

A Study on Growth of Higher Education in Jammu and Kashmir

MOHD UMMER JAN PADDER

Ph.D. Research Scholar
Department of Economics, Bharathiar University
Coimbatore, India

Dr. P. SHANMUGAM

Assistant Professor
Department of Economics, Bharathiar University
Coimbatore, India

Abstract:

Education is the backbone of social development by which human resource is developed. A well-educated population, equipped with relevant knowledge, attitudes and skills is essential for economic and social development. Higher education is an imperative phase of education which helps the students to build up self-confidence, self-respect and self-dependent. The history of the world proves that education has been the root cause for any change which takes place in the social, cultural, spiritual and economic aspects of human life. India's higher education system is the third largest in the world, after China and the United States. Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) State is considered as one of the most educationally backward states with reference to the education indices such as literacy rate, dropout rate, teacher pupil ratio and the absorption pattern of the educated people. With the great efforts of the State Government, over the period, the education scenario improved in the State quite substantially. The objective of the study is to analyze the growth of higher education in Jammu and Kashmir. The relevant information was gathered through the secondary data. The results of the study found that there are irregular trend in enrollment of students both in General and Professional education and as well as in faculty-wise enrollment. The

study also found that there is less number of government colleges rather than private B.Ed. colleges.

Key words: Higher Education, Growth, Enrollment, J&K and Annual Growth Rate

Introduction

Education is the process by which a nation transforms itself from what it is, into what it aspires to be. It is the most important aspect of evaluation and maintenance of nation. Education is the backbone of social development and most important and powerful instrument invented by mankind to shape and mould himself in a desirable manner. A well-educated population, equipped with relevant knowledge, attitudes and skills is essential for economic and social development in the 21st century. Unless education is appropriate and need based the country's requirement of human capital or human resource will be at stake. The problems like poverty, unemployment, malnutrition, illiteracy, etc are precisely due to the proper upgrading and improper utilization of human resources. Human resources should be utilized in a balanced way among various sectors of the economy to reduce the inequality of wealth and income of the society so that prosperity of the people may be increased. The development of human resource is the essential requisite for overall development. The history of the world proves that education has been the root cause for any change which takes place in the social, cultural, spiritual and economic aspects of human life.

Education is not only an important social activity but is also an investment in human resources particularly higher education. India has seen a consistently high rate of economic growth in the recent years. It has now become a major player in the global knowledge economy. India's higher education system

is the third largest in the world, after China and the United States. In India, higher education has seen an impressive growth since independence. The number of universities has increased 34 times from 20 in 1950 to 677 in 2014 (MHRD 2014). The higher education sector boasts of 45 Central Universities of which 40 are under the preview of Minister of Human Resource Development (MHRD), 318 State Universities, 185 State Private Universities, 129 Deemed Universities, 51 Institutions of National Importance (established under the Acts of Parliament) under MHRD (IITs-16, NITs-30 and IISERs-5) and four various Institutions (established various State Legislations). The number of colleges has also increased 74 times with just 500 in 1950 to 37,204 in 2013(MHRD 2013).

Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) State is considered as one of the most educationally backward states with reference to the education indices such as literacy rate, dropout rate, teacher pupil ratio and the absorption pattern of the educated people. At the time of Independence, there were very few educational institutions in the state which were largely concentrated in the major towns. As far as literacy was concerned, the literacy rate of the state was only five per cent at that time. With the great efforts of the State Government, over the period, the education scenario improved in the state quite substantially. In the state, 22 new degree colleges were already established in 2007-08 and 22 more degree colleges were sanctioned during 2011-12 and two central universities were approved and established during 11th Five Year Plan. The access to higher education is measured in terms of gross enrollment ratio. The gross enrollment ratio for the Jammu and Kashmir was 10.36 per cent in 2007-08 which has increased to 16.9 per cent in 2013-14, which is lower than national average (19.4%). There are 11 universities among which 2 are central universities and 9 are state universities and 237 colleges out of which 142 are private B.Ed. colleges and remaining were government colleges. With the increase in the

number of higher educational institutions, the general enrollment in the colleges also increased to 1.89 lac in 2013-14 (Economic Survey, J&K 2013-14). The overall enrollment in higher education sector including Universities, Private Institutions and Agricultural/ Medical Institutions has increased approximately to 2,77,000 in the 11th Five Year Plan (Economic Survey 2011-12).

Review of Literature

Saima et al (2012) in their study analyzed the relationship between higher education and economic growth in West Virginia by using simultaneous equations with three endogenous variables namely, per capita income change, education change and population change. The result of the study indicated that income growth and education growth are positively related while education growth reduces population growth.

Guikwad and Solunke (2013) analyzed the growth of higher education that the number of colleges and institutions in higher education has increased but there was disparity in the growth of higher education at the national level in India. The study found that in some universities and colleges there was poor infrastructure, lack of skilled manpower and malpractices, which were barriers in providing quality education to the age group of 18-22. The study concludes that it is the responsibility of UGC to make more effective regulation and try to control such malpractices over higher education system in India.

Pujar (2014) in his study revealed the trends in growth of higher education and finds that the students' enrollment in higher education had grown six times in the last 30 years; the faculty strength had grown only four times, resulting in shortage of faculty and high student-teacher ratios. The study also indicates that there was wide disparity in Gross

Attendance Ratio (GAR) of higher education in urban and rural areas, gender and community-wise in India.

In this concern, this study needs an attempt to analyze the growth of higher education in Jammu and Kashmir from 2001-02 to 2012-13 and to give suggestions for improving higher education in Jammu and Kashmir.

This study is exclusively depends upon secondary data. The secondary data were collected from Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Department of Higher Education of Jammu and Kashmir and Minister of Human Resource Development. Annual Compound Growth Rate was used to find out the growth in higher education of Jammu and Kashmir.

Result and Discussion

Table 1: Growth of Higher Education Institutions in India from 1950 to 2011

Year	No. of Universities	AGR	No. of colleges	AGR
1950-51	30	-	695	-
1960-61	55	83.33	1542	121.87
1970-71	103	87.27	3604	133.72
1980-81	133	29.13	4722	31.02
1990-91	190	42.86	7346	55.57
2000-01	256	34.74	12806	74.33
2010-11	564	120.31	33023	157.87

Source: University Grants Commission, New Delhi (2012)

It is observed from table 1 the number of universities and colleges in India from 1950-51 to 2010-11. The number of universities has grown from 30 in 1950-51 to 564 in 2010-11. The decadal growth rate of universities was high in 2010-11(120.31%) and low was in 1980-81(29.13%). The number of colleges has also increased from 695 in 1950-51 to 33023 in 2010-11. The decadal growth of colleges was highest in 2010-11(157.87%) and lowest in 1980-81 (31.02%).

Table 2: District-wise number of Government Colleges and Private B.ED Colleges in Jammu and Kashmir

S.NO	District	No. of Govt. Colleges	No. of Pvt. B.ED Colleges
1	Jammu	12	37
2	Kuthua	7	17
3	Udhampur	3	5
4	Rajouri	6	3
5	Poonch	3	1
6	Doda	4	Nil
7	Reasi	3	3
8	Kaishwar	3	1
9	Ramban	3	Nil
10	Samba	1	8
11	Srinagar	8	19
12	Baramulla	8	20
13	Anantnag	7	5
14	Budgam	5	7
15	Pulwama	4	6
16	Kupwara	5	1
17	Ganderbal	2	2
18	Kulgam	3	Nil
19	Shopian	1	Nil
20	Bandipora	3	7
21	Leh	2	Nil
22	Kargil	2	Nil
	Total	95	142

Source: Department of Higher Education Jammu and Kashmir

Table 2 describes the district-wise availability of government colleges and private B.Ed colleges in Jammu and Kashmir. The total number of government colleges were 95 in the whole state among which Jammu district has highest number of colleges (12) followed by Srinagar, Baramulla, Anantnag, Kuthua and Rajouri (8), (7) and (6) respectively. The maximum number of districts has only 3 colleges while some districts have just one or two colleges. As far as private B.Ed colleges were concerned the total number of colleges in the state were 142 among which Jammu district has highest number of colleges (37), which was followed by Baramulla, Srinagar and Udhampur (20), (19) and (17) respectively. While some districts have no B.Ed college and few districts have only one college.

Table 3: Enrolment in General and Professional Education at University level in Jammu and Kashmir during the year 2001-02 to 2012-13

Year	General education						Professional education					
	Boys	AGR	Girls	AGR	Total	AGR	Boys	AGR	Girls	AGR	Total	AGR
2001-02	23847		20860		44707		990		650		1640	
2002-03	20320	-14.79	15100	-27.61	35420	-20.77	6199	526.16	7772	1095.69	13971	751.89
2003-04	40948	101.51	38827	157.13	79775	125.23	10814	74.45	13573	74.63	24387	74.55
2004-05	39482	-3.58	33190	-14.52	72672	-8.9	15778	45.9	21096	55.43	36874	51.2
2005-06	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2006-07	30815	-21.95	21183	-36.18	51998	-28.45	8764	-44.45	5222	-75.24	13896	-62.31
2007-08	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2008-09	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2009-10	47574	54.39	37268	75.94	84842	63.16	3551	-59.48	2492	-52.28	6043	-56.51
2010-11	70576	48.35	65211	74.98	135787	60.05	31728	793.49	31452	1162.12	63180	945.51
2011-12	74731	5.89	69616	6.75	144347	6.3	29509	-6.99	30830	-1.98	60339	-4.5
2012-13	48542	-35.04	47063	-32.4	95605	-33.77	38963	32.04	29494	-4.33	68457	13.45

Source: Digest of Statistic 2012-13 Directorate of Economics & Statistics Government of J&K

NA: Not Available

@: Excludes Medical Colleges, Agriculture and Physical Education College

*: Indicates Position of Kashmir University only

Table 3 contains the data on enrollment of general and professional education at university level in Jammu and Kashmir from 2001-02 to 2012-13. The enrollment in general education had shown fluctuating trend. The maximum enrollment was in year 2011-12 which was 144347. The overall annual growth rate of enrollment in general education was highest in 2003-04 (125.23%) and lowest in 2012-13 (-33.77%). The annual growth rate of enrollment in boys was highest in 2003-04 (101.51%) and in girls 157.23% during the same period. In case of professional education too the enrollment had shown fluctuating trend but comparatively less. The maximum enrollment was in 2012-13 (68457). The overall annual growth rate of professional education was highest in 2010-11 (945.51%) and lowest in 2006-07 (-62.31%). The annual growth rate was highest for boys in 2010-11(793.49%) and for girls was1162.12% during the same period. The table finally reveals that the growth rate was higher in girls than boys in both general and professional education.

Table 4 pertains the data on faculty-wise enrollment of higher education in Jammu and Kashmir from 2001-02 to 2012-

13. The enrollment in arts has shown fluctuating trend. The maximum enrollment was found in 2011-12 which was 92841. The annual growth rate was highest in 2006-07 (94.23%) and lowest in 2004-05 (-54.8%). The enrollment in science has also shown irregular trend and the maximum enrollment was in the year 2011-12 (28767). The annual growth rate was highest in 2006-07 (85.78%) and lowest in 2004-05 (-44.48%). The enrollment of higher education in commerce has shown fluctuating trend comparatively less than arts and science. The maximum enrollment in commerce was in the year 2011-12 which was 15003. The annual growth rate was found highest in 2009-10 (121.33%) and was lowest in 2004-05 (-47.18%). As far as education was concerned, the enrollment here too shown fluctuating trend. The highest enrollment related to education was found in the year 2010-11 was 49541. The annual growth rate was more in year 2010-11 (123.41%) and less in 2009 -10 (-32.07%). In case of engineering technology the enrollment shown irregular trend. The maximum enrollment was found in 2009-10 which was 4830. The annual growth of enrollment in engineering technology was higher in 2003-04 (137.35%) and lower in 2005-06 (-27.84 %). As per medicine is concerned the enrollment was maximum in 2012-13 was 23705. The annual growth rate was highest in 2012-13 (566.25%) and lowest in 2005-06 (-48.3%). In case of fine arts the enrollment was much lower as compared to other faculties. The maximum enrollment was in 2010-11 which was only 216. The annual growth rate was higher in 2009-10 (414.63%) and lowest in 2006-07 (-68.94%).

Table 4: Faculty-Wise Enrolment in Higher Education during the Year 2001-02 to 2012-13 in Jammu and Kashmir

Year		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Arts	Boys	9709	15035	17926	6261	12209	26762	NA	NA	43166	42614	44073	40570
	Girls	12174	16689	20288	11013	17219	30395	NA	NA	46180	47511	48768	49220
	Total	21883	31724	38214	17274	29428	57157	NA	NA	89346	91382	92841	89790
	AGR	-	44.97	20.46	-54.8	70.36	94.23	NA	NA	56.32	2.28	1.09	-3.29
Science	Boys	11442	13485	14912	7282	7061	14692	NA	NA	14555	15300	16213	17993
	Girls	7122	8033	9271	6096	6271	10076	NA	NA	11378	11535	12554	14822
	Total	18564	21518	24183	13378	13332	24768	NA	NA	25933	26835	28767	19415
	AGR	-	15.91	12.38	-44.68	-0.34	85.78	NA	NA	4.7	3.48	7.2	-32.5
Commerce	Boys	2687	3345	3461	1600	1696	3837	NA	NA	8609	9710	10559	8932

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	Girls	1573	1693	2146	1364	1554	1729	NA	NA	3710	3796	4444	4208
	Total	4260	5038	5607	2964	3250	5566	NA	NA	12319	13506	15003	13140
	AGR	-	18.26	11.29	-47.18	9.65	71.26	NA	NA	121.33	9.64	11.08	-12.42
Education	Boys	396	4459*	8347	5117	5411	11643	NA	NA	11461(+)	23267	20055	21264
	Girls	96	6793*	12983	9639	9783	21002	NA	NA	10714(+)	26274	24525	26495
	Total	492	11252	21330	14756	15194	32645	NA	NA	22175	49541	44580	47759
	AGR	-	2187	89.57	-30.82	2.97	114.85	NA	NA	-32.07	123.41	-10.01	7.13
Engg. Techgy	Boys	322@	1099	2332	2665	1921	3257	NA	NA	3646	2979	3298	3079
	Girls	286@	205	763	913	661	1097	NA	NA	1184	1133	1306	1352
	Total	608	1304	3095	3578	2582	4354	NA	NA	4830	4112	4604	4431
	AGR	-	114.47	137.35	15.6	-27.84	68.63	NA	NA	10.93	-14.87	12.01	-3.76
Medicine	Boys	105(.)	642	1124	1318	587	1216	NA	NA	859	1356	1451	1639
	Girls	104(.)	534	896	1071	648	1138	NA	NA	1188	1687	2107	22066
	Total	209	1176	2020	2389	1235	2354	NA	NA	2047	3043	3558	23705
	AGR	-	462.68	71.77	18.27	-48.3	90.6	NA	NA	-13.04	48.66	16.92	566.25
Fine Arts	Boys	108	71	96	56	67	30	NA	NA	152	147	75	81
	Girls	92	76	108	72	65	11	NA	NA	59	69	21	50
	Total	200	147	204	128	132	41	NA	NA	211	216	96	131
	AGR	-	-26.5	38.78	-37.25	3.13	-68.94	NA	NA	414.63	2.37	-55.56	36.46

Source: Digest of Statistic 2012-13 Directorate of Economics & Statistics Government of J&K

NA: Not Available

(+) = Indicates the information of Jammu University only

@: Indicates Position of polytechnic Colleges only

*: Indicates total of boys & girls

(.): Indicates Government Medical College Srinagar/Jammu

Conclusion

Education is the backbone of social development by which human resource is developed. A well-educated population, equipped with relevant knowledge, attitudes and skills is essential for economic and social development. Higher education is an imperative phase of education which helps the students to build up self-confidence, self-respect and self-dependent. The state government has taken various steps for the development of higher education in the state. In the state 22 new degree colleges were already established in 2007-08 and 22 more degree colleges were sanctioned during 2011-12. Further two central universities were approved and established during 11th Five Year Plan. The results of the study found that there are irregular trend in enrollment of students both in General and Professional education and as well as in faculty-wise enrollment. The study also found that there is less number of government colleges rather than private B.Ed colleges.

Suggestions

From the above conclusion the following suggestion should made for growth of higher education in Jammu and Kashmir.

1. There are number of districts where number of colleges is just 1 or 2, so the government should increase colleges in those districts for the growth of higher education.
2. In some districts there are no B.ED colleges. The government should established B.ED colleges in those districts.

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