

Regional Workshop
On
Education of Marginalised Groups: Policies, Programmes and
Challenges
(25-27 March, 2015, New Delhi, INDIA)

Equity in education is one of the major concerns of policy and planning in most of the countries of the world. This concern is a result of continuing problem of educational disparities among the groups and communities despite the fact that most of the countries of the world have committed themselves to promote equality and non-discrimination in education. Equality of educational opportunity, as a consequential principle of equality, is either constitutionally guaranteed or ensured as a state principle reflected through public policy text. In majority of cases, both are twined together, for constitutional and juridical commitment does not operate in vacuum. It is necessary to have policy text for articulating the concerns. Indeed, mere constitutional commitment towards equality or equality of opportunity cannot translate equality in various operational contexts. There may be apparent gap between the idea of equality of opportunity and its operational context, especially in a situation of intergroup inequalities and disparities. Substantive conditions of realising and enjoying equality of opportunity necessitates state support and a strong component of policies and programmes directed towards promoting equal opportunity. Education is one of the key areas of concern as it is considered as one of the basic components of human development.

Unequal access to education and intergroup disparities in educational attainment are continuing reality in most of the countries of the world. There could be various factors amounting to unequal access of groups to education and intergroup disparities. Some of them may be related to specific societal context such as caste in India, others may relate to geographical context of location of groups, economic context or many other contexts. Asia- Pacific region has its own context wherein equity and equal access to education at all levels is a problem. Most of the countries are interfaced with the challenge of

intergroup disparities in education based on income, occupation, gender, social and class position of individuals and groups. There are groups and communities who lag behind the others in many countries. Similarly groups and communities located in remote areas and difficult situation, poor and many other groups are not at par with other groups. Their social, cultural and physical location impedes equal educational access and attainment. They are not able to access education at all level. Similarly language is also an issue in multilingual situation of countries. It has been seen that language of the children spoken and used at home is different from the language of educational transactions in schools. The gap between language of the school and language of home creates gap in equal access and achievement. In many cases linguistic minorities face problems in coming at par with the linguistic majority groups in schools.

The ANTRIEP Workshop

The Asian Network of Training and Research Institutions in Educational Planning (ANTRIEP) is constituted of twenty institutions from countries in South, South East and East Asia, and regularly organizes major policy seminars, regional workshops and training programmes besides conducting collaborative research and developing training modules. This year the Regional Workshop will be hosted by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) from 25-27 March, 2015. The participants include directors and senior staff from ANTRIEP member institutions, Heads of Education Division, Ministries of Education from Bhutan, Maldives and, representatives from international and national organizations, and experts in workshop theme.

Content of the Workshop

Undoubtedly the countries of the Asia- Pacific region have attempted to address the problems of educational disparities and inequality in educational attainment through variety of policies and programmes, still equal access to quality education and comparable educational attainment remain recurring concerns for many of the countries. There could be variety of marginalised groups depending upon the context of each of the countries of the region. It is also not to deny that some of the countries have done well in bridging the gap between groups through effective policy and programme

intervention. There could be a number of good practices along with robust public policies contributing to equality in educational opportunities and attainment.

Keeping in view the recurring relevance of the theme and imperatives of post 2015 Agenda of Education For All, and the goal of sustainable development, which unequivocally pleads for equity in education, National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) in collaboration with ANTRIEP is organising a *Regional Workshop on Education of Marginalised Groups: Policies, Programmes and Challenges* to be held in New Delhi, India, 25-27 March, 2015. The focus of the workshop is on policies and programmes relating to education of marginalised groups. It would be endeavour of the workshop to deliberate upon the states' response to such problems through policies and programmes. It would be equally important to reflect on outcome of the policies and programmes as to what extent the policy interventions have helped in fulfilling the objectives of providing education of equal quality to the marginalized groups. It would be also important to deliberate on the challenges which impede education of the marginalized groups. Around the main theme of the workshop, the participants are expected to bring together experiences of their respective countries with regard to education of the marginalised groups and deliberate on the following aspects.

- Policies and Programmes to address education of marginalised groups to ensure equity in education, and to deal with the issue of intergroup disparities, if there is any
- Institutional mechanism established for redressing the issues of educational deprivation of marginalized groups
- Outcomes of the policies and programmes relating to education of the marginalized groups
- Best practices which have been evolved to cater the requirement and educational needs of these groups
- Challenges and Issues in providing educational opportunities for marginalized groups

The Workshop is specially designed for participants from ANTRIEP member institutions in Australia, China, Malaysia, The Philippines, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, South Korea, Indonesia, and other invited countries i.e. Bhutan and Maldives. The nominated participants from all the countries were requested to prepare a country status paper on Education of Marginalised Groups reflecting policies, programmes and innovative field experiences of the respective country.

Working Methods

The Workshop's preparation is ensured by National University of Educational Planning (NUEPA) which is also the host and the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), Paris. The Workshop is financed by NUEPA. The workshop methodologies include presentation, discussion and exchange of experiences among the participants by way of plenary sessions, panel discussion and group work.

Date and Venue

The Workshop will be formally inaugurated on Wednesday 25th March, 2015 at 10.00am. by Professor Kavita Sharma, President, South Asian University, New Delhi will deliver the inaugural address, Dr. Muriel Poisson, IIEP, Paris will make a statement and Professor R. Govinda, Vice-Chancellor, NUEPA will chair the session.

The programme valediction will be held at 12.00 - 13.00 hrs on Friday 27th March 2015. ANTRIEP member institutions will have an exclusive meeting on 27th March at 15.30 hrs at NUEPA followed by high tea with faculty members of NUEPA.

Methodology

The methodology of workshop will include plenary sessions with keynote speeches, group work and presentations and discussion

Venue

Conference Room, Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR), Aruna Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi.

Provisional Programme

Wednesday, 25 March, 2015

0915-1000 hrs	Registration of participants	
Workshop Opening: Chair: R. Govinda		
1000-1100 hrs	Inaugural Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming & Programme Introduction : K. Sujatha • Statement by Muriel Poisson , IIEP, Paris • Inaugural Address: Kavita Sharma President South Asian University New Delhi • Chairperson Speech: R. Govinda Vice-Chancellor, NUEPA • Vote of Thanks by : Kumar Suresh 	Plenary session
1100-1130 hrs	Tea Break	
1130-1300 hrs	Equal Access to Education in Malaysia <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mazlan Samsudin, Malaysia</i></p> Education Policies for Marginalised Groups in Maldives <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mariyam Faraha Amjad, Maldives</i></p> Education of Marginalised in the Philippines <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Elaissa Marina E. Mendoza, Philippines</i></p>	Plenary session
1300-1400 hrs	Lunch Break	
1400-1530 hrs	Education of Marginalised Groups in South Korea <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Kyun Yeal Park, South Korea</i></p> Unheard voices of the Indigenous people in Bangladesh <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Tasneem Athar Al Masud Karim, Bangladesh</i></p>	

	BRAC Initiatives and their Impact in Tackling Educational Marginalization <i>Samir Ranjan Nath, Bangladesh</i>	
1530-1545 hrs	Tea Break	
1545-1645 hrs	Education of Marginalised in Nepal <i>Kabi Prasad Pokhrel, Nepal</i> Equity and Inclusion in Education in India : Policies and Programmes for Disadvantaged <i>Kumar Suresh</i> Education of the Marginalized Groups: Policies, Programme and Challenges in Sri Lanka <i>S. Dunaisingh, Sri Lanka</i>	Plenary Session
1700hrs	Departure for Cultural Programme Followed by Dinner at India Habitat Centre	

Thursday, 26 March, 2015

0930- 1015hrs	Transparency in the Targeting and Management of Pro-poor Education Incentives <i>M. Poisson, Paris</i>	Plenary session
1015-1100hrs	Inclusive Education in Myanmar <i>Cho Cho Win, Myanmar</i> The Socially and Economically Marginalized in Fiji <i>Mereoni Tabaiwalu Matanitobua, Fiji</i>	
1100-1130 hrs	Tea Break	
1130-1300 hrs	Educating Scheduled Castes in India :Innovations and Excellence <i>Praveen Kumar</i> Education of Scheduled Tribes in India: Policies , Programmes and Progress <i>K.Sujatha</i> Overcoming Marginalized Status of Girls by Addressing Inequality in Education: Policy Support and Challenges <i>Poonam Agarwal, India</i>	Plenary session
1300hrs	Lunch Break	
1400-1530 hrs	Education of Australian Aborigines <i>Sue Thomson, Australia</i> Education of Marginalized Groups in Bhutan: Policies, Programmes and Challenges <i>Tshewang Jamtsho, Bhutan</i> Education of Marginalised Groups: Policies, Programmes and Challenges in Indonesia <i>Yendri Wirda, Indonesia</i>	
1530-1700hrs	Group work	

Friday, 27 March, 2015

0900 -1000 hrs	Group work Cont.	
1000-1100 hrs	Presentation of Group-work	Group work
1100 - 1130 hrs	Tea Break	
1130-1300 hrs	Valediction	
1300-1400 hrs	Lunch Break	
1530-1630hrs	Meeting of ANTRIEP Members at NUEPA	
1630 hrs	High Tea with NUEPA Faculty	

List of Participants

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