Achievement of Sarva Shiksha Mission in the Hooghly district of West Bengal: A parents' point of View

[I]**Sanghamitra Basak**, [II]**Professor Prasenjit Deb**

[I]Assistant Professor, Surendranath Women's College, Kolkata & Scholar, University of Kalyani, India
[II]Supervisor & Head, Dept. of Lifelong Learning & Extension, West Bengal, India

Abstract

Sarva Shiksha Mission (SSM) is one of the biggest educational programme after independence of India and initially the duration of the programme was for eight years from 2002 to 2010 with the financial involvement rising from Rupees 499.8 crore of 2001-02 to Rupees 13100 crore of 2008-09[1]. After successful implementation of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) though all districts were not covered by this programme, hence both the primary and upper primary classes were taken into account under SSM. The community involvement and holistic participation is one of the achievers of SSM. This study was done in two blocks of eastern part of Hooghly district. The eighteen variables namely, Age of Father (X_1), Age of Mother (X_2), Father's Occupation (X_3), Mothers' Occupation (X_4), Family size (X_5), Home facility (X_6), Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7), Reason behind dropout (X_8), Financial condition (X_9), Interest towards society (X_{10}), Use of mass media (X_{11}), Government support towards Children (X_{12}), Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13}), Necessity private tuition (X_{14}), Protection from various diseases (X_{15}), Health conciseness (X_{16}), Monthly family income (X_{17}) and Social interaction (X_{18}) had shown their significant contribution towards the attitude of parents in successful implementation of Sarva Shiksha Mission. The study found that five causal variables viz. Home facility (X_6), Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7), Reason behind dropout (X_8), Government Support towards Children (X_{12}), and Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13}) had exhibited their strong consequences upon the dependent variable (Y) i.e. role of parents towards achievement of Sarva Shiksha Mission.

Introduction

India has one of the larger education systems in the world. Yet, issues like quality education and access remain Challenges in some parts of the country. The Right to Education (RTE) is now a Fundamental right for all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years. India has made long strides in the last 55 years in the field of education[1]. The National Policy on Education 1986 and Programme of action 1992 also accorded top priority for achieving the goals of Universal Elementary Education. A number of programmes / schemes were launched during the last six decades for Universalisation of elementary education. Some of these efforts have been in the field of primary education and a few also covering upper primary sector. Sau (2014) showed that in elementary education the changes brought regarding by the globalization progression have been manifested in modes of financing, administration and curriculum[2].

Das and Deb (2016) conducted the study in Uttar Dinajpur, an under develop district as well as low literacy rate among the other district of West Bengal among parents of students of class IX and X and found that the variable like influence of SSA was found the substantial negative impact on level of perception on Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan. This indicates that the expectation of parents is not supposed to fulfill their dreams in comparison to Sarva Shiksha Avijaan[3].

According to Majumder & Mukherjee (2012), effectiveness of policies taken by Sarva Shikhsa Abhiyan in ensuring education of these migrant children has also been examined. Children are observed to be growing up as replica of their parents and are inducted into the same low-skill profession from an early age[4]. In the study of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in Haridwar district of Uttarakhand, the focus is on what has been happening in the district in regard to SSA and what the teachers and parents think about the SSA. It is an assessment of the programmes of the Government, the State as well as the Centre, and the successes and failures as seen through the teachers and parents of the students of the elementary education. The finding shows that about 90 percent of primary schools are managed by both Government and local bodies. The Private participation in primary school management has been small though increasing over the years and was highest in the year 2004-05 (9.79%). The percentage of primary aided schools has been slowly decreasing over the years. On the other hand, the percentage of unaided schools has been increasing. The total enrolment at the primary level has increased 7 times i.e., 19.2 million in 1950-51 to 130.8 million in 2004-05. The participation of girls at Primary level has increased manifold since 1950-51 from 28.1% to 46.7% [5].

Objective of the study

1. To evaluate the role of parents towards achievement of Sarva Shiksha Mission (Y) towards Universalisation of Elementary Education (USE);
2. To study consciousness of parents about national educational schemes;
3. To observe the socio-economic status and educational background of the parents that affecting the education of

1. ssashagun.nic.in/docs/Manual_Planning_and_Apprisal.pdf
2. Impact of Globalization on Elementary Education in India
3. Level of Perception on Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan among Guardians of Uttar Dinajpur District of West Bengal.
4. Paternal Migration, Child Labour and Education: A Study in Brickfield Areas of West Bengal.
5. shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/17895/3/05_chapter%201.pdf

their children;

4. To assess the nature of parental involvement in schools;

5. To recognize perceptional level of parents about their cooperation towards successful implementation of SSM;

6. To evaluate the socio-personal and attitudinal casual variables viz Age of Father (X_1), Age of Mother (X_2), Father's Occupation (X_3), Mothers' Occupation (X_4), Family size (X_5), Home facility (X_6), Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7), Reason behind dropout (X_8), Financial condition (X_9), Interest towards society (X_{10}), Use of mass media (X_{11}), Government support towards Children (X_{12}), Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13}), Necessity private tuition (X_{14}), Protection from various diseases (X_{15}), Health conciseness (X_{16}), Monthly family income (X_{17}) and Social interaction (X_{18}); and

7. To estimation the nature of interdependency between and among the causal and consequent variable as postulated the above segment.

Hypotheses

The present study is guided by the following research question and hypothesis:-

1) What is the extent of parental involvement in curriculum implementation in schools?

2) Were Guardians of elementary students of Hooghly district careful about Sarva Shiksha Mission?

3) Whether Guardians of elementary students of Hooghly district were conscious about the congenial home environment for their children?

4) Are Guardians of elementary students of Hooghly district alert regarding the different national educational schemes?

Population and Sample

In the study, Chanditala-I and Mogra-Chinsurah blocks were taken as reference blocks from eastern part of Hooghly district. The total no of upper primary schools in the district is 1038. In Chanditala-I block, there are 25 upper primary schools where as the numbers of upper primary schools in Mogra-Chinsurah block are 23. From 48 upper primary schools of the two reference blocks, 20 schools have been chosen through random sampling method. From each school, 10 elementary students were selected randomly having a total of 200 students whose parents were taken as respondents for the study.

Methodology and Area of Study

District of Hooghly is one of the under developed district and the rate of literate was 81.80 per cent as per census 2011. The literacy rate of Chanditala-I was 83.76 per cent whereas the same for Mogra-Chinsurah was 83.01 per cent. Although, it is a predominantly non-agricultural district and rapidly population growing district total area of this district is 3,149 sq. km, total population of this district is 5,520,389, density per square kilometer is 1,800/sq. km, contain with 1038 elementary schools at the time of survey. The present study is based on intensive individual survey conducted during January to April, 2016. Ten (10) different upper primary schools from each of two blocks were selected on random basis out of 48 upper primary schools. The sample size of this study is 200 among parents of elementary students of the two blocks of the district. Tool used to collect data structured schedule questionnaires with 57 different open questions/ opinion/ option/ views/ comment/ answers were placed before the respondents.

Statistical analysis

To assess the nature and extend of causal factors viz. Age of Father (X_1), Age of Mother (X_2), Father's Occupation (X_3), Mothers' Occupation (X_4), Family size (X_5), Home facility (X_6), Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7), Reason behind dropout (X_8), Financial condition (X_9), Interest towards society (X_{10}), Use of mass media (X_{11}), Government support towards Children (X_{12}), Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13}), Necessity private tuition (X_{14}), Protection from various diseases (X_{15}), Health conciseness (X_{16}), Monthly family income (X_{17}) and Social interaction (X_{18}) collectively has shown their correlation effect on the role of parents towards achievement of Sarva Shiksha Mission (Y), the data as collected through structured schedules were quantified and subsequently statistically analyzed by adopting Correlation, Multiple Regression, Step-down Regression analysis, and Discriminatory analysis method.

Findings and Discussion

Table - I: Correlation Analysis between dependent variable Y and 18 casual variables

Variables	'r' Value
Age of Father (X_1)	-0.0683
Age of Mother (X_2)	-0.0471
Father's Occupation (X_3)	-0.0165
Mothers' Occupation (X_4)	0.0726
Family size (X_5)	0.0609
Home facility (X_6)	**0.2144***
Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7)	**-0.3051****
Reason behind dropout (X_8)	**-0.3537****
Financial condition (X_9)	-0.0738
Interest towards society (X_{10})	-0.1306
Use of Mass Media (X_{11})	0.1908
Government Support towards Children (X_{12})	**-0.2990****
Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13})	**0.3110****
Necessity private tuition (X_{14})	0.1257
Protection from various diseases (X_{15})	-0.1659
Health conciseness (X_{16})	0.0293
Monthly family income (X_{17})	-0.0304
Social interaction (X_{18})	0.1328

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.05) =

+or- 0.198   *Significant at 5% level

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.01) =

+or- 0.259   ** Significant at 1% level

It is shown that the variable viz. Age of Father (X_1), Age of Mother (X_2), Father's Occupation (X_3), Mothers' Occupation (X_4), Family size (X_5), Home facility (X_6), Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7), Reason behind dropout (X_8), Financial condition (X_9), Interest towards society (X_{10}), Use of mass media (X_{11}), Government support towards Children (X_{12}), Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13}), Necessity private tuition (X_{14}), Protection from various diseases (X_{15}), Health conciseness (X_{16}), Monthly family income (X_{17}) and Social interaction (X_{18}) had contributed their correlational effect on the role of parents towards achievement of Sarva Shiksha Mission (Y).

Home Facility (X_6) showed the desirable effect on role of parents towards achievement of Sarva Shiksha Mission (Y). Here home facility indicates the adequate facility of drinking water, electricity, type of house that is, kancha, semi pucca or pucca and other

amenities. So the positive correlation value indicates that higher the facility available at home ultimately decides the role of parents towards achievement of SSM.

Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7) exhibited their negative effect on the predictor variable (Y). Lower the monthly expenditure means the money that is incurred for the purpose of education of the children would be lower hence; the educational achievement of the children would be hampered.

Reason behind dropout (X_8) has strong positive significance on the role of parents towards achievement of SSM. Since Hooghly district has the drop-out rate to the tune of 3.15 per cent hence drop-out is not the major issue for this district. Still in reducing the rate of drop-out, the role of parents a crucial.

Government support towards Children (X_{12}) has shown its negative bearing on the dependent variable that is, role of parents towards achievement of Sarva Shiksha Mission. At the elementary level, government provides the necessary support through SSM in the form of supply mid day meal, text books, and school dress for girls' children, but still these facilities would not suffice the needs of the children.

It is the mutual cooperation between all the stake holders of the institution. Greater Satisfaction of parents towards the institution would give the better result in performing the parents towards the achievement of SSM. Thus the factor like Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13}) has showed is positive consequence on the dependent variable Y.

Table II: Multiple Regression Analysis

Variables	'B' Value	'r' value
Age of Father (X_1)	0.095608	0.924
Age of Mother (X_2)	-0.178249	-1.690
Father's occupation (X_3)	-0.054587	-0.821
Mothers' occupation (X_4)	0.043472	0.686
Family size (X_5)	-0.001878	-0.030
Home facility (X_6)	0.066065	0.948
Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7)	**-0.277415**	**-4.038****
Reason behind dropout (X_8)	**-0.172337**	**-2.282***
Financial condition (X_9)	0.010442	0.140
Interest towards society (X_{10})	-0.047014	-0.664
Use of mass media (X_{11})	0.127280	1.599
Government Support towards children (X_{12})	-0.150511	-1.913
Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13})	**0.157459**	**2.324***
Necessity private tuition (X_{14})	0.104851	1.665
Protection from various diseases (X_{15})	-0.089523	-1.290
Health conciseness (X_{16})	0.109817	1.545
Monthly family income (X_{17})	0.027063	0.371
Social Interaction (X_{18})	0.106455	1.532

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.05) =
 +or- 1.979   *Significant at 5% level
Critical value (2-Tail, 0.01)
= +or- 2.621   ** Significant at 1% level

Multiple R	= 0.58615
R Square	= 0.34357
Adjusted R^2	= 0.27756
Standard Error	= 2.46840

Analysis of Variance

	DF	Sum of Squares	Mean Square
Regression	18	570.83002	31.71278
Residual	179	1090.64978	6.09302

F =   5.20478   Signif F = 0.0000

Table II shows that the variables like Age of Father (X_1), Age of Mother (X_2), Father's Occupation (X_3), Mothers' Occupation (X_4), Family size (X_5), Home facility (X_6), Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7), Reason behind dropout (X_8), Financial condition (X_9), Interest towards society (X_{10}), Use of mass media (X_{11}), Government support towards Children (X_{12}), Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13}), Necessity private tuition (X_{14}), Protection from various diseases (X_{15}), Health conciseness (X_{16}), Monthly family income (X_{17}) and Social interaction (X_{18}) together show their regressional effect on the role of parents towards achievement of Sarva Shiksha Mission (Y). The variables like Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7), Reason behind dropout (X_8) and Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13}) are identified as the important factors in describing the predictor variable Y. The R square value is 0.3435 which indicates that all the eighteen variables put together and they described the 34.35 per cent of the total effect.

Table III: Step-down Regression Analysis

Step I: X_8

Multiple R	= 0.36714
R Square	= 0.13479
Adjusted R^2	= 0.13038
Standard Error	= 2.70820

Step II: X_7

Multiple R	= 0.43167
R Square	= 0.18634
Adjusted R^2	= 0.17800
Standard Error	= 2.63300

Step III: X_{11}

Multiple R	= 0.48953
R Square	= 0.23964
Adjusted R^2	= 0.22788
Standard Error	= 2.55186

Step IV: X_{13}

Multiple R	= 0.52112
R Square	= 0.27156
Adjusted R^2	= 0.25646
Standard Error	= 2.50418

Step V: X_{12}

Multiple R	= 0.53911
R Square	= 0.29064
Adjusted R^2	= 0.27216
Standard Error	= 2.47760

Analysis of Variance

	DF	Sum of Squares	Mean Square
Regression	5	482.88719	96.57744
Residual	192	1178.59261	6.13850
F =	15.73306	Signif F = 0.0000	

Variables	'B' Value	'r' value
Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7)	-0.269125	-4.250
Reason behind dropout (X_8)	-0.207842	-3.142
Use of mass media (X_{11})	0.161310	2.388
Government support towards children (X_{12})	-0.153023	-2.272
Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13})	0.173280	2.659

Table III shows the step-down regression analysis and after step 5, it has been found that the five factors like Monthly expenditure towards student (X_7), Reason behind dropout (X_8), Use of mass media (X_{11}), Government support towards children (X_{12}), and Satisfaction towards the institution (X_{13}) can explain 84.60 per cent of the acquired result.

Conclusion

The present study is able to explain 34.35 per cent of the total effect. It indicates that the more factors to be included as well as some factors to be excluded why preparing the future schedule for such study. There is an every possibility that the homogeneity may come while collecting the data from the respondent. However the research findings indicate that the factors such as Monthly expenditure towards student, Reason behind dropout and Satisfaction towards the institution would be given more importance. The facilities provided by the government through SSM should be reached to the children in proper time.

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