	20
University & Colleges	Regular & Distance Mode	24	24	25	24	24
	Regular Mode	21	21	21	22	21
University & Its Units	Regular & Distance Mode	42	41	41	37	37
	Regular Mode	16	16	16	15	16
Number of Foreign Students	Total		34,774	39,517	42,293	45,424
	Male		21,852	25,565	27,889	30,151
	Female		12,922	13,952	14,404	15,273

Let me come up with some figures to set the context. The full populace among the while of 15 and 24 in India is 234 million. If India is to fulfill its 30 percentage GER goal by using 2020, about forty million college students could be enrolled within the better education machine in 2020. Presently, round 18.5 million college students are enrolled inside the higher education sector. The trouble is that as increasing numbers come out of the excessive faculty system, we just don't have the ability to soak up them into the university system. There is a massive mismatch within the supply-demand, of proportions that have by no means been visible anywhere or each time within the global before.

Faculty-wise Students Enrolment in Higher Education 2010-11*

For instance, to reach the goal of the 30 percentage GER, not to mention aspire to developed kingdom requirements, we want to create an extra potential of approximately 25 million seats over the next decade. This calls for a further 10,510 technical institutions, 15,530 colleges and 521 universities! That's the foundation purpose of the trouble – but, why did the trouble take place?



The hassle happened due to the fact for a long time we had been happy with the public, authorities-owned machine. Unluckily, until some years ago, India became in denial of the situation. Even as there was a central authority push to ramp up access in primary and secondary education, when it came to better training, we have been too focused on the few excellent institutions we've, which includes the IITs (Indian Institutes of generation) and the IIMs (Indian Institutes of management) (none of which are in the QS top 2 hundred, though).

It's a step forward that as a minimum now we understand the scale of the mission. But, there may be no

Higher Education Issues and Challenges

Dr Anju Gupta & Mridula Sharma

manner such value of scale may be executed with the aid of the government. It'll want the personal area's lively participation.

Even as the non-public region honestly desires to be worried whilst we speak about ability creation, do you observed non-public establishments which have opened during the last decade or so have validated that they are prepared to convey both get admission to and great to higher schooling in India?

Right now, the personal area money owed for fifty nine percentage of enrolment in better training. And there are a few worth examples of quality – institutes consisting of BITS (Birla Institute of technology and technology), Manipal University and FLAME (foundation for Liberal and management education). However, the regulatory environment is clearly draconian when it comes to the personal area. Due to the need to barter through what are absolutely discouraging guidelines, extremely good people who aren't part of the "machine" find it tough to set up non-public universities.

So, over the past decade, to cater to the huge supply-demand gap, individuals who didn't realize enough about schooling, and had no aspirations to be in education – primarily commercial enterprise human beings from industries inclusive of actual estate who knew the way to get huge portions of land allocated or had surplus cash – started out to create personal faculties and universities. For the reason that they had been no longer academically orientated humans, or who didn't recognize education, even supposing they had been nicely-intentioned they didn't realize the way to create an environment for schooling.

They saw themselves as imparting a provider, and the provider turned into supplying any person a diploma that would get them a task. Thanks to the call for fuelled by the upward thrust of IT, BPOs (commercial enterprise method outsourcing firms) and our offerings enterprise, this "service model" of education laboured well enough to draw huge numbers of students. This caused a mushrooming of many mediocre non-public universities that simply supplied many college students an choice, however there was little incentive for those universities to improve.

India desires to make sure that personal universities are recommended, and that the regulation to create them is permitting. It's a maze proper now with a couple of governing our bodies which have conflicting mandates. Numerous states do not yet have a country private college (SPU) Act. Because universities and institutes are so tightly controlled, there is little autonomy in and flexibility in governance systems. Personal universities, like government-owned universities, have little scope for innovation in designing their direction curriculum.

All of this needs to be looked at immediately. There's some hope that this could manifest. Some states, particularly Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat have revolutionary SPUs. Honestly, Haryana authorities' officials have been enablers in place of obstructionists within the manner of putting in place Ashoka.

Considering how large and urgent the trouble is, do you believe you studied avenues which include on-line training or the latest decision to allow the world's top four hundred foreign universities to open up campuses in India are beneficial ways to deal with the venture? Can they have got an impact?

Sincerely, as compared to the reforms India has undergone in lots of sectors during the last two many years, there has without a doubt been no reform in the training sector. The journey of the foreign training companies' bill proves that. It's been looking forward to rules for years. The GoI's selection in early September to permit the world's pinnacle four hundred universities to set up campuses in India, and perform independently without neighbourhood partners, turned into an executive order. It wasn't exceeded thru Parliament.

On the complete, although, the foreign schooling companies invoice isn't sufficiently understood. It

changed into created to govern and adjust foreign universities. It had clauses that could require overseas universities to maintain escrow bills. They wouldn't be able to take profit surpluses out of the country, and they would every need the college furnish fee's permission. The invoice became repositioned as a welcome to overseas universities via Former Union HRD Minister Kapil Sibal. Even now, even though, the exceptional print is mainly discouraging, which is why I doubt it's going to have much of an impact.

If India surely needs the exceptional of the worldwide gamers to come back, it needs to lay out greater appealing terms. Right here, we ask them to pay a \$five million guarantee. Contrast that to places along with Singapore, Dubai and Qatar, which aren't just permitting quick permissions, however are presenting top universities free infrastructure and centres to trap them to set up campuses. Our invoice doesn't try this.

Some universities, consisting of Duke college, Georgia Tech, and Virginia Tech (all from the U.S.), are reportedly inquisitive about coming to India. However the belief that everybody and anyone is lining as much as take a component in what many peg to be India's \$10 billion higher training marketplace simply isn't accurate. Universities aren't corporations, driven by means of expanding globally. Also, universities within the West are dealing with their own economic disaster. As a new marketplace, India could have supplemented these universities' earning at home. But our invoice prohibits overseas universities from taking surpluses out of India. In brief, there aren't any shortcuts to restoration our better schooling troubles. India will should restoration this on its own.

Consistent with a file released by MHRD, the usa's Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) has grown to 18.8%. Encouraging as it may appear, professionals at a panel dialogue organised via Delhi college of enterprise believe that there's nonetheless a protracted manner to move in accomplishing excellence in higher education and some of loopholes nonetheless want to be plugged in.

Talking approximately the present day country of higher training in India, Dr. D.k. Bandyopadhyay, Vice Chancellor, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha university, said that on some regions we've got finished properly however there are regions wherein we're nonetheless lagging behind. He believes that one of the main crises confronted by using the usa in terms of improvement in higher education is the crunch in college contributors.

Dr. Deepak Pental, Professor, department of Genetics, South Campus, Delhi university and Ex Vice Chancellor at Delhi college, believes that there exists a prime policy deficit in the u . S . That is curtailing the development in higher education. He provides that despite the fact that there are a number of committees and commissions set up like the countrywide know-how fee and the Yashpal Committee, the implementation of the guidelines of those commissions happens at snail's pace.

Dr. Pental suggested that better research, higher school and better mathematical history to the scholars of technology and generation, computational mastering and right language talents are required for upgradation of better education in India. He believes that even though personal universities are doing well, they would require a few government guides.

Ways to Improve Quality in Higher Education

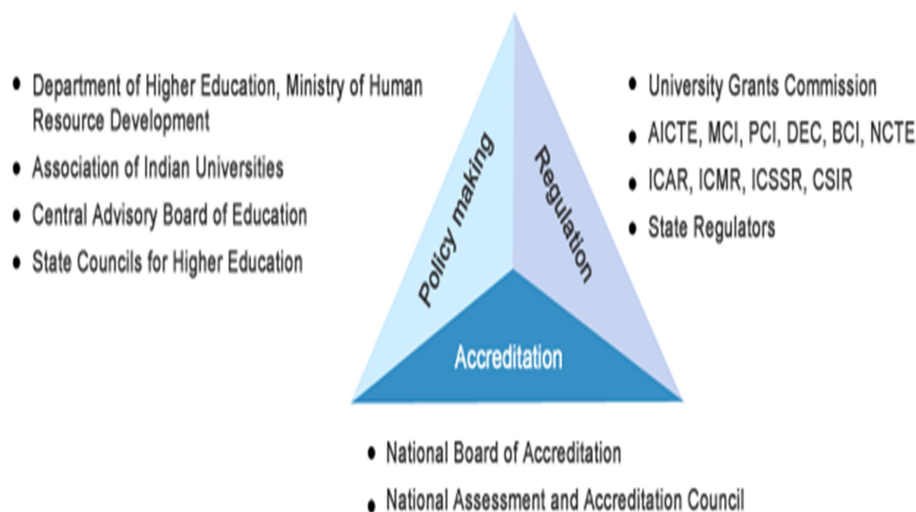
Call for better schooling has accelerated dramatically in latest years in India, because it has in different nations throughout the newly industrialized global. Globally, enrolments have expanded more than 50 percentages inside the past decade and now exceed a hundred and fifty million global, with more than 1/2 of the scholars coming from emerging marketplace international locations. In India, enrolment has grown from 10 million in 2000 to 23 million in 2013. As enrolments have grown, so has interest in enhancing get

entry to and first-class. But, there may be little consensus on these topics especially because empirical proof is missing. To discover and address gaps in research on enhancing access and first-class, RAND researchers systematically reviewed studies on better-schooling guidelines on affirmative movement, monetary resource, private schooling, and technical and vocational training. Right here's what we observed.

1. Affirmative Action

Affirmative-action programmes do boom enrolment of college students who can also have confronted race, caste, gender, or geographical discrimination. But, in addition they displace businesses, which include women, who are not targeted but are still deprived. Within India, one study discovered affirmative action successfully targeted the financially deprived, with some decrease-caste college students changing uppercase ones. However, it additionally located that the income-level benefit of higher-caste entrants turned into twice that of the lower-caste entrants. Thus, the programme benefited the negative, however reduced the income of graduates in absolute phrases.

Regulatory Framework Of Higher Education In India



Such rules additionally reduced woman enrolment, given that top-caste women are more likely to pursue better education than lower caste ones. Another look at of India located admission possibilities effectively focused minority college students, however that the ones in extra selective majors tended to fall at the back of their equal-foremost friends. In addition they earned less than they could have with the aid of enrolling in a less selective primary and have been more likely to get worse jobs.

In every other instance, the improvement of better training institutions in rural India had led to exponential will increase in female enrolment there. Inside Maharashtra, girls's participation in better training has been developing more unexpectedly inside the outskirts and in rising facilities like Nanded than in Mumbai, even though enrolment has skewed far away from the sciences and in the direction of widespread schooling.

2. Monetary Useful Resource

Higher Education Issues and Challenges

Dr Anju Gupta & Mridula Sharma

Many countries have publicly-supported universities that rate no training, but restrict get right of entry to. This disproportionately advantages wealthier students. Value-sharing strategies, requiring students to undergo element of their education fees, coupled with loans are a extra equitable and efficient opportunity.

Loans given to needy students can also increase their ability to cover living prices in school, lower component-time work hours, and increase grade-point averages. By way of moving a few costs to students and families, loans additionally assist governments improve get entry to even as dealing with limited budgets.

Scholar-loan structures, however, can also have massive hidden hobby-subsidies and default-associated costs on the way to burden destiny generations. Now not all newly industrialized countries have the establishments to assist such programmes. India, but, has a properly-evolved banking machine, and may supply pupil loans without incurring high facts-associated transactions prices. Alternatively, the absence of a central authority-backed refinance marketplace deters banks from committing long-term capital to pupil finance.

3. Private Training

A training system that consists of both public and personal institutions may assist government's higher meet scholar demand and shift a number of the weight of training to non-public carriers. Non-public institutions, however, are regularly greater expensive than public ones because of the absence of state guide.

So, financial-aid programmes can be needed to make private education on hand. The satisfactory of personal institutions additionally varies substantially, so best-assurance mechanisms on government backed loans may also be had to make sure the best of such colleges.

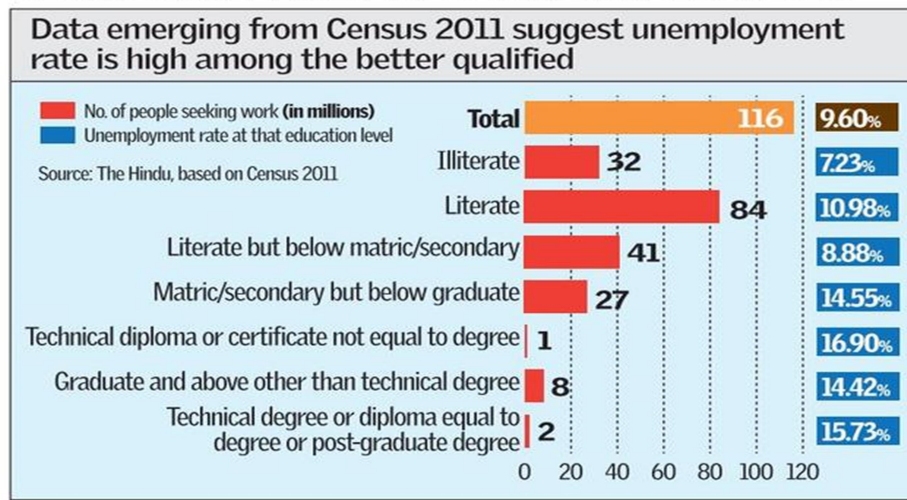
In India, personal institutions are similar to their worldwide friends: they're costlier than public colleges and depend upon tuition costs to meet running prices. On account that financial-useful resource is confined, personal institutions focus on providing "activity-ready" schooling, inclusive of engineering and business studies, that scholars and their families are inclined to finance thru borrowing from informal resources.

4. Technical and Vocational Education

Schooling and training Technical and vocational schooling and education have caused tremendous employment and wage gains for decrease-earnings girls inside the newly industrialized global. A few confined proofs also indicate that such programmes are highly fee-effective.

Women frequently lag at the back of men in enrolment in technical programmes. Such variations may end result from insufficient instruction at the secondary degree or cultural attitudes concerning appropriate jobs for women. Existing research does no longer provide any concrete solutions on a way to address these troubles.

WHO ARE INDIA'S UNEMPLOYED?



Within India, a examine of a vocational-schooling programme provided to girls 18 to 39 years of age in significantly disadvantaged areas of Delhi found those taking part within the programme have been much more likely to be hired and to have higher profits than non-contributors, with the ones finishing the programme faring higher nonetheless. India has some country wide policies to provide girls with equal get right of entry to to technical and vocational education, but, unlike some different newly industrialized countries (Mexico, Turkey, Zambia), does no longer have laws guaranteeing this. Amongst other limitations that Indian ladies face in technical and vocational education are determine attitudes, organization attitudes, and constrained own family and toddler-care support.

Implications

The research has numerous implications for enhancing better schooling in industrialized worlds.

First, policymakers should protect in opposition to unintentional results in crafting guidelines. One way to achieve this is to coordinate coverage movements. As an instance, policymakers might also integrate value-sharing rules with need-primarily based scholarships or loans to ensure that even as the burden of aid shifts, low-income students may additionally nonetheless have get admission to. Policymakers need to take into account distributive outcomes in selling access to better education. Due to the fact college students from wealthier households are much more likely to pursue better schooling, loose tuition policies may additionally gain them more and exacerbate income inequality.

Policymakers should bear in mind the particular historic, political, and monetary characteristics in their U.S Whilst looking for to increase gets entry to or improves the first-rate of higher education. What works in one U.S Might not paintings in any other. Indeed, even inside a country, regulations can also vary of their results: as an example rules geared toward increasing geographic get admission to vary in how they have an effect on girl enrolment in India. Fourth, the lack of strong evidence on this topic demonstrates the need for progressed records. Present research regularly fails to attain a company consensus at the most effective policy. Studies the use of larger datasets spanning more than one establishments may also yield extra sturdy findings. Extra experimental studies measuring policy results could be in particular useful, as could additional facts regarding effects on enrolment, retention, commencement, and employment.

Concluding Remarks

Thinking about each the multitude and the value of the snags that Indian higher training is confronted with, it might be clean to be beaten by using the troubles and to depression of locating answers. At the identical time, given the excellent capability of India's booming enterprise and generation and the tremendous progress made in higher schooling and research in current a long time, it'd additionally be easy to reach a nation of exuberance and count on that, by some means, India will surmount these difficulties. Neither of these two reactions appears warranted on the basis of a sober assessment of the situation.

The problems India faces in higher education and research are indeed very real and really serious; they may now not go away via themselves, nor are they amenable to easy and recurring answers. Severe attempt has to pressure the pressure ahead and reach the pinnacles of success. For them to be conquer seems to demand not handiest big rearrangements in both the availability and the utilization of public as well as non-public assets, however also profound and sturdy changes in institutional cultures inside and outside higher schooling. At the same time, the profits to be derived from overcoming those issues and from forging strongly in the course of an the world over competitive gadget of higher education and studies are remarkable.

Dr. Mashelkar' s vision on India becoming "the world's primary knowledge manufacturing centre" is particularly bold, however never beyond reach; for this vision to be done would require an extraordinary attempt on the a part of all of us concerned, specifically if it's far to be reached by using as early as 2020. Enhancements had been mentioned over the preceding decade. The Union budget, 2011 is a traditional instance to again this statement, in which, India plans to raise its expenditure inside the education region by way of about 1 / 4 to Rs 520.6 billion (USD 11.50 billion) in the subsequent financial year, reinforcing us to push to create a professional personnel to maintain up with fast-paced growth³⁷ . All of the present problems shun apart, India has some of assets that seem to bode properly for residing as much as that challenge. Having constructed up a present day gadget of 112 better schooling and studies actually from scratch considering independence has been a chief success and must be a solid predictor of destiny boom.

Furthermore, and specially for an out of doors observer, one of the most astounding components of the cutting-edge state of affairs in Indian higher schooling is the emergence of an highly active and essential discourse at the further route that the Indian machine of higher training have to take. This critical discourse, some of which has found its manner into the present paper, is fully cognizant of the problems the system faces, but is likewise a very precious supply of ideas and recommendations for trade. It appears that, in many approaches, the paintings of the countrywide information fee is aggregating this discourse into actionable proposals for India's frame politic. The selections that are going to be taken on those and further ambitious proposals are probable to maintain the important thing to India's destiny as a centre of information production.

Education is the muse for a colourful democracy in which all knowledgeable residents exercise their franchise to support the inner boom of the kingdom, its positive function within the global community. It's miles the inspiration for increase in productiveness, earning and employment opportunities, and for the improvement, utility and model of sciences and technology to beautify the best of life. Schooling is for that reason the muse for the get entry to the blessings of the information revolution that might open up vistas to the complete international.

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