EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SCHEDULE CASTE COMMUNITY

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ABSTRACT

Education is a powerful and intended activity. The development of a community depends on education. Therefore, community development should be one of the objects of education. Educational development plays a major role for the socio-economic betterment of the weaker sections of the society which includes SCs, STs and OBC. The SCs occupy the better most stair of the social ladder. They form a major part of the backward classes. The main objective of this paper is to explore educational development among SCs community. This paper goes on to explore the constitutional provision and programme for educational development of SCs. The method of this study is qualitative in nature. This paper outlined a few suggestions that can be more useful in the proper development of education of SCs community.

Keywords: Education, Community, Development, Schedule Caste.

1. Introduction

Education is the most powerful and important instrument by mankind to shape and mould himself in an attractive manner. Education is backbone of nation and it’s developing to a society. It brings about a remarkable change in social, cultural, political, religious, moral, spiritual, and change in weaker section (SC, ST, and OBC) of the society. Development is improving the quality of the life, socio-economic condition of the community people. Development is a process of change involving the whole society it’s economic, social, political, educational as well as the value system its people. The persons belonging to the SCs are economically no solvent, socially dominated by most of the people. They are generally regarded as ‘Untouchables’. Development of SCs community seeks to empower individuals and groups of people will the skill they need to effect change within their communities. The weaker section in India have facing many problems to their development and advancement in the matter of aspect of quality of education due mainly social and economical worse off. Thus, these persons need some additional protection for building a society or nation which aspires for equitable distribution of rights and education. Thus education plays an important role to develop weaker section of society.

2 Objectives

- To find out constitutional provision for SCs community
- To determine programmes and scheme to developing SCs community.
- To find out the present status of Education of SCs.

3. Constructional provision for SCs community

- Article 15 (4) refers to the special provisions for their advancement.
- Article 16(4A) speaks of ‘reservation in matters of promotion to any class or classes of posts in the services under the state in favour of SCs/STs, which are not adequately represented in services under the state.
- Article 17 abolishes untouchably.
- Article 29 (2) state that no children shall be denied into any educational institution maintained by the state or receiving aid out of state funds on grounds only of religion, race, caste, language or any of them.
- Article 46 promotes educational and economic interests of SCs and other weaker section.
- Article 330 reserves representation for SCs in the house of the people.
- Article 335 mentions the claims of SCs to service and post.
- Article 338 empowers the Central Govt. to appoint a National Commission for SCs

4. Programme and Scheme for educational development of SCs

The construction of India has made several provisions and amendments which are helpful for ensuring social equality and human rights. After independent several policy and programme were set up. The National Policy on Education focus in the SCs educational development is their equalisation with the non-
SCs population at all stages of education in all areas. The revised policy formulation and programme of Action (POA-1992) recommended schemes and programme for educational development of SCs including other disadvantage sections of the country. Recommendation of Janardhan committee report (Modified POA-1992) emphasis on adequate incentives will be given for SCs children and will be taught in mother tongue.

UGC provides financial assistance to universities for the establishment of SC/ST cells in Universities to ensure effective implementation of reservation policy for SCs and STs. The National Curriculum Framework (2005) emphasis on addressing the disadvantage section in education arising from inequalities of gender, caste, language, culture and religion not only through policies and schemes but also through the design and section of learning task and pedagogic practices, right from the period of early childhood. SarvaShiksha Abhiyan (SSA) which promises to change the face of elementary education sector of the country. The main feature of the programme is focus on girls, especially belonging to SCs/STs communities and minority groups. The rights to Free and Compulsory Education for 6-14 age groups Act (2009) is another step to ensure that no child is left behind. The focus on quality during the 12th year plan is likely to improve standard of education of children from SCs.

5. Educational development schemes for schedule castes student

Many scholarships are provided to the students who are belonging to SCs students for obtaining higher education in India. The scholarship can broadly have classified into the following types-

- Pre-metric scholarship to SCs student
- Pre- metric scholarship to the children of those engaged in occupations involving clearing and prone to health hazards.
- Post-metric scholarship for SCs student
- National Fellowship to SCs students for pursuing research studies leading to M.Phil./Ph.D. and equivalent research degrees
- National overseas scholarship
- Free coaching for SCs student.

6. Present educational status of SCs student

Table -1: LITERACY RATE FOR SCHEDULED CASTES (SCs) AND TOTAL POPULATION IN INDIA TIME SERIES DATA-1961 TO 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total person</th>
<th>SCs person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>28.3</td>
<td>10.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>14.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>43.6</td>
<td>21.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>52.2</td>
<td>37.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>64.8</td>
<td>54.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>73.0</td>
<td>66.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 2011 (In %)

Table – 2: GROSS ENROLMENT RATIO* (GER) BY LEVELS OF EDUCATION FOR ALL CATEGORIES AND SCHEDULED CASTES (SCs) IN INDIA -2013-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>All Categories</th>
<th>Scheduled Castes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary (I-V)</td>
<td>99.3</td>
<td>98.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Primary (I-VIII)</td>
<td>87.4</td>
<td>84.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary I-VIII</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>93.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary (IX-X)</td>
<td>73.6</td>
<td>73.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Secondary (XI-XII)</td>
<td>49.1</td>
<td>49.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>22.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


7. Conclusion

Education is the birth right of every individual. It must be provided to all children regardless of religion, caste, region, or sex. Equalization of educational opportunities is required to improve the country...
economically, socially, politically and morally of the people. Schedule castes are not provided the basic equality of education. They have been specific effort by state, central govt. for improving condition of education of these sections to suffer inequality in educational opportunities. Different policy and programme have been lunched for their educational development. The govt. of India has incorporated some special provision its constitutions for the removal of untouchably and promote the welfare of SCs. But, still today schedule caste faced many problems of our country. Even today public schools and other educational institutions were closed for them. Thus, educational institutions take care about SCs development and ensuring universal elementary education. Teachers also encourage parents to enrol their children of school.

References

- http://www.socialjustice.nic.in