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Chandraprobha Bhuyan.
(MISS CHANDRA PROBHA BHUYAN)
PREFACE

The State of Assam lies in the North Eastern part of India. The State has 131 Community Development Blocks of which Sipajhar Development Block is one. The Block is situated in the Mangaldai Sub-Division of the District of Darrang.

Like any other parts of the country Sipajhar Development Block suffers from the problem of dropout. In the Block the problem was found in all stages of education. Large number of dropouts and repeated failure affects not only the social, economic, educational and miscellaneous progress but it also affects the national economy. The problem stands as a great obstacle to the growth and development of a nation.

The objectives of the present study are: i) to ascertain accurately the extent and nature of dropout in the primary, middle, secondary, higher secondary and college stages, (ii) to ascertain accurately the incidence of dropout at all stages of education in the Block area as well as in Assam, (iii) to study various magnitude of the problem under various situation, (iv) to identify the causes and its relative importance of the problem and (v) to suggest remedial measures in the light of the findings.
The study analyses the problem of dropout in the primary, middle, secondary, higher secondary and college education for a period from 1968 to 1984. The approach of the study is experimental, analytical, and statistical. Photographs and figures are included for illustration only.

The area of study is at Sipajhar Development Block as:

i) no study has so far been made on the problem in the area - its backwardness in education, (ii) thick population consisting of Hindus, Muslims and Christians, (iii) deteriorating condition of the schools, (iv) negligence of the problem of dropout crept in stealthily and silently, and v) high rate of dropout occurred in the area.

The period from 1968 to 1984 is taken in order to enable to follow the career of 6824 students of Class A in 1968 upto second year B.A. in 1983. The year 1984 is taken as course completion year for a thorough study of the problem. Moreover, the year 1983 is the year when the first batch of the college had appeared B.A. Examination for the first time in the history of Sipajhar.
The study consists of eight chapters. The first chapter gives a demographic structure: its population, area and educational background. The second chapter deals with the real problem of dropout consisting of enrolment, expenditure, wasted amount and per pupil cost etcetera. The third chapter reviewed the related literature on the problem. The design to be adopted and procedure to be followed are all given in the fourth chapter. The incidence of dropout following the Cohort of the area as well as of the State are found out in Chapter five. The causes of dropout given by the dropout themselves, parents and guardians of dropouts, stayins, parents and guardians of the stayins and teachers are given in Chapter six. Relative importance of the causes of dropouts given by the Head Teachers, Inspecting Officers and Local Educationists on primary, middle, secondary, higher secondary and college students are given in seventh chapter. Eighth Chapter concludes the study along with suggested and remedial measures.

The remedial measures suggested here on the basis of the findings will help the future Researchers in taking up further research works.