

SURVEY OF EDUCATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS OF GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN PUNJAB STATE

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Abstract

An attempt was made in the present investigation to study and analyze the Educational and Administrative problems of Government Secondary Schools in Punjab State. The most frequent problem areas identified were the problems related to School Administration, Accountability and Teachers' Service Matters. Major problems revealed area wise were: Lack of accountability of students and their parents; Inadequate teaching and non-teaching staff; Arbitrary policy matters; Lack of feedback from field; Lack of proper planning; Non-teaching works assigned to teachers; Mismatch of quantity of contents and time available; Lack of coordination between Education Department and Punjab School Education Board; Lack of training for competitive exams; Lack of awareness among students regarding values.

Key Words: Accountability, Quality Improvement, School Administration, Teachers' Service Matters, Teaching Learning Process, Civic Responsibility and Inculcation of Values.

INTRODUCTION

Education day by day is becoming a matter of utmost relevance and importance. Education has been getting increasing attention as it is vital factor for national progress and for better quality of life. Education is considered as unique investment in the present for a better future. Education is a multi-level system ranging from classrooms and institutions at one end to the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development and NITI Aayog at the other, with district and state level organizations and administration at the intermediate level. It is important to bring about vertical and horizontal integration between the different stages of the educational system to forge links between education, employment, economic development and society. It is only possible through nesting, integrating and coordinating the efforts of all levels with the help of the feedback of information so that the overall efficiency of the system can be augmented. School education is one of the very important components of social development. School education system in India has grown at a phenomenal rate during the post-independence period. To improve the educational standards and access to masses there is great need to revamp the

educational administration of schools. Several committees and commissions have been constituted from time to time to review and to provide focus and direction to the education sector at all levels. The right of children to free and compulsory education act of 2009 is one of the latest attempts of the Government of India to promote more inclusive development in the country. Various steps are being taken in Punjab state to ensure effective educational administration of schools. The present study was aimed to explore the various educational and administrative problems of Government Secondary Schools in Punjab state.

METHOD

SAMPLE

Two districts of Punjab state, Ludhiana and Moga were selected randomly for data collection. Due representation to different strata of Director General School Education Punjab, District Education Officers, District Resource Persons, School Heads/Principals, Inspection Team members and teachers was given. Stratified Quota Random sampling technique was followed.

- 100 teachers and school Heads/Principals were selected randomly who volunteered to respond

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to the Focused Group Discussion initiated on social network mode, WhatsApp. The Focused Group Discussion was to collect the problems faced by teachers and school Heads/Principals.

- 20 school Heads/Principals and 200 teachers were selected from 71 schools of two randomly selected districts of Punjab state. They responded their opinion on the Rating Scale.
- Director General School Education Punjab, District Education Officers of two selected districts, 4 District Resource Persons, 4 Inspection Team members and 20 School Heads/Principals were selected randomly in the sample to conduct structured interviews.

Measures

- Focused Group Discussion
- Rating Scale of Prevailing Problems in Government Secondary Schools of Punjab State (constructed by the investigator).
- Structured Interview Schedule (prepared by the investigator).

PROCEDURE

- On the basis of review of literature educational and administrative problems related to school education were classified into seven problem areas.
- The problems faced by teachers and school Heads/Principals were collected through Focused Group Discussion on social network mode WhatsApp by the researcher.
- The problems perceived through Focused Group Discussion were further categorized into the seven problem areas selected on the basis of review of literature.

- Rating of problem areas and area wise problems perceived through Focused Group Discussion from stakeholders was done by school Heads/Principals and teachers on ten point scale.
- Structured interviews were conducted with Director General School Education Punjab, District Education Officers, District Resource Persons, Inspection Team members and School Heads/Principals for perceiving major problems.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES

- Educational and administrative problems perceived through Focused Group Discussion from stakeholders were analyzed on the basis of frequencies obtained.
- Ratings of problem areas by teachers and school Heads/Principals was done on ten point scale separately. Then the average ratings were compared.
- Rating of problems related to each area by teachers and school Heads/Principals was done on 10 point scale separately. Then the average ratings were compared.
- Triangulation was applied to get major problem areas based on the problems perceived through Focused Group Discussion, highly rated by stakeholders and perceived through structured interviews with stakeholders.

ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

- On the basis of review of literature educational and administrative problems related to school education were classified into seven problem areas given below:

Table 1: Classification of Educational and Administrative problems into seven problem areas

Problem areas	Name of the problem Area
Area I	Problems related to Accountability
Area II	Problems related to Quality Improvement
Area III	Problems related to School Administration
Area IV	Problems related to Teachers' Service Matters
Area V	Problems related to Teaching Learning Process
Area VI	Problems related to Examination and Evaluation
Area VII	Problems related to Civic Responsibility and Inculcation of Values

2. The problems faced by stakeholders' i.e. teachers and school Heads/Principals were collected through Focused Group Discussion on social network mode WhatsApp by the researcher. The responses received from 100 stakeholders were analyzed on the basis of frequencies. The table of frequencies of responses is given below:

Table 2: Frequencies of responses on educational and administrative problems perceived through Focused Group Discussion

Problems	Name of the problem	responses
Problem 1	Arbitrary policy matters	10
Problem 2	Non-teaching works assigned to teachers	9
Problem 3	Lack of accountability of students and their parents	9
Problem 4	Inadequate teaching and non-teaching staff	8
Problem 5	Lack of accountability of Heads/Principals	7
Problem 6	Mismatch of quantity of contents and time available	5
Problem 7	Poor basic infrastructure	4
Problem 8	Lack of accountability of teachers	4
Problem 9	Lack of financial resources	4
Problem 10	Non redressal of grievances of teachers	4
Problem 11	Lack of accountability of non-teaching staff	3
Problem 12	Lack of proper planning	3
Problem 13	Timely non-availability of text books before the start of academic session	3
Problem 14	Lack of feedback from field	3
Problem 15	Lack of job security among fresh appointee teachers due to nature of appointment	3
Problem 16	Lack of adequate monitoring process	2
Problem 17	Sluggish implementation mechanism	1
Problem 18	Lack of awareness among staff regarding values inculcation	1
Problem 19	Lack of awareness among students regarding values	1
Problem 20	Lack of accountability of officials	1
Problem 21	Lack of academic quality	1
Problem 22	Arbitrary transfer process of teachers	1
Problem 23	Inadequate in-service teacher training	1
Problem 24	Copying in exams	1
Problem 25	Lack of information & communication technology usage	1
Problem 26	Non availability and lack of use of teaching learning materials	1
Problem 27	Non revision of syllabus	1
Problem 28	Syllabus not related to real life	1
Problem 29	Non seriousness in the conduct of local exams	1
Problem 30	Non seriousness in the evaluation of answer sheets	1
Problem 31	Lack of coordination between Education Department and Punjab School Education Board	1
Problem 32	Lack of training for competitive exams	1
Problem 33	Lack of physical drill and value inculcation in morning assembly	1
Problem 34	Lack of sports culture in schools	1
Problem 35	Lack of emphasis on co-curricular activities in schools	1

3. The problems perceived through Focused Group Discussion were further categorized into the seven problem areas selected on the basis of review of literature. Analysis of problems faced by stakeholders i.e. teachers and school Heads/Principals perceived through Focused Group Discussion reveals that the two highest

rated problem areas are 'Problems related to Accountability' (Area I) followed by 'Problems related to School Administration' (Area III). Further analysis reveals that the most frequent problem in each of the seven problem areas is as given below:

Table 3: Area wise most frequent problem

Problem areas	Most frequent problem
Area I	Lack of accountability of students and their parents
Area II	Inadequate teaching and non-teaching staff
Area III	Arbitrary policy matters
Area IV	Non-teaching works assigned to teachers
Area V	Mismatch of quantity of contents and time available
Area VI	Frequency of all problems perceived is same
Area VII	Frequency of all problems perceived is same

4. Rating of prevailing Problem areas in Government secondary schools of Punjab state was done by teachers and school Heads/Principals on 10 point scale. Further rating of problems related to each area was also done on 10 point scale by teachers and school Heads/Principals. Analysis of rating of Problem areas done by stakeholders' i.e. teachers and

school Heads/Principals reveals that the two highest rated problem areas are 'Problems related to Teachers' Service Matters' (Area IV) followed by 'Problems related to School Administration' (Area III). Further analysis reveals that the highest rated problems in each of the seven areas are as below:

Table 4: Highest rated problems in each of the seven areas

Problem areas	Highest rated problems
Area I	Lack of accountability of students and their parents
Area II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate teaching and non-teaching staff • Lack of financial resources
Area III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of feedback from field • Lack of proper planning
Area IV	Non-teaching works assigned to teachers
Area V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus not related to real life • Mismatch of quantity of contents and time available
Area VI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of coordination between Education Department and Punjab School Education Board • Lack of training for competitive exams
Area VII	Lack of awareness among students regarding values

5. The structured interviews with District Education Officers, District Resource persons, Inspection Team members and School Heads/Principals reveal that all are in unison on

the problems perceived with Director General School Education. Major problems perceived in the administration of the Government schools of Punjab state are:

1. Disconnect between the society and Govt. schools
2. Disconnect between teachers and students
3. Lack of accountability of teachers and administrators
4. Lack of interest in education and general motivation among students
5. Lack/improper distribution of resources

RESULTS

The problems perceived through Focused Group Discussion, high rated by stakeholders and

perceived through Structured Interviews with stakeholders triangulated to following major three problem areas related to Educational and Administrative problems of Government Secondary Schools in Punjab State:

Area III: Problems related to School Administration

Area I: Problems related to Accountability

Area IV: Problems related to Teachers' Service Matters

The triangulation further reveals major problems area wise as below:

Table 5: Major problems revealed area wise:

Problem areas	Highest rated problems
Area I	Lack of accountability of students and their parents
Area II	Inadequate teaching and non-teaching staff
Area III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arbitrary policy matters • Lack of feedback from field • Lack of proper planning
Area IV	Non-teaching works assigned to teachers
Area V	Mismatch of quantity of contents and time available
Area VI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of coordination between Education Department and Punjab School Education Board • Lack of training for competitive exams
Area VII	Lack of awareness among students regarding values

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