

THE TEACHER EDUCATION SCENARIO IN J&K STATE

The State of Jammu and Kashmir, though an educationally backward state has always been known as the abode of Sanskrit education. The state has a rich history of Educational activities. Maharaja Hari Singh during his rule (1925-1947) was highly interested in the expansion of Education in J&K State. He was the first ruler in the state to introduce compulsory primary education. The state Government under his rule invited Dr. Zakir Hussain to advise on the execution of the WARDHA Education Scheme in the state, who proposed the state government to involve Mr. K.G. Saiyadian. The state government took no time and Mr. K.G. Saiyadian was appointed as the Director of Education of state. Therefore, in June, 1938, an Educational Re-organisation Committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Mr. K.G. Saiyadian. The committee made the recommendations regarding training of teachers and thus a teachers training school was opened at Srinagar in October, 1938 and teachers were deputed to Jamia Milia Islamia, Delhi for training in the Basic Education Techniques. In this way 'Refresher Courses' were initiated for the first time in Kashmir Valley for the professional competence of the teachers. These courses were held in batches of teachers 35 in each batch at Anantnag, Baramulla, Sopore and Muzafferabad in Kashmir province and at Jammu, Kathua, Mirpur, Rajouri, Kishtwar and Baderwah in Jammu Province. In 1940 the B.T. Class was established at Jammu for training of graduate teachers in the state. The class was started on the 2nd September, 1940 with 30 graduate teachers on roll and attached to the Prince of Wales College, Jammu.

During 1944-45, a second training school of training of teachers

in Basic Education was opened at Jammu. In 1954-55, a separate teachers training college was opened at Jammu. During 1972, a committee on education was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Bhagwan Sahey. The committee also made the recommendations regarding general education of teachers and in-service programmes for teachers. In this way all the Primary middle and high and higher secondary teachers training programmes was formulated in the J&K State.

A Round Table Conference in J&K State took place at Srinagar on 28th May, 1975. The number of experts were ten. Six out of 10 members were from other parts of the country. The conference of experts was inaugurated by the then Chief Minister of the State, Shiekh Mohd. Abdullah on 28th of May 1975 at Srinagar. In this way a course was chalked out for the period of three months called as Capsule Teachers Training Programme for all the back log of untrained teachers in the J&K State. In this way a considerable number of secondary school teachers have been trained under the scheme of Capsule Course.

The in service programmes of teachers education for primary, Middle and Secondary school teachers were organised by S.I.E.'s and D.I.E.T's in which Headmasters, Additional Zonal Education Officers, Tehsil Education Officers were made familiar with the new techniques, trends and concepts in the field of education. After the recommendations of Sahai Committee there were two government B.Ed colleges — one in Srinagar and another in Jammu. In these colleges all the inservice teachers were being trained as per their service seniority is concerned. Moreover, many non-govt. B.Ed college started functioning in J&K State, under this provision one women welfare institute started to impart teachers training to girl graduates from State as well as from rest of Indian States.

In this way, this trend of opening non-govt. B.Ed colleges in

J&K State gained momentum and presently there are some 70 to 75 non-govt. B.Ed colleges operating in each part of J&K i.e, in Kashmir Valley and Jammu province where thousands of students from J&K State and also from neighbouring states as Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Rajasthan throng every year and seek admission in these non-govt. B.Ed colleges. They are affiliated to main two universities of J&K State i.e., Kashmir University and Jammu University.

The university of Jammu as well as Kashmir University under the departments of “Distance Education” have started 2 years B.Ed and M.Ed course for the students of J&K state & where in atleast 3000 students are being enrolled on open merit system for undergirding teachers training programme i.e., B.Ed in our state. Moreover, both the universities have Education Departments where students undertake post graduate courses in Education subject which finally helps students to go for M.Ed courses as well.

The already established SIE’s and DIET’s in J&K State are functioning properly which are imparting training to Primary, Middle and Secondary teachers to make them familiar with the new challenges, techniques, trends and concepts of education. Workshops are being organised by these two well established and well organised education institutions whereby the primary, middle and secondary teachers install their respective models and teaching aids and in this way they are being made familiar with the modern trends and techniques of modern education.

Moreover, elementary teachers training course institutes are functioning properly which are imparting training to thousands of students from our state as well as from other states of our country. In this way, much has been done in teachers training programme and much is to be done in the near future.