



Attitudes towards Modernization among Prospective teachers

DR. DEEPIKA RATHOD

Asso. Professor,

SMNK Dalal Edu. Co. for Women,

Ellis bridge, Ahmedabad, Gujarat (India)

Abstract:

All over the world, the society has undergone several changes, and in the recent times, these changes have been more rapid. No society in this world had remained unaffected with the process of modernization. India has also gone through this process of modernization. The modernization indicates ancient and traditional versus new and contemporary changes.

With the modernization of education what kind of the attitudes evolved by the modernization of society will be? Being a teacher educator, she has tried to know the attitudes towards modernization of teacher trainees. This paper is limited to SMNK Dalal Edu. College and the academic year of 2016 -17. The study reveals that teacher trainees are having low level of attitude towards modernization. It also throws light how education can strengthen modernization.

1. Introduction

All over the world, the society has undergone several changes, and in the recent times, these changes have been more rapid. Man is an integral part of society and in this situation, social change is an ordinary phenomenon. Due to widespread of media like radio, television and newspaper and internet, a phenomenon that occurs in one corner of the world is communicated to the rest of the world in no time. As a result, various societies have adopted the life styles, traditions, social beliefs, and food habits etc. of other societies. Due to such inter-societal changes, the modernization has come into existences. No society in this world had remained unaffected with the process of modernization. India has also gone through this process of modernization. The modernization indicates ancient and traditional versus new and contemporary changes. It also indicates industrialization, urbanization and education. With the modernization of education what kind of the attitudes evolved by the modernization of society will be? When there will be future social change through education, what will be the level of the attitudes of the Prospective Teachers? The researcher has tried to know this from those who are involved with teacher training.

The researcher is a teacher educator and has done her doctoral work in this area. Here in this paper, she has tried to study the attitude of prospective teachers of SMNK Dalal Education College for women. This paper shows a light on the attitudes of prospective teachers towards modernization and which are the areas where they have high-level attitude towards modernization. Moreover, it throws light on suggestions in the field of teacher education to strengthen modernization.

2. Statement of the Research Problem

By knowing the attitude of prospective teachers towards modernization, we can predict about the future of our country. Therefore, the researcher has taken up this study and the topic of this study is mentioned as follow.

‘Attitudes towards Modernization among Prospective teachers’

3. Definition of the key terms

The definition of the key terms of the study is as under:

3.1 Attitude

The word attitude (from Latin aptus) is defined within the framework of social psychology as a subjective or mental preparation for action. It defines outward and visible postures and human beliefs. Attitudes determine what each individual will see, hear, think and do. They are rooted in experience and do not become automatic routine conduct. Attitude creates influence on behavior of an individual by attracting him towards certain things and issues.

According to Allport (1973), "A mental and neural state of readiness to respond, organized through experiences, exerting or a directive or dynamic influence upon the situation; with which it is related." In this study, the researcher has tried to measure attitude towards modernization, for which she has constructed a rating scale.

3.2 Modernization

In general terms, "to modernize" means "to render sometime old fashioned up to date" or "reshape something out of date to suit the requirements of modern times." In the words of Connell (1965), the process of modernization can be summoned up as, "the development of enquiring and inventive attitude of mind individual and social that lies behind the use of techniques and machines and inspires new forms of social relations."

In this study, the score obtained by the prospective teachers on the scale for attitudes towards modernization are considered as Attitudes towards Modernization.

3.3 Prospective teachers

It means after graduation/post-graduation, the students who undergo the training of two years' course for being a teacher in secondary school.

4. Objectives of the study

Following objectives were formulated for this study.

- To study the level of attitudes towards modernization of prospective teachers.
- To study different areas in which prospective teachers tends to have high level of modernization
- To recommend different activities to promote modernization in teacher education programme.

5. Delimitations of research

The limitations of this study were as under.

- This study was comprised to the Prospective Teachers of SMNK Dalal Education College for Women, Ahmedabad, enrolled in the year of 2016-17.
- Administration of attitudes towards modernization constructed and standardized by Deepika Rathod was used.
- Data analysis was done only by using the techniques of descriptive statistics.

6. Research method

As per the objectives of the study, Survey method was used for this study, which included collection of data of present situation, its analysis and inferences. This study describes the level of attitudes towards modernization of prospective teachers of Dalal Education College.

7. Sample

The sample consisted of 45prospective teachers. They were selected through purposive sampling technique. As the researcher is an Asso. Professor in Dalal Education College for Women, she administered the questionnaire on prospective teachers enrolled in present academic year 2016-17.

8. The Tool for Data collection

The researcher has constructed this scale for her doctoral studies. The primary form of attitude scale having 176 items was prepared. This attitude scale consisted of seven dimensions of modernization, which included educational orientation, secular orientation, scientific orientation, universal orientation, citizen orientation, equality orientation and independent orientation. After preparing primary form of the scale, a five-point scale for measurement of responses like completely agree, agree, neutral, disagree and completely disagree was prepared on the basis of Likert type of scale, and its calculations were also determined. The final form of the scale having 42 statements was constructed for final trial, which consisted of positive and negative statements. For final administration of the attitude scale, 1731 Prospective Teachers from seven universities of Gujarat were selected and they were administered this scale. The R-value of test-retest method was found to be 0.64. The R-value of split-half test was found to be 0.65. The full-test was found to be 0.79. Thus, the reliability of the attitude scale was found to be higher. The R-value for validity was 0.63. Reliability and validity were found satisfactory.

9. The level of attitude towards modernization:

To find out the attitude toward modernization the scores of whole sample were calculated and their levels were determined. Looking at the attitudes of the whole sample towards modernization, following results were found.

Table 1: Level of Attitude toward Modernization

No.	Level of Attitude towards Modernization	No of Teachers	Percentage %
1	Prospective Teachers were in very high level.	3	6.52
2	Prospective Teachers were in high level.	9	19.54
3	Prospective Teachers were in medium level.	16	34.79
4	Prospective Teachers were in low level	13	28.28
5	Prospective Teachers in very low level	5	10.87
6	Total	45	100

It can be described from Table – 1, that only 6.52 % prospective teachers were having very high level of attitude towards modernization, 19.54 % prospective teachers were having high level of attitude towards modernization, 34.79 % prospective teachers were having medium level of attitude towards modernization, 28.28 % prospective teachers were having low level of attitude towards modernization, where as 10.87 % prospective teachers were having very low level of attitude towards modernization. Therefore, it can be said that the greater number of prospective teachers were found to be more in the medium level. They have moderate level of attitude towards modernization. It can be said that women have to adjust in their life. They have to cultivate adoptability as they have to move in in-law's' families. Therefore, society expects women to be more flexible and having the attitude of understanding. Therefore, they might have developed the average level of attitude towards modernization.

10. Areas of Modernization Attention

It became interesting to explore those which areas of modernization created more attention of the prospective teachers. To study this, each response to each item of the questionnaire was observed and frequency distribution was done. Only those responses were incorporated for a study, on which more than 60 percentages of frequencies were found. This data was analyzed by computing percentage only. With this reference, the results and interpretation are discussed below.

Following table will focus the areas of attitude toward modernization of the prospective teachers.

The responses on Attitude towards Modernization

Table 2: One Statement related to Attitude towards Modernization of prospective teachers

No.	Content	Percentage
1.	આધુનિકીકરણના યુગમાં કારકિર્દી નિર્માણ ખૂબ અગત્યની છે. Career building is very important in modernization era.	67%
2.	આધુનિકીકરણ વિજ્ઞાન આધારિત ધર્મને પસંદ કરે છે. Modernization prefers Science supportive religion.	76%
3.	આધુનિકીકરણે શિક્ષક વિદ્યાર્થીઓના સંબંધને અસ્થિર બનાવ્યાં છે. Modernization has made the relation of teacher - student uncertain.	74%
4.	આધુનિકીકરણના નાકુટુંબને પ્રોત્સાહન આપે છે. Modernization supports small families.	69%
5.	જન્મકુંડળીને ધ્યાનમાં રાખીને લગ્ન થવા જોઈએ. Marriage should be done by considering horoscope.	84%
6.	આધુનિક જગતમાં પ્રમાણિક અને સાચા માણસો પાછળ રહી જાય છે. In modern world, honest and true people remain behind compare to others.	87%
7.	માધ્યમોનો વ્યાપ બાળકોમાં ખોટી અસર પેદા કરે છે. Wideness of media wrongly affects children.	67%
8.	આધુનિકીકરણ સમાજમાં તણ અને અવ્યવસ્થા માટે કારણભૂત બને છે. Modernization becomes the cause for creating stress and mismanagement in the society.	63%
9.	આધુનિકીકરણ લોકોને તેમના અધિકારો પ્રત્યે સભાન બનાવે છે. Modernization makes people aware of their rights.	77%
10.	આધુનિકીકરણ સામાજિક સમાનતાને પ્રોત્સાહન આપે છે. Modernization encourages social equality.	93%
11.	આધુનિકીકરણે યુવાનોમાં આત્મનિર્ભરતાની લાગણી મજબૂત બનાવી છે. Modernization has strengthened the sensitivity of self-reliance in the youth.	89%
12.	આધુનિકીકરણે ધર્મ પ્રત્યેની આસ્થાને નબળી પાડી છે. Modernization has weakened the faith towards religion.	79%
13.	સ્ત્રીને વધુ સ્વતંત્રતા આપવાથી આધુનિકીકરણ ઝડપથી આવે છે. Modernization becomes speedy, if given more liberty to women.	84%

Here the results simply say that the level of attitude towards modernization is positive. At the same time, it can be said that they believe in modernization as well as they believe in horoscope also. They also believe that women should be given more freedom. They are more prone to science with reference to religion. Moreover, they are in favor of liberty given to women. According to them Media's role is not positive. They have a concern of the relationship of student teacher, which is affected in modern world. At the same time, they now wish to have small families, as they wish to have more freedom in women. They now have the smartness, by not being very honest and true to the world. They now want to have self-reliant, rather than to be worried about society. They also believe that career should be given much preference. They also have the concern of equality in the society, as they have seen the sour fruits of inequality.

With this reference, it would be fair to notice that, Pravin and Mittal (2014) noted that “Modernization refers to an evolutionary model of transforming traditional society to a modern society. Modernity represents substantial break with traditional society. It refers to a cluster of new socio-economic, political, religious and intellectual system, which is very different from the traditional one. Modernization is a comprehensive concept aimed at capturing and describing the transition of a society from ancient to modern culture. Modernization brings rational belief and scientific outlook on the one hand but it seems to result in behavioral problems on the other.”

11. Recommendations

It can be seen from this study that the number of Prospective Teachers having very high level and very low level of attitudes is 6 to 10 %. In the medium level, 34 % Prospective Teachers showed attitudes toward modernization which means that the attitude towards modernization was found to be average among the prospective teachers. Therefore, it is necessary to develop positive attitude towards modernization in them, as it is necessary to change our mindset according to the changing society.

This study has been conducted keeping in mind the requirement to know the attitudes of prospective teachers towards modernization. For that firstly, the attitudes of teachers are required to be positive. Necessary changes should be made in teacher training and the prospective teachers should be prepared to face challenges of the future, so that they can develop positive attitude towards modernization. Following recommendations would be helpful in cultivating positive attitude towards modernization.

- The co-curricular activities should be improved and increased. Proper time should be allotted for such activities. So that the Prospective Teachers can develop positive attitude towards modernization. These activities should include prayers, meetings, intellectual competitions, sports, celebration of various special days etc. The Prospective Teachers should be encouraged to participate in such activities. Therefore, positive attitude towards modernization can be developed among them.
- Technology should be used during training and teaching method should be changed to develop positive attitude towards modernization among the Prospective Teachers. If the teachers are modern, the society will become modern.
- Media literacy should be inculcated with education, so the hazardous effects of media can be prevented. Moreover, the positive use of media can be made possible.
- Field visits can enrich the thinking process of prospective teachers. It would widen the horizon of multidimensional thinking.
- Theories should be more into practice. Curriculum has been improved and educational activities have become enriched and enhanced. Of course, the new syllabus has the provision of much practical work, but the result has to come yet for its' evaluation.

12. Conclusion

Education is a powerful instrument for modernization. It aims to increase knowledge and develop skills in the students. These two aims are essential to carry forward the goals of modernization. Education has brought overall changes in the values and attitudes of the people. If it is done, we would be able to see a harmonious society and world around us.

Today the globalization has taken a huge leap in the whole world. In order to make developments like the western countries, every citizen will have to be aware and prepared. The use of technology can make a country a developed one. For that, every citizen will have to make progress economically and for that, we have to rely on teachers. If the teachers are modern, the society will become modern. This research directs towards the future of the country.

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