



A study of Government Educational Schemes for Universalization of Primary Education in Urban area of Jamshedpur

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Abstract:

To achieve the universalization of primary education, the government has launched a number of projects and programs. Following the principles of national education policy, the government has launched various programs to ensure equitable education for all. The main purpose of these programs is to improve access to good education by developing good schools, promoting equal opportunity and improving the basic quality of education. The aim of the research is to study the governmental educational schemes for universalization of education. A total number of 35 permanent school teachers working in government schools of urban area of Jamshedpur were included as sample. A purposive sampling technique was used to select the sample. A structured interview of each teacher was recorded by the scholar. The findings of the study revealed that in the urban area the government's effort to universalize the education is good but some more effort has to be taken to achieve the goals.

Keywords: *Mid day meal, Sarva Shiksha Abhyan, Universalization of elementary education.*

1. Introduction

Education is very important for economic, political and social change. In the 21st century, well-educated people with the right skills, attitudes and knowledge are needed for the development of society as a whole. Education plays an important role in building a just and just society. India has a population of about 1.32 billion. The education system in this country has changed significantly over the years due to growing needs and demands. The level of education in India has improved and many children are doing better through quality education. This is because the government is trying to promote children through various programs that provide better facilities. They have made many changes aimed at improving education and the level and style of education. Many state governments have sent some teachers to overseas educational institutions to take steps to update their skills and knowledge and improve the quality of their education.

Pratichi trust (2012) investigated the impact of Sarva Siksha Abhyayan on education in the North Bengal. They reported a variety of factors like, staff shortage, availability of classrooms enrolment of SC, ST and private tuition and mid-day meal. The result further revealed that 75 per cent of the schools had been provided new classrooms, and average attendance was 62 per cent while 19 per cent of the schools had an average attendance below 50 percent. Mid day meal found to useful 89 per cent of the schools but there have many complaints about the Mid Day Meal. Furthermore, the result revealed that teacher allocation is not appropriate, 41 per cent of the total schools had a surplus teacher, and 31 per cent of schools had a shortage of teacher. The shortage of teacher was found higher in Coochbehar (60.6 per cent). Finding also revealed that all the schools had the toilet facility, but only 26 per cent of the schools had a proper toilet facility. In respect of community participation, 49 per cent of parents were unaware of this fact. Out of surveyed 267 households in Jalpaiguri, seven students were found to drop out. It is also revealed that inspection of the schools by the authority was quite irregular.

Kumar (2013) found in his study that lack of infrastructure as core reason for poor execution of the Mid-day Meal Scheme. Afridi (2005) in his study found that at some panchayats the cutting costs by involving students in the implementation of the scheme. Bajpai and Goyal (2004) conducted research to study the State of quantity and quality of education primary education in India. They studied it on the basis of following variables like, socioeconomic disparities, poverty, education, gender disparities, quality of education and the role of the state in providing primary education in India. In their study they found that There is a significant gap between rural and urban area and the accessibility of receiving education depends on gender, caste, and income. Furthermore, they found that socio-economic factors, infrastructure of school in India is also not satisfactory. They questioned about the education's quality that is being provided by the government education system. They further revealed that that, among 593 districts in India, 309 districts had female literacy rates lower than the national average and 324 districts had a gender gap in literacy rates that were greater than the national average (2001 census). Finding of the study also revealed that the gender gap frequently occurred in the states of the north because females are generally getting married at a very young age and engaged in household. Admission and dropout rates for boys and girls belonging to SC and ST are a severe issue. Increase in literacy rates doesn't have any meaning without effective literacy in the population. They explored responsible factors for low-quality education; to lack of basic facilities; overcrowded classroom; lack of trained teachers; and corruption-misuse of school funds.

Rana and Das (2004) studied status of primary education of Dumka District of Jharkhand. They included four villages randomly from each three blocks namely (Jarmundi, Shikaripara and Gopikandar). A total of 216 samples were selected for the study. They interviewed 118 male and 78 female. 170 were from ST and SC group and 24 were from other communities. Result revealed that twelve percent of schools have no classroom and four percent are of without school building. The primary education progress in this rural region was not able to achieve at a satisfactory rate due to the inadequate number of teacher whereas urban and semi-urban schools have the excess number of teachers. Further the study showed that only thirty six percent female teacher was appointed in primary schools. The dropout rate was 10 percent; this rate was quite higher among the SC children due to low-income family condition, hunger, and malnutrition. The result also revealed that problem of infrastructure is one of the core hurdles of scattering education among primary children. The result further revealed that, out of 11 school's 73 percent needed significant repairs, 27 percent had no drinking water, and 55 percent had no playground.

2. Objective of the study

The main aim of the present research is to study the governmental educational schemes for universalization of education.

3. Sample

A total number of 35 primary school teachers were included as a sample. All of them are working in government aided schools of urban area of Jamshedpur. All of them are permanent and married. The age range of the sample was 32 years to 40 years. Purposive sampling technique was used for the sample selection.

4. Tool used

For the purpose of present study, a structured interview was conducted by the scholar.

5. Result and conclusion

The result revealed that the entire sample agreed that mid day meal is one of the most successful schemes run by the government. It is helpful in increase in admission, increase attendance and also providing nutrition meal among students. This also helps to overcome malnutrition among the students. This finding supports the previous findings by Lath (2009) and Narula (2009) in their research findings discussed the role of NGOs in running the schemes and they further suggested that their contribution in

the scheme should be amplified. Many other studies like Angom (2008), Chauhan (2008), Chugh (2008), Gupta (2008), Josephine (2008), Mallik (2008), Srinivas (2008), Bhushan (2009), Kaushal (2009), Menon (2009), Shah (2009), Tyagi (2009) and Wizarat (2009) also reported the most excellent practices that are being adopted and executed by the students, teachers and cooks in various schools under the Mid-day Meal Scheme. Teachers agreed that mid day meal is one of the best scheme run by government for children but more sincere efforts also need in rural and urban because some complains were also reported time to time.

6. Limitation of the present study

Followings are the limitation of the present study

- 1.The sample size is small that's the reason the findings cannot be generalize confidently.
- 2.The sample is selected only from the urban area of Jamshedpur, other area like rural and semi urban are not included.

7. Suggestion for future work

Followings are the suggestion for future research work:

1. For future research work it is recommended to increase the sample size.
2. For future research work it is recommended to include the sample size from rural and semi urban area also.
3. To make the research more empirical it is suggested to use standard questionnaire or scales to measure the variables.

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