CHAPTER–VI

Implications and Suggestions
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IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

6.0 Introduction

Based on the present findings, the following implications of the study will be useful for the policy makers, curriculum framers, Human Resource Development Department, parents, civil societies and teachers of government schools at elementary level in the State of Sikkim. The present chapter is divided into the following headings as mention below:

(i) Implications of the study
(ii) suggestions of the study
(iii) Suggestions for further research

6.1 Implications of the study

1. Findings of the present study will be helpful for the educational policy makers in the State of Sikkim. It has been noticed that the number of government schools in elementary level has been decreased since 2005-2006. From the year 2000-2001 to 2004, students’ enrolment has been decreased by 1.20 times at the elementary level in the State. Proper implementation of the policy in the state to establish elementary school within one kilometre in a habitat as per Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) guidelines so that every child can get opportunity to be enrolled in government school. Proper strategies and adequate supply of facilities are needed to increase the enrolment of children at the elementary level. The study indicates that the policy should detail the academic facilities like supply of books on time, adequate teachers, support for development of teaching learning materials, proper training of teachers on continuous and comprehensive evaluation. There is a need of proper policy for recruitment, promotion, deputation and transfer of teachers so that personnel involved in bringing quality elementary education are selected and promoted properly. The present study also observed that there are no adequate funds and grants in government schools at the elementary level. This finding will also enable the policy makers to make a plan with regards to school funds and grants at the beginning of the sessions so it may help to improve the status of elementary education. It is essential that education policy makers need to pay greater attention to
provide scholarships which caters to the financial, social and educational need of all students at the elementary level of schools.

2. The present study has an implication for curriculum framers as curriculum is a complete course of study offered by a school. In order to bring quality education among the children at the elementary level curriculum should be revised every three year and it should be practical in nature so that children learn using head, heart and hand. Since elementary education is the foundation of education, curriculum should be include various aspects like activities based, child centred teaching and joyful learning by which strong base of learning and development is set. All subjects should be inter-related and should include relevant and significant content so that it could bring all round development of child.

3. The study will be useful to the Human Resource Development Department, which is the parent department in the state to look after the education. It will provide them detail information on the elementary education; its administration, academic, infrastructures and finance. It provides extensive information on problems which are prevalent in elementary education. This information will help them to picturize the elementary education in the State of Sikkim and develop strategy specific to the problems and thereby solve the problems.

4. Findings of the present study showed that there is a need of parent’s participation in the students’ performance, school activities in order to bring quality education. Parents should be involved in school activities so that they encourage their children in their studies and help them to become good citizens of the society.

5. Findings of the study provided information on status of elementary education to the civil societies, since many of them are the members of the school management committees. It is revealed from the present study that the enrolment of students has decreased and students become careless towards their studies in government schools at the elementary level. Civil societies may help to trace out the problems of less enrolment of students in government schools, and low level of achievement among students. They may be involved in SMC to counsel the students and motivate them to be better students. To provide the quality education among the children and to
achieve the goal of education, it is difficult for only the government to undertake this task without the involvement of civil societies.

6. Findings of the study will be helpful for the head teachers and teachers. Teachers play a key role in the education of student. Teachers should be encouraged to use teaching learning material and use Information and Communication Technology instruments such as computers and projectors. Thus it is necessary for every teacher to be trained in handling ICT in the classroom teaching. The study found out that students have become careless in their studies and there are problems regarding irregular attendance of students and lack of interest among the students. Teachers should be trained to adopt different teaching strategies to motivate the children in the classroom. Each student has a different learning style and traditional instruction might not engage every student or it may not be suitable for all students. The government schools should create congenial environment in the school to make learning a fun for elementary students thereby helping the students to learn.

6.2 Suggestions of the study for improving the elementary education in the State

The suggestions are provided based on objectives of the present study, which are given below:

I. Suggestions for improving administration for the functioning of elementary education in the State of Sikkim

1. State should have separate Directorate for Elementary Education to look after the management and development of the elementary education in the State.
2. The State should have its own Sikkim Board of School Education for curriculum constructions, textbook writings and conducting examinations in the State.
3. State should have computerized data of each school. It may be helpful for establishing data base in elementary education in the State.
4. Admission should be done as per RTE guidelines as well as in certain time period in order to bring certain regularity in admission in schools.
5. Appointment of teachers as per subject rather than general subject teacher in upper level is necessary since all the teachers are not comfortable and efficient in teaching subjects like mathematics.

6. Abolish Adhoc system of teachers’ appointment State government should recruit regular teachers. Since Adhoc teachers’ appointment are done only for short duration, hence they may not be dedicated and motivated towards teaching. Teaching is a profession which requires devoted and value oriented individual to reach its goal. With appointment of Adhoc teachers, the whole objective of quality education is diluted.

7. The study suggests that promotion of teachers should be done based on merit i.e., scores obtained in written and interview. There should be policy on promotion of teachers to higher post or to post them as officials in Human Resource Development Department itself.

8. Government of Sikkim should frame a proper norm for transfer. It may be better if the transfer is in the view of excess number of teachers in school rather than on political ground. It is observed that in urban areas, schools have excess teachers while in rural areas school have less number of teachers. Mid-session transfer of the teachers should be avoided. It is suggested that mass transfer should be avoided because it has negative effects in morale of teachers thereby affecting the quality of education. Government may transfer teachers every five years and rotate between schools located in urban and rural areas.

9. Deputation of teachers to another department should not be done because it devalues the teaching profession as most of teachers would look forward to leave the teaching job and enter into other administrative job easily.

10. Training of elementary level teachers in new methods of teaching and learning equipments is necessary. District Institute of Education and Training should regularly update their syllabus in order to provide proper training to elementary level teachers.

11. Trained teachers for sports, music, and arts should be appointed for genuine assessment of co-scholastic area in relation to continuous and comprehensive evaluation.
12. State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), District Institute of Educational Training (DIETs), should organise refresher course for head teachers and teachers in collaboration with department of education in university on new pedagogical innovations and other teaching related issues.

13. There should be timely provision of incentives for children like free uniforms, exercise copies, school bags, free shoes and socks, free textbooks. The suppliers, who do not deliver the children materials in time, should be blacklisted.

15. The Human Resource Development Department should inspect schools regularly and should make inspection format so that may help the officials to follow up and to give feedback after the inspection. Inspection officials should support the teachers and the schools to bring the improvement in school.

16. Human Resource Development Department should conduct awareness programme for school management committees and parents on any new schemes as well in education policy.

17. Human Resource Development Department should encourage and provide library and laboratory in each school so that children develop reading habit as well as learning by doing, it can be improve the quality of education in the State.

18. State government should take initiative to construct new elementary schools in each habitation in rural areas so that each child gets access to school.

19. The study suggests that the enrolment of students may increase in future with new schemes which caters to the financial, social and educational need of all students at the elementary level of schools.

II. Suggestions for improving infrastructural facilities in elementary schools

1. The Engineering section of Human Resource Development Department should timely repair of all school buildings and should make regular inspection of the status of school buildings.

2. Elementary Schools should have proper fencing to control trespasses as well as protect the school property.
3. Playground within the school premises is necessary for wholesome development of children.

4. Resource room for Children with Special Needs in government school at the elementary level is essential. It may help CWSN to learn with the normal children, thereby achieving inclusive education.

5. Human Resource Development Department should ensure that all the government schools at the elementary level should have functional kitchen shed for mid-day meals.

6. Human Resource Development Department should make sure to provide safe drinking water facilities and it should be provided within the school compound.

7. All the schools should have separate toilets for boys and girls.

8. It is important to have electricity connection in schools so that it may help teachers to use ICT in the classrooms.

9. Games and sports facilities should be provided in each school for overall development of the children personality and physical health.

### III. Suggestions for improving academic aspect of elementary education

1. Syllabus should relate to local culture and place as well as it should be global in nature. It should be practical and it should be updated from time to time preferably every three years.

2. English as a medium of instruction should be followed by each teachers, this is one language which brings all students together students from different mother tongue.

3. Human Resource Development Department, should appoint subject language teachers in schools even if there is only one of student from any one of these mother tongue i.e., Lepcha, Bhutia, Limboo, Rai, Newar, Gurung, Tamang, Sherpa and Mangar background. The Language helps the children to value his or her culture and heritage which will help in contributing the child to develop positive self-concept.
4. Teaching Learning Materials should be provided in schools to improve the quality of teaching in schools. Teacher should be trained to make teaching learning materials from indigenous materials.

5. It is revealed that majority of the government schools at the elementary level lack Information and Communication Technology (ICT) facilities for teaching in the classrooms. It is an important component of education, so the study suggests that HRDD should provide adequate facilities of ICT to fulfil the SSA guidelines.

6. Teachers should be sufficiently trained according to the norms of Right to Education Act (RTE) and Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE), so that they can be properly understand the positive aspects of RTE Act and CCE and do not take it as a burden.

7. 5-10% students are achieving Grade E in all subjects in order to achieve quality in elementary level remedial teaching is necessary in all subjects to those students with Grade E. The achievement will be better at the elementary level.

8. Awareness programme on grading system which is used in Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation is required for parents and students.

IV. Suggestions for improving financial management for development of elementary education.

1. Human Resource Development Department should provide sufficient funds like school grants, ancillary and stationary grants to schools in time.

2. State government should increase budget for school education.

3. Scholarship should be provided to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and girl child as per SSA guidelines.

6.3 Suggestions for further research

Based on the findings, this section presents the suggestions for further research. The following are the suggestions:

1. The present study is conducted only in government schools at elementary level in the State of Sikkim. A similar study can be done at senior secondary level.

2. A comparative study can also be conducted on status of continuous and comprehensive evaluation in Sikkim and other States.

3. Minimum level of learning of children has decreased at present. Therefore a study can be conducted to trace out the problems.

4. Study can be conducted on impact of schemes at the elementary level in the State.

5. Comparative study on elementary education of the different States of North East can be conducted.