



A Study of Professionalism of Higher Secondary Teachers

Education

Key Words: Teacher professionalism.

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ABSTRACT

Professionalism can be defined as under: "Professionalism is believing passionately in what you do, never compromising your standards and value and caring about your clients, your people and your own career." This study was aimed to study the attitude towards Professionalism of college Teachers and to compare it by the different variables. The present study was an quantitative type of research. And survey method was used to collect the related data. A representative sample of 202 teachers working in different schools of Rajkot city. A Likert type five point attitude scale "know your professional Index" developed by Ambasana was used to measure attitude towards professionalism. It contains 20 statements. The data was analyzed according to the levels of subgroups dependent variables, professional index was analyzed utilizing t-test and ANOVA. Results indicated a clear effect of experience as it was observed that the professionalism of the teachers having five and more than five years experience and the teachers having less than five years experience was observed. The teacher working for five and more than five years had higher attitude towards professionalism than teachers who had experience less than five years. It was also observed that the type of school had somewhat effect upon teacher's attitude towards professionalism.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In the present age of Information and Technology, realising educational objectives. We require intergating modern forms of technology in education. One of the major challenges for the higher education sector in Indian and especially in Gujarat is the problem of innovation. There is a need to keep its curriculum, course, content and pedagogy updated with the changing educational needs of the students, technological innovations and socio-economic changes. For these purposes, we

have government, grant-in-aid and self financed institutes of educational field. Due to such privatization and commercialism, the theme of professionalism has been risen. Another thing is that like other professional like doctor, lawyer, journalist, chartered accountant, chief executive officer (C.E.O.) of any corporate culture, in education too, we have professionalism. At present education is not a mission but a service industry. So the theme of professionalism has been risen in education

area too. Now we have professional teachers in our sector.

Professionalism can be defined as under : "Professionalism is believing passionately in what you do, never compromising your standards and value and caring about your clients, your people and your own career."

Teacher professionalism has relevant significance in education that it affects the role of the teacher and his or her pedagogy, which in return affects the student's, ability to learn effectively. It can also be defined as the ability to reach the students in a meaningful way, developing innovative approaches to content while motivating, engaging and inspiring the students for the ever-advancing technology. Professional standards are statements of a teacher's professional attributes, professional knowledge and understanding and professional skills. Professionalism is in the class room is very different than it is in most other work settings. In the class room you are also setting an example for your students and establishing what is and what is not acceptable in your class room. We can also apply the principles in the class room as we do in a business office. They are proper dress, fairness, honesty, self-discipline and deligence are the keys to

"Keeping it professoinal in class". Thus at present professionalism remains one of the most influential attributes of education today. So it is very necessary to know which kind of attitude the teachers have about their professionalism.

2.0 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The title of the present study is :

"A Study of Professionalism of Higher Secondary Teachers."

Various Higher Secondary schools. i.e. Arts, Commerce and Science etc. of Rajkot city were to be selected. The teachers of such higher secondary school comprised the sample. A tool "Know your professional index" developed by Ambasana, was used to collect the data regarding professonalism. Collected data were analized according to the objectives and hypothesis were framed.

3.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To know the attitude of teachers working in various schools towards professionalism, following objective were formed :

3.1 To find out the effect of teaching experience of teachers on their attitude towards professionalism.

- 3.2 To find out the attitudes towards professionalism so far as the gender of the teacher is concerned.
- 3.3 To know the attitude towards professionalism of teachers working in Science and Common stream school.
- 3.4 To know attitude towards professionalism of teachers working in Government, Grant - In - Aid and self financed schools.

4.0 Hypothesis of the study

- 4.1 There will be no significant difference between mean professional attitude index of male teacher and female teacher.
- 4.2 There will no significant difference among mean professional attitude index of teachers having different level of teaching experience.
- 4.3 There will be no significant difference among mean professional attitude index of teachers working in various streams.
- 4.4 There will be no significant difference among mean professional attitude index of teachers working in different types of schools.

5.0 VARIABLE

5.1 **Independent variable :** There were four independent variables which are as follows :

No.	Variable	Levels
1.	Gender	Male Female
2.	Experience	less than 5 years 5 & more than 5 years
3.	Stream	Science Common
4.	School	Government Grant-in-Aid Self financed

5.2 Dependent variable :

Dependent variable of the study was score obtained by the teacher on "Know your professional Index."

6.0 Definition of the terms

6.1 Professionalism

Professionalism can be defined as: "professionalism is believing passionately in what you do, never compromising your standards and value and caring about your clients your people and your own career."

6.2 Professional Attitude index

Score obtained by the teachers on 'Know your professional Index' attitude scale developed by Ambasana.

6.3 Higher secondary teachers

Teachers working in Arts, Commerce and

Science schools of Rajkot city during year 2011-12.

7.0 Area of Research

Educational fields are decided on the basis of researches that have been done from the initialization of education till today. Here researcher wanted to evaluate the professionalism of teachers. Professionalism is a part of personality. Hence the present study was pertaining to the area of attitude measurement and personality traits.

8.0 Types of Research

The present study was an quantitative type of research. And survey method was used to collect the related data. Hence it was applied research too.

9.0 Significance of the study

The present study intends to know about professional attitude of Higher Secondary Teachers which reflects the quality of teachers. The quality of education depends upon the quality of teachers and so the professionalism of teachers concerns with quality education.

10.0 Scope of study

The researcher, as the student of one year full time M.Ed. program, was looking forwards available time, energy and economic aspects, restricts the present study to some factors; such as:

1. The sample consisted the Higher Secondary Teachers from Rajkot city only.
2. The tool used for the data collections was prepared. So any short coming of this tool will be the delimitation of the study.
3. The result of any research may not be the same in different time, places and situations.

11.0 Population

The population of the present study comprised the teachers working in different Higher Secondary schools of Rajkot City.

12.0 Sample

The purpose was to study the professionalism attitude of Higher Secondary Teachers. Therefore, different Higher Secondary Schools from Rajkot city were selected purposely. From these Higher Secondary Schools, teachers were selected who were present on the day of data collection. Total 202 teachers were available due to various reasons. Thus the sample size was 202 teachers among them 149 were male teachers and 53 were female teachers.

13.0 Tool

A Likert type five point attitude scale "know your professional Index" developed by Ambasana was used to

measure attitude towards professionalism. It contains 20 statements.

14.0 Method of Data Collection

The researcher himself visited each of the Higher Secondary schools for data collection after taking permission of the respective principals during the time and date of his choice. Higher Secondary Teachers, who were present, were explained the purpose of the study and the attitude scale was provided. Responses were collected on the attitude scale.

15.0 Method of Data Analysis

The data collected were in numeric code that is quantitative. According to the independent variable subgroups were formed. And according to the levels of subgroups dependent variables, professional index was analyzed utilizing t-test and ANOVA.

16.0 Findings

The findings of the present study were as follows:

16.1 There was no significant difference between professional index of Higher Secondary School Teachers so far as gender was concerned. So there is no clear effect of gender over the index towards professionalism of the teachers.

16.2 The difference between the professionalism of the teachers having

five and more than five years experience and the teachers having less than five years experience was observed. The teacher working for five and more than five years had higher attitude towards professionalism than teachers who had experience less than five years.

16.3 There was not clear difference between the professionalism of Higher Secondary teachers working in different streams. It means there was not significant difference between professional index of Higher Secondary school teachers so far as stream was concerned.

16.4 It was observed that the type of school had somewhat effect upon teacher's attitude towards professionalism. The teachers working in government schools had higher attitude towards professionalism than Grant-in-Aid and Self-Financed school. It was also observed that the teachers working in self-financed school had lowest attitude towards professionalism. Descending order of attitude towards professionalism was as follows: Government Grant-in-Aid, Self-Financed.

17.0 Educational Implication

17.1 As far as experience is concerned professionalism favours highly experienced teachers. Highly experience should be given more importance. And the new teacher should be trained to develop professional attitude.

17.2 Stream has lesser importance in the field of professionalism. Here we can see each stream has teachers having equal professional attitude.

17.3 The teachers, working in government as well as in Grant-in-Aid schools, had higher and higher attitude towards professionalism than the teachers working in self-financed school. It may be possible as they are getting all the benefits of government. In other words they are secured for their future especially about job, salary etc. whereas some of the teachers working in self-financed schools are not as secured as the teachers working in government or Grant-in-Aid schools. So the teachers working in self-financed school should also be given all the rights or benefits as are given to the teachers working for government.

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Accept challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory.

-George S. Patton