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Rural Education in India: Issues and Solution

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Abstract: Education is one aspect of socialization by which behaviours, essential for effective participation by society, are acquired by members of the society. Right to Education is the primary right of every citizen of India, Schools in rural areas are promoted to raise the level of education and literacy in rural India. The main aim of running these types of schools in India is to increase the rates of literacy in rural areas More than 40 per cent of India's population is illiterate and cannot read or write. The improving steadily and the government is also providing full support and providing with many initiatives. The fee structure in these schools is also very low so that every child can study and afford it. There are many initiatives taken by the government, but they are not implemented in the schools. However, there is a need to look at the entire self of problems and deal with the issue holistically taking into consideration, the specific contest of different sections of the society.

Keywords: Rural India, Primary Right, Social, Political, Economic, Scientific, Behaviour, Learning, Socialization

1. Introduction and Meaning

The basic purpose of life and the basic purpose of education is to enhance one's boundaries of perception. I don't want the children after ten years of schooling here to just survive. They must blossom and flower wherever they go." – Sadhguru

Education is the means to acquire the present-day wisdom. Literate and educated people are a prerequisite for both preserving and developing the society. In rural India, access to education in various spheres such as social, political, economic, scientific and others can act as a catalyst to change. In today's rural India, many castes have successfully utilized education to break through social and cultural norms associated with their castes and have also helped in their economic betterment.

Throughout one's life, from birth till death, an individual goes through a process of continued learning. Learning is *a fundamental social process*. It helps individuals in adapting to changes in the environment by building on the previous experience. Learning refers to the accumulation of a body of information that serves as guide to actions and decisions. It is also considered to be a relative permanent change in behaviour or capability, which is the result of experience.

Learning affects personality, social behaviour and development. Most of the learning takes place effortlessly, as a product of a person's experience. Most of the learning is done before a person becomes adult because of contact and constant interaction with others. Since learning is considered to be vital to social life, it is not left to chance. Particular attitudes, knowledge and skills are imparted to members of a society through formal, systematic training or through education.

Education is one aspect of *socialization by which behaviours*, *essential for effective participation by society, are acquired by members of the society*. Part of this learning is done in an informal atmosphere, at home within the family structure, neighbourhood or peer group. Learning is also formally done in schools, colleges and universities, which are formal institutions of education.

2. Objectives

Rural education initiative has the following objective:

- 1) To provide free standard education to rural children
- 2) Supporting children for higher education.
- 3) Guiding and Supporting Research scholars in Educational Development.
- Implementing new teaching methodologies and Assessment system.
- 5) Promoting all schools to stress free environment.

Present scenario of rural education in India:

Right to Education is the primary right of every citizen of India, whether a child resides in a high profile society or in a far away not so developed secluded village. In India, condition of rural education is still improving, the conditions of these rural schools is still very poor.

There are very few schools in the rural areas and children have to travel far away distances to avail these facilities and most schools in these locations do not provide drinking water. The quality of education is also very poor. The teachers get very less income so, most of the time the teachers are either absent or they do not teach properly.

Schools in rural areas are promoted to raise the level of education and literacy in rural India. The main aim of running these types of schools in India is to increase the rates of literacy in rural areas. More than 40 per cent of India's population is illiterate and cannot read or write. And schools in rural areas are inadequate and often equivalent to being non-existent. Thus, government's initiative to set up schools in rural areas came into picture.

According to Just Indian Schools the conditions of rural education in India, is improving steadily and the government is also providing full support and providing with many initiatives. The fee structure in these schools is also very low so that every child can study and afford it. There are many initiatives taken by the government, but they are not implemented in the schools, so the present scenario remains the same.

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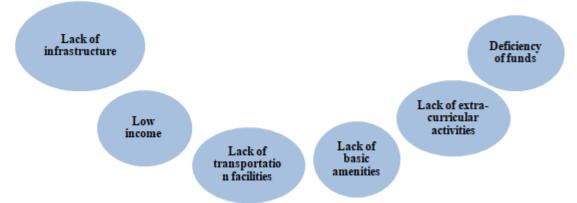
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3. Problems/Issues faced in rural education in India

India is developing rapidly and many initiatives had been taken for the development of rural India, still much more have to be done. There are several issues being faced by the schools running in rural India. Some of these issues are stated below:



1) Lack of infrastructure

Many schools in villages lack proper infrastructure facilities. There are no proper facilities for sitting as sometimes children are even made to sit on the floor due to non-availability of furniture. The school building lacks doors and windows, and so the wind and animals enter unimpeded.

2) Low income

Teachers in the villages also get very less income in comparison to the teachers that teach in urban schools. As teachers are not satisfied with their income, they generally do not give proper attention to the students.

3) Lack of transportation facilities

This is one of the biggest problems being faced by the children going to village schools. As there are no proper transport facilities available children don't like to travel miles to come to school. Less in number: In comparison to the number of schools present in urban area i.e., cities or towns, there are very few schools in villages or rural areas.

4) Lack of basic amenities

Even the basic amenities like drinking water, clean toilets etc are also not available in many of the schools at villages.

5) Lack of extra-curricular activities

Apart from the course curriculum rural schools are not able to involve children in other activities like sports, cocurricular activities and competitions. Such events and activities tend help in the over all development of the children. – There is no excess to supplemental education.

6) **Deficiency of funds**

One of the severe hurdles in the education system in rural India is the unavailability of funds. Some schools do not have funds even for purchasing benches, blackboards etc.

4. Reasons for the failure of rural education

 The teachers do not get any support from the parents in villages on the part of curriculum. Parents in villages want that their children should be provided with education related to agriculture so that they can help them. This thinking act as an obstacle in bringing the children to schools.

- In several schools of villages, the premise of school is also not sufficient to accompany all the students.
- Lack of illiteracy on the part of the parents also acts as an obstacle in attracting the students in rural areas.
- As teachers in rural areas get very less salary in comparison to the teachers teaching in schools located in towns or cities, they do not give their 100%.
- Students in the rural areas are also not interested in education because it is not appealing as any computers, laptops, internet facility made available for them.

5. Suggestions for improving (with solutions) rural education in India

- 1) Some of the suggestions that can be adopted for improving the education system in rural:
- The curriculum of rural education can be updated and should accompany education related to farming, gardening etc.
- 3) To attract more number of students and creating enthusiasm in them for learning, visual aids like projectors, television etc. can be used to show some educational movies.
- 4) To motivate the teachers they should be made to feel proud that by teaching in the rural or remote area they are acting as a helping hand in the development of economy.
- 5) Some special sessions or classes can be conducted for the parents to make them realize the significance of education for their children.
- 6) To appreciate the efforts of students, some type of scholarships either in the form of gifts or books can be given to them who perform well in the class.

6. Conclusions

- 1) India has the *second largest education system* in the world after china.
- 2) The scale of operation involved to ensure quality of Education for all in the country is *unique and challenging*.

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- 3) At the same time, the nature of problems affecting the education system are so diverse and often deep rooted that the solution cannot lie in the alternation of any one single factors it is not about just shortage of money or just shortage of trained teachers or lock of political will; all these undeniably contribute to the problems, affecting the country's systems.
- 4) However, there is a need to look at the entire self of problems and deal with the issue holistically taking into consideration, the specific contest of different sections of the society.
- 5) It will also require a constant and strong central support for policy, Strategy, technical assistance, and monitoring and evaluation combined with increased decentralization with in government, stronger public-private partnership, and improved accountability relationship between the service providers, policy makers, and the target population.

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