EDUCATION FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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ABSTRACT

The Central Govt. of India formulated National Youth Policy in 2014 which replaced the earlier ones. The NYP 2014 has pressed **11 Priority Areas** related to the development of youth. It has been provided in the NYP 2014 that, the government recognizes not only is it essential to support youth currently at risk but also to ensure that, youth are not faced with circumstances in the future that put at risk. It is important to create system of education &**moral transformation** at gross root level to eliminate various practices of **stigmatization** &**discrimination**& deliver **socialjustice** for all.

The existing system of education related to the persons of age group 15 to 29 years should be molded drastically to attain their optimum development. The education given to the youth should play the role of **character education** and bring their **holistic development**.

KEYWORDS : Priority Areas, Moral Transformation, Stigmatization, Discrimination, Social Justice,Character Education , Holistic development.

INTRODUCTION

Innocent youth is a priceless possession not to be squandered away for the sake of a momentary excitement, miscalled pleasure."

-    Mahatma Gandhi.

Mahatma Gandhi has rightly said that, youth of a nation is an invaluable/ priceless asset and a number of elements may deviate the youth from right path & hence, the process of youth development becomes very important in the life of society and nation at large.

❖ AGENCIES OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Family, Society, Media, Literature, the Government and Non Government organizations may play a key role in the process of youth development. In addition to these, the education (formal, informal & Non formal) may be an important agent of the youth development.

Truly, the youth are the most important & dynamic segment of the population in any country. Our nation is witnessing a historic demographic shift & India's ability to find its rightful place in the community of Nation's depends upon how well we as a nation, can harness the latent power of young people of our country. The Youth in the age group of 15-29 years comprise 27.5%, of the population and contributes about 34% of India's Gross National income (GNI). Therefore, the process of Youth Development becomes very important and needs to study the every possible role of education in the process of youth Development.

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❖ **WHY THIS STUDY? – OBJECTIVES.**

By taking into consideration the significance of youth in the national development, the present researcher has undertaken this study with following objectives.

1) To study the Government of India initiatives on youth development.
2) To study the role of education in youth development.
3) To suggest an Educational System for effective youth development in India.

OBJECTIVE 1

To study the Govt. of India initiatives on youth development.

1) The central Govt. of India, through different Policies, Programs, Schemes has taken initiatives on youth development. Some of the important Govt. of India Policies Programs on Youth & Adolescent Development are 1)National Youth Policy 2014 (NPY 2014) 2) National Program for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD) 3)National Skill Development. Policy 2009

1) National Youth Policy 2014 (NPY 2014)

The Central Govt. of India formulated the NYP in 2014 which highlights the youth related issues like Importance of Youth, Youth Related Efforts in India, Vision, Objective & Priority Areas of NYP 2014, Current Policies & Future Imperatives, Youth Development & Education, Employment & Skill Development, Entrepreneurship, Health & Healthy Life Style, Sports, Promotion of Social Values, Community Engagement, Inclusion, Social Justice, Monitoring, Evaluation & Review, Recommendations on the Way Forward etc.

Highlights in the NYP 2014

1) India lies on the cusp (apex/peak) of a demographic transition, similar to one that, fuelled the spectacular rise in GDP of East Asian Tigers in the second half of the 20th century. However, in order to capture this demographic dividend, it is essential that, the economy has the ability to support the increase in the labour force &the youth have appropriate Education, Skills, Health awareness & other enablers to productively contribute to the economy.

2) Youth in the age group of 15-29 years comprise 27.5% of the population. At present, about 34% of India's Gross National income (GNI) is contributed by the youth, aged to increase the contribution of this class of nation's citizenry by increasing their labour force participation & their productivity.

3) The Govt. of India (GOI) currently invests more than Rs. 90,000 Cr. Per annum on youth development programs or approximately Rs. 2710 per young individual per year through youth targeted programs like higher education, skill development, health care etc & non targeted programs like food subsidies, employment etc. In addition, the state Govt. & a no. of other stakeholders are also working to support youth development & to enable productive youth participation. However, individual organizations in non-Government sector are small,fragmented & there is little co-ordination between the various stakeholders working on youth issues.

4) The objectives of NYP 2014 are 1) To create a productive work force,that can make a sustainable contribution to India's economic development 2) To develop a strong & healthy generation equipped to take future challenges. 3) Instill Social values & promote community service to build national ownership. 4) To facilitate participation & civic engagement at all levels of governance .5) To support youth at risk & create equitable opportunity for all disadvantaged & marginalized youth. 5) The NYP 2014 has pressed different Priority Areas related to youth. They are – 1) Education. 2) Employment & skill development. 3) Entrepreneurship 4) Health & Healthy life style. 5) Sports 6) Promotion of Social Values 7) Community Engagement. 8) Participation in Politics & Governance 9) Youth Engagement 10) Inclusion 11) Social Justice.

2) National Program for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD)

This scheme NPYAD has been formulated by merger of four 100% central sector grants in aid schemes of the Ministry of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship, Youth Affairs & Sports during 10th plan

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namely Promotion of Youth Activities & Training, Promotion of National Integration, Promotion of Adventure & Development & Empowerment of Adolescents with a view to reduce multiplicity of schemes with similar objectives & ensuring uniformity in funding pattern. Some of the objectives of this scheme were – 1) to provide opportunity for holistic development of youth including Adolescents for realization of their fullest potential. 2) todevelop leadership qualities & Personality development of youth & to channelize their energy towards socio economic development & growth of nation. 3) to engage & channelize the energy of youth in a positive manner for nation building. 4) to develop amongst the youth a sense of pride in nationally accepted values like democracy, socialism, & secularism.

3)   National skill Development Policy 2009

The Central Govt. of India formulated National Skill Development Policy in 2009. The outcomes of Skill Development Policy are 1) Demand Driven System guided by Labour market signals thereby reducing Skills mismatch: Labour market information & HR planning 2) Expansion of outreach using established as well as innovative approaches. 3) System to deliver competencies in line with nationally & internationally recognized standards. 4) focus on new emerging occupations 5) Life Long Learning (L3). 6) Equity consideration. 7) Stress on research, planning & monitoring. 8) involvement of Social partners. 9) Promoting excellence 10) use of modern training technologies. 11) Skill up gradation of trainers.

Thus, central Govt. of India has adopted various Policies, Programs Schemes for youth development.

Objective – 2
To study the role of education in youth development.

It has been said that, education is the catalyst of national development.

The present researcher views that, the present education system should play a role of Character Education, Prevention and Positive Youth Development.

The term Character Education is defined as, the deliberate use of all dimensions of school life to faster optimal character development & utilizes every aspect of schooling. The goals of character education are, thus essentially the goals of raising good children, youth who understand & care about.

The Principles of Character Education are 1) Promote core ethical values as the basis of good character. 2) Define character comprehensively. 3) Use a comprehensive intentional, proactive & effective approach. 4) Create a caring school community 5) Provide students with opportunities to engage in moral action. 6) Provide a meaningful& challenging curriculum. 7) foster students intrinsic motivation to learn & to be good people. 8) engage the school staff as Professionals 9) foster shared moral leadership 10) engage families & community members as partners in character education 11) Evaluate the character of school, its staff & its students.

Character Education appears to put students on a path towards successful life outcomes & is therefore, an approach to primary prevention. A good Character Education program establishes a reinforcing system of positive influences that helps the youth to deal effectively with life & avoid becoming involved in negative behaviors which supports antisocial attitudes & behaviors.

❖ The Role of Schools & Teachers in character Education to promote positive development of youth.

The role of schools & Teachers in Character Education shall be 1) Build caring & supportive relationships in the classroom & throughout the school. 2) Model positive behavior 3) create opportunities for students be actively & meaningfully involved in the life of the classroom& school 4) Teach essential social &emotional skills. 5) Involve students in moral discourse 6) Make learning tasks meaningful & relevant to students lives. 7) Leave no child behind.

Thus, the education should play a role of Character Education, Prevention& an agent of Positive Youth Development.

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Objective – 3

To suggest an education system for effective youth development in India.

        To foster effective development of persons of the age 15-29 years, the existing educational system should contain following additional elements.

1) Interdisciplinary nature.
2) Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)
3) Academic Flexibility.
4) Cultivate 21st Century skills – e.g. Civil Literacy, Global Awareness, Financial Literacy, Health Literacy, Environmental literacy, Communication & Collaboration, Critical Thinking & Problem Solving, Creativity & Innovation, Life Skills, Professional Development.
5) Physical & Health Education.
6) Entrepreneur & Employability Skills.
7) Knowledge of Indian constitution, Scientific Temper, National Integration & International Understanding.
8) Knowledge of India's composite culture, Multicultarism
9) Earn while learn – Education for Bread & Butter.
10) Curricula – Philosophy, Sociology & Psychology components & exposure to the life Sketches of Philosophers like Swami Vivekanand.
11) Character Education, Prevention & Positive Youth Development.
12) Life Skills Education.
13) Theory, Practical & Oral Work,
14) Leadership skills.
15) High Order Thinking skills (HOTS).

CONCLUSION & DISCUSSION

        The youth form an important segment of the population of India. The central Govt. of India is taking different initiatives through policies, programs & schemes to develop/empower the youth & adolescents.

        The youth should be provided with a sound educational system, so as to enhance their productivity, contribution in national development, to mould their multi dimensional personality, nurture creativity & innovativeness, to raise the sense of Indianness, to cultivate among them values as enshrined in Indian Constitution. The learning & Teaching of Indian constitution should form an integral part of Curricula at different levels, which will lead India to march on the path of development in different walks/sectors of life.

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