

PROBLEMS FACED IN THE PROGRESS OF EDUCATION IN INDIA

The economic growth of the country not only depends on natural resources, technology and capital but mainly on the quantity and quality of manpower.

By quality of manpower, we mean the efficiency and productivity of work force.

The efficiency of the manpower depends on many important factors like health and nutrition, education and training, housing facilities, safe drinking water and sanitation.

These are considered as important determinants of quality of life. Adequate investment in these fields will increase the productivity and efficiency of the manpower. Economists call it 'human capital formation'. By human capital we mean "the body of knowledge attained by the population and capacity of the population to use the knowledge effectively".

Education is the most important component out of various components of social infrastructure. The well educated and properly trained manpower can accelerate the pace of economic development.

Problems of Education:

Despite our best efforts, our educational development still remains at a low level.

The following are the main problems faced in the progress of education:

1. Lack of funds:

The lack of sufficient funds is the main problem in the development of education. Outlay for education in Five Year Plans has been decreasing. Due to insufficient funds most educational institutions lack infrastructure, science equipment and libraries etc. Due to this reason, desired results cannot be achieved.

2. Expensive higher education:

University, professional and technical education has become costly in India. Fee structure of technical and professional institutes like IIM's is quite high. IIM's charge Rs. 2 lakh per semester for MBA classes. It is beyond the reach of common man. Privatization of higher education has led to the growth of profit hungry entrepreneurs. Now a day's higher education is much costly affair.

3. Neglect of Indian languages:

The medium of instruction particularly in science subjects is English. So rural students who are not well versed in English, cannot study science properly in English. They suffer a lot; Indian languages are still under developed. Standard publications are not available in Indian language.

4. Problem of Brain drain:

When intelligent, talented and deserving candidates do not get suitable jobs in the country, they prefer to go abroad for seeking jobs. So our country is deprived of good talent. This phenomenon is called 'Brain drain'.

5. Mass illiteracy:

Despite constitutional directives and economic planning we are not able to achieve cent percent literacy. -Even now 35 percent people remain illiterate. In India, the number of illiterates is almost one-third of the total illiterates in the world. Advanced countries are 100% literate; the position in India is quite dismal.

6. Wastage of resources:

Our education system is based on General Education. The dropout rate is very high in primary and secondary level. Most of the students in 6-14 age groups leave the school before completing their education. It leads to wastage of financial and human resources.

7. General education oriented:

Our educational system is of General Education in nature. Development of technical and vocational education is quite unsatisfactory. So our education is unproductive. Hence number of educated unemployed persons is increasing day by day. This has become a great concern for Govt.

8. Problems of primary education:

Our primary education is ridden with too many problems. Large number of primary schools has no buildings what to talk of basic facilities like drinking water, urinals and electricity, furniture and study materials etc. Large numbers of primary schools are single teacher schools and many schools are even without teachers. So the drop rate is very high and a cause of concern. Concluding, we can say that there is quantitative expansion of education but in qualitative development we are still lagging behind.

BY MRS. SAKSHI

E- LEARNING

E Learning's time and place flexibility attracts more and more students to online education. However, many of them encounter serious challenges that prevent them from completing their courses successfully. Here are the 5 most common problems faced by students in eLearning and some suggestions on how to overcome them.

E Learning, being the latest wave of education, is already having a fair show despite posing challenges for both instructors and students. While instructors need to put in intensive work and time to design the instruction, students need to equip themselves with technical proficiency to decode the course material. There are 5 common problems faced by students in eLearning classes and which they need to be solved through proper initiatives for the students' future benefits:

1. Adaptability Struggle.

Switching from traditional classroom and face to face instructor training to computer-based training in a virtual classroom makes the learning experience entirely different for students. Their resistance to change doesn't allow them to adapt to the online learning environment, whereas it takes time for them to get accustomed to Course Management Systems (CMS) and the methods of computer-based education. While passive listening and notes taking are expected in a traditional classroom, online

discussions or creating a web page demand springing into action. Students with a “traditional” mindset find it difficult to adapt; however, they need to accept the new learning circumstances with an open mind and heart. Understanding the benefits of eLearning and even discussing them with their peers may change this mindset and better prepare students for online classes.

2. Technical Issues.

Many students are not provided with the high bandwidth or the strong internet connection that online courses require, and thus fail to catch up with their virtual classmates: Their weak monitors make it hard to follow the Course Management System and their learning experience becomes problematic. Moreover, most of them live off campus and find it difficult to keep in tune with the technical requirements of the chosen course. Some of them don't even own computers and seek help in Learning Resource Centers for technical assistance. The only solution to this problem is knowing exactly what kind of technological support they will need for a certain course before enrolling in it, as well as properly equipping themselves for the course's successful completion.

3. Computer Literacy.

Although students are generally tech savvy and thus able to manage computers well, lack of computer literacy is a major issue among students today. Many of them cannot operate basic programs such as Microsoft Word and PowerPoint and therefore are not able to handle their files. Furthermore, many students find fixing basic computer problems troublesome, as they have no knowledge in this area. However, technological proficiency is a must for following online courses, as it enables students to manage their assignments and courseware in an organized manner without struggling. Basic courses in computer literacy enhance students' knowledge in the field; having a fundamental knowledge of computer hardware would help them participate in online classes without interruptions and hindrances.

4. Time Management.

Time management is a difficult task for E Learners, as online courses require a lot of time and intensive work. Furthermore, whereas it is mostly adults who prefer web-based learning programs for their place and time flexibility, they rarely have the time to take the courses due to their

various everyday commitments. A regular schedule planner would be a significant help to these learners, as they could even set reminders for their courses and assignments.

5. **Self-Motivation.**

Self-motivation is an eLearning essential requirement; however, many online learners lack it, much to their surprise. After enrolling in distance learning courses, many learners fall behind and nurture the idea of giving up, as difficulties in handling a technological medium also seem insurmountable. Students need to find the motivation to follow the new educational trends and also properly equip themselves for future challenges in their education and careers. Only a positive attitude will help them overcome the challenges in eLearning; though this is hard to practice, students need to understand that it is necessary in order to reap the E Learning's benefits in the future.

E Learning is good news, but at its initial stage it poses certain threats to students. Attitude change and technological literacy would help them gain confidence in order to succeed in their courses with a positive vibe.

BY SAKSHI

CORRUPTION – A PSYCHO-PHILOSOPHICAL PERSPECTIVE

- **Mrs.Sreelakshmi Iyer**

It is not often that a nation has had to face such dire situations and terrible challenges as we have now in our country. And yet, it should be recognized as a condition which no developing nation can avoid when it tries to rewrite its own history. At this juncture, most of us are convinced that we must fight against this obnoxious tendency of corruption, and yet when one finds that, under the circumstances, one dares not to strike, the resultant mental condition is a painful disillusionment. Though we dream of a progressive nation moving ahead with determination and a unified vision, we find that at all levels, our hopes are shattered, vision belied and ambitions thwarted. Corruption seems to gather more strength at every moment and naturally

the sense of disillusionment verging on the point of hysteria and despondency overwhelms the entire generation in every field. Getting involved in corruption is not a mistake; it is not even a sin. Much beyond all that, it is a fear psychosis. It is a tragic moment when a man loses his ability to think rationally and abdicates his power of judgment, benumbed by the worldly problems around, staggers under the crushing load of his own self-created miseries. Thus torn between powerful opposing urges in him, he stands paralyzed to act, and to a man of action, to vacillate and to hesitate in his own field of activity is worse than death itself. Held thus, between the horns of a deep sense of inner dilemma, stretched between two opposite ideals, crushed with despondency, his inner personality gets continuously tossed up and down by his own indecisiveness and hesitation. This psycho-philosophical disease, we may, in a ludicrous manner, call it the Intellect Deficit Indecisiveness Syndrome. And unfortunately, science has not yet taught us to turn our discriminating intellect on to ourselves for a critical study and analysis of ourselves. In this world of subjective competition, those who succumb to this are the stagnant ones whose development is arrested, success foiled and achievement doomed by themselves. If you are impervious of this disease, then you are fortunate, for remember, the world has no mercies, the world has only its laws.

"IT'S BETTER TO LIGHT A CANDLE THAN TO CURSE THE DARKNESS."

A young boy went with his parents touring around Europe one summer. Part of their tour included visits to the great old cathedrals of the past. As he visited cathedral after cathedral he was impressed with the massive stained glass portraits of the disciples and of other saints. He stood in their great empty halls looking through the beautiful stained glass windows. Upon returning home, he was asked by his school teacher about the holiday on the continent, and what he liked the most. He thought for a moment of those great churches and their grand windows and he said, "I loved the sense of awe and the hugeness of who God must be, and I loved the stained glass windows with their images of the saints." "And who is a saint?" his teacher

asked. His mind went back to those beautiful windows and he said, "A saint is a person the light shines through."

That is a good definition of what a saint of God is supposed to be. We have no light of our own, but like the moon, we are to reflect the light of the Lord to a lost and dying world.

The Chinese proverb above was used by Adlai E. Stevenson, US ambassador to the United Nations to praise Eleanor Roosevelt after her death in 1962. Since then, many have been using this phrase to describe one's positive actions taken when faced with difficulties or enigmas. ***"Don't curse the darkness, light a candle."*** This phrase means when one finds himself in a difficult situation, he should not blame the circumstances or sulk over his misfortune. Instead, he should take positive actions to overcome or improve his current situation. The first reactions by people to this famous proverb would be to agree with it. If man had been cursing rather than 'lighting candles', we would very likely still be at the primeval age.

Men have been taking positive actions ever since they came to the Earth around two hundred thousand years ago by coming up with countless useful innovations from the beginning of the Stone Age. Using stones, they invented the first hand axe. By about 30,000 B.C., arrowheads, spearheads and even delicate sewing needles were made. Soon after, they looked for ways to improve their primitive lifestyles. After inventing language to allow for better communication, mankind built boats to discover vast areas of land and learnt how to use fire. Following that was a series of amazing inventions and discoveries and the present century is known as the 'Electronic Age' and the 'Age of Luxury'.

In urban India, we pride ourselves in using the latest technology and most urban teenagers are gadget freaks. On the other hand, hundreds of villages do not even have electricity in our country.

The general perception in India is that electricity is provided by the government and can be produced only by the public sector or large private sector enterprises. There is a village in India that stands as a perfect example to the proverb in focus.

Unlike several other villages in India, Ranidhera, a tiny village in the state of Chattisgarh, did not give up hope on electricity. After years of frustration trying to persuade the government, they decided to take matters in their own hands. Today it is the first village in India to be lit up from [Jatropha oil](#). Jatropha oil is extracted from the seeds of [Jatropha](#) plants; they are non-edible plants which grow on marginal lands and are easy to grow.

Jatropha was planted in Ranidhera in 2006. The villagers extract oil from the seeds, using a basic oil expeller machine, and run their generators with it – the village has three power generators and a backup generator. The electricity generated has resulted in a host of benefits to the village, including lighting up its streets, ensuring that children can study after dark, running water pumps, and providing entrepreneurs with longer working hours. I feel Ranidhera takes Mahatma Gandhi's vision of a "self-sufficient" village a step further!

In a country where, even citizens living in the big metropolis can't boast an uninterrupted power supply, this village stands out as a model and speaks volumes of the entrepreneurial talents in our rural areas. It also shows how biofuels can be the driver for rural development and a "clean" solution to the world's energy concerns.

It is important to repeat the golden words of the proverb to exhort people to positive action. But it takes more than words to make social service and volunteerism become normal part of everyday life for ordinary citizens. The message to be proactive to solve society's problems has to be combined with early education of our children, and followed by appropriate rewards for good behavior. The school curricula need to teach civics and social science lessons by demanding that students participate in specific civic activities to receive credit. Volunteering for [charity organizations](#) should be encouraged. Extra credit should be reserved by teachers for those students who go out of their way to volunteer to teach the illiterate or raise funds to feed the hungry. Parents and teachers should act as role models for their children by volunteering for these activities.

The incentives for social and community service must continue beyond high school. Beyond good grades, the college admission criteria should include

demonstrated service to community. As the young people join the work force or start their own businesses, they need to continue to help their communities with the support of their employers and businesses. Private businesses should do their part as good corporate citizens to support the communities they do business in. Various civil, business, religious and political leaders, popular celebrities, and wealthy individuals can and should become role models to inspire citizens to do their part in making a difference in the lives of the less fortunate in society. On conclusion, the lyrics of a very famous and inspiring song linger on in my mind...

Let's all light one little candle,
Why stumble on in the dark?
When the day is dark an' dreary,
And your way is hard to find,
Don't let your heart be weary,
Just keep this thought in mind!

It is better to light just one little candle,
Than to stumble in the dark!
Better far that you light just one little candle,
All you need's a tiny spark!

-Mrs. Sreelakshmi Iyer

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Secondary Section

ROLE OF YOUTH IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Young people in any country represent the future of that country. They have a vital role to play in the development of the country a duty they must perform.

There are many ways that youth can contribute to national development. They can do so by working hard in any field they are involved in, be it the teaching, mechanic, or farming field.

Working for one's nation with total devotion and commitment is an obligation for every citizen thus the need to have orientation events for our youth to teach them what national service is all about.

However, to ensure the active participation of young people in national development, they need to be supported and encouraged by the government, the private sector, the civil society and their parents.

One does not need to belabour the point that there are many young people who if given the required support can contribute meaningfully to national development. But bringing such youths onboard the development wagon becomes the responsibility of those in authority.

Having said that, it is also essential to note that young people must also believe in themselves; that they can become a big asset both individually and collectively to national development if they work hard.

The continued over-dependency phenomenon cannot take our youth anywhere, nor can it help them to meaningfully contribute to national development as expected.

It is true that today's youth are facing many challenges, such as HIV/AIDS, unemployment and drug abuse, but there also exist opportunities to gradually overcome some of these challenges.

In a situation where opportunities are limited – like nowadays – youth seeking jobs must avoid the habit of pick-and-choose; instead they should learn to take what is available till they get what they want.

This country needs more qualified engineers, plumbers, tailors, economists and journalists, etc to lead us to our developmental aspirations.

However, to help our youth get to where they want and enable them become effective contributors to nation-building all hands must be on deck in achieving this objective, as the youth need support and motivation.

Also to enhance the participation of youth in national development, they must be given the opportunity to effectively participate in decision-making processes, especially on issues affecting their lives.

“Let us acknowledge and celebrate what youth can do to build a safer, more just world. let us strengthen our efforts to include young people in policies, programmes and decision-making processes that benefit their futures and ours.”

BY VIBHA SINGH

POPULISM VS SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

There is an old saying "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." Till date nobody contradicts this wonderful wisdom. But looking at the way political parties are doling out freebies for short term political gains, this truth seems to have been lost in the din.

Populism has infected length and breadth of this country. In Uttar Pradesh free school bags were stamped with the then chief minister's picture. Going down the south of the country, the situation is even more horrible. Amma canteen, Amma salt and the myriad of Amma freebies are for grabs. Come election time and the situation just worsens (Or does it get better for some?) Money for votes is the new paradigm and the election commission has recently postponed the election to the RK Nagar assembly constituency in Tamilnadu .

This freebie culture is exploitation of the public. The kind of the exploitation akin to keeping the hungry fed on Opium. Thus fighting righteously tooth and nail against such corrupt practices with all means is the need of the hour otherwise a time shall come to amputate the existence of democratic process. In democracy (and any other form of government) the government should only play the role of a sympathetic enabler rather than a spoon feeding parent.

In contrast to the scandalous populism that exploits the public exchequer, we have the Inclusive economic growth that enforce property rights, create a level playing field, and encourage investments in new technologies and skills are more conducive to economic growth than doling out favours in the form of cash, bribes, free rice, saris, or loan waivers.

Nehruvian thinkers wanted to model India on the lines of a socialist economy where poor would be empowered and saved from exploitation by the rich. In due course of time electoral success of Nehruvians propelled them to push it further and gave rise to "Garibhi Hatao" slogans. The

common man found more value in remaining a “Garib” or Poor man. Being a Garib entitled the common man to a host of goodies and the politicians benefited from the votes at the cost of honest tax payers.

Populism is structured to extract resources from the honest tax payers who support the economy but the extractive political institution failed to provide incentives for economic activity.

Sustainable non populist reforms on the other hand provide a level playing field. In such an environment, those who have good ideas will be able to start businesses, workers will tend to go to activities where their productivity is greater, and less efficient firms can be replaced by more efficient ones. Sustainable economic growth also paved the way for two other engines of prosperity: technology and education. Reform process is almost always accompanied by technological improvements that enable people, land, and existing capital (buildings, existing machines, and so on) to become more productive.

So does not our leaders like development? Don't they want economic prosperity? Every political institution would like to encourage as much growth as possible in order to have more to extract. Despite the obvious benefits of reformed economy based on business models who do our politicians mire in populisms? There are reasons-

First, sustained economic growth requires innovation, and innovation cannot be decoupled from creative destruction, which replaces the old with the new in the economic realm and also destabilizes established power relations in politics. Because ruling parties dominating voter's landscape fear creative destruction, they will resist it, and any growth that germinates under populist schemes will be ultimately short lived. Secondly, growth will create new socio economic equations within their supporting groups which will lead to some groups gaining more wealth than others within the same vote bank. The result will be existing support community will be de-

structured. Thus as a consequence, there will be powerful forces questioning the existing hierarchy in leadership.

There's a reason why China was economically stagnant during the 1950s, '60s and '70s, and there's a reason China has been growing at double-digit rates in the 1980s, '90s and 2000s. Development by building on sustainable business model as against communism has just made a world of difference for the people of China and other developing countries in terms of bringing them out of poverty.

Let us look at the tale of Korea. North Korea experienced a collapse in agricultural productivity. Lack incentives meant that few people were eager to invest or to exert effort to increase or even maintain productivity. Political leadership, and their cronies had no intention of reforming the system, or introducing private property, markets, private contracts, or changing economic and political institutions. North Korea continues to stagnate economically.

Meanwhile, in the South, economic institutions encouraged investment and trade. South Korean politicians invested in education, achieving high rates of literacy and schooling. South Korean companies were quick to take advantage of the relatively educated population, the policies encouraging investment and industrialization, exports, and the transfer of technology. South Korea quickly became one of East Asia's "Miracle Economies," one of the most rapidly growing nations in the world.

By the late 1990s, in just about half a century, South Korean growth and North Korean stagnation led to a tenfold gap between the two halves of this once-united country—imagine what a difference a couple of centuries could make. The economic disaster of North Korea, which led to the starvation of millions, when placed against the South Korean economic success, is striking: neither culture nor geography nor ignorance can explain the divergent paths of North and South Korea.

Even in India freebies cannot always win elections. In the recent time, the party ruling the state of Delhi did away with water tariff and slashed power bills and came up with the slogan “*Bijli half paani maaf*” But this was not enough to win the local body elections as people were not swayed by it. People may also look at quantum of benefits doled out. If reducing the cost of water is not going to resolve their other long standing issues, the public is going to look at alternative political options.

Freebies may keep voters in oblivion and even blissfully happy and often veils the corrupt politicians. It even justifies corruption and seeks votes from the same public in some way like “OK. I am Corrupt and swindled government money, but did not I give you your share?” This is a dangerous and most unethical output from democracy wherein the large populace loses their conscience.

Macro-economic changes powered by globalization and driven by innovation and ideas that are free from narrow political views will translate into meaningful change. Whether India is willing for such a change is for us Indians to decide.

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LISTEN TO THE SOUND OF SILENCE

Once there was a farmer who discovered that he had lost his watch in the storage place. The watch had sentimental value for him. After searching everywhere for a long time he was fed up and recruited a group of children playing outside to find the watch. He promised them that the person who found the watch would be rewarded.

Hearing this, the children hurried inside the barn, went through and around the entire stack of hay in the barn but still could not find the watch. When all the boys went out, one of the boys came again to him and requested him for another chance. The farmer looked at him and thought, "Why not? After all, this boy looks sincere enough."

So the farmer sent the little boy back in the barn. After a while the boy came out with the watch in his hand! The farmer was both happy and surprised. He asked the boy how he succeeded when the rest had failed.

The boy replied, "I did nothing but sit on the ground and listen. In the silence, I heard the ticking of the watch and looked for it in that direction."

A peaceful mind can think better than a busy mind. Allow few minutes of silence to your mind everyday, and see, how it helps you! The challenge is to silence the mind

-Mini Rani

PRESENT EDUCATION SYSTEM: NEEDS FOSTERING

Education is the major part of everyone's life. According to our holy books, Vedas; a person has to spend twenty five years of his life in educating himself. Today, education of a person decides the quality of his/her life.

Education is fundamental to human progress. It plays a prominent role in all round development of individual as well as society. Education system in India is similar to that of various other South Asian countries. It consists of three major components—general education, vocational and technical. Education including formal education, public awareness and training has

been recognized as a process by which human beings and societies can reach the fullest potential. Education is critical for promoting sustainable development and improving the capacity of people to access environmental and developmental issues. Both formal and informal educations are indispensable to changing people's attitudes so that they have the capacity to access and address their sustainable development concerns.

Knowledge is the key to success. The school is a place of gaining and sharing knowledge. An effective school must first be a place where students can feel safe, physically and emotionally. It must be a supportive community where children; teachers of all backgrounds can focus on learning. Teachers at effective schools genuinely believe that every kid has the raw materials to be successful student. In a practical sense, this means that effective teachers make a conscious effort to give equal opportunity for all students to respond during class, provide thoughtful feedback to every student and are willing to re-teach concepts that students have not mastered.

While assessing the student in an effective school, the teachers should assess the students learning more holistically and less formally than standardized exams and giving more attention to port-folios and presentations.

The most effective schools have calls and an authentic partnership with parents. At the most basic level, teachers and the staff must be able to rely on parents to get their children to school on time and regularly, and parents must be assured "that their children are entering on a safe and caring place".

**Knowledge is the key to Success and
Success is the step to Confidence.**

BY MINI RANI

STUDENT-TEACHER RELATIONSHIP

The changing scenario globally brought in a revolutionary change in the functioning of schools. The role of a teacher from a mere instructor of knowledge has been challenged and they need to be a friend, philosopher, guide, facilitator and of course instructor too.

Children have different strategies for learning and achieving their goals. A few students in a classroom will grasp and learn quickly, but at the same time there will be those who have to be repeatedly taught using different techniques. On the other hand, there are those students who fool around and use school as entertainment. Teaching then becomes difficult, especially if there is no proper communication. Yet, teachers, creating a positive relationship with their students, will not necessarily be able to control all the disruptive students.

The key is, teachers need to continuously monitor the student in order to be aware of any difficulties the student have. Understanding the child's problem, fear, or confusion will give the teacher a better understanding of the child's learning difficulties. Once the teacher becomes aware of the problems, he or she will have more patience with the student, thus making the child feel secure or less confused when learning is taking place in the classroom.

The communication between the student and the teacher provides for a better and conducive environment in the classroom. Even research indicates the success of students depends on the quality of the teacher's resourcefulness and her/his involvement. The more the teacher connects or communicates with his or her students, the more likely they will be able to help students learn at a high level and accomplish quickly.

Therefore, those teachers who demonstrate respect towards their students, automatically win favour by having active learners in their classroom. The arrogant or offensive teacher will lack these positive qualities due to his or her lack of control over the children. Teachers should assert that they should also be treated with respect and their responsibilities to ensure that students treat each other with kindness.

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Therefore, those teachers who demonstrate respect towards their students, automatically win favour by having active learners in their classroom. The arrogant or offensive teacher will lack these positive qualities due to his or her lack of control over the children. Teachers should assert that they should also be treated with respect and their responsibilities to ensure that students treat each other with kindness.

If a particular child demonstrates disruptive behaviour repeatedly in the class and the teacher does nothing to prevent it from happening, the child will take it for granted and the situation will become tough for the teacher to handle. Though it is understood that learning cannot be forced, it becomes a process for an individual where he or she feels comfortable with learning whether it's in a classroom or at home.

Definitely children learn when they enjoy learning, but also they need some control over the teacher (s) decisions. "Authoritarian control is often destructive to students who are in the primary grades, and eventually upper grades teachers have difficulty dealing with children who were taught with an authoritarian teacher" Children in primary grades feel the urge to talk about their problems, fears, or even show their knowledge, but at the same time they want to be listened to. The student will feel valued and respected. Students feel flattered when the teacher eventually gives them the option of contributing, or in other words the teacher asks for an opinion, which is usually not offered to the students. The teacher(s) does not have to give up all their control, rather teachers share control with students and encourage interactions that are determined by mutual agreement.

For teachers conducting a classroom and shaping the minds of the young students, teachers who communicate effectively with their students should give appropriate and helpful feedback to their students. Interaction between

the student and teacher becomes extremely important for a successful relationship through the entire time of a school year. A close, but limited relationship between the student and teacher can be helpful for those students who are shy, and find speaking in front of the classroom difficult or children who have low self-esteem. The tension these students hold in a classroom will have the confidence they had always wanted, but never achieved due to not having a good relationship with the teacher.

Therefore, how does a teacher hold a relationship that leads to effectively teach the children? The answer becomes clear when teachers interact with, and learn more about their students. Our first educational experience, which takes place in the primary years of our life, sets the principles for our future education. Every school year an elementary teacher deals with new faces and new attitudes. Some children find themselves lacking an interest in learning and others feel playing and fooling around at school with friends is the happiest moment of their life. The solution to inappropriate behaviour will not automatically get rid of the poor attitude of these children, but is to establish a positive relationship. Teachers can establish a positive relationship with their students by communicating with them and properly providing feedback to them. Respect between teacher and student with both feeling enthusiastic when learning and teaching. Having established a positive relationship with students will encourage students to seek education and be enthusiastic and to be in school. Remembering our favourite teacher will be recognized because they had at least in one way or another the qualities I discussed in this essay, although we are not aware of it during the time we are in school, but teachers are well recognized at a later time of our lives.

Saimanti Ghosh

CHANGING EQUATIONS BETWEEN STUDENTS AND PARENTS

By Kiran Sharma

Change is the only constant factor centring on all the changes that take place in and around us. Change has swept over everything be it the technology, lifestyle, food-habits, attitudes, values or human relations. In the present scenario where people live more in the virtual world than the real one-human relations have undergone a mega change. Many of us succumb to these changes for not being able to cope up with it. There were times when teachers and parents were treated with great respect by children. They occupied a high pedestal .Guided by values and culture children could never say 'NO' to them. Questioning their decision was beyond their thought. But provoked by scientific skill of enquiry and with a changing value system children ask 'WHY' even in situations where it is needless to be asked. Much of it is also a result of aping the western culture. Sometimes elders witness very aggressive and rebellious behaviour which seems too difficult to handle.

Parents and teachers need to understand this shift and therefore they have a greater role to play. Guiding them to think before they adopt a change often helps after all the change has to be for betterment. Channelizing their positive energy towards a constructive environment. The only possible strategy to keep them grounded to their roots right from their early childhood and have a strong value system in the family at the same time win their trust and understand them by actually speaking to them. Spending quality time with children helps in strengthening parent-child relationship. Children start opening up with parents when they are together in times of joy and sorrow. Such conscious efforts by elders cover up the generation gap which is a hurdle in their cordial relationship.

Change is a necessary evil. Let us not dread and resist change but embrace it by being open-minded because it is impossible to imagine and lead life without change.