

## **Impact of Globalization on Higher Education in India: An Overview.**

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### **Abstract**

Globalisation, the process of integration of world economy, affected on higher education system of India. Globalisation creates lot of advantages and advances in higher education. Development of interdisciplinary courses and emergence of Multi-disciplinary approaches gives a new dimension to the higher education. In India, medium of instruction in higher education is English in almost all states. Development of general, technical and professional higher education enhances skills of Indians and their competency in global market. Increase in number of colleges and courses reduce the disparities and discriminations of enrolment in higher education. Globalisation gives more employment opportunities at a better salary package in international level. Globalisation not only enhances higher education but also enhances development of the economy. Technical and professional knowledge along with higher education develops critical thinking. Development in technology reduces information asymmetry. All these positive impacts are still far away from rural India. Enrolment of SCs, STs and minorities are also increasing in year after year. But compared to percentage of population, percentage of enrolment of the above categories are comparatively low. In fact globalisation gives many positiveness in higher education of India, Indian higher education is in need of radical reforms.

**KEYWORDS:** Higher Education, Globalisation, Enrolment

### **Introduction**

Higher education, also known as tertiary education in some countries, refers to all post-secondary education, including both public and private universities, colleges, technical training institutes, and vocational schools. Higher education is instrumental in fostering growth, reducing poverty and boosting shared prosperity. A highly-skilled workforce, with a solid post-secondary education, is a prerequisite for innovation and growth: well-educated people are more employable, earn higher wages, and cope with economic shocks better. Higher education benefits not just the individual, but society as well. Graduates of higher education are more environmentally conscious, have healthier habits, and have a higher level of civic participation. Also, increased tax revenues from higher earnings, healthier children, and reduced family size all build stronger nations. In short, higher education institutions prepare individuals not only by providing them with adequate and relevant job skills, but also by preparing them to be active members of their communities and societies (World Bank).

The term "globalization" is clearly and comprehensibly explained in its economic dimension. "Globalization is understood as international economic integration which is manifested in creation and expansion of the network of world capital, international trade and standardization of the world". In this context the definitions aimed mainly on economic aspect of these processes are used. For example, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) defines "globalization as the growing economic interdependence of

countries worldwide through increasing volume and variety of cross-border transactions in goods and services, freer international capital flows, and more rapid and widespread diffusion of technology.”

India's higher education system is the third largest in the world, next to the United States and China. The University Grants Commission, the main governing body of higher education in India, which enforces its standards, advises the government, and helps coordination between the centre and the state for proper implementation and monitoring of higher education. Accreditation for higher learning is overseen by 15 autonomous institutions established by the University Grants Commission (UGC).

The British control of the Indian education system continued until the Government of India Act of 1935 that transferred more power to provincial politicians and began the "Indianisation" of education. This period witnessed a rise in the importance of physical and vocational education as well as the introduction of basic education schemes. When India gained independence in 1947, the nation had a total of 241,369 students registered across 20 universities and 496 colleges. In 1948, the Indian Government established the University Education Commission to oversee the growth and improvement of higher education. In the 1960s and 1970s, the government increased its efforts to support higher education by not only setting up state-funded universities and colleges, but also providing financial assistance to private institutions, resulting in the creation of private aided/ grant-in-aid institutions.

Despite the flight of the British, Indian higher education continued to give importance to the languages and humanities until the 1980's. Institutes of professional education like the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Regional Engineering Colleges (REC) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) were some of the more prominent exceptions to this trend. These institutions drew inspiration from reputed universities in the United States and also received foreign funding. Post 1980s, the changing needs of the economy, a growing middle class and an increased strain on government financial resources, slowed the growth of state-funded higher educational institutions. This led to an increased role of the private sector in the education system. Globalisation affected higher education system of India in different dimensions.

### **1. Objectives**

The main objective of this study is to find out the impact of globalisation on higher education in India.

### **2. Methodology**

The study is based on Secondary data. Secondary data are collected from different published sources of Ministry of Human Resource Development, published documents of Govt. of India and Govt. of Kerala official website of Higher Education Department, NITI AYOJ, E-grantz, UGC , articles, journals, magazines, books, Newspaper articles and websites etc.

### **3. Impact of globalisation on higher education institutions**

In India, globalisation is the net result of implementation of New Economic Policy in 1991 and Indian economy was opened to the world. Not only goods but also services and technologies are moved to India. Through the development of education

institutions and strengthening of skills, India becomes one of the top three countries in the world in terms of higher education. Globalisation gives more opportunities to the private sector to invest more in general, technical and higher education. Pooling of public and private investment in education leads to rapid growth of India's higher education.

Attainment of higher education is a big dream of Indian youth. After the completion of secondary education they entered into graduate courses. Globalisation leads to increase in demand for higher education throughout the country. As per the 2011 Census, about 8.15% (68 millions) of Indians are graduates. Indian higher education system has expanded at a fast pace by adding nearly 20,000 colleges and more than 8 million students in a decade from 2000–01 to 2010–11. As of 2016, India has 799 universities, with a break up of 44 central universities, 540 state universities, 122 deemed universities, 90 private universities, 5 institutions established and functioning under the State Act, and 75 Institutes of National Importance which include AIIMS, IIT's and NIT's among others. Other institutions include 39,071 colleges as Government Degree Colleges and Private Degree Colleges, including 1800 exclusive women's colleges, functioning under these universities and institutions as reported by the UGC in 2016. Colleges may be Autonomous, i.e. empowered to examine their own degrees, up to PhD level in some cases, or non-autonomous, in which case their examinations are under the supervision of the university to which they are affiliated; in either case, however, degrees are awarded in the name of the university rather than the college.

The emphasis in the tertiary level of education lies on science and technology. Indian educational institutions by 2004 consisted of a large number of technology institutes. Distance learning and open education is also a feature of the Indian higher education system, and is looked after by the Distance Education Council. Indira Gandhi National Open University is the largest university in the world by number of students, having approximately 3.5 million students across the globe.

Some institutions of India, such as the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institute of Technology (NITs), Indian Institute of Science, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISERs), Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs), Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), University of Mumbai and Jawaharlal Nehru University have been globally acclaimed for their standard of education. The IITs enrol about 8000 students annually and the alumni have contributed to both the growth of the private sector and sectors of India.

#### **4. Impact on Higher Education Courses**

Globalisation not only leads to cultural integration but also leads to integration between different disciplines. So lot of inter-disciplines are emerged. Research and development of a subject was incorporated with other, which leads to the emergence of a new branch of knowledge. E- learning / electronics learning leads to easy and accurate comprehension of knowledge. Interlinking of domestic universities with international universities leads to exchange of knowledge from one country to the other. This leads to direct and easy access of higher education to every learner.

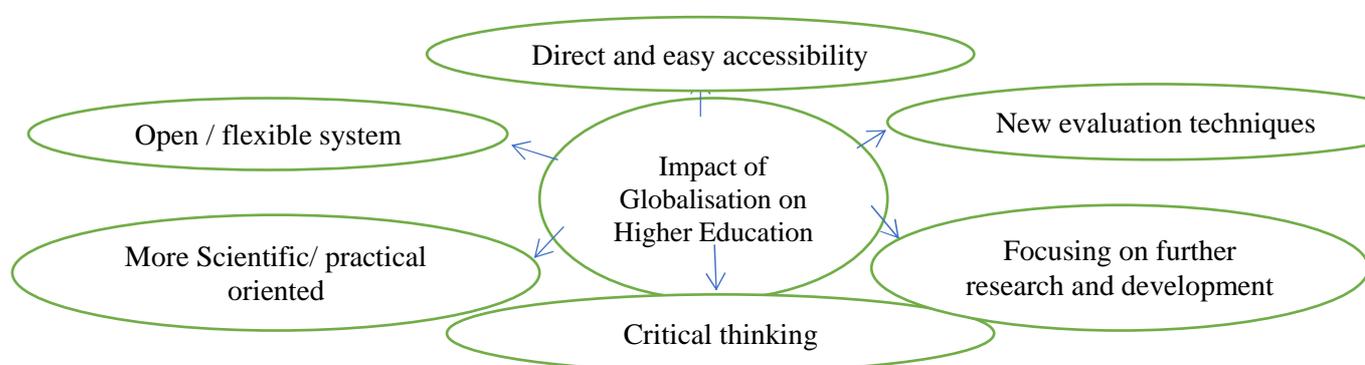
##### **5.1 New evaluation techniques**

Pre –reform period evaluation is formative. That is educational attainment is analysed through a written examination. But in the post reform period summative evaluation had been developed. In this method the overall performance of the learner is analysed in a continuous manner. This boosted up the moulding of better personality and character.

## 5.2 Open / flexible system

Discrimination in higher education had been reduced in the post reform period. Enrolment of SCs/ STs and Minorities are increased in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Table 1 shows that Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of all categories of people in India especially GER of SCs and STs goes on increasing. Impact of globalisation on higher education can be illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 1 **Impact of globalisation on higher education**



## 4.3 Focusing on further research and development

In the globalized period research activities are encouraged throughout the world. Development in inter disciplinary approach enhance research. International agencies also provide funds for research and development. As a result of this different scholarships and fellowships are available to students. Major international fellowships/ internships are given below.

1. Trustee Scholarships for US and International Students in USA(Boston University, United States of America)
2. Qatar Airways National Scholarship Programme (QRNSP)
3. Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS)(Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong)
4. Newcastle University Research Scholarships in UK,
5. Young Scientists Summer Program for International Applicants in Austria(IIASA's National Member Organizations, Austria)
6. IBM Digital – Nation Africa Awareness Internship in Nigeria(International Business Machine (IBM)
7. Endocrine Society Summer Research Fellowships in USA(Endocrine Society, USA)
8. Kulbardi Postgraduate Research Degree Scholarship in Australia(Murdoch University, Australia)
9. Harry S. Truman Foundation Scholarship for College Students in USA(The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation)

10. MMMF Grants for Women of Developing Countries in USA/Canada(Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund, USA / Canada)
11. Killam Postdoctoral Research Fellowship for International Students in Canada(University of British Columbia, Canada)
12. The Snorri Sturluson Icelandic Fellowships
13. CTA Internship ICT4AG – Youth, Entrepreneurship, and ICTs for Agriculture in Netherlands(The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA))
14. Gucci Global Client Services Internship for International Students in Italy(Gucci)
15. Fully Funded PhD Research Scholarships for Overseas Students at Lancaster University in UK
16. General Academic Scholarships for Undergraduate International Students in USA
17. Postdoctoral Fellowship Grants for International Students at Institut Mittag-Leffler in Sweden.
18. Fully-Funded PhD Studentship for Overseas Students at University of Cambridge in UK,
19. Trinity Residential College Scholarships for International Students in Australia,
20. University of South Africa Master's & Doctoral Degree's Scholarship in South Africa,
21. ANU Student Voice Scholarship for Australian or International Students
22. Lumesh Kumar Scholarship at Daemen College in USA
23. New Zealand Future Scholarship for South Korean
24. Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in Arabic Historiography at Ghent University in Belgium
25. SDU Postdoc Position in Concurrency and Logic for International Students in Denmark
26. Australian Government Vocational Education and Training (VET) Scholarships for International Students in Australia,
27. International Full Fee Scholarships at University of Adelaide in Australia (University of
28. Unilever 12-week Summer Placement Programme for International Students in UK and Ireland
29. Undergraduate Scholarships for Students of Asian Countries in Thailand
30. Euro-culture Erasmus Mundus Student Master Scholarships for EU and International Students
31. PhD Studentship in Music for EU and Non-EU Students at University of Cambridge in UK
32. EASL Postgraduate Fellowship Sheila Sherlock for International Students in Europe,
33. PhD Studentships for International Students in Social Sciences, UK(University of Manchester, United Kingdom)
34. Indigenous Careers Award at University of Alberta in Canada
35. ICGEB Short-term PhD Fellowships for International Students in Italy(The International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology)
36. International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Scholarships for Malaysian Students
37. RMIT International English Language Scholarship in Australia(RMIT University, Australia)
38. Norman E. Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship Program(The U.S. Department of Agriculture)
39. Neapolis University Scholarships for BSc in Civil Engineering for International Students in Cyprus(Neapolis University Pafos (NUP), Cyprus)

## 40. Full bright – Nehru fellowship.

Table: 1

## Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
All Categories	<b>20.8</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>24.5</b>
Male	22.1	22.7	23.9	25.3	25.4
Female	19.4	20.1	22	23.2	23.5
<b>SC</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>19.9</b>
Male	15.8	16.9	17.7	20.0	20.8
Female	13.9	15	16.4	18.2	19.0
<b>ST</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>14.2</b>
Male	12.4	12.4	12.5	15.2	15.6
Female	9.7	9.8	10.2	12.3	12.9

Source: Higher Education Statistics at a Glance (2017) Government of India

In the globalised India gross enrolment ratio is goes on increasing. Availability of financial assistance, establishment of new colleges in private sector etc. are main reason for the increase in GER.

Foreign students are also attracted with Indian higher education system. Statistics reveal that number of foreign students in India goes on increasing (Table 2).

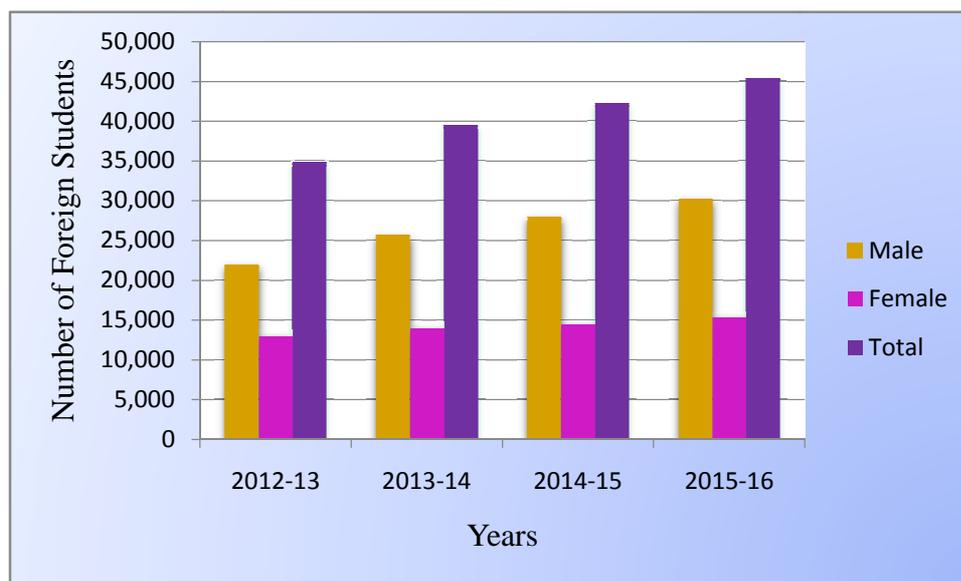
Table 2

## Number of Foreign Students in India

Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Male	21,852	25,565	27,889	30,151
Female	12,922	13,952	14,404	15,273
Total	34,774	39,517	42,293	45,424

Source: Higher Education Statistics at a Glance(2017) Government of India

Figure 2  
Number of Foreign Students in India



Source: Table 2

## 5. Conclusion

Indian higher education is in need of radical reforms. A focus on enforcing higher standards of transparency, strengthening of the vocational and doctoral education pipeline, and professionalization of the sector through stronger institutional responsibility would help in reprioritizing efforts and working around the complexities. The rise of IT sector and engineering education in India has boxed students into linear path without giving them a chance to explore and discover their passions. Concerted and collaborative efforts are needed to broaden student choices through liberal arts education.

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