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DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOVERNMENT SCHOOL AND PRIVATE SCHOOL:
A STUDY OF SOUTH GARO HILLS DISTRICT, MEGHALAYA

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ABSTRACT

The major objective of the study was to identify the differences between government and private school in South Garo Hills District in Meghalaya. The study was aim to look into the education system and management system in both the government and private school in the district. The researcher collected the sample of 29 teachers in which 16 participants are from government and 13 participants are from private school. The data was collected in the form of questionnaire, informal interviews and discussion method. For the analysis of the data the percentage of the teachers were examined and calculated. The study finds out that there are huge differences between government school and private school in terms of overall education system. Government schools are lacking behind as compare to private schools in terms of infrastructure, quality education, academic standard, overall educational system and students performance. However, private school are trying to provide top-grade facilities for overall development of the students. The findings of the study will be helpful to find out the major differences between the government school and private school in terms of overall educational system and management system in the district.

Keywords: Government school, private school, education, South Garo Hills, Meghalaya.

INTRODUCTION

School is the basic foundation of knowledge being imparted to a child right from the early age. It is the first and foremost framework of knowledge children are exposed to. It gives a children chance to acquire knowledge on various fields of education. School are important for better future of a country as they bring up the future generation in every country. The future of a country lies in schools and colleges. In India, we have both private and government owned schools. Private schools are better equipped in terms of quality education, safety, facilities and infrastructure. Private school try to provide top-grade facilities for the overall development of the children. They are expensive but they offer quality education for the children as compare to government school. Government school in India are socially, educationally and economically backward and do not have a social environment conducive to their growth. Most of the children in government school do not receive any support from their parents, who are illiterate or semi-illiterate most of the students comes from the low socio-economic background. The quality of teaching in government schools is also very poor and substandard. Most

of them do not have proper infrastructure like class rooms, blackboards, drinking water, toilets, proper electricity and sanitary facilities. The classroom is congested due to huge number of students. Though, government schools are usually funded, controlled and run by the state or centre government they are poor in imparting the quality education for the children.

In Meghalaya there are three types of schools: the government schools, government aided school and the private schools. Government schools are those school which are completely owned and control by the government. The government is in charge of the curriculum, study materials, fee structure, syllabus, and examinations etc of these schools. Whereas government aided school is owned by a private management but gets aid from the government. Government aided schools follow the same academic rules and regulations which is laid down by the government same as government school. The management of the private schools lays in two categorised groups missionaries and non- missionaries private group. The private schools that are run by the missionaries get sponsored by the missionaries. But non-missionaries private schools are run and manage by the private management authority.

The study indicates that government schools are not known to provide the standard of education and facilities for the students. Most of the private schools try to provide highest quality facilities for overall development for the children they also charge high fees for all this. They sustained students' fees for teachers' salary or any maintenance in the school. Most of the parents who held from poor family did not afford the fees so; they opted for the government schools wherein fees are exempted.

The study show that most of the government schools are in poor conditions and lack basic facilities like proper classrooms, electricity, lack of library etc. Due to this, even the low-income families tried to send their children to a private institute for better future. Private schools try to provide an environment that helps in learning better. Apart from education they provided proper infrastructure and equipment required for the physical development of the children. The standard and performance of most government educational institutions has left much to be desired considering the fact that the teachers and other staff enjoy all the benefits of government services. The study shows that teachers in government schools are highly qualified but still they are not able to show better result than private schools. It is seen that teachers in government schools are not much dedicated but in private schools, teachers monitor results of every individual through regular class test. Private schools are accountable for the results of their students and hence their teachers are more dedicated and hardworking. Besides providing the quality education private schools pay attention toward discipline of every students. As a part of routine, punctuality, hygiene and uniform is checked every day. They make efforts in grooming and developing the personality of every individual. In government schools these things are hardly taken care of.

Government schools in Meghalaya as elsewhere in India are now almost entirely filled with the children from poor families who cannot afford to send them to a private school.

ANALYSIS OF TEACHERS INTERVIEW

An informal interview with the teachers of government and private schools was conducted in order to collect their views and opinions, their perceptions of teaching and their perceptions of themselves as teachers in both the schools. The interview was carried out in a casual manner that the teachers were not even aware of the interview.

The teachers in government school responded that classroom are overcrowded, the ratio of students to teachers was not proportional. Small blackboard lack of good blackboard, teachers training programmes provided by some school are not effective as it should be. Most of the teachers are not aware of latest teaching methodology. Mother tongue interference students speak more of their native language than English inside and outside of classroom. Due this reason most of the teachers prepare explaining to students with their mother tongue in the class to save their time and energy. Lack of school library and lack of conducive environment for learning or teaching. No facility to use aid materials and the reason furnish by them for not using aid materials was the dearth of such materials in the school. Whereas private schools teachers responses indicate that quality

of education is better than government schools. It is found that private schools are equipped finer in terms of infrastructure, quality education, academic standard, overall educational system and students' performance. Private school are trying to provide top-grade facilities for overall development of the students. Most of the teachers from private schools said in addition to all that their salary is relatively very low. Due to this reason many teachers leave their teaching job to hunt for a better paying job elsewhere.

CONCLUSION

Government and private schools have their own significant and notable way of promoting education in our country. Both the schools have their own way of imparting education for the future generation of our country. The Education imparted in both private and government school is based on different standards and depends on different management system in our country.

The study indicates that there are various differences between government school and private school in the South Garo Hills in Meghalaya.

1. Government schools are administered and funded by the local, state or national government whereas private schools are funded wholly or partly by student's tuition and administered by a private body.
2. Private school provide good ambience and infrastructure as compare to the government schools.
3. Government school have more experienced and good knowledge teachers but they do not care much about the good education imparting to students as they are paid good amount of salary. However, in private schools many teachers are fresher and inexperienced in teaching field and their salary is relatively low which makes them to look for the good paying job elsewhere.
4. The education imparted in both private and government school is based on different standards.
5. Most of the government schools lack basic facilities like electricity and proper classrooms etc. Whereas private school tries to provide an environment that helps in learning better. Apart from education they provide proper infrastructure and equipment required for the physical development of children.
6. Teachers in government schools are highly qualified yet government school are not able to show a better result than private schools. The reason behind it is the dedication of government teachers and faculty. The teachers are not much dedicated in government schools. In private schools, teachers monitor result of every individual through regular class tests. Private schools are accountable for the results of their students and hence their teachers are more dedicated and hardworking.
7. Government schools provide free and compulsory education to children up to the age of 14 years which is not under the consideration by any private institution.

RECOMMENDATION

1. The overall objective of school improvement planning needs to be done in government as well as in private school to enhance the quality of education.
2. Physical classroom conditions are very poor in government school. Therefore, government need to take step to improve the existing educational infrastructure to make attractive and learning environment enjoyable.
3. The number of students in the classroom is a major problem in most of the government school. The Ministry of State should take some step to overcome this problem.
4. School library should be provided for both the teachers and students in government as well as in private schools. Up-to date books, atlas, and reference books, general knowledge should be kept in the library
5. Teachers should be given teachers training programmes to improve their knowledge of teaching in both types of schools.

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