

LACK OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN SOUTH SALMARA MANKACHAR DISTRICT (ASSAM)

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ABSTRACT

Higher education provides people with an opportunity to reflect on the critical, social, economical, cultural, moral and spiritual issues faced by humanity. It contributes to the national development through dissemination of specialized knowledge and skills. Higher education. is a key element in demographic divided and also that it intents to make optimum utilization of human resources specifically in age group from 15-59 years. The condition of higher education is very bad in the South Salmara Mankachar district. Thinking of pursuing higher education is a great sin, that the children had to go to other district on other state for higher education, it is not possible for all the students to study in other district because the economic condition of these people is not so good. In South Salmara Mankachar district only 3 degree colleges exist, Not all subjects are taught in the colleges and if I want to say about professional degree like engineers degree, Master of Business administration, Doctor of Medicine, computer science etc. that there is nothing professional degree here.

INTRODUCTION

South Salmara Mankachar district is a newly constructed district come in force in the year 2015, before 2015 South Salmara Mankachar was a part of Dhubri district as well as the border district of Assam and Bangladesh. The district occupies an area of total 568 sq k.m. and has a population of 5,55,114 as per the census of 2011. It is bounded both the inter state and international border, Bangladesh in the west and south, Goalpara and Dhubri district of Assam in the North and the state of Meghalaya in the east and south. The problem is there are only three government college in entire district. These colleges are - Salmara College (established-1986), Hatsingimari college (established 1987) and Mankachar college (established-1971). The organizing meeting of the Mankachar college was held on the 8th day of March, 1970 in the J.M H. S. School premises, with Late zahirul Islam the than MLA of Mankachar Legislative Assembly Constituency in the chair. Even after passing of many years from 1971 to 2022, approximately 51 years, most of the subjects are not available in Mankachar College, like Geography, Sociology, Master of social work, psychology etc. these subjects are also not available in other two colleges. During the study I also found that subjects which are available in the colleges to study do not have sufficient numbers lecturers to teach those subjects. Consequently, students who take those to study face huge problems.

The science stream of Mankachar college has started in the year 1999. However, it has not been provincialised till date. Due to that students studying in the college have to go out of district to take major or honours in various subject of Science Stream.

To study outside of the district is not possible for most of the students of the district as majority of them are poor and can not afford higher education outside of the district. In addition, the main occupation of the people is agriculture and being the border district other facilities are also not available here.

Bachelor of Education (B.ED) college is available in almost all district of Assam but not in our district. Therefore students have to go out of district for BED teachers training professional Courses. at Mankachar there is no law college, the nearest law college from our district is situated in Dhubri which is approximately 77 km. away from our district. The nearest medical College is also in Dhubri which is still under construction. However there is no such opportunity in our district. Moreover, there is no engineering, ITI, MCA, PGDCA, Medical science, stenography, typing etc.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Both the primary and secondary methods are applied to make this research to be accurate interms of higher education in our district. The research is based on field study method and personal experience. I observed various problems in different colleges like Salmara college, Mankachar college, Hatsingimari college, when I visitied those colleges for research purpose.

LITERATURE REVIEW

For the preparation of this paper I have consulted with both primary and secondary sources. The primary data is based on the survey carried out in colleges of the south Salmara Mankachar district, Secondary data is collected from various books, newspaper report and government report related to my reserch.

causes of lack of higher education in South Salmara Mankachar district.

a) Lack of profit:

The per capita income of the General population is remarkably law, thus the GDP is negligible, most of the people work as a daily wage earner in other district of the state as well as the other state of the country to run their families so economic situation is very poor. So the people could not afford higher education for their children in the district.

(b) Lack of proper institute:

In the district there are only Three degree colleges for general studies. There is no institute and colleges to study professional courses like medical Science Nursing, engineering, ITI/ Computer Science, stenography etc.

(c) Lack of proper transportation and communication system :

The transportation system in our district is not properly developed. The district headquarters are situated in Hatsingimari which is 245 k.m. away from Guwahati. The district have only the facility of bus services. The other means of transportation like railway, airways are totaly absent in the district. Internet facilities in the district is also not up to mark due to interuption of internet students living in the district have to face various problems.

(d) Lack of Literacy:

According to 2011 Census the literacy rate of Dhubri district whose integral part is South Salmara Mankachar district also is 58.34%.

(e) Lack of Awareness:

Many people living in the district do not aware about value of higher education and get scared particularly higher education. on the girls. As they have wonderful notion that girls are barn to do chola - chowki.

Findings and Recommendation:

During the research I find that many district in Assam have various types of educational institution according to their needs. These institution play a key role to get various types of education in those district.

As per my research I want to provide following recommendation based on my findings- firstly, The economic and financial condition of the people need to be improved in order to facilitate the students to acquire higher education. In present circumstances thinking of higher education without solid financial position is a wishful thinking.

Secondly, Both the government and the people need to think to establish various institutions according to need of people of the district. More and more institutions to impart various -types educations need to be established in both in public and private initiative.

Thirdly, Transportation and communication Systems need to improved in order to create better environment far receiving higher education. without having proper facilities of transportation and communication receiving education is quite difficult.

Fourthly, Literacy rate in the district need to be improved in order make people receive knowledge in their mother tongue It is a matter shame for us to talk about literacy every even after 70 years of our independence. Sooner we do it better for us.

Fifthly, Importance of higher education both for male and female is essential for the development of a country and its progress. Hence we need to make people aware to know the value of higher education. In present time, education is part of human resource countries like Japan, Singapore, Taiwan etc. are developed due quality of their human resources.

CONCLUSION

I hope the education is the only process to change our society and through these process the people will achieve a good dignity across or around his surrounding. So students should maintain honesty regarding the process of education. Education is an Important aspect of our lives, while some of us take it for granted, there are others who crave and struggle to get it. From Aristotle to APJ Abdul Kalam every famous personality has time and again stressed on the importance of education in our lives.

“Education is the most powerful weapon, which you can use to change the world ”

- Nelso Mandela.