

## **Distance Education- Its Future in India: A Systematic Study of an Alternative Education System**

**Dr. Dyavappa L. Pawar**

### **Introduction:**

Distance education is a highly welcome step because in a country like India, overcrowding of schools, colleges and universities is a chronic problem. The infrastructure in the field of education is on the verge of break down. The prospects of distance education have been made more fruitful because of the development of information technology. Moreover the field of conventional education may be limited because the students interested in higher education may like to earn while acquiring education. For want of financial constraints students will not have to cut short education.

The development of distance education will make education accessible to all irrespective of financial, social and age factor. Equality in the field of education can be achieved for the rich and the poor, the urban and the rural population. In 1966, the Kothari Commission made

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serves as suitable means to fulfill the demand of higher and vocational courses. It calls for the need to start more and more distance education institutions particularly in those regions which are not doing well in the field of higher education or are lagging behind in the area of vocational training. Since it is comparatively less expensive, it needs to be expanded to the remotest area of the country. There is ample scope for undertaking science courses. Though some open universities have started experimenting with higher science and engineering courses. They have been successful in their experiment.

### **Conclusion:**

The rising demand for higher education, the absorptive capacity of the distance education needs to be increased. For this the UGC and other concerned government departments should come forward and generously offer fund to fulfill the growing requirement of the system. Only then this system of education, which has carved a unique niche in the educational system of the country, would be able to meet the aspirations of the people.

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# HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM IN INDIA

## ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND ROLES

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