



Coaching Industry in Patna : A Geographical Analysis

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Abstract : Education is one of the prime contributors in changing one's life and bringing economic and social mobility. It helps to construct an enlightened personality and earn an appreciable status for oneself. With increasing level of competition for entrance in good professional colleges, limited number of jobs in Government sectors and deteriorating level of standard of education in many schools and colleges, the private coaching industry is flourishing in India. It is one of the fastest growing areas in the service sector. It caters to various sections of students like students for preparation of JEE and other engineering entrance examinations, Medical entrances, CAT and entrances in other Management Institutes, law,

UPSC, BPSC, SSC, Banking etc. It is a recession proof industry. A majority of the middle class parents have been spending one-third of their monthly income in coaching centers of their children to prepare them for competitive entrance examinations for professional courses. There are only 5500 seats in IIT and more than 3 lakh students appear every year. AIEEE has just 9000 seats with 525,000 aspirants. NEET offers some 10,000 seats and 5 lakh students sit for the examination. For 6 IIM and other premier business schools have 1300 seats, 1.5 lakh appearing to write CAT. In Bihar, due to lack of industrialization and limited job opportunities, parents and students think it is worth investing in these coaching centers for better future. With high fees and large number of students, these coaching centers have emerged as a major revenue generating sector of the economy. Patna, the capital of Bihar, is one of the coaching hubs in eastern India. Apart from local students, large numbers of students have migrated from various parts of the State to study and face competition. The coaching sector has generated moderate employment and cash flow in the economy. With money from parents or guardians, along with owners of coaching, teaching and non-teaching faculties per month, hostel and restaurant owners, advertisers, publishers of the study materials, bag-makers, transporters everybody is within its domain. To bring this unorganized sector within government ambit, the Bihar State Government has brought Bihar Coaching Institute (Control and Regulation) Act 2011, which focuses on number of students enrolled, subjects being taught, faculty members engaged and the available infrastructure.

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