

EDUCATED OR LITERATE

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ABSTRACT

India is recognized as knowledge and education hub all over the world. It has such a huge talent pool. Other countries hire the human resources from India. It has got a higher number of management graduates passing every year. Literacy includes the capacity to read, understand and critically appreciate various forms of communication including spoken language, printed text, broadcast media, and digital media. (DES, 2011)

However, the questions that strike here are - Is literacy another name of education? If the country has high literacy levels, does it mean country has highly educated people? Literacy means ability to read and write whereas education is about overall development of a person. Educated person can not only read or write but also has the ability to think in broader terms and analyze the things rationally. This paper describes that just filling the mind of our future generation with facts and making them so called literates is not enough; our aim should be to prepare students for the challenges of life in the career world.

KEYWORDS: Education, Literacy, Student, Future

INTRODUCTION

In recent times there has been a lot of stress on imparting education in the country. Education is a fundamental right now and government is establishing Universities at State & Centre Level with great enthusiasm. Large scale campaigns are being held nationwide to promote education. The chant is to educate, educate & educate, Let everyone go to School, College/Universities. Every year the country is producing so many Graduates, Masters, and PhD's. Education is often portrayed as the remedy to everyone's problems. But the reality is different what is being sold & told. Every year a lot of people are passing out of various universities/Institutes in the country. But only a few are, supposedly employable.

It is important to consider definitions of literacy across the life span of the individual from 'womb to tomb' (Alexander, 1997). Definitions of literacy should encompass the cognitive, affective, socio-cultural, cultural-historical, creative and aesthetic dimensions. The definition espoused by the Department of Education and Skills (DES) in the National Strategy to Improve Literacy and Numeracy Among Children and Young People 2011-2020 (DES, 2011), notes that: literacy includes the capacity to read, understand and critically appreciate various forms of communication including spoken language, printed text, broadcast media, and digital media. Senge (1994) defines system as "the perceived whole whose elements 'hang together' because they continually affect each other over time and operate toward a common purpose"

Objectives

- To understand the basic difference between education and literacy.

- To aware the society about the education system.
- To help people understand their rights and duties towards future generation.
- To make a better tomorrow.
- To save our youth not to be swayed away by the foreign companies.
- To make a better understanding with young generation.
- To make them learn all skills in a more practical and realistic way.
- To save the youth from psychological problems emerging due to education system.
- To strengthen our economy.
- To reform Indian education system to help make it the best in the world.

Challenges

The problem lies in the fact that there are so many sub standard Institutes running parallel to affiliated or not too good and deemed Universities, Govt. aided Universities or institution are suffering from political nepotism in their hiring process or curriculum selection and every year churning out a sea of people looking for similar kinds of jobs which is a serious issues, as India has 60% of its population under & with such huge youth population, the country needs to generate suitable employment for the people. Imparting education is not enough if there is not enough or suitable employment for them. There is usually a trend amongst the youth of pursuing similar courses and which usually ends up creating a snuffle supply of professional than demanded by that particular industry i.e. everyone ends up doing the same thing which creates a saturation in the already dried up job market.

Role of a Teacher

Teacher has to play a very important role in making the students educated not just literates. They have to reinvent themselves and their occupation to better serve schools, students and the nation. Prompted by massive revolutions in knowledge information technology and public demand for better learning, schools and colleges nationwide are slowly but surely restructuring themselves. The educational environments aren't confined to the classrooms but, instead, extend into the home and the community and around the world. Information isn't bound primarily in books; it's available everywhere in bits and bytes. Schools are centers of lifelong leanings. The curriculum must relate to their lives, learning activities must engage their natural curiosity, and assessments must measure real accomplishments and be an integral part of learning. The fundamental job of teaching is no longer to distribute facts but to help children learn how to use them later in their life by developing their abilities to think critically, solve problems, and create knowledge that benefits both the students and society. Reinventing the role of teachers inside and outside the classroom can result in significantly better schools and colleges, better educated students and a better educated nation.

Role of a Student

Students can also, after certain age, make themselves aware of the type of education they are having its after effects weather it is going to be fruitful or not for them as well as for the nation. The students can make themselves aware of rules and regulations, including relevant policies and procedures to their rights and duties. They should always actively

and positively participate in the educational process. They can raise questions. They can provide constructive feedback for the teaching and learning process to help teachers' to improve the learning experience. They must learn the necessary skills and achieve the essential knowledge that will make it possible for them to play an active role in economic life.

Role of a Nation

Today's youth is tomorrow's nation. As we know what is being sown today is what shall be reaped later. If we not mould our youth today we may have to regret tomorrow as tomorrow's nation is in the hands of our upcoming youth. When students are being treated with due respect and responsibility, they have also lived up to be responsible and respect in return to the nation. In today's world there is also need to prepare young people and children to participate in and understand activities at international level. It is the responsibility of a nation to produce citizens with skills, knowledge, expertise and personal qualities that are required to support a growing economy. The need of the hour is to promote vocational education; universities need to do tie ups with the Industrial sector, getting the educated employment. An educated person is educated when he is able to get an employment out of that education otherwise he is just literate. So govt. should frame policies to educate the future of our country and to provide suitable job opportunities for them. For years, appeals have been made from various corners for literacy leaders and practitioners to become proactive in the policy setting process (Quigley, 2000)

Role of Family

Education starts not only at school, but from every home. The relationship between family and school is an organic one because it has common goal-educating children preparing useful citizens for society. It is duty of parents to educate their children. They should always keep it in mind whether their children are being filled with facts or they are really being educated. Parents should help their children to chase their dreams. They should not impose their dreams on children. They should not enroll the children in a particular course because it is in demand or their friends or relatives suggested that. Acc. to W. B. Yeats 'Education is not the filling of a pail but the lightening of a fire.'

Aim of Education

The aim of education is to enable students to stand in equilibrium with the rest of the world. Education has purpose to prepare students for the challenges of life in the career world. Rather than filling their minds with facts and ideas education must prepare students to think critically and select the opportunities they can grab in order to succeed.

CONCLUSIONS

Education is always in one sense or other, preparing the students for the future. It has to play a vital role in shaping the future of our future generation. So it is the prime duty of parents, teachers, and the nation to educate the students and not just to literate them. Students must be helped to prepare themselves for their personal lives, but equally be prepared to participate in economic life, cultural life and the political life of their societies.

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