

Major Issues and Concerns in Today's Teacher Education Programme

Dr. Sharad B. Ingawale

Asst. Professor,

S.S.B. College of Education,
Shrirampur Dist. Ahmednagar

Introduction:-

The development of any nation depends upon the quality of its Citizens and the quality of Citizens depends upon its education system. The most significant factor of all is the Quality Teachers. The Secondary Education Commission (1952-53) rightly stated, "We are convinced the most important factor in educational reconstruction of teacher, personal qualities, educational qualifications and professional training. The teacher plays a vital role in the development an inclusive education system. Teacher brings out the hidden capabilities of children and help their all round development of Personality.

As Kothari Commission rightly said, 'the destiny of India is being shaped in classrooms.' Teacher should have good subject knowledge, good communication skill, Professional commitment, dedication and motivation and these are required traits of quality teachers.

Teacher education is concerned with Policy framework, Producers and Provisions which are designed to provide knowledge, attitude and skills to teachers to perform their task effectively.

Major Issues and Concerns regarding Teacher Education Programme

1. Lack of Training in ICT

Information, Communication and Technology is one of the best tools to achieve inclusion and quality in education. ICT become an integral part of modern education system. ICT brought transformation in different aspects in educational process. ICT become an essential element in education and training. The proper use of ICT can bring significant change in the whole teaching-learning system by bringing improvement in content and methodologies. ICT helps in developing

innovative teaching skills in classroom It also helps teacher to motivate students and develop interest in learning of Hardware, software, internet etc. It results one of the major issues of the teacher education course that teacher trainees are not getting proper training of ICT. They do not know how to use ICT for facilitating the teaching and learning process.

2. Inadequate focus on Research and Innovations

It is observed that researchers are conducted without keeping in mind current problems of teacher education programme. So there is great need to develop the national agenda for research alignment with the local and national level problems. The research methodology should be compatible with the local problems. Innovations should be encouraged and research quality indicators should be evolved in order to improve the quality of empirical research.

3. Reconstruction of Curriculum of Teacher Education.

A teacher needs to be prepared to cater the needs and demands of the school system, learner and learning process. So teacher education curriculum framework should be modified with curriculum framework for school education. It is important that curriculum should be constructed as per the changing demands of school and society. The skill development aspect is most neglected. There should be proper integration of theory and practical part in curriculum.

4. Professional Development of Teachers

The teacher educators are of course an integral element of the learning ecosystem. The professional development of teacher is continuous process. Teacher should be encouraged for their professional growth.

5. Infrastructural Constraints

It is combination of several components like competent teacher educators, good class rooms, library and laboratory which make good teacher educators. The teacher training colleges suffer from

Inadequate physical facilities, classrooms, laboratories and libraries, ICT facility which do not have updated quality books and over all environment . It results difficulty in carrying out practice teaching task effectively.

6. Profit- Orientedness of Education

Nowadays there is raise of number of substandard Teacher institutions and such practices bring a downfall in the teacher training but encourage commercialization of teacher education.

7. Inadequate Demand and Supply of Teachers

The unexpected expansion of teacher education institutions and programs in past few years along with increase in school enrolments and launch of Indian Primary Education Development Programmes like Black board Operation, DPEP, SSA, UEE have raised demand for appointment of more teachers . The quality in most secondary schools results from poor infrastructures, insufficient and poorly equipped teachers.

8. Lack of More Flexible and Innovative Teaching Method

Teacher educator hesitate in experimenting opting innovative teaching methods. They show apathy towards learning modern techniques and practices. ICT has brought a drastic change in facilitating the teaching learning process. New innovative practices have been developed in this field. In most of the schools it is more difficult for teachers to adopt new technological innovations in their classroom teaching.

9. Revolution in Examination and Evaluation of Teacher education programme Management System

The way examinations of teacher education programme is conducted and evaluated is going to be changed which avoids the hectic traditional styles including exam invigilation, exam centers, and answer sheet evaluation.

10. Low salary of Teachers

Since ancient times the status of Teacher has been regarded very high in Indian society. Respect and regard have always been very high for the teachers in our society. But the picture is very discouraging when it comes to the salary of teachers. India standing among the least paying nations of the world. The top pay countries are Switzerland, Germany, USA, and Taiwan.

11. The Changing Role of a Teacher Educator

The 21st century has changed the concept of a teacher too. More than a data feeder, the teacher has become someone who nurtures the learners adequately. This trend has become the crux of the student-centered approach to learning. The teacher has become a person who guides his/ her class through activities and sharing the wonder of discovery.

Suggestions –

1. The teacher training programme needs to be designed in such a manner that it gives an opportunity to pupil teachers to develop their required teaching skills.
2. Teachers need to learn skills like Meditations and Yoga to maintain the balance between Professional work and Personal life.
3. Professional development of a teacher is a continuous process, so teachers should be encouraged for their professional growth.
4. Proper Selection method should be adopted for selecting the candidate for teacher training programme.
5. There should be more emphasis on conducting researches, curriculum developments and evaluation procedure.
6. Regular exchange of scholars
7. The curriculum of Teacher education programmes should be revised from time to time.

Conclusion

Quality teachers are the key factors in achieving sustaining, global development. Therefore their training, recruitment, retention, status and working conditions should be global priorities . In this way these changes can bring in good to the modern Teacher Education curriculum to develop better citizens for tomorrow.

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