

SUSTAINABILITY'S IN THE TEXTILE COLLEGES, FRUSTRATION IN THE EDUCATION SECTORS

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ABSTRACT

Education, Health and security are the three major areas in our day-to-day life as well as to sustain in the society. Unfortunately, these are given least importance by our Rulers. The teaching and that of the Educations are the Noble Profession without which no society can rise nor stand, nowhere in the Global areas or even within their own periphery. The meaning of the Education as told by Swamy Vivekananda "We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded, and by which one can stand on one's feet." It means after getting proper education the human should be enough intelligent and knowledgeable by which he/she can earn his/her own bread & butter. Unfortunately, it is moving away from the reality. Today's education does not create a real man, but it is a path for making money by any means! The Education system is becoming a tool for a money-making business and for this matter the colleges and that of the Teachers cannot just wash out their hands. They are equally responsible for such dilapidation. Most of the Teachers are in the mindset to dream in their pay packets rather than to take moral responsibilities to build the students up to the standard of the present education by which they(students) can be more practical to face the challenges. The question also arises their ins & out knowledges towards the subjects they teach. On the other hand, today's students have the notoriety to avoid the industry visits, special lectures, Trainings and by overnight they consider themselves as Expert with their meagre knowledge's and expect hand some pays in the Branded Industries by overnight. They don't have any patience to grasp the subjects gradually and firmly to make their foundation strong. However, the right man at right direction is always the winner. They are regarded at every place of the society. "Vidyan sarbatro pujjate". Today, the students are reluctant to enter in the subject of Textiles but opting for the courses which can fetch them more salaries and comfort lives. Presently the lowest intake is in the Textile Degree & Diploma colleges as most of the Textile Industries offer the lowest pay which does not lucrative for them. Hence the number of Vacant seats is in higher side, and the Axe is falling on the faculty members where the recruitments are stopped almost for last several years and hence there are tremendous shortage of the teaching staffs including that of in the IITs.(TOI, 17.12.22) The college Managements initially stopped recruitments after 7th Pay (In the Aided colleges) as a policy decision of Cost Control but now it has become a practice of not to recruit any more as the number of the students are declining. This paper has described the causes and remedies of the same.

Keywords: Education, Industries, Student's Lethargic Attitude, Salaries, Jobs.

Introduction

After Agriculture, the textile Industries are the highest employer where 45 million people are on the jobs and another 60 million people are involved in indirect employment. (MoT). It is the employer for both Skilled & Unskilled workforce. Highest number of Entrepreneurs are from this Industry too. It earns 14% Export, 5 % GDP. In the year 2010, there were 2500 Textile Weaving factories and that of 4315 Textile Finishing Factories ("Wearing Apparel Manufacturing Report". Any thing Research India) India is the first in Global Jute producer and share 63% of the Global Textile and Garment Market. It is the 2nd largest Silk & Cotton producer in the world (Wikipedia, Textile Industry)

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This Industry starts from the cotton and Natural fibre production including Jute, Hemp, Ramie, Banana fibre, Bamboo fibre, Pineapple Fibre, flex, Linen Silk to Synthetic and Manmade Fibre. It involves Spinning, Weaving, Knitting, Finishing, Folding, Garments domestic & Exports After China the production of Polyester Fibre with be second highest not only in Manufacturing and Exports but also will be the highest Recruiters.

It is found that any developed country has reached to that Progressive stage only from the contribution of their Textile Sectors. This Industry is directly and indirectly related with any sector such as Agriculture, Civil, roads & highways, Mechanical, Electrical, Electronics, Computer Sc. IT, Polymer Sc & Technology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Bio Science, Climate & Environment, Aviation, Transportation, Medical, Defence, Automobiles, Packaging and with so many.

As the Common Peoples are not much aware of this elaborate, multi-disciplined and progressive Technology, they feel negative about it. Presently Some professional Textile Industries, Consulting Firms who are profit making due to their own strategic plannings are offering handsome CTC. But it is not for all and not by all. The students who do not get such lucrative offers blame their Colleges / Industries but never think that it was due to their lacuna. They join at lower paid industries, complaints about the work styles and Managements and leave that organisation as early as possible. It is very common practice now a days.

Vacant Seats (Indian Express news, MoS) Table - 1

Education Year	Total seats	Vacant	Percentage
2021- 22	12,53,337	4,21,203	33.6
2020-21	12,86,545	5,66,538	44.0
2019-20	13,28,247	5,87,314	44.2

In earlier days, there used to be five core Engineering courses i.e., Mech. Electrical, Civil, Chemical and textiles where the Textile used to be the least importance. Now there are 41 UG and that of more than 100 courses in PG. Some of the latest and very popular areas include Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, Environmental Engineering, Ocean Engineering and Climate Change etc are few other courses in relation to the advancement of the branches in engineering. Although the Textile branches have spread grown in several areas, till it is at back the seat only.

I am proud to be a Textile Technologist. Are you?

The bread earners from this Industry are highest and in not much in difficult ways. In any city, one can see the maximum stalls, roadside vendors are from the Clothing's. It has got varieties like readymade garments, cloths, sarees, Dhoti, handkerchiefs, Children's wear, Dress materials, Winter wear, Under Garments, Fashion stores, knitted fabrics Suiting, Shirting to what not? How many people are involved in this kind of business no one can say. The 60 % of the Cloths are manufactured in the Power loom decentralised sectors followed by Handlooms, KVIC, handy crafts, Organised sectors. Then come to whole sellers, stockists, retailers.

As on the year 2020, there are 441 Organised Sectors (net survey) inclusive of Technical, Medical Textiles, Smart Textiles and so many. It is growing up in various ways. The leather shoes are side lined with various types of attractive Sports Shoes, Sports wears, sports components and so many. The earlier days conception that Textile means "Dhoty, Saree, chaddars" which has even reached to sky to moon with Astronaut.

The number of Textile colleges in India

As on today, there are in total 41 Textile Degree colleges in India (Textile Spare) with equal number of Diploma colleges. There are 19 NIFT owned by Ministry of Textiles and total 686 Fashion Designing Colleges with 537 Private and that of 133 Managed by Govt. (net search). As per the Survey report, 98% of the fashionists get job with their own entrepreneurship capacity.

Among the 41 Textile Degree Colleges ,10 is situated in TN. Like ITI in the Engineering sections, there is no course in Textiles but there are Certificate courses which offer just some primarily knowledge which are mostly attended by the working people / Shop floor Technicians in the Textile Industries.

Today (Jan `23) the intake of the Textile colleges has come down and hence the Colleges are forced to reduce the Budgets. Two such colleges in Maharashtra already closed their Textile Branches. Similar Conditions are in Diploma Colleges too. As per the Market survey till now 25- 30% seats are lying vacant in the Diploma Textile Colleges.

NITs, IIITs no more a popular choice for Engineering Aspirants: WHAT A SHOCKING NEWS!!

Engineering colleges to convert vacant seats for vocational learning. (Times of India News TNN – 22-December `22)

Close to 34% of seats in engineering colleges across the Nation remained vacant in 2021-22. These are to convert for vocational learnings.

JoSAA(The Joint Seat Allocation Authority) completed the admission Process for UG courses in IITs, IIITs, NITs, GFTIs, on July `19 and found 7464 vacant seats in these premier Institutions . The 20 newly opened IITs did not manage to fill one third of their seats. So not to think about Textiles. The main reasons are Unemployability, choosy students about the Pay Packets, Branded name, locations, positions, duty hours and finally nature of jobs. As per the New Delhi based solution Firms, Aspiring Minds, that out of 2.9 million Engineers per year, 52% are released in job markets but barely 7% are suitable for Core Engineering Job where Textile is one of them.

The Career Scopes in Textile Engineering: (shiksha internal auditors sept 20, 2019)

This Technology is applicable in all innovative areas right from the Agriculture Products such as cotton, Jute etc to Fibres & Filaments of all categories. It includes the manufacturing of any type of Fabric from agriculture to roadways, Railways to sky. These involves Textile Engineers in R&D, Tech sales, Marketing, QC, Production Control and even to Corporate Managements. Today it is a vast Ocean in the areas of Handlooms, Power Looms, Small scale, Khadi, Garments, Technical Textiles, Medical Textiles, Braiding Industries, Smart textiles etc. It includes structural, Physical, Chemical analysis in each sector. Also, there is a vast sector in textile Machinery manufacturing zone, after sales and in sales.

With the fast-growing Textiles, it's products and qualities at each field, we need skilled Textile Engineers at top to bottom positions. The qualities, prices, less production costs, power savings are the main business & Technical criteria now a days which leads to bring to develop strong R&D, strong Marketing, and skilled work force.

Skills Required for Textile Engineering

Considering the role of textile engineering today's competitive world, the textile engineers I should possess the below-mentioned skills or qualities.

Creativity	Excellent Detailing
Technical Knowledge	Good Communication Skills
Persuasive Ability	Resilience
Excellent Patience Level - able to work long hours of work, hardworking capabilities.	Visual Imagination
An interest in fashion and textiles. Analytical sense.	Knowledge and understanding of different textile processes and techniques. Know the latest methods.

Hence with the advent of the new & newer areas, job opportunities are growing but most of the industries are not able to go for the higher pay packets and facilities in parallel to today's software industries. There are some modern and advanced Textile industries who pay somewhat good but expect a higher amount of return also. As a result, most the Textile Engineers feel difficult to comply and leave.

The main reasons are (i) The students are not updated properly as per today's requirements in their student days. (ii) They took the studies as an easy chapter, avoiding Industrial tours, evasive attitudes during the In plant Trainings, massive class bunking but dream to be a richer Technologist by overnight. "They start counting Chickens before they are hatched!!"

The Problems faced by the Textile Graduates/ Diploma Holders

The positive sides are that if one likes to come up as an entrepreneur, the scopes are unlimited. They can work with CAD/CAM and with software Technologies available with several openings. Through knowledge, good working attitudes can lead them at top.

One has to face the difficulties as it is a highly competitive where the frustrations are very common in this profession if not aware of innovativeness and creativity. In wet processing, one must handle dyes and chemicals. Being labour-intensive (till all are not fully modernised or automated) has to improve the skills of the ground floor staffs, otherwise there is every chance of mesh up. The Management demands the output very quickly even with poor infrastructure and if the Engineers can not comply lands in trouble. Round the clock work in the establishments and in an entrepreneurship are in demand. However, some Textile related professions are in better position as on today, i.e., fashion designers, clothing technologists, product designers etc.

As per NITI Aayog 48% engineers are unemployed and higher education is stagnant in the country, even institutions like ISB and IIM are also suffering from low enrolment.21-Jan-2022.

In 2022, employability among Indian engineering graduates was about **55 percent**, an increase from the 47 percent in 2021. The overall employability of the youth in the country had been stagnant at around 46 percent over the past four years.28-Feb-2022

The major reason for employment challenges is that **many graduates are not skilled enough to work in engineering after graduating.**

Why?

- The syllabus and the courses remain unchanged although the Technologies are advancing.
- Industry – Institute relationship are progressing but yet at unsatisfactory stage.
- The faculties do not encourage the projects offered by any student prepared by themselves / brought from any Industry if it is not understood by them. (Tell that it is of no use, it is not valuable, not worth etc). The students are told to carry out the project works against their wishes.
- The students are too much restricted from any self-motivation, connecting out sidars, they are scared to express free opinions hence learning scopes remain within the limit.
- Some students are scary to express their self-opinion against any teacher or Management in a fear of victimisation.
- On the other hand, the students are reluctant to think beyond their capacities in most B& C grade colleges as discussed earlier.
- There is a popular quote of Benjamin franklin which goes like,

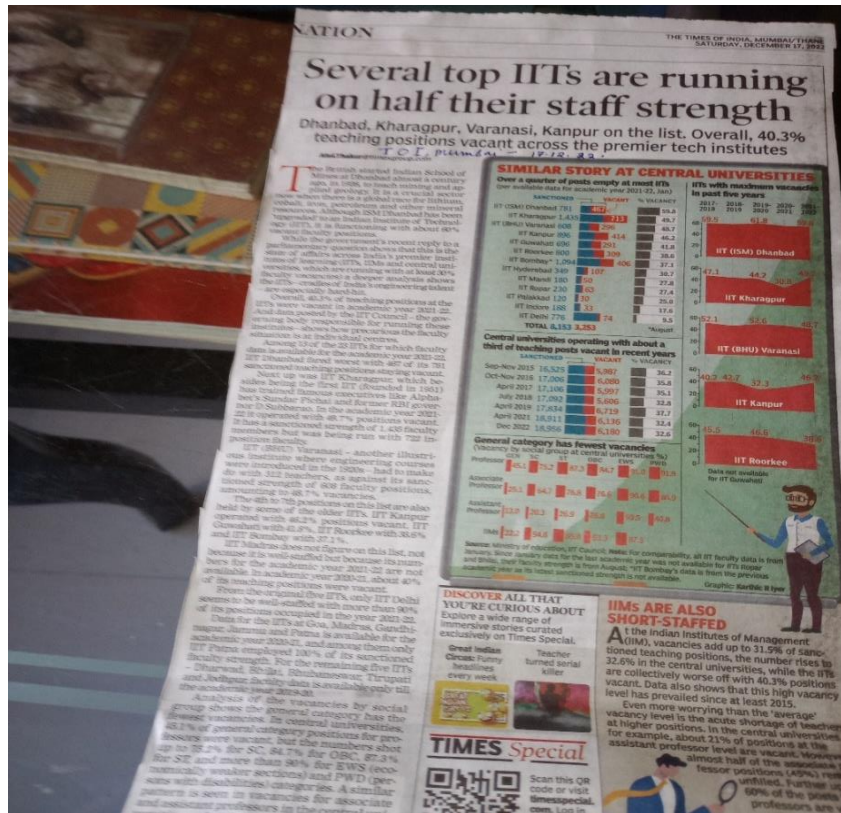
Tell me and I forget, teach me and I remember, involve me and I understand.

- There is a less emphasis on practicality and real-life applications of learning & importance of skills.
- This is because we are producing more engineering graduates than we need. But the problem is not with producing more but also with producing bad engineers.
- Another main reason for unemployment of majority of engineers is the lack of social skills especially that of communication skills.
- As most of the Graduate / Diploma Engineers belong to 2 tier and 3tier cities are not capable of expressing the subject natters in good English nor they are capable to write a good constructive English in the way the management requires!

Some Probable Solutions

- Let there be more Textile & Technical Research & Service Centres to absorb PG/PhD Students having sound knowledge to help the industries as well. Let there be absolute freedom for the scientists rather than bureaucracy.
- Let the Educational Institutions including that of Private (who has neither staffs nor equipment's) tie up with the industries having latest Machineries. The industries only come forward when they find benefits from the Institutions w.r.t. Laboratory facilities, servicing, free consultations etc.
- The Institutions also must have the Latest machineries and that too be remain in working conditions. There should be co ordinations among the Institutions say Institute "A" has some, "B" has some others, and that of "C" has something else. All of them must have the coordination with each other in exchanging the students for the Training purpose. The machineries must not be converted in to the "dead bodies" as found with most of the Colleges.
- The students must be well trained before entering the industries. (4) Industrial Experts must be invited in the colleges to know the latest developments. The funds must be sanctioned.
- All the Govt bodies such as Textile Commissioner, Textile Committee, Export Promotion councils, etc can recruit more fresh students.
- Industries can start value-based products for more profit and can recruit more BE Textile.
- College faculties should be enough trained to prepare the students so that they can face challenge

- At the start of this Paper, I have mentioned that Education sectors must not be neglected nor deprived for it's sustainability. Almost all the Colleges stopped recruitments Please refer picture no 1, Published in TOI, Mumbai 17th December `22 that even IIT's are having half of their staff strength.



But AICTE has given the solution that the industry professionals can be the Prof of Practice. Please see Picture no 2 published TOI dated 7.1.23.



- To fill up the Gaps, the suitable Industrial Professional can also be absorbed where the salary demand is lesser.
- Let the post of the faculties get filled from both Academicians and that of industrial Professionals in a very unbiased way where the motivated faculties should be preferred.
- Let this important Industry must be raised with the initiatives of the State & Central Education Departments, Leading Industries, and Institutions. That will help to sustain this Industry for ever.

Conclusions

- Today the very important situation has arisen for the sustainability of the Textile Education, let there be no closing of the Textile Colleges nor any unemployment in this sector.
- The time has come to produce the real Textile Engineers than that of huge in numbers.
- We need real dedicated, devoted faculties in the colleges with the addition of technical knowledge which can be achieved by recruiting for experts from the Industries.
- The recruitment of the “Guru” i.e., Faculties should be very much on merit basis to boost the Textile Education at parallel to world class. It is a noble profession which they should always remember.
- The students should be self-sufficient in knowledge and in action before entering to the industries. The Branded level Industries are ready to go for higher pay for the result oriented Engineers.
- There should be no place for the timid, lazy, poor IQ Students and that should be filtered during the admission stage itself. Later, to make them fit for the industries are the responsibilities of the Teachers.
- The more funds are required by both state and Federal to recruit good number of sincere faculties where accountabilities are to be added.

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