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# PRIMARY TO SECONDARY QUALITY EDUCATION

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## **ABSTRACT**

As we know that a healthy education system is *sine qua non* for the economic, social and political development of any nation and without educating its citizen any society can not grow up. Specially the primary and secondary level of education plays a very important role in the life of a person because it forms the very base of his education and without a strong base no one can get success. Today there is a need of value-based education system which develops a sense of responsibility in the person and empowers him for self-sustainability.

No doubt India is the country of extremely talented youth, We have a huge number of talents but we are not able to provide the proper opportunity to show their talent, the reason being that lack of quality in our primary and secondary education system. There are many factors that create problems in our education system and we are not getting the desired result.

In this paper, I will try to make a critical and legal analysis of our education system. The first half of the paper includes the introduction and comparative study of the ancient education system and modern education system in India and it will also make a comparison between Indian and foreign education systems.

The second half of the paper includes some statistic data and the main problems and drawbacks that have been arises in our primary and secondary education system in recent years and also its solutions that can be implemented. Lastly, we have also discussed the impact of New education policy 2020 on our school education system.

The conclusion of this study is that education for all cannot be achieved without establishing a strong primary and secondary education system and still it is not too late even now we have enough time to improve it in our country.

This study gives a complete view of the need for the value-based education system in India.

**Keyword:** Primary and secondary education, youth empowerment, employment, Right to education,value-based education.

## **A. INTRODUCTION**

There is a famous quote from Nelson Mandela “**Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world**”. So a good education system can be the most powerful weapon which a government can provide to its citizens. Here the term “Good Education System” means the state should provide quality education.

As we know that our Indian education system is divided into many levels and the first two important levels are Primary and Secondary education.

Primary education means education up to class 8<sup>th</sup> and Secondary education means education from class 9<sup>th</sup> to class 10<sup>th</sup>. So these levels are basically the school period of any student. Today schooling is essential for each and every person to live a happy and developed life. So it is the responsibility of the state as well as the guardian to provide at least primary education to their child. To fulfill this object of education our Indian constitution also includes many provisions.

**Some important constitutional provisions are given below-**

- 1. Free and Compulsory Education-** By the 68<sup>th</sup> constitutional amendment of 2002 **Article 21-A** was inserted in the constitution of India to provide free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years<sup>1</sup>.  
**Article 45** of Directive Principles of State Policy also says that state shall provide free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years.  
For the same purpose **Right To Education Act, 2009** was enacted.
- 2. Education of Minorities-** **Article 30** of the Indian Constitution provides certain rights to minorities for their education.
- 3. Education for weaker sections-** **Article 15, 17, 46** safeguards the educational interests of weaker sections of the Indian Community.

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<sup>1</sup> The Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002

- 4. Fundamental duty to provide education-** Under article 51-A it is one of the fundamental duties of the parents and guardians to provide proper opportunities for education to his child.

Apart from above constitutional provisions, many other schemes like **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid-day meal scheme, Adolescence education program, Model School scheme**, etc has been initiated by the government to promote primary and secondary education.

So we can see that many attempts were made by our constitutional makers and government to educate its citizens but in spite of these attempts and provisions, we are not getting the desired result.

It is a matter of discussion and we have to find out the reason for this failure.

There is a famous saying that “ Execution is more important than planing”, So according to me we have an abundant number of laws and plans but there is a lack of proper implementation of these plans. By the proper execution of all the laws and schemes, we can establish a good quality of primary and secondary education system.

Now the question arises that **what is the criteria to examine the quality of education?**

Quality education is not an easy concept to describe, it depends upon the situation and circumstances but still, there are certain general factors that maintain the quality of any education system. **United Nation educational, scientific and cultural orgnization** (UNESCO) in its Global Monitoring Report, which discusses systematic standards of education, has stated that “ the child’s performance needs to be treated as an indicator of the systematic quality of education.”<sup>2</sup>

Quality of education shows that how much and how well students learn and the extent to which he has been socially developed. Education does not only about economic development. Education should not be job oriented it must connect the student with the nation, society and nature. There must be a value-based education system which develops a sense of responsibility in the person and empowers him for self-sustainability. The main object of education should not only be to make a

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<sup>2</sup> See Global Monitoring Report 2006- Literacy for Life (UNESCO)

person wealthy but it should make him happy and healthy. There should be morality in education because without morality any society can not exist.

We can understand the level of our current education system by making the comparison Between ancient education system and modern education system.

## **B. COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ANCIENT EDUCATION SYSTEM AND MODERN EDUCATION SYSTEM**

Education does not merely mean reading and writing the theory without understanding it. The today education system is only focusing on the theoretical part of life, it is introducing the dream more than practical life.

But on the other hand in ancient time the Gurukul education system was different because, in Gurukul, we learnt the practical life, we learned how to live but in Modern education, we are only learning how to dream.

No doubt today scenario is different and our priorities have been changed and in accordance with that we have changed our system and we become modern, which is not wrong because change is the need of time but modernization does not require you to forget your culture and forgive your good things. In modernization, we must adopt new ideas and upgrade ourselves according to the time but we must also protect our ancient qualities.

To support my view I want to quote a statement of **Lord Mcaulay** which he said about India in 1835 in British Parliament<sup>3</sup>-

He said “ I have traveled across whole India and I have not seen any person who is thief, cheater or beggar. Such high moral values and such wealth I have seen in this country that I do not think we would ever rule over this country, unless we break the backbone of this nation, which is its strong education system and its cultural and spiritual heritage and therefore, I propose that we replace its old and ancient education system by English education system because if the Indians

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<sup>3</sup> There is a debate on whether the correct year was 1833 or 1835.

think that all that foreign and English people are greater than their own, they will lose their self-esteem, their self-culture and they will become what we want them”<sup>4</sup>

So from the above statement of Macaulay, we can clearly understand the importance of our ancient education system which was a value-based education system.

Here although I am not saying that we should move to the ancient system and neither I am opposing the English education system but along with this English system we should also maintain our ancient achievements.

There are many other countries in the world that have a better education system than us and they are getting the desired result, We can find the difference by the following comparative study.

### **C. COMPARISON BETWEEN FOREIGN EDUCATION SYSTEM AND INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM-**

Although we can not compare the education system of different countries with each other because every country has its own situation, culture and requirements. They are not the same in many aspects and their education systems are different in accordance with their infrastructure and needs.

But still, the comparison is necessary to know the reason why foreign countries have a better education system than us and how we can reach their level. So now I will list down certain differences between Indian and foreign education system-

- 1. Lack of practical knowledge-** One major difference between Indian and Foreign education system is that foreign education system focuses more on practical knowledge rather than theoretical knowledge, it helps in developing the creativity in the student but we have lack of practical knowledge and we focuses on theory-based education.
- 2. Rigid education system-** In India students are bound to choose any one of the fixed streams or courses like- Science, Art or Commerce. They can not learn the things of

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<sup>4</sup> <http://creative.sulekha.com/what-lord-macaulay-said-about-india-in-1835-every-indian-should-read-this-312173-blog>

their choice but in foreign, there is nothing like that a student can choose any stream or any field of education as he wants.

- 3. Degree based education-** Indian education system believes in certificates, grades, and marks. We believe in IITs and IIMs. But in foreign countries the situation is different they believe in skills and ability.
- 4. Commercialization of education-** Commercialization of education is also a big difference. In Dubai; primary and secondary education is absolutely free in all institutes whether they are private or government and it is made compulsory in law. Whereas in India it is becoming the business and education has been converted it to a means of generating the money. It has also affected the quality of education.
- 5. Lack of technologies-** Indian education uses old technologies for teaching. There is no much change for a long time but foreign new and trending technologies are used to provide quality education to the children.

Apart from the above-mentioned points, I would also like to share my personal experience. In October 2015 I got an opportunity (scholarship from school) to visit one school called South Wilts Girls Grammar School(SWGGGS) situated at Salisbury in England and I made an analysis of its education system. One major difference I found that the education system of England is much liberal than our system, there syllabus was not like a burden on the students. As a result of this, the teachers and students got enough time for theoretical study as well as a practical study of the subject. They are also able to clear all the concepts easily by taking the appropriate time.

One more thing that I found that they have fixed the minimum and maximum age of every student to study in any class and any student can not admit in a class if he doesn't belong to the required age group and I think it is a good step and it helps in maintaining the healthy and positive environment in the classroom.

A limited quantity of students in a classroom (hardly 30 to 40) is also one of the reasons that I found to be the good side of foreign education policy

So there are many such reasons which make the foreign education system better than us. There are also certain statistics and surveys on this issue but I don't think we need to discuss them because here we are talking about primary and secondary education and most of those surveys and statistics cover only a higher education system.

But from the above discussion, we can clearly find out why the foreign education system is better than us because it focuses on creativity, sports and practical knowledge. They deal with the intelligence and ability of the student rather than his marks. Therefore we can say that foreign education is not an expenditure but it is an investment.

So we seriously need a change in our education system and not only change in the system but we also need to change the mentality of the society. We must work hard together to bring change to the education system.

Now another question arises that “**How can we change it?**”

So to answer this question first we have to find out the main problems that we are facing today in our education system because to find the best solution for anything it is important to understand the problem.

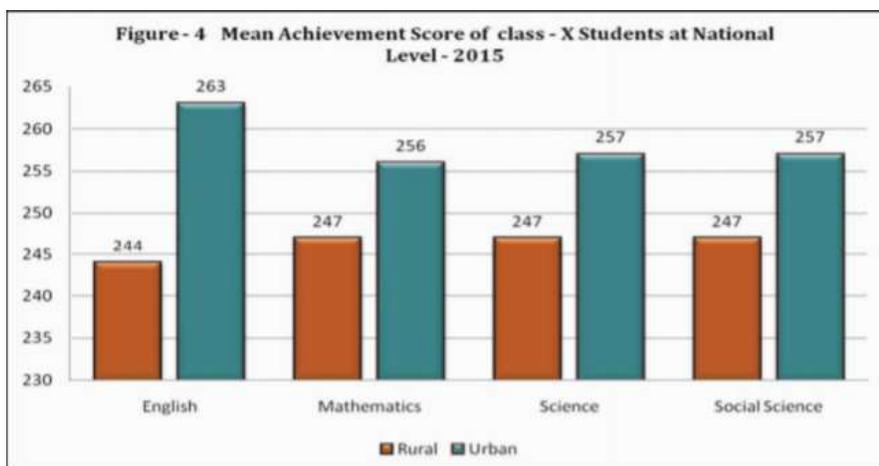
Since I belong to a family where most of the people are engaged in the teaching profession, my father himself use to teach in a government primary school, So I have analyzed this issue very closely and I found so many problems that are the barrier in the growth of India's education system specially in a rural area.

We all know that India is country of villages, but today rural part has been neglected in the field of education, No doubt statistical records from many surveys have shown that rural primary and secondary education has developed to some extent but there are still many serious hindrances to the growth of education.

### **D. SOME STATISTICAL RECORDS AND FACTS**

Before coming to the problems firstly I would like to share certain reports that give a clear view of our education system<sup>5</sup>-

- The report of the **National Achievement Survey (NAS-2015)** reveals that in subjects like English, Mathematics, Science and Social Science the performance of urban students is much better than the rural students (Table-1). One of the reasons could be the lack of resources and good teachers in rural schools<sup>6</sup>.



**(Table-1)**

- As per the **National Sample Survey Report**, more than 12% of rural households in India did not have the secondary school within 5 Kilometres whereas in Urban areas such cases are less than 1%.<sup>7</sup> (Table-2)

<sup>5</sup> [mhrd.gov.in/statist](http://mhrd.gov.in/statist)

<sup>6</sup> National achievement survey 2015, Ministry of Human Resources Development

<sup>7</sup> National sample survey report (71<sup>st</sup> round )2014, Ministry of Human Resources Development ([mhrd.gov.in/statist](http://mhrd.gov.in/statist))

**Table 2- Per 100 distribution of households by the distance from school having primary, upper primary and secondary level classes at All India level**

Distance	Level	Rural	Urban	Combined
d<1km	Primary	941	925	936
	Upper Primary	665	829	718
	Secondary	367	727	484
1kmsd<2km	Primary	49	65	55
	Upper Primary	190	131	171
	Secondary	236	187	220
2kmsd<5km	Primary	9	8	9
	Upper Primary	121	37	94
	Secondary	275	80	211
d≥5km	Primary	1	1	1
	Upper Primary	24	2	17
	Secondary	122	7	85

Data Source: National Sample Survey Office

So there various such data and reports that compel us to re-think our primary and secondary education policy. But these above-mentioned reports are all India level reports, and since I am writing the paper state of Uttar Pradesh so it also becomes necessary to discuss some **STATE-SEGREGATED DATA** and to know the situation of this state in the Primary and Secondary education.

- 1. Number of institutions<sup>8</sup>**- According to the data of 2015-16, In the case of primary and upper primary education Uttar Pradesh has 155756 (1<sup>st</sup> position) and 75644 (1<sup>st</sup> position) institutions respectively. ( **Table-4**)

Whereas in the case of Secondary and Senior Secondary education we have 8632 (8<sup>th</sup> position) and 15937 (1<sup>st</sup> position) institutes respectively. (**Table-5**)

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<sup>8</sup> Data Source- National Institute of Educational Planning & administration, New Delhi (mhrd.gov.in/statist)

**Table 4- Number of institutions (primary)**

Sl. No.	State/UT	Primary			Upper Primary		
		2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	273	223	218	76	82	84
2	Andhra Pradesh	66222	40703	38793	16992	10100	10086
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2363	2341	2363	1144	1200	1266
4	Assam	47947	48478	48529	13065	13269	13451
5	Bihar	42525	43223	43405	32069	32573	33204
6	Chandigarh	11	11	12	26	29	29
7	Chhattisgarh	35325	35149	32826	15008	15019	14672
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	181	176	177	122	128	129
9	Daman & Diu	55	60	59	29	43	44
10	Delhi	2678	2776	2755	710	921	939
11	Goa	1023	988	973	76	78	86
12	Gujarat	11698	11689	11840	28918	29464	29642
13	Haryana	10249	9849	9994	4358	4420	4658
14	Himachal Pradesh	11292	11340	11327	3042	2982	2930
15	Jammu and Kashmir	14626	14640	14604	10093	10209	10286
16	Jharkhand	27747	27845	28010	15192	15469	15917
17	Karnataka	26792	26909	26790	30715	30540	30563
18	Kerala	8572	8462	8428	4117	4062	4020
19	Lakshadweep	18	18	17	15	14	14
20	Madhya Pradesh	90401	89119	88593	46950	47047	47276
21	Maharashtra	52991	53243	53151	28225	28755	29448
22	Manipur	2812	2971	2951	938	919	933
23	Meghalaya	9260	9323	9362	3384	3540	3597
24	Mizoram	1499	1553	1561	1422	1514	1511
25	Nagaland	1806	1428	1265	902	862	825
26	Odisha	36399	36550	36760	21945	22497	22795
27	Puducherry	284	285	278	98	96	87
28	Punjab	14751	14641	14371	5659	5601	5446
29	Rajasthan	54774	41544	42577	38807	37563	37656
30	Sikkim	732	715	706	337	335	346
31	Tamil Nadu	35177	35307	35379	9750	9588	9733
32	Telangana	0	25289	21948	0	7263	7189
33	Tripura	2564	2569	2568	1273	1265	1262
34	Uttar Pradesh	153220	154982	155756	73281	74226	75644
35	Uttarakhand	15680	15690	15497	4707	4900	5017
36	West Bengal	76969	77029	76703	8079	8521	8839
	All India	858916	847118	840546	421524	425094	429624

**Table 5- Numbers of Institutes (Secondary)**

Sl. No.	State/UT	Secondary			Senior Secondary		
		2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	48	48	49	61	61	63
2	Andhra Pradesh	21360	10781	11234	4862	2577	2589
3	Arunachal Pradesh	234	250	263	138	139	155
4	Assam	5993	6579	6987	1633	1728	2075
5	Bihar	3358	3822	3701	2568	3574	3926
6	Chandigarh	70	69	70	85	88	90
7	Chhattisgarh	2435	2521	2465	3626	3704	3818
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	21	20	20	19	20	21
9	Daman & Diu	19	19	18	23	23	24
10	Delhi	389	384	377	1612	1662	1684
11	Goa	373	384	385	96	103	110
12	Gujarat	4572	4424	4350	5965	6387	6592
13	Haryana	3434	3361	3363	3936	4210	4300
14	Himachal Pradesh	1424	1505	1570	1977	2144	2212
15	Jammu and Kashmir	2999	3130	3141	1067	1068	1061
16	Jharkhand	3143	3361	3372	1296	1202	1229
17	Karnataka	13106	13165	13627	4241	4410	4509
18	Kerala	1623	1637	1733	2746	2917	2949
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	1	13	13	13
20	Madhya Pradesh	6634	6701	6793	7356	7775	8100
21	Maharashtra	15754	16090	16287	7999	8407	8738
22	Manipur	879	892	899	182	192	210
23	Meghalaya	1052	1165	1255	210	254	300
24	Mizoram	582	610	615	114	132	138
25	Nagaland	564	543	561	143	169	175
26	Odisha	9256	9325	9454	167	166	1291
27	Puducherry	197	198	202	146	153	164
28	Punjab	4666	4576	4618	4229	4364	4553
29	Rajasthan	16115	15003	11237	11179	12682	16958
30	Sikkim	127	137	140	81	87	87
31	Tamil Nadu	8	6	5594	11893	12291	6877
32	Telangana	0	10973	11333	0	2210	2162
33	Tripura	574	588	603	389	396	411
34	Uttar Pradesh	7682	8415	8632	15195	15197	15937
35	Uttarakhand	1283	1284	1294	1977	2155	2218
36	West Bengal	3568	3369	3296	6345	6658	6898
	All India	133542	135335	139539	103569	109318	112637

**2. Gross Enrolment Rate (GER)<sup>9</sup>-** In the year 2015-16, the gross enrolment rate of Uttar Pradesh is 92.15 in Primary and 67.75 in Secondary level education.

Which is much lesser than the other state.

<sup>9</sup> Data Source- National Institute of Educational Planning & administration, New Delhi (mhrd.gov.in/statist)

So in above-mentioned data, we can clearly see that in the number of institutions we (Uttar Pradesh) are in leading position but when we talk about the enrolment rate of students then at that point we are lower than the other states, So we can say that there is some loop-hole that prevent the children from going to schools, it may be either lack of resources in the schools, lack of good teachers or lack of awareness in society.

Whatever the reason may be, we must find out those problems and loop-holes and try to resolve them as soon as possible because education is the doorway to the wider world and leads to a way of improvement of the society and nation as a whole and education is the one and the only solution of most of the problems.

Therefore, we must improve our education system and policy. For such improvement firstly we have to find out hindrances in the path.

So now I am going to discuss some main problem of the primary and secondary education system

## **E. PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES OF CURRENT EDUCATION SYSTEM**

There are various problems faced by the primary and secondary education system in India that affects the students, teachers and other staff. Because of these problems even after the 74 years of independence we are not getting the desired result and our literacy rate is much lower than some other countries and we have still not achieved our “Education for all” goal.

Even the apex court of India has accepted this fact that the education system in the country failed to achieve its objective and it has to be reformed immediately.

In the case, **Maharishi Mahesh Jogi Vishwavidyalya Vs State of Madhya Pradesh and Ors**<sup>10</sup>, the bench of Justice BS Chauhan and FM Ibrahim Kalifulla said that “ **It is unfortunate that today education instead of reforming the human behavior, in our humble opinion, appear to have failed to achieve its objective. Instead, we find a troubled atmosphere in the society at large, which calls for immediate reformation with the efforts of one and all**”.

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<sup>10</sup> [2013] INSC 638

I have divided all the problems of the education system into two categories: Universal Problems and Problems of government schools. Universal problems are those problems that exist everywhere in government and private schools. Most of these problems are the result of our mindset or the thinking of society and we can solve them only by changing our thinking about education and about the students.

So some major universal problems are given below-

- 1. The same barometer for each student-** Famous scientist Albert Einstein once said “everybody is a genius, but if you judge a fish by its ability to climb on a tree it will live its whole life believing that he is stupid and he can not do anything in his life”. Today it is a big problem of our education system that we have fixed the same criteria for each and every student irrespective of their situation, condition, talent and ability. Those students who have fulfilled these criteria is called passed students and the remaining students are failed, student. But it is not right you can not judge everyone on the same scale. A child of a farmer has its own talent and a child of a doctor has its own talent. Everyone should be given a proper opportunity to show their talent.
- 2. Underpaid teachers in private institutions-** My father always says “if you want to check the quality of any school then go and ask the salary of teachers and see their satisfaction level”. As we know that from very ancient time teachers have the most important job on the planet but today people prefer to be a doctor. Engineer, lawyer and not a teacher in a school specially in private schools because they are underpaid. To be honest, teachers should be same as a doctor, because if the doctor can do heart surgery or brain surgery then teachers can also reach to the heart and brain of the child without any surgery and in fact doctors only provide life but the teacher provide a quality life.  
So to improve the education system it is necessary that teachers should be satisfied.
- 3. Huge fees in private schools-** Huge amount of fees in private schools is a big issue nowadays, specially for lower and middle-class families. Today apart from tuition fees, there are various other extra costs associated with private school education, the burden of

which is borne solely by the parents of the child. Some parents are capable to bear it but some are not and this situation prevents many students from getting a quality education. Although today the government is trying to deal with this issue in many ways like the provision of scholarships but still the situation is too bad and it is required to be controlled.

- 4. Lack of initiation-** Another problem is here nobody wants to take initiative or risk. Our parents will watch Virat Kohli on television and clap for him and they will also ask their kid to be as successful as Kohli but if their son really says that he wants to become a cricketer they might refuse it and will force him to concentrate on the studies.

Here children are not allowed to pursue their hobbies and to do something new. They are supposed to follow a set pattern.

- 5. Commercialization of education-** Commercialization of education is by the mushrooming private schools is also a big problem nowadays. This commercialization effect millions of students and their families. Today there is a competition between to school to take more admissions and to earn more profit and as a result, there is a significant change in the concept of education in the society, including the relation of teachers and student, educational purposes and the basic attitude of teachers and students toward the knowledge.

Schools are trying to earn profit at any cost, they have nothing to deal with the knowledge and talent of students.

- 6. Value of degree over the talent and experience-** Today one of the major problems with Indian society is that they believe in the certificate, grades and marks not on the talent, knowledge and experience. Which is not a good thing.

Once well known American writer **Mark Twain** said that “ **I never let my schooling interfere with my education**”. This statement is enough to show that talent and experience should be valued over any degree of education.

So there are various such (universal) problems and complications with our education system and these problems exist everywhere government as well as private schools.

Despite the above problems the performance of private schools and institutions is better than the government schools but in reality, only 29% of children are sent to the good private schools, while remaining are still dependent on the state-funded government schools, but the situation of government schools are more worrying. It is a question of great concern that if the government is investing a big amount of money in the government sector then why it is still not developed and why people prefer the private sector over the government sector.

So there are some extra problems with government schools and institutions, that prevent it from providing the desired result and in order to reform Indian education system it is important to look on these problems of government schools-

Here I am listing some issues that are making government education system weak and required to be amended as soon as possible-

**a) Shortage of teachers-** One of the constant problems is that the government schools struggle with the unavailability of teachers. Some schools have only one teacher teaching all the subjects of all the classes.

If you look at the teachers in all schools in Uttar Pradesh, approximately 1 out of every 10 schools is a single teacher school. If we look at the pupil-teacher ratio in primary school, there is one teacher of every 46 students. All schools in 68 out of 75 districts in Uttar Pradesh have more than 30 students per teacher.<sup>11</sup>

In government secondary schools this pupil-teacher ratio is one teacher of every 41 students.<sup>12</sup>

However, According to the **Economic Survey 2017-18** in all over India, this pupil-teacher ratio is 23:1 at the national level primary school.

So the lack of teaching staff in Uttar Pradesh primary schools is one of the real challenges that Indian government schools face and we must try to resolve this problem as soon as possible.

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<sup>11</sup> Status of Elementary education in Uttar Pradesh: DISE 2011-12

<sup>12</sup> [rmsaindia.gov.in/en/17-state-brief/114-state-brief-information-uttar-pradesh.html](https://rmsaindia.gov.in/en/17-state-brief/114-state-brief-information-uttar-pradesh.html)

**b) Lack of fund-** Lack of monetary funds is also a big problem in the development of government schools. Today we have many numbers of plans and missions in our education system like- Mid-day meal, National education mission etc but due to insufficient budget, these plans could not be effectively executed.

**The Kothari Education Commission (1964-1966)** recommended that at least 6% of GDP should be used in government education but at present hardly 3% is used.

So this surely shows the lack of funding and without proper funding there can not be the scope of improvement.

**c) Lack of resources-** Since the fund is limited then obviously there will be lack of academic resources in the government schools and this availability of resources is the main point that creates the main difference between government and private schools and in despite of the huge amount of fees people prefer the private schools over the government schools.

Here I am not talking about TV, L.ED, Robots or AC but the minimal requirements like blackboards, books, desk, fan, stationary should be fulfilled.

**d) Incomplete infrastructure-** Apart from academic resources incomplete infrastructure in government schools is also a barrier to the growth of primary and secondary education. Still, there are many schools in the state without having the basic infrastructurally requirements like electricity, toilet, boundary wall, playground etc.

In a survey, it is found that 5% of schools in India still run from kutcha premises.<sup>13</sup>

So this lack of infrastructure must be resolved in order to establish a healthy education system.

**e) Improper examination pattern-** Lack of a proper examination is also a drawback of the government education system. Every year students are promoted to the next class very easily without any proper written or oral test. This kind of tendency takes away the liability of students and teachers and develops sense irresponsibility in both of them.

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<sup>13</sup> Survey of National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA)

So for a better education system, we need a rigid exam pattern every year otherwise students are promoted to the next class even without proper study and it creates the army of unemployed youth in the country.

- f) Increase in drop out rates-** As we know that India is a nation with the second-highest population in the world and also it is a nation of 282 million illiterate people and out of which 18% of people are those who left school before completing secondary education. This data clearly shows the huge drop out rates every year in the government school.

There are many reasons, including above, behind this huge drop out rates in the schools. According to a survey in India 63 lakh children aged between six to seventeen years physically work hard for over 180 days in a year to earn food for their family.<sup>14</sup> So the economic crunch of children and their families is also a big reason behind this heavy drop out rates. But this drop out rate in Indian schools should be altered in order to extend the rate of literacy.

- g) Lack of awareness in the society-** Lastly, the lack of awareness about the importance of education in society is also a big problem.

Due to poverty, illiteracy, and social practices many people of India do not understand the importance of education and they are not interested to send their child to school. Still, there are many communities in India who think that their child should be engaged in their customary works and they have nothing to deal with education.

This kind of tendency is very harmful to any nation and it should be removed as soon as possible.

So there are “n” number of such problems in our education system and education policy, specially in government education, that prevent us from providing the primary to secondary quality education. This kind of scenario should be altered otherwise results would be too bad and the progress of any nation and state can not be imagined in this scenario.

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<sup>14</sup> Millennium development goals 2015

## **F. SOME SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS TO RESOLVE THESE PROBLEMS**

So it was all about the problems and difficulties of our current primary and secondary education system and schools.

Now I would like to share some suggestions and ideas that might be helpful in improving the quality of our primary and secondary education system and we may find the solution of the above-mentioned problems.

**These suggestions are given below-**

- 1. Appointment of quality teachers-** As I discussed above the shortage of teachers in government schools is the main problem of the education system. So to improve the system the first and foremost thing is to appoint sufficient teachers, because in a school any resource, technology, infrastructure or any other facility has no meaning without having sufficient teachers.

So in every primary school, there must be at least one teacher for every class and in every secondary school, there must at least one specialist teacher of every subject.

- 2. Improvement in the syllabus-** Reformation in the syllabus is also a requirement in order to improve our current primary and secondary education system. We need a syllabus that enhances the imagination and creativity of the child and it should provide value-based education to the child. The syllabus should be directly connected to the practical life of the student.

Here I am happy to see that our Hon'ble Chief Minister and Education minister is committed to improving the syllabus of the schools and they are taking positive steps for the same.

- 3. Teach the What as well as Why-** For quality education, it is necessary that we should focus on the practical knowledge not only on theoretical knowledge. Along with some fact, students must also know the logic behind the fact and applicability and relevancy

of that fact in his life. So we must give the utmost preference to creativity rather than the marks.

- 4. Improve education fund-** As I mentioned above a shortage of academic resources and infrastructure is a big negative point with government schools and the main reason for this problem is the “lack of fund”. In every budget the fund for the education sector is disappointing.

We must understand the seriousness of **Kothari Commission Report** and we must increase our budget for the education sector, otherwise, it would be hard to provide a quality education in the schools.

- 5. Proper utilization of teachers-** In order to improve the education system it is also important that teachers should be utilized by the government and authorities properly. Teachers are appointed to teach the students and they should not be engaged in any other non-teaching activities like preparing voter lists, adhar card, conduct surveys or any other paper works, etc because it directly affects the education of children.

Even the supreme court of India in the case **Election Commission of India Vs St. Marys School and Others**<sup>15</sup> have decided that “ Teachers can not be deployed on election duty because it directly hampers the academic interest of the students.”

So in order to maintain the education system, the state government should take steps to exempt teachers from such kind of work.

- 6. Compulsory skill development training from class Eight-** As we know that India is a nation of 28 million youth and it is hard to provide a government job to everyone so we must trained our youth so that they can make their job themselves.

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<sup>15</sup> 2007 (12) SCR 971

Moreover, each and every person is not equal and we can not judge them by the same exam pattern, everyone has his own talent and skills and we must develop their skill by enacting the compulsory skill development training courses from class 8<sup>th</sup>. It will make a wide dimension to the education system and it will attract the students toward the schools.

- 7. Compulsory NCC training in the schools-** The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow and it is important to develop a sense of contribution to nation-building. NCC is the best way to install this quality in the students. It provides an opportunity for the youth to serve the nation.

NCC training also plays a very important role in the development of the qualities of leadership and discipline, courage and confidence. So to promote the all-round growth of students, NCC should be compulsory in the schools.

- 8. Provide proper opportunities-** A private school student gets a lot of opportunities to explore its skills but the students of government schools have no such platforms. We have to provide the proper opportunities so that they can develop their skills and ability.

**The government can start some internship programs for the students of government schools, there can be the participation of students in the various government schemes, plans and programs like Tahseel Samadhan Divas, Thana Divas, Awareness programs etc. We can appoint some village-level volunteers from the students to provide help to the rural uneducated people.** It will increase the practical knowledge of students.

- 9. Motivate the students-** To establish a healthy education system motivation of students is a very essential thing. The government should motivate students for education through various means.

**We can show some good films and videos of successful personalities, we can organize some motivational sessions in the villages and schools by the experts, at least once in a month our administrative officers can take classes in the schools.** Through these steps, students will understand the importance of education in life.

**10. Fees control of private schools-** As I discussed above a huge amount of fees in the private institution is a big problem faced by the parents and guardians. So in order to improve the education system, it is also necessary that the government should control the rising fees of these schools.

However, it is nice to see that Uttar Pradesh government has provided a huge relief to the guardians and students of the state in this direction by approving a bill for **Self-Financed Independent Schools (Regulation of Fees) Bill 2018** to restrict private schools from raising fees beyond 8%. This ordinance will cover all private schools, including minority institutions that have enrolled students in classes 1 to 12.

**11. Regular workshop of teachers-** For the effective learning of students it is important that teachers should be updated and master of new knowledge. Teacher learning is a continuous process which develops new proficiency.

Every teacher has its own talent and ideas of class management and by sharing his ideas he can improve the education system in all the schools. Therefore for effective teaching, a regular workshop of different teachers is necessary, so that they can share their unique ideas with each other.

**12. Task-based approach-** The government should allot some tasks to the teachers that they must organize some academic and sports competitions or they should maintain such quality of results etc. On the fulfillment of the task government and authorities should praise that school and teacher.

It will develop a sense of responsibility in the teachers about their duty.

**13. Flexible teaching but rigid examination-** No doubt there must be flexible and easy-going teaching in the schools but the exams should be rigid and cheating free. The students should be promoted to the next class only after qualifying a proper written and oral test. There must be a proper examination of the student's ability.

**14. Link scholarship and other government facilities with attendance-** In order to ensure the attendance of students in the school government should link the scholarships and all other benefits directly with the attendance of the students. It will help to increase the number of students in the classroom.

**15. Corruption free education system-** As we know that corruption is eating our country internally and it has been also included in our education system. As we know that teaching is one of the noble professions of the world and teachers are treated as a god but today teachers are also included in the corruption.

I personally feel that many plans of the government, like Mid-day Meal, Distribution of shoes, sweaters, books by the teachers are the big cause of corruption that has been developed in the teachers. So for a proper education system at least teachers should be away from corruption and they should focus only on their teaching.

**16. Spread awareness about education-** Lack of awareness about the importance of education is the most challenging problem nowadays and to provide quality education it is necessary that students himself should be aware. So we must spread awareness about education among the people specially in rural areas.

For that purpose, first of all, we have to find out the main causes of why people are not opting for education? Then we have to resolve that issue by providing the proper help to the students and their parents. We can organize some motivational sessions in the villages for the same. A plan of government to appoint “**Shikshak Prerak**” was also an appreciable step in this direction.

So, these are some solutions, suggestions and ideas that can be implemented by the government to maintain the quality of primary and secondary education in the schools.

## **G. IMPACT OF NEW EDUCATION POLICY ON OUR SCHOOL EDUCATION**

As we know that recently our Union Cabinet has approved National Education Policy 2020. This education policy is considered a big reform in the Indian education system.

According to this education policy, now the established system of 10+2 will be divided into 5+3+3+4. It means the first five years of school will be a foundation or introductory stage. Which will comprise three years of pre-primary education and the next two years of class 1 & class 2?

The next three years will be a preparatory stage from class 3 to 5.

Again the next three years will be a middle stage, which will include class 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> and lastly next four years will be of the secondary stage (class 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>).

Under this policy now school students will not be bound to choose any rigid formation of streams of arts, commerce or science but they can opt any course according to their interest and ability.

Now report cards will focus more on skills and capabilities, instead of just marks and ranks of students.

This education policy will also fill the gap between rural students and urban students by removing the hurdle of English or any other specific language. After the implementation of this policy, the medium of instruction till class 5<sup>th</sup> and preferably till class 8<sup>th</sup> will be the local language of a particular state.

There will be vocational courses from class 6<sup>th</sup>, which will help the students to get more familiar with their interest-based activities and they will be able to work towards their hobby.

Thus we can say by this education system an unprecedented reform can be brought in our primary and secondary education system. This education system has many elements which I have suggested earlier in this paper like it will focus more on talent and interest of student rather than their marks and school report cards.

But again I must say that such reforms will be possible only by the implementation of this policy because without effective implementation it is useless.

## **H. CONCLUSION**

So, it was all about our primary to the secondary education system and how can we provide quality education to our children. It is high time to think that in spite of having extremely talented youth in our country and state why we are not able to utilize them in the right way?

This is the time to think once again that what is wrong with our system, If we can update our healthcare, cars and even our Facebook and WhatsApp, then why not our education system? It is our duty to update and reform our education system according to the time and need. New education policy is a step toward such reformation.

But updation should be positive. Updation does not necessarily require to forgive your legacy and your culture, So for a healthy education system, our ancient culture must also be included in modern education. If we find something which is better than us then we must adopt it but If we have something that is better than others then this is our responsibility to share it through the world for the sake of human being because human qualities are the most valuable thing in the world and we must include these qualities in our education system because **without human value the education system is like an emporer without clothes.**

No doubt the performance of Uttar Pradesh in the field of elementary education is on upscale throughout the last few years and so many plans and attempts of government are appreciable. I am also happy to say that in this financial year the union government has allocated a big amount of money on school education. It clearly shows the positive vision of government towards primary and secondary education.

But still, we have to work harder to get the desired result. The government must ensure that all the plans, schemes and laws related to education should be executed in a proper manner and there must be a healthy and transparent education system.

Although there are lots of reasons because of them we are not able to provide quality education to our primary and secondary level students or foreign education system is performing better than us,

I was able to list few of those problems but still, it is not too late, we all can still bring the reform in our education system! And not only in our education system; but also in the mentality of society as well.

Lastly, it is my appeal and serious request to everyone that we must understand that it is not only the responsibility of government but together we all (every citizen, teacher, guardian and student of India ) have to work hard to bring change in education system otherwise if we continue walking on this same path the result will be lethal.