



Opinions of Teacher Educators of B. Ed. Colleges Regarding Practice Lessons of Student Teachers

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1. Introduction

In 1948 after the independence of India the University Education Commission was set up under the presidency of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan. Its report was submitted in 1949. That report focused on the real picture of teachers' training at that time. The Commission noted that there was not much difference in the theoretical aspects of different universities but was clearly seen practical aspects. So the Commission recommended to develop co ordination between theoretical aspects and practical aspects. So far as teacher education is concerned the commission gave more importance to the practical aspect. During the review of related literature it was clearly seen that most of the studies carried out makes indication toward the practice lessons. Therefore, the researcher got interested towards this aspect. The researcher was eager to know the opinions of the teacher educators working in the teacher education field regarding the practice lessons given by student teachers.

2. Variables of the Study

The variables of the study were as under in table 1.

Table 1
Variables of the Study

No.	Type of Variable	Variables	Levels of Variable
1	Independent Variable	Caste Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reserve • Open
2	Dependent Variable	Opinions about Practice lessons given by student teachers of B. Ed	-----

3. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study were as under:

1. To construct an Opinionnaire to know the opinions of the teacher educators about the practice lessons given by student teachers of B. Ed.
2. To investigate the effect of caste category (Reserve category and Open category) on the opinions of the teacher educators about the practice lessons given by student teachers of B. Ed.

4. Hypothesis of the Study

The hypothesis of the present study was as under:

H₀₁: There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of the teacher educators of Reserve category and the teacher educators of open category about the Opinionnaire regarding the practice lessons of the student teachers of B. Ed.

5. Population and Sample of the Study

In the present study the population consisted of the teacher educators of all the B. Ed. colleges affiliated by the eight universities of Gujarat and the B. Ed. colleges affiliated by S. N. D. T. University which is out of Gujarat. In this way one granted college and five non granted colleges from urban and semi urban area were selected For that purpose the Stratified Random Sampling Method and Cluster Sampling Method were used. The teacher educators of these colleges were included in the sample. There were total 672 teacher educators (96 x 7). In this way the study was carried out on the sample of 672 teacher educators of 96 B. Ed. colleges from the 8 universities. The responses could be obtained from only 600 respondents. They were 89.88% of the sample. The details about the sample according to caste category are as in the table 2.

Table 2
Details of the Sample according to the Variable of Caste Category

No.	Caste Category	No. of Teacher Educators
1	Reserve Category	158
2	Open Category	436
Total		594

As shown in the table 2 it can be seen that the total teacher educators were 594. The teacher educators of Reserve Category were 158 and from Open Category they were 436.

6. Tool of the Study

6.1 Opinionnaire

In the present study the researcher decided to construct an Opinionnaire for collecting the details about the opinion of the teacher education about the practice lessons given by student teachers of B. Ed. So the tool was self made. It was constructed according to the Likert method. There were both positive and negative statements in the Opinionnaire in which 38 statements were positive and 38 statements were negative. In this way there were total 76 statements in the Opinionnaire. There were five points in the Opinionnaire. The respondents were to respond by selecting one point. The five points were – Completely Agree”, “Agree”, “Disagree”, “Completely disagree. The researcher also prepared the scoring key to calculate the obtained scores on the basis of responses to positive and negative statements. According to the above mentioned 5 response levels to positive statements and other remaining negative statements the scores -5, 4, 3, 2, 1 and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 were assigned respectively. In the final form of the tool there were 39 statements. The reliability of the Opinionnaire was 0.84 and the validity(C) was 0.58.

7. Analysis of Data

The data that were in the form of the scores obtained through the tool were analyzed with the help of MS-Excel programme. The item analysis was carried out with the help of NRT-2005. The scores were classified as shown in the following table 3.

Table 3
Distribution of the Scores according to Opinions

Scores	Opinions
0 to 39	Very Weak
40 to 80	Weak
81 to 120	Medium
121 to 160	Excellent
161 to 195	the best

It was seen that 385 respondents responded as 'Excellent' to the practice lessons while 150 respondents opined that the lesson were 'Medium'. On the basis of the frequency distribution the statistical measures like mean, Standard deviation and 't' value etc. were worked out and the hypotheses were tested using that data.

7.1 Analysis according to the Variable of Caste Category

Ho₁: There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of the teacher educators of reserve category and the teacher educators of open category about the Opinionnaire regarding the practice lessons of student teachers of B. Ed.

In the present study the null hypothesis about the area was tested using the formula of t value. The table 4 shows the details.

Table 4
Mean, S. D. and t Value of the Scores of Opinions of Teacher Educators of Reserve category and Open category in the Opinionnaire regarding the Practice lessons of Student Teacher of B. Ed.

Caste Category	Number	Mean	S.D.	't-Value
Reserve category	158	132.37	21.41	-1.57
Open category	436	135.66	22.85	

In the table 4 it can be seen that the mean of the scores of opinions given by the teacher educators of reserve category and the mean of the scores of opinions given by the teacher educators of open category were 132.37 and 135.66 respectively. The standard deviation of both the groups was 21.41 and 22.85 respectively. The t value is -1.57 which was less than 1.96. So the difference was not significant at 0.05 level. The null hypothesis was not rejected. It means that regarding the practice lessons given by student teachers of B. Ed. colleges there was no significant difference in the opinions of the teacher educators from reserve category and open category.

8. Findings

The findings of the present study were as the following.

1. The most of the teacher educators were found giving 'Excellent' type opinion regarding the practice lessons of Student teacher of B. Ed.
2. The effect of caste category difference between the teacher educators of Reserve category and those of the open category was not seen on their opinions about the practice lesson given by student teachers of B. Ed.

References

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