



## Strengthening of Public Institutions in Higher Education System in India

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### Abstract:

The foundation of Nation's overall development is the qualitative higher education provided by Institutions. Currently higher education regulation in India is input based. The focus is on inspection based approvals which is characterised by subjective decision making. Whereas the output based regulations, by measuring outcomes such as knowledge, number of patents, placement, contribution to the society as entrepreneurs etc., be introduced. Any institution providing higher education needs the physical infrastructure as well as academic support, which can be strengthened by providing special grants wherever required. There should be scope for active role of all stakeholders to develop quality higher education. By strengthening the relationship between industry and Institutions, competence gap between education and job requirement can be reduced which will generate more employment opportunities. In the global era ICT based education pattern is more effective for administration which helps in strengthening higher education institution. This paper is an attempt to discuss the concept of strengthening of higher education with the help of various stakeholders, Universities-colleges, industry- institution linkages and the effective use of ICT techniques.

**Key words:** Higher education, Private Institute strengthening, Role of Stakeholders.

### 1.

#### Introduction:

The higher education system plays very important role in development of a nation. It is a human capital intensive sector where people and knowledge stand for everything<sup>1</sup>. It provides seedlings for culture and civilization<sup>2</sup>. Research in higher education shows paradigm shift of the global society from the scientific era to the transforming information age<sup>3</sup>. This

is an age in which political, economical, social and cultural patterns reflect decentralization in the flow of information<sup>4</sup>. ICT plays important role in higher education.

According to latest All India Higher Education Survey (AIHES) released by HRD Ministry, the gross enrolment ratio (GER) in higher education of India has increase from 24.5 % in 2015-2016 to 25.2 % in 2016-2017.



The survey findings were based on responses of 795 universities, 34193 colleges and 7496 standalone institutions.

In the year 2016-2017 there were 864 universities, 40026 colleges and 11669 standalone institutes in the country.

**Table1: Total No of University, College and Stand alone**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
University	667	723	760	799	864
College	35525	36634	38498	39071	40026
Stand alone	11565	11664	122276	11923	11669

According to latest All India HE survey (AIHES) under taken by HRD ministry, India is aiming to attain 30% GER by 2020. India's GER increased to 25.2% in 2016-2017 is still far behind the developed countries like China with

GER of 43.39% and US with 85.8%. In India Tamil Nadu has highest GER i.e 46.9%. In the country six states have registered GER higher than national average i.e. 25.2% as shown in the table.

**Table 2: GER % for States**

.GER (%) – Selected States	2012-13	2013-14	2014 -15	2015-16	2016-17
Bihar	13.1	13.0	12.9	14.3	14.4
Odisha	16.3	16.4	17.5	19.6	21.0
Tamil Nadu	42.0	43.0	44.8	44.3	46.9
Maharashtra	22.9	26.3	27.9	29.9	30.2
U.P	19.5	21.6	22.1	24.5	24.9
All India	21.5	23.0	23.6	24.5	25.2



The GER % of selected countries is given below.

GER % – SELECTED COUNTRIES

Pakistan	India	Indonesia	China	USA	Thiland
9.93	25.2	24.25	43.39	85.80	48.86

## 2. Infrastructure:

The infrastructure is important in higher education system and also for the HE institution. Separate buildings are used for classrooms, Auditorium, library, laboratories for UG,PG Courses and research, administrative buildings, bookstore, indoor outdoor sport facilities, Hostel, canteen and other utility rooms.

Adequate infrastructure for HE institution is must and vital to provide better education. This creates the positive impact on the student's enrollment in the HE institution. Most of the private higher education institutions do not have adequate infrastructure for classrooms, libraries, laboratories, research, etc. To cope up with this problem, government should provide financial assistance to private institutions for construction and purchase of instruments, which upgrade the laboratories of PG, UG and research. It also helps to propagate quality education throughout the country.

## 3. Role of the stakeholders in higher education:

Various stakeholders play an important role in transformation of new trends in higher education institutions. The role of stakeholders in higher education is an integral part of the institution.

The stakeholders in higher education such as Government, Management members, Principal, Teachers, Parents, Students and Alumni -who are closely involved in the overall operations of HE. For smooth functioning of HE institution, stakeholder's suggestions are

important. The role which may better define the significance of each stakeholder discuss below.

**1. Role of Government:** The government should consider some potential measures for enabling greater private sector participation in setting up high quality institutions.

### a) Government regulations.

At present higher education regulation in India is input based. For example institute need to ensure a minimum area of land, infrastructure and corpus. At the same time the focus is on inspection – based approvals which is characterised by subjective decision making.

The government should introduce output based regulations by measuring outcomes such as knowledge, placement, patent etc, which is helpful to design the curricula and assessment methodology.

### b) Assistance to the students.

Every year Government provides some assistance to the aided HE institutions. Students have no choice than to take admissions in such institutions rather than the private institutions. The government should provide assistance to the students, which will help in selecting HE institution of their choice.

### c) Encouragement to setup private Higher Education Institute.

As per the AIHES Survey number of Private higher education institute are less in number in some states, to cope up this in balance the government should adopt flexibility in regulations and promote private institutes with some assistance. So that



more private organizations would take initiative to setup the HE institutions and increase the GER.

### **2. Role of Management:**

Every Private HE Institution has a management and it is the final authority for all issues related to the development and assessment in HE. Appointments of teaching and office staff are done by the management as per the government norms. Management should collect corporate fund to develop institute from society and industry. They should start new skill based courses useful to students to get jobs. Due to skill oriented courses some of the students may start their own business or small scale industry in local area. It helps to strengthen the higher education.

### **3. Role of principal:**

The principal is important stakeholder in the higher education system. The principal as a stakeholder makes important decisions in matters such as new construction, finance and a major part of the curriculum and teaching that goes on in the institute. The principal has other responsibilities that include creating long-term plans for technology, educational delivery and overall growth. As per the policies framed by the management, the principal should look after all developments and assessments of the HE institution.

### **4. Role of faculty:**

Teachers and students are two sides of the coin; both play an interactive role in the education process because one cannot function without the other. The empowerment of teachers will facilitate the empowerment of students<sup>5</sup>. Teacher empowerment takes the form of providing teachers with a significant role in decisions making, control over their work environment and conditions, and opportunities to serve as professionals.

The teacher as a stakeholder is expected to possess the thorough professional knowledge of the subject to lead the students in higher education. In addition to serving in an instructional role the teacher is a mentor, supervisor, counselor and community leader. Teacher should use ICT technique for teaching, internet facility, and Provide project work. He also should take responsibility for overall development of students.

### **5. Parents:**

Parents are very important stakeholders to the educational decision making process in higher education. Parents' most important objective is the assurance that their children will receive a quality education, which will enable them to lead fruitful worthwhile life as adults in a global society<sup>6</sup>. Parents bring a valuable quality to the educational experience of their children because they may better understand their own children and can influence significantly student's behavior such as time management and study habits, eating practices, and their personal safety and general welfare. Parents as educational stakeholders provide additional resources for the institute to assist to student achievement and to enhance a sense of community pride and commitment, which may be helpful in the overall success of the institute in higher education. In addition, parents have the right and the responsibility to be involved in their children's educational process<sup>7</sup>. Parents should support financially to private institute to improve quality in higher education.

### **6. Students:**

Students play the pilot role in the educational process and as stakeholders are expected to participate in the process. Successful higher education institute encourage significant participation by



parents, students and teachers. Although the student's primary role is a recipient, students should be encouraged to exercise their decision-making role in the education process. By involving students in decision-making process, students become an integral part of a successful institution. Empowering students with shared decision making increases their choices and responsibilities for their own learning. In the global era students should use ICT technique in their teaching learning process. They should involve in project oriented academic activities which works as timesaver and make him techno-friendly.

#### 7. Role of alumni:

Alumni play an important role as stakeholders of HE Institutions. Alumni should be registered and functional. The involvement of alumni in supporting and providing contribution voluntarily is important for maintaining, expanding and development of the institute. Alumni provide feedback and support in academic and infrastructural development in higher education institutes. They are invited to give lectures for students and share practical experience during events. Alumni association can encourage greater collection of funds enabling the establishment of scholarships, supporting students' activities, cultural programs, infrastructure development and placements.

#### 4. Industry and Institutional linkages:

In this era industry and institution linkages play an important role to bridge the gap between the academics and corporate sector. To obtain support from industry is helpful for the college development. The expertise from industry should be invite for the seminars, workshop which is helpful for

students. New trends in industry and demand from the society are well percolated among the students through the industrial expertise. With the help of this linkage HE institutions should incorporate the new changes in the academia. Through this linkages skill based manpower will be generated and industrial skill based manpower need will be fulfilled.

Corpus fund is major issue for the overall development of institutions which can be overcome by adopting various industrial projects by sponsorships through these industrial linkages.

#### 5. Role of ICT In Higher Education

Information and Communication Technology plays a vital role in day to day administration in HE institutions. It is time saving, economical, accuracy, eco-friendly and flexible tool used in HE.

Now a day's Wi-fi campus is essential for the teaching –learning and for the better administrative work. While teaching in class room the ICT enable faculties are using the power point presentation, smart board, visualiser etc. and shows online various guest lecturers from well known HE like IIM ,IIT ,NIT'S ,nearby universities and other highly reputed institutions for the students. Through these techniques teachers communicate with every students via mail, sms etc.

Home assignments syllabus, question banks, test, tutorials, etc., are well in advance provided to the students. Feedback is also obtained through ICT.

ICT is also useful for the office administration such as registration, admission, student information, classes, time table, transport, attendance, library, salary and expenses, examinations,



performance, grades, hostels, security and letters from Govt., University reports are obtained through ICT. It increases efficiency of the office staff.

**Conclusions:**

The government must foster private sector participation in higher education by simplifying rules while focusing on quality. Stakeholders are seen as a powerful information source that can be used for the HEI development. Stakeholder's inclusion in HEI activities could be a powerful element in finding the right ways to the development and improvement of an HEI. The use of ICT strengthens the higher education.

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