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CONTENTS

PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN INDIAN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM – A REVIEW

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Abstract

Teachers play a key role in developing a knowledge-based society moving towards excellence, glory and distinction among students. All educational institutions like to give the students' academic achievement, organizational effectiveness and retention of good qualified teachers. Education can alone remove poverty, unemployment and promote the physical, mental health. More over the human development enhances the status among the communities in the society. In India, the government has enforced various projects for giving effective education to the society. They are 'Operation Blackboard', 'National Child Labour Project', 'District Primary Education Plan' (DPEP), the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) (Universalization of Elementary Education). Teachers can overcome any kind of problem which are arising in their educational institutions and can search alternate pathways for their personal development such as attending in-service courses, encouraged to continue higher education, Opportunities may be given to study in overseas for developments in current trends in education, Introducing new programmes for getting new posts and with new responsibilities for promotion to be appointed as a head of the department or institution. Staff rooms should be allotted to every department subject wise. This article tries to point out the struggles of teaching faculty in their institutions and teaching learning methods. The major barriers such as lack of confidence, lack of good administration and lack of access to resources which are leading causes to reduce the teaching learning process among

the teaching faculty and students. Modern technology like Information and Communication Technology (ICT) provides a lot of hope for improving teaching learning process and making excellent classroom environment. Generally, this article provides current status of teachers and their environment and also focuses the problems among the teaching faculty, increasing opportunities for students to understand more and also to cooperate teaching learning process.

Key words: Operation Blackboard, teaching learning method, ICT, education

1. Introduction

Qualified teacher with a high moral character will enhance the positive perception of the learners and create a powerful set of factors determine the development of a good student community Govinda and Varghese, (1993). Teacher should have high proficiency in the teaching subject, good linguistic potential, efficiency in good communication skills and love for children which are major desirable qualities of a good and qualified teacher, Arora, (2002). Teacher should monitor regular attendance, progress in learning and appropriate access to post-primary education, Lewin, (2007). India has around 12% of primary school has a single classroom and 80% of primary schools are having three teachers or less than three, Mehta, (2010); (Create, 2011). The teaching learning process mainly takes place in the classrooms. Education can only reduce poverty, unemployment, enhances the health and nutrition, human development and improved the social status in the society, World Bank (2004). In India, education was kept under the concurrent list since 1976. The educational system is the joint responsibility of state as well as union government. It is the basic human right and helps directly and indirectly the individual and society, UNESCO (2008). Generally, In India, Union budget has allotted minimal amount for primary education than higher and technical education system, Rajeev, (2009). 'Operation Blackboard' was enforced by central government in the year of 1987 and which is taken up by the respective state governments. It provides at least two rooms in all primary schools and teaching learning materials (TLM) with two teachers, Jhingaran, (2003). Another major scheme was 'National Child Labour

Project' for those children who were engaged as child labourers in 1998- 1999 and 'District Primary Education Plan' (DPEP) launched for emphasizing universalization of elementary education, in 1994. The Government of India launched the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education for providing cooked mid-day meals to all school children by the respective state government in 1995. The union government launched the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (Universalization of Elementary Education) in the year 2000. The altimate aim of this scheme was enrolment and retention of all children in the age group of 6-14 years, Rajeev Sharma, (2009). Children should study in schools with in 1 kilometer for standard I to V and three kilometers for standard VI to VIII from their residence respectively, Chand and Choudhary, (2006). The latest education scheme was Right to Education in India, which emphasized Right to Children to give Free and Compulsory Education Bill introduced in Rajya Sabha on December, 2008. In higher education system, according to National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), affiliated to the University Grants Commission (UGC), around 68% Universities and its 90% affiliated colleges had poor quality standards and their faculty without appropriate qualification and this lessen the quality of higher education and research, Chronicle of Higher Education (CHE), (2007). This article stated that the school education and higher education systems are lacking basic amenities and quality of teaching resulted in many problems arising inside the classroom and within and outside the campus of educational institutions.

2. Major critical issues of teaching faculty in Indian school and higher education system

Education plays a key role in shaping our future generation and their achievements; thereby increased their economic and social status. A Teacher imparts something about known messages to unknown persons. They have two main goals which are internally and externally to impart towards the student community such as gaining knowledge, enhance potentials for one's personal satisfaction and the best man in the society and achieve promotions, name, fame

professional development, sufficient time, and technical support need to be provided for teaching members. The union as well as state governments are facing various challenges in school and higher education system, which require appropriate policy reforms in education and their effective implementation.

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