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TITLE OF THE THESIS: “A STUDY OF THE ROLE OF NGOs IN THE FIELD OF UNIVERSALISATION OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN BIHAR”

ABSTRACT

In the present study an effort has been made to find out the extent to which NGOs contributed or played their role in the Universalisation of Elementary Education in Bihar. In this regard the government data as well as the data of NGOs regarding elementary education were reviewed and the perception of NGOs learners, teachers, coordinators, and directors were analysed in respect of objectives, access, various educational initiatives/programmes, strategies adopted, quality of services, overall functioning and contribution towards UEE in Bihar by NGOs. The back ground and profile of the NGOs working in the field of elementary education in Bihar and their relationship with the local government, other NGOs, Schools, BRCs/ CRCs, PRIs, and community analysed in detail. Further the Socio-economic status as well as the Academic back ground of NGOs Learners, teachers, coordinator along with the various factors responsible for their joining NGOs had also been investigated indepthly. Finally the Block Education Officers from the sample blocks/districts were interviewed to know the recent initiatives taken by NGOs for contributing in the field of Universalisation of Elementary Education in Bihar. 200 NGOs learners, 40 teachers/trainers, 20 Coordinators, 10 directors and 10 BEOs from 5 districts (10 blocks) and 10 Schools / (ALS) of NGOs in Bihar were the part of sample for the present study.

The tools developed by the investigator included, Personal Data File, and Questionnaire for the NGOs Learners, another separate Questionnaires for teachers and

Coordinators along with a separate interview schedule for Directors and BEOs were prepared and administered by the researcher.

The findings of the present study reveals that in 79.50 percent cases children join NGOs due to lack of time, in 84 percent case due to parents illiteracy, in 12 percent cases due to failure in formal schools, 26.50 percent cases due to drop out, in 82.50 percent cases due to poverty, in 7.50 percent case due to non-availability of government schools, and in 14.50 percent cases they do not responded. Further, it was found that NGOs were providing academic support up to the 2, 27, 845 students, enrolled more than 3,04, 232 children to their learning centres and schools across the states, most of them were mainstream in the formal education system in Bihar. Thus, it was found that NGOs play a very significant role in the Universalisation of Elementary Education in Bihar.

In the present study it was also found that in 53.50 percent cases quality of teaching learning and infrastructures provided were excellent, in 28.50 percent cases good, in 13.50 percent cases average and in 04.50 percent cases were poor, that is a good sign for the universalisation of elementary education in Bihar. The basic reason for success of NGOs in Bihar was found to be child Centre non threatening approach of teaching learning, which helps in restoring the academic life of students in all respects either in the case of overage, dropout, lagging behind, failure in formal school, child/street labour or in the case of social victims.

As per the information provided by the Directors, Coordinators and teachers it was found by the researcher that local community were unaware about the role and functioning of NGOs even they were not very much supportive. Further, it was claimed that NGOs are not supported by the local governments as per the requirements. The BEOs in their Interview found the role of NGOs in UEE remarkable and positive. They suggested that NGOs should work for longer period in mission mode and should have long term partnership with the local government and agencies. Finally, it was found that the objective of each NGOs in Bihar is children in the age group of 6 to 14 should be in school andlearning well.