A review of Issues and Challenges in Higher Education

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Abstract

A country's industrial, social, economic, and other types of growth are all aided by its higher education system. India has the third biggest higher education system in the world. Today, colleges and universities in India are tasked with equipping the country's young with the knowledge and skills they need to become economically independent. This report details the major difficulties encountered by India's higher education system and the steps the government has taking to address them.

Key Words : Higher education system, Empower, Self-Sustainability

Introduction

People have various interpretations of what is gained through a university degree. Higher education, in the sense of a level, refers to the process through which students at institutions like colleges and universities acquire a more advanced degree of knowledge and skills via instruction. Also, going to college helps students learn and grow intellectually and academically, and it broadens their worldview. When higher education is delivered in a variety of formats, it serves not just as a means by which individuals may contribute to their own development but also as a means by which industries can expand and prosper. Digitization efforts in India are hampered by a number of factors, including a "lack of national policy, a lack of preservation policy, a lack of an intellectual property rights policy for content development of digital information, a lack of flexibility in publisher policies and data formats, a lack of OCR capabilities for multiple Indian languages, and so on. The government made some efforts to improve education and enacted certain education legislation, but they were not enough to set an exemplary precedent for the rest of the galaxy. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has a long history of service and a current commitment to improving the quality of higher education. There are still many difficulties and issues plaguing our educational system. Studies above the high school level that culminate in an associate's or bachelor's degree are referred to as higher education in India. All courses offered at the ISCED Levels 5 and 6 are included. Like in other nations, there is a distinction between university-
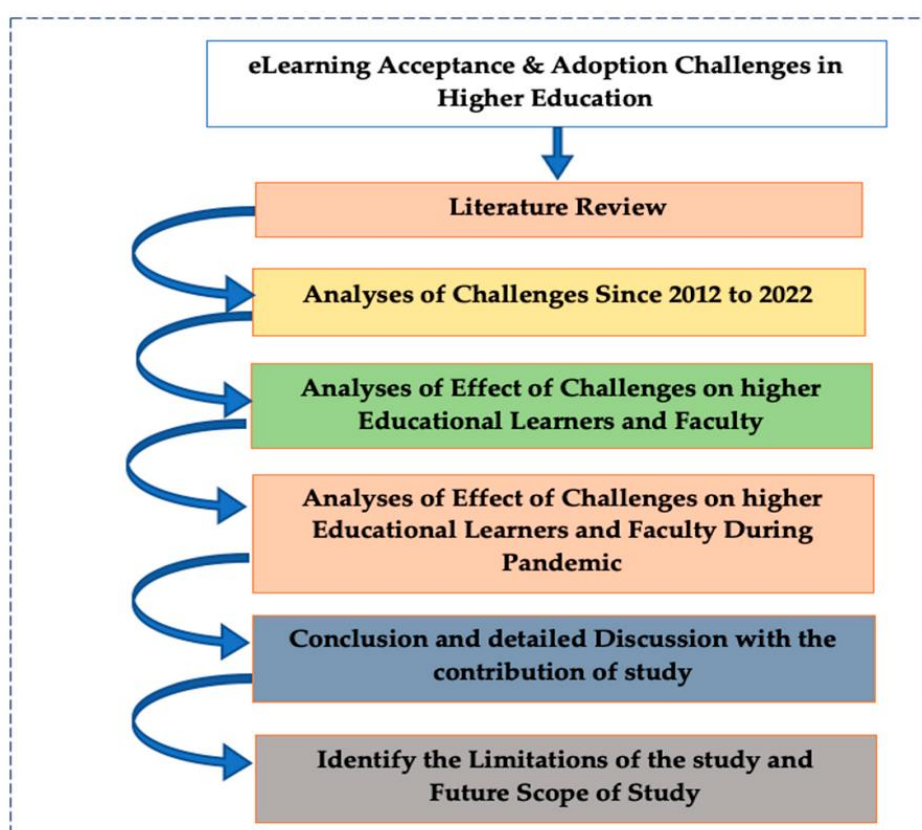
level and non-university-level higher education in India. Universities are authorized to grant degrees at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and to provide instruction at both of these levels. Courses in technical and professional fields are notably common in India's non-university institutions. Degrees are awarded primarily by universities, deemed universities, and institutes of national significance, whereas diplomas and certificates are awarded mostly by non-university organizations. In India, students often attend college for three years after graduating from high school before earning their first bachelor's degree. And then two more years of graduate school to get a Master's. However, the four-year bachelor's degree requirement for certain professional and technical education programs may be more than double that. Both the Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) are research degrees. A doctorate requires an additional" four to five years of schooling after a Master's. The postsecondary programs at PSE are beyond the scope of this research since they are not considered part of the Indian higher education system. While public institutions and public funding characterized higher education's growth and expansion during its elite stage of development, this paper demonstrates that the massification of higher education in India has become a market-mediated process facilitated primarily by private institutions and financed by the households themselves. What I mean is

Unlike what has happened in developed market economies, where public institutions have played a pivotal role in facilitating higher education's massification, this is not the case in developing countries. Challenges in extending the system with equality, enhancing quality while expanding the system, and successfully administering the sector have arisen as a result of India's push to provide higher education to a much larger population. Given the expanding number of non-state players and the pressing need to provide more institutional autonomy, the article advocates for a larger role for the state or autonomous organizations in regulating the sector of higher education.

Challenges of Higher Education System in India

- "Indian higher education is facing with the problem of poor quality of curriculum. In most of the higher educational institutes curriculum is out-dated and irrelevant.

- *Shortage of Faculty and High Student-Faculty Ratio:* In most of the state and central universities more than 30% of faculty positions are lying vacant. While the student enrolment in higher education is growing with faster rate in the last few years.

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- *Inadequate Infrastructure and Facilities:* Apart from the highly recognized higher educational institutes in India most of the colleges and universities lack in the basic and high-end research facilities. Many institutes are running without proper infrastructure and basic facilities like library, hostels, transport, sports facility etc. which is desirable to rank the quality institution.

- Presently there is a very less collaboration of higher educational institutes with industries.

- Low employability of graduates is one of the major problem in India. Only a small proportion of Indian graduates are considered employable. Placement outcome also drop significantly as we move away from the top institutes".

Objectives

- To assess the Higher education system in India.
- To study specific issues of Higher education.

Review of literature

(Ganai 2019) studied **"**Online Programme in Higher Education in India: Challenges and Opportunities" discovered this and The global community has come to recognize that a

country's educational system is crucial to its economic success. An educated population is a powerful one. An educated population is a hallmark of a modern, progressive state. India, a developing country, has made steady strides in the realm of education since gaining independence. While India's higher education system has faced a number of obstacles, the country also stands to benefit from a wealth of possibilities for improvement. India's economic growth depends on a population of highly educated, competent workers. The purpose of this research was to identify problems and provide solutions for online courses in India's higher education system. In higher education, online courses alter every facet of the classroom experience. We reclassified our data into three broad groups: problems experienced by online students, challenges faced by online educators, and difficulties encountered in creating online material. To combat these issues plaguing online learning, universities and colleges must invest in teacher training, student instruction, and technological infrastructure upgrades. In this article, we will talk about how to better the world of higher education. Introduction The power to influence others now lies in one's ability to acquire and use new information. An individual's strength increases in proportion to his or her level of education. In terms of student enrollment, India's higher education system trails behind China and the United States.

(Solanki Assistant Professor -Head 2019) studied "GAP interdisciplinarities-Education In India : Emerging Issues, Challenges discovered this and One of the most important determinants in a country's progress is its educational system. Adapting to the current climate and future possibilities is essential. A chance to think deeply about the world's most pressing moral, ethical, and spiritual problems is presented. India's economy can't grow without smarter, better-educated workers. Varied Indians live in the area, and they are well-known for their many talents. India must improve the quality of its educational system, especially its institutions of higher learning and research and development, if it is to become a thriving player in the global economy. The overall effectiveness of India's higher education system is the primary subject of this research. We investigate government efforts to improve the quality of education. The purpose of this study is to examine recent trends and future concerns in the area of Indian higher education. The study finds that plans are needed, and that these plans need solutions that take into account the varying priorities of different groups of people such as students, businesses, universities, parents, and policymakers".

(Sharma and Sharma 2015) studied "Indian Higher Education System: Challenges And Suggestions" It was discovered that the country's higher education system contributed significantly to the industrial, social, economic, and other areas of growth. India has the third

biggest higher education system in the world. Colleges and universities in India play an important role in modern society by equipping the country's young with the knowledge and skills they need to become independent adults. This report details the major difficulties encountered by India's higher education system and the steps the government has taking to address them.

(Nath 2015) studied **"**Higher Education in India: Challenges and Government's Initiatives discovered this and The global community has come to recognize that a country's educational system is crucial to its economic success. Education is the key to a prosperous nation. An educated population is a hallmark of a modern, progressive state. India has the world's third-largest higher education system, behind only the United States and China. Since its independence, India has made some controversial but mostly positive educational strides for a developing country. While India's higher education system has faced a number of obstacles, the country also stands to benefit from a wealth of possibilities for improvement. Higher education in the new century, the changing role of universities, and the latest findings from the science of learning all need to be addressed. India's economic growth depends on a population of highly educated, competent workers. Since India exports its highly trained professionals to other nations, it will have no trouble making the transition from developing to developed status itself. The purpose of this research was to shed light on the problems plaguing India's higher education system as well as the possibilities it presents".

(Varghes 2015) studied **"**Challenges of Massification of Higher Education in India discovered this and While the nation is still in the early stages of massifying higher education, India now has the second biggest higher education industry in the world, with around 30 million students, 0.70 million professors, and 36,000 institutions (in 2012–13). Massification of higher education in India is a market mediated process, assisted mostly by private institutions and funded by households, as opposed to the developed market economies, where state institutions supported universalization of higher education. This study examines developments associated with massification as well as the difficulties it creates. Issues of equality, quality improvement, resource mobilization, management, and regulation are all examples of the difficulties brought on by the system's expansion to a wider population. It seems that the state's role will shift from funding and administering institutions to building a regulatory framework" for the system to assure access for everyone and high-quality results.

(Tikhonova and Raitskaya 2018) studied **"**An overview of trends and challenges in higher education on the worldwide research agenda discovered this and An essential component of

the Journal of Liberal Education's purview, higher education is undergoing a number of changes at the supra-national, national, and institutional levels, including massification through massive online open courses (MOOC), politically launched or influenced trends like the Bologna process, rising academic mobility sparked by globalization, and the development of internationalized education, intercultural understanding and multilingualism, and global innovations in higher education and teaching pedagogy (deep active learning, blended learning methods, gamification, storytelling, alignments of higher education and work, trans languaging in higher education instruction). The editors of JLE also spend time discussing topics including the university's change, the student-teacher relationship, social fairness and access to higher education, students' participation and dedication to study, and elements that contribute to a university's greatness. Within its scope, JLE will be emphasizing a few key issues, which will be highlighted in this editorial as a guide for future contributors".

(THorat 2008) studied **"higher education in india Issues Related to Expansion, Inclusiveness, Quality and Finance"** discovered this and The University Grants Commission (UGC) commissioned this study on higher education in India to serve as background research for the UGC-sponsored "Approach and Strategy" "for higher education in India's 11th five-year development plan. The University of Guam Research Institute devised these investigations with a deliberate intent. The UGC was tasked with drafting a Report on Approach and Strategy for the Development of Higher Education during the 11th Plan 2007-2012 for the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Planning Commission of India". Beginning about the year's halfway point, we started this procedure. In the process of compiling the 11th plan's higher education report, the UGC encountered a problem: a lack of readily accessible data and information on key areas of India's tertiary education system.
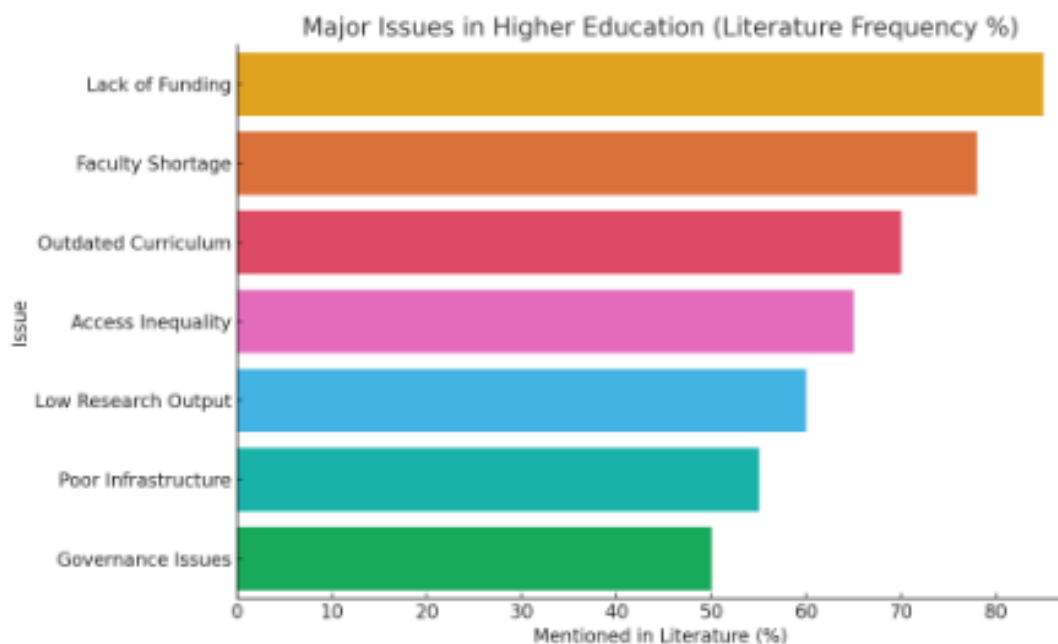
Research Methodology:

This study adopts a qualitative research approach based on a comprehensive review of secondary data sources to examine the prevailing issues and challenges in higher education. The methodology primarily involves a systematic review of literature, drawing from peer-reviewed journal articles, government policy reports, research studies, and reputable publications available through academic databases such as JSTOR, Google Scholar, ERIC, and Scopus. The review includes publications from the past two decades, with an emphasis on post-2000 literature to capture recent developments and policy reforms in higher education. A thematic content analysis was conducted to identify, categorize, and interpret recurring themes

such as accessibility, quality assurance, faculty shortages, funding constraints, curriculum relevance.

Issues in Higher Education

Issues	Frequency of mention in academic literature
Lack of Funding	85
Faculty Shortage	78
Outdated Curriculum	70
Access Inequality	65
Low Research Output	60
Poor Infrastructure	55
Governance Issues	50

Major Issues in Higher Education (Literature Frequency %)

Conclusion

The three measures of Human Development are educational attainment, economic prosperity, and life expectancy. Higher education, however, requires not just self-discipline but also a command of study, information, and skills. Interest, attitude, socioeconomic situations, environment, mentorship, and genetics are all important factors. No one can succeed in higher education unless they are motivated and persistent. As a result of globalization, the developed

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world's higher education system is increasingly focused on problems like gender equality, human rights, social justice, and poverty reduction. We have provided an overview of the current state of higher education in India. There are a number of issues plaguing higher education that we detail, including a mismatch between supply and demand, a dearth of high-quality research, a lack of adequate facilities, and an instructor shortage, among others. The twelfth plan's execution framework prioritizes the improvement of state institutions, the revision of financial assistance programs, and the interconnection of growth, equality, and excellence. "We need to enhance teaching methodology, create synergies between research and teaching, and enable alliances of higher institutions among themselves, research centers, and industry if we are to strengthen the higher education system. This is important for the country"'s economic prosperity, but it's also crucial for social harmony and giving young people a voice.-
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