



Status of Higher Education in India: An Empirical Study

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Abstract

Over the last two decades, India has remarkably transformed its higher education landscape. It has created widespread access to low-cost high-quality education for students at all levels. With well and a student-centric learning-driven model of education, India has not only bettered its enrolment numbers but has dramatically enhanced its learning outcomes. With the effective use of technology, India has been able to resolve the longstanding tension between excellence and equity. India has also undertaken teaching as an attractive career path, expanding capacity for doctoral students at research universities and delinking educational qualifications from teaching eligibility. During the last decade, the education sector has dominated economic planning. Despite many new national missions/programs and reforms agenda, by both the central and state governments with private sector intervention, the higher education sector is in a state of complete flux. While we have tremendously enhanced capacity, we lag in quality, given inadequate autonomy to our universities. Centralized control and a standardized approach remain at the heart of regulations. In the 21st century, we have seen countries like China, Korea and Singapore which transform from developing to advanced economies due to strategic planning and large vision that correlated economic development to transformation in the education sector, particularly in higher education and research, to become globally competitive.

Keywords: Transformed, Landscape, Program, University, Reforms, Capacity.