

Vol 7 Issue 1 Oct 2017

ISSN No : 2249-894X

*Monthly Multidisciplinary
Research Journal*

*Review Of
Research Journal*

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A STUDY ON ENHANCING QUALITY HIGHER EDUCATION IN TELANGANA STATE

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ABSTRACT :

A new law enshrining the rights of all children to free and compulsory education will further lift enrolment, bringing closer the government's goal of universal elementary education, Private sector involvement in school education has increased the literacy rate. In higher education, access has not always been assured and the availability of student information technology for higher education needs to improve. Poor learning outcomes amongst school students and mediocre higher education provision call for more effective government regulation and funding arrangements. Expanding resources will help but they need to be deployed more effectively, while incentives and professional development systems in information technology at this higher level is very much essential in 21st century.

In higher education the government has proposed reforms which have the potential to bring about much-needed improvements in regulatory effectiveness. Increasing the number of institutions subjected to quality assessments will be important for lifting standards across the higher education system.

This paper highlights the role of the government in enhances the quality in higher

education in this era of competition. The challenges faced in imparting the quality education.

KEYWORDS : Higher Education, Quality, Development, Challenges.

INTRODUCTION

As of 2011, Indian higher education system is spread over 42 central universities, 275 state universities, 130 deemed universities and 90 private universities. Additionally 5 institutions were established functioning under the State Act, along with 33 Institutes of National Importance. Nearly 33,000 institutions function as Government and Private Degree Colleges which also include 1800 exclusive women's colleges. Today the number of private higher education institutions stands at 64% and enrolments at 59% from the total number of institutions and enrolments in the country. This is a significant jump from the statistics of the decade before where private institutions stood at 43% enrolments at 33% and is an obvious index to an improving educational system through private anticipation.

In this era of globalization and hyper competition, the concept of teaching has undergone sea changes, learning and dissemination of information are becoming more important. It lies in effectiveness of transmitting knowledge and skills, the authenticity, content, coverage and depth of information, availability of reading & teaching materials help in removing obstacles. Information technology has progressed very fast in the last three decades, it has produced equipments at affordable cost and it has now made their wider application feasible. This information technology can be applied for enhance the quality of higher education at affordable cost for the young generation.

ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher Education plays a very important role towards the development of the nation. Even why India is status of developing nation means, that is due to the lack of enhancing the quality education. There is a need to enhance quality higher education. Nearly

73% of population are still residing in the rural area away from the higher education. Only the major cities in India are reachable for higher education system.

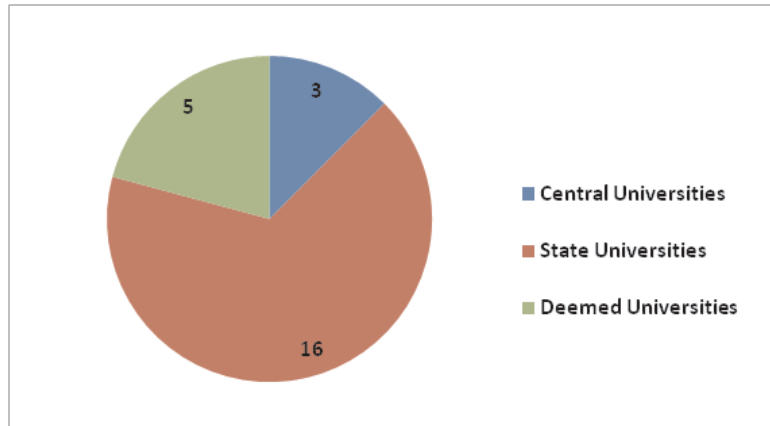
India has a large higher education system. It has more than 600 universities and over 33000 colleges with more than 20 million students. These includes higher education in the fields of technical, medical, law, forestry, etc.

The present situation of higher education system in India is complex and challenging. With the increase in population, there has been surge in the number of students seeking admission in these universities and colleges for higher education. In the field of higher education in India, there was the time when population of the country was much lesser and higher education was accessible to all and everyone.

Higher Educational Institutions in Telangana State

It needs to be underlined that the quality of education imparted varies widely among higher education institutions in India. India has very high quality institutions which are limited in number. However, the fact that no higher education institution from India appears on the list of world-ranking universities continues to be a major concern and an element of public discourse. The major challenge in improving quality of higher education lies with addressing issues related to teaching and learning in the majority of institutions, which are colleges affiliated to universities. There is need for active intervention to improve quality and these interventions need to concentrate more on state-level institutions and affiliated colleges in India which are engaged more at the undergraduate level study programmes than at the post-graduate level programmes

• No. of Central Universities	: 03
• No. of State Universities	: 16
• No. of Deemed Universities	: 05
Total Universities	: 24

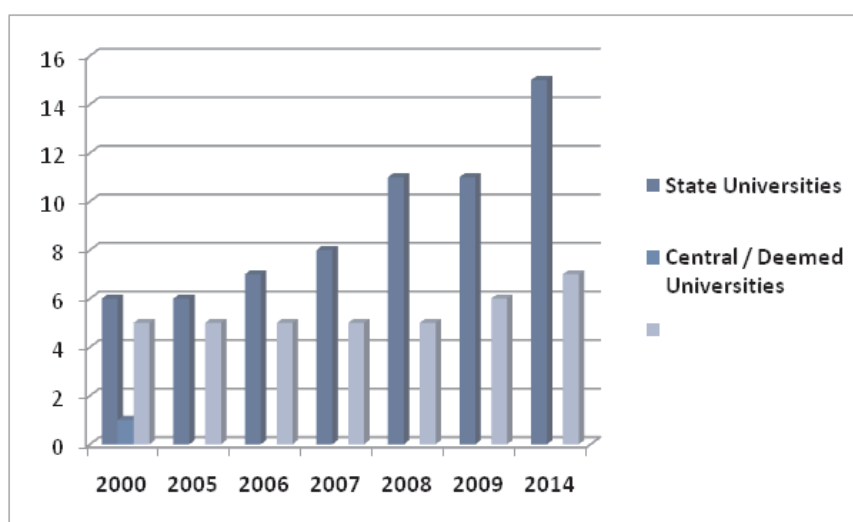


In the Telangana state total there are 24 Universities which are imparting higher education. There are 03 Central Universities, 05 Deemed Universities and 16 State Universities. These universities are established as per the UGC norms to impart higher education to the students under different groups i.e. Post Graduation, MBA/MCA, LLB, Pharmacy, Engineering, B.Ed etc.,

Raise of Higher Educational Institutions (2000-2014)

There is a raise in the establishing the higher educational universities in the state of Telangana. Due to the importance and need of higher education in the present era of globalization the state took the initiative for establishing new universities wherever there is a need. The number of state universities in the year 2009 were 11 but the number raised to 15 during the year 2014, central universities to 07.

Year	State Universities	Central / Deemed Universities
2000	6	5
2005	6	5
2006	7	5
2007	8	5
2008	11	5
2009	11	6
2014	15	7



From the above table it is analyzed that there is increase in the establish of new universities from the year 2007 onwards. The state universities were established in each district of telangana state due to the importance and need of higher education. Mostly in the rural areas of the telangana state there is a need for enhancing the quality of higher education in the state. Keeping in the view they have establish 2008. i.e., Telangana University, Palamur University, Mahatma Gandhi University, Sathavahana University etc.

GROSS ENROLMENT RATIO (GER)

Since the country's human resource is distributed in varied developmental pockets like urban, semi-urban, rural and tribal areas with diversified geophysical regions the accessibility has been the priority of Higher Education (HE). To extend upward linkages to the successful students of 10+2, Higher Education has been taking much care of tertiary education. The main concerned of Higher Education today is Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER). The State-wise GERs show a wide range from 3.5 in Daman and Diu to 41.4 in Chandigarh. Thereby massification of HE is contemplated with GER targets to strike balance among States. Consequently tertiary education institutions are established. The institutional density is also showing mammoth variation among States, as low as 0.2 in Arunachal Pradesh to 236.8 in Chandigarh. The average enrolments data against the population and institutions across the States again show phenomenal variation.

The State of Telangana stands at 12.72 (Approx) in GER and 7.3 (Approx) in Institutional Density (the figures calculated approximately based on number of Institutions existed in united A.P). The Higher Education and TSCHE are exercising to propose targets to achieve excellence. The RUSA in this regard is considered as one of the paths to bring in equity in Higher Education.

Quality Higher Educational : Telangana State

The telangana state was formed on 2nd June 2014, before that it was in the combined state of Andhra Pradesh. Before bifurcation of the state the telangana region was neglected in the area of higher education. The rural areas of the Telangana regions were out of reach of the quality of higher education. After the new state came into existence, the state government of the Telangana State has focused on enhancing the quality education throughout the state.

The telangana state government is taking steps towards enhancing quality education at higher education level. The government has taken initiatives to close the professional colleges which are running without proper infrastructure facilities and staff in the state. Mostly engineering colleges running without proper infrastructure were ordered to close. This shows the impact of the government towards the quality education.

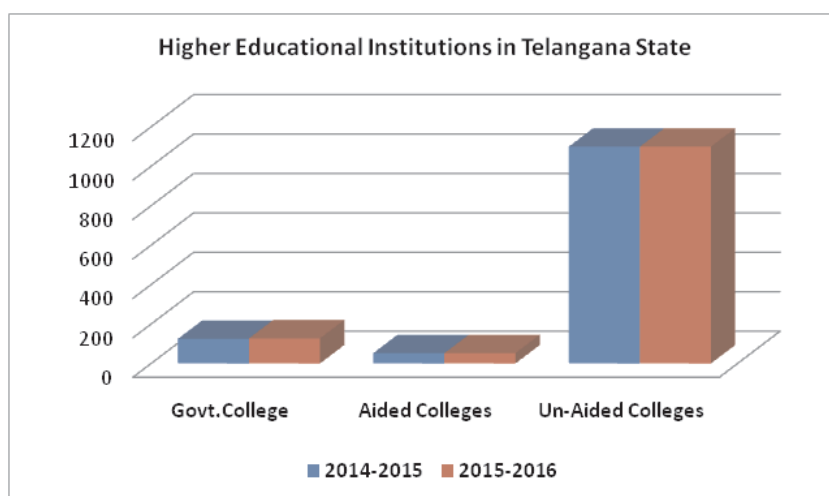
The exponential expansion of education has lead to some quality deterioration. In order to strike a balance between massification of education and quality the Assessment and Accreditation councils came into existence and they have been issuing quality certification. Linking certification to the public funding has resulted in maintaining some quality institutions. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) accredited Colleges across the States show varied picture from as low as 2 colleges in Sikkim to 691 colleges in Maharashtra, while the Telangana Stands with 109 colleges in the country. The colleges data is showing considerable variation among States. The reasons could be assigned to both the takers and the assessing authority. However, the introspecting performance quality is a good trend picking up in HE institutions.

There is a need to impart quality of education to all the students who are taken admission into different regular and professional courses. Todays citizens are the future nation builders. It is the responsibility of the government to see that the students are facilitated with good quality of Higher Education to the future generation..

Degree Colleges :

The number of educational institutions in telangana state from the year 2014-2015 to 2015-16. There is increase in the Govt. Colleges during the academic year 2015-2016. The telangana government felt the need of increasing the government colleges to provide the higher education to all the students in the rural and urban areas. The government has took steps towards providing the quality of education to students in the state. New Government colleges were established with the aim to provide good quality of education in the rural areas,

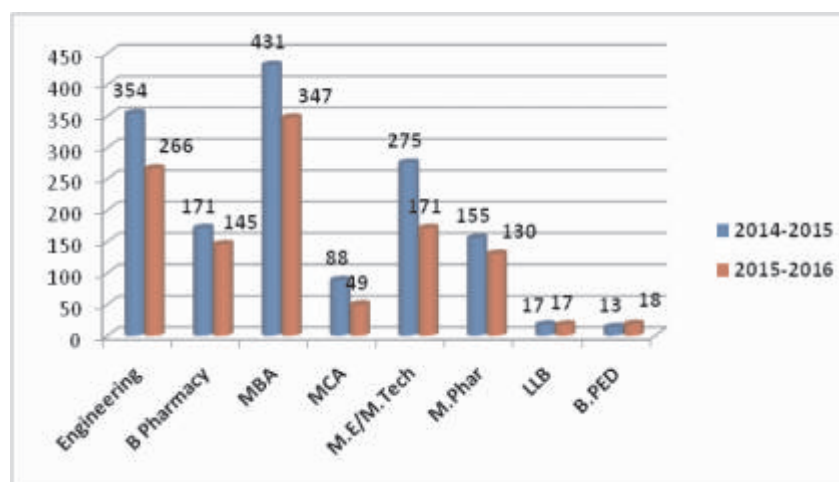
Year	Govt.College	Aided Colleges	Un-Aided Colleges
2014-2015	124	52	1099
2015-2016	127	52	1099



Professional Colleges in at University Level

There is a tremendous need to enhance the professional courses in the state. The Telangana Government permitted for establishing the professional courses in different university. To enhance the quality of higher education in these professional universities. After verification of the college infrastructure and faculty positions with required qualifications, most of the colleges were closed in the state. During 2015-2016 most of the professional colleges were closed due to not following the guidelines.

Year	Engineering	B Pharmacy	MBA	MCA	M.E/M.Tech	M.Pharm	LLB	B.PED
2014-2015	354	171	431	88	275	155	17	13
2015-2016	266	145	347	49	171	130	17	18



From the above table it is analyzed that, there is a decrease in the number of colleges during the academic year 2015-2016 in all professional colleges. This is due to the inspection and checking of the quality in the colleges, As most of the professional colleges does not have the quality of teaching they were instructed to close the college.

This action shows the dedication of the state government towards enhancing the quality of higher education in the state.

The following are the Problems in achieving Quality of Higher Education

- **Access of Institutions :** The major problem for achieving higher education is the access of the institutions. Due to this most of the students are not able to afford their higher education in the rural areas.
- **Research :** Due to non availability of universities the talented students are also not encouraged to do their research work. The research work will help towards the development, innovation.
- **Skill Development :** It is very essential that the skills among the students must be encouraged and developed from time to time. This can enhance the talent of skill development among the students. Due to lack of skill development most of the talented students are not coming forward to prove their talent.
- **Costly Education :** Due to high expensive in higher education professional courses most of the students are not enrolling them self. As they are not able to pay the high fees which are charged for the professional colleges.
- **Employment Opportunities :** Even though they are highly qualified, they are unable to get the required job. They are remained as the unemployed. Only few professional courses are given priority to get employment or self employment.

CONCLUSIONS

The analysis shows that higher education in India has been expanding very fast. There is a need for facilitating the quality of higher education in India. The government should take initiatives towards enhancing the quality at the higher education level. Which ever institutions are running without proper infrastructure, labs and faculty are supposed to close. The provision of required qualified teachers at the institutional level is very important.

The quality higher education will tremendous leads towards the development of the nation. The higher education provides the future scientist, professionals, teachers, academicians etc. The telangana state government was successful in enhancing the quality of higher education.

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