A Critical Review of Literature on Education

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Abstract

Education is the key to all success. Without knowledge, life is all meaningless and fruitless. Education guarantees a righteous socialization, social learning, good social status, academic upliftment and employment. Since times immemorial much has been written and said by the thinkers all over the world. Education has always received a unanimous sanction in every society. The sayings and writings of the thinkers and writers serve as literature on education. They serve as the guidelines to the policy makers, meaningful lessons to the learners, teachings to the teachers and the students and maxims to the fundamentalists in the society at large.

Education makes life meaningful and fruitful and enables the individual to take right decisions in the various practical situations that require intelligence and presence of mind on the part of the individuals. Indeed, the individual without learning and education is unworthy. Hence, education has always been the demand of time, and every individual can join the main stream of the nation by joining education.

Keywords: Socialization, All-Round Development, Unanimously, Survival, Physical and Mental Personality.

Introduction

In all the ages that the history of the world has witnessed, education has got a unanimous sanction. In India, as is mentioned in the ancient history, education has undergone several patterns. In the ancient times, as is mentioned almost every scripture, the students had to stay at the Mentor's ashram for the sake of learning till he was 25 years of age. At that time, the study of the Vedas and the performance of the ritualistic activities regularly were the only educational patterns. With the passage of time several changes occurred in the educational system and educational patterns. Now the education is imparted to the students at the primary, secondary, senior secondary, college, and university levels. The patterns and methods are totally different and changed now.

Previously, the education was character and moral obligations oriented, while at present it is career oriented, and every student whether male or female wants to build up his or her career through education. However, still education leads the individual to socialization, personality development and employment. Despite several changes in the educational patterns and methods, education still occupies a very important place.

Unlike in the past, the present education system helps the individual link himself with the practical world where it is only through education that a good social status and survival may be enjoyed. Unlike the focus on character, now its focus is on all-round personality development and on getting job.

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It is hoped that education can never lose its meaning and significance in the world. As a key to all the problems, it will always help the individual go ahead, face the practical situations successfully and overcome all the problems that create hindrance in his path of success. It is predicted that it is only through education that the individual can link himself up with the modern world which requires a high-tech intellect and sense of understanding on the part of the individual.

It is only through education that the individual can prove himself different from and superior to others who are not educated and who do not have a scientific approach and outlook.

Objectives of the Study

1. To have an idea of the educational patterns in the past and present
2. To find out the causes and effects of education in all the ages
3. To learn about the advantages and disadvantages of the education; to be familiar with the various forms of education at the different levels; to be familiar with the contribution of the educationists and learned men

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4. and women to the world of education; and to observe, study and interpret the various reviews on education.
5. To classify the selected reviews associated with the various aspects of education; to explore through them the advantageous and the disadvantageous aspects of the current education policy prevailing in India
6. To explore the various causes of the need of education
7. To be familiar with the approach of the students to the present education.
8. To explore the future of education in India and in the world

Review Of Literature

Commission on Architecture and the Built Environment. (2002) rightly comments that while the building alone does not make a 21st century school, common sense suggests that the qualities of where we learn affect the quality of how we learn. Georgetown University researchers, for instance, have found that improving a school's physical environment can increase test scores by up to 11%.

Cornell, P. (2002) finds that learning environments are the structures, tools, and communities that inspire students and educators to attain the knowledge and skills the 21st century demands of us all. Experts say 21st century learning must take place in contexts that "promote interaction and a sense of community [that] enable formal and informal learning."

House of Lords (2006).The Royal Society's stated position on terminology is that "'practical science" is used as shorthand for the full programme of experimental and investigative activities (including fieldwork) conducted as part of science education in schools and colleges'. However, various terms are in common use in science education to describe different sub-categories of practical work.

Abell and Lederman, (2007) provide what they call a classical definition of 'school science laboratory activities' (which it notes are called 'practical activities in British Commonwealth parlance'). Such activities are: learning experiences in which students interact with materials or with secondary sources of data to observe and understand the natural .

Chaturvedi (2009) investigated the effect of school environment and certain demographic variables on achievement motivation and academic achievement of young adolescents. The results indicated significant gender difference in academic achievement, the girls scored higher than boys significantly.

Singh and Praveen (2010) studied the relationship of social maturity with academic achievement of high school students. The results indicated that there were no significant differences between the academic achievement of boys and girls. The findings also revealed no significant difference in academic achievement of rural and urban students. Sarsani and Ravi (2010) investigated achievement in mathematics of secondary school students in relation to selected variables.

Sharma and Tahira (2011) investigated the influence of parental education, parental occupation and family size on science achievement of the secondary school students in western Uttar Pradesh in India.

Shafqat Hussain, Saeed Anwar, Muhammad Iqbal Majoka (January (2011) in their study indicated that peer group's activity-based learning was more effective for teaching of physics as compared to traditional lecture method of teaching at secondary level.

Asthana (2011) conducted a study on a sample of 300 students consisting 150 male and 150 female students of secondary education from Varanasi, with a view to assess to gender difference in scholastic achievement. Scholastic achievement was measured on the basis of an average of marks obtained in three previous annual examinations. The findings revealed that there was a significant difference in academic achievement of male and female students. Girls were found to be better performers than boys.

A.H. Nayyar (2016) generalizes that teaching science requires special attention and special training of teachers in teaching methods that invoke reasoning and curiosity. It also requires laboratory equipment to let students explore and verify phenomena and learn methods of scientific inquiry. It requires textbooks that make scientific phenomena understandable through systematic exploration. End-chapter exercises in textbooks must not ask recall questions, but demand thinking, reasoning and analysis. The same is true for examinations.

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Hypothesis

1. Education has always enjoyed a unanimous sanction in all the societies in the world
2. There are several forms, patterns, levels and methods of education
3. Education is a key to all the problems and it provides employment
4. The government of every country wants its people to link with education
5. The schools and colleges in India provide different types of education
6. Unlike in the past, the present education emphasizes personality development and employment
7. Unlike the education in the past, it now links the individuals with the world of science and technology
8. Education is the best means to link the individuals with the social norms
9. Education has several practical uses.

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10. Education makes the individuals superior to others.

Research Methodology

Based on the reviews on the multi-aspects of education, and solely on the secondary data, the paper is a critical study and analysis of the multi-aspects of education in India. For the purpose, the researcher made a thorough study of some of the selected reviews, and then, after classifying them in accordance with the aspects education they belong to, she analysed and reanalyzed them. For the sake of keeping up the scientific spirit of the work, she made personal observation of the various educational patterns in the colleges in her hometown. All this helped her not only study the causes and effects of the education, but also make generalizations about the various aspects of the education.

Conclusion

The critical reviews of literature on education reveal that in all the countries, education occupies a towering place. It has a tremendous role to play in the moulding the personality of the individuals in the society. The government policies, laws, and of course, public awareness can be helpful in this regard. Apart from the measures taken by the government in this regard, the serious concern of the people, and NGOs is also required. It is only through education that the individual can be able to enjoy a good social status and prove himself different from and superior to others who are detached from the world of education and who are surrounded by ignorance.

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