

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF PRIVATE EDUCATION IN INDIA

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Abstract

Despite the fact that the growth of private schooling in India is obvious, particularly in rural regions, the contours of this transition are little known due to data restrictions. Official numbers frequently understate the number of students enrolled in private schools. Furthermore, there is only a hazy grasp of the efficacy of private education in India. We can argue that private schools must be of higher quality than existing public schools if parents know what is best for their children and vote with their feet. However, two factors point to the necessity for deeper reflection: (a) There is a long history of school quality research in various contexts, particularly in the United States, indicating that much of the apparent differences in schools are due to parental choices that propel children from certain backgrounds into certain types of schools, and (b) the landscape of Indian private schools is dotted with small, unrecognised, and unregulated schools. Anyone who has seen some of these schools would not automatically conclude that private schools are superior to public schools. As a result, it is critical to do empirical research on the influence of private school enrolment on educational attainment.

1. EDUCATION

Education is the most powerful engine for personal growth. A peasant girl can become a doctor, and a farmworker's child can become the president of a major country, all thanks to education. What distinguishes one person from another is what we make of what we have, not what we are given.

Human, societal, and economic progress are all dependent on education. Education serves more than just economic purposes. It extends to social development, individual health and living situations, and society's overall well-being, with benefits that are known to compound through generations. One of the most potent instruments for eliminating poverty is high-quality education. According to Burchi (2006), studies have shown that basic education is relevant in combating food insecurity and boosting development both conceptually and experimentally.

India's 4.5 lakh privately managed schools are home to over half of the country's students (U-DISE 2015). Indian families of low and middle income are looking for private school alternatives as the policy environment works on reforming the government system to provide quality education to low-income pupils. Omidyar Network India and Central Square Foundation have collaborated on a report entitled 'State of the Sector Report on Private Schools'. Nearly half of India's school-age youngsters attend private schools, according to the survey.

Based on their own size, privately managed schools make up the world's third largest educational network behind China and India's public school networks (4.5 lakh private schools) (UIS 2015). India's 'unaided' school system has grown rapidly in the previous two decades, serving 9 crore pupils (U-DISE 2015). Parents' demands for improved education across the board are driving this rise. It is no longer the sole province of the wealthy to attend private schools.

About Rs. 1.75 lakh crores are generated by this sector (MoSPI 2015). Due to the size of the sector, the quality of education provided by these schools is vital to the development of our human resources.

2. PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Surprisingly, the government system has aided the expansion of low-cost private schools in several respects. The Indian government began implementing large-scale primary and

elementary education programmes in the 1990s, with a focus on child enrollment. Demand was sparked by community mobilisation activities that included free midday meals, textbooks, and uniforms, among other things. As government schools sprang up all over the country and parents began entrusting their children to them, parental unhappiness grew. The poor quality of government schools was reflected in missing or 'present-but-not-teaching' teachers, low levels of learning achieved by youngsters, and highly obvious corruption in school transactions. While not all government schools are of bad quality, popular views of poor quality are on the rise. Local entrepreneurs have capitalised on this unhappiness by offering a low-cost alternative. As more Indians reach higher economic levels, the number of people who are willing to pay for education is increasing (Commonwealth Secretariat, 2008).

3. GROWTH OF PRIVATE INSTITUTION

Table 1			
S. No	Year	Share of Self Finance institutions of Total institutions	Share of Students enrolment to total enrolment
1	2001	42.6	32.9
2	2007	61.8	58.9
3	2012	63.9	67.1
4	2015	65.2	68.3

Economic compulsion:

Globalization is also impacted by education due to cultural blending in schools. To govern their economies, countries have little choice but to rely on education and training in the face of a highly competitive market environment.

Charting the pressure of Privatization:

Education is in high demand. Private providers will step in if the government cannot afford to give and support all of the education that parents want for their children.

Demand side pressure:

Because they must raise money from tax payers, the government system is unable to keep up with the increase in enrollment. In this situation, the only way for the education system to grow in response to increased demand is through private provision.

Push and Pull Factors:

In general, the education system is under pressure to be privatised. Changes in the global economic and social environment are among the factors. In the event that globalisation is coupled with market liberalisation, the government will be encouraged to seek out methods that are more efficient, adaptable, and expensive.

4. CONCLUSION

Privatization has a critical role in expanding education both qualitatively and quantitatively. Private education is encouraged by both the state and federal governments in this country for economic development purposes. However, the educated masses are also affected by the dearth of quality education. While privatisation boosts degree holders and unemployment on one hand, it decreases both. Therefore, they should have access to increasing numbers of chances that will help them prepare for job in organisations or self-employment. Consequently, the study's recommendations could be followed to improve the quality of education offered through privatisation and to reduce its negative influence on education and society as a result.

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