



**NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY
2020 &
HIGHER EDUCATION**

Issues and Challenges



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SCOPE OF TEACHER EDUCATION IN INDIA: REFLECTIONS AND CHALLENGES

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INTRODUCTION

Education plays a crucial role in the development of each and every nation. Education helps in developing a child, imparting good values, enhances cognitive ability of a person, and enables them to solve various problems arising in the society. Teachers play a crucial role in shaping each and every individual by imparting knowledge to the learners. Therefore, qualitative education plays an important role in leading to the effective growth and development of an individual. They

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provide assistance in achieving the desired objectives of educational institutions, helps in the cognitive development of the child, imparting good values among the children, and leads to the economic and cultural development of the country. Teacher education is highly based on imparting training to the teachers, focusing on achieving the desired learning outcomes. Teachers education makes the process of teaching and learning more effective. The objective of the study is to know the scope of teacher education in India. The main area focused in this paper includes Scope of teacher education and the challenges of teacher education.

Educational institutions perform a substantial role in providing overall development of a child, provide learning experiences, and achieve skill-based education which in turn helps in the economic development of the country. It plays an important role in the transformation of lives of each and every individual. Teachers play an important role in achieving the desired objectives of educational institutions, helps in the cognitive development of the child, imparting good values among the children, and leads to the economic and cultural development of the country. They are regarded as an important part of the educational institution which helps in fostering the development of the child. There fore it becomes very important to impart training to the teachers through which they can help in developing the society. Imparting training and making them skilled in an appropriate manner will help in the overall development of the individuals, community and the entire nation. Qualitative education should be provided which will help them to be well prepared and generate essential skills and abilities. Teacher education aims at improving the quality of education in India. It focuses on providing highly trained teachers who are capable of taking on the challenges of the present and the future generations.

Teacher education in India has passed through various phases of evaluation. Based on the evaluating times as well as the need of the society have demanded the changes in the ways of teacher preparation. Lots of ups and downs has been seen in the field of education right from the ancient time period of Vedic education to the phase of technologically developed educational society. After independence the emerging socio-economic and political situations influenced the

national scenario of teacher education. Education has recently faced lots of technological innovations which has led into the development of the educational sector. Educational technology has an ample of potential to boost the process of teaching and learning while also to overcome various problems and challenges faced at various levels of educational sector.

Scope of teacher education

Teacher education helps in providing the qualitative education by generating skills among various individuals. The American Commission on Teacher Education rightly observes, "The quality of a nation depends upon the quality of its citizens. The quality of its citizens depends not exclusively, but in critical measure upon the quality of their education, the quality of their education depends more than upon any single factor, upon the quality of their teacher." (Concept of Teacher Education. (n.d.).)

There is tremendous scope of teacher education which has been highlighted in the following factors:

Teacher education at different levels of Education:

Teacher education is considered as a requisite concept for the teachers at all levels of education. It includes training and proving skill-based education at different levels namely Pre-primary, Primary, Elementary, Secondary, Higher Secondary, and the tertiary level of education. Based on different needs and requirements of the learners at different stages different methods of teachings are employed at different levels. Hence, training teachers at different levels of education is essential. Teacher education plays an important role by generating teaching skills among the students. It also enables them to solve various problems arising in the field of education. Educational institutions not only provide the theoretical knowledge but also provides the practical knowledge in various fields. There is diversified need of the students based on the different levels of education. Teacher education courses enables them to use innovative and specialized teacher training inputs with the purpose of enhancing the quality of the students, make them skilled, enhance their cognitive development, and enable them to solve

various problems arising in the society. Education meets the specialized and diversified need of students at various levels of education. Qualitative education not only develops the educational sector but also helps in boosting the economy of the country and generating a skill and knowledgeable based future generation.

Triangular bases of Teacher Education

Devising appropriate knowledge base for every stage of education requires a high degree of academic and intellectual understanding of the information at every stage of education. It includes selection of theoretical knowledge from disciplines cognitive to education namely, psychology, sociology, and philosophy and converting it into the forms that are suitable for teacher education. These disciplines broadness the understanding level of an individual by providing a base for understanding and application of teacher education. The philosophical basis provides insights to the student teachers regarding the schools of philosophy, ancient and modern philosophical thoughts, educational thoughts of philosophical thinkers on education and its different aspects as curriculum construction and discipline. The sociological basis assists the studentteachers to understand the role of the society and its dynamics in educational system of a nation and world at large. It considers the ideas that have an influence upon international and national scene. The psychological basis helps the student teachers to develop insights into students psychological well beings of the students. It helps them to understand their self, their students and the learning situations so that they could generate meaningful and relevant learning experiences to their students. This will help in fostering the growth and development of the child. (Kapur, 2018)

Aspects of teacher Education

The important aspects of teacher education include, Who (Teacher Educator), Whom (Student teacher), and How (Teaching strategy). Teacher education is highly influenced by the quality of teacher educators. The quality of pedagogical inputs within the teacher education programs and their operative utilization for the purpose of preparing perspective teachers largely depends on the professional

competence of the teacher educators and the ways in which it is utilized and strengthening the teacher education programme. Teacher educators generate effective teacher educators by providing the effective pedagogical inputs. The student teachers obtain information and knowledge which leads to their personal and professional development. It serves to equip the student teachers with the conceptual and theoretical framework, within which they can acquire an understanding of intricacies of the profession. Aspects of education aims at formation of attitude among individuals, so that they could solve and cope with the challenges of the life. The individuals get empowered with the skills and abilities, so that they perform their tasks in an effective manner.

Changing context of teacher education in Indian scenario

Challenges in teacher education

Educational sector has faced tremendous advancement due to the development of educational institutions and programmes since last few years. With the development, increase in the school enrolment and the launch of pan- Indian primary education lots of development programmes were launched as Operation Blackboard, District Primary Education Programme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Universalization of the Elementary Education. Due to the various programmes launched in the country, it provided a boost to the educational sector and there was an increase in the enrolment ratio of the students in the schools. The demand for the teachers was also increased due to the increasing enrolment ratio among the students. The backlog of untrained teachers in the system and the indispensable requirement of pre-service teacher certification for appointment as a teacher led to increase in a pressure on the existing institutional capacity. This demand led to increase in the teacher education institutions in most parts the country. Teacher education needs urgent and comprehensive modifications. There is a need to bring bigger convergence between professional preparation and continuing professional development teachers at all stages this will lead to enhance the quality of education at all levels. Considering the complexity and significance of teaching as a professional practice, it is important that teaching education sector should be raised to university

level and there should be proper implementation of the programmes and policies leading to the development of the educational sector.

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