

Fig 2

The above statistics shows that our education system is improving in number of colleges and universities. There were 695 colleges in 2050-51, 35539 in 2011-12 and this figure increased to 42338 in 2016-17. There were 30 universities in 2050-51, 645 in 2011-12 and this figure increased to 895 in 2016-17.

Table 2: Growth of Universities, Colleges, Students Enrolment and Teaching Staff in India

Year	No. of Universities	No. of colleges	Enrolment	Teaching Staff
1950-51	30	695	397000	23549
1916-17	895	42338	29427000	1470190

Source: UGC website

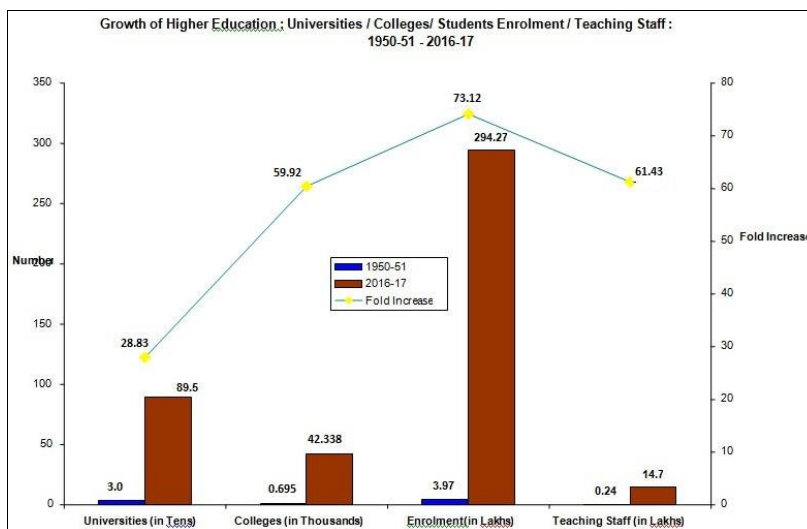


Fig 3

The table 2 reveals that there has been appreciable growth of higher education since 1951. Number of university level institutions and colleges has grown up from 30 to 895 and 695 to 42338 respectively from 1951 to 2014. As a result, the number of teachers as well as students has also increased significantly. The growth of students' enrolment is more than the growth of number of teachers over the period of time, may be due to the massive investment by government at school level in form of primary as well as secondary education. Rise in enrolments and institutions at school level, there is rapidly increasing growth in higher education institutions. The results show that our education system is improving not only in number of colleges and universities but also in enrolment.

Table 3: Growth in Total Students Enrolment and Girls Enrolment in Higher Education in India

Year	Total Students Enrolment (000)	Girls Enrolment (000)
1950-51	397	43
1960-61	1050	170
1970-71	1954	431
1980-81	2752	749
1990-91	4925	1437
2000-01	8399	3306
2010-11	18670	7748
2016-17	29427	14156

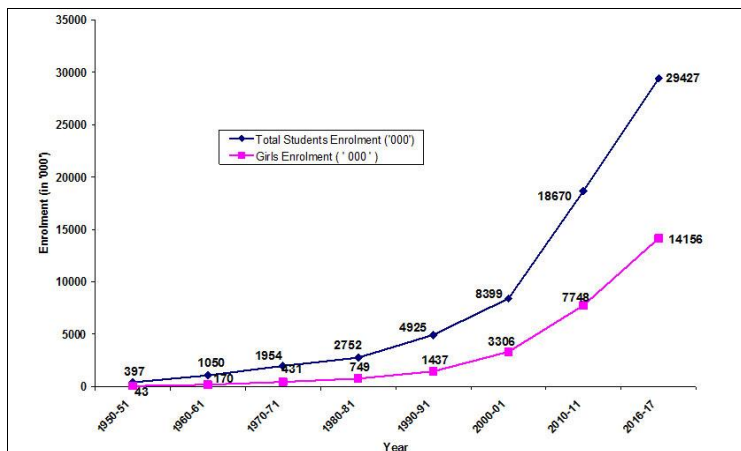


Fig 4

The table 3 shows the enrolment figure of students in higher education and it's also show girls enrolment in higher education in India. The enrolment figure shows positive signs. However enrolment of students increased over past few years but still it is not satisfactory. Enrolment of students has increased to 29427000 in 2016-17 from 397000 in 1950-51 showing growth during that period. It may be seen that enrolment for male population is marginally higher which clearly indicates that women is also pursuing higher education and posing a challenge to male dominated society which is overall a healthy sign for Indian society.

Table 4: Growths in Teaching Staff in Higher Education System in India

Year	Teaching Staff	Fold- Increase
1950-51	23549	
1960-61	59673	2.53
1970-71	128876	5.47
1980-81	193341	8.21
1990-91	263125	11.17
2000-01	411628	17.48
2010-11	898462	38.15
2016-17	1470190	62.43

Source: UGC website

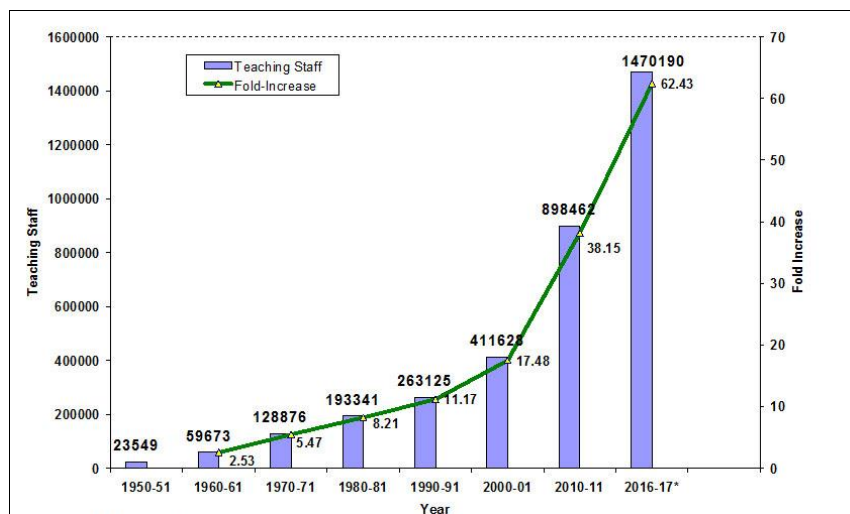


Fig 5

This table and figure shows the growths in teaching staff in higher education in India from 1950 to end of 2017.

Emerging issues and challenges in Higher Education in India

Lower level of teaching quality: Our education system is torture by issues of quality in many of its institutions and universities. Many of the issues like lack of faculty, poor quality teaching, Traditional teaching methods, outdated and rigid curricula and pedagogy, lack of accountability and quality assurance and separation of research and teaching are

raise questions on Indian education system.

Traditional methods of teaching: Professors still stick to those older methods of teaching like board, marker. They don't like to make use of audio visual aids in teaching. Also they are not up to date with the information available and what global industry demands.

Inadequate facilities and infrastructure: In India, many of the universities don't have adequate infrastructure or facilities to teach students. Even many private universities are running

courses without classrooms. Internet and Wi-Fi facility is still out of reach of many students.

Quota system: Bringing the reservation and quota system for different categories in education lost its quality. Even deserving candidates of general categories are ignored and on quota we have to select other person from reserved category even though he is not suitable.

Interference of political factors: Most of the Institutions, imparting education (Aided-non-aided) are owned by the dominant political leaders, now playing key role in governing bodies of the Universities. They have established their own youth cells and encourage students' organization on political basis. They exploit the students' energy for their political purposes. The students forget their own objectives and begin to develop their career in politics.

Economic Difficulties: Is one of the most troublesome changes that the present higher education system has imposed on the communities? The numbers of students are coming from the ordinary classes; many of them are unable to provide the minimum necessities of life for themselves. Economic miseries have grown due to the increasing prizes, habits of wasting money on luxuries, increasing population, scarcity of food supply, corruption, selfish etc. students hold part time jobs in order to pay for the their educational expenses and should divide their attention between a job and College/University education. Near about seventy five percent of the total students community today, have been facing the financial problems. Earn while learn scheme cannot adequately support student to face economic challenges.

Initiatives taken by the government to raise level of education system

To benefit the youth of our nation and education sector, the government has taken various initiatives in the education sector. Let's have a look at these:

- The government has proposed to launch "RISE (Revitalizing Infrastructure & System in Education)" program which is planned to be accomplished by 2022. The main aim of this demarche is to revamp the institute infrastructure, opening the schools for the tribal children, and teacher's skill development program for an opportunity for a higher quality of education.
- To upgrade the teaching skills, the government would soon be launching the learning portal "DIKSHA" and will initiate the integrated B.Ed programme, which is a combination of degree in art, science and education courses. The government has made these programmes mandatory for every individual, as the teachers are the primary source of education for the children. So it is very crucial for them to be properly trained with their skills updated and honed to suit the upcoming technological advancements.
- To push the best minds in the education industry, the government has announced the "Prime Minister Research Fellows (PMRF)" programme. Top 1000 B. Tech students from premier institutes get an opportunity to complete the higher education from IITs and IISc institutions, along

with which they will receive handsome fellowships. This is a chance for the youth generation to be inspired for joining the teaching profession, which would eventually improve the quality of education.

- In order to boost the higher education system for meeting the requirements of 'New India – 2022', a comprehensive plan has been made for up gradation of the research infrastructure.

This would include: "Making the (20) World Class Institutions (IoE) fully operational"; "Building robust research eco system – linkages between Labs and building best Labs in the World to support high-end research"; "Providing World Class infrastructure for Teaching in the CFIs"; and "Completion of construction of (28) new institutions started since 2014."

Conclusion

In this paper we have presented the present scenario of higher education in India by analyzing the various data. we can say that over the period of time, growth have been take place in higher education in terms of institutions, enrolments etc. but it is not sufficient. Indian economy is facing various challenges regarding higher education, which need to overcome through appropriate policy formation and their effective implementation.

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