

Adult Education

For any nation to progress, the most important resource that it needs to invest in is its human capital. Intelligent and efficient citizens add great value to the nation's success. This does not mean that every citizen must be a genius; it only means that every citizen must have the basic knowledge of what is happening around, and is able to apply his own brain as to his own betterment. If each citizen works towards his/her own betterment it results in a domino effect that ultimately benefits the nation.

So what is it that makes any person capable of thinking about self advancement? The answer is Education.

Any democracy without education is meaningless. When the leaders try to explain the rights and duties to such citizens who can't even recognize the difference between a buffalo and a black mole, it renders the whole activity a waste. At present approximately 60% of the Indian population is still illiterate. This statistic is pretty shocking when regards to 65 years of Indian independence.

Adult education as the term suggests, is educating people above the age of 18 years. The country does not only face the problem of lack of resources for provision of primary education to students, it suffers a major issue of adult illiteracy. Adult education is utmost essential as it is a powerful auxiliary to primary education.

Only when the parents of a child are knowledgeable enough, will they be able to understand the importance of education for him and will encourage him to learn better. And such education not only upgrades the mental capabilities of an adult, it also liberates them off the shackles of ignorance, and stale thinking that benefits none.

Thus the government needs to bring about revolutionary change in the system, apart from the already introduced ones like 'The Right to Education Act', for even now it isn't too late if the programme of mass Adult Education, is undertaken in the right earnest as a large scale movement.

Lastly to quote the words of Swami Vivekananda, "So long as the millions live in hunger and ignorance, I hold every man a traitor, who having been educated at their expense, pays not the heed to them. Our great natural sin is the neglect of the masses and that is the cause of our downfall. No amount of politics would be of any avail until the masses are well educated, well fed and well cared for."

