



Education Planning in Post Covid-19 Scenario

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ABSTRACT

Sociologically speaking, 'Education' is one of the social institutions, if this prime institution fails to progress in society then it will harm the other social institutions like Economy, Polity, and Religion, etc. As we all are aware that educational institutions can play the greater "Role of Constructive and De-Constructive" because among all the social institutions 'Education' plays a constructive role, if this institution fails then it is the death knell to the society then the de-constructive of other institutions takes rapidly. So the time is ripe for an educational institution to play an active scientific role to fight against the deadly existing pandemic COVID - 19 in the World. Educational institutions have to wake up to this alarming pandemic and reforms to be brought into action immediately for a brighter future. "Education is the key to unlock the doors of ignorance".

1. INTRODUCTION

The year 2020 will be the historical year in world history and the pandemic COVID - 19's impact will be indelible. Every institution in the society is facing the dearth and we all are witnessing it. So, now it's the responsibility of every individual to contribute to fighting against this pandemic in their way by various methods. The major role should be played by the scientific community in this present scenario and post-pandemic. Educational institutions should usher from this darkness of pandemic and should bring new reforms in the existing education system.

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2. EDUCATIONAL REFORMS

Upgradation of curriculum: Academic almanac must be followed serenely even in pandemic situations by enhancing online teaching mode. Enhancement of Science & Technology: Right from Kindergarten to Post-Doctoral studies technological up-gradation is ought to be followed as we are in the cyber world. Teachers/lecturers/professors have to be given technical training to teach through digital mode. Every educational institution has to '**create a subject-wise page in the university's website**' and students need to login through their student identity card. Every day and every class has to be recorded while the teacher is teaching and this recorded class has to be uploaded in the particular subject page and this will be used for as a source of digital library and as well it will be used for the future generation too during pandemic situations or so. Among working days, one day in a week teacher has to conduct an assignment or a surprise test to examine the interest and attention of the students and this will improve their earnestness. Rather than theoretical teaching method,

practical implications are the quintessential for the students as it enhances thinking ability and will help them to understand better the subject and they come out with better ideas for every problem. Every semester students have to be given fieldwork project i.e. to bring awareness about the cleanliness of their surroundings, the importance of being hygienic, and how to protect themselves during the pandemic crisis. This fieldwork project has to be done in slums and in untidy localities either by telling them the importance of cleanliness/performing role plays/dramas/songs/playing video clips etc. This work by students has to be digitally recorded and should be submitted to the concerned faculty head and marks have to be allotted based on their activity. Biometric Attendance System should be made obligatory for both the students and teachers. In every classroom CCTV's should be installed and this should be accessible to monitor by the university chancellor, V.C, heads, education minister and if possible it should be accessible by parents too. In social sciences and humanities, PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal) approach should be a part of the fieldwork project as it is useful for planning and management of development projects and programs. In future this PRA project reports by students will be useful to government and for NGOs either implicitly or explicitly to study particular villages. This will create a digital directory of every village and its problems. Students from the science stream should work at least one year after their bachelor's or master's degree with Government hospitals, nursing homes, health centres, labs, and clinical centres, etc. After completion of the practical training, the Government has to give a work experience certificate. Horticulture and permaculture gardening classes should be included for science students because this helps them to opt for agriculture and farming as a profession, which is the need of the hour. Installation of solar panels in every educational institution should be made obligatory because this will lessen the electricity bill. Meritorious students should be encouraged by awards and their talent has to be showcased using the latest technological tools in academic exhibitions. Every month the education departments executive heads have to visit universities, colleges, and schools. Psychological and sociological counselling classes by experts should be part of the curriculum. Every educational institution should have a health clinic on its premises. The collaboration of central and state universities with foreign universities should be promoted. Online lectures by foreign expert faculty should be introduced in our educational system. Visits to museums, historical places, archaeological sites, biological parks, industries, etc. have to be taken by the institution as a part of an academic tour to protect and showcase the importance of our nation's culture and pride. Sports should be part of a student's activity other than academics. Social responsibility among students has to be taught by teachers and should motivate centres, and palliative

care centres should be part of the curriculum. Chancellor/Governor should open grievance redressal cells so that students can approach directly through mail or call as this will provide a direct platform to access. Surprise visits of Governor to universities in every two months are very much important to know the status of the university. The government has to conduct a performance based assessment to teachers every year in their concerned subjects. Feedback from the students to be made mandatory and based on this feedback, teachers to be assessed for their future role, because there is a famous saying in Sanskrit "*Yatha Raja, Tatha Praja: As the King, So are the People*", same it connotes in education too "*Yatha Guru, Tatha Shishya: As the Teacher, So are the Students*". Preference in the recruitment process for the teachers and students has to be '*Merit-Based*' (without excluding the under privilege). Teachers who fail to complete the syllabus before semester exams then their increments and promotions should be stalled. Canteens in educational institutions should be permitted based on their cleanliness and hygienic and students should be advised to carry and prefer homemade food. Uniform or formal dressing should also be introduced in universities and colleges to end the class disparity among the students and this will build up the spirit of the discipline of oneness and uniformity.

3. IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH

Research, Development, and Management is the solution for any pandemic in any society. In education, research plays a quintessential role because without research there is no way forward to any problem in society. Unfortunately our nation is lacking behind in research and development due to various reasons. It's time to invest our energy and economy in research and development through; Fellowships, scholarships, and educational loans can help students to opt research field after their master's degrees. Research should be made lucrative through fellowships etc. So that the researchers can support themselves while investing their time and energies. After completion of Ph.D. or Post-Doctoral studies, the government has to give them preference in jobs by recruiting them in Government institutions or prestigious industries. The government also should give fellowship or scholarships to those students who are meritorious and who accept to pay back a substantial amount of their scholarship/fellowship after they get a job because this will curb the mediocrity. A stipulation for educational loans has to be made flexible. Flexibility in terms of granting loans to deserving poor students without any insurance because educational loans are an important impetus to help the downtrodden students who cannot support costly education. Government educational institutions should collaborate with industries and companies for research and research scholars should be allowed to work with them. The government has to assist meritorious research scholars if

they are interested to pursue research in prestigious abroad universities. In five years of the research period, first three years of research, scholars have to do research in India and next one year they should be sent to a foreign university for enhancement of knowledge and in the final year, his or her research findings or outcomes has to be helpful for the government. Universities have to encourage research scholars to select the Ph.D. research topics which are helpful to society at large. Research should be more pragmatic, which can enhance problem-solving faced by these pandemic times. Every year universities have to recruit research students irrespective of any issues through entrance exams and interviews. H.R.D ministry or U.G.C has to create a website for Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral students after they complete research, they should upload their thesis on the website and this will curb the plagiarism. Pre Ph.D. course work examination should be completed soon after 6months of their admission. Attendance of research scholars to the universities should be made obligatory by the universities. For the interviews of Ph.D. admission, universities have to invite distinguish academicians from prestigious institutions to curb nepotism and favouritism. The government has to allocate the budget adequately to encourage more research and development. Major investments in R& D will prepare us to tackle any untoward situation like the present one.

4. CONCLUSION

Change is inevitable in every institution or organization and henceforth changes and reforms in education post-pandemic are very important to face any challenges in the future without getting affected or undisturbed to the student and scientific community. To safeguard educational institutions the government has to take up decisions and should come up with greater reforms that will help society at large. The present

situation of the pandemic has provided us to re-strategize our priorities and face untold challenges. Change is inevitable and more to do so with the educational system. We should embrace this changed scenario in Post-COVID 19 to enable us to face an unprecedented situation in the future. Let this pandemic be a precedence to guide us into a new future. Let us put the best available technological knowledge to serve the neediest. Yes, our educational system in the post-COVID 19 is going for a major hauling and we should embrace this change with open-mind and pride.

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