The Factors behind the Educational Backwardness and Short Comings of Students: The Case Study of T/Kinniya Zakariyya Vidyalaya in Trincomalee District

Izzath Banu M.

Abstract

Learning plays an important role in the students’ holistic lives. Such as school lives, general life, marital life and so on and so forth. The formal education begins from the school at the same time, they get informal education both at religious institutes and non-governmental organization etc. without school education a society cannot be reformed educationally socially psychologically and economically sometimes emotionally in their every aspect of Human life. Education determines some ones future it acts the beacon of hope for the entire humanity. Though there are almost 145 schools in kinniya zone unfortunately almost more than half of the schools are situated both remote and backward areas, and some schools are backwardly inaccessible, that is the very reason theses school children are lagging behind in educations. Any other typical rural schools this school is also deems to be backward in their learning process. the school namely T/ Kinniya zakariyya vidyalaya at Mahamar in the Kurinchakerny divisional secretariat, sample size 60 students and 6 teachers, the scope of the research is to find out the factors that lead to poor performance, dis interest and backwardness in learning. The accumulated data were collected using qualitatively and quantitatively as well as subjectively and objectively. The finding of the study portrays first of all socio economic factors coupled with poverty that triggers dropout in school learning, another primary or secondary reason are that lack of awareness among the parents, lack of supportive environment and the under education of the teachers. The recommendation is to ameliorate its scenario is that the students should be provided with adequate physical environment enforced with supportive and secured team of teachers who must be able to deal with any challenges to sort out the short comings.

Keywords: The Reasons, Educational Backwardness, Short Comings, Students, Zakariyya Vidyalaya

Introduction

Education plays a numerous role in the life of the entire humanity all through the life. Getting proper education is essential requirement to get success and happiness in life just like food is necessary for healthy body. The concept and phenomenon of education based on schooling is of modern origin in general. Education in the past was restricted to upper castes and the content taught was also selective. However, today, to lead a comfortable life in this fast-changing world, education is deemed to be the most influential indicator of modernization. It develops people’s personality development, provides physical and mental balance and enhances people’s living standards. Good education is constructive in nature which builds our future forever. It helps a person to correct his/her sound mind in sound body and spirit. It gives confidence by providing us with bulk of knowledge in every field and the disciplines of knowledge. It is one of the most prestigious and the successful domain for the personal growth of an individual. School education is extremely important for each person and necessary for those who want to attain success Irrespective of whether ethnicity cast, creed different countries and those who

To whom correspondence should be addressed: izzath0811@gmail.com

42 Assistant Lecturer, Department of Arabic Language, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka.
live in different continents. As education is the glimmer of hope to dispel especially ignorance prejudice rationale hatred unnecessary war among tribes, reduction of crime in the world as a whole. A community devoid of educational rights and opportunity will develop bestial and barbaric disposition if someone has been deprived of his education. As education solve many challenging issues and problems per se education is the ability to solve any problem. School education is the base and pragmatism for society, community, nation building that ultimately leads pave the way someone to become law abiding citizens and thereby make them inculcate patriotism in them. For every global citizen education is indispensable for them. Because education determines the future. Generally speaking the route cause of every problem Conflict chaos is mainly due to deprive someone of their educational rights. The other perspective of education is that if anyone educated regardless of their field are respected, getting due prestige, social status by anyone. This is classical proof that education doesn’t have monetary value at all. Economic value is secondary to it. Proper education by all brings equality among human beings and removes the feeling of difference.

Education not only gives us mundane and spiritual knowledge but, noble in character to face any challenges present, past and future and sort out many a problems to deal with our fellow human beings. We have to make sure our education should not be used for inventions and discoveries only for the betterment of the human race not for the destruction of it. Education should be defensive in nature but in offensive in nature, unfortunately education advancement tend to be used for the destruction of human civilization.

Learning disabilities are professionally diagnosed difficulties with reading, writing, speaking, listening, spelling, reasoning or doing math. People with learning disabilities called dyslexia, ADHD, autism and cerebral palsy, down syndrome. In Kinniya there are 145 schools in Kinniya zone. The school I selected to do this research is located in the post conflict area where 30 years of civil war ravaged Sri Lanka until 2009, the impact has still been caused people’s economic, social and educational life. The adequate proficiency of the students in learning whereas the students who are from post conflict area have a miserably poor performance in learning because of the reason the people who inhabited the area long before the conflict started thereby they lost access the most essential human needs awareness in education in accessibility for education and the subsequent ignorance due to the above factors are the main culprits are the hind rends in pushing them backwards in their learning enthusiasm. Though The subjects are taught from grade one to grade five either by conventional or traditional method the end result in the problem I have mention remain to be the same. They don’t teach the students considering there holistic or selective educational need. That being let the students to their backwardness. In this context, this study is conducted in order to portray the what are the major contributory factors are hindering in precluding students educational performances in terms of identifying there special educational needs with special reference to kurinchakerny division of Kinniya zone.

Methodology
This study was conducted at Mahamaru village in Kurinchakerny DS division of Kinniya zone. The people from Mahamaru are not permanent farmers or single crop or multi crop farmers neither are they agriculturist but on the contrary they are subsistent farmers. Purposive sample method and the sample size are used for this study 50 students aided by 07 teachers from the school selected ranging from different grades. Interview and observation are the primary data collection methods while records,
journals, articles, are the secondary data sources used for this study. Collected data were analyzed by using qualitative methods and presented textually and descriptively.

**Finding and discussions**

The study found that, most of the students lack fluency and interest in learning. Majority of the students learn in the school just as a compulsory hobby as they are not sure about the importance of learning but not to increase their proficiency. The teachers also mainly focus on the examination result in order to maintain their performance in an average level and satisfied their superiors rather than teaching the students in an effective manner for the student to excel in the studies. To be fluent in studies the learner should be fed with all four skills which are listening, speaking, reading and writing respectively yet we’re unable to reap the benefit for our noble effort in school education at present. The teachers teach stereo typically in a traditional way without focusing their individual differences, they willingly or unwillingly, consciously or unconsciously or out of their ignorance they don’t pay due attention in teaching the students as a whole. Teachers should make the students impressed towards learning coupled with motivation and encouragement. Without which learning for the students would be alien entity and also they make a mindset of the teacher who is someone strange to them.

Compared with other schools the students of this school extremely lagging behind in their educational performances, owing to the reason that they solely attending the schools spending the school hours and getting automatic promotion, even though the number of rural students attending schools is rising, but more than half of the students in fifth grade are unable to read a second grade text book and are not able to write alphabets legibly and beautifully on the contrary they scribble the alphabets to the extent that they are not even solve simple mathematical problems. Not only this, the level of math and reading is fast declining. Though efforts are being made, they are not in the right direction. The reason cited for this problem in surveys is the disinterest and the carelessness of the teachers. At times it is noticeable even teachers are not dedicated themselves to uplift the standard of the students due to many unexplainable reasons. The reason is multi factorial on the part of the teachers. In other hand, attendance of students is also declining. These are a few reasons why the school has failed to educate rural area students. Quality and access to education is the major concern in this area as there are fewer committed teacher in the school. Though Majority of people living in villages seemingly have understood the importance of education, their ignorance and lack of awareness deprive the education of their children. And also due to economic problem and lack of parental care, the quality of education is Fast declining. Above all, in some of the classes there is only one teacher for the entire class and if they don’t turn up for duty, then that day is regarded as holiday. The other obvious reason is that the teacher is made to serve the school for a longer time than the extend of the time assigned for the teacher than the period the government stipulated. This trend is also the cause for concern affecting the teaching learning process of the students. New environment for the teacher enliven his or her interest in imparting the knowledge enthusiastically. These factors I have mentioned only quantitatively improve the students not qualitatively. It is very much miserable to observe that the aspiring children of this kind and their future dreams have become null and void. Distance between the school and the household gives rise to the non-attendance of the children. And another stumbling block is that the student either do not have a care taker to take him or her to school or the student does not possess a bicycle to travel to the school. In many instances we happen to notice that a lot of aspiring students have lost their precious education accordingly.
An important reason of children being prevented from schooling is that the children are employed by their parents to do their household chores or to send them for work to get economic gain. This trend has become a vicious cycle typically in every economically underprivileged household. The other major contributory factors for drop out is the child marriage due to the above scenario.

The other negative features such as illiteracy and innumeracy among the parents are the causal factors which are the major hindrance in making the children not to show any interest in school education. When a family is literally uneducated, their children find it very difficult to understand even the basic concept of literacy and numeracy at school compared with their children of the educated parents. This has made them grapple with grasping their knowledge on their own pace. On the other hand they have to exert lot of efforts to compete with their counterpart in education. Mastering a particular subject must be aided by the educated parents or their relatives. In the case of the children of their uneducated parents unfortunately deprive the chance of gaining the knowledge from their parents or next of kin.

The basic contributory factors influenced are the non-parental guidance since the mother works in foreign whereas the father leave the children un-attendant and in most cases father marries for the second time. It is well worth to mention here that the children are most of the time bear the brunt of the step motherly treatment, due to this above scenario the children spontaneously resort their grandparents for their all needs, and the lack of parental knowledge is ubiquitous specially in this area. Both Poverty and the subsequent malnutrition are the discouraging factors which result in the poor performance of the students at school. This pave the way in the dropouts of the students. This trend will drastically affect the students’ holistic lives. if it is the case, this will have a negative ripple effect in the quality of secondary education of the student since secondary education is considered to be milestone in securing the job for their future life the non-availability of basic amenities such as poor housing, water and sanitation and electricity at home are the sticking point here and the major contributory factor is poverty and poverty driven malnutrition or under nutrition which may hinder students educational performances. These multifactorial reasons are the cause for concern that must be addressed. The students must be provided with both supportive environment and adequate awareness program with regard to the school education. The infra-structure facilities and the physical environment are also the causes for concern that is to be addressed as a top most priority to be reckoned with. The issues mentioned have resulted in the lack of proficiency and efficiency in learning. It’s high time that the education reformers of Sri Lanka should bring changes in the education system especially to that of the students who are from remote areas.

**Conclusion**

Education plays a vital role to drive a country towards development and prosperity. Even though, the whole syllabus are covered at the school, the students tend to lack proficiency and efficiency and thereby performance are hampered due to an array of reasons mentioned earlier. Generally the teachers are not going to the classes with the pre plan lesson, this school is not exceptional in this case either. Moreover, teachers don’t give awareness about the general aspect of learning since awareness is the main criteria any subject to be understood accordingly. This is because students faces many challenges and hardships to cope with in their respective learning. Compared with evidence based data’s They are considered to have very poor performance in learning. The major precipitating factors are the poverty and the lack of parental guidance among the children in the home and schools alike. The contribution and the role of teachers are considered are very much phenomenally important to inspire and in calcite
the enthusiasm for healthy learning. Therefore the students should be fed with the supportive environment with reinforcement. Inappropriate guidance, lack of interest, motivation, and lack of infrastructure facilities are the major negative factors which have deleterious effect. Appropriately remedial actions should be immediately taken in order to overcome this issue which has a great relief not only the wellbeing future of the students but also in the long run this will help them become a law abiding citizen of the country and ultimately this will adopt to nation building.

References
1. Ramandeep Kaur, (2013), Rural education in India.
2. Beas Dev Ralhan, (2017) 5 problems with teachers in rural areas which are blocking India's educational growth., CEO and Co-founder, Next Education India Pvt. Ltd: Newdelhi.