Educated Unemployment in India: A Serious Problem

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Introduction

A system of Higher Education in India has travelled a long journey. Today, we have more than 100 Universities of different types and numbers of colleges. Higher education, now, has reached to all nooks and concerns of this country and it has percolates to lowest rung of the society. Today one can find progress of Technical higher education also and fruits of its development are also enjoyed by women too. We had ancient Universities like Takshshila, Nalanda & Vallabhi and now every state has University- some of them are controlled by central government and some are controlled by various Sate governments. We have private Universities also who depend on students’ fees. Some institutes of higher learning are also given status of “Universities Deemed to be “.

Significance of Higher Education in India

When one looks at an importance of Higher Education, one would note that the system of Higher Education enjoys importance at micro and macro level. It prepares individuals with knowledge and skills which are needed for development of all sectors of economy. Thus, it supplies skilled and trained Human power which is demanded by various sectors of national economy. Therefore, matter of quality is a great concern for all of us as effectiveness and efficiency of the system will depend on quality of the system. If a system of Higher Education is having a good quality, nation as a whole would be benefited because purposes of different sectors will be served satisfactorily if it receives good quality of Human power. One must remember that human resources are of great importance as quality of output will depend on quality of inputs. On the other hand, absence of highly trained and skilled human power will lead to wastage of all resources.

Measures of Quality

One has to remember that the system of Higher Education comprise of undergraduate, post graduate, M.Phil and Ph.D. level courses. Following are some of the indicators for quality with reference to a system of Higher Education:

Nature of curriculum
Demand for different types of Human power
Allocation of money to Higher Education

We have to remember that there can be many more indicators for quality but major indicators have been discussed here.

character of curriculum
We have to remember one thing that supply must be in match with demand we cannot afford to ignore challenges posed by new era; after advent of tree market economy & globalization as well as privatization, we must remember market demands. We have to now keep pace with modern technology which has become inseparable part of our present life when we keep in mind all these things, we need to look at our present curriculum. We need to make proper changes with regard to our curriculum as we cannot go a long way with our unchanged curriculum. This is because we cannot respond to market demands and our inputs will simply be wasted and there will be either “Under Employment” or “Un Employment”. At micro and macro level, we cannot afford with this situation. Therefore, we must make efforts for bringing relevant changes with regard to our curriculum- both theory and practical aspects. This is true especially for higher professional education. We need not follow blindly whatever takes place in west but at the same time, we can not close our eyes totally. We should not take unnecessary pride for our age old curriculum under the name of preservation of our old culture. We must change with time and there is no harm if we make proper use of educational technology.

**Demand for Human power of varied nature**

We not forget a fact that supply should be accordingly to demand made by different sectors of our national economy. If output from various institutions of higher learning is as per demand, we will not find mismatch.

This is possible when our human resources are getting latest knowledge and good thinking. We should not rely on age old things. If our human power is not properly trained for use of modern technology, they would not be of much use for their employers and hence at micro level, they will not get proper earning and at macro level, they will not be of much use. Hence, there will be wastage of Human resources in terms of energy they put in and amount which is spent on them. If they do not update themselves much, they won’t find good demand for them from their customers.

- **Human Resource’s character**

For ensuring good quality, not only theoretical knowledge but knowledge in terms of practical aspects will also be of great importance and human resources need to keep pace with latest trends in their own field. They must acquire latest knowledge with needed training. They should develop positive attitude towards changes and they must adopt them, if needed. For ensuring good quality, not only theoretical knowledge but knowledge in terms of practical aspects will also be of great importance and human resources need to keep pace with latest trends in their own field. They must acquire latest knowledge with needed training.

- **Finance to Higher Education**

We must feel sorry for one important thing i.e. allocation of money to Higher Education. Though, we all are aware about importance of higher education for a nation but when it comes to allocation from government, one has to say that for government, education was never a priority but it will come only towards an end Secondary Education Commission (1964-66) said that 6% of G.N.P. should be allocated to Education but government has not spend more than 3% of G.N.P. for education. If we dream for India to be a super power economy in near future, government has to pay due attention and act on it. If government leaves everything to private sector, it is not desirables as many times it was found that private sector is not serving interests of majority but of few only. Further, growth of general streams
of higher education was never interest of private sector as money making was possible only in case of professional higher education.

**Reasons for low quality of Higher Education:**

Irrelevant out dated curriculum syllabus

Lack of good quality training of human resources

Lack of sufficient allocation of money to higher education system

Large scale unemployment

Lack of due interest of private initiatives

Lack of adequate infrastructure facilities in institutions of higher learning

Lack of suitable mechanism for improvement of quality of higher education

Therefore, due measures need to be taken to overcome these causes which are responsible for low quality of a system of higher education.

**Causes for low rate of Employment**

It is well known fact that in India, person is lowly paid for the job. Here he/she is either underemployed or unemployed. Unemployment is a situation when one is jobless. We need to understand various causes for this situation.

1. **Outdated curriculum:** It is a sad state of affair that curriculum at all levels-especially in higher education is outdated. We are still following that age old curriculum. In other words, we fail to keep pace with the changing world. We must regularly update our curriculum since failure in this regard will lead to a situation where we cannot provide employment to those who would pass out from institutions of higher learning. Therefore, we need to include all those inputs in curriculum, so they will keep pace with changes of modern times. Transaction of revised curriculum in our classrooms will make it easier for our products to get proper employment.

2. **Lack of proper skill development to those who study in institutions of higher education:** We provide such education which is not only age old but we provide theoretical education – to a great extent and we fail to equip our outputs with such skills which would help them in job markets. The situation is truer in case of general education. We must make our education more practice based since such education would prepare our products to earn or to get reward from whatever they put in. They do invest time, money and physical as well as mental labor and if they do not get proper return out of their investment, it is not a desirable situation. They have to get proper, return from their investment otherwise that is not an investment.

3. **Lack of enterprising attitude among young people:** Those who pass out from institutions of higher learning – be from any discipline, they would look for a job where they would be employed by others. But they lack an enterprising attitude which would make them self employed. There are many professions and occupations where they can earn for themselves. They can be their own employers. There are many virgin fields which needs exploration. Of course, that will demand more time but they need to be patient for earning. When they earn by their own efforts, they
would get lot of freedom/autonomy to work. They can evolve their own set of rules than following someone’s rules. Even if their reward is not very high in the beginning, they need to wait for some time to get higher earnings.

4. **Absence of good enthusiasm for vocational education**: This is in match with what Ghandiji said centuries ago. Such education would help them in two ways. One, they would be able to earn and secondly, they would develop dignity of labor. They should not consider any work of inferior status. They should drive out such notions from their mind. They should give equal value to all jobs. This is because that job would help them to earn something (Beneficial at micro level) and society, at large, would also be benefited (Beneficial at macro level). Therefore, we would be able to solve problem of unemployment which at present is prevailing on larger scale. Educated persons would not be trapped by concept of so called “social status” attached to some jobs only.

5. **Mismatch between supply and demand**: When one keeps in mind two elementary concepts of economics, one would notice that in India, supply of highly educated human power is more torn then their demands in job markets. In our mad race to increase rate of higher education, we did promote private efforts and we did produce greater number of output from our institutions of higher learning. Thus, not only colleges and universities increased in number but we also produced very large number of products. At the same time, various sections of economy fail to employ them in sufficient number and hence there was way a situation of unemployment.

**Conclusion**

One cannot deny importance of higher education at micro and macro level. Our ultimate goal should be improvement of quality because more quantitative expansions cannot ensure long term development in a real sense. If we want to transform our dream of being a “Super Power Economy” in reality, we must make hard efforts to bring quantitative improvement in a positive direction. At the same time we have to make sincere efforts to increase employment among our educated youth because if they remain unemployed for a longer time, our dream of development will not be achieved in a real sense.
**Bibliography**


