

A Quality Education through Leveraging Inclusive Education

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Abstract

Every child in India has the right to free and compulsory education as it is promised in the constitution in ARTICLE:21A. It is a right to have respectable and dignified life under ARTICLE 21. Education is the key factor which eradicates the social evils and brings social harmony. Hence, no one should be deprived of the opportunity to get education. No one should be discriminated based on their differences and disabilities. As a civilised society bringing people with differences into the main stream of education by overcoming the barriers and disadvantages focusing on the advantages to bring inclusive education as a common system. Our education system should be tuned towards the goal of achieving and imparting inclusive education.

Keywords: Inclusive Education, Quality Education, Necessity of Inclusive Education, Positive Effects of Inclusive Education and Crucial Elements of Inclusion.

Introduction

Each child in India is provided with free and compulsory education, as stated in Article 21A of the constitution. According to Article 21, having an adequate and respectable life is a right. The main way of eradicating evils in society and promoting social peace is education (Bakshi, 2023). Our constitution guarantees its citizens that the right to education as a fundamental right and the state is duty bound to provide education to all irrespective of their differences. According to the UNICEF report "One in ten children across the globe can't read or understand the text" (UNICEF, n.d.). So, in order to eradicate this social stigma, the United Nation and UNICEF urged its member to ensure that education reaches to all children. And also, insists not to leave any child behind stating any reason. Hence the concept of inclusive education comes into existence. Moreover, in our country we have made Free and Compulsory education from 6 and up to the age of 14 years as a basic constitutional order under the Article 12A in the year 2002.

The Mission of Inclusive Education

The very basic of the inclusive education is to involve all children irrespective of character, background, learning pattern, psychological aspects etc. and to provide friendly environment to all learners. Use Information and Communication Technology (ICT) which supports

the inclusion in education of children with disabilities by enabling them to overcome some of the barriers causing their exclusion also creating an inclusive curriculum. Moreover, special programs to be conducted to the needy learners which enable them to come up with other learners (Minder, 2023).

The Crucial Function and Necessity of Inclusive Education

Inclusive education is very essential for the society at large for the betterment of the nation, it gives chance for every child to take part in their society and develop a sense of belonging and become better prepared for life in the society as children and adults. It also provides better opportunities to develop skills set of students like cooperative and tolerance skills which make them more accommodative in the society and it also develop the confident level of the student like disabled learners when they get an opportunity with proper guidance to move with the normal students and moreover it also helps to develop self-concept in students and finally it helps to attain social equality (Minder, 2023).

Primary components and Crucial Elements of Inclusion

There are five primary components for inclusion. The support provided by the management of the institution for the positive implementation, then the attitude and behaviour of the teachers towards the inclusion, the support, confidence & involvement provided by the parents in nurturing the process is a key factor, then the entire individuals from management, teaching staff, parents and supportive staff must join and team up for the process of inclusion and finally the practice, methodology and training followed in the classroom. They are given in the Figure 1.1

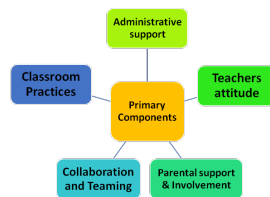


Figure 1.1

There are four crucial elements for inclusion to make ideas and practices in schools for inclusion. To be present in the environment where the need is required for inclusion, then to take part in the process of inclusion, to render support in the process and finally to achieve the goal of implementing the inclusion. They are given in the Figure 1.2

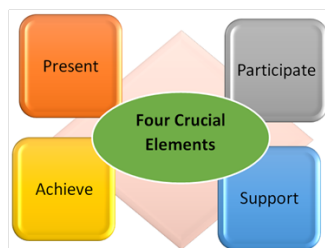


Figure 1.2

Features and Positive Effects of Inclusive Education

There are lots of features and positive effect in the incisive education and few of them are given below,

- Features are first and foremost thing is to accept all the children in regular class then to provide support to all the children to take part in the process.
- Focusing on their positive side of the students for developing individual goals as per their ability.
- To help to bring out their potential side by creating knowledge to teachers about handling technics. Designing curriculum to focus on every individual disabled student.
- Positive Effects are all the children can take part and have equal opportunity to learn irrespective of differences. It will increase the strength of the individuals. It will allow the involvement of the parents, will foster the culture of respect and compassion towards others.
- It will encourage friendly relationship and brotherhood among the children which will develop peace and harmony in the society(Inclusion NB, 2018).

Support for Inclusive Education

To impart the inclusive education, we need lots of personal support for the children. It needs lot of various accommodations to participate in regular school. An inclusive curriculum should be developed to include all the children to take part in the education process without any problem. And moreover, different way of thinking is needed about teaching the children and about making them to participate in the regular course of learning. Support of other children and their parents are the major support needed to impart inclusive education in a regular class. It creates a normal situation among students irrespective of the differences and gives a natural atmosphere among students (Support for Inclusive Education - Inclusion NB., 2018).

A Quality Education in Inclusion

First and foremost, steps for giving quality education are to identify the goals and dreams of the children. Then to inculcate ideas and plan accordingly in the school system for better results. The focus should be on strength and capacities of the children. Positive side of the children need to be given attention in order to enhance the capabilities of the students, focusing of child strengths and gifts will pave way to plan strategies to impart inclusive education. Personalised learning plan (PLP) is the key to plan for each disabled student for specific objectives. All needs to be given to the child as well as changes to be made in regular pattern of education. Redesigning the course curriculum as per the recommendations and understand to decide what kind of accommodations needed to child. Modification in teaching pattern and coordination of the parents and teachers of the students is more important. PLP shall be taken care of to identify the specific skills and lesson to be learnt in that particular year as per their goal fixed earlier in order to identify the way to include in activities and need to be given to the child(Planning for Inclusion and a Quality Education - Inclusion NB., 2018).

The Benefits and Drawbacks of Inclusive Education

Benefits

Inclusive education is considered to a welfare approach towards bringing up everyone equally. There are lots of benefits involves in the inclusive education and some of the benefits are given below:

- It improves development in childlike cognitive, motor, speech, social and emotional skills.
- It focusses on strength and positive side of the child.

- It encourages the participation of the child in public life.
- It gives natural atmosphere among students with difference and normal students.
- It imparts tolerant attitude among other students and maintain friendly relationship with each other.
- It gives teachers to understand the different perspectives about students with differences and making them to master the pedagogical techniques.
- It also gives teachers to develop a holistic approach towards child with differences (BLAdmin, 2023).

Drawbacks

Even though there are lot of Benefits in the inclusive education there are certain drawbacks involves in the inclusive education and some of the Drawbacks are given below:

- Lack of mechanisms for the development of inclusive education.
- Insufficient techniques and trained staffing in normal school.
- Inadequate infrastructures in schools and psychological understanding about students with differences among others.
- Furthermore, there is the issue of parents' unfavourable views toward the notion because their healthy kids ought to learn among children with specific struggles. They feel that this affects the learning development of children who are healthy (BLAdmin, 2023).

Obstacles of Inclusive Education

Though inclusive education is aimed to bring the education to all irrespective of differences there are some major obstacles to overcome and that are given below:

- Discrimination of the students with differences by others without having basic wisdom.
- Lack of understanding about the characteristics and attitude of the student with differences by others.
- Lack of accessibility of the student with differences in school will take away the chance of inclusion.
- Lack of training to the staff who handle the student with differences in school.
- Lack of infrastructure in the school and lack of funds to support it is the biggest barrier(Overcoming the barriers to inclusive education, 2023).

Overcoming Strategy to the Obstacles of Inclusive Education

Training the teachers in the school to the techniques to deal with the students with differences. And making the school building friendly to them. And moreover, eradicating discrimination by educating others about them and treating them with honour and respect make them to feel safe and comfortable. Making the parents, managements and teachers with the help of the other students plan for the students with differences for their betterment will definitely overcome all the odds in the inclusive education. Creating awareness about the system of inclusive education as well as learners and trainer will help the people to accept the system. Imparting the inclusive education in the educational policies of the Government and allocating separate funds and resources for imparting it will help in a big way. Creating social acceptance about the inclusive education by the social influencers and make them visible to all social media viewers will make it more popular. By encouraging the people who support or who are engaged in the process and by showcasing sampling of the well-trained different student with special skill in the public domain will make people to support the inclusive education. Finally, making laws for their career in state and union government also in private sector will make them sustain financially and socially(Overcoming the barriers to inclusive education, 2023).

Conclusion

As per the creation of the God all are equal. Our constitution also ensures in Article:14 equality before law and equal protection of law to all its citizens. We need to understand that social discrimination in any form is an evil. So as a civilised community everyone has a right to dignified and respectable life and no one should be deprived of anything based on their disability. Hence, we must be educated about the people with differences and understand them and include them in the normal course of education with due respect and dignity. We should equip our education system and train all the staff of the institutions to deal and educate the student with differences in order to the common good of the society.

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