

HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

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- ▶ Higher Education means the post -secondary education at universities or college or similar educational establishments, especially to degree level. It may be general Degree or any technical Degree or Diploma after Senior Secondary certificate in India.
- ▶ Ancient India had a rich heritage of Universities like- Nalanda, Taxila and Vikramsheel University etc.
- ▶ The modern higher education system was developed during British rule when East India Company established colleges in Calcutta and Madras in 1781 followed by Banaras Sanskrit College in 1791 and Fort William College in 1800.

INTRODUCTION

- ▶ In 1857, three universities were established in Presidencies – Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.
- ▶ Indian Institute of Technology, was established as Roorkee University and Thomson College of Civil Engineering in 1847.
- ▶ In 1784 William Jones established 'Asiatic Society' in Calcutta for Oriental Research as the collection of old manuscripts of India.
- ▶ The Inter-University Board (later known as the Association of Indian Universities) was established in 1925 to promote university activities, by sharing information and cooperation in the field of education, culture, sports and allied areas.

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- ▶ The present system of higher education dates back to Mountstuart Elphinstone`s minutes of 1823, which stressed on the need for establishing schools for teaching English and the European sciences. Later, Lord Macaulay, in his minutes of 1835, advocated "efforts to make natives of the country thoroughly good English scholars". Sir Charles Wood`s Dispatch of 1854, famously known as the ` Magna Carta of English Education in India`, recommended creating a properly articulated scheme of education from the primary school to the university. It sought to encourage indigenous education and planned the formulation of a coherent policy of education. Subsequently, the universities of Calcutta, Bombay (now Mumbai) and Madras were set up in 1857, followed by the university of Allahabad in 1887.

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- ▶ Education in India is enlisted in 'Concurrent list ' of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. However, technical and scientific educational institutes, research and standards determination is included in Union List (entry no.66).
- ▶ As per All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) Report 2018-19 there were 993 Universities, 39936 Colleges, 3.73 crore enrolled students in these institutes and 14.16 lac teachers in higher education in India.
- ▶ There were 10725 'stand alone institutes' (which are not affiliated to any university but controlled by some council etc) in the country.
- ▶ Gross Enrolment Ratio(GER) in higher education is 26% in the country which is aimed to reach 50% by 2035(National Education Policy-2020).

PRESENT SCENARIO

- ▶ Universities – Specific education or multi faculties.
- ▶ Colleges- general or technical education.
- ▶ Institutes with deemed to be university status.
- ▶ Indian Institute of Technology (IITs).
- ▶ Indian Institute of Management (IIMs).
- ▶ National Institutes of Technology (NITs).
- ▶ Field specific institutes like- Agriculture, Medical, Engineering, Fashion Tech., Architecture, Law, Sports, Media, Power etc.)
- ▶ Polytechnique, Nursing, Para Medical, Animal Husbandry, ITIs, Vocational institutes etc.
- ▶ Scientific Research institutes.

TYPES OF INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ There are so many regulatory bodies in India to direct, supervise and coordinate higher education.
- ▶ The University Grants Commission(UGC) is the top most body of Govt. of India. The UGC was formally established only in November 1956 as a statutory body of the Government of India through an Act of Parliament for the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of university education in India. In order to ensure effective region-wise coverage throughout the country, the UGC has decentralised its operations by setting up six regional centres at Pune, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Bhopal, Guwahati and Bangalore. The head office of the UGC is located at Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg in New Delhi, with two additional bureaus operating from 35, Feroze Shah Road and the South Campus of University of Delhi as well.

REGULATORY MECHANISM

- ▶ All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
- ▶ Distance Education Bureau (DEB)
- ▶ Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- ▶ Bar Council of India (BCI)
- ▶ National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)
- ▶ National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE)
- ▶ Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI)
- ▶ Medical Council of India (MCI)
- ▶ Pharmacy Council of India (PCI)

OTHER BODIES

- ▶ Indian Nursing Council (INC)
- ▶ Dental Council of India (DCI)
- ▶ Central Council of Homeopathy (CCH)
- ▶ Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM)
- ▶ Veterinary Council of India (VCI)
- ▶ National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology(NCHMCT).

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- ▶ The higher education systems grow and diversify, society is increasingly concerned about the quality of programmes, public assessments and international rankings of higher education institutions. However these comparisons tend to over emphasize research, using research performance as a yardstick of institutional value. If these processes fail to address the quality of teaching, it is in part because measuring teaching quality is challenging (Hernard, 2008).
- ▶ India, even after 70 years of its independence, is far away from the goal of universal literacy. The fact that India's higher education system is churning out millions of graduates who are unemployable speaks of the need to improve the quality of education in the country. However, on a positive note, India is engaged in the use of higher education as a powerful tool to build a knowledge-based information society of the 21st Century. Indian professionals are considered among the best in the world and are in great demand. This signifies the inherent strength of the Indian educational system.

Source –Govt. websites/theknowledgereview/journal of education

and practice etc.

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