



PRIVATISATION AND INDIAN EDUCATION

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Abstract

This paper aims to analyze the impact of privatization on education in the Indian society. The government of India introduced new economic policies namely globalization, privatization and liberalization to increase employment, output and income opportunities and achieve economic development at international level. Privatization has brought about rapid change in the educational scenario of India. It is seen that privatization encourages the individuals and religious organizations to establish colleges and deemed universities to meet the growing demand for higher education. Consequently, higher educational institutions are found throughout the country. It not only increases the number of higher educational institutions but also increases the number of seats for highly demand courses such as engineering and medicine. Moreover, it decreases the distance between the educational institutions. It causes competition among them to fill the seats allotted by the affiliated universities and maximize socio- economic benefits. However, it creates the gap between the demand and supply of higher education. It not only increases the cost but also decreases the quality of education. Thus, privatization has positive and negative impact on education and society.



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INTRODUCTION: Education is the most important and powerful tool invented by mankind to shape and mould himself for personal as well as social life. In short, it prepares the man for life. Moreover, it is the important source of employment, income and standard of living. So, everyone gives important to higher education. As a result, it has become one of the basic necessities of human life in the materialistic and knowledge society. Hence, the demand for higher education has increased especially after the independence of India. But the central and the state governments are unable to meet the increasing the demand for higher education due to financial constraints, non- availability of appropriate places and cost of higher education. Therefore, it encourages the individuals and organization to establish colleges and deemed universities. As a result, the number of self- financed arts and science, engineering and medical colleges has increased on the one hand and increased the gap between the demand and supply of higher education.

CAUSES OF PRIVATISATION

The major causes of privatization of education includes the following

1. The expansion and establishment of education institution is increasingly high and the same has been shouldered mainly by the state. A stage has now come when the state is finding it very difficult to meet the democratic aspirations of the people for further expansion of education system due to paucity of resources. It is therefore felt that the private sector be inducted in education so that it can share the burdens in funding education.
2. Knowledge explosion is taking place in the world and underdeveloped economies must keep pace with this knowledge explosion. Education or knowledge industry is becoming the key factor in the process of development. This being so education is no longer viewed as a social service rather it is considered as a necessary economic input. In this effort the private sector is also considered to play its part since it is a major beneficiary of the knowledge industry.
3. The world is passing through fourth industrial revolution. This consists of information technology, bio-technology, nano-technology, robotics, application of lasers and new industrial materials. The growth of satellite TV has further strengthened information revolution in them world along with development in computer technology. These technological developments have increased the requirements of educated and technical manpower at a much higher level. Since the public sector due to limitedness of resources allocated to education cannot meet the needs of industry and other sectors of the economy, it is vital that private sector is initiated in the programmes of skilled manpower to take advantage of growing technologies.
4. Privatization can respond to market signals or market demand for labour in the more efficient and prompt manner than the public sector, which finds it very difficult to introduce flexibility in operations of human resource development.
5. Over years, the public sector has failed to generate resources from the recipients of education, it has become more or less free public good and this has devalued the education in the eyes of recipients. Privatization may lead to changing for the service provided which is likely to generate great responsibility among the recipients of education. This results in greater efficiency in teaching learning and improvement in its quality.
6. Privatization by generating more resources from students' fees will help to reduce fiscal burdens of the government.

OBJECTIVES OF PRIVATIZATION OF EDUCATION IN INDIA.

- Providing Quality Education
- Promotion of technological advancement
- Reducing gap between Industry and Education
- Achieving widespread private ownerships in the society and reduce the burden of Government.
- Providing education in remote area and small urban area.
- Generating highly skill personnel for development in India.
- Meet the education for International Standards.

Emergence of the Private Sector in India. The private sector has emerged in India due to following reasons:

Shift in policy: According to Article 45 of the constitution of India, there should be free and compulsory education for all children between the age of 6-14 years. So focus has shifted to elementary education. As a result, the involvement of the state in higher education has been reduced.

Mass approach to Higher Education: This type of approach to higher education has resulted in phenomenal growth of number of institutions of higher learning.

Increased demand for enlightened work force: In the recent years, there is a revolution in the area of technology. It has resulted in boosting market economy.

Economic compulsion: Education is also relevant to globalization through Cultural integration. In the wake of competitive market scenario, the countries are left with no choice other than to depend on education and training to manage economies.

Charting the pressure of Privatization: Demand for education is high. If government cannot afford to provide and fund all the education that parents expect for their children then those parents will seek private suppliers. Demand side pressure: Government System is unable to cope with increase in enrolment because they must raise money from the tax payers. In this condition, private provision is the only way in which education system can grow in response to increase demand.

Push and Pull Factors: There are general pressure to privatize education system. One of factor is global economic and social change. Whenever globalization is linked with market liberalization, it will result in encouraging government to seek more efficient, more flexible and more expensive systems.

PRIVATIZATION POLICY AND PROGRAMS IN EDUCATION.

Public School Choice: To maintain control over the provision and funding of education, Government agencies may allow parents to make choices between public schools. There are adequate facilities for students in these schools. It is feasible to allow enrolment of students to any public school. These policies are named as 'Open enrolment' or 'School choice programmers'.

Liberalization: Private schools are managed through laws and Government schools. To make the schools overly bounded by rules and regulations, liberalization would involve reducing the bureaucracy that public school face and make them more efficient and flexible.

Private Contracting specific services: It may be the most common approach to privatization and the least, when reduced to specific services. There are a large number of services that school provide but are not directly educational. A number of companies are emerged as contractors to the school for the supply of text books, food, transport and cleaning services.

Tuition Tax Credits and deductions for Parents: One way to encourage private expenditure on education is to make those expenditures exempt from taxes. If families of students get advantage from these tuition tax credit, it will result in encouraging privatization.

Subsides and assistance grant to private school: One way to foster competition between public and private school is to give subsidies or assistance grants directly to private schools. It will result in reducing financial burden on the public sector.

Home Schooling and private payment for schooling: Some families may opt out of the education system and school their children at home. It is the ultimate form of education privatization, privately funded, privately provided and monitored very highly through Government agencies.

Competition between school and education agencies: One way of creating an educational market is to encourage schools or agencies at different levels. In contrast, where families have a choice of school, they will select the one that best meet their needs. So privatization reforms would involve creating system where school compete with each other to offer the highest quality education.

Giving employment to number of trainees: There are a number of private training institutions in our country and also each year gets enrolment of the students after graduation or post graduation. After passing out B. Ed / M. Ed, they are eligible for getting jobs. In this way, these private training colleges give them a way to go ahead in their lives and get better life.

Providing Technical and Engineering education: To the number of students in the private technical colleges, a number of students gets the diploma or degrees in their respective stream like Diploma Electrical/ Mechanical/ Computer Science and Engineering. It is regulated by AICTE. India with 1200 approximate engineering Institution, 2 Lac teachers has a tremendous potential to Emerging Trends of Privatization of Education in India 5 become global distinction for technical education particularly for students from developing nation.

Conclusion: The role of privatization is important to expend education in qualitatively and quantitatively in the Indian society. Therefore, state and the central governments encourage the privatization of education to achieve economic development through maximum utilization of human resources. But the lack of quality education affects the employability of educated in national or international levels. In fact, privatization increases the number of degree holders on the one hand and unemployment on the other hand. This is because many of them are poor in communication skill and practical knowledge in the subject. So, more and more opportunities should be provide to the students which will prepare them for employment in organizations or engage in self-employment. Hence, the suggestions given in the study may be implemented to improve the quality of education provided through privatization and remove its negative impact on education and society. The individuals and religious organizations which please the government and educational authorities to establish the educational industries for profit should keep in mind that man is more important than education and money. Therefore, they should run the educational institutions for the welfare of the man and society at minimum cost.

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