

Reorganisation Of Education System

Sir,

Education is the backbone of a nation. Progress and prosperity of a country largely depend on its system of education. Mere attainment of literacy cannot produce the desired result for a country's uplift without acquiring real education. As such, a suitable education system is necessary for the overall development of a country. Man is not born educated. From the very cradle of his infancy till his death, a man has to go through various processes of learning for the harmonious development of both mind and body. In this connection, poet Rabindra Nath Tagore in one of his articles says that trees and plants attain their easy growth through natural process, beasts and birds also grow in the same way but a man has to attain his human perfection through untiring efforts by a continued process. Proper education helps a man to acquire human qualities for attaining that perfection.

The main purpose of the educational institutions should be confined to the imparting of proper education to the pupils to develop a sense of human qualities in them. Concerted efforts for materialisation of the said objective must be the basis of all educational endeavours.

We have not yet been fully able to free ourselves from the curse of the old education system. The system has caused more dependence than real progress. The educational institutions of primary, secondary and higher secondary levels are found to vary not only in the curriculum system but also in the fundamental objective. As the need for education is not alike for all strata of people, so proper and ideal education is not possible with a singular curriculum system. There must be diversities in the curriculum of various subjects of education in the institutions.

It has been found that undernourished students suffering from abject poverty generally cannot compete with those from well-to-do families in the merit-tests. In the educational institutions in the rural areas, the classes are large and the teachers are insufficient in number. As a result, the number of dropouts is

alarmingly high there. About 85% of our people live in the rural areas but comparatively the schools and the colleges are fewer in number there than those of the urban areas. The urban people enjoy extra facilities of the Cadet College, model school, Laboratory school, Kindergarten etc. which the poor and the middle-class people cannot afford. As such, "Education for all" could not produce the desired result due to poverty. Due to exorbitant rate of tuition fees and other charges, many poor but meritorious students are being deprived of the opportunity of admission to some good schools. Donation of a huge amount of money rather than merit is considered to be the criterion for admission in these schools.

Many of the subject of study in our schools and colleges are found detached from reality and not at all suited to our social needs. There is also absence of any suitable arrangement for imparting moral education to the students to help them in moulding their character.

Under the circumstances, top most priority should be given to the investment in human resources. Larger numbers of well trained, capable and experienced teachers may be appointed in the educational institutions who can mould the lives of the students and can lead the country to its cherished goal of progress and development. Quality and not quantity is the crying need of the hour. It may also be suggested that the government as well as the persons at the higher echelon in society should make a united effort chalking out pragmatic plans and programmes for reorganising the present system of education in the greater interest of the nation. In the meanwhile, more educational institutions may be established in the rural areas and the existing vacancies of teachers there may be filled. School-feeding programme in addition to free-supply of books and other facilities to the students may be taken up which may considerably decreased the number of dropouts at the primary level. Arrangement for imparting proper education on social and moral values to the students may be made through introduction of special curriculum on the subject in the schools.

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