

The Impact and Challenges of Globalisation on Indian Education System

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Abstract

Globalization is an important phenomenon that has affected the entire world in the contemporary era. Its impact on the education system of a country is intrinsic. In the context of India, globalization has impacted upon the education system in complex and conflicting ways. There is an increased emphasis on preparing global citizens who are ready to face the highly competitive world. There is a huge upsurge in the demand for learning English language, growing popularity of international schools, need for curriculum restructuring and inclusion of ICTs etc. While the basic aims of education are to enable children develop their potentials, define and pursue a meaningful purpose; globalization has put an extra pressure on the education system to create 'winners' who are ready to battle in the race for the survival of the fittest. The present study is an attempt to unveil the impact of globalization on the Indian education system as a whole.

Keywords: Globalization, Indian Education System, International Standards, Global Citizens.

Introduction

Globalization means opening the borders of India both for exports and imports. Export Promotion through import Promotion. Export of one country is the import of another country. Globalization also means following a Free Trade Policy and removing the trade barriers viz tariff barriers and non-tariff barriers to encourage international trade (export and import) for the benefit of consumers is called Globalization.

Interaction and trade have been prevalent since centuries of human interface that primarily defined globalization. However, the advent of technology has changed the way people perceive business and education in particular. The effects of globalization on Indian education have been massive and have made universities re-think of how they can use this change to help provide better educational opportunities for aspiring students.

Though it is easier to quantify the impact of this phenomenon on emerging economies, there aren't any standard measures to directly witness the effect of globalization on education. Still, few would deny the impact of globalization on education. Though scholars and subject-matter-experts have tried to perceive the impact of it through changes in educational policies, practices, protocol and similar parameters; certain specificity is vital in understanding the true impact of globalization on education.

Globalization is a process of integration, exchange and interaction between people, ideas, resources and opportunities across national and regional borders. Though there have been parameters to measure the time and the relative impact and also the progression of globalization, whether the effects have been good or bad are still debatable as regards education. It was only in the 1980s, that globalization was linked to education or academics directly. The colonial education projects through India, Africa and East Asia may be the first reflection of the future emerging globalization in education. UNESCO and its initiatives have been instrumental in redefining and enhancing quality and access to education across national boundaries.

The more apparent impacts of the long-term changes through educational- globalization were seen through the change in the nature of policies, values, curriculum, assessment, pedagogies, leadership and educational & organizational structures, new concepts of teaching and learning etc. The trends for a better life, better opportunities began to dominate the policies, curriculums in schools and colleges to make for more full-rounded education initiatives. A major impact has been seen in recent years is the evaluation of global opportunities and customizing educative programs in India to make more room for growth and an overall development of students. Practices of accumulation of knowledge have now been replaced with skills of gaining knowledge, implementation and innovation through various universities in India which is observed as a major educational break-through.

Impact of Globalization on Indian Education System

Positive Implication of Globalization on Education

Listed below are some points that highlight the positive impacts globalization in education has led to.

- Global education interconnects methods of teaching from worldwide systems to encourage the international development of environmental sustainability, as well as contribution toward fortifying global industries. These educational initiatives prioritize global access to school from the primary to the university levels, instigating learning experiences that prepare students for multinational leadership roles.
- 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 conclusions 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.

- Information society and global economy requires a holistic understanding of systems thinking, including the world system and business eco-system. Globalization uses a holistic approach to the problems. The interdisciplinary research approaches are seen as critical to achieving a more comprehensive understanding the complex reality currently facing the world system.
- It enhances the student's ability to manipulate symbols. Highly productive employment in today's economy will require the learner to constantly manipulate symbols, such as political, legal and business terms and digital money.
- Globalization enhances the student's ability to acquire and utilize knowledge. Globalization enhances the ability of learners to access, assess, adopt and apply knowledge, to think independently to exercise appropriate judgment and to collaborate with others to make sense of new situations.
- Globalization produces an increased quantity of scientifically and technically trained persons. The emerging economy is based on knowledge as a key factor of production and the industries demand the employees remain highly trained in science and technology.
- It encourages students to work in teams. To be able to work closely in teams is the need for employees. Working in teams requires students to develop skills in-group dynamics, compromise, debate, persuasion, organization and leadership and management skills.
- Globalization breaks the boundaries of space and time. Using advanced information and communications technologies, a new system of knowledge, education and learning should apply a wide range of synchronous and asynchronous activities that aid teacher and student in breaking boundaries of space and time.
- Globalization meets the knowledge, education and learning challenges and opportunities of the Information Age. Knowledge based businesses often complain that graduates lack the capacity to learn new skills and assimilate new knowledge. Globalization makes it easier for businesses.
- Globalization creates and supports information technologists, policy makers, and practitioners for the purpose of rethinking education and supports mechanisms for the exchange of ideas and experiences in the use of educational technologies.
- Globalization encourages explorations, experimentation to push the frontiers of the potential of information technologies and communications for more effective learning.
- Global sharing of knowledge, skills and intellectual assets that are necessary to multiple developments at different levels.
- Mutual support, supplement and benefit to produce synergy for various developments of countries, communities and individuals.

- Creating values and enhancing efficiency through the above global sharing and mutual support to serving local needs and growth.
- Promoting international understanding, collaboration, harmony and acceptance to cultural diversity across countries and regions.
- Facilitating communications, interactions and encouraging multi-cultural contributions at different levels among countries.
- The potential fallback of globalization in education can be the increased technological gaps and digital divides between advanced countries and less developed countries.
- Globalization in education may end up creating more legitimate opportunities for a few advanced countries for a new form of colonization of developing countries.

Negative Implications of Globalization on Education

Similarly, the negative implications are:

- Movement of skilled students from developing to developed countries. Easy availability of educational loan.
- Technically better equipped institution and their practical and flexible approach is also a future for attracting students.
- Commercialization and corporate takeover of education system.
- Globalization leads to a more iniquitous distribution of income among countries and within countries.
- Globalization leads to loss of national sovereignty and those countries are finding it increasingly difficult to follow independent domestic policies.
- More inflow of money has aggravated deep rooted problem of corruption.

Problems Confronting India and Education Sector

Main problems being faced by the Indian education sector are:

- Scarcity of resource threatens the stability needed to build the well performing system.
- Volatility in international market which requires an immediate adjustment to that quickening pulse of international change and accordingly it brings reform on several fronts simultaneously, which gives rise to a grim plight under the given resource status of higher education.
- The rigid policies of the higher education system, the political pressures, religious and caste-based groups.

- India has highest no. of HEIs but they lack global ranking.
- A large no. of Indian students is going abroad for quality higher education and incoming foreign students are less.
- Less no. of Indian institutes having campuses abroad.
- Less no. of foreign institutes in India due to restrictive and complex regulations, requirement of approval from multiple agencies to enter partnerships, restrictions on repatriation, lack of operational and academic autonomy.
- Though India is talent hub but low employability of graduates.

Suggestions to Overcome Problems

Followings are some of the suggestions which can be taken to overcome the problems being faced by Indian education sector:

- Globally reputed Indian institutions: Indian institutions amongst the best in the world.
- Mobility of International students and faculty on a full-time basis as well as through student and faculty exchange, twinning arrangements, etc.
- Transnational education: Indian institutions with foreign campuses and global institutes with campuses in India
- Deep collaborations between Indian and foreign HEIs.

Conclusion

The purpose of globalization of Indian education is to make a major source of earning foreign exchange; to improve quality of Indian education and to spread Indian culture and value. Setting up units abroad will create awareness about Indian education, but it will not help us to earn a good amount of foreign exchange because a major portion would be spent to run the institution. Hence looking at the purpose, of various options of globalization of Indian education, the most appropriate option would be attracting the maximum possible number of foreign students. Globalization of higher education is to be promoted not only because it yields financial benefits, but also because of the academic, political and social advantages that accrue from the presence of international students on campuses. Technical institution must re-engineer their vision and mission to carryout multinational activities. The technical institutions must withstand the challenges of globalization. To meet this following steps to be followed: All technical institutions must have autonomy for academic, administrative and financial; Partnership between industries and technical institutions should be encouraged and promoted; More effective means of information delivery must be used; Institutions should have freedom and motivation to generate additional financial resources through research, consultancy, continuing education etc; Technical institutions should be internationalized by developing linkages and partnership with –international agencies for the various programmes

and services offered by the institution; Communication through satellite for continuing engineering education program will help a large number of country men in getting informed about the latest development taking place in the world. Globalization leads to challenges and threats also. The major concern is to deliver world class education with updated curriculum and practical exposure. This is possible only by attracting talented & experienced persons in to academics. At present it is difficult to assess not only the nature and dimensions of globalization, but also what it means to the field of education. A few educational researchers have attempted to make connections between the several dimensions of globalization and the policies of education.

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