



STUDY OF THE DROPOUT LEVEL OF PRIMARY STUDENTS IN UTTARAKHAND REGION

Ranjana Ruhela, Ph.D.

Principal, SOS J.N. Kaul Institute of Education, Bhimtal, Nainital

Abstract

For the development of the country or state we need to build quality teachers, more quality schools, increase the retention of students. Though there are many schemes and plans made by the Government but these plans are not implemented fully especially in Uttarakhand Primary School level. At Primary District School level dropout rates are high. Plans are made by the Government but they are not implemented properly nor monitored accordingly. There are many other factors like environment and lack of proper human resources which are affecting the dropout rates of students. Awareness about importance of education and the proper ways through which education can be imparted efficiently for that step need to be taken. Education should be imparted without any gender biasness and social disparity as education is for all. For that Government has to take sudden strict actions and implement all the schemes and plans efficiently. The present study suggests that even if government makes plans they are not fully implemented and results are not up to the mark. Student retention is very less according to the expectations. Primary schools are being closed due to less number of student enrollments in schools. For that qualitative teachers needs to be recruited in large number and proper facilities needs to be provided. These things need to be taken into consideration and proper monitoring as well as vigorous checking of these plans has to take place for reducing the dropout rates of primary students in Uttarakhand.

Key Words: *Conveyance, Vigorous, Monitoring, Implement, Retaining, Dropout.*



Scholarly Research Journal's is licensed Based on a work at www.srjis.com

INTRODUCTION

Primary education is very crucial and important these days for the development of the society and the country. It is the backbone of any nation's development as well as child's development. Primary education should be given importance because it is a foundation of any child's development. Child learns most during childhood and at a very fast pace. Children can learn many things in one time during the childhood because they are self-motivated to learn. They don't require anyones motivation or award or prize to learn. So if proper conditions are

provided to them better schools, quality education, quality teachers etc proper development of children can take place.

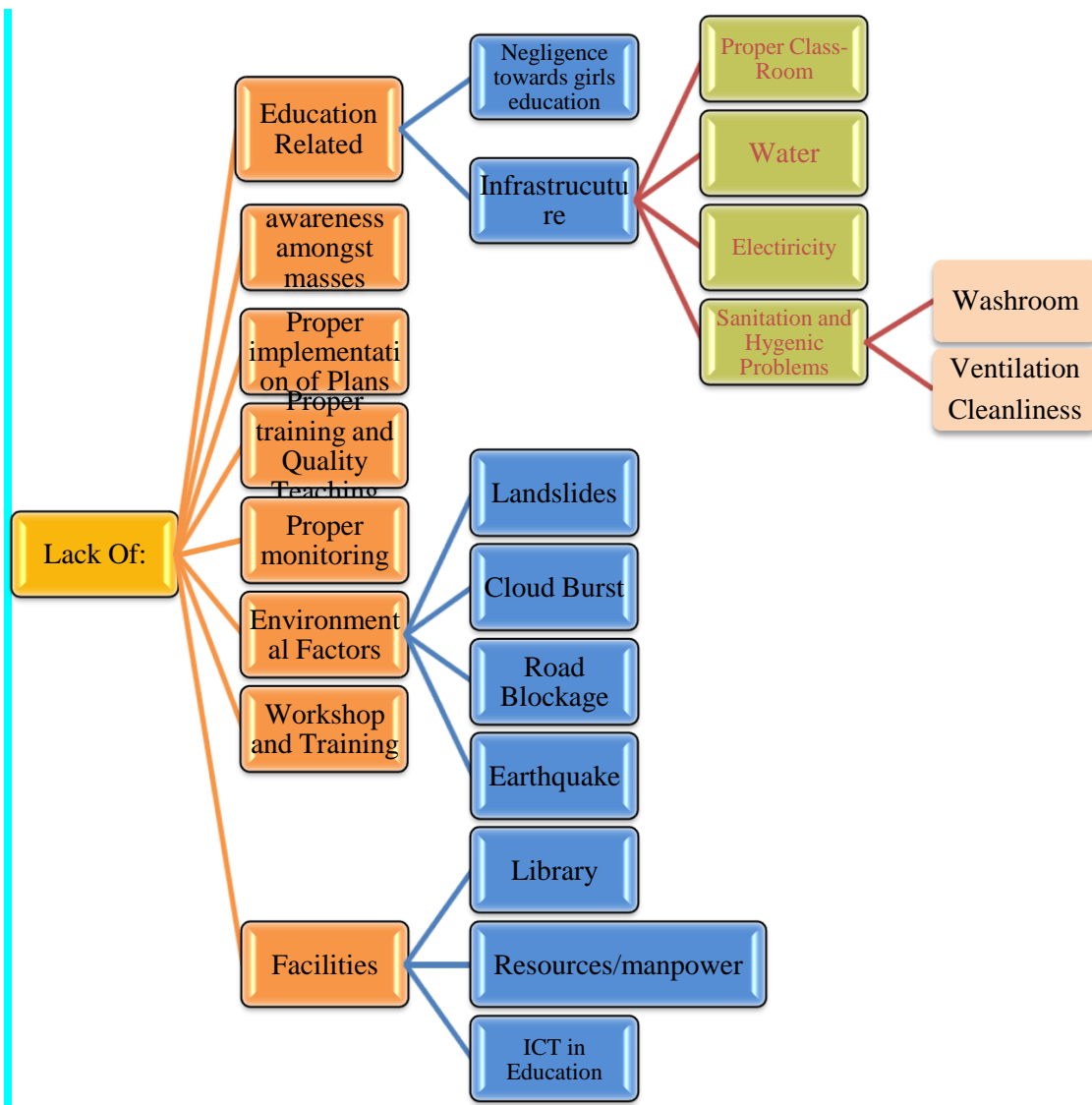
Though government has made many plans but they are neither properly planned nor fully implemented. Education is a must for all. Right to education, Free and compulsory education to all, Midday meal in 1995, Universalization of Elementary Education, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, launched in 2001 all plans and schemes are launched and planned but they are not fully implemented nor monitored properly so that work cannot be completed on time and can't be accomplished successfully. Due to this the dropout rates are very high.

ACCORDING TO CENSUS

Retention of students is very low. Uttarakhand according to the Indian Census had total population 1, 0116755 crore, in this rural population consists of 70, 25583 lakh and urban population consists of 30, 91169 lakh respectively. Decadal growth was approx 19.19%. Whereas rural growth was found to be 11.34% and urban decadal growth was 41.86% respectively. According to the Census 2011 Sex ratio was found to be 963 per 1000 males in Uttarakhand. It was found that 894 female children per 1000 male child in rural area whereas in the state where 864 female per 1000 male child in urban areas in Uttarakhand. Overall Child sex ratio (0-6) years was 886 .Population in the age group 0-6 was found to be 13, 28844 lakh. Rural population was found to be 9, 68474 lakh whereas urban population was 3, 60370 lakh respectively. 88.33% males whereas 70.70% women were found to be literate in 2011. Literacy rate was 79.63% in Uttarakhand in 2011. 77.11% was found to be in rural areas and 85.20% in urban areas. The dropout rate is constantly decreasing than what it was before in the Primary school of Uttarakhand and it is a point of serious concern.

CAUSES OF DROPOUT RATES AT PRIMARY LEVEL

Many factors are affecting the dropout rates of students at primary level in Uttarakhand:



NEGLIGENCE TOWARDS GIRLS EDUCATION

As education is every ones right therefore education should be imparted without any discrimination. Whether girls or boys everyone should be able to get education without any discrimination. Education is a must for all but people think girls education to be useless .They feel that spending on education is wastage of money as girls have to leave home and go to another home after marriage. For the development of the country, education of girls and boys both is need of the hour. As when a boy is educated an individual is educated but when a women is educated then a whole family is educated. Nation would be developed only when women are educated. Development depends on women’s education. These things are not taken into consideration and girls are told to do the household work their education is not given importance therefore their dropout rates are very high in primary school .Girls are married early in some areas due to which they don’t know their own rights.

LACK OF AWARENESS AMONGST MASSES:

Many schemes are planned by the government but they are not implemented properly. Due to lack of awareness as the majority of people in villages are uneducated therefore they don't know their own rights too or what is Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan or about mid-day meal therefore they can't avail this opportunity. They feel that how many children would be there at home that much helping hands they would be getting for earning .Therefore they ask their children to work due to financial problems and leave schools at an early age and thus leading to increase in dropout rates of students. There are less number of students in the class therefore leading to closing down of the Primary schools in Uttarakhand.

LACK OF PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF PLANS:

The Primary education is the demand of the day. Primary Education for that Mid Day Meal was started for attracting students to take more admissions. As government is taking actions for the betterment of the state as well as country it wants that most of the population is educated in Primary level as well as upper level. This has also proved to be a not so successful plan. Government has taken many steps but to not much avail. It was found that Mid-day meal is not so hygienic and not of so good quality. Proper inspection of the food should also take place for that in the Primary school.

LACK OF PROPER TRAINING

As education is a must for all for that reason we can say that quality teachers are also required but there were no quality teachers found in the primary schools therefore less retention of students was found .There is lack of awareness amongst teachers about new methodologies they are not fully trained therefore this is effecting teaching learning process.

LACK OF PROPER MONITORING:

Though Government is helping financially but the budget is not being allocated in an efficient manner in the primary schools. Many constructions work for the Primary schools have not been completed on time.

LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Therefore there is lack of proper building or infrastructure leading to more of dropout rates. There is lack of chairs and benches students have to sit on the floor mats and study. There was no black-board or chalk found in the classes.

NO ELECTRICITY

Lack of Electricity is a great hindrance in proper studying of students. There is no electricity in interior rural areas. Therefore students can't study properly in the dark rooms. Proper lightening should is a must for the students to study in Primary school.

ROADS ARE NOT BUILT

There is lack of proper roads found in hilly and interior areas. No roads are built in rural areas therefore students can't reach school on time as they have to face difficulty while going to school as there are no roads constructed and therefore no conveyance facility reaching those remote areas. This is a great hindrance for children to access the Primary education on regular basis..

SANITATION AND HYGENIC PROBLEMS

There is lack of sanitation problem due to that girls face lots of problem. As there are no washrooms girls feel shy to come to school as it's a great problem for them and therefore leading to the increase in the dropout rate of the girls in the primary school. As the place provided to the students for studying should be conducive for the students for studying.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

Environmental factors like due to:

Landslides many schools are buried underneath mountains, due to heavy rainfall there is road blockage due to that students can't travel to schools.

Cloud burst leading to closing down of Primary schools as many students were killed and schools were destroyed due to it in the past can be one of the major causes of increase of dropout rates in students.

Earthquake which leads to killing of so many people, students and destruction of primary schools is one of the greatest havoc played on this earth leading to closing down of the primary schools and also leading to heavy losses of life as many children die due to this calamity. All these are environmental factors leading to increase in dropout rates of Primary students.

Library:

Proper library should be maintained in the Primary School in Uttarakhand so that students can access books .If online library is provided than it would be to the advantage of the students. As library is not found in the Primary School therefore we can say that it is hindrance in the development of the students leading to the increase in the dropout rate of students in the Primary School in Uttarakhand.

Information Communication Technology

Teachers of the Primary School are found lacking in the use of advanced technologies like Audio-Visual Aids, Projectors, and Smart Class etc. This is the major factor in the increase in the dropout rates of the students in the Primary school in Uttarakhand.

LACK OF WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

Due to lack of proper training of teachers as they are not attending any workshops or not going to foreign University to attend the seminars or conferences or learn the methods how the students are being taught at the primary and senior level by which methods and techniques they are being taught. Teachers are not aware about the upcoming new trends therefore the Primary school education is lacking in qualitative education or teaching learning process because the teachers are teaching in traditional method.

Education should be imparted in the best possible manner especially in Primary School. For that environment and human resource plays very important role.

Suggestions for reducing the dropout rates in Uttarakhand region are given as follows:

- Other factors like if teachers are equipped with the new techniques they can help in the development of the students. They should attend workshops seminars and conferences. They should be sent to foreign countries so that they can learn new methods and techniques of teaching students qualitatively and teaching learning can be improved to a very great extent hence the retention of the students in the school can be maximized.
- Recruitment of qualitative and eligible teachers in the school should be done because because if there are no teachers in the school or less number of teachers in the school in comparison to more students then school can't work efficiently leading to increase in the dropout rates of the students. Teachers should be well versed with the ICT, Smart class and with Projectors.
- Library should be installed in the Primary Schools of Uttarakhand.
- Proper sanitation facility, proper building, proper infrastructure: benches, chairs, electricity, proper water facility, proper sanitation should be provided to the students so that maximum number of students in Primary school can take admission.
- Proper roads should be built so that there is no conveyance problem and students can come to school without any difficulty. Primary Education can be availed by everyone.
- Budget need to be allocated properly to various Primary schools of Uttarakhand and proper monitoring must be done of the plans layed. Work should be done according to the plan and completed in allocated time.
- Scholarships should be provided to the rural meritorious students ,SC ,ST and girls students so that more students can be enrolled in the Primary school for education in large numbers and the dropout rates of students is reduced.

Conclusion: To bridge the gap between rich and poor and that there is no discrimination on the basis of caste, creed or religion Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan had been started so that all could avail opportunity of education. There is enhancement and development of students, retention of students is more, bridging the gap on social and gender basis. SSA, Mid Day Meal Scheme and National Literacy Mission Programme are being proposed to continue in the state though much has been done by the Government but still much has to be done in this very field to increase the retention of the primary going students. Obviously, mass community mobilization for implementation and execution of various components of SSA in terms of opening of Primary Schools, alternative schooling facilities, construction of school buildings, appointment of additional teachers, enrolment, retention divers teachers training distribution of text books, up gradation of teaching learning equipments and community participation has resulted in significant progress of literacy levels in the State but still much has to be accomplished for the improvement of the Primary schools and the retention of the students. For that the standards of the primary school should be raised and should be at par with the upcoming Advanced English Medium schools thus bridging the vast gap between the private primary and the government primary schools .Primary school in Uttarakhand should be given the importance so that everyone is able to avail the education without any discrimination.

References

- Bora, B.S (2014): More than five thousand government primary schools are going to close in Uttarakhand. Amar Ujala, Dehradun*
- ASER (2012) :Annual Status of Education Report*
- www.indusedu.org
- www.pratham.org