



EDUCATION FOR SELF-RELIANCE OF DIVYANGJAN: A CRITICAL APPRAISAL

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Abstract

Divyangjans are an integral part of our human resource and they should be brought into mainstream. India is a developing country. Prosperity and development of a nation depends upon education and that is facilitated through right to education of all. India continues to create an inclusive haven for the empowerment of the divyangjans. It has been inclusive by accepting of all the marginalised groups with the inclusion of the disabled. The disabled sections continue to merge with the mainstream through several governmental schemes and initiatives which are crucial for them to be empowered and be self-reliant.

Keywords: *Divyangjan, Self-Reliance, Education, Empowerment, Development, National Development*



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Introduction

In the process of development, Divyangjans remain at the periphery within across the world. There is almost no difference in developing or developed countries even in this direction. However in developed countries the social security system is little bit better which makes them economic security to some extent. All things are possible because anything can be learned through education and can make the Divyangjans self-reliant in a competitive world they live in. Motivation to be self-reliant comes from education through learning. Education is the tool that breaks down all barriers between the external world around and internal world within them. It makes them self-reliant through various teaching learning processes. Education is the foundation of all progress and growth. Both as an individual and

as a society, education plays a significant role to plan future as a successful person in life and as responsible citizen in society. The main goal of education is to make people perfect and successful in every sense so that they can make the right decisions throughout their life and which can empower them for a better living and successful existence. Self-reliance is a quality which is the critical need for Divyangjans for things instead of relying on others and to join in the mainstream.

Etymology

The Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi coined the term “Divyangjan” to address persons with disabilities. The rationale was to change the social attitude towards them and recognize their potential. Reliance on one's own power and abilities, from self-reliance, Self-dependence, reliance on oneself, with a feeling of independence.

Rationale of the Study

We live in a world where several distractions and discouragements can bury the zeal and courage of a person. Without self-reliance one cannot exercise the innate desire to be independent in life. Self-Reliance is important for each and everyone, especially the seeds of it should be sown in from very young age of a child.

Learning to be self-reliant is important to be taught when a child is at a young age so it can develop, as they grow older and later bear fruits. Being self-reliant is presented to be the ability to take control over your life, being motivated from within, and being able to take care of yourself. However, without education it is impossible to be self-reliant. Education is the key that develops the self-reliance and motivate a person to succeed in life. In the present study, the self-reliance of Divyangjans are to be focused for their better performance in achieving impossible and be part of their personal development. They would be envisioned for right decision and that's how right living and better performance.

Self-Reliance in different Perspective

Religious

In Bhagavad Gita, Arjuna is a symbol of a human being (every human being) on his/her practical spiritual path is of weak mindset. Krishna, motivated him to take the decision and not to be weak. The whole world might support you, but one has to be self-reliant in taking a decision. Similarly, the Kurukshetra battlefield is the battlefield inside of every one of us. It is the battle, we have to undergo on our path of practical spiritual growing which needs a personal reliance to utilize one's own decision to succeed in life. Today to be self-reliant India we need to work hard. Swamiji said “work, work, work –I care for

nothingelse. Work, work, work, even unto death. By work alone men may get to where Buddha got largely by meditation or Christ by prayers. He said doing work is not religion but work done rightly leads to freedom.”

Social

For India, self-reliance means being a larger and more important part of the world economy. It can be possible through right education by involving people of all group to participate in growth, development and building of a nation. The concept requires policies and skill education that are efficient and resilient, and encourage equity and competitiveness.

Educational

- The International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade states that “particular efforts should be made to integrate the disabled in the development process and that effective measures for prevention, rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities are therefore essential. Positive action to this end would be part of the more general effort to mobilize all human resources for development. Changes in the international economic order will have to go hand in hand with domestic changes aimed at achieving full participation by disadvantaged population groups.”
- The purpose of education for self-reliance is to set down principles of education, which would assist in the creation of the new social society. As indicated previously, education for self-reliance is about gaining self-independence and responsibility.
- Self-Reliance Education is focused on building knowledge, understanding, and wisdom that empower greater independence and satisfaction in daily living. It also focuses on building the confidence and power to pivot at will when faced with challenging and uncertain times.
- The importance of education is evident when it comes to being self-reliant. If we are educated, then it's something that belongs to us, and only us, allowing us to rely on no one else other than ourselves. It can allow you to not only be financially independent, but also to make your own choices
- The traditional practices of Divyangjan to be dependent upon others physically and financially can be replaced by self-reliance through skill education and motivation.

- While the age-old practices of excluding the divyangjans to participate in the mainstream is completely discouraged through varieties of inclusive education makes them self-reliant
- The Right to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates free and compulsory elementary education to all children including CWSN. This act provides a legal framework that entitles all children between the ages of 6-14 years free and compulsory admission, attendance and completion of elementary education helps the Divyangjans not to seat idle, but to be taught and train themselves to self-supporting and be employed.

Role of Teacher

"Education must make the differently-abled strong, both mentally and physically, to face the world. It is, therefore, necessary, that an appropriate teaching-learning environment and provision of learning materials in an accessible format is to be provided. Teachers should be trained so that they can understand the needs of children with disabilities, and thereby teach and guide them properly. Teachers and society should become more sensitive and sympathetic towards disabled persons," –**PratibhaPatil**

Divyangjans are not disabled, they are differently abled. Research has shown that people who are born blind or become blind early in life often have a more nuanced sense of hearing, especially when it comes to musical abilities and tracking moving objects in space (Imagine crossing a busy road using sound alone). The role of teacher is to discover the special ability in every Divyangjan and transform them into active citizens of the society through motivation and developing self-reliance in them.

The full and effective participation of a person with disability in society on an equal basis with others can be helped by the behavioural attitudes that they encounter when they interact in society.

Teachers must treat them with dignity and full respect. Along with teachers, the family, community and society in general, have an important role to play in ensuring socio-psychological and emotional integration of Divyangjans. It is necessary to correct the prevailing bias in society. Particularly with regard to persons with mental disabilities, through sustained education and awareness campaigns self-reliance can be developed for better performance.

Learning the interest of a Divyangjan, is the key to enroll them in skill based education and motivate accordingly. To generate self-reliance can be the next step through continuous counseling and motivation.

Role of Government

Initiatives taken by Government of India for Divyangjans to be self-reliant:

- ✓ For Barrier free access of Divyangjans, the government of India has declared to make the buildings accessible by removing the obstacles that make it difficult for them to move around in public places and access buildings.
- ✓ Exemption of payment of tuition fees
- ✓ Every child with benchmark disability between age group of 6-18 years shall have the right to free education.
- ✓ 5% reservation in seats in government and government aided higher education institutions.
- ✓ 4% reservation in government jobs, create a national and state fund to provide financial support to Divyangjans.
- ✓ The National Education Policy, 2020 has conveyed the structural change in the educational system. The National Education Policy, 2020 has conveyed the structural change in the education system which aims to make India the global knowledge superpower ensuring equity and Inclusion.
- ✓ The aim of equity and inclusion is now at the heart of new NEP. In the fields of higher or school education, inclusion involves restructuring the whole system with the aim of ensuring the wide range of educational opportunities; this includes curriculum, pedagogy and recreational opportunities, etc. The policy is designed to avoid segregation and isolation of ethnic and linguistic minorities, those with disabilities and also those who face learning difficulties due to language barriers and are at the risk of educational exclusion.
- ✓ This will motivate students to learn more about the diverse culture of India, its knowledge system and tradition and also to sensitize them on human values, empathy, tolerance, human rights, gender equality, inclusion, and equity which will develop respect for diversity.
- ✓ Government's policies and programmes run for girl child-like "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao", "Sukanya" and "Balika Samridhi Yojana" and many more. Facilitating access for Divyang girls for economically independent.

Critical Appreciation

Development of a nation depends upon the overall development of people of all categories within, including Divyangjans. The government policies, schemes and initiatives should be simplified by making it common to them. They have to grow with the vision in nation building by fully participating with majority. They cannot be excluded from the mainstream, but their motivation must be nurtured through the people like teachers, parents, institutions in order to make them self-reliant for better living. The role of government in orders to aware them and makes them useful from personal to professional level.

Conclusion

Societies sometimes satisfy only to people who are in full possession of all their physical and mental abilities. But, they have to recognize the fact that, despite preventive efforts, there will always be a number of people with impairments and disabilities and a very special group, they must be identified and to be given full scope equally to be self-reliant.

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