

A STUDY OF THE TEACHER EDUCATION AT VARIOUS LEVELS

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Abstract

In the study for centuries, India has been a major centre for learning and many popular universities existed here. Even today, the country has some of the best Universities in the world. Besides, it is also facing many challenges in its primary education while striving to reach 100% literacy. Through the Universal Compulsory Primary Education, maintaining the quality of education in rural areas has been difficult and Kerala is the only Indian state to achieve this goal.

Introduction

All levels of education, from primary to higher education, are overseen by the Department of Higher Education and the Department of School Education and Literacy. The Indian government has also heavily subsidized the education, although there is an initiative to make the higher education partially self-financing.

The Indian Education System has many stages such as the Nursery, the Primary, the Secondary, the Higher Secondary, the Graduation, and the Post Graduation. The Preprimary or the Nursery has the Lower Kindergarten and the Upper Kindergarten, where the basic reading and writing skills are developed. The Primary school has the children between the ages of six and eleven. It has the organized classes of one to five. The Secondary school children are between the ages of eleven and fifteen and the classes are organized from six to ten. The higher secondary school students are between the ages of sixteen and seventeen and the classes are organized as eleven and twelve.

In some states, the classes between six and eight are also referred as the Middle schools and those between eight and ten are referred as the high schools. There are many different streams available after secondary education. The Higher Education in India aims at providing education to specialize in a field and includes many technical schools, colleges, and universities. The schools in India are controlled by various boards such as the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) board, the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) board, the state government boards, the National Open School and the International schools.

Teacher Education at Various Levels

a) Teacher Education at Pre-primary Level

Although pre-primary education is not state responsibility, it has been accepted that the education at this level is more important than at the other stages of education.

Unfortunately facilities for pre-primary teacher education are meager in our country though the successive governments and different private agencies set up a number of pre-primary schools; they neglected the area of training the pre primary school teachers, except few private organizations.

b) Teacher Education at Primary Level

The teacher training programme for the primary stage is different from that of the pre-primary stage. Since the objectives of the teaching in a primary school are different from those of pre-primary education. This training Courses is open to matriculates and is of two years duration in most of the states of the country. Normally, the first year is devoted to the subject matter and the second year to the methodology of teaching. This training leads to a certificate or diploma under the name T.C.L & T.C.H.

At the primary Teacher education level, the government introduced a number of courses such as non-basic secondary grade training, non-basic elementary grade training, secondary grade basic training. Later all these courses were clubbed together and a two year teacher training certificate course was set up in-the Teacher Training Institutions (TTIs). Further they were improved resulting in the present form of District Institute of Education and Training (DIETs) for in service and pre-service teacher education of primary teacher.

c) Teacher Education at Secondary Level (B.Ed.)

This training course is open to graduates and is of one year's duration with an emphasis on the principles and methodology of teaching, leading to the B.T.C. subsequently remained as B.Ed. (Bachelors of Education Degree). Teaches having this diploma is competent to each other's middle, high or higher secondary classes apart from this one-year course after graduation. The

four year integrated course leading to the BA. B.Ed. and B.Sc. Ed., has been continued in the four Regional Institutes of Education, located at Ajmer, Mysore, Bhopal, and Bhuvanewara. It has been found that the product of four year integrated course is definitely superior to that of the one year B.Ed. course after graduation, for preparing teachers for secondary schools Government College of education.

d) Teacher Education at Higher Secondary Level

Since it has been recommended by the education commission as well as the N.C.E.R.T. that the P.U.C. stage of education is to fall within in the purview of school education and is to be given a vocational bias, it has been suggested that a separate structure of teacher education. The N.C.T.E. framework has proposed a new structure for this stage of education. It has offered four models covering the academic and the vocational streams.

e) Master Degree in Teacher Education (M.Ed.)

At higher education level there are the universally Department of education to provide M.Ed. degree course for preparing teacher educators and administrators of both levels. In addition to those almost all the universities after graduate and post-graduate courses in teacher's education through distance education.

f) Teacher Education for Special Subjects (B.Ed., M.Ed., SPL)

Special training institutions are there for preparing teachers for education the physically handicapped and the mentally retarded children there are also special institutions like J.J. School of Arts, Bombay and Kalakshetra, Adayar, for preparing physical Education teachers, music teachers, Craft teachers, Dance teachers, Fine arts teachers, special courses like English, Science, Mathematics, Geography, Agriculture, etc.

Conclusion

There are plenty of government-funded schools in each major Indian city catering to the working classes. Even though there are many Government high schools with English as the medium of instruction, the students are usually taught in the regional language. These institutions are heavily subsidised and the study materials are

also subsidised sometimes. The Government schools have the state curriculum. The secondary education is also provided by a number of private schools and these schools will either follow the national curriculum or the state curriculum.

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