

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

ALL INDIA REPORT
ON
FIELD STUDIES CARRIED OUT IN

ANDHRA
WEST BENGAL
GUJARAT
MAHARASHTRA
MYSORE
ORISSA
PUNJAB
RAJASTHAN

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TATA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
CHEMBUR, BOMBAY 71 AS

26th OCTOBER , 1967.

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PREFACE

A chance meeting with Mr. J.P. Naik, Secretary, National Commission of Education, in the summer of 1964 led to a discussion of the need to interest sociologists in the field of education and of the desirability of convening a seminar to see what help sociologists could give in the deliberations of the Commission. The idea was a good one and it was tentatively agreed that if sociologists responded to the idea a seminar entitled sociology of Education in a Modernising Society should be convened under the auspices of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. The seminar would be sponsored by the Education Commission who would also meet the travelling expenses of the participants. The University Grants Commission would make a grant to meet other incidental expenses.

The idea of convening a seminar was later discussed with friends and particularly with Professor I.P. Desai. He insisted that if a seminar was to be convened at all it should only be as a preliminary to some concrete project of work that the seminarians would subsequently take up. This was welcome insistence and much after the heart of the Convener himself and in consonance with the policy of the Education Commission.

So, the Seminar was called and met between 11th and 13th December 1964. Distinguished sociologists from twelve different universities responded to the invitations. Three of the members of the Education Commission also participated in the discussions. No formal papers had been invited, but the theme of the seminar was systematically divided into different sessions and individual scholars were assigned responsibilities for initiating discussions on different facets of the theme. The deliberations of the seminar were directed toward developing concrete proposals for study which would stimulate sociological interest in the problems of education and feed some data to the many subgroups of the Education Commission. Two such proposals emerged.

One of these was the preparation and publication of papers by sociologists on different aspects of the challenge education faced in a modernising society. These papers have already been published under the title papers in the Sociology of Education in India. Fourteen scholars have contributed to this volume, published by the National Council of Educational Research, and Training in July 1967.

The other proposal was for undertaking an extensive field study to study the social background, the social values, the occupational aspirations and satisfactions of the major participants in the system of education. The details of the project were left to be finalised by a Co-ordinating Committee, elected for the purpose, and the Committee was also entrusted with the work of inviting and editing the papers referred to above. The Convener of the Seminar was also asked to work as the Convener of the Co-ordinating Committee.

One of the first tasks of the Co-ordinating Committee was to prepare project outlines and find funds for the two projects. Simultaneously the Committee had to decide upon the scholars who would be invited to write for the volume of collected papers and to find others who would be willing to undertake responsibility for directing field work for the survey in each of their regions. This work was completed by the Committee in its first two meetings. The different scholars who were approached for co-operation acceded to the request without any hesitation or delay.

The names of the members of the Co-ordinating Committee, the participants of ~~three~~ seminars; the contributors to the volume of "Papers" and the regional directors of field study are given at the end of the preface.

The work on neither of the two projects, however, could even have begun without assurance of funds. Here Mr. Chandrakant, Joint Director, National Council of Educational Research and Training came to the help of the Co-ordinating Committee. He agreed to have the request for funds examined by the Council and later communicated the approval of the Council to support both the projects. The Co-ordinating Committee have every reason to feel grateful to the Council for this assistance.

Once the projects were initiated the Co-ordinating Committee and the Convener have had to ask for help and favours for many things at nearly every step. In the framing of the questionnaire and the designing of the sample Dr. Ramkrishna Mukerjee and his two colleagues from the Indian Statistical Institute - Messrs. Suraj Bandopadhyay & K. Chattopadhyaya ~~xxxxxxx~~ were of invaluable help. Dr. Mukerjee was, of course, a member of the Co-ordinating Committee, but his two other colleagues had no such linkage with the project until much later ~~xxx xxxxxx x xxxxx~~ when they both helped in the field work in West Bengal. They carefully scrutinised the questionnaires, make several useful suggestions and helped Dr. Mukerjee in working out the elaborate sampling design for this study.

Another member of the Co-ordinating Committee who gave special help at this stage was Mr. A.L. Pandya. He gave a great deal of thought to the framing of questions relating to social values. He had planned originally to use a part of the Inkeles inventory of questions for the questionnaire of this study. This could not be done because of the need to limit the length of the questionnaire. He spent considerable time - despite ill-health - to finalise the twelve questions that now appear in the questionnaire.

Actually, six different questionnaires had to be prepared for the study and two of them had to be translated into seven different languages. The work of preparing drafts and re-drafts, of pretesting of questionnaires, of getting them translated and printed in all the languages - and in literally thousands of copies - and, finally, of despatching them to all the field centres could not have been done without the willing and often spontaneous help given by many friends, students and staff at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. It is difficult to record their names and certainly impossible to thank them adequately. Some idea of the amount of work involved can be gained from the fact that the whole process of framing, finalising, printing and despatching six different questionnaires in several languages had to be completed in six weeks. A total of 38,500 copies had to be prepared. The work was distributed in five presses, some of the questionnaires had to be cyclostyled at the Institute.

The number of favours and obligations that the Regional Directors must have had to ask and accept are not even known to the Convener. But it is not difficult to imagine what the work of contacting scores of institutions in as many different towns and cities must have meant for the Directors and their staff. All the Directors worked in an entirely honorary capacity and had to carry this load with their normal academic responsibilities. Fortunately their respective university administrations agreed to accept the responsibility for handling funds and maintaining books so that the directors were at least spared that part of the organisational responsibility.

The eight Regional Directors have not only supervised field-work but have each written complete reports on the data relating to their state. The reports form independent volumes in this series as follows:

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|--------|---|----------------|---|-------------------|
| Volume | I | General Report | - | Dr. M.S. Gore |
| | | | | Dr. I.P. Desai |
| | | | | Mrs. Suma Chitnis |

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|-----------|-------------|---|---------------|-------------------------|
| Vol. II | Andhra | - | Hon. Director | Dr. M.V. Moorthy |
| Vol. III | W.Bengal | - | " " | Dr. R.K. Mukerjee |
| Vol. IV | Gujarat | - | " " | Dr. B.V. Shah |
| Vol. V | Maharashtra | - | " " | Dr. Y.B. Damle |
| Vol. VI | Mysore | - | " " | Dr. K.N. Venkatarayappa |
| Vol. VII | Orissa | - | " " | Dr. R. Rath |
| Vol. VIII | Punjab | - | " " | Prin. S.N. Ranade |
| Vol. IX | Rajasthan | - | " " | Dr. S.K. Srivastava |

As the data from all the eight States were being received in the office of the Coordinating Committee arrangement had to be made for the punching and tabulation of data. If these operations were to be entrusted to a commercial organisation the budget which had been originally approved for the entire study would have been found insufficient for the work. The possibilities getting the work done at a concessional cost or entirely free of cost had therefore to be explored. Several organisations were approached. At one time it looked the project would get held up indefinitely at this stage. Two organisations came to the rescue - the Indian Institute of Technology and the Data Processing Unit in Bombay of the Tata Iron and Steel Company. There is no way in which these organizations can be adequately thankful. Each of them had to provide between three to six months of their time to help finish our work. The TISCO unit helped in the punching and verification of cards and in the preparation of frequency tables. The I.I.T. helped in the programming and computation of data for obtaining cross-tables for all the eight states. The scope and size of the operation can be judged by the fact that altogether data for 23,440 individual respondents had to be processed and a total number of 4864 frequency tables and 17,368 cross-tables had to be prepared. Mr. Yashpal Sahni of the TISSCO - Data Processing Unit and Dr. H.N. Mahabala of the I.I.T. at Kanpur gave a great deal of their time for consultations and supervision of the processing work for which the Co-ordinating Committee owes them a special debt of gratitude. Similarly Mr. B.V. Chitnis, of The Tata Hydro-Electric Company, Bombay spent almost his whole vacation helping to prepare a tentative, computer programme so that our requirements could be clearly indicated to the agency which would finally agree to process the data of the study.

Even after the tabulation work was over - and, in fact, even as the tables were being received - a good deal of copying, abstracting and percentaging had to be done. In this work many of the students of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences and even the younger members of

the families of staff had to give a helping hand. Mr. R.D. Naik who was then supervising most of this work had to use all this tact and resourcefulness to keep the work moving at the pace required by the oft-revised, and yet rather tight, time-schedule.

The Co-ordinating Committee is grateful to all the persons and agencies who have helped in the work of this project at various stages, and particularly to the Directors who organized the data-collection in their respective areas and finally prepared the State reports.

The Convener would like to record his special debt of obligations to three persons - Dr. I.P. Desai, Mrs. S. Chitnis and Mr. P. Ramachandran ~~xxxxxxxx~~ who have been colleagues in this project. Dr. Desai has been associated in the project from its very conception. He has shared in the thinking and discussions at all stages and participated in the preparation of this project. Mrs. Chitnis worked initially as the sole professional member of the Co-ordinating Unit staff, later she worked in an honorary capacity. In both the roles her contribution has been substantial and her interest unflagging. She has also participated effectively in the preparation of this report and appears as a co-author. Mr. Ramachandran's help has been crucial at all points where the project needed methodological and statistical advice. He helped actively in the drawing of the sample, preparation of the questionnaire, in working out card designs, tabulation frames, and the later statistical-analytical work of the project. He has written part of the chapter on the Study Design. Without the active involvement of these three colleagues the project could never have been completed.

Finally, the Convener would like to record his appreciation of the assistance he has received from the Registrar and the staff of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in the administration of the project. Thanks are also due to the staff of the Centre for Regional Development Studies for help in typing, stencilling and duplicating work.

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October 26, 1967

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LIST OF PERSONS WHO PARTICIPATED IN ONE OR MORE OF THE SEMINARS ON THE SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION AT THE TATA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

The studies reported upon in the series Field Studies in the Sociology of Education developed largely on a resort of the discussions in these Seminars. The Seminars were held as follows:

FIRST SEMINAR -- DECEMBER 1964
 SECOND SEMINAR -- OCTOBER 1965
 THIRD SEMINAR -- JANUARY 1967

- 1) A. Aiyappan Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Orissa
- 2) Brij Raj Chauhan Institute of Social Sciences, Agra University
- 3) Y.B. Damle Poona University
- 4) A.R. Dawood Education Commission
- 5) A.R. Desai Bombay University
- 6) I.P. Desai Baroda University
- 7) V.S. D'Souza Punjab University
- 8) S.C. Dube Saugar University
- 9) Henning Friis U.N. Advisor on Social Research to India International Centre, New Delhi
- 10) M.S. Gore Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay
- 11) V.E. Morey National Council of Educational Research and Training
- 12) R.K. Mukherjee Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta
- 13) S.N. Mukerjee National Council of Educational Research and Training
- 14) Leslie Palmier UNESCO Research Centre, Delhi
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- 16) A.H. Pandeya India International Centre, New Delhi
- 17) V.V. Pendse Poona University
- 18) Miss Sindhu Phadke Delhi School of Social Work
- 19) Thomas Poffenbarger Ford Foundation, New Delhi
- 20) N. Prasad Patna University

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------|---|
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| 23) | R. Rath | Utkal University |
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| 25) | K.G. Saiyidain | Education Commission |
| 26) | R.N. Saksena | Institute of Social Sciences, Agra |
| 27) | A.B. Shah | Indian Committee for Cultural Mission |
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| 29) | Yogendra Sing | Rajasthan University |
| 30) | S.K. Shrivastava | Banaras Hindu University |
| 31) | S. Shukla | Asian Institute of Educational Planning & Administration, New Delhi |
| 32) | T.L. Umithan | Rajasthan University |
| 33) | B.M. Varma | Patna University |
| 34) | K.N. Venkatarayappa | Mysore University |
| 35) | K.G. Zachariah | Demographic Training and Research Centre, Bombay |

The institutional affiliations mentioned against the names of the participants are the affiliations as reported at the time of the Seminar.

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