



SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN AND QUALITY DIMENSIONS

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Abstract

This study was conducted to study the impact of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan on the enrolment, retention and academic achievement of 8th class students in Ferozepur district, Punjab. For this purpose, a sample of twenty schools from Ferozepur district was taken. The required data was collected by using Performa's (Prepared by the investigator). And revealed that there is significant difference of the enrolment, retention and academic achievement of elementary students before and after implementation of SSA in Ferozepur District,(Punjab). It was found that the SSA had brought about significant improvement in the quality of education and enrolment, retention and academic achievement of students in elementary schools.



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Education is the complete development of the individuality of child so that he can make an original contribution to the best of his capacities. It is never ending process. It starts with the birth of an individual and then it goes on till the last day of the individual. Education makes an individual a real human being. It is an essential human virtue. Man becomes man through education. He learns something at every moment and on every day. Education equips the individual with social, moral, cultural and spiritual aspects and thus makes life progressive, cultured and civilized. It is the most important means which is used for human development. It is such a process which brings about change in pupil's behavior and makes him an able citizen of the society and inspires him towards the direction of desired change in the form of society. It is the aggregate of all processes by means of which a person develops ability and other forms of behavior of positive value in the society in which he lives. It is generally said that children are the future of nation.

Elementary education is backbone of the whole education system of a nation. The child of today is the builder of a nation of tomorrow. It is only possible through a well-designed and effectively implemented elementary educational program because it ensures the harmonious development of the child which contributes a lot to economical, social, and cultural development of the nation. Therefore, the Article 45 of Indian Constitution states that

elementary education must be free and compulsory for all children until they complete the age of 14 years.

In the beginning, just after the commencement of the constitution, Universalization of Elementary Education in its totality is still an illusive goal and much is yet to be done in this respect. NPE-1986 and Programme of Action Plan (POA-1992) again put the Universalization of Elementary Education (UEE) on priority. The education interventions like Operation Black Board (OBB), District Primary Education Programme (DPEP), Shiksha Karmi Project (SKP-1987), Lok Jumbish (LJ), Education for All (EFA) etc. were planned and implemented. But the goal of universalization of elementary education is yet to be achieved.

In accordance with the Constitutional Commitment to ensure Free and Compulsory Education for all children up to the age of 14 years, provision of universal elementary education has been a salient feature of national policy since independence. The SSA is an effort to recognize the need for improving the performance of school system and to provide community-owned quality elementary education in a mission mode. It also envisages bridging of gender and social gaps among children.

What is Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan?

- A programme with a clear time frame for universal elementary education.
- A response to the demand for quality basic education all over the country.
- An opportunity for promoting social justice through basic education.
- An effort at effectively involving the Panchayati Raj Institutions, School Management Committees, Village and Urban Slum level Education Committees, Parents' Teachers' Associations, Mother Teacher Associations, Tribal Autonomous Councils and other grass root level structures in the management of elementary schools.
- An expression of political will for universal elementary education across the country.
- A partnership between the Central, State and the local government.
- An opportunity for States to develop their own vision of elementary education

Objectives

- To study the effect of SSA on the improvement of enrolment of the students at the elementary school stage in Ferozepur district of Punjab.
- To study the effect of SSA on the retention of students at the elementary school stage in Ferozepur district of Punjab.

- To study the effect of SSA on the academic performance of students at the elementary school stage in Ferozepur district of Punjab.

Hypotheses

- There is no significant difference in the enrolment scores of students before and after implementation of SSA at elementary school stage in Ferozepur district of Punjab.
- There is no significant difference between the enrolment scores of boys and girls students at elementary school stage before and after implementation of SSA in Ferozepur district of Punjab.
- There is no significant difference in the enrolment scores of rural and urban students before and after implementation of SSA in Ferozepur district of Punjab.
- There is no significant difference in the retention scores of students before and after implementation of SSA at elementary school stage in Ferozepur district of Punjab.
- There is no significant difference in the retention of boys and girls students at the elementary school stage before and after implementation of SSA in Ferozepur district of Punjab.
- There is no significant difference in the retention Mean scores of rural and urban students before and after implementation of SSA at elementary school stage in Ferozepur district of Punjab.
- There is no significant difference in the academic performance scores of 8th grade students before and after implementation of SSA in Ferozepur district of Punjab.

Delimitations of the problem

The present study will be delimited to elementary schools situated only in Ferozepur District of Punjab.

Tool employed

The investigator used the following tools and techniques for data collection:

1. Performa to Record Enrolment of the Students (Prepared by the investigator)
2. Performa to Record Retention of the Students (Prepared by the investigator)
3. Performa to Record Academic Achievement of the Students of 8th class (Prepared by the investigator)

Methodology

Normative survey method has been adopted for the present study.

Major Findings

After analysis and interpretation of data following findings were drawn.

- The enrolment of students in 2001-02 and in 2013-14 was 4944 and 3989 respectively. So the enrolment of students decrease by 20.08% from 2001-02 to 2013-14 in Govt. Schools of Ferozepur District. Therefore there is significant difference in the enrolment of students before and after implementation of SSA at elementary school stage in Ferozepur district of Punjab.
- The enrolment of boys at elementary school stage decrease from 2410 to 1931 in Ferozepur district and of girls decrease from 2534 to 2058 in Ferozepur district. From these figures it is found that the decrease in boys and girls enrolment from 2001-02 to 2013-14 came out to be 19.87% and 18.78% respectively. There is significant difference between the enrolment of boys and girls students at elementary school stage before and after implementation of SSA in Ferozepur district of Punjab at the elementary school stage.
- The enrolment of rural learners at elementary school stage decrease from 1751 to 1476 in Ferozepur district and of urban learners decrease from 3193 to 2513 in Ferozepur district. From these figures it is found that the enrolment decrease in rural and urban learners enrolment from 2001-02 to 2013-14 came out to be 15.70% and 21.29% respectively. There is significant difference in the enrolment of rural and urban students before and after implementation of SSA in Ferozepur district of Punjab at the elementary school stage.
- The percentage of students retained up to final exams was 97.65% during 2001-02 and 99.28% during 2013-14. Retention of students increased by 1.63% from 2001-02 to 2013-14. It shows that Sarva Shiksha Abhyian have positive impact on retention of students.
- The percentage of boys retained upto final exams is 99.04% and percentage of girls retained upto final exams is 98.89% in 2001-02. Retention of boys was 0.15% more than retention of girls in 2001-02. The percentage of boys retained upto the time of exams is 99.58% and percentage of girls retained upto final exams is 99.61% in 2013-14. Retention of boys was 0.03% less than retention of girls in 2013-14. There is significant difference in the retention of boys and girls students at the elementary school stage before and after implementation of SSA in Ferozepur district of Punjab.

- The percentage of retained rural student's upto final exam is 98.45% and percentage of retained urban students is 99.24% in 2001-02. Retention of rural students was 0.79% less than retention of urban students in 2001-02. The percentage of retained rural students is 99.25% and percentage of retained urban students is 99.80% in 2013-14. Retention of rural students was 0.55% less than retention of urban students 2013-14. There is significant difference in the mean scores retention of rural and urban students before and after implementation of SSA at elementary school stage in Ferozepur district of Punjab.
- The result of 8th class students was 67.56% in 2001-02 and 100% in 2013-14. So, there is 32.43% increase in the academic achievement of 8th class students. There is significant difference in the academic performance of 8th grade learners before and after implementation of SSA in Ferozepur district of Punjab because after implementation of SSA there is increase in the academic achievement of the students.

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