

Quality Education in Haryana: An Analysis

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Abstract

India is an emerging and the largest democratic country in the world. The Constitution of India makes provisions for free and compulsory education for children of 6-14 years' age. Many programmes have been initiated from time to time to promote education. Education leads us to be self-dependent and responsible citizens of the country. Many infrastructural and teachers' related norms and standards are being changed to promote free and compulsory education and to improve literacy rate in India. In spite of all attempts, no doubt literacy rate is improved but education level is getting down, quality education is almost disappeared. Indian students are not comparative to the international students. This article is an attempt to analyze quality education in Haryana and to explore reasons, why quality of education is getting low?

.Introduction

‘Education is an important tool in our hand and everyone knows the power of education and power of words. Education is life long process which starts even from the womb and goes on till our death. It may be formal or informal. Education is an ornament which cannot be stolen’ Education is key component of the development of a country. The best investment that anyone can make is in education. Which enable us to develop our internal and external personality as well as it helps to raise our standard of living and it makes us confident. Present education system is widely influenced by British due to our slavery to British for a long period.

Objective

Objective of this study is to analysis status of school education in Haryana.

Significance

This study will help to find out present status of education in Haryana. Various matters discussed in this study may help to improve the quality of education in Haryana

Methodology

This study contains studies of five authors, newspapers, RTE Act, official websites of Haryana education department and board of school education Bhiwani.

Education after independence

Indian constitution came into force in 1950 and an important Article 45 in directive principles was added in our constitution. This Article is concerned with provision for free and compulsory education for children of 6-14 age group. After independence many commissions, programmes and policies were introduced time to time to improve educational system of India and to promote free and compulsory education for children of 6-14 years age group like: Operation Blackboard (OBB), Siksha Karmi Project (SKP), Andhra Pradesh Primary Education Project (APPEP), Bihar Education Project (BEP), U.P. Basic Education Project (UPBEP), Mahila Samakhyas (MS), Kothari commission 1964-66, National Policy of Education (NPE) 1986, Revised NPE 1992, DPEP in 1993-94 for 1st-5th, SSA in 2000-2001 for 1st-8th and RTE Act 2009. (Pathak, 2014).

Status of education in Haryana

In spite of all attempts made by our Government to improved level of education, Quality Education is seen no-where, education level is getting low. In Haryana Secondary Academic results are falling, general result in Haryana in, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 were 68.03%, 65.38%, 50.79%, 60.84%, 45.80% 48.88% respectively. Data of these six years shows 19.15% fall in general academic results (Official record BSEH).

Reasons why education level is getting low?

Being a part of Education department, Government of Haryana and frequent surveys made from neighboring school teachers, the following reasons for low education level came into light since 2011:

Overcrowded classrooms:

According to RTE Act 2009 PTR should be 30:1 for primary schools and 35:1 for upper primary schools. But ASER 2014 shows Classroom Teacher Ratio (CTR) was 75.1, 70.9, 76.7, 79.1, 70.4 in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively (**ASER, 2014**). Current status of CTR is 100:1 in 201 schools, in Mewat district of Haryana it is found 147:1 in 44 schools. In primary schools there are some schools in which there is only single teacher for 1st to 5th classes. (**Raj, A. 2015**)

Lack of teachers:

lack of teachers cause over-crowded classrooms. It is found shortage of about 12-13 lakh teachers in Government schools. So, teachers have to teach in overcrowded classrooms and a teacher cannot pay individual attention toward student which effects teaching and learning both and quality education also.

Family environment:

It is also responsible for low educational level. Poor and illiterate parents are not aware of the importance of education and engage their children in domestic activities to have more earnings, so the students cannot attend school which leads to low attendance level and low attendance leads to low achievement and poor education quality.

Lack of Infrastructural facilities:

Infrastructural facilities like: separate classroom for each class, separate toilets, water and electricity facilities, library, playground, computer lab and science lab facilities cannot be seen frequently in most of schools. Poor electricity facility, especially in rural areas where electricity is supplied hardly one or two hours in a day. In such conditions how can our prime minister's dream come true to make India digital.

Less use of audio visual aids:

It is one another cause of poor quality of education. Our government is attempting to impart education through digital-classes, through SIT and DTH. lakhs of Rupees are being spent to install SIT or DTH but in most of the schools these are out of work, lying waste smeared in dust.

Nonteaching duties:

Teachers are given nonteaching duties to dispense like - BLO duty, economic survey, election duty, census duty, flood duty etc.

MDM Scheme of government:

Mid-day meal Scheme also have not any good impact on education, as one or two teachers have to be engaged in kitchen work, to maintain MDM register; children show their interest in MDM more and less in their studies. Infact most of the students come to school just to avail facilities and incentives given by the government.

Loop Holes of RTE Act 2009

There are many loopholes in RTE Act 2009. No detention policy of RTE Act is a major cause of low education level (**Bhuyan, 2013**). 'No detention policy' is responsible for getting level of quality education low because due to this policy name of students cannot be struck off even after their continues absenteeism and students cannot be retained in the same grade till completion of 8th class. Students are upgraded till 9th class in spite of having no basic knowledge. In 10th class when these students have to face Board examination first time they cannot succeed and it cause dropout.

Frequent programmes and celebrations initiated by Government:

In these days many programmes like Poudha-Giri, Swashata-Avhiyan, are initiated in schools. Celebrations of national and international days, cultural festivals, Relies, competitions and many more programmes are hurdles and barriers in the way of smooth teaching learning process.

Lack of moral values:

This is due to loopholes of RTE Act 2009, students are getting more and more manner less especially in Government schools.

Steps taken by Government to improve education level

Learning Enhancement Programm (LEP)

To improve quality education in Haryana A remedial programme Learning Enhancement Programm (LEP) is initiated. This programme is launched for 1st to 5th classes with initiatives in English, Mathematics and Hindi to target the students under the grade level competency up to level. District Elementary Education Officer (DEEO) and Block Elementary Education Officer (BEEO) will test some students randomly to check their competency and if the school consistently under performs, interventions will be assigned through the department to help the school with implementation. LEP introduces new methods to teach effectively.

Amendment in 'No Detention Policy'

In last few years 25 States have demanded to reverse The 'No Detention Policy' and to amend the RTE Act. Because of 'no detention policy' of RTE Act there was no provision to keep students in

the same grade who were eligible for next grade. This had very bad impact on students in 9th and 10th class. 50% students cannot pass the class 9th class. But now on 10th January 2019 President has allowed to amend RTE Act. This Act may be called now right to education of free and compulsory education (Amendment) Act 2019. Section 16 has been amended and clause (1 and 2 has been added in this section). Section 1 says there will be regular examination in the 5th class and in the 8th class at the end of every academic year. Section 2 says if a child fails in the examination he will be granted opportunity for re-examination within two months. State government may allow schools to hold back the students in same grade but no student can be expelled from the school till completion of elementary education. But still six states have decided to keep 'no detention policy'. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Telangana and Kerala states will follow 'no detention policy'. Due to 'no detention policy' 18% students were dropping out in 9th class because they were unable to study 9th class syllabus. No doubt this is an admirable job done which will help to raise standard of education at elementary level and quality education. Still there is needed to take many more steps to come over the problems and reasons for low education level mentioned above. There are many provisions of SSA which are not implemented in true sense and loopholes of RTE Act 2009 should also be amended.

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