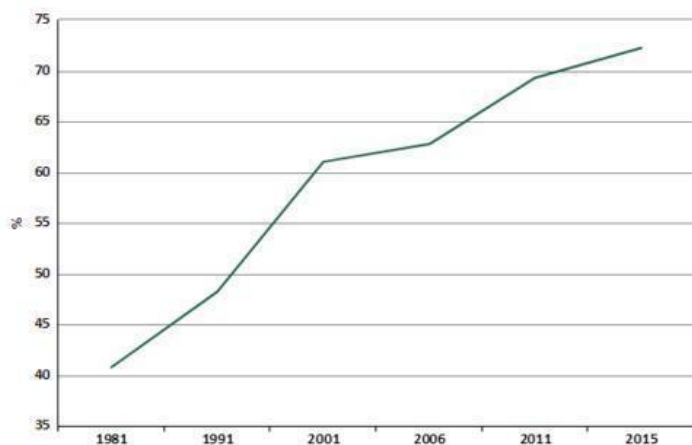


FORUM:	Advisory Panel
ISSUE:	Measures to Improve the Education System for Children and Young Adults to Strengthen the Economic Foundation of India
STUDENT OFFICER:	Charlie (Kai) Zhao
POSITION:	Deputy President of Advisory Panel

Introduction

In present days, India has a 12-year higher education schooling system. There are eight years of advanced education, including three years of bachelor's degree, two years of master's degree, and three years of doctor's degree. In addition, there are various types of vocational and technical education, adult education, and other non-formal education. There are around 350 comprehensive universities in India, including Delhi University, the famous Indian Institute of Technology, the University of Calcutta, Madras University, Bharati University, etc.

However, Indian education is still not accessible for many children and young adults. According to the relevant data in 2017, although the literacy rate of India's population has reached 75%, the adult illiteracy population is still as high as 300 million, ranking first in the world. India promotes literacy programs in 589 of the country's 600 administrative regions, striving to achieve a literacy rate of 85% by the end of the 11th five-year plan. From 2008 to 2009, the enrollment rate of children aged 6 to 14 in India was close to 100%, but the national average primary school dropout rate was as high as 31%. All these aspects have a dramatic influence on slowing the economic development in India too.



India Literacy Rate Trend

Background

The approach of advanced higher education in India is always not easy—College, expert, and specialized instruction have turned out to be exorbitant in India. The tuition charges of specialized higher education and expert establishments or learning are usually extremely high; for instance, the LNM institute of information and technology charges 146500 rupees (1970 dollars) every semester. Privatization of advanced education has created an obstacle for many young Indian students who cannot afford the high tuition from higher education.

Not only has the high tuition stopped many young adults seeking higher education in India, but financial issues also have a considerably negative impact. In recent years, institutions of higher learning all over the world have encountered different degrees of the financial crisis, and India is no exception. Among the many problems faced by higher education in India, the problem of funding is one of the more difficult to solve. Because of the shortage of funding, several universities are on the verge of bankruptcy. Many buildings in Indian Universities are in disrepair and their laboratories are empty. Due to the excessive dependence of Indian higher education institutions on government funding and the competition of various social sectors for funding, the central and state governments have been unable to provide enough funds for higher education institutions. Therefore, the financial situation of Indian higher education is still deteriorating, which is a huge problem for the Indian children to access schooling.

Additionally, Indian public schools are also suffering from poor school facilities. Many of the teachers are not well-trained, for instance, many Indian English teachers in public schools cannot speak fluent English with correct pronunciation. The teacher to student ratio is also poor, which means it is prevalent to see a teacher is responsible for a class of 80+. The computer implementation is also low, in which 57% of the public schools have no IT instruction at all. In addition, the classrooms are built in poor conditions without air conditioners, stable tables, and screens.



Indian Students in Poor Educational Condition

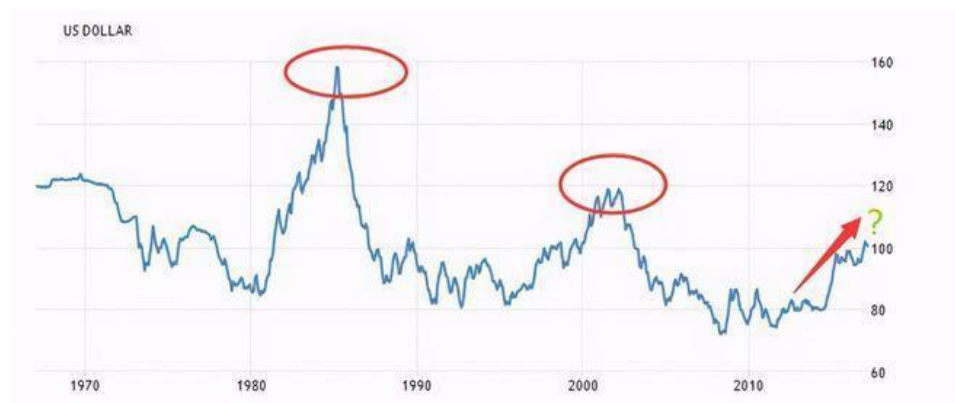
Problems Raised

Massive Gaps Between the Rich and Poor

It is found that 1 percent of the Indian population has control of 73 percent of the goods in India, while 99 percent of the others share a total amount of goods with 27 percent only. While considering this issue, it is important to remember the population of India—1.3 billion people, which is slightly fewer than that of China. In the Indian education system, rich people can always benefit from getting the most advanced education in India. On the other hand, poor people cannot obtain it. This has formed into negative cycling, in which the gap can become bigger.

Slow Economic Development

As the brain drain occurred, when most intelligent outstanding Indian young adults compare education in the USA with education in India, most of them are seeking more advanced education in the USA. Silicon Valley has 33 percent of Indian managers, which means that the most outstanding Indian workers are reluctant to go back to India to work. Without the many intelligent young adults, India is suffering from slow economic development since most of the goods Indians earn are overseas. In India, due to multiple obstacles accessing higher education, most of the young adults cannot help to develop the Indian economy.



Indian Economy Trend (Peak implies highest GDP in different era)

International Actions

Educational Investigation

Many private schools have been invested and constructed in India, following with newer teaching equipment necessary including computers, multi-media rooms, fine art utensils, etc. The investigators could be companies or corporations globally or NGOs. There is an upsurge in private institutions that have been constructed in the metropolitan areas including New Delhi, Mumbai, etc. While the construction of the private schools provides more education opportunities, private institutions only give

more opportunities for education to the richer class. Most of the young Indian students still cannot afford the high tuition charged by the private institutions.

World Bank Loans

According to the world bank website on August 7, 2015, the government of India and the government of Bihar state of India have signed a loan agreement with the world bank with a total amount of 250 million US dollars. The implementation period of the loan project is five years. The main contents include supporting the development of quality education institutions, helping unqualified primary school teachers obtain qualification certificates, providing continuous professional development training for in-service teachers, improving the efficiency and performance of teacher management, and improving the teacher accountability mechanism at the school level.



Private Institutions in India

Key Players

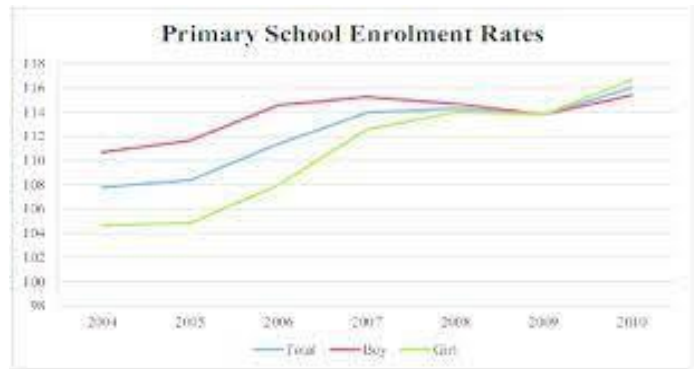
Everonn Education Limited

Everonn Education Limited is a famous listed education company in India which mainly invests in computer education, computer literacy, computer-assisted learning, and teacher training projects. In India, Everonn Education Limited mainly provides information and communication technology (ICT) education services for students in public schools through the boot mode. At present, Everonn Education Limited has launched these projects in 6628 schools in 16 states of India. Everonn cooperation has obtained some success by implementing more training programs for the professors, which means increasing the quality of the educator. The Everonn cooperation also provided more learning facilities such as IT rooms, smart boards, etc.

India

Indian governments have recognized the fact that school age children become an important labor force to maintain family life, and the dropout rate of school students is as high as 31%. Only 86% of the students have completed all the primary school courses, and only 55% have entered junior high school. In

response to the above situation, the Indian government has actively taken various measures including more professional educator trainings, student loans and cooperation with foreign educational investigators to increase the secondary school enrollment rate to 75% by 2014 and 100% by 2017 (which are all not reached until today in 2021)



Indian Primary School Enrollment Rates

Possible Solutions

School Voucher Program

School voucher is a valuable bill issued by the government. The use of school vouchers can help students from poor families to choose schools they are satisfied with and promote fair competition between public schools and private schools. Without the implementation of the voucher program, many students in poor families decided to not go to school—not only because of the tuition problem, but also poor families believe the student could go to work earlier to make money. By implementing this program, more Indian students could have the opportunity to obtain the education services, so the overall enrollment of the country could be higher.

Purchase of Educational Service from Private Institutions

Although public schools in India do not charge fees and private schools charge more than 12500 rupees (168 dollars) per student per month, most parents choose to send their children to private schools because of the poor teaching effect of public schools. In India, 63% of secondary schools are private schools, and the development momentum is positive. Compared with public schools, private schools have the following advantages: better infrastructures,



Norway prime minister visited the Government—funded Indian

a lower ratio of students to teachers, higher quality of education, and more opportunities for teacher training. Among the rural population, 28% of primary school students study in private schools in the village. The government sponsors students from public schools to study in private schools designated by the government and provides subsidies to students who are admitted to qualified private schools. By accepting this solution, more students would be able to attain the government sponsored education while learning in private schools. The enrollment rate could be higher, and the literacy rate could also be increased.

Glossary

Brain Drain

A Human Geography term implicating a high amount of highly educated and outstanding population is leaving the country and seeking work in other places.

Literacy Rate

The percent of the population in the country that can read and write.

Voucher

A type of coupon that could be certified by the government for a specific function.

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