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RESEARCH ARTICLE

NEHRU'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

Nehru gave more attention in scientific education as in that way a skilled Workforce of nation could be produced which could help to implement the plans, Nehru established national science laboratories, started Indian Institute of technology all over India, which helped India to achieve a new height in technical development. But Nehru was also concerned about the fact that with adaptation of technologies India should not leave its basic values which are the essence of criticized man. Nehru gave equal importance to the development of human personality and cultural education. He advised of for the propagation of growth in art and Culture and he also encouraged the establishment of Special Institutions for art and culture. He was the president of Sahitya Academy. He did not support the interference of government in this field. Only if art and culture turned into a social menace the government should more in. A huge gap between the different section of people of a developing counting like India had need a strong education system which can uplift the backward classes. Nehru also realized that the women of the country could make a great contribution in educational growth. If we can educate our female citizens they will be independent and in that way a good citizen could also be a producer. Nehru knew that the schemes of rural development and family planning can be successful if we educate our rural women. Nehru himself was a western - educated person. His objective of education was to end the narrow religious rules and to promote a scientific and humanitarian mindset. He was also the supporter of regional languages as the primary medium for the success of educational Program.

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INTRODUCTION

Nehru's theory of knowledge is based on rationalism, empiricism, and positivism. His educational view was influenced by Karl Marx and Gandhi. Nehru's concern was less for philosophical problems and more for the man himself. He had more faith in science than in religion. This point of view was grown by his experiences and intelligence. He replaced the place of God with humanity. The organized religion was always criticized by Nehru. To spread the scientific attitude amongst Indian and Students he always opposed the superstitious ideas and blind faiths. His thoughts inspired the teaching of Gita and Nehru realized the importance of text in human Society. According to Dr. Radha krishnan, though Nehru was not a religious man but he had lots of faith in spiritual values. Nehru realized the importance of education. He found that only by good education the changes in Indian society could be done. In Nehru's view, to solve the country's problems social and political reforms are not enough. To improve the human relations, mental development was also required.

So Nehru had greater concern in educational a policies as education can only be the foundation of mental development. For Nehru, universities stand for the adventure of ideas, for the search of truth. It teaches us the idea of humanism and tolerance. The social development of India cannot be done without spiritual values as per Nehru. Nehru was the supporters of Russian approach to education. According to Nehru the main aim of education is to produce the desire to serve the Community as a whole and to apply the knowledge gained not only for personal but public welfare. Nehru knew that education has social as well as economic objectives. Education can make a man able to improve himself and make him able to generate wealth in society. Nehru explained the fact that are should produce the amount we consume otherwise we well stay As a burden to society. Nehru support the thought of education of Gandhi who believed that the basic education must be based on the actual environment and experiences of the child which can help him to grow in further life also. To educate a huge mass of this counting was indeed great challenge of Nehru. He thought the basic education can solved the problem of massive unemployment crisis. The people will get the capability to coordinate manual labor with intellectual and mental ability.

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A huge gap between the different section of people of a developing counting like India had need a strong education system which can uplift the backward classes. Nehru also realized that the women of the country could make a great contribution in educational growth. If we can educate our female citizens they will be independent and in that way a good citizen could also be a producer. Nehru knew that the schemes of rural development and family planning can be successful if we educate our rural women. Nehru himself was a western - educated person. His objective of education was to end the narrow religious rules and to promote a scientific and humanitarian mindset. He was also the supporter of regional languages as the primary medium for the success of educational Program.

Nehru in his five year plans included free and compulsory primary education. He had the understanding of primary education. But he had to suffer big challenges in terms of channelizing resources, priorities or planning, Lalit kala Academy and Sahitya Academy were also established by Nehru. For him education was not all about academic, the all round involvement and improvement more necessary. He encouraged India's youth to learn art and culture of Ancient India. The Institutes those were established by Nehru, some of these have become globally respected ones. Nehru encouraged not changing English as a medium of studies and a language of governance, in India. As it would be helpful for India to communicate with the outer world. Motilal Nehru wanted his son to qualify in Indian civil services. Nehru studied for six years at the hallowed portals of Harrow and Cambridge but he did not enjoy schooling there. The influence of Nehru's early education was clearly visible on the economic policies adopted by the Indian state after its independence 1947. Nehru's socialist ideology, promulgated from his educational period in London influenced Indian government of the 1950's. Nehru promoted the acquiring and development of Nuclear Energy hydroelectric power projects etc. He had also created the License Raj. Since 1947, the government of India sponsored a variety of programmes to eradicate the illiteracy problem in India. India's 1st minister of Education, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad envisaged strong central government control over education throughout the country, The University Education Commission (1948-49), the secondary education commission (1952-53), University Grants Commission were established. Jawaharlal Nehru adopted the resolution of scientific policy. Nehru lead the Indian scientific Community into bureaucracy and babu raj, according to some critics.

Nehru's educational policies head the influence of his western education but that did not reduce the importance of Indian culture to Nehru. According to him a man can learn better about different culture when he has knowledge of his own country and culture. Whatever was required to build a strong education system in India, Nehru was ready to do it. Whether it was primary education or education in university and higher institutions, his contribution became the foundation of Indian educational system. He wanted India's children to brought up with modern scientific education. Also he wanted them to know about ancient Indian history and the moral values that it had given. Nehru dreamt a future India with no superstitions. Also In his educational policies he gave greater attention towards the scientific attitude. Everything needed for India's development, Nehru was ready to done it in any cost. He brought our women in front line. Made their education possible. Explained to compulsory and the importance of woman empowerment to the Indian society. A leader like him, who was kind hearted, who had lone for his people in a huge amount, at the same time strong and brave whether it came to the matter of pride of nation, is as what all nation in the world wants.

Nehru's policies were not only structured keeping in mind the benefit of India but also it was beneficial for the whole mankind in the world, Nehru without any jealousy, supported other nation to develop while working for the development of his own country. We all know that Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, was very fond of children and his birthday is observed as Children's Day. But not many know that he played an important role in shaping country's education sector. He strongly believed in scientific knowledge and propagated reasoning and rationality as the basis of all learning. Nehru believed that the role of education in an individual's life was not restricted to academia alone but extended to one's economic ambitions and social contributions as well. "Unless you produce the amount you consume, you are a burden to society," is among one of his famous quotes. It was under Nehru's vision for the country's youth that pivotal higher education institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), All Indian Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and others were set up. Nehru had pushed for a Special Act through which the first IIT was set up in Kharagpur, West Bengal, in May, 1950. Addressing the first convocation ceremony of the institution, Nehru had said, "Here in the place of that Hijli Detention Camp stands the fine monument of India, representing India's urges, India's future in the making. This picture seems to me symbolical of the changes that are coming to India."

He was integral in setting up the first IIT in west India at Powai, Mumbai. Pandit Nehru was able to procure help from the Soviet Union for setting up of IIT Bombay in 1958. This resulted in the establishment of another institute in the north, IIT Kanpur, with help from the US, in 1959, possibly as an outcome of the Cold War. The late prime minister played a key role in ushering in the IIMs and AIIMS by rooting for the establishment of the same. The first AIIMS was going to be set up in Calcutta but after the proposal was rejected by then West Bengal CM Bidhan Chandra Roy, it was shifted to New Delhi. In his five-year plans, Nehru also outlined a commitment to guarantee free and compulsory primary education to children. However, Noble laureate Amartya Sen once criticised Nehru's

policies towards primary education. "Nehru had the understanding of primary education and was committed to it, but in terms of channelizing resources, priorities or planning, there was a big failure," said Sen.

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