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Changing Dimensions Of Commerce Education In 21st Century: Issues And Challenges For Teachers

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Abstract: Apart from Humanities and Science, Commerce is a fundamental academic stream in India. The field of commerce deals with trading things of economic value between two or more entities, in other words, exchange of services or goods from a producer to the final consumer. The field of commerce is the most influential and strongest social institution these days. As a branch of knowledge, Commerce education imparts the experience of the business world in all its manifestations. The growing phenomenon of privatization, globalization and liberalization has had an immense impact on the Commerce education. Commerce education imparts the experience of the business world in all its manifestations. It equips students with a number of specialized skills that help them excel in different functional areas of trade, industry and commerce. Commerce education is a living discipline and is totally different from other disciplines. Hence, it must charter new routes to service the aspirations of the nation. To man the economic development of the country and to meet the growing needs of the society, there is greater demand for sound development of commerce education in Indian Universities. The new National Education Policy 2020 will help in driving revolutionary change in the Indian educational system including commerce education. While giving impetus to India's vision to become the "Global Knowledge Superpower". The restructuring of higher education institutions that aims to become multi-disciplinary institutions will raise the standards of higher education in India by reassuring opportunities to deserved student community. The growing public sector of the country should also afford opportunities to the Commerce teachers on their boards and works council. If the teachers are trained in this manner the Commerce graduates would be automatically trained. The representation of Commerce teachers on the boards of private as well as public sectors of the industry, referring the problems of industry to the universities would make Commerce graduates more useful for the country.

Keywords: Skill, Career, Profession, Competency, Teaching, Trends.

I. INTRODUCTION

Commerce education is a form of instructions that directly as well as indirectly prepares a businessman for his calling. It prepares students for socially desirable and personally fruitful careers in the field of business and finance. While pursuing higher education in Commerce in India, students acquire the knowledge of business trade, fluctuations in the market, fiscal policies, basics of economics, industrial policies, etc. The education imparted to Commerce students tends to equip them with a number of specialised skills that help them excel in different functional areas of trade, industry and commerce.

Universal high-quality education is the best way forward for developing and maximizing our country's rich talents and resources for the good of the individual, the society, the country, and the world. India will have the highest population of young people in the world over the next decade, and our ability to provide high-quality educational opportunities to them will determine the future of our country.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

- **Mohammed Zeeshan (2020)** says, “With interdisciplinary studies and a more liberal approach with respect to student choices we will be noticing a considerable change in career decisions and career trends. The students will be able to make more informed career decisions, and with vocational studies and internships even get practical hands-on experience with hard-skills.”
- **Rohan Parikh (2020)** opinions, “The new education policy is a well written and forward-looking policy that has taken into account the views of every stakeholder in the field. The focus should now be on a strong push to implement these reforms and have a positive impact on the ground.”
- **P.S.Aithal and Shubhrajyotsana Aithal (2020)** says, Well defined and futuristic education policy is essential for a country at school and college levels due to the reason that education leads to economic and social progress. Different countries adopt different education systems by considering the tradition and culture and adopt different stages during their life cycle at school and college education levels to make it effective. Various innovations and predicted implications of NEP 2020 on the Indian higher education system along with its merits are discussed. Finally, some suggestions are proposed for its effective implementation towards achieving its objectives.
- **D. Obul Reddy (2007)** opined, till yester years, commerce education is business education. But, in tune with the needs of the business and society, independent professions have emerged in the form of chartered accountant, cost and works accountant, company secretary and business administrator (M.B.A.). Thus, the cream of commerce has gone and it remained now as an academic discipline giving general and liberal education.

III. RESEARCH GAP

The present courses are not adequate in preparing the students for competitive examinations either. The present system of commerce education does not equip the students either for taking up jobs requiring knowledge of general subjects or jobs that demand knowledge of a technical or specialized nature. Time

has come now when a commerce graduate is not being accepted even as a qualified book-keeper. Consequently, he finds himself in a “no man’s land” neither a generalist nor a specialist.

IV. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The commerce education does not base the students with job based knowledge and also not based with the technical knowledge. The commerce students are not accepted even as a book keeper in most of the contemporary cases. They are graduates and masters of various subjects but not expert and skilled in single subject. In this context it is need to study the changing dimensions in commerce education in 21st century.

V. NEED FOR THE STUDY

Analysing the contemporary situation of commerce education in India it is essential to identify and list the issues and challenges facing by the Commerce educators i.e. Commerce teachers or Academicians. In order to overcome those challenges and boom the commerce education as a knowledge super power among all the other disciplines and also to shine in new regime of education efficiently and effectively.

VI. OBJECTIVES

- Finding out the challenges of Commerce Education in India
- Identifying the challenges of Commerce teachers in India
- Analysing the future trends in Commerce Education in India.

VII. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study is focused on the Commerce Education in India with special reference to the Changing scenario of Indian Education system under New Education Policy-2020 focusing on challenges of Commerce Education and Commerce teachers in India.

VIII. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The data collection is from secondary sources. Secondary data consists of research papers, articles and survey reports and websites.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

1. Challenges of Commerce Education in India

With a quantum jump in the business world, the need to redefine and strengthen the commerce education in India has increased. Commerce education is considered as the backbone of serial development of business in the nation. So, it is important that a sector as crucial as this one, there are no flaws in the system. Here are some challenges that commerce education is or will be facing in India.

- Reforming International and Indian economic sectors.
- Emerging issues in commerce, global economy and management.
- Internationalisation or globalisation of Financial Market in the world.
- Government policies.

- Challenges in the current market as with respect to the international scenario.

2. Issues and Challenges of Commerce teachers in India

i. Embrace technology in the classroom

Teaching will have to change dramatically to increase participation in the classroom and promote 'inquiry-based, discussion-based methods' envisaged by NEP. Teachers who have adopted online through the Covid-19 crisis can elevate their impact by exploring aspects of a hybrid classroom to build engagement.

ii. Lack of Time for Planning

Unlike in the past when teachers can't just finish off their syllabus and typically evaluate the students. The situation is more challenging today. They will have to handle multiple roles in the classroom. Updating the subject to new demands, correcting materials, content presentations, managing field trips as well as bringing in new creative approaches to meet the present educational trends are a few among them. Teachers are finding it really challenging to handle multiple roles as they lack enough time for planning.

iii. Performance Pressure from School Administrators

Unlike in the past, there are serious competitors in every field and the situation is no different in the teaching career. Everyone is being challenged always to give out their best because a better person is knocking on your role. This causes a lot of pressure from school administrators to perform well every time without leaving any point of blame.

A teacher is now accountable for the win percentage of the class, the lines of the student growth indicators, and even the disciplinary factors of the class they handle. Being accountable for a number of roles other than quality teaching is sure to put on a lot of performance pressure on teachers.

iv. Balancing Diverse Learning Needs

Let it be any school, the type of students in a classroom will be different and they will have diverse learning needs. Satisfying all of them in the same way while approaching a particular curriculum will be a serious challenge. Nowadays, teachers are trying differential teaching strategies to satisfy a slow learner and quick learner. So they will be forced to bring in a lot of creativity and diverse strategies which in turn require additional preparation time. However, once you learn to come out of it, it will, of course, be an empowering experience for your career and for the benefit of the classroom, as well.

v. Get burn out easily

It can be fun and relaxed to take up teaching as a profession as you can be in the company of kids and youth which keeps you young. At the same time, a lot of factors like we discussed can cause them to burn out easily.

Feeling overworked, unsupported, underpaid, lack of personal time, the difficulty of work-life balance and not getting proper rest all can result in burnout. Overworking can even affect the most energetic teacher and this can impact the way they handle class too causing more serious problems.

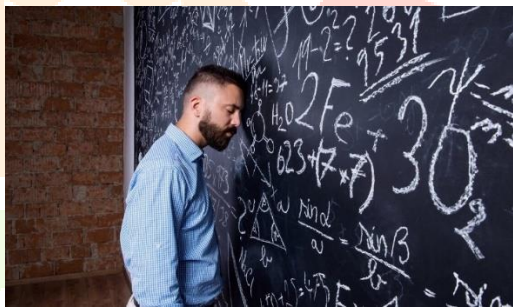
vi. Changing Educational Trends

This is one of the worst classroom challenges faced by teachers as educational trends have been changing every year. Schools will be eager to adopt new technologies and tools to update new trends. However, they may not take the same effort to give proper training to teachers on how to use these new tools. Teachers will have to figure out how effectively they can utilize the new tools.

This can result in inconsistency in their teaching styles and more often leading to frustration and low job satisfaction.

vii. Lack of Self-Time

The whole day long teachers do multi-tasking for an effective teaching-learning process. And often teachers are forced to neglect their own bodies. They won't go for refreshments in between. There are even hectic days, where they even skip lunch.



Source: Internet

viii. Teachers working too many roles at the same time

More than a teacher, he/she should take up the role of a social worker, counsellor, psycho educator, or more at times. They are expected to shoulder different roles throughout the day. Most of the teachers feel that they are compelled to adopt these roles themselves though they are not trained for these.

He/she willingly take up these roles only because they care for their students more than themselves.

ix. Inspiring Students to be more Self-Directed

Teachers face a hard time in getting students to be more self-directed. They are looking for ways to reduce the pressure of students by evoking interest and curiosity in young minds. They cross-check whether lessons are taught in a convincing way, homework is delivered systematically and is accessible anywhere, etc.

x. Differentiating and Personalizing Teaching

What works for one student does not work for the other. Teachers are clear about this and are looking for newer ways to analyse and evaluate different skill levels. Media- enhanced exams, newer question types, etc. are some of the changes that teachers are looking for diversifying teaching methods, but keeping it simple is the right solution, but it is hard to execute.

3. Future trends in Commerce Education in India

A commerce graduate has ample opportunities in the private as well as government sector. Taking the current scenario and development into account, India will experience standards-based education in Commerce that focuses on outcomes for student learning. As per a research study, the number of commerce students/aspirants in India will rise to 100 million in the next few years. This will create even more job opportunities and career scope for commerce education.

CONCLUSION

In the new regime, the traditional commerce education will become redundant. With the increased emphasis on global economy and information, higher education is viewed as very essential. With the changing trends in the education system, there has been an explosion of knowledge and technologies in all spheres. In such a situation, it is important that Commerce education does not face compromise with respect to quality as commerce education provides ample opportunities to graduates for employment.

The new education policy must help to recruit the very best and brightest to enter the teaching profession at all levels, by ensuring livelihood, respect, dignity, and autonomy, while also instilling in the system basic methods of quality control and accountability.

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