



IMPACT OF RUSA PROGRAMME IN THE ENROLMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Tayum Saroh*

Assistant Professor, Department of Education, RGU, Rono Hills, Doimukh-791112.

*Corresponding Author

Elizabeth Mize

Research Scholar, Department of Education, RGU, Rono Hills, Doimukh-791112.

ABSTRACT Higher education is pivotal for developing a modern economy, promoting a right leadership and for moulding up of vibrant society by equipping the young people with qualitative skills for the market demand and to worthy to pace up with the profound economic progress occurring around globally. Indian higher education, in post independence era, is growing in remarkable ways but every rose has a thorn, in the midst this gearing up progress there are certain issues that need to give grave concern to build a strong empire of productive higher education. The aspects to be concern at present like management and financing for Quality, Access, Equity and excellence twinned with the regular assessment of higher education institution and their accreditation. In case of Arunachal Pradesh the development of higher education was late and presently also the rate is slow in comparison to the other states of the country. This paper highlights the effect of Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) programme in the enrolment of higher education in the state of Arunachal Pradesh.

KEYWORDS : RUSA, Enrolment, Higher Education, Accessible

INTRODUCTION

Government of India initiated a centrally sponsored programme known as Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) in 2013 under Ministry of Human Resource Development with a motive to provide strategic funding to the eligible states with a ratio of 100% for union territories 90:10 for special category state and 60:40 for general category state on the performance based and outcome dependent to bring forth, Quality, Equity and Excellence in the higher education in our country. The objective of RUSA is to achieve the Gross Enrolment Ratio of 32% by the 2022. This centrally sponsored scheme was initiated in Arunachal Pradesh in the 2013. Presently there are 62 higher education institution including both government and private aided institution on the state out of which eight government degree colleges and one engineering govt. institution has been covered under this scheme and six more government model degree colleges are in under process of RUSA scheme. The Gross Enrolment Ratio of higher education of Arunachal Pradesh between the age group of 18-23 is 20.27 with 21.7 and 18.7 for male and female respectively. The state of Arunachal Pradesh is sparsely populated with most of the areas are hilly terrain due to which it faces a unique problems for the establishment of new educational institution. The institutions are established by considering the accessibility, feasibility, transport communication and other criteria which are essential for the future growth of the institution. The growth and development of modern education also happened lately in the state which is also affecting the present educational scenario. The starting of RUSA programme has brought a new hope in the future prospect of higher education in the state of Arunachal Pradesh.

The primary objectives of RUSA indicates that the RUSA programme is committed to bring a drastic change in the field of higher education by increasing the enrolment of students at higher education, building infrastructures, increase equity, accessibility and quality of higher education. In case of Arunachal Pradesh many infrastructural developments are happening under the RUSA programme at the higher educational institutions and also some teaching faculties were recruited under the same programme. The government is also very committed to establish at least one model degree college in each district in the state. The main objective of establishing higher education institutions in the state is increase equity, accessibility and quality of higher education in the state.

Table1: Year wise enrolment of the students between 16-23 years in institution of higher education in Arunachal Pradesh from 2015-16 to 2019-20

Sl. no.	Sessions	Boys	Percentage	Girls	Percentage	Total
1	2015-16	15487	51.1	14795	48.8	36282
2	2016-17	14113	50.5	13821	49.4	27934
3	2017-18	13960	51.9	12898	48	26858
4	2018-19	12450	52.7	11140	47.2	23590
5	2019-20	19177	55.8	15140	44.1	34311

Source: Basic Information on Higher and Technical Education

Arunachal Pradesh (2019-20)

The above table-1 highlights the last 5 years enrolment of the students in the last five years. Further the table depicts the boys and girls enrolment with their enrolment percentage of the last five years. It is evident from the table-1 that the highest enrolment of higher education student is in session 2015-16 with 36268. The increase and decrease in the enrolment of the students may be due to the students opting to pursue different courses outside the state due to limited or absence of the professional higher education institutions in the state. The table shows the fluctuation in the enrolment of students at higher education in the state from the academic session 2015-16 to 2019-20. The boys' enrolment percentage is slightly higher than the girls' enrolment in the state.

FACTORS AFFECTING THE ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

There are certain steps to be taken in order to bring productive outcome in rate of enrolment of students in higher education in Arunachal Pradesh which need a more concern in the state. Following are the certain factors which can contribute growth of enrolment in higher education.

More Subject Options

Generally the functionaries reflects more enthusiastic when the curriculum that are revamped and tuned with the demands of the latest technological advancements with interdisciplinary scope and learner centered curriculum and such, are more likely to attract more students than that of rigid and traditional pattern of curriculum.

Teacher and Teaching Methods

Pedagogy, scope for interdisciplinary subjects, well verged subject teachers, quality of teaching learning methods, teacher students' ratio and availability of teaching aids, evaluation system, **Infrastructural Facilities**

Infrastructural development such as physical infrastructures (buildings), academic infrastructure (libraries), ICT (Computer and Network), sports and skilled development infrastructure (Laboratories and workshop).

Good governance and Administration

Good governance, administration and sustaining the legacy of best of best practices in the institutions, Leadership in academic institution and expansions of collaboration at national and international level, qualities of research, financing system and university ranking accredited by NAAC which stands as a determinants to the enrolment of students in higher education institution.

CONCLUSION

So to sum up all these, it is infer that with the implementation of RUSA scheme in higher education of Arunachal Pradesh in the year 2013 there was remarkable positive growth in the enrolment of students in

higher education especially in the years 2019-20. It is also evident from the above study that the growth of girl's enrolment at the higher education is not equal to that of boys but there is a positive growth in the enrolment of girls. The implementation of RUSA programme in the state is a boon from the higher education of Arunachal Pradesh. It is the right time to initiate better infrastructural developments in the higher educational institutions of the state. The higher education institutions should be well equipped with facilities such as physical infrastructure with well constructed building, academic Infrastructures of libraries, ICT facilities, well developed laboratories and workshop and the sports infrastructure according to the need of present demand in specially the residential facilities for socially and educationally backward students. At the end it may be conclude that the implementation of RUSA programme is very beneficial for the development of higher education in the state of Arunachal Pradesh.

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