

Educational Polices Vis-À-Vis Bollywood Movies: Issues, Threats & Future

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Abstract

The progress of a country depends upon the quality of education and its teachers and for this reason teaching is the noblest among all professions. Nowadays the field of education and vis-à-vis films as an appraisal of the governance are not only limited but has broadened in various new horizons. Cinema has a great impact on people & film stars are a big influence in on daily life. Cinema plays an important role in our lives, even more than we notice. The quantum development and changes in education have affected teacher education & Bollywood movies that are necessitating review and reforms. The present paper will focus on certain glaring challenges which present in the daily lifestyle of the students, teachers & environments, but in the present scenario of qualified staff, adequate facilities of academic environments and equipments, effective teaching practice and internship, quality improvement, research efficacy, professional competency empowerment of teacher student relations, the changing role of teachers, integration of ICT in Teacher Education. Films on the education system are rarely explored by NFDC (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting by Prakash Javadekar), but some Bollywood movies have openly challenged the Indian education system, talking about its flaws and loopholes.

Key Words: *Bollywood Movies, Education, NPE (1968, 86, 92 revised), REA (2009), New draft policy (2019)*

Introduction

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character that is the goal of true education"

Martin Luther King Jr.

Man is a social being. He is an integral part of society. The man is product of society where society also depends upon its individuals for its development. Movies are the sources of entertainment (Pleasure, happiness, joy, sorrow & death), but education is a

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source of inspiration, motivation, information, communication, and draw out the potentiality of the individual. Bollywood movies, which is now a century old, has recently undergone a change & is fast emerging as a delightful medium of introduction. Recently, many movies have been produced that aim at explosion & utilizing creativity for education the People. Both education and Bollywood movies are examined on the basis of literary and experimental studies. Here, the commissions and education policies like NPE (1986/92 revised), REA (Right to Education Act, 2009), and DNEP (2019 by MHRD) are critically explored the following list of the Bollywood movies like *Imtihan* (1974), *Naya Kadam* (1984), *Amhi Asu Laadke* (2005), *Bairavaa* (2007), *3 Idiots* (2009), *Chal Chalein* (2009), *I Am Kalam* (2010), *Paathshaala* (2010), *Aarakshan* (2011), *F.A.L.T.U.* (2011), *English Vinglish* (2012), *Nil Battey Sannata* (2015), *Chalk n Duster* (2016), *Rough Book* (2016), *Hindi Medium* (2017), *Why Cheat India* (2019), *Super 30* (2019), *Raatchasi* (2019). The above said facts express the importance of education system & student teacher relationship. Numerous empirical studies conducted by social scientists have established a strong correlation between education and national development; all attach almost importance to education as an effective tool in reducing poverty by building a viable workforce and enable of competing in an increasingly competitive and global economic framework. Bollywood movies Vs. Educational policies of the Government are the most popular and well-known industrial facts for highlighting the facts and fiction of the human lifestyle. But the Indian Government is making new educational policies, like NPE, right to Education Act & DNEP, on behalf of that our Bollywood movies are probably one of the most efficient ways to get across a message. Here are some state & centre Bollywood movies that have had an impact on students and education and criticising our educational system, programmes, educational acts, etc.

Objectives of The Paper

- National policies on education 1968,86/92 revised
- Right to Education Act,2009
- Draft New Education Policy 2019 by MHRD
- The movies challenge the traditional education system & raised awareness on dyslexia (reading problems) and dysgraphia (reading and writing problems) and brought a fresh perspective on a learning disability that is not often seen in the industry.
- Highlighting the lives of typical Indian college students with its comedic and heartbreaking moments, the message is to work hard and chase your dreams, not success.
- The film openly challenged the Indian education system, which is believed to

cause academic pressure on students and may often lead to major psychological problems among students.

- Focusing on the child's pursuit for knowledge rather than his poverty, the film disseminates the importance of education, especially for the disadvantaged sections of society.
- The Supreme Court of India created a rift between students and staff at a college in Bhopal. The socio-political film is a satire on caste-based reservations in government and educational institutions in India.
- If translated, Nil Battey Sannata means 'zero divided by zero equals nothing', and is usually used as a slang to mean 'good for nothing'. Also known as The New Classmate, the movie leaves you with the sense of the importance of education in our lives. Chanda, a high-school dropout, housemaid and single mother of a young girl who is on the verge of giving up to education, Apeksha, enrolls herself in the same class as her daughter and challenges her: "Beat me in a math test, and I'll leave the school." The film focuses on a person's right to dream and change their lives, irrespective of their social status. It also realistically shows the face of the education system of the country, and that a parent's limitations need not stop their child from achieving success.
- The movie propagates the message of turning your hobby into your career and enjoying what you do. It also portrays how marks are viewed in the Indian society.
- "Beat me in a math test, and I'll leave the school." The film focuses on a person's right to dream and change their lives, irrespective of their social status.
- The film highlights how greed and profit making in the Indian education system can ruin the noble profession of teaching.

National Policies on Education 1968,86/92 Revised

- Scientific and Technological Development
- Social and Cultural Development
- Human Resource development
- To encourage the young to undertake the discovery of India, its image and perception. E.g., Manjhi-the mountain man- Dashrath Manjhi was a poor man from the lowest of the low castes, living in a remote village cut off from the world by a rocky mountain range. Life for him was a daily struggle for survival. He loved his wife, Phaguniya, beyond belief. One day, while climbing the mountain to bring him food, his wife slipped, fell, and died. Overwhelmed by grief, Dashrath decided to carve out a path through the mountain, so that no one else

would suffer his fate. For 22 years, all by himself, with just a hammer and a chisel, he hammered away at the rocks, until the path was carved out from the mountain.

- To establish network arrangements between different institutions in the country. e.g., **F.A.L.T.U. (2011)** It is about a group of friends, after being turned down by every college they apply to, plan to start a fake college, called Fakirchand and Lakirchand Trust University (or F.A.L.T.U) to appease their parents. They are forced to transform it into a real institution after receiving applications from hundreds of students. The group of students, who usually while away their time doing nothing, is suddenly faced with the responsibility of their own lives as well as hundreds of others. Much like 3 Idiots, The movie propagates the message of turning your hobby into your career and enjoying what you do. It also portrays how marks are viewed in the Indian society: if you don't do well in school, you are seen as stupid. The movie ends with the so-called losers winning their fight against society in a dance competition.
- To integrate the physically and mentally handicapped with the general community as equal partners. e.g., **Taare Zameen Par (2007)** When you think of Bollywood movies challenging the traditional education system, the Indian National Award-winning film Taare Zameen Par must be mentioned. The film depicts the journey of a young boy, Ishaan, whose parents send him to a boarding school due to his poor academic performance. A new member of the faculty and art teacher Ram Shankar Nikumbh, suspects that he is dyslexic. The teacher's guidance, belief in Ishaan's talent and the special bond they share spread the message that every child is different and learns differently, which does not imply inferiority. The movie raised awareness on dyslexia and brought a fresh perspective on a learning disability that is not often seen in the industry. **Chal Chalein (2009)**, The film openly challenged the Indian education system, which is believed to cause academic pressure on students and may often lead to major psychological problems among students. Chal Chalein tells the story of a student who commits suicide, owing to parental and societal pressure to do well in school. With the help of a lawyer, his friends decide to sue his parents, the school system and the government. With its depiction of the lives of school-going children, like the budding writer who is forced to study physics and math, or a young artist who has no time to work on his art because of school and classes, the movie says that education is meant to enlighten students, not pressurise or traumatise them.
- To develop positive attitudes to work, co-operative activity & to lifelong learning & work culture has to be developed to have a dedicated committed work force and

equalization of opportunities e.g., ***Chalk and Duster*** movie concludes that the film talks about teachers' and students' communication, and highlights the problem of teachers and students in an educational system which is changing day by day.

- Equal opportunities to be given to scheduled caste & tribes, backward classes, and minor societies. e.g., ***Aarakshan Movie***. The movie Aarakshan, based on the hard-hitting reality of the Indian caste reservation system, tells the story of how a decision by The Supreme Court of India created a rift between students and staff at a college in Bhopal. The socio-political film is a satire on caste-based reservations in government and educational institutions in India. With roles including a member of the Dalit community and a high-caste Brahmin, it portrays both perspectives on the divisive caste reservation policy in the country.
- The Handicapped to be provided facilities for special institutions. *For example: Amhi Asu Laadke (Dec 2005)*. The film portrays a poignant, soul stirring touching, human drama of special children and young man's journey to explore the true meaning of life.

Right to Education Act, 2009

- Enforced on 1st April, 2010. Free and compulsory education is a fundamental right of every child in the 6 to 14 age group. Responsibility: Joint – Central and State Governments. e.g., ***I Am Kalam (2010)*** Inspired by former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, an underprivileged child Chhotu follows his dream of gaining an education. He seeks help during his quest from Ranvijay Singh, a boy of his age and a member of a royal family. Focusing on the child's pursuit for knowledge rather than his poverty, the film disseminates the importance of education, especially for the disadvantaged sections of society. With its realistic and optimistic elements, the movie stands for the significance of the basic right to education.

Draft New Education Policy 2019 By Mhrd.

- The National Education Policy 2019 envisions an India centred education system that contributes directly to transforming our nation sustainably into an
- equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high quality education to all. Few Salient Features of Draft NEP 2019
- Learn how to learn
- Free and Compulsory education (Pre-school to 12th)

- No Hard separation (Curricular, Co-curricular, or extracurricular)
- National Research foundation (Strong Research Culture and building Research Capacity).
- National Higher Education Regulatory Authority (Professional Education)

After Analysing the above objectives and issues of the paper, the researcher has critically examined the following Bollywood Movies. The Bollywood movies with pedagogical significance include movies with education as a theme. According to Dr. Pietari Kappa, "Cinema as both a popular form of entertainment and a means of artistic & political expression, is a crucial area of classroom teaching. The pedagogical potential of the film provides an immediate and invigorating addition to established lesson plans, while the history of the medium and its contextual socio-cultural relevance function as the source of study in their own right." The academic messages are explored by such movies chronologically from 1984 to 2019 with the help of Government Policies. ***Imtihan (1974)*** The Idealistic Professor who decided to reform a group of rowdy students at college level. ***Naya Kadam (1984)*** Deals with the social issues of literary women empowerment & development & comments on the importance of literacy in the Indian villages, which is important for the progress of the country and which is important for the progress of the country. ***Bairavaa (2007)***, It is important that the person leading such a college is honest and sincere enough to ensure that the students are safe & receive a good education. ***3 Idiots (2009)*** A bold challenge to the Indian stereotypical mindset about education, one that discourages free thinking and creativity, 3 Idiots instils in you the determination to follow your passion as long as it makes you happy. The film advises you to not follow a traditional career path chosen by your parents, as many Indian students tend to do. Highlighting the lives of typical Indian college students with its comedic and heartbreaking moments, the message is to work hard and chase your dreams, not success. The film was also listed in the Guinness World Records for the record of the highest box office film gross for a Hindi film at the time, earning a total of Rs3.92 billion (Dh222.689 million) worldwide, according to Box Office India. ***Paathshaala (2010)*** Revolving around teachers and students on a school campus, Paathshaala comments on the shortcomings of the Indian education system. In the movie, a well-liked teacher leads a group of students and teachers in revolt against the school's management. Another commercialisation of the education stories, the movie, deals with socially relevant issues including the academic pressures and fears faced by students and the money-mindedness of the system. ***English Vinglish (2012)***, Portraying the transition of a quiet, unassertive Indian housewife with an inability to speak English to a fully independent woman who gains self-confidence after taking classes to learn the language, English Vinglish is credited for bringing to light the feeling of social exclusion and embarrassment that many

Indians face due to their inability to speak English. The film, preaching the ability to be self-confident, to move out of your comfort zone, and to give in to the constancy of change in our lives, struck close to home for the largely Indian audience. It also sends the message that learning never truly ends. ***Nil Battey Sannata (2015)*** translated, Nil Battey Sannata means 'zero divided by zero equals nothing', and is usually used as a slang to mean 'good for nothing'. Also known as *The New Classmate*, the movie leaves you with the sense of the importance of education in our lives. Chanda, a high-school dropout, housemaid and single mother of a young girl who is on the verge of giving up to education, Apeksha, enrolls herself in the same class as her daughter and challenges her: "Beat me in a math test, and I'll leave the school." The film focuses on a person's right to dream and change their lives, irrespective of their social status. It also realistically shows the face of the education system of the country, and that a parent's limitations need not stop their child from achieving success. ***Rough Book (2016)*** Problems of Indian Education system, impeding opportunities for growth, and what they balance to be teachers typically demand & supplemental towards education. 'The Lacunae' in the system have created issues that are threatening a clog channel of learning in contemporary India. ***Hindi Mediums (2017)***, The best, the most illuminating, humorous, tragic, and devastating satire on the Indian educational system, this Saket Choudhary directed film showed Irrfan Khan and Saba Qamar as parents of a little daughter resorting to ludicrously desperate measures to ensure the child gets into an English medium school. There is a sequel on the way with Kareena Kapoor in the cast. But I doubt it can capture the eccentricity and exuberance of the original. ***Why Cheat India (2019)*** Soumik Sen's underrated film is an indictment on exam pressure and how unprepared students use doppelganger examinees who pose as students to write out first-class exam sheets. The film showed the Indian education system to be embroiled in a complex financial and moral racket. It was a devastatingly scary view of how far Saraswati (the Goddess of learning) had been subverted in the land of brilliant scholars and students. ***Super 30 (2019)*** Anand Kumar, a mathematician from Patna, India, work his way through a challenger towards success before running a super 30 programme for IIT aspirants in Patna. ***Raatchasi*** A film on Jyothica as head teacher converting Poor run school into one of the best school in the state.

CONCLUSION

After analysing the above points, it is concluded that today's Bollywood movies are playing an essential role in the field of inspiration, motivation, social, political, and educational reform. Education vis-à-vis Bollywood movies as an integral part of Government Policies. Movies have the power to reach massive audiences, which is why

they should, and do, matter so much to society. To sum up, beside the educational utility of films in communicating a message through their terms and stories, their pedagogical significance also lies in teaching speaking techniques through dialogue as well as building analytical skills through a critical analysis of plot and characterization. The versatility of its use allows incorporating the film in different types of learning sessions in the classroom. For example, film can be used just for enjoyment, creating a positive atmosphere in the classroom, which can enhance the classroom, which can enhance motivation, and as a pedagogical tool, they can provide a stimulus for other activities, such as listening comprehension, debates on social issues raising intercultural awareness, being used as a moving picture book or as a model of the spoken language. For this, Teachers Education needs to undergo a rapid change in keeping pace with the demand of learning & expectations of learners, community, and society as a whole. Bollywood movies enhance professionalism and produce quality teachers for schools, colleges, and even in universities that upgrade the social status of us teachers and develop a sense of commitment.

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