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# **Changing Education System In India: Past And Present**

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#### Abstract:

Education is the single most important factor determining any country's progress. It should be updated to reflect current events and changing global realities. It stimulates critical thinking about social, economic, cultural, moral, and spiritual issues impacting humanity. A more efficient and educated workforce is required to propel the nation's economy ahead. To become a productive player in the global economy, education, particularly higher education, must be increased through R&D activities. This study focuses on the overall performance of India's education system in changing era.

Keywords: Education and Technology, India's Education System, Modern Approach Towards Education System, Global Economy.

### Introduction:

Higher education is vital for a developing nation like India since it fosters human growth while also advancing the country itself. Higher education in India has expanded at an unparalleled rate since independence. India has entered a new period of knowledge explosion thanks to the considerable contribution of labour and resources given by higher education, particularly technical education. Its achievements in the nuclear and space industries demonstrate its enormous potential. Higher education allows people to reflect on the crucial social, cultural, moral, economic, and spiritual concerns confronting humanity. A growing youth population can be a great asset if the potential employability is realised. Conversely, if we fail to provide education and employment, it will open a negative side for the Indian economy. Education is an essential tool for achieving sustainability. 'The Education Commission 1964-66 described the role of education in social and economic transformation with a statement - The density of a nation is shaped in its classrooms. It assumes that education creates human capital which is the core of economic progress and externalities generated by human capital are the source of self-sustaining economic processes'1.

Although India has a wonderful legacy of higher education institutions, the formalization of the education system began after independence. Initially focused on primary and secondary education, there was a growing demand for ongoing skill development beyond traditional academic boundaries.

### **Education And Technology:**

Information and Communication Technology refers to technology that includes electronic equipment and related human interactive content that enables the user to use it for a wide range of teaching and learning in addition to personal use. Educational Technology is the combined use of electronic equipment to facilitate teaching and learning process.

A significant positive impact of technology on the Indian education system is the promotion of inclusive education. . We are all familiar with the development of technology in education, from chalk black boards to the use of e-resources. The rapid development of information technology has always seen a revolution in teaching and learning methods in the educational institution. Numerous studies have shown that the quantity and quality of systems such as e-learning in higher education have increased significantly over the years. Students and teachers access this virtual learning environment together to communicate effectively with each other through chat, podcasts, and discussion boards and file sharing.

E-Learning Platforms With the spread of the Internet around the world, the scope of education has further expanded. With online resources, virtual classrooms, and digital assessments, students have access to learning materials anytime and anywhere. This change not only provided freedom but also paved the way for distance learning and education, removed regional barriers and provided education to previously poor people.

Implementing technology for educational institutions has become imperative rather than optional. Navigating the ever-changing world of instructional technology, however, can be difficult. In this situation it can be beneficial to collaborate with an IT support company.

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Hindi Vidya Prachar Samiti's College of Law Ramniranjan Jhunjhunwala Callage Premises, Opp. Failway Station, Ghatkopar (W), Mumbai - 400098 Today, education and technology interact in revolutionary ways, impacting teaching, learning, and administrative elements of education in a number of ways. MOOCs and LMS (Learning Management Systems) are examples of digital learning platforms that enable collaborative online learning through worldwide institutions.

In addition, technology enables us in the education industry to deliver personalised learning, an exceptional classroom experience, and administrative efficiency. Many of the technologies we use in educational advancements, such as interactive whiteboards, projectors, and educational apps, enrich classroom interaction and engagement. Virtual reality and augmented reality provide an immersive learning experience. A student information system facilitates registration, grading and attendance tracking. Data analytics help institutions optimize resources and improve student outcomes. The use of technology is being balanced with traditional teaching methods for effective learning outcomes.

# Historical Background Of Education Policy In India:

Education policy is a top priority for governments across the world. There is worldwide demand to focus more emphasis on educational policy results and their influence on social and economic development. Education policy is the set of rules and concepts that regulate how educational systems operate. Many important considerations must be addressed while developing educational policy. These include educational methods, resource mobilization, curriculum content, and the policy's potential influence on various populations.

Education policy in India has evolved throughout time, affected by colonial heritage, post-independence goals, and changing socioeconomic circumstances. Here are the important periods and advancements-

Form Vedic period to till the education growth is tremendous. We are aware about the long back gurukul system which was primarily famous on religious text After that Nalanda, Takshshila universities are emerged. Pre-Colonial Era education was predominantly delivered through traditional systems such as Gurukuls and Madrasas, which emphasized religious and cultural lesson. During Colonial Era the British East India Company initially established schools to train clerks and civil servants. A pivotal moment in British India's educational history is the Charter Act of 1813. The earliest piece of legislation in India to acknowledge the right to an education with public funds was found in Section 43 of the Charter Act 1813<sup>2</sup> This act had a major role in changing how the British approached Indian education and governance. An important turning point in India's colonial history was represented by Lord Macaulay's Minute of 1835, which shaped the direction of the nation's educational system and promoted the advancement of English education<sup>3</sup>. In 1854, the East India Company's In-charge, Sir Charles Wood, released a policy statement called the Wood's Despatch Act. Its goal was to establish an Indian educational system that would yield citizens capable of assisting the British administration in better administering the nation. In India, schools, colleges, and universities were built on this policy, with an emphasis on teaching modern subjects and English<sup>4</sup>.

Post Independent educational policy in India:

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- Article 45 of the Indian Constitution, children up to the age of 14 must get free and compulsory education
- Children aged 6 to 14 now have a basic right to education according to the 2009 of the Right to Education (RTE) Act.
- The University Education Commission (1948–1949) made reform recommendations for higher education.
- Reforms in secondary education were the main focus of the Secondary Education Commission (1952–53).
- Influenced by the Kothari Commission (1964–1966), the National Policy on Education (NPE) was created in 1968.
- MPE 1968: Placed special emphasis on teaching science and technology and emphasised the need for a unified educational framework.

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- NPE 1986 (Amended in 1992): Designed to improve quality, address inequalities, and encourage education for all.
- In order to attain universal primary education, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was introduced in 2001.
- The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) sought to make secondary education accessible
  to all.
- The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is a comprehensive reform programme that emphasises critical thinking, adaptable curricula, and holistic and multidisciplinary education. The National Education Policy (NEP 2020) seeks to modernize education by focusing primarily on holistic development of students, ensuring student-centred access, relevance, equity, quality and solid basic education. The policy also places great emphasis on improving the quality of educational outcomes. Implementing assessment changes, a long-awaited shift, is another area of focus

The educational landscape is rapidly changing as technology advances, societal expectations shift, and the economy fluctuates. With the need to adapt to learners' changing requirements in a highly competitive and fast expanding world, the education industry, particularly higher education in India, is undergoing tremendous transition. These innovations have the potential to bring in a new age in education by aligning with and reflecting technology, social norms, and economic realities. As education institutions negotiate these changes, they must be better positioned to modify educational processes in order to better prepare students for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

The digital revolution is changing the way of education. This digital revolution not only improves accessibility but also promotes inclusiveness by reaching out to rural students and addressing diverse learning needs. In line with the digital revolution, blended learning methods have emerged as a major force. Also education technologies is changing the way education is delivered and consumed. AI-powered learning systems, virtual reality simulations and interactive platforms are changing traditional learning methods, democratizing access to high-quality education and promoting continuous learning. Our world is changing faster than ever and education has a responsibility to guide and shape those changes. The year and beyond is expected to experience changes in the education sector in line with the advancement of change, technology and economic advancement.

Throughout these phases, education policy in India has evolved from a means of colonial control to a tool for national development and social transformation, responding to changing educational needs and global trends.

# MODERN APPROACH TOWARDS EDUCATION SYSTEM

# Web technologies and Education

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The integration of computers and the Internet in the educational system allows technology to improve both the quantity and quality of the teaching and learning process. To address specific learning needs, wikis, podcasts, and blogs have been embraced by numerous professional and educational online providers and services. Web 2.0 tools such as Facebook (2004), WhatsApp (2009), Blog (1994), Twitter (2006), LinkedIn (2002), etc.

- Web 2.0 tools such as Facebook, WhatsApp, can connect more people across the world by sharing text, photos, and videos.
- Blogs, also called web blogs, are not limited to one person, one group, or one topic, making them
  infinitely connected. It enhances Vitter's content writing skills. Many researchers use blogs.
- Twitter is a microblogging social networking service as many research groups use blogs to access research information.
- LinkedIn is a recruiting service that helps you represent real-world business relationships to build connections

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'The term 'Web 3.0' was first coined by John Markoff of the New York Times in 2006'5, also known as the Semantic Web, which has the potential to transform higher education. Access to information is an important aspect of higher education. Web3.0 can enhance collaboration by enabling decentralized collaboration among scholars, professors, and experimenters around the world. Web3.0 can facilitate the use of virtual and stoked reality in education, providing immersive and engaging literacy experiences that improve comprehension and understanding of complex commons. Web 3.0 changes people's understanding and interaction on the Internet with the introduction of tools that go beyond Web 2.0. These include personal assistance, intelligent agents; 3D Gaming, Virtual World, Open Education Resources (OER), etc. It provides better control over educational resources by the user including more comprehensive knowledge management. Many tools and information are free to use and adopt, including the implementation of OER for non-commercial purposes. Open Education Resources (OER) was adopted by UNESCO in 2002

# Open Educational Resources initiative in India:

Open Educational Resources (OER) encourages democratic information sharing; that is, it does not discriminate based on age, gender, caste, or creed, among other factors.

NPTEL:

The first name that comes to mind when thinking of OER projects in India is NPTEL. In 2003, the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore and seven Indian Institutes of Technology (Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Madras, Guwahati, and Roorkee) together created the National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL). The Indian government's Ministry of Human Resource Development is providing funding for the project. This is the biggest online course repository in the world, offering courses in engineering, fundamental sciences, and a few arts and social sciences<sup>6</sup>.

### Swayam:

The Indian government started the Swayam programme with the intention of achieving the three main objectives of education: equity, quality, and accessibility. Making the best teaching-learning tools available to everyone, including the most disadvantaged, is the goal of this project. For students who have not yet been affected by the digital revolution and who are unable to enter the mainstream of the information economy, Swayam aims to close the digital divide. This is accomplished by means of a platform that makes it easier to host all courses, from Class IX to Post-Graduation, that are taught in classrooms and are available to anybody, anywhere, at any time<sup>7</sup>.

#### Swayam Prabha:

CEC:

Swayam Prabha is a collection of 40 DTH channels that use the GSAT-15 satellite to stream premium educational content around the clock. Every day, students will have access to fresh content for at least four hours, which will be repeated five more times during the day, letting them select the time that works best for them. The channels have an uplink from Gandhinagar's BISAG-N. IITs, UGC, CEC, and IGNOU are the providers of the contents. The website is maintained by the INFLIBNET Centre<sup>8</sup>.

Consortium for Educational Communication popularly known as CEC is one of the inter-university centres established by the University Grants Commission of India. It has been established with the objective of meeting the needs of higher education through the powerful medium of television with appropriate use of

emerging Information Communication Technology (ICT)<sup>9</sup>. **NCERT**:

National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is a one of the independent organisation established by the Indian government to advise and help the national and state governments with matters pertaining to education, it also publishes textbooks that serve as models for schools and does other related functions that help ensure that India's schools can offer high-quality education. NCERT texts are easily accessible through the NCERT online service. This programme offers all topic textbooks in Hindi, English, and Urdu that are produced by NCERT for classes I through XII. You can download any chapter or the full book, but only in accordance with the conditions specified in the copyright notice<sup>10</sup>.

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Hindi Vidya Prachar Samiti's College of Law Ramniranjan Jhunjhunwala College Premises, Opp. Railway Station, Ghatkopar (W), Mumbai - 400 In addition to the aforementioned, there are several other open-education initiatives (OER) that have been developed in India, such as the National Digital Library of India. The National Digital Library of India (NDL India) is a pilot project that the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) launched as part of its National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) to create a virtual repository of learning resources with a single-window search facility. <sup>11</sup>

The Central Institute of Educational Technology, National Council of Educational Research and Training, is in charge of managing the Repository, which was started by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. The Meta Studio platform is used by the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education's Knowledge Labs<sup>12</sup>.

The term "e-learning" (also known as "electronic learning") describes the process of gaining knowledge through the use of electronic devices or media, including mobile phones, iPods, iPads, desktop computers, and laptops. The information society's training and educational practices have been significantly impacted by the incredible growth of e-learning in the last ten years. Thanks to e-learning (or online education) initiatives, universities and other educational institutions across the globe are able to carry on with their instructional activities in spite of the recent Covid-19 outbreak. In pandemic led transition, especially in education, has been radical — in a world where phones were not allowed in the classroom, phones have come into the classroom; from coming to the classroom to entering the classroom, from holding the chalk to holding the mouse to teach, we will experience a radical change as we shape ourselves with the changing times<sup>13</sup>. This is a clear sign that the importance of e-learning to the global education system cannot be overstated. Students can get helpful content from e-learning to help them get ready for their studies.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is being used more and more in a variety of industries these days, including healthcare, education, and industry. Artificial intelligence (AI) has garnered significant attention in the education industry due to its potential for novel approaches. The revolution in artificial intelligence is changing education at an unprecedented pace, providing new and creative ways to help teachers and students in their daily work and improve the administration of education.

Artificial intelligence (AI) enhances learning by enabling personalized learning, providing instant feedback and streamlining the assessment process. Artificial intelligence can be used by learning management systems to track student progress, offer customized recommendations and generate automated feedback. In this way students can access useful materials and resources based on their own needs. In addition to social media and virtual reality, these resources can help children build relationships with their professors and peers. AI is currently being applied in education in a number of ways, from chatbots that offer round-the-clock assistance to students to personalised learning algorithms that adjust to the needs of individual students. There are numerous instances of effective AI-enabled learning systems and technologies in use today. Among the most well-known are Coursera, Duolingo, Question Pro, etc.

### Conclusion:

The Indian education system has evolved significantly from its historical roots to the present day. In the past, it included the ancient Gurukula system and medieval Madrasas, and underwent significant changes during the colonial era with the introduction of Western education.

Presently, there is a focus on expanding and making education accessible, with government initiatives like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid-Day Meal Scheme, and the Right to Education Act (2009) ensuring free and compulsory education for children aged 6 to 14 years. Modern developments include the integration of technology through digital classrooms and online learning platforms, and a shift towards skill-based education, critical thinking, and problem-solving.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasizes holistic development, flexible curricula, and vocational education from an early age. The establishment of numerous IITs, IIMs, and other institutions of national importance highlights the focus on research and innovation. This evolution reflects India's commitment to providing inclusive, equitable, and quality education, preparing students for a rapidly changing world and driving socio-economic growth.

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