



AN ECOSYSTEM TO COMBAT DISPARITY

CEO's NOTE



Lack of access to quality education is a major cause of socio-economic disparity in most societies. This is also the primary reason why India's demographic dividend is relatively small. India, that prides itself as an emerging global power, needs to address this shortcoming if it is serious about achieving the defined sustainable development goals.

Until the liberalization of the national economy, the labour force was not exposed to competition. However, the ushering in of globalization changed all of that. The urgency to address the shortage of skilled labour force suddenly became a pressing concern. It was strongly felt that while China was establishing itself as a global manufacturing hub, India was evidently hamstrung by shortage of labour supply. The challenge, however, still remains imminent. Given the shortage of qualified faculty, few of our institutions are globally ranked. Quality assurance mechanisms are still underdeveloped and most curriculums and teaching practices are outdated. There is an exponentially high student-teacher ratio in most institutions. The aforementioned issues manifest some of the challenges that India must overcome.

Educating a large population is a daunting task. Seventy years after independence, the disparity continues to haunt. Our indifference will only entail a burgeoning gap which will spawn more socio-economic-related issues with grave ramifications. The task is already cut out. As long as access to quality education remains elusive, India's ambition of becoming a global power will remain unfulfilled.

OVERVIEW

India has made significant progress in increasing primary education attendance rate and widening literacy to approximately three-quarters of the population. Similar progress has been achieved in increasing higher education. However, the challenge of providing quality education in most government schools still remains. The fact that one out of every two teachers in most state-run schools is a contract-based employee; half of them are neither qualified nor trained; and its infrastructure being poor are the main reasons.

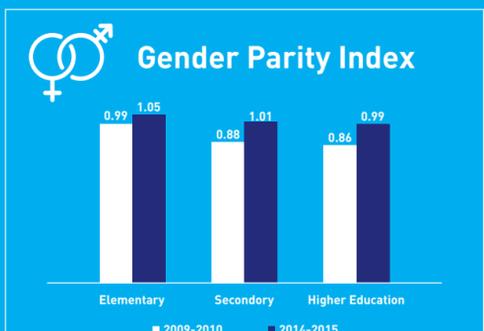
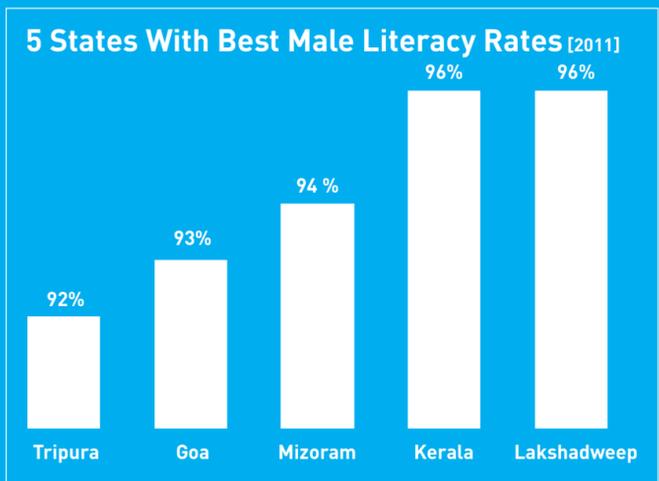
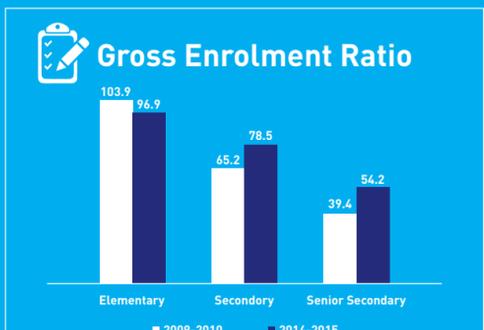
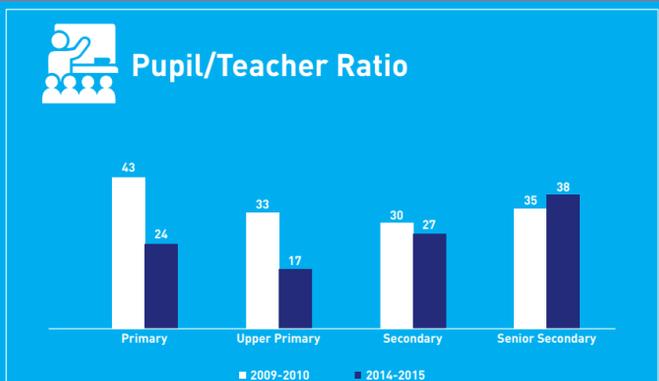
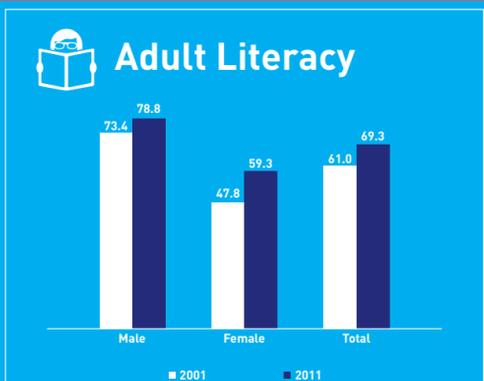
With the objective to universalise primary education, the government launched District Education Revitalization Programme (DERP). It has opened 1,60,000 new schools including 84,000 alternative education schools that are delivering education to approximately 3.5 million children. However, a large percentage of students in 6 to 14 age group in the country receive private education. This is despite the fact that 80% of all recognised schools at the elementary stage are government-run or supported.

With human resource increasingly gaining significance, development of education infrastructure will remain a key focus. It is believed that India is home to almost 119 million college-aged students. The government has taken several steps including opening of IITs and IIMs in new locations, and the country is host to 751 universities and over 35,539 colleges.

On the online front, it is speculated that it will be a \$1.96 billion industry by 2021, according to a research conducted by KPMG. The report highlights that paid user base will grow 1.6 million users in 2016 to 9.6 million users in 2021. 44% of education searches are now coming from beyond the top 6 metros.



EDUGRAPH



- ### GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
- Around Rs 17,000 crore to boost Skill India Mission has been allocated
 - Proposal to open 50 new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) has been approved
 - Pradhan Mantri Yuva Yojana to provide entrepreneurship education and training to over 700,000 students
 - Opening of one Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in each of the 62 uncovered districts has been approved

FACTS AND FIGURES (INDIA)

1.5 MILLION SCHOOLS WITH OVER **260** MILLION STUDENTS

751 UNIVERSITIES AND **35,539** COLLEGES IN THE COUNTRY

2nd LARGEST MARKET OF E-LEARNING AFTER THE UNITED STATE

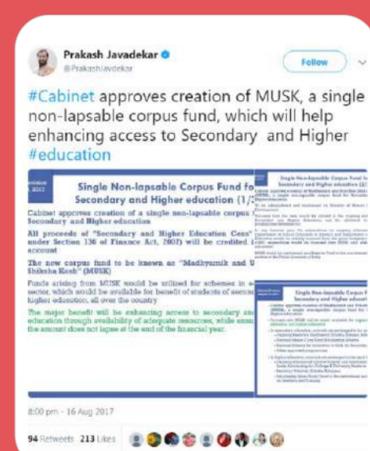
INDIA'S HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR IS THE LARGEST WITH OVER **70** MILLION STUDENTS

AWARDED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CSR INITIATIVE

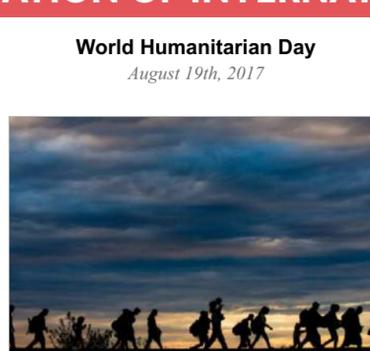
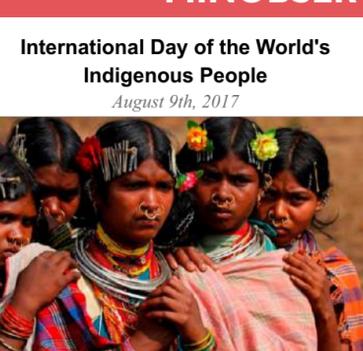
Fiinnovation, Uflex Limited and Aroh Foundation was awarded with the 'Bureaucracy Today - CSR Excellence Awards 2017' in the category of Promoting Ecological & Environment Sustainability for its CSR Project - "Natural Resource Conservation & Optimization in Ecosystem" that is being implemented in Gautam Buddha Nagar, Ghaziabad. The award was conferred to the team in a gala ceremony held on Tuesday, 22nd August 2017 at Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi.



TWEETS OF THE MONTH



FIINOBSERVATION OF INTERNATIONAL DAYS



ABOUT FIINOBSERVATION

Fiinnovation Financial Advisors Pvt. Ltd. (Fiinnovation) is a global consulting firm operating in multiple disciplines of social development with emphasis on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Sustainability.

Fiinnovation offers end to end CSR consulting services and simplified solutions that has helped various corporations channelize their resources for the upliftment of community on societal, economical and ecological aspects in accordance to their CSR charter. Since 2009, Fiinnovation has grown phenomenally and has made a benchmark in the sector through its service quality. It has been able to bridge the gap between businesses and communities through value based CSR programmes in association with credible civil society organizations on Pan India basis in the field of health, environment, education and livelihood.

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