

Level Of Awareness And Attitude Towards Childs’s Right To Free And Compulsory Education Act Among The Parents And Teachers Of Papum Pare District Of A.P

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Abstract: *This study aimed to find out the level of awareness and attitude of parents and teachers towards child's right to free and compulsory education act. To assess the awareness a sample of 200 parents and 200 teachers were selected randomly using self developed tools by the researchers. The present study reveals that most of the parents and teachers are aware of different features of RTE Act, yet most of the teachers opined that RTE is good in theoretically however; in ground level it is not practical. The findings also reveals that Female parents and Urban parents have more favourable attitude towards this Act and among the teachers , the male teachers showed more favourable attitude towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act.*

Keywords: *Awareness, attitude, parents, teachers, child rights, teachers, & parents*

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I. INTRODUCTION

Education is both a human right in itself and an indispensable means of realizing other human rights. As an empowerment right, education is the primary vehicle by which economically and socially marginalized adults and children can lift themselves out of poverty and obtain the means to participate fully in their communities. Education has a vital role in empowerment women, safeguarding children from exploitative and hazardous labour and sexual exploitation, promoting human rights and democracy, protecting the environment, and controlling population growth, increasingly, education is recognized as one of the best financial investments states can make.

Today, access and enrolment at the primary stage of education have reached very close to universal levels. The number of out of school children at the elementary level has reduced significantly. The gender gap in elementary education has narrowed and the percentage of enrolled children belonging to scheduled castes and tribes narrowed and the percentage of enrolled children belonging to scheduled castes and tribes has increased successively. Despite this, the goal of universal elementary education is yet to be achieved in the country. There remains the unfinished agenda of universal education at the upper primary stage. The number of children particularly those from disadvantaged groups and weaker sections who drop out of school before completing upper primary education remains high. The quality of learning achievement is not always entirely satisfactory even in the case of children who complete elementary education. With a view to address these issues, the RTE has been introduced to directly counter the problems of illiteracy, poor quality infrastructure and learning level in this elementary educator sector.

In Arunachal Pradesh, Right to Education Act is implemented by the state government in July, 2010 and it is called “Arunachal Pradesh Right of Children to free and compulsory Education rule 2010” The state government has covered all the provision of Right to Education Act in the state at par with the central government, In spite of all this initiatives by the government very little has been achieved so far, still most of the schools in the rural areas have no basic facilities like drinking water, toilets for girls or the free text book. It was observed that many parents and teachers are not aware of the act and do not have favourable attitude towards the act. Therefore, in this background the researchers has taken up this duty to assess the level of awareness among Parents and Teachers and their attitude towards Child’s Right to free and compulsory education Act. The educational scenario of the state is lagging far behind in comparison to many state of the country. There is a growing concern in the state regarding the alarming fall in the quality of education.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To investigate the attitude of Parents towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act in Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh.
2. To investigate the attitude of Teachers towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act in Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. To assess the level of awareness about Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act among the parents of Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh.

Hypotheses of the Study

1. There is no difference in the attitude of male and female parents of Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act.
2. There is no difference in the attitude of urban and rural parents of Papumpare district towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act.
3. There is no difference in the attitude of male and female teachers of Papumpare district towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act.

Delimitations of the Study

1. One district of Arunachal Pradesh i.e. Papumpare.
2. Awareness and attitude towards Child's Right and Free and Compulsory Education Act among the Parents and Teachers.

Sample of Study

The researchers have adopted random sampling method for the present study. A sample of 200 parents and 200 teachers were selected randomly. Further, 200 parents were divided on the basis of sex and settlement and 200 teachers were divided on basis of sex and professional training.

Tools used

- a. Awareness Test for Parents and Teachers to find out the level of awareness about Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act developed by the investigators
- b. Attitude Scale to measure the attitude of Parents and Teachers towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act developed by the investigators

III. RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

For the objective 1 there is no difference in the attitude of male and female parents of Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act.

Table 1 showing male and Female Parents of Papumpare district towards Child's Right to free and Compulsory Education Act.

Groups	N	Mean	SD	t-vale
Male	100	54.84	6.84	5.18
Female	100	59.15	4.74	

Interpretation: Table indicates that the computed t-vale 5.18 exceeds the criterion t-vale 1.97 to .05 level of confidence for 198 df. Therefore, the hypothesis of the study that "there is no difference in the attitude of male and female Parents of Papumpare district towards Child' Right to free and Compulsory Education Act" gets rejected and it is interpreted that there is significant difference in the attitude of male and female parents to towards Right to free and Compulsory Education Act in Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh. From the mean score we can understand that female parents have more favourable attitude than male parents.

For the Objective 2 To assess the level of awareness about Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act among the Teachers of Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh.

Table 2 showing male and Female teachers of Papumpare district towards Child's Right to free and Compulsory Education Act.

Groups	N	Mean	SD	t-vale
Male	100	39.75	6.49	10.85
Female	100	30.85	5.1	

Interpretation: Table indicates that the computed t-vale 10.85 exceeds the criterion t-vale 1.97 to .05 level of confidence for 198 df. Therefore, the hypothesis of the study that "there is no difference in the attitude of male and female teachers of Papumpare district towards Child' Right to free and Compulsory Education Act" gets rejected. From the mean score we can understand that female teachers have more favourable attitude towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act in Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh.

For the objective 3 To assess the level of awareness about Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act among the parents of Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh.

Interpretation: It is found that 97 percent parents are aware of the Act that it is implemented in the state. Only 48 percent parents are aware that there is no screening test and no documents required at the time of admission in schools. 58 percent parents are aware of the student-teacher ratio in the class and majority percent of parents think that it is not possible to maintain the ratio. 54 percent parents are aware of no detention of child in the same class for more than one year. It is found that majority of the parents are aware that corporal punishment is banned under child's right to free and compulsory education Act 2010. 49 percent responded that banned in corporal punishment encourage indiscipline among the students. 38 percent are aware of 25% reservation for the students coming from the low socio-economic status in all privately run schools. 48 percent parents heard about the inclusive education programme. 58 percent are aware that the teachers should be trained however, 51 percent parents are aware that it is not possible to train all the teachers in a given time frame. Only 3 percent parents are aware that they can register their complain to NCPCR (National commission for protection of child rights).

IV. CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

The present study investigated the level of awareness about Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act among the parents and teachers and attitude of parents and teachers towards Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act. From the findings of the study it was found that, most of the parents and teachers are aware of different features of RTE Act like: free education, CCE, banned in corporal punishment and compulsory teachers training. This is a positive sign as parents are being informed about the programmes under RTE. However, many parents are not aware that no document and no screening test required at the time of admission in school, 25% reservation in private schools inclusive Education program and 97% parents about NCPCR (National Commission for Protection of Child's Right) where they can register child related complaints. This reveals that there is an urgent need to provide more awareness and training to parents and teachers. Most of teachers feel that training of all untrained teachers is not possible in the given time frame. Regarding lacunas, most of the teachers opined that RTE is good theoretically however; in ground level it is not practical. RTE is implemented properly in many schools and many areas still needs to be covered especially rural areas. Lack of awareness among the mass about the right of the children is also one of the factor for ineffective implementation of RTE and suggested that teachers need more awareness on RTE to get it implemented properly.

In case of attitude of parents and teachers towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, significant difference was found among the attitude of male and female parents, urban and rural parents of Papumpare districts. Female parents and Urban parents have more favourable attitude towards Child Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act. This could be because of more exposure among the female parents and urban parents. In case of attitude of teachers, significant difference was found among male and female and no difference was found between the trained and untrained male teachers and significant difference was found between trained and untrained female teachers. From the mean score it was observed that male teachers have more favourable attitude towards Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act. Though Child's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act has been implemented in the state of Arunachal Pradesh in the year 2010, but there is much confusion especially among the parents in the rural areas. More training and awareness needs to provide to administrators, parents, stakeholders to implement it fully. Many programmes under RTE Act are not implemented practically in the schools of rural areas.

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