

# CURRENT EDUCATION SYSTEM

"The struggle to raise a nation's living standards is fought first and foremost in the classrooms."

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

Birds and animals require teaching or training to lead a successful bird or animal life. They know how to make a home or shelter for themselves and how to keep themselves alive instinctively. The instinct of self-preservation is implanted by nature. They are given certain faculties, which develop, to their maximum level with their physical growth without much conscious efforts on their part or on the part of their parents. Not so with man. His intellectual growth depends on many outside factors and cannot attain maturity without long and deliberate efforts on his part and on the part of his well-wishers. A forest can grow itself but a garden cannot.

A flower is pretty by itself but a diamond requires a lot of cutting and polishing before it will sparkle and scintillate into thousand colours. Man is like a rough diamond and requires filling and polishing before all his faculties can function fully. Inevitably, in fact, education enables one to lead a better life physically, mentally and spiritually. Education helps iron out one's emotions, prejudices, and idiosyncrasies to rationalize things rather objectively. This enables an individual to visualize his position in a society he lives and the world society as a whole.

The process of education can be regarded as a function of five M's namely Man, Money, method, Management and Machinery. That is the short human expression of the major variables that figure in the educational process, though social milieu, reflecting attitude of society towards education.

## 2. GLOBAL EDUCATION SCENARIO:

Access to basic education is the right of every individual. Education is the most important instrument in enhancing human capabilities, and in achieving the desired objectives of economic development. Education enables individuals to make informed choices, broaden their horizons and opportunities and to have a voice in public decision-making. It is one of the most important factors that act as a counterweight to social and economic mobility imposed by cultural and historical biases. Education is a vehicle of nation building through which a nation's shared interpretation of history and cultural values are reproduced across generations. At the country level, education means strong economic growth due to productive and skilled labor force. At the individual level, education is strongly correlated to higher returns in earning and a more informed and aware existence. The emerging global scenario offers immense opportunities and challenges, and only those nations can benefit from it, which have acquired the required knowledge base and skills.

## 3. EDUCATION SCENARIO IN SOUTH ASIA:

Half of the world's illiterate and 22 percent of the world's population live in South Asia. Pakistan does not fare well on account of literacy within the region. Sri Lanka and Maldives have almost attained full literacy. The adult literacy rate for India is 61 as compared to 53 percent in Pakistan. India, according to a recent study done by the World Bank, has attained 100 percent Gross Enrollment ratio (GER) and 90 percent Net Enrollment Ratio (NER) at the primary level.

#### **4. LITERACY SCENARIO IN PAKISTAN:**

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#### **5. CAUSES OF ILLITERACY IN PAKISTAN:**

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#### **6. EFFECTS OF ILLITERACY:**

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#### **7. PRESENT GOVERNMENT POLICY:**

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#### **8. NEW SCHEME OF STUDIES:**

- The federal education ministry on Thursday notified a new scheme of studies for classes I to XII, extending the number of annual academic days from 170 to 210 and making Islamiyat compulsory from class III-instead of class IV from next year.
- Non-Muslim students have been given the option to study ethics in place of Islamiyat.
- Computer education has been made compulsory from class VI. Physical training, arts and crafts, library sessions and after-school team sports have also been made compulsory.
- The number of academic days in a year has been increased from 170 to 210.
- The new scheme will be effective from 2007.
- Science and maths would be taught in English by 2011, it was notified.
- All middle schools will get computer labs within three years. Standard exams will be conducted at the end of class VIII to grant scholarships to students at the provincial and district levels.
- Under the new scheme, students of classes I and II will be taught Urdu, English, mathematics and general knowledge, which will include short stories from Islamic history, science and social studies.
- The provinces have the discretion to use their regional languages as medium of instruction and no student will be retained in classes I and II.
- From class VI onwards, science, geography, history and computer education will be taught in addition to other compulsory subjects. Maths, science and computer education will be taught in English, whereas, for geography and history the medium of instruction can be Urdu or English up to 2011.
- For classes IX and X in humanities group, Pakistan studies and three out of 22 elective subjects will be taught in addition to Urdu, English, maths and Islamiyat. An advanced Islamic study has been introduced as an elective subject.
- In the science group, physics, chemistry, biology and maths will be taught in English, whereas Islamiyat and Pakistan studies will be taught in Urdu.
- At the higher secondary school level, there will be five academic groups — science group-I (pre-medical), science group-II (pre-engineering or computer science), humanities, commerce, medical technology and home economics.
- In the pre-engineering group, maths, physics, chemistry or computer science will be taught in addition to the compulsory subjects of Islamiyat, Urdu and English.
- In the humanities group, three out of 24 elective subjects, including advanced level Pakistan studies and Islamic studies etc, will be offered in addition to the compulsory subjects.
- In the commerce group, business maths and statistics, principles of accounting,

computer skills or banking, principles of economics and commercial geography will be taught in addition the three compulsory subjects.

- In the medical technology group, labs, images, operation theatre, ophthalmology, physiotherapy and dental hygiene technologies will be taught in addition to the compulsory subjects.

- In the home economics group, food and house management, food and nutrition, home farming, clothing, child development, group behaviour, childcare and nursing will be taught in addition the compulsory subjects.

## **9. SUGGESTIONS:**

- 1) A uniform education policy.
- 2) Ability and merit must be declared as corner stones of our national life.
- 3) Adequate educational facilities.
- 4) Removal of fake schools; 23000 present in whole country.
- 5) Fair examination system.
- 6) Updated curriculum.
- 7) High standard of academic research.
- 8) Removal of corruption.
- 9) Training of teachers.
- 10) Removal of rote learning.