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Chaya Moni Dutta

Dated………………
PREFACE

It is well said that as are the teachers so is the standard of education. Hence preparation of teacher at various levels is an utmost important mission for nation dwelling. In fact all teachers are not born teachers. All the persons entering the teaching profession requires training. Hence Teacher Education (TE) has become an essential part of the entire education system. In India after independence Teacher Education has expanded massively and become a potential instrument to make our educational system modern, scientific and effective. The Education Commissions and National Policies on education recommended taking up appropriate teacher education programmes to come across the national needs and meet the challenges of the world in the 21st century. The creation of statutory body like National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE) for achieving planned and co-ordinated development of Teacher Education for regulation and maintenance of norms and standard signifies Government’s commitment towards enhancement of education. The various provisions as are prevailing in different states, universities in India for professional training of teacher at different levels are not found uniform and adequate. In the state of Assam a good number of teacher training colleges at secondary level have been functioning. But the state is yet to occupy a good position among the states of India as such institutions are having some sort of problems. The problems are pursued with non-availability of intake capacity, traditional course content, poor condition of physical facilities, poor management, shortage of teaching staff and so on. Being realized the drawbacks of conventional secondary teacher
training colleges, the investigator has intended to make the present study to know about the prevailing alternative arrangement of professional training of secondary level teachers. There is a need to shift the focus from traditional education system to distance education system to reap the benefit of new knowledge and technology and most importantly clear the backlog of untrained teachers. As a distance education institution IGNOU has been playing a significant role in the state of Assam too. Keeping this in mind the investigator has planned to conduct a study on the alternative mode of professional training programme under distance education offered by IGNOU, its accessibility and effectiveness for the large number of aspirants for undertaking B.Ed.

The investigator covered two study centres of IGNOU located in Guwahati and Jorhat, Assam which have been offering secondary level professional training to teachers (B.Ed). The two study centres grasp a sizable sample required for data collection. In order to achieve the objectives set for the study, several tools and techniques were used in connection with research design and methodology. The study was done under normative survey research method.

The thesis begins with a brief sketch of the concept of professional education, relationship between teacher and teaching profession, historical background of Teacher Education in India. The first chapter of the study also deals with historical background of Teacher Education in Assam with special reference to secondary level, role of alternative programme for B.Ed, operational definitions, significance of the study, objectives of the study, limitations. In the
second chapter, review of related literature with justification of the study has been bestowed. The third chapter gives a detailed account of the method used, sampling technique, tools used, process of data collection and about how the data were treated statistically. Chapter four attends to analysis and interpretation of the collected data which have been done statistically and presented in tables and graphs. In the fifth chapter objective wise major findings and implication of the study has been presented. Suggestions for strengthening the programme and scope for further research study have also been included in this chapter. Finally in sixth chapter the summary of the entire study has been presented systematically with conclusion.

Chaya Moni Dutta

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