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QUALITY ENHANCEMENT IN TEACHER EDUCATION – VARIOUS PARAMETERS

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ABSTRACT

Education is an essential part of human development. Education moves around the teacher, student and also the society. Teacher is the head of the educational process. A Teacher plays a key role in the education and also in student's life. Teaching job is a great responsibility than a mere job. It has an impact on the growth and well-being of the nation. A teacher has their influence on the society; no other personality can have an influence more profound than that of teacher. Because they have a daily influence on the lives of children, teachers are often held to high standards. There is no exaggeration to state that if better infrastructure, new equipment's and a qualitative syllabus will be provide to the teachers they make the education system not only qualitative but also improve their profession notable. It can also be said that if teachers will adapt new innovations facilities in their profession they will make the teaching learning process extremely good. The paper explains what quality teacher education is and what are the parameters of quality based teacher education. It also

tries to gives suggestions to improve quality of teacher education.

KEYWORDS- Quality, Teacher, Education.

INTRODUCTION :

Man is a social being. He is an integral part of society. The man is product of society whereas society also depends upon its individuals for its development. The Aims of the society can be achieved with the proper education system. For such kind of educational system, we need efficient and qualitative teachers. It is well known saying that teachers are the national builder. Our teachers have a high responsibility towards society, it is very necessary that the teacher must become concentrate on their role towards society. Their attitude should indicate their attempt to do his job properly. The personality of a teacher must have characteristics of good citizenship, dignity of the individual, rights and duties etc., so that he/she may transmit the same to the younger generation. The above said facts express the dire need of teacher-education. Teacher education is basically to furnish prospective teachers with knowledge, good behavior, attitude and skills to do their tasks efficiently in classroom environment, school and external side the four walls of the school.

In India teachers are trained at university, college level whether they are primary teachers, secondary or higher level teachers. All of the educational system is controlled by Ministry of Human Resource Development. They make education policies, curricula design and other related issue of education. Quality and excellence in the education sector is one of the major initiatives of the Government of India in its plans. To attain the quality at all levels of education, Govt. of India has been working continuously on the quality and excellence in higher education and teacher education. There are large numbers of issues and factors that has been



related to quality of teacher education that is why it seems difficult to solve or manage them very soon. There are also variations in the teacher training courses. There are four types of teacher education institutions: (a) government managed, (b) examining body managed, (c) government aided and privately managed and (d) self-financed and privately managed.

MEANING OF TEACHER EDUCATION

Teacher education is basically related to the policies and procedures which are made to furnish the teachers with the knowledge, attitudes, behaviors, and skills in the classroom and school. In the early years it has been seen that, teachers were not have the formal training of teaching. There was a belief that "teachers were born, not made." It was realized after the disclosure of pedagogy, that the training of teachers was extremely essential. It has always been a debatable topic of a teacher can be taught teaching like science or is it a quality that an individual possesses since birth, but since long it has been believed that a person should know teaching methods and should know what he/she is teaching and most importantly should know how to apply both, to qualify as a teacher. Most of the educational programmes are today focusing on the above said points.

WHAT IS QUALITY TEACHER EDUCATION?

Before talking about the quality in teacher education we must have the knowledge of what is quality teacher education. The quality teacher education must be able to achieve the following targets:

1. It should prepare qualitative teachers who are potential of bringing out all round development of their students.
 2. It should make every student teacher an expert in both theory and practical side of his subject.
 3. It must provide them practical knowledge of different school activities and duties which a teacher is expected to do perform in future.
 4. It should give every possible way to nourish student teacher to have command over the language so that they may express their self in the class with clarity, lucidity, confidence and delight. In other words he/she should enjoy teaching.
 5. It should make the student teacher a man of character who can inspire his students and build their character.
 6. It should be capable of imparting physical education to student teachers through sports, games, yoga etc. This will mainly apply to primary and middle school student teachers as there is no post of sports teacher in schools
 7. It should impart the training of drawing, painting, music and art of writing so that every student teacher is made proficient in any one of these arts.
 8. It should teach each and every student teacher about the dignity of labour through diverse crafts and arts. In other words it must maintain the dignity of labour and inculcate the ability of earning while learning in every student teacher who is in his turn may develop a keen urge among his students of becoming economically independent.
 9. It should have an outlook in every student teacher that teaching is not only a profession but a mission also.
- If our teacher education system is in the position to attain all these targets it can be accepted as the quality teacher education.

QUALITY & PROFICIENCY IN TEACHING

The quality of teaching and teacher's leadership qualities determine educational success; also these two have quality a measurable impact on student aftermath. In India, teaching profession is having an overwhelming effect on society. Teaching caliber determines the continuity of the teaching life cycle, i.e. from entering into the profession to constant evolution to retention to a workplace (school).

To upgrade the outcomes in teacher education system, we must focus on some of the major issues which will be beneficial for improving the quality.

1. Focus on the interested newcomers who actually want to come in this field.

2. We must have a very well planned pre-service education system.
3. Efficient teachers must be placed in area where they are needed the most.
4. With the help of professional learning training their skills and knowledge should be enhance.
5. Retain quality teachers and school leaders in our schools.

Developing countries are also focusing on the improvement of teacher education. Many efforts are also being taken to maintain the quality and to retain the same for upcoming years. Organization and institutions are also effectively working on the educational reforms for the betterment of the teacher education. And there should also be reforms in implementing active approaches of teaching and learning.

MAJOR ISSUES OF TEACHER-EDUCATION

A lot of planning and strategies has been made to ameliorate the faults in teacher education. Resources have been made available to the organizations and institutions for improving the quality of teacher education. In the field of education new technologies have been introduced but still our teacher education has achieved or rises up to the expected level. Somewhere it is not realizing its motive. Although its area has widened and its objectives have become pivot during the last thirty five years, but teacher education could not perceive its objective entirely.

HOW TO ACHIEVE QUALITY IN TEACHER EDUCATION ?

Now the question arises how our teacher education can attain these targets. In order to meet these targets the following steps must be taken:

1. There are three major factors to retain the quality in teacher education are: infrastructure or base, instructional material facilities and human resources are required. If all these major requirements are provided to each teacher education institutions, their quality is attainable.
2. The criterion for the assessment of teacher education institutes should be developed for the NAAC perspectives. NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) provides grades as well as standardizes and maintains the quality and authenticity of higher education including teacher education.
3. Value erosion among the students and youth are matter of concern today. Teachers need to be trained for ingrain values in their students. They must teach them accountability, rights and duties of an individual. Being socially responsible, teachers are expected to come up with solution to the decay of values. To lay adequate emphasis on the effective domain, there is a strong need to work out on strategies.
4. In the two year program, we have now sufficient time for the school experience and practice teaching. We have to follow these activities strictly as these are the main part of pre service teachers training. In the first part of school internship the student teacher should teach for one month with the Supervision of teacher educators followed by two months of internship the student teacher must be supervised by the school authorities.
5. Computer literacy and knowledge of use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for the student teachers and teacher educators are very much recognized in the present teacher education programs.
6. The competencies to evaluate the curricula and to transact it effectively need to be given more importance. The teachers need to be equipped to handle different types of Boards, Schools and Text books.
7. The practical training in guidance and counseling need to be included in teacher education curriculum. This will certainly help the students who need counseling at various stages in their school life.
8. The student teacher should also be given education of community health.
9. The teacher educator should take feedback or assessment from the student teachers to know their performance. When appropriate changes are integrated the classroom will become more interesting. The student teacher should also be given opportunity to evaluate their assignments and teacher evaluation should be compared
10. Periodic appraisal of teacher's performance based on peer evaluation or student evaluation if conducted objectively might help the teacher improvement qualitatively.

SUGGESTIONS FOR QUALITATIVE DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATORS

For making more efficient teachers educators following suggestions are:

1. Enhance the institutional capacities for meeting the requirements of all teacher educators on continuous basis.
2. Make effective use of ICT and Open Learning Technologies in order to facilitate continuous learning by teacher without requiring them to be away from their workplace.
3. There should be linkage between participation of teachers with continuous professional development activities for their carrier progression.
4. Organize and the institutes must start professional development programs and they should be mandatory and help in development of creativity, knowledge and excellence.
5. Ensure that teachers and students resort to open source software and other open source learning material in using ICT in education.

CONCLUSION –

Teacher education is very significant feature of any nation. The education shapes an individual and the nation as well. It is a well-known saying that teacher is the nation builder. The quality of teacher education programme needs to be up graded. The essential quality level of teacher's education is not got yet. Teachers are not able to think alarmingly and solve the issue related to methods of teaching, content, organization etc. Teacher education programme needs a complete reform. Restructuring the curriculum of teacher-education programme is the need of today and it should be according to the needs of society. There is no doubt that India is giving more stress on the quality teacher education course. Unfortunately still there are still some several gaps in the system. The Centre and States Governments should come up with up with great facilities and financial provisions to bring the quality and improvement in the teacher education, and then bright future of teacher education is possible. With the help of State and Centre Governments better and effective reforms can be made in teacher education to attain the quality level.

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