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Possibility And Advantage Of Higher Education

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Abstract: India, a developing country, keeps making important advancements in the sphere of education. There are plenty of chances to eliminate these barriers and improve the quality of the system, even if the higher education system faces many challenges. Rethinking the roles of college and university instructors in the new millennium, along with achieving increased responsibility and openness, are essential elements. Moreover, new discoveries on human learning are essential to enhancing academic performance. This study focuses on recognizing and emphasizing a group of factors intended to propel advancements in the field of higher education. The instructor has control over these "software" elements, which have the potential to directly impact the learning environment. In order to ascertain the current state of the system, this study uses a structured approach, well-defined objectives, and data from operational-level teachers. Also, the results provide insightful information that illuminates possible avenues for curing current conditions and cultivating a stronger, more responsible, and learner-focused higher education environment in India.

Index Terms **-** Higher education, Likert Scale, Mean, Variance, Standard deviations

1. INTRODUCTION

The higher education system in past time churned out outstanding scholars, reputed scientists, acclaimed social thinkers, expert engineers, specialized physicians, eminent political leaders and above all well-disciplined citizens. But tertiary institutions are reduced to coaching shops for various examinations [1]. Since independence, India as a developing nation is contentiously progressing in the education field. Although there have been lot of challenges to higher education system of India but equally have lot of opportunities to overcome these challenges and to make higher education system much better. It needs greater transparency and accountability, the role of colleges and universities in the new millennium, and emerging scientific research on how people learn is of utmost important [2]. Educational institutions are implementing technologies like Big Data analytics, Internet of Things, Cloud Technology, Cyber Security, and Artificial Intelligence to achieve greater efficiency. The traditional curriculum, which consists only of a list of topics to be taught, cannot adequately prepare students for the digital age. Today's knowledge is more interdisciplinary, complicated, and rapidly evolving. Given the profound changes in access to and acquisition of knowledge, the educator no longer holds a monopoly on its transmission [3]**.** However, entire scenario will change when the role of teacher is elevated to that of a scholar who engages himself in a continuous interaction with the students to stimulate learning while learning himself. The college education suffers from certain ailments. These ailments need remedial measures. The system could be reactivated to serve the society at large. The hardware component may take some time as it relates to certain policy decisions outside the campus. However, software component of the campus operations could not wait for more time. The present study has been conducted in this backdrop with due focus on software component [4, 5].

1.1 Objectives:

The study aims at the following objectives:

- Develop multiple performance metrics to enhance the efficiency of institutional operations.
- Collect feedback from a selected group of college teachers on the proposed performance measures, as these do not necessitate long-term policy frameworks.
- Encourage ongoing dialogue and discussion among educational stakeholders to further improve academic productivity.

1.2 Methodology:

The verbal discussions held and an interview schedule was administrated on a select group of 65 teachers functioning in different colleges in order to gather their valued opinion. However, 50 teachers responded well as desired and the response rate has been around 77 per cent. The qualitative performance measures thus constructed have been quantified by conversion with due support of Likert scale (7-1). In order to draw certain inferences the statistical techniques like total weighted score, mean score, standard deviation, co-efficient of variance, mean score and rank in percentage have been computed. The said analysis of data is presented in tabular form to facilitate interpretation.

2 Results and Discussion: The discussions can be summarized in two sections.

2.1 Section-I: The different dimensions attracted the attention of sample respondents by assigning priorities:

Integrated approach: The academic performance needs strategic thinking in an era of comparative bench-marking. The institutions in government sector can also beat bench-marks when they work smart. Thus integrated approach adopted following factors can lead to excellence.

Thought Process: The Higher Education Institutions are ideas and thought process organizations. These institutions are not confined to the transaction of regular course content alone but are actively engaged in research and extension activities as well. The faculty is required to be highly enthusiastic to contribute to the knowledge advancement.

Relevant pedagogy: The regular and effective delivery of course content no doubt is paramount. For improvement in the transaction, student-centric pedagogy should gain currency. The students are actively to be engaged in the process to think critically and analytically. Course content is to be analyzed in such a way that different components in each unit are taken care besides teacher-centered methodology through virtual classroom and student conferencing [6].

Academic schedule: The weekly academic schedules need be prepared accordingly and communicated to students in advance. The requisite infrastructure and expertise are developed in this regard. Further, equal focus on event management, student laurels and faculty achievements is to be duly placed. Sincere efforts put in thus will effect a positive change in the system.

Scientific temper: The colleges desire to be excellent academic institutions to promote love for lifelong learning. Graduate programme is three-year long grind to inculcate scientific temper. Motivating students to participate in diverse activities on the campus need to develop a sense of disciplined life. Campus life will be rich when open dialogue is appreciated, spirit of inquiry is encouraged and analytical orientation is promoted.

Skill development: The best way to acquire appropriate skills is learning-by doing. The students accordingly need to be engaged for soft skills in institution building activities: organizing debates and guest sessions; managing events and maintaining discipline; arranging placements and career counseling. They shall be active participants in the learning process to get a feel of leadership. Interactive pedagogy shall be instructional strategy to affect excellence in class room transactions. It shall result in multi-dimensional exchange of ideas and brainstorming on critical social and scientific issues [7].

Stakeholder dialogue: The stakeholder dialogue has a great significance in the academic performance of institutions of higher learning. Student feedback, parent view point, faculty assessment and administrative response have added significance. Inclusiveness and carving space for all should be a step towards improvement in academic productivity.

Table 1: Dimensions Ranked by Respondent Interest and Priority

(N=50)

Dimensions	TWS	Mean Score	Std. Deviation	Co-efficient of Variance	Rank	
					Mean in %	Status
Integrated approach	207	4.14	0.32	7.72	82.80	R5
Thought Process:	212	4.24	0.87	20.51	84.80	R1
Relevant pedagogy	211	4.22	0.75	17.77	84.40	R2
Academic schedule	206	4.12	0.07	1.70	82.40	R6
Scientific temper	209	4.18	0.99	23.92	83.60	R4
Skill development	210	4.20	0.36	8.57	84.00	R3
Stakeholder dialogue	205	4.10	0.20	4.88	82.00	R7

The Table 1 highlight that different dimensions attracted the attention of sample respondents by assigning priorities. Thought process culminated with the highest priority whereas stockholders dialogue ended up with last. The mean score in percentages ranged between 82 percent and 85 percent with standard deviation less than 1 reflecting stability across different dimensions.

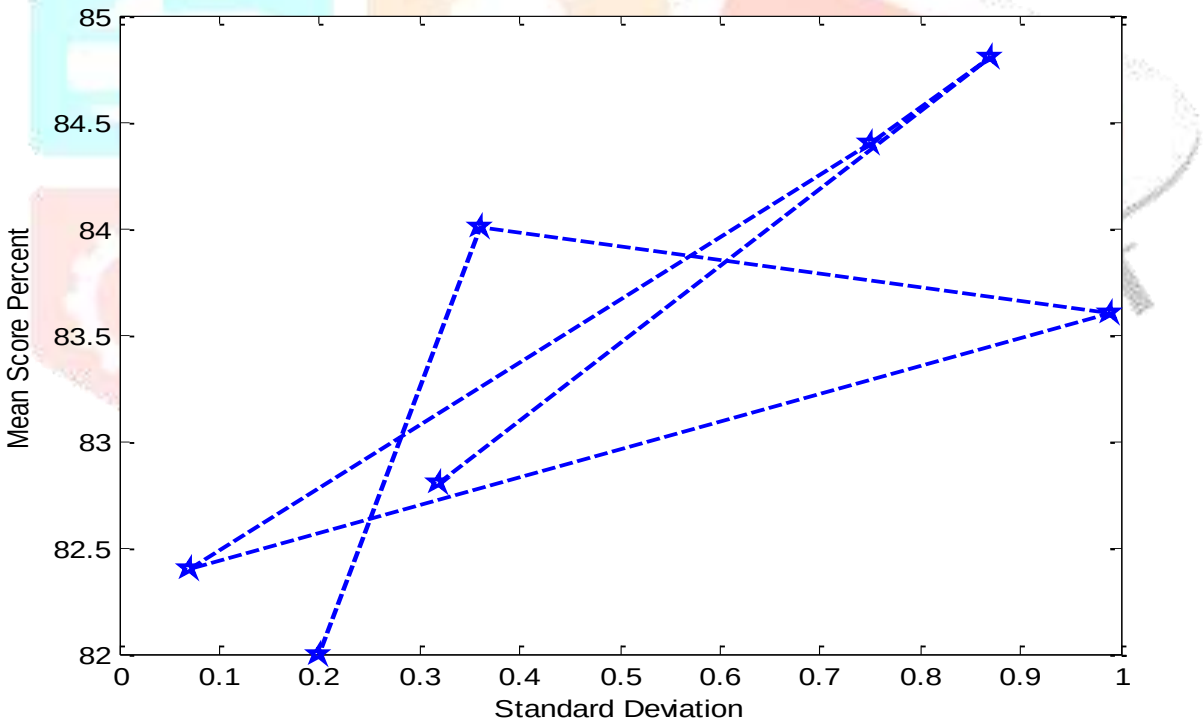

Fig.1 Mean score with Standard deviation less than 1

2.2 Section-II: The different dimensions to improve academic worth:

Creative ideas: The process of developing a novel idea or a new way of approaching an old idea is creativity. In a competitive environment transformation of creative ideas through higher education process fulfills student needs. Following a routine and beaten track is to be replaced by the unique way of performance.

Academic worth: The theoretical performance level needs to be deflated to the real intrinsic academic worth attained. Immediate attention is required with regard to teaching-learning-evaluation process enrichment towards creativity enabling learners to exhibit their hidden potential. Creativity ultimately sparks innovation. The colleges shall strive smart in pursuance of institutional vision and mission towards this end.

Spiritual laboratory: The concept of spiritual laboratory in the colleges will have far reaching implications with due regard to overall personality development of students. If the system deprived spiritual aspect of life a distinction between good and bad, right and wrong, true and false etc., cannot be made. To ensure fair wheel to play in the society spiritual laboratory has an effective role to perform strong matches with inner being [7].
Innovative practices: The practice of transparency and disclosure results in seriousness and meticulous work behavior. Competition offers more opportunities than threat. Creativity is the key to make departure from the routine way of learning. But we are still in qualifying the examination mode which requires a shift at the earliest.
Possibility thinking: The tendency to think and react negatively has no place in academics. Attitudinal change through possibility thinking coupled with strategic advantages needs to be made. Participation and team work boost emotional quotient. Updated circulation with due support of latest research finding will enrich intellectual capital of the institutions and intrinsic academic worth of students in turn.
Academic documentation: The academic documentation has gained an added significance to showcase different activities organized by colleges during a particular period. The role played by the faculty in this context is required to be highly appreciated. The initiatives taken by the team of compliers in colleges for starting the publication of period IQAC Newsletters and Quarterly Quantum (Higher Education Department) shall duly be acknowledged [7].
Institutional accreditation: The faculty and the staff need to look in to the vital and critical issue of assessment and accreditation by according it topmost priority. The objective is to reinforce all stakeholders for their valued contribution towards academic advancement at individual level which will also serve as a competitive bench mark for the institutional excellence, also a pre-requisite for NAAC re-accreditation. Accreditation, being a continuous process, is reduced to a one-time affair in five-year period which needs to be changed [8, 9].

Table 2: Fundamental Dimensions for Academic Growth

(N=50)

Dimensions	TWS	Mean Score	Std. Deviation	Co-efficient of Variance	Rank	
					Mean in %	Status
Creative Ideas	214	4.28	0.69	16.12	85.6	R1
Academic Worth	211	4.22	0.31	7.20	84.4	R2
Spiritual Laboratory	210	4.20	0.90	21.42	84.00	R3
Innovative Practices	208	4.16	0.50	12.02	83.2	R4
Possibility Thinking	207	4.14	0.61	14.73	82.8	R5
Academic documentation	204	4.08	0.98	24.02	81.6	R7
Institutional accreditation	205	4.10	0.52	12.68	82	R6

The Table 2 in the same way focused on creative ideas and terminated at Academic documentation by attracting R1 and R7 respectively. The mean score in percentage is registered more than 81 percent in between 81.6 percent and 85.6 percent in different dimension and also reflected stability as the standard deviation ranged between 0.31 and 0.98.

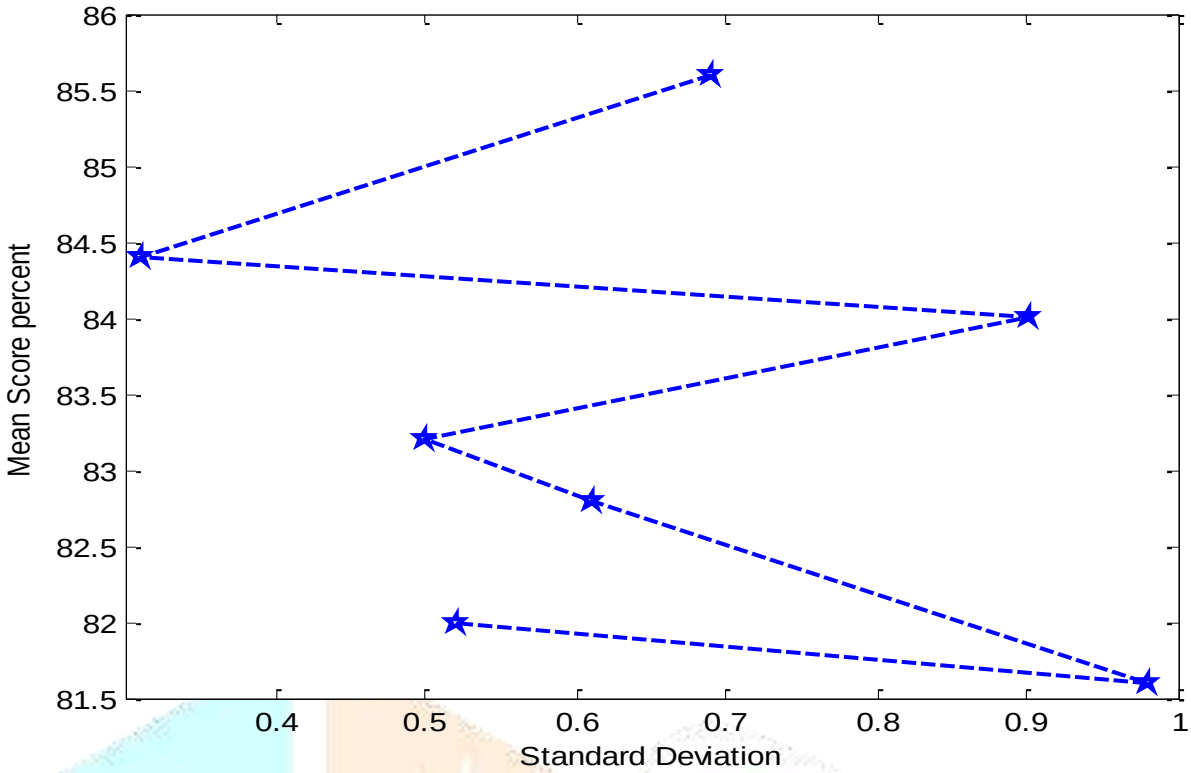

Fig.2 Mean score with Standard deviation less than1

3 Conclusion: The higher education system is crucial to a country's overall development, contributing to industrial, social, economic, and other sectors. India's higher education system, the third largest in the world, plays a significant role in this development. Today, Indian higher education institutions, including colleges and universities, are tasked with delivering quality education in areas such as teaching, research, and innovation, with the goal of empowering the youth to achieve self-sustainability and contribute meaningfully to society. In this context, the key priority (Table: 2) is to position students for outstanding performance. It is essential to motivate students to take ownership of their time and career planning, helping them rise to the top of their chosen fields. The current demand is for a transformation driven by intellectual capabilities and innovative thinking throughout the education system. To support this shift, college faculty must adopt new roles as cheerleaders, facilitators, and mentors, helping students navigate this evolving landscape. By fostering a culture of encouragement and guidance, educators can inspire students to unlock their potential and adapt to the challenges ahead. This new paradigm requires faculty to differentiate their approaches, focusing on empowering students to develop the skills, critical thinking, and creativity needed for future success.

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