

Education in Indonesia

Education is an important aspect of a person's life because it can be the key point of their personality and future. Education shouldn't be only about passing exams like robots but also making good use of what has been taught. Our nation is responsible in educating its citizens with adequate curriculum for the sake of the development of its future.

As a nationwide standard, the ministry of education held a national exam every year according to the year level. Students in sixth grade are expected to pass with a minimum average of 5,5 for the subjects of math, Bahasa Indonesia and combined science while in 9th grade, they have similar system but with expanded questions to suit the curriculums received. Now in 11th grade, they are allowed to choose for their course between pure science and social science depending on their chosen major in university and they have a 2-year preparation for the dreaded national exam with the subjects solely basing on the courses they took. The idea of this arrangement is to give students basic preparation for university as well as accustom students to plan ahead.

Indonesia is ranked last in terms of educational attainment rank and score¹, which means that we conducted the worst educational system in the world. As a third-world country, our nation is still undergoing through some developments in several aspects, including the curriculum of education. So there are still several issues regarding the prosecution of the system that concerns people.

First, due to our still-in-development infrastructure, knowledge has yet been distributed evenly around the country. Like there are still people living in remote areas who haven't received adequate education for living in remote areas. These places are barely facilitated enough by the government, so a lot of people (including teachers) refused to work under these conditions and preferred to find a job within range to civilizations². The lack of resources and help from the authority also caused many of the students struggle in keeping up with the competition from students of developed areas. This happens as students are having difficulty from accessing fully equipped lab, quality textbooks as well as Internet access³. Even though the government had set a national standard within the country, they are at a disadvantage to keep up with the standard of this country. The absence of worldly influence also affects the mindset of these pupils, as they are satisfied with a degree in high school and seldom seeks bigger opportunity to pursue their studies further. Even if they do

¹ "Index Ranking | Index | Pearson | The Learning Curve," accessed March 10, 2015, <http://thelearningcurve.pearson.com/index/index-ranking>.

² "Sub Direktorat Daerah Tertinggal," accessed March 11, 2015, http://kawasan.bappenas.go.id/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=35:sub-direktorat-daerah-tertinggal&layout=blog&Itemid=65.

³ "Pemenuhan Pendidikan Di Daerah Terdepan, Terpencil Dan Tertinggal," accessed March 10, 2015, <http://edukasi.kompasiana.com/2014/04/04/pemenuhan-pendidikan-di-daerah-terdepan-terpencil-dan-tertinggal-644470.html>.