



INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH JOURNAL OF HUMANITIES AND INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

(Peer-reviewed, Refereed, Indexed & Open Access Journal)

DOI : 03.2021-11278686

ISSN : 2582-8568

IMPACT FACTOR : 6.865 (SJIF 2023)

Development of Adult Education through Five Year Plan

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DOI No. [03.2021-11278686](https://doi.org/10.2024-99816774/October%202023/IRJHIS2310013) DOI Link :: [https://doi-ds.org/doilink/11.2024-99816774/October 2023/IRJHIS2310013](https://doi-ds.org/doilink/11.2024-99816774/October%202023/IRJHIS2310013)

Introduction:

Adult education is the important aspect of the education. If we want to achieve the aim of national development, we can't ignore the importance of Adult education. Adult education is the base of each and every country. It reflects social and national values. It cultivates the human mind. The solution of each and every problem is the education. Social education is an integral part of our day to day life. There is a history to the social education. Social education was related to religious stories and activities. British people started the social education through formal education system. Establishment of night schools and universities is the best example of formal education. Indian education commission was established in 1882-83. 136 Night schools were started in Mumbai area. Subsequent to this the night schools were started in Bengal, Punjab and Madras region. Karnataka state also developed the libraries for the Adult learners; special efforts were made by interim government in so many states in 1937. Bihar government took the special efforts for increasing the literacy. Shri C. Rajagopalachari also worked for literacy in Madras. In Delhi, Jamia Milia also done the appreciable work in the literacy. The literacy moment in British period was not successful because of absence of proper trainings of functionaries of various levels was not organized properly.

After 1947, the literary movement was started by our new independent government. The stress was mainly given on literacy. The priority was given to the community development. The Public Co-operation was the central point of success. The stress was given on the spread of literacy. Adult education was incorporated in Five Year Plan which was started from 1951 to 1956. In this period the literacy rate improved at some extent. But on another side the population of illiterate people have increased during the period (1951-81) from 300 million to 437 million. Women literacy was very poor at the time. The special attention was provided towards the Adult education in First Five Year plan.

The literacy programme was organized mainly for the Adults, youths, workers and down trodden people. The aim of this planning was to fill the economic, social and gender gap in the

society. The Adult education was given to the 15-35 age group population prominently. The education was related to the practical information and skills relevant to day today needs to Adults. The central government availabled Rs. 153 crores for the education in First Five Year plan which 5 crore amount was provided for the Adult education which was about 3.27 percent of total the budget of education. The responsibility of implementation of Adult education was handed over to the state and central government. The education department of state and centre was active for this work. The amount was provided for establishing the community centres, libraries and Janata colleges. In the period of First Five Year plan 55,000,000/- Adults were admitted in 12,00,000 literacy classes. In each and every group one woman was included deliberately.

After admitting in the literacy classes, majority adults were able to read and write. In the First Five Year plan the stress was mainly given on literacy classes. Libraries were created for the neo-literates to remain their literacy. The people were guided through lectures, discussions and films. Adult learners have to study the syllabus, including alphabets, maths and knowledge of environment for the period of five months. In the end the learners have to face the examination. The training programme also organized for the trainers. Because the success was depending upon the trainers. The training was given to the trainers through the five national training centres. The district level education officers were trained through national training centres. Rural economy, History, Geography, Co-operation and the education of the culture was included in training for five months. Orientation programmes were also organized for the women. The social education was launched through the Janata colleges. Janata colleges were established for trainers. The four months' syllabus was prepared for the trainers. Modern farming, crafting, animal husbandry, public cleanliness, cooperative societies all these subjects were included in the syllabus. Janata colleges were established at Hyderabad, Bhopal, Maisur and Delhi. These colleges were implementing the courses of two to three months. The priority was given to the teachers for these courses. Adult psychology, creation of audio-visual aids in science, and various teaching methods for Adults were taught to the teachers through Janata colleges.

In the First Five Year plan social centres were created for the illiterates and neo-literates. It was the get together for enjoyment as well as discussion on various issues. The lectures were organized for the learners through the centres. 800 social centres were established in First Five Year plan. Two lakh programmes were organized through these centres for adult learners. Youth clubs were also established in First Five Year plan increasing the rural youths in literacy movement. Youths use to gather for playing the various types of games on the open ground. Youths were always pioneered for the eradication of social problems. Youth clubs created the Gram Rakshak Dal. Gram Rakshak Dal was formed for protecting the village and farm. So many youth clubs have created the ideal villages through their work.

Second Five Year plan started from 1956-61. Government allocated 4 crores for Adult education programmes. Ten crores were also allocated for the development of the social education. In 1956, National Basic Education centre established by the government. The centre use to work for the research, evaluation, training programme for trainers, creation of excellent literature for adults. Centre also declared the award for the Neo-literate writers and also organized the workshops for the writers and made the provision of grants for the self-help groups. Library science department established in Delhi University and worker institute established at Indore. State government separated the social education, production of literature and development of audio-visual aids. Majority states have not spent the half amount which was given by the centre, so the literacy rate was not satisfactory. In the Second Five Year plan 16200 literacy centres were established but only 40 lakh adults literated. In 1960-61, the strength of Adult literacy centre was 43294.

In general, the government achieved the best target in Second Fiver Year plan. In this period many organisations and eminent personalities participated in the literacy movement. Workers department, Defence department and Social Welfare Board also actively participated in literacy programme. In the Second Five Year plan, Workers Education Centre established and Central Workers Education Board formed from the centre and workers were trained through the board. Rural education movement started in this period. Efforts were made for the participation of common people. This movement was basically started in Maharashtra and particularly in Satara district. Primary teachers were participated in this movement got the full success. UNESCO awarded prize for this work in 1972. Then this movement was initiated in all district of the Maharashtra from 1961. This movement was called as 'Rural Education Movement.' Therefore, majority of rural people were literated. Maharashtra State Social Education committee prepared the literacy literature. In each and every village literacy committee was formed. Sarpanch was the president of that committee. Headmaster of primary school was also included in this committee. The committee registered the names of illiterates in the village and made them literate. The literacy classes were monitored by this committee. Those classes were started for five years and in the end all the neo literates were examined. In 1959, first time Delhi Television also broad casted the Adult Education Programmes.

Third Five Year plan implemented from 1961 to 66. Government made the provision of Rs. 589 crores for the budget of education. Especially 3 crores and fifty lakhs availabled for the Adult Education which remained only 0.59% of the total provision for education. In this period, the main focus was on the literacy, therefore the literacy rate increased from 17% to 24%. This plan had given the importance to the library development and production of literacy literature. Various states have made an expenditure on various issues through the corpus of central government. But unfortunately China attacked on India in 1962 and war started. We spend too much amount on war unwillingly. In this way war disturbed our literacy movement. Universities also participated in Adult Education

movement. Maisoor University made an excellent work in Adult Education. In this period, Kothari Education Commission put the target of 80% literacy achievement. For this achievement, the special Nation Training Board was established. Commission also suggested so many facilities to be provided for the learners. Government ordered to company owners to literate their workers. Adult Education Programme was included in National Development programme. Schools also adopted the responsibility of literacy work.

In this plan, the government organised the conference of all the vice-chancellors at Bhopal in 1966. In this conference focus was given on the spread of literacy and all the vice-chancellors were advised to start the Adult Education Department in their universities and participate to the university and college teachers and students in literacy movement. Subsequent to this Fourth Five Year plan (1969-1974) started. In this period the illiteracy eradication programme launched the help of people. The government made the provision of R. 786 crores for the education from this budget 4 crore and 50 lakhs for Adult Education. It was only around 0.57% of the total budget. The stress was given on the improvement of common people through functional literacy. Former literacy was the main target of this plan to achieve the target of National development. Agriculture is a main component of human life. Human development is depending upon the agricultural development. Therefore, the literacy was important for the farmers. In another words it is a key of success. Government started the training programmes for the farmers from 1967-68. Then the functional literacy programme increased in 35 districts. Agriculture oriented training was organised for the farmers. The stress was given on the modernisation of agriculture. Functional literacy was useful for the farmers to increase their agricultural production. In this period, the literacy literature was created by the Delhi, Adult Education Office. 'Kisan Literacy book' was prepared in Hindi language. This book included the syllabus of six months. After the success of this book, the information had collected from the Lucknow and prepared another book.

The Fifth Five Year plan started from 1974-79. Rs. 912 crores were allocated for education and Rs. 18 crores available for Adult Education. It was only two percent of total expenditure. In this Five Year plan Adult Education was equally treated with primary education. Farmers were trained and stress was given on literacy. In the rural area, the libraries were started for the neo-literates. In this plan universities started National Service Scheme and Nehru centres started informal education. Special syllabus was prepared for the women. In 1972 planning commission established a committee for the study of school dropout children. Committee advised to spend at least 2% amount for such types of children and I. T. I. institute should have initiated for non-formal education. Postal education system started for increasing the percentage of education and Adult education. Syllabus was connected to the development. Part time classes were started for the adolescents. Functional literacy was fixed for the farmers. Women were also incorporated in Non-formal education system.

Various industrial plans were prepared for the rural and urban women. The women were guided about family planning, cleanliness, income generation, health, etc.

Krishi Vidnyan Kendra was created for increasing the farming production. So many illiterate farmers were included in various farming plans without any condition. Urban illiterate workers were also literated. They taught about the education of industrial relations, social security and workers law. Under this scheme 83 lakh industrial workers were trained and literated till 1983. Shramik Universities were established for the well-being of the wellbeing of the industrial workers in this plan. 2500 industrial workers were trained through 40 Shramik universities till 1984. Workers education mandal organised the literacy classes. Sixth Five Year plan started from 1980-85. The total budget for education was Rs. 2530 crore allocated. Out of Rs. 2530 crore, there was a provision of Rs. 224 crore for Adult education which was 8.85% of the total budget. Actually Rs.153 crores were spent for the Adult education. In this plan, Adult education was implemented to the adults through games, arts and environment. Non-formal education system was adopted for the age group of 15 to 35. Use of audio-visual aids started for the Adult learners. Economic development was expected through Adult education. Reading material was also prepared at large extent for the neo-literates.

Adult education programme was included in 20 articles programme of Prime Minister. This programme concentrated on weaker people in society, women, tribals, Dalit, downtrodden people and farming workers. Through these programmes, people got the knowledge of family welfare, health, science, political events and current events. Government organised various types of programmes for the people to create ideal citizens therefore, they were awaked about natural climate and social atmosphere. In this programme, 1500 colleges played a vital role, they started 200 centres. All these colleges worked for the school dropout children. They searched such types of children and literated them through non-formal education. Extension education departments of the colleges also played an important role in this matter. Adult learners taught through entertainment method. Special syllabus was prepared for the adults. Basic needs were included in the syllabus. Monitoring and evaluation was made for the self-help group while distributing the grants. Physically challenged adults were also incorporated in the Adult education process.

The various stages were defined for literating to the adults. In the first stage the stress was given on basic literacy, general education, health, family welfare and state of law. These components were taught within 350 hours. Apart from these components, the Indian history, geography, literacy, environment and science subjects had given the 150 hours. 100 hours were spent for the economic development of the learners. But unfortunately the central government changed. In 1978, Janata Government came in to existence and in 1980 it removed from the power. The Seventh Five Year started from 1985-90. The total budget for education was Rs. 7633 crores. There was a provision of Rs. 470 crores for Adult education which was only 6.16% of total budget. In this period, the Adult

education programme was retrospectively and increasing illiteracy also studied carefully. Government decided to achieve the success of the national development through human power. For implementing the Adult Education Programme successfully, trainers were trained carefully. Financial assistance was made for this planning. The support of television, Air Radio and newspapers was taken for the growth of Adult education. Janashikshan Nilayam centres were established for the neo-literates. These centres were the special creation of this plan. These centres use to run the night classes. Reading facility was available for the neo-literates through these centres. The adults were trained through debating and traditional art. One centre use to work for four to five villages. The audio-visual aids were used for the adults at large extent.

The Eighth Five Year plan started from 1992-97. The total budget of Rs. 19600 crores for education and there was a provision of Rs. 1848 crore for Adult education which was 9.42% of the total budget of education. Total expenditure on Adult education was Rs. 1142 crore which was only 5% of the total budget. In the Ninth Five Year plan (1997-2002) government allocated Rs. 630.4 crore for Adult Education which was 2.4% of total budget. In the Tenth Five Year plan (2002-2007) Rs. 1250 crore made available for Adult Education in the central section. Apart from the Five Year Plan plans, government also made the budgetary provision through various plans for the development of Adult Education.

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