



## **Highlighting the Nature and Role of Teacher Education in India**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Teacher education has gained prominence at all levels of educational institutions. The students get enrolled in educational institutions to learn and acquire knowledge. Teachers have an important role to play in enhancing the academic skills and knowledge among them. The teachers are vested with the job duties of guiding the students and leading them in the right direction. The main objectives of the educational institutions is to carry out the tasks and functions in a manner that would contribute in enhancing their status within the community and lead to effective growth and development of the students. Teachers have an important role to play in achieving these objectives. The teachers are responsible for the organization of class lectures, lesson plans, and the implementation of the educational programs. To enable the teachers to perform their job duties well and achieve the professional as well as personal goals, it is necessary to prepare, train and educate the teachers. It is vital for them to inculcate the essential knowledge and abilities. Teacher education is a program that primarily focuses upon the development of expertise and proficiency among them. With the development of competency and professionalism, the teachers would be able to generate the abilities that would enable them to cope up with all the problems and challenges, overcome the impediments that may arise within the course of implementation of one's job duties, incurring job satisfaction and accomplishing the goals and objectives of the organization. Teacher education is a combination of teaching skills, pedagogical theory and professional skills. The teachers are required to have efficient knowledge of the pedagogy and concepts that they are imparting to the students. In addition, they need to develop within them teaching skills and professional skills, which would render an imperative contribution in enabling them to perform their job duties in accordance to the required standards. The investigator uses the online platform for the sources of paper. During the preparation this paper we also consult the experts of the teacher education in Kashmir.

**Keywords:** *Experimentalist, Self-Realisation, Individuality, Development of Creativity, Teacher Education.*

## Introduction

The teachers are regarded as the key personnel that are vested with the responsibility of bringing about transformations, particularly within the students. They not only impart academic knowledge to the students, but also contribute in inculcation of the traits of morality and ethics among themselves. The teachers make sure that students are honest and righteous in the implementation of tasks and functions. There are number of factors that have given recognition to teacher education within the country. For the educational institutions at all levels to achieve the desired goals, they need to recruit teachers with appropriate skills and abilities. The factors that are mainly responsible for the recruitment of teachers are, their educational qualifications, experience and personality traits. In addition, one also ensures that they possess effective communication skills and an approachable attitude. The teachers need to be sociable and open-minded. The students should feel comfortable when they need to approach the teachers, particularly when they have any problems or difficulties. Teaching is defined as the way of assisting others to learn to implement particular tasks and functions. In educational institutions, the teachers make provision of knowledge and understanding to the students in terms of academic subjects. In addition, they also train them in terms of other creative and extra-curricular activities, such as, sports, physical activities, dance, music, singing, role play, artworks, handicrafts and so forth. The teachers are assigned the job duties in accordance to their skills and qualifications. For instance, if a teacher has specialized in mathematics, then she would teach mathematics, if a teacher has specialized in artworks, then she would train the students in terms of drawings, various types of paintings and so forth. Professional teaching takes place within the classroom setting. It is different from the teaching that may take place within the informal environment, or helping the teacher education is regarded as significant because it focuses upon the important areas that are necessary for bringing about progressions in the system of education. This concept is connected with the society and is conditioned by the beliefs, culture and values of the nation). The academic and the professional qualifications of the teachers constitute a vital component for the learning requirements to not only lead to progression of the individuals, but also the entire nation. The teacher education focuses upon the development of curriculum and instructional methods. With the developments taking place within the curriculum and instructional methods, the teachers would be able to enhance the academic skills and qualifications among the students in a systematic and methodical way. This area focuses upon other aspects such as, skills development, generation of awareness, academic standards, leadership, classroom management, and discipline, resolution of conflicts and disputes and level of motivation. The teachers need to ensure that they make use of teaching-learning methods and instructional strategies in an appropriate manner, so that they are able to enhance the academic learning among students. The students get enrolled into educational institutions with the main objective of creating a foundation for improving their learning, generating awareness in terms of various areas and developing into ethical and moral human beings. They need to motivate the students to pay attention towards studies, be regular in class and possess the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness. In addition, the teachers also learn how to make provision of equal opportunities among all the individuals and not discriminate among the students on the basis of class, caste, creed, race, ethnicity, gender, religion and socio-economic

background. One of the factors that is of utmost significance is development of professionalism. The teachers need to be professional in their attitude, particularly, when they are dealing with problems and challenges. The development of diligence and sincerity takes place within the individuals, when they are wholeheartedly committed towards the performance of their job duties.

### **Objectives of the Study:**

Objectives of study are as given below

1. To study the main highlights and tenets of the teacher education.
2. To highlights the main principles of teacher education.
3. To highlights the principles of teacher education.
4. To suggests the further research suggestions regarding teacher education.
5. To suggest the emerging trends in teacher education.

### **Research Methodology**

The methodology consists of a conceptual discussion on highlighting the gist of the national educational policy framework, highlighting various sections of the teacher education and comparing it with currently adopted education policy. Identifying the innovations made using the focus group discussion method. The implications of the policy are analyzed using the predictive analysis technique. Many suggestions are given based on Focus group analysis. This study typically takes the form descriptive study and secondary data available on education system. To understand and conclude the emergence of innovative tools and techniques in Indian education system so as to make it world class, we have gone through a number of reports and papers. This has the advantages of providing very rich information and avoiding the influence of others on the opinion of any one individual. This study was undertaken to determine the nature teacher education and practice and its impact on Indian education. Material for the research was collected through the various ONLINE PLATFORM. The sample was taken randomly from various educational institutions and other institutions for collecting information.

**1: Teacher Education;** is the program of education for research and training of the individuals to teach from pre-primary to higher level education. Teacher education comprises of three factors, teaching skills, pedagogical theory and professional skills (Concept of Teacher Education **Teaching Skills**, Teaching skills would include making provision of training and practice in terms of different techniques, strategies and approaches that would assist the teachers in the planning and impartment of instruction, provide appropriate reinforcement and conduct effectual assessment. The main areas that are included are classroom management skills, preparation and use of instructional materials and communication skills.

**Pedagogical Theory**, Pedagogical theory includes the philosophical, sociological and psychological considerations. These would enable the teachers to have a sound basis for practicing the teaching skills within the classroom. The theory is specific to the stage that is based upon the needs and requirements that are the features of that stage.

**Professional Skills**, Professional skills include the techniques, strategies and approaches that would assist the teachers to progress in their jobs and also work towards augmentation of that profession. The main skills that need to be developed include, soft skills, counselling skills, interpersonal skills, computer skills, conflict resolution skills, and lifelong learning skills. The combination of these skills leads to holistic development of the teachers.

## **2: Nature of Teacher Education**

The factors that put emphasis upon the nature of teacher education have been stated as follows: (Teacher Education).

1. Teacher education is a continuous process and pre-service and in-service components are complimentary to each other. It is normally considered in three phases, in-service, induction and pre-service. These are the parts of continuous process.
2. It is based upon the theory that teachers are made and not born. It is contrary to the assumption that teachers are born and not made. Teaching is considered an art and a science; hence, it is vital for them to improve upon their knowledge and skills on a continuous basis.
3. It is comprehensive. Besides pre-service and in-service program for the teachers, it is meant to be involved in various community programs and extension services. These are adult education, non-formal education programs and literacy and development activities of the society.
4. This concept is evolving and dynamic. It focuses upon the preparation of the teachers to cope up with the challenges of dynamic society and to gain awareness in terms of the developments and trends that are taking place.
5. The entire concept of teacher education is based upon the curriculum, design, structure, organization and transaction modes as well as the extent of its appropriateness.
6. The curriculum in this case has a knowledge base, which is thoughtful towards the needs of field applications and comprises of meaningful and conceptual blending of theoretical understanding available in various cognate disciplines. The knowledge base in teacher education comprises of the mixture of concepts and principles from other disciplines.
7. It has become differentiated into the stage-specific programs. This illustrates that the knowledge base is satisfactorily specified and differentiated across the phases. These need to be utilized for the formulation of effective processes for the preparation of the teachers to enable them to perform their job duties well.
8. It is the system that involves the interdependence of inputs, processes and the outputs.

## **3: Objectives of Teacher Education**

The objectives of teacher education have been stated as follows: (Concept of Teacher Education).

1. Make provision of opportunities for the teachers to get involved with the students. They need to communicate with them, acquire information regarding the problems and concerns that they are experiencing and establish a relationship with them.

2. It provides opportunities for self-learning, reflection, assimilation and articulation of new ideas, perspectives and viewpoints. The individuals are able to develop the capacities for self-directed learning, thinking abilities and group work.
3. One is able to acquire an improved understanding of oneself and others. This includes one's beliefs, assumptions and emotions. One is able to develop the abilities for self-evaluation, self-analysis, adaptability, flexibility, ingenuity, resourcefulness, and novelty.
4. It makes provision of opportunities to improve the understanding and knowledge of the individuals. One is able to examine the disciplinary knowledge and social realities, relate the subject matter with the social environment and develop logical thinking.
5. It provides opportunities to develop professional skills in pedagogy, observation, document and analysis. The teachers with experience are able to put into practice leadership skills in an appropriate manner. The main purpose of these skills is to appropriately guide and manage the students.
6. The teachers not only perform their job duties towards the development of academic skills among the students, but they also render a significant contribution towards promoting well-being of the community. This fact, they are able to become aware of through teacher education.
7. The teachers are able to acquire an understanding in terms of which learning occurs. They learn to form suitable environmental conditions within the classroom, which would promote learning.
8. The teachers are able to generate awareness in terms of making provision of equal opportunities among the students. There should not be any type of discrimination on the basis of caste, creed, race, religion, gender, ethnicity, and socio-economic background.
9. The students are different from each other in terms of their learning abilities. Some students are sharp, whereas others are slow in understanding. The teachers are adequately trained in terms of dealing with students, who experience learning disabilities.
10. In this profession, the individuals are required to learn on a continuous basis. Apart from mastering one's lesson plans, the teachers need to generate awareness in terms of other areas too, particularly related to their field.

#### **4: Need for Teacher Education**

The academic and the professional standards that are possessed by the teachers constitute the critical component of the essential learning conditions for the achievement of the educational goals and objectives of the country. The recognition of the need of teacher education has had a positive influence in bringing about transformations in the overall system of education. The major changes that need to be taking place are with regards to level and quality of subject matter knowledge, the repertoire of the pedagogical skills that the teachers possess in terms of meeting the needs and requirements of the diverse learning situations, the degree of commitment to the profession, taking into consideration contemporary issues and problems and the level of motivation. These changes would not be put into practice in an appropriate manner, if teacher preparation focused only upon training. Teacher education needed more importance than merely making provision of training (Teacher Education).

Individuals get enrolled into the teacher education programs with principles, values, commitments, personalities and moral codes from their upbringing and schooling. In other words, they generate awareness in terms of principles, ethics and standards that are needed in teaching professions. They have the major objective of developing listening skills, communication skills, interpersonal skills, problem solving abilities and overall personality traits with the main objective of achieving professional and personal goals. Improving education among the students depends upon not only ensuring that teachers have the necessary knowledge and skills to carry out the tasks and operations, but they are also vested with the responsibility of ensuring that students learn satisfactorily. The teachers need to ensure that learning proves to be beneficial to the students. Hence, it can be stated that teacher education enables the individuals to acquire understanding of all these factors, so they can contribute in bringing about improvements in the overall system of education.

### **5: Emerging Trends in Teacher Education**

The emerging trends in teacher education have been stated as follows: (Son wane, 2015).

#### **National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2005**

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) brought about NCF 2005, putting emphasis upon the following changes at the school level. These are, forming a connection of the curricular knowledge with the life experiences of the learners outside the school environment; transferring learning from rote memorization to construction of knowledge by the learners by participating actively in the learning activities; enriching the curricular experiences apart from the prescribed textbooks and integrating assessment with the classroom experiences of the learners. The changes visualized through constructivist pedagogy, where teachers assume the role of the facilitator of learning by getting engaged in learning in a small group, co-operative learning, problem-based learning, project-based learning and the other pedagogical strategies, which follow the constructivist principles. NCERT and various state agencies engaged in conducting an in-service training program for the teachers with the purpose of preparing them to get engaged in student learning, which was envisioned by NCF 2005.

#### **National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education (NCFTE) 2009**

The initiation of NCFTE 2009 was directed by epistemological transferral envisioned by NCF 2005. It has taken into account, the perception of changing school frameworks and demands in the light of RTE 2009, universalization of secondary education and its implication to teacher education. The framework envisioned having a longer duration of the teacher preparation program, which can make provision of adequate time and opportunity for self-study, reflective practice, longer duration of internship, experiencing newer and innovative pedagogical approaches and practices, both at the educational institutions, where one is pursuing a teacher education program, as well as in school during internship.

#### **Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) 2009**

NCF 2005 put emphasis upon the needs for integrating assessment with the experiences of the learners within the classroom settings. NCF position paper on examination reformation (2006) observed that external examinations are regarded as inappropriate within the knowledge-based society of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and its need for innovative problem solvers. The school-based CCE cause reduction in stress

among students, make the evaluation procedures regular and comprehensive and make provision of space for the teachers to put into practice modern and innovative techniques and methods within the teaching-learning processes and conduct an analysis of the problems and difficulties experienced by the learners. By taking into considerations, NCF suggestions, CBSE vide its advisory number 39, dated 20<sup>th</sup> September 2009 introduced examination reforms and continuous and comprehensive evaluation (CCE) in the CBSE schools. The CCE got implemented in other state boards.

### **NCTE Regulation 2014**

The changes that were brought about by NCTE regulation 2014 are, new teacher education program has been offered in composite institutions, i.e. a higher educational institution offering undergraduate or post-graduate programs in liberal arts, humanities, social sciences, science, commerce, mathematics or an institution offering multiple teacher education programs. The educational institutions are required to obtain accreditation from the accrediting agency approved by the council within five years of recognition. The new regulation, norms and standards include new teacher education programs, these are, B.A. B.Ed., B.Sc. B.Ed., B.Ed. (part time), B.Ed. M.Ed. (integrated) and dropped one program M.Ed. (distance) and changed the nomenclature of diploma in Early Childhood Education (D.E.C. Ed) to diploma in pre-school education (DPSE). There were introduction of the maximum number of years, a candidate can pursue each of these programs. There were inclusion of details of curriculum, i.e. theory, practicum and internship, implementation and assessment. The changes in the number of positions for a unit, subject specialization, qualifications, infrastructure and the materials and equipment needed for classroom instruction. There was an increase in the duration of programs, such as, B.Ed., M.Ed., B.P. Ed and so forth.

### **6: Characteristics of Teachers**

The characteristics of teachers need to be taken into consideration primarily with regards to their recruitment within the educational institutions. These have been stated as follows:

**Educational Qualifications**—The recruitment of teachers takes place at all levels of the educational institutions. From the nursery schools till the university level, the teachers are recruited on the basis of their educational qualifications. The educational qualifications of the individuals make provision of sufficient information in terms of their background and knowledge and their suitability for the position. For instance, in order to obtain a job of a nursery school teacher, it is required that they have pursued nursery teachers training program (N.T.T). Whereas to obtain a job of the university professor, the individuals are required to have a masters or a doctoral degree.

**Experience** – The experience is regarded as an important factor that renders an indispensable contribution in the performance of job duties to a major extent. When recruitment and selection of teachers takes place in educational institutions, then it is preferred that they are experienced. Whether the individuals possess long-term experience of more than one year or short-term experience of three to six months, it is considered vital for teaching positions. It is usually believed that when the individuals will be experienced, they would already be aware of important factors that are required to perform their job duties in accordance to the required standards.

**Personality Traits** – The personality traits of the teachers are considered important. In this case, it is ensured that the teachers possess an approachable nature and an amiable attitude. They should be able to manage the classroom environmental conditions appropriately. The teachers need to possess the abilities to work under stress. There have been cases within the educational institutions, when students are deficient in their performance. This normally takes place, when they lack the understanding in terms of the academic concepts. Whereas, in some cases are, undisciplined. In such cases, it is vital for the teachers to control them adequately and bring about improvements in the teaching-learning methods and instructional strategies.

**Effective Communication Skills** – The possession of effective communication skills are regarded to be of utmost significance. The teachers are not only required to impart academic knowledge to the students, but they have number of other job duties to perform as well, for which they need to develop effective communication skills. The teachers are required to communicate with the number of individuals within their jobs. These include, principals, administrative staff members, members of other institutions and parents. Within the course of performance of one's job duties and the functioning of the educational institutions, they are required to get engaged in the exchange of ideas and suggestions with each other.

**Development of Knowledge** – It is vital for the teachers to get engaged in activities that would develop their knowledge. It is essential to develop competency and expertise within ones area of specialization, but in addition, it is essential for them to be well-prepared. For instance, when a teacher is imparting knowledge to the students in terms of the development of the system of education in India. It is a comprehensive topic. In this case, they need to be well-prepared to answer the questions that would be put forward by the students. Hence, development of knowledge enables the teachers to implement their teaching job in a well-organized manner.

**Generation of Awareness** – Apart from the knowledge of academic concepts, it is essential for the teachers and professors to generate awareness in terms of important areas. For instance, when they are training students in terms of causes of poverty and unemployment in India, then it is vital that they should possess the necessary information in terms of regions, where the poverty levels are high, causes of poverty, how it is imposing unfavourable effects upon the individuals, how it is an impediment within the course of progression of the individuals and so forth. The awareness among the educators should be comprehensive so that it proves to be beneficial to the students to a large extent.

**Time Management Skills** – The teachers are required to perform their job duties as well as manage the household responsibilities. For this purpose, it is essential for them to put into practice, time management skills in an appropriate manner. The understanding and implementation of time management skills satisfactorily enables the individuals to form a schedule. Within the schedule, they identify all the tasks that are supposed to be carried out. In this manner; they are able to take out time for all the tasks and activities. The possession of time management skills enables the individuals to perform all the tasks and they are able to devote sufficient amount of time towards the performance of all tasks and functions.

**Conflict Resolution Techniques**—In educational institutions, students sometimes get involved into conflicting situations. They may disagree with each other regarding any issue or may get involved into conflicts or disputes. These conflicts may take place in a major form or minor form. The teachers need to ensure that there is discipline within the classrooms as well as within the school. The students do not get involved into any types of conflicting situations and communicate with each other in an appropriate manner. The teachers need to ensure that students to possess an amiable and approachable attitude towards each other. They need to be supportive and helpful towards each other.

**Creativity** – The teachers need to be creative in the implementation of tasks and functions. This is primarily referred to as, ingenuity, resourcefulness, and inventiveness in the implementation of tasks and functions. The possession of this ability not only enriches the job performance of the teachers but they are able to please and satisfy the other members of the educational institutions and attain promotional opportunities. For instance, when professors in higher educational institutions apart from taking lectures, write papers, articles, organize workshops, seminars and implement other tasks and activities to enhance the system of education, are regarded as creative. In the present existence, bringing about innovative techniques and methods are the essential ways to promote creativity.

**Amiability and Approachability** – The teachers need to be approachable and amiable in attitude. They need to possess effective listening skills and be supportive towards the members of the organization, particularly the students. With the possession of the traits of amiability and approachability, the teachers are able to earn reverence and appreciation from the members of the institutions. These traits enable them to perform their job duties well and acquire promotional opportunities. The teachers, who possess an approachable and an amiable nature are not only able to provide solutions to the academic problems of the students, but also personal problems. In some cases, the students may even convey to the teachers regarding the home factors that influence their academic performance.

## Conclusion

Teachers render an indispensable contribution in the case of functioning of the educational institutions and in imparting education to the students. The learning of the students within the educational institutions primarily depends upon the teaching methods put into practice by the teachers. In other words, the teachers have an important role to play in leading to effective growth and development of the students. The scope of teacher education centres upon teacher education at different levels of education, triangular basis of teacher education and aspects of teacher education. The changing context of teacher education in the Indian scenario focuses upon, impact of national policies, developments in school education, changing role of the teacher, challenges in teacher education, research and innovation, inclusive education, perspectives of equitable and sustainable development, role of community knowledge in education, ICT in schools and e-learning, and teacher education programs.

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