

Private University: Development of human resources

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THE overall development of a country, gaining economic resources, increased national income and equal distribution of income are as important as the development of human resources and their equal distribution. For the necessity of the society, the nation needs building of human capital resources by educating its people stepwise with higher learning. These human resources play the vital role in order to build a prosperous nation. The equal distribution of human resources can lead the nation to achieve a definite goal. On the other hand, equal distribution is providing with equal rights and facilities to all, irrespective of rich and poor, caste and creed. The individual's economic self-sufficiency, his/her buying abilities and socio-economic status are not equal. Reasonably, in respect of receiving higher education, the solvent and relatively less solvent students are not equally responsible to bear the expenses. Whereas, in many cases insolvent and less-solvent meritorious students become discouraged and deprived of acquiring higher studies not being able to afford its cost. So, it is exclusively desirable to create equal opportunities for the children of solvent and relatively less-solvent families with a view to ensuring higher education as well as a research-based education system for an equal distribution of human resources. We can contribute a lot for the development of human resources by constructively criticising the on going education system of ours and implementing the realistic suggestions. As a result, it creates opportunities for developing the standard of education in primary, secondary and higher secondary in-

stitutions as well as in public and private universities. It also creates facilities for insolvent and less-solvent meritorious students in great numbers to some extent to study enjoining free of tuition fees, stipends and affordable expenses.

A country cannot be considered a developed one only based on per capita income of the citizen. It also needs to ensure the equal distribution of resources and human resources. Since the educated manpower play important roles for overall development of a country, so among many responsibilities, the primary, secondary and higher secondary institutions as well as higher education offering public and private universities have special responsibilities of producing human resources and their equal distributions.

Many people believe that only the meritorious students of solvent families study in private universities and in public universities, both rich and poor meritorious students have equal access. But from the view of equal distribution of human resources, in the present context, the students of both rich and poor classes have the right of equal opportunities to study in public universities paying nominal tuition fees.

In fact, it is necessary to inquire whether the insolvent meritorious students at all, have their access in public universities and what the numbers are. Because for the want of money, insolvent and less solvent meritorious students can neither engage house tutors nor get themselves admitted in coaching centres to study. Because of inadequate preparations they are always being deprived of getting themselves admitted in public universi-

ties. As a result they cannot obtain good marks in public examinations and university admission tests.

The public universities of Bangladesh follow the tradition of allowing students, without considering the poor or rich, to study there with nominal tuition fees or totally free of tuition. It is true that all the meritorious students are not poor. In the past, it was noticed that students from lower middle class families like the postmasters or school teachers, would hold the places in the merit list.

Lately, the parents who can afford much money for engaging house tutors for their children and send them to coaching centres to study, their children can obtain good results in all sorts of examinations including university admission tests. On the contrary, many of the children of less-solvent parents, in spite of being meritorious, fail to exercise their merits and also fail to obtain good results in the admission test for not having proper facilities.

They neither can get chance of getting themselves admitted in public universities for acquiring higher studies. As a result, genuine meritorious and less-solvent students lag behind in acquiring higher education. This situation by no means can be desirable. The equal distribution of human resources can be ensured to a great extent, if at the time of students' admission the TIN (The Tax Identification Number) certificates of their parents are scrutinised along with the assessment record of taxes they pay and based on that, not all but only the genuine less-solvent students are allowed to study free of tuition fees or with stipend facilities.

According to a Daily of

2007, nearly 80% or more students of public universities come from middle and higher middle class or solvent families. They are taught nearly free of tuition fees expending the Govt's tax revenues collected from the common people and allocated for the public university. This system cannot be considered in the present context of reality. Because, the students belonging to this category of families, have golden opportunities of getting themselves admitted in public universities engaging house tutors, paying fees in coaching centres and finally qualifying in admission tests.

Whereas, the meritorious students of insolvent families are always being deprived of the chance of getting themselves admitted in the public universities being unable to take full preparation for the admission tests. As a result we do not have an equal distribution of human resources. There is neither any precedent of such unequal distribution of human resources nor getting chance of studying in the public universities free of tuition fees in the developed and prosperous countries of the world.

The private university system is establishing self gloriously as an automatic model in respect of equal distribution of human resources. Because of limited number of seats in the public universities, many meritorious students of solvent families not being able to get chance there, get themselves admitted in the private universities.

As a result, the pressure on Government treasury and on public universities have reduced, which is helpful though to some extent to the equal distribution of human resources in the society.

The Government, collecting revenues from solvent people and families, expends a part of which for the welfare of less-solvent people and families again and thus does not equalise the distribution of national income. The private universities carry out a partial responsibility of equal distribution of human resources by giving stipends to the poor meritorious students.

The private universities are run with the money being collected from the students as tuition fees. Yet the private universities are giving chance nearly (20-25)% students of less-solvent families, to study free of tuition or with affordable expenses. With a view to distributing human resources equally, each of the private universities has made a unique precedent by giving stipends to the less-solvent students. On this head each of the private universities is expending on an average nearly from one to two crore Taka in a year.

Likewise, more than hundred private universities together are providing the less-solvent and ipsolvent meritorious students with nearly more than one hundred crore Taka in a year. It is expected that, opportunities will be created for nearly one lac students of less solvent families to acquire higher education free in a year, if in near future, the private universities are established in all respects and 30% students are brought under the cover of free tuition fees and stipend facilities.

The private universities have already given us many things and are still continuing to give more. The private universities are providing the following facilities: market-oriented modern education, educational environ-

ment free of politics and session jam, semester-wise class activities, enrichment of laboratory and library system, bringing variety in education and research, creating job facilities for the able and quality graduates according to their abilities and corresponding with the market demands. The private universities provide higher level of technological knowhow including computer science and different facilities to the students. Besides, different factories, and industries including modern banks, insurances and multinational companies of government and private levels have appointed lots of graduates of private universities and with the help of their expertise those companies have gradually been establishing themselves as profitable concerns which must have given a new dimension for the overall development of our country.

It is easily understood from the above discussion that if both the public and private universities give the chance to less-solvent students to study free of tuition fees or with stipend facilities, the equal distribution of human resources will ensure to a great extent.

We hope that public universities will limit the opportunity of studying free of tuition fees only among the less-solvent meritorious students and they will also take measures for its proper distribution. And the private universities will keep continuing their development activities. They will also include many more less-solvent meritorious students in stipend facilities.

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