

A Study on Functioning of The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) Schools in East Godavari District

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ABSTRACT:

Education has been recognized as the fundamental right and it is viewed as the process of human resource development where the knowledge, skills and capabilities are sharpened to achieve a wide range of objectives. The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme was launched by the Government of India in August, 2004 for setting up residential schools at upper primary level for girls belonging predominantly to the SC, ST, OBC and minorities in difficult areas. The scheme provides for a minimum reservation of 75% of the seats for girls belong to SC, ST, OBC or minority communities and priority for the remaining 25%, to the girls from families below poverty line. Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are providing residential school facilities with free textbooks and uniform along with quality education.

KEY WORDS: KGBV, SSA, NPEGEL, School Management, Locality, Gender, Age, Educational Qualification Designation, Teaching Experience, School management, Parental Qualification, Parental Occupation, Parental Income.

INTRODUCTION:

Education has been recognized as the fundamental right and it is viewed as the process of human resource development where the knowledge, skills and capabilities are sharpened to achieve a wide range of objectives. The success of democracy, conceived programmes, community involvement, utilization of physical and human resources, national integration, cultural transformation etc., are influenced by the education development without laying emphasis on education.

The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme was launched by the Government of India in August, 2004 for setting up residential schools at upper primary level for girls belonging predominantly to the SC, ST, OBC and minorities in difficult areas. The scheme of the Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya ran as a separate scheme but in harmony with the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA), National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) and Mahila Samakhya (MS) for the first two years, but has since 1st April, 2007 merged with the SSA programmes as a separate component of that programme.

NEED FOR AND IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY:

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) is a scheme launched, in 2004 in the state of Andhra Pradesh for setting up residential schools for girls at upper primary level belonging to the SC, ST, OBC and minority communities. This scheme is being implemented in across the state where the female rural literacy is below the national average and gender gap in literacy is above the national average. The scheme provides for a minimum reservation of 75% of the seats for girls belong to SC, ST, OBC or minority communities and priority for the remaining 25%, to the girls from families below poverty line. Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are providing residential school facilities with free textbooks and uniform along with quality education. Presently 345 Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are functioning in the state of Andhra Pradesh with the financial assistance under SSA. In East Godavari District 34 KGBVs were established to provide quality education to the girls belonging to the deprived groups.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY:

The researcher limited her study to know perceptions of school managements, teachers, and students of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya School in East Godavari District. It was further been delimited to know the functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools in East Godavari District.

Further, this study is also delimited to collect data from the 18 managements, 176 teachers and 180 students from Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools covering rural and urban areas (localities) of East Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh state.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Research has originally drawn its spirit and pattern from the physical science – wherein constant efforts were made to understand the physical world around us. Research marks the use of rigorous and structured type of analysis of observed phenomena. The secret of cultural development has been research, pushing back the area of discovering new truths, which in turn lead to better ways of doing things and better products and conveniences to live and enjoy life at large.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The present study was undertaken with the following objectives.

1. To study the functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari District.

2. To find out the influence of the following variables on the perceptions of school management towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district a) Management, b) Locality and c) type of Building.
3. To find out the influence of the following variables on the perceptions of special officers and Contract Resident Teachers (CRTs) towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district a) Gender, b) Age, c) Educational Qualification d) Designation e) Teaching Experience, f) Locality and g) School management.
4. To find out the influence of the following variables on the perceptions of students towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district a) Gender, b) Age, c) Class d) Social Status e) Parental Qualification f) Parental Occupation, g) Parental Income and h) Locality.
5. To suggest ways and means for Effective Functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY:

Managements:

1. There will be no significant difference among school managements perceptions based on their locality towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
2. There will be no significant difference among school managements base on their school management towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari.

Teachers:

1. **There** will be no significant difference between male and female teachers' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
2. **There** will be no significant difference among teachers' perceptions based on their age towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
3. **There** will be no significant difference among teachers' perceptions based on their General Qualifications towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari.
4. There will be no significant different between principal and CRTs perceptions towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools in East Godavari district.

Students:

1. There will be no significant difference between boy and girl's students' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari.
2. There will be no significant difference among student's perceptions based on their age group towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
3. There will be no significant difference among student's perceptions based on their studying class towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
4. There will be no significant difference among students' perceptions-based on their parental qualification towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools in East Godavari.

DESIGN OF THE STUDY:

The discussion over the methodological aspects of the study, to begin with, focuses upon the research design applicable for the study. Describing research design as a tool of guidance in seeking required information, in processing the data and in combining the data with a purposeful procedure.

The type of research undertaken by the investigator is exploratory in nature. It is a descriptive survey method of research. The word 'survey' has been derived from the two words 'sure' and 'veer' which means 'over' and 'see' respectively. Descriptive survey tells us 'what is'. This has a very wide scope. It described and interpreted what exists at present.

SELECTION OF THE SAMPLE:

The generalization of the results of our research depends upon the sample, the investigator selects. A sample is a small proportion of a population selected for observation and analysis. By observing the characteristics of the population from which it is drawn. The respondents for selected based on random sampling giving proportionate representation to different kind of characteristics. Since, the study involves in collection of information regarding the functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district. The information is elicited from the Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari districts.

RESEARCH TOOL:

According to John W. Best like the tools in the carpenter's box, each research too is appropriate in each situation to accomplish a particular purpose. Each data-gathering device has its own merits and hazards or limitations.

The instruments that are employed to gather new facts or to explore new fields are called as 'tool'. It is of vital importance to select suitable instruments or tools. Different tools are suitable for selecting different types of data. The investigator may use any one or more of the tools in combination for this purpose, there are two types of tools called standardized tool and prepared by the investigator.

CONSTRUCTION THE TOOL:

The present investigation is intended to study the functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district. After going through various previous investigations and research articles in journals and periodicals and some of the

research papers published on the subject matter, the investigator has present research problem into – Functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district perceived by school managements, teachers, and students. The investigator had employed and adopted the tools as given in the annexure to collect the opinions.

STANDARDISATION OF THE TOOL:

The opinionnaires was constructed for the teachers' trainees. The pilot testing was done on 10 school managements, 30 teachers and 40 students randomly selected from the Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district. The data analysed and the reliability test was calculated. Item analysis was carried out to find out the difficulty and decimation of each of the items. The reliability coefficient of the tool was calculated using split half method and found to be 0.74, 0.80 and 0.76. The items which are unanswered by all student teachers and which are marked by undecided/blank by all are omitted. The items with poor discriminating values are also deleted. After deleting those items the research tools were validated by three subject experts for the content validity and the construct validity. The items which are identified as vague or unclear were removed.

ADMINISTRATION THE TOOL:

The researcher personally visited the schools number of times and personally met the concerned special officers of the Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools for an appointment to gather the managements, teachers, and students to give the opinionnaires and find out the preliminary information about functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools.

COLLECTION OF DATA:

A brief orientation is given before distributing the tool to the sample. Necessary instructions are provided to student teachers. No time limit is kept for answering of the tool but almost all managements of schools, CRTs and students answered the tool. Hence 18 school managements, 162 CRTs and 180 girl students from Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.

MAJOR FINDINGS:

Management:

1. School managements expressed positive response with respect to staff related aspect, school infrastructure, Hostel Facilities, Teaching learning Material, Teaching Learning process and evaluation and overall response towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
2. There is no significant difference among school managements based on their locality with respect to school infrastructure towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
3. There is no significant difference among school managements based on their locality with respect to hostel facilities towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
4. There is no significant difference among school managements based on their locality towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.

Teachers:

1. The teachers expressed more positive opinion towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
2. There is a significant difference between below 35 and 35 to 50 years age group teachers' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
3. There is no significant difference among student's perceptions based on their general qualification towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
4. There is a significant difference among teacher's perceptions based on their teaching experience towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
5. There is a significant difference between below 10 years and 10 to 20 years experienced teachers' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari District.

Students:

1. The students expressed more positive opinion towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
2. There is a significant difference among student's perceptions based on their age group towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.
3. There is no significant difference between 13 and 14 year age group students' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari District.
4. There is no significant difference between 8th and 9th class students' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools in East Godavari district.
5. There is no significance difference among student's perceptions based on their class towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district.

CONCLUSION:

The present study "A Study on Functioning of the Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya in East Godavari District" is an attempt to focus on the inquiry on the facilities and services that are being provided including functioning the management and administration, the educational facilities for improving quality in education. Though the study is limited to a particular area in subject and number it has relevance to the appraisal of the scheme into and implications on the effective functioning of the

institutions. It covers all the sections of the personnel and students attached to the institutions. The following key findings of the study envisage a major trust of the improvisation of the Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas to meet the needs of the students. School managements have expressed positive response with respect to staff related aspect, school infrastructure, hostel facilities, teaching learning material, teaching learning process and evaluation and overall response towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari district. According to their locality and school management, managements of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed one and the same opinion towards functioning Of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari District.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY:

The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme was launched by the Government of India in August 2004 for setting up residential schools at upper primary level for girls belonging predominantly to the SC, ST, OBC and minorities in difficult areas. The scheme of the Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya was conducted as a separate scheme but in harmony with the SSA, National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) and Mahila Samakhya (MS) for the first two years, but has since 1st April, 2007 merged with the SSA programme as a separate component of that programme.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Majority of the managements of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed that there is no well-equipped lab facilities in the schools. So, the government should provide well equipped facilities to the Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya's.
2. Majority of the management of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed that there is maintenance of computer labs in the schools. So, government should provide provision of proper maintenance of computer lab.
3. Majority of the managements of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed that there is no collection of good books in the library. So, the government should provide sufficient books in the library.
4. Majority of Managements of the Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed that they have no proper medical facilities. So, adequate medical facilities and regular health check-up for Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya students are required.
5. Some of the Governments of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed that they have no T. Vs for recreation. T.V.s may be provided where they necessary.
6. Trained teachers Vocational Courses may be provided to Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas.
7. Special classes are needed t the backward students in Learning, Reading, Language Skills.
8. Job security is to be provided for the staff of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH:

The present investigation was taken up with as selected random sample in Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in East Godavari District because this research work must be completed in a limited time. In order to throw more light into the problem, the following modifications or suggestions may be incorporated to get more refined information.

1. The present investigation is open for a further study on broader area towards the functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas schools.
2. A study can also be undertaken to find the results of knowing about functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools.
3. This research is studied only in East Godavari district only; hence the study can also be taken in another district also.
4. A comparative study may be conducted between Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya school teachers and Non-Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya school teachers to make a probe to in the effective functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools.
5. Government should encourage in improving the quality of girl child education by providing funds towards functioning of Kasturbha Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools.

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