

## INTERNATIONALISATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA IN THE CONTEXT OF NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY, 2020

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### ABSTRACT

Education performs a very significant role in the life of human beings which leads to the national development and at large the global development. With the implementation of various educational policies, Internationalisation of education has become a remarkable aspect as it enables the nation to establish its strong image on the global platform as well as to rule international affairs. Internationalisation of higher education in India geared after the globalisation process. This research paper reflects the several aspects of internationalisation of higher education that took place over a time indicating the flow of students coming to India and going to abroad. Not only students but it can be also seen through the set up of various educational institutions within the campus. The National Education Policy 2020 has been a key to mention several provisions regarding Internationalisation of higher education. It throws light on the areas of cooperation in higher education through multiple aspects which will help India to become Vishwa Guru. Also the government's policy measures the students flow. Internationalisation of higher education reflects the role of Indian government on the global platform which is reshaping the country's image. Though there have been several challenges in the higher education but the implementation of policy would certainly enable India to achieve its goal on the global platform.

**Keywords** – Education, Students, University, Government, Internationalisation, Globalisation

### Education as an Instrument to National Development

Education plays the versatile role in the people's life. It transforms the individual life which can impacts many other minds and finally leads to the social empowerment of the human beings. This role of education does not stop there as at large scale it leads to the overall development of nation and with the holistic approach it can also change the world. Education increases the productivity of people with new innovations and by developing the virtues and talent. Education being a soft power has focused on educated citizen being a real resource for the country's progress. The NPE (1986) beautifully states, "The human being are a positive asset and a valuable national resource which need to be cherished, nurtured and developed. The catalyst action of education in this context needs to be planned and implemented meticulously".<sup>i</sup>

### Internationalisation of Education and Globalisation

The process of Internationalisation of education implied that education shall be integrating the international, intercultural and global dimensions with the holistic objectives of education that not only imparts knowledge but also the virtues for human development. Internationalisation of education takes place both within and abroad the nation. It promotes the cross national curriculum to integrate the world closely. With the changing world the education system has also changed to a greater extend which differed from country to country. In the era of globalisation there have been changes in diverse sectors out of which education is not an exception. Globalisation has promoted the exchanges of people by developing various ties amongst the nations. Countries with the diverse foreign policy objectives has built-up multiple relations with each other in a globalised world. "The biggest advantage of globalisation is that it will create an environment of healthy competition with foreign educational institutes resulting in the exponential growth of students and teachers across the globe."<sup>iii</sup>

The competitions amongst brains can result into the national outcome. This idea attract the education sector also which has resulted into the global mingling. Globalisation has brought rise in literacy rates in India. It provides various facets to the learning system in India through technological development such as e-learning, distance education programs, overseas education with great future facilities. Particularly the globalisation has put its impacts on the higher education. Catching young brains from different countries and trained them for achieving the greater economic growth has been the most crucial result of globalisation of especially higher education. Cross border education has become one of the important sources for the future skilled labour supply for the developed nations as after completing the higher education many students did not return to their home countries.

### **Aspects of Internationalisation of Higher Education in India**

Internationalisation of higher education can be demarcated from the following aspects. It includes the intake of foreign students to India and also the flow of the Indian students going to other foreign countries for education. It also includes the important institutional arrangements to spread their networks globally.

#### **➤ Students & Cross Berder Institutional Mobility with the Establishment of Education Hubs**

Large number of students travels for education purpose from developing countries to the developed counties. This specifically happened at international level in the countries like USA, France, UK, Russia, Canada, Germany, and Australia. The flow of the students from the countries like India, China, Saudi Arabia and Republics of Korea are high to the developed countries in terms of education. China has been the leading nation to send its students to different foreign universities. "India too has increased its share of international students from 2.3 per cent to 6.0 per cent. India sends around 305 thousand students abroad for studies."<sup>iii</sup>

Internationalisation of education not only happens with the student mobility but also the institutional mobility. With the new paradigm there are new shifts in spreading the higher educational institutions or establishment of braches and forums. "The Union Cabinet passed the new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 on July 30, laying the foundations for foreign universities to operate in India. It further stated that a new law will be introduced to smooth the way for the world's top 100 universities to set up campuses in the country."<sup>iv</sup>

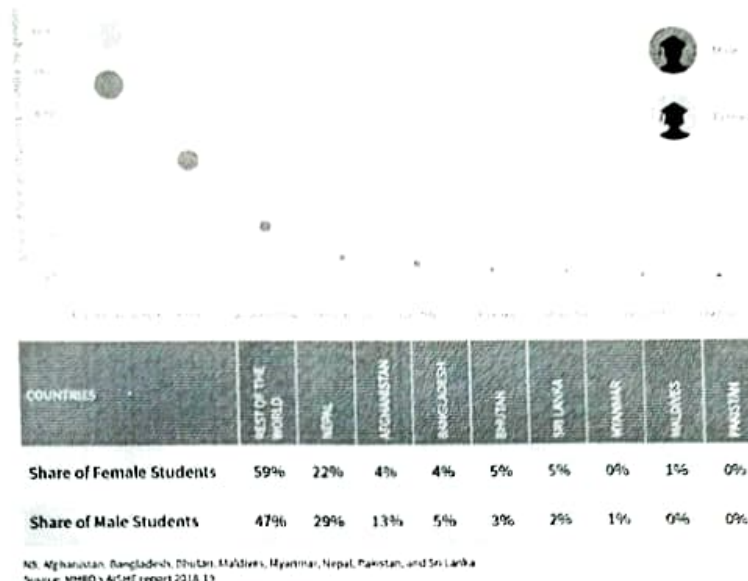
With the same even Indian Universities are also allowed to establish their campus in the other countries through MoU and several collaborations. Other than this there are several nations who have established their education hubs in different corners of the world. India being an emerging power on the global platform attracts many neighboring nation's students for higher education for exercising its influence over the region. "Some of the South Asian leaders who have benefited from an education in India include Nepal's former Prime Minister B.P. Koirala, Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi and Afghanistan's former President Hamid Karzai."<sup>v</sup>

#### **➤ Indian students abroad and Foreign Students in India**

Universities across the world have seen the constant rise of Indian students coming to their country. Various reasons like high job opportunities, great standard of living, quality education attracts young Indian minds. "The total number of Indian students overseas increased from 66,713 in 2000 to 3,01,406 in 2016, based on the analysis of data from UNESCO Institute of Statistics. This translates into 2,34,693 more students overseas in 2016 as compared to that in 2000—at a robust average annual growth rate of 22% in a span of 16 years. The growing aspirations of Indian students to access to global education reflect an expansion of high to middle-income families."<sup>vi</sup>

**Figure 3: Proportion of Male and Female Foreign Students in India (2018-19)**

Globally, more female students study in India, whereas more male students from South Asia (NI) come to India



There have been more foreign female students are coming to India as compared to male for the purpose of higher education. However, the ratio of number of male students coming from Indian neighborhood countries especially from South Asian nations is high for the purpose of education. Nepal sends the large number of students among the neighboring countries. Promising quality education at reasonable price as compared to other developed countries seems to win lots of choice preference of South Asian students for Indian education. “According to the Education Ministry’s latest AISHE report, the number of foreign students in India has gone up from 6,988 in 2000 to 47,427 in the academic year 2018-19. Much like Indian students, engineering and medicine courses are popular among foreign students.”<sup>vii</sup> India’s changing role in the international affairs as well as domestic development has put positive impacts for constant rise of foreign students within India.

### National Education Policy 2020: Provisions towards Internationalisation

With reference to the education system of India there have been many changes are made through the National Education Policy 2020. It has transformed the system of education at various levels by bringing necessary changes. The National Education Policy 2020 has been a key to highlight the areas of significance for national development with the pace of global development. It has stated the following provisions with regard to internationalisation of higher education.

- There have been several initiatives taken for the international students studying in India by the Indian government. “Courses and programmes in subjects, such as Indology, Indian languages, AYUSH systems of medicine, yoga, arts, music, history, culture, and modern India, internationally relevant curricula in the sciences, social sciences, and beyond, meaningful opportunities for social engagement, quality residential facilities and on-campus support, etc. will be fostered to attain this goal of global quality standards, attract greater numbers of international students, and achieve the goal of ‘internationalisation at home’.”<sup>viii</sup> The promotion of such initiatives highlights the positive remarks of Indian government towards its goal to internationalise the Indian education system.
- Promotion of Indian Education system as a global study destination. The mission would lead India to restore its image of Vishwa Guru.

- Facilitation of research teaching collaborations and also students – faculty exchange programs.
- To provide encouragement to the high ranking Indian universities to establish their campuses across the globe.
- To increase focus on the students participation and activities to make the campus life more happening and vibrant.
- Organize various counseling sessions for the emotional adjustments of the students that will not affect their education. Other than this, several student welfare facilities within the higher education institutions would certainly enhance the internationalisation of higher education.
- Provisions regarding the financial assistance to students to improve their life especially students belonging to lower strata of society. The financial support would be provided through scholarships and free ships.

### Conclusion

Education has been a very crucial tool for national development. The National Education Policy, 2020 provides a very holistic approach to bring development and accordingly necessary structural changes have been made at different levels of Indian education. “While the Narendra Modi government’s major initiatives such as the Global Initiative of Academic Networks and Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration have aimed at tapping the talent pool of foreign academics to improve the competitiveness of the Indian system, programs such as Institutions of Eminence have focused on creating world-class teaching and research institutions.”<sup>ix</sup> The government has chalked down various other policies and programs to enhance the educational ties with several other universities. Using education as not only a soft power but also to attract international competition has been the important objective of government. Implementation of education policy provisions regarding internationalisation of education would certainly give the positive and mutual outcome to respective nations.

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