

**CHALLENGES AND MEASURES FOR FUTURE TEACHER EDUCATION****Mrs. Vaishali Sameer Kulkarni**

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**Abstract**

*Government of India has been focusing its attention on quality and excellence in higher education and Teacher Education. The teacher and student are the most important pillars in any education system. Most of the educational institutions perform variety of functions for providing enriched real experiences to students. Teacher should be facilitator, guide, philosopher and friend for students. This paper is based on challenges and measures for future teacher education. When we discuss about the nature of teacher education it is a continuous process and is based on comprehensive concept. It is ever evolving and dynamic.*

*The challenges in Teacher Education are as follows:*

- *Constructivist Approach in Education*
- *Number of practice lessons to be conducted*
- *Internship programme*
- *Action Research*
- *Population Education*
- *Community Living*
- *Technological Support*
- *Creativity for all round development*
- *Functioning Of Teacher-Education Institutions*
- *Inculcating life skills*
- *Maintaining Quality in Teacher Education*
- *Time Frame*
- *Skill Development Programme*

*The above challenges are discussed in detail in this paper. This paper also gives some remedies to overcome these problems. They are as follows.*

- *Constructivist approach should be followed in teacher education.*
- *The curriculum of this programme should be revised from time to time as per the changing needs of society.*
- *Life skills, core elements and values should be inculcated among students.*
- *The quality of teacher education should be maintained.*
- *There should be control of regulatory bodies on the selection of teacher, students and provisions of good infrastructure etc. and strict action should be taken if anyone fails to come up to expected level.*

- *The habit of self-learning should be developed so that pupil's dependency on teacher can be reduced. Principle of learning by doing should be followed in this programme.*
- *Teacher should train about stress management technique to students and reduce pressure of students. Because for students there is lot of work to do during this programme.*
- *Teacher should develop the critical thinking of the students and various activities should be conducted to develop it.*
- *Teacher should make students think critically and make right decisions and also maintain good relations with others.*
- *Students should be made aware to know constitutional goals.*
- *Teachers should encourage student's capacity to construct knowledge.*
- *Teacher should focus on the principle of Individual Differences and Multiculturalism in the classroom.*
- *More use of technology is expected in classroom teaching learning process.*
- *The importance of cultural heritage should be inculcated among students.*
- *Scientific temper should be developed and its application for the solution of Problems of life should be encouraged.*



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### **Introduction:-**

Government of India has been focusing its attention on quality and excellence in Higher Education and Teacher Education. The teacher and student are the most important element in any type of educational programme. Qualitative improvement in education depends on quality of teacher education because teacher has a crucial role in the development of the country. It is rightly said that the destiny of the country is formulated in its classroom.

With ever changing social and economic dynamics in the new century, teachers and their institutes have to face uncertainties and challenges arising from their internal and external environments. As a consequence, the role of teacher is becoming complex. Today teachers are required to take much more responsibility beyond traditional classroom teaching. Implementing innovative practices in education can be a suitable way which can help teachers of today to overcome these challenges and uncertainties.

### **Challenges for Future Teacher Education:-**

#### **❖ Constructivist Approach in Education:-**

At school level constructivist approach is included and implemented through syllabus. But this scenario is not seen in teacher education colleges. Most of the course related practical are based only on theory and not on practical knowledge. Learning by doing is the main objective of teaching learning process which is at some extent neglected in the education. More focus should be given on giving practical knowledge to pupil teacher.

❖ **Number of practice lessons to be conducted:-**

The core part of B.Ed. Course is lessons which are reduced in the new syllabus. In first year of B.Ed. course pupil teachers are supposed to conduct only 6 practice lessons 3 of each method. Though the number of lessons in Teaching Competency I and II are increased but still they have to be conducted on peer group only and not in real classroom. In year 2006 pupil teachers supposed to conduct 16 lessons and then when syllabus was changed the number reduced to 12 and now it is only 6. More focus should be given on conduction of lessons in real classrooms.

❖ **Internship programme:-**

The internship is an integral part of this course. It includes teaching and wide variety of field experiences under the guidance of a competent supervisor i.e. in charge professor. A pupil teacher involves himself in many activities as planning and performing teaching, observation of experienced school teacher's lessons, preparing of lesson plan for special child in classroom etc. In new syllabus activities to be done in school by pupil teachers are very less but duration for it is more which is one month. Also the credits given for this course are very less. Even getting the permission of schools for one month is very difficult task.

❖ **Action Research:-**

In teacher education institutes action research should be compulsory for both teacher and professors. Subjects selected for research should be based on current issues and need in teacher education. At this level itself the attitude of pupil teacher towards research should be developed.

❖ **Population Education:-**

Education is the very powerful instrument for social change and for social control. The social changes are controlled by education. 'Population Education' concept should be given to the teachers and develop the attitude to have the small family. It is very essential for the economic growth of the family and country. This feeling and attitude should be developed among the students in very beginning.

❖ **Community Living:-**

Emerging trend in teacher education is community living. The major aims of 'Community Living' programmes are personal and social effectiveness. Some essential features of the programme are:-

1. Group living by making the residence in the hostel compulsory.
2. Taking group projects such as cleanliness of premises, room and lecture halls etc.

3. Management of playing indoor and outdoor games.
4. Organizing some entertainment and variety programmes.
5. Arranging study groups for specified periods and evaluating the achievements.

❖ **Technological Support :-**

New technologies have been introduced in the field of education but still the use of technology in the field of education is very limited. The use of technology in education field is not raise up to the expected level. The concepts like virtual classrooms, video conferencing etc. should be used in this field. So these upcoming techniques should be used in this field.

❖ **Creativity for All Round Development :-**

It is said that creativity is very essential for all round development of human being. Creativity is the capacity of a person to produce compositions, products or ideas which are essentially new or novel and previously unknown to the producer. But we have forgotten that knowledge cannot be delivered, it has to be created. It means that teacher should focus on creativity. Teacher should give freedom to respond, should encourage originality and flexibility. Also teacher should use special techniques for fostering creativity.

❖ **Functioning of Teacher-Education Institutions -**

NCTE i.e. National Council for teacher- education (NCTE) regulates the functioning of Teacher Education institutions and prevent them from becoming more commercial but as there are so many Teacher Education colleges so it is sometimes difficult to monitor all the institutions at a time. Some institutions have become simply money making centre and produce certified but incompetent teachers which is a matter of great concern because Incompetency of teachers can harm the system of education.

❖ **Inculcating Life Skills –**

For personal development and growth of human being life skills are very important. When human being faces with many difficulties in life it is life skills which teaches to overcome on these difficulties. There are many number of life skills but the focus is given on 10 life skills which should be inculcated among students. These life skills are as follows. 1. Self-Awareness 2. Empathy 3. Decision Making 4 .Problem solving 5.Critical Thinking 6. Creative Thinking 7 Interpersonal relations 8 .Effective communication 9. Emotional Skills 10.10 Stress Management.

Our education system is learner centered. It is expected that student should be more active in learning process but the scenario in classroom is different. Teacher is more active in the classroom. So for all round development of students inculcation of life skills is very important.

❖ **Maintaining Quality in Teacher Education:-**

Quality of Teacher Education is depends on quality of teachers. This also indirectly effects on the quality of pupil teachers. Still so many changes should be done in teacher education field. More focus should be given on practical knowledge than theoretical knowledge. Critical thinking of the students should be developed. Also there are so many teaching methods, approaches and techniques which can make teaching learning process effective. Teachers should make pupil teacher compulsory to use this methods, approaches and techniques to make their teaching more effective and interesting.

❖ **Time Frame :-**

Time duration of Teacher Education programme is a debatable issue. Since last so many years NCF i.e. National Curriculum Framework and many educationists were recommending for two years duration of teacher education programme. As there is so much of theoretical and practical work to complete and to maintain quality in this programme recommendation was logical. In year 2015-16, the existing one year B.Ed. programme has been changed to two years programme which was the necessity of time. But due to the extended time duration we see students are abstaining to this course. In many colleges admission seats are vacant which is a big concern for all colleges. In self-financed institutes it is directly affecting on financial position. So some optimal solution should be found out from this.

❖ **Skill Development Programmes:-**

Nowadays due to problem of unemployment skill based education should be given to pupil teachers so that they can be more independent. This is the age where only having degree is not sufficient. So as per the interest area of pupil such skills can be developed in them which can start their earning source.

❖ **Remedies to Overcome on the Challenges in Teacher Education:-**

- Constructivist approach should be followed in teacher education.
- The curriculum of this programme should be revised from time to time as per the changing needs of society.
- Life skills, core elements and values should be inculcated among students.
- The quality of teacher education should be maintained.
- There should be control of regulatory bodies on the selection of teacher, students and provisions of good infrastructure etc. and strict action should be taken if anyone fails to come up to expected level.

- The habit of self-learning should be developed so that pupil's dependency on teacher can be reduced. Principle of learning by doing should be followed in this programme.
- Teacher should train about stress management technique to students and reduce pressure of students. Because for students there is lot of work to do during this programme.
- Teacher should develop the critical thinking of the students and various activities should be conducted to develop it.
- Teacher should make students think critically and make right decisions and also maintain good relations with others.
- Students should be made aware to know constitutional goals.
- Teachers should encourage student's capacity to construct knowledge.
- Teacher should focus on the principle of Individual Differences and Multiculturalism in the classroom.
- More use of technology is expected in classroom teaching learning process.
- The importance of cultural heritage should be inculcated among students.
- Scientific temper should be developed and its application for the solution of Problems of life should be encouraged.

#### **Conclusion –**

Teacher and student are the two important pillars in education system. The education gives a new shape to the individual and the nation as well. It is said that teacher is the nation builder. The quality of teacher education programme needs to be up graded and to be revised according to changing needs of society. Teachers should be made more able to think critically and solve the issues related to teaching methods, approaches, techniques etc.

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