

Perceptions of Students Regarding the Contemporary Education System

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Abstract

As a common observation, it has been seen that educated citizens of our country do not like to send their children to government institutions. Many teachers in these days are in this profession for job security than their genuine will to contribute towards building a better society. This situation can be altered by changing this stereotype that government institutions hold no good by bringing radical change in the culture of education and making teacher and other staff more accountable. Present study was aimed to explore the perceptions of the students regarding the contemporary education system of the Punjab. It was hypothesized that students were not satisfied with the present system of education. Findings of the study revealed that 69% students of Punjab agreed on attitude of teachers as good, 72% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 68% students agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 70% of students perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 78% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 74% of students accept that teachers grow professionally, 67% of students agreed that adequate infra-structure was available in schools and 45% of students agreed that examination process is right.

Introduction

Ask our educated citizens if they would like to send their children to a government school and not a single person would answer in the affirmative. Teacher in these days are in this profession for job security and not because they want to contribute towards building a better society. This situation can be alter by changing this stereotype that government schools are not good by radical change in the culture of education making teacher and other staff more accountable. School education is directly linked with poverty and is a sole weapon against it. In the populous nation like India life is difficult even with education; there is not hope without it. People in the middle income group are able to send their children in public schools but the poor especially in the village; they still depend upon govt. schools for educating their children. Only few government schools have proper basic infrastructure like drinking water, electricity, furniture, toilets and proper building. That is the reason the dropout rate in these schools has gone up. The level of development of nation is directly linked to its literacy rate. The percentage of literacy in India is 64% only. We have a lot of to do far catching up, if we aspire to be among the developed nations by the 2020. We should make every effort to achieve 100 percent literacy. The state government has before them the gigantic task of promoting primary education; this should begin by upgrading government school in rural areas. This is possible only if teacher in these school are adequately compensated and their performance is regularly assessed. Incentive will have to come with disincentives. Mid-day meal programme should be made more lucrative and dropout rate should be checked

by counseling the students and parents both. Promoting only school education will not be sufficient; promoting quality education is more necessary, education is the first step toward progress and school education forms a strong base for higher education. Without quality school education there cannot be quality in higher studies. This quality can be achieved through excellence in performance. Excellence is the process of continuously moving towards betterment. Excellence in education means that the step at which we are standing today is it regarding teaching, research, training, management, dissemination or conduct; we make our effort to improve in all fields. In excellence, doing better than other; doing more than other and doing thing differently than others all these things are included. In the context of social relevance, the aim ought to be to fulfill the expectations of present as well as future generations. In the process of achieving excellence we should remember that our efforts benefit the whole society and not any individual in particular. The most essential component in the idea of excellence is that of social welfare. There should be immense depth as also height in excellence. Contemplation sacrifice, continuous practice and commitment as much as we follow these ideals, we will rise on the scale of excellence.

Objectives

To explore the perceptions of the students regarding the contemporary education system of the Punjab

Hypothesis

Students are satisfied with the present education system.

Methodology

The study was conducted on the students of Majha, Malwa and Doaba regions of Punjab. Students studying in government and private organizations at elementary, secondary and higher education level were approached to collect information. The study was conducted on 311 subjects belonging to above said regions of Punjab. The data were equally divided into these regions. During the data collection due consideration was given to the students belonging to different levels of educational Institutes (elementary, secondary and higher education), their gender, type of organization (government or private), level of their parental income and level of their parental qualification. The present study required collection of data for the five variables from three regions of Punjab. Thus, to make the data representative to the different regions of Punjab, stratified random sampling technique was applied. The data were collected from each stratum on random basis. The objective of the present study was to collect information about teachers, parent and education system of Punjab. It was decided to collect data pertaining to teachers; parent and education system of Punjab through scale prepared by the investigator and the information about level of educational institute, gender, type of institute, level of parental income and level of parental qualification of students of Punjab was collected through information sheet. To test the significance of the variables under study, percentage was applied.

Results

The present study aimed to explore the attitude, behaviour and communication of teacher; role of teachers and parents in child's development; professional growth of teachers; infra-structure and examination system in schools of Punjab. The information about personal variables like region (i.e. Malwa, Mahja and Doaba) level of education, gender, type of educational institute (i.e. government or private), level of parent's income

and level of parent's education of students was collected through information sheet. After applying appropriate statistical techniques, the results have been presented under the following heads.

Table-1
Opinions of Students of Punjab

S. No.	Observations of Students	Percentage of Agree Students
1	Good Attitude of Teachers	69
2	Good Behaviour of Teachers	72
3	Effective Communication of Teachers	68
4	Positive Role of Teachers in Child's Development	70
5	Positive Role of Parent in Child's Development	78
6	Professional Growth of Teachers	74
7	Infra-structure	67
8	Examination Process	45

The results of the table-1 shows that 69% students of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 72% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 68% students of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 70% of students perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 78% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 74% of students accept that teachers grow professionally, 67% of students agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 45% students of Punjab do agreed that examination process is right.

Table-2
Opinions of Students of Punjab According to Different Regions of Punjab

S. No.	Observations of Students	Percentage of Agree Students		
		Malwa	Doaba	Majha
1	Good Attitude of Teachers	60	79	68
2	Good Behaviour of Teachers	64	81	70
3	Effective Communication of Teachers	59	81	64
4	Positive Role of Teachers in Child's Development	66	78	68
5	Positive Role of Parents in Child's Development	75	83	77
6	Professional Growth of Teachers	65	86	70
7	Infra-structure	63	73	66
8	Examination Process	47	41	47

The results of the table-2 shows that 60% students of Malwa region of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 64% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 59% students of Malwa region of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 66% of students of the same region perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 75% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 65% of students accept that teachers grow professionally,

63% of students agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 47% students of Malwa region of Punjab do agreed that examination process is right.

Similarly 79% students of Doaba region of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 81% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 81% students of Doaba region of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Whereas 78% students of Doaba region perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 83% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. 86% of students of Doaba region accept that teachers grow professionally, 73% of students agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 41% students of Doaba region of Punjab agreed that examination process is right.

Again 68% students of Majha region of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 70% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 64% students of Majha region of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 68% students of Majha region perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 77% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 70% students of Majha region accept that teachers grow professionally, 66% students agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 47% students of Majha region of Punjab agreed that examination process is right.

Table-3
Opinions of Students of Punjab According to Level of Educational Institutes

S. No.	Observations of Students	Percentage of Agree Students		
		Ele.	Sec.	Higher
1	Good Attitude of Teachers	70	74	65
2	Good Behaviour of Teachers	72	78	68
3	Effective Communication of Teachers	66	76	64
4	Positive Role of Teachers in Child's Development	73	76	65
5	Positive Role of Parents in Child's Development	72	84	69
6	Professional Growth of Teachers	74	78	71
7	Infra-structure	66	70	67
8	Examination Process	47	51	40

The results of the table-3 shows that 70% students of elementary schools of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 72% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 68% students of elementary schools of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 66% students of elementary schools perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 72% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 74% students of elementary schools accept that teachers grow professionally, 66% students agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 47% students of elementary schools of Punjab agreed that examination process is right.

Again 74% students of secondary education of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 78% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 76% students of secondary education of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 76% of students of secondary education perceived that teachers play positive

role in their development and 84% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 78% students of secondary education accept that teachers grow professionally, 70% students agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 51% students of secondary education of Punjab agreed that examination process is right.

Similarly 65% students of higher education of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 68% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 64% students of higher education of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Again 65% students of higher education perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 69% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 71% students of higher education accept that teachers grow professionally, 67% of students agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 40% students of higher education of Punjab agreed that examination process is right.

Table-4
Opinions of Students of Punjab According to their Gender

S. No.	Observations of Students	Percentage of Agree Students	
		Male	Female
1	Good Attitude of Teachers	68	70
2	Good Behaviour of Teachers	71	74
3	Effective Communication of Teachers	65	71
4	Positive Role of Teachers in Child's Development	68	72
5	Positive Role of Parents in Child's Development	79	79
6	Professional Growth of Teachers	72	74
7	Infra-structure	66	71
8	Examination Process	46	44

The results of the table-4 shows that 68% male students of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 71% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 65% male students of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 68% male students perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 79% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 72% male students accept that teachers grow professionally, 66% male students agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 46% male students of Punjab do agreed that examination process is right.

Again 70% female students of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 74% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 71% female students of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 72% female students perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 79% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 74% female students accept that teachers grow professionally, 71% female students agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 44% female students of Punjab do agreed that examination process is right.

Table-5
Opinions of Students of Punjab According to Type of Educational Institute

S. No.	Observations of Students	Percentage of Agree Students	
		Govt.	Public
1	Good Attitude of Teachers	71	67
2	Good Behaviour of Teachers	75	69
3	Effective Communication of Teachers	73	63
4	Positive Role of Teachers in Child's Development	73	68
5	Positive Role of Parents in Child's Development	81	77
6	Professional Growth of Teachers	75	73
7	Infra-structure	70	65
8	Examination Process	48	43

The results of the table-5 shows that 71% students of government's institute of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 75% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 73% students of government's institute of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 73% students of government's institute perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 81% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 75% students of government's institute accept that teachers grow professionally, 70% students of government's institute agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 48% students of government's institute of Punjab agreed that examination process is right.

67% students of private institutes of Punjab agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 69% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 63% students of private institutes of Punjab agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 68% students of private institutes perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 77% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 73% students of private institutes accept that teachers grow professionally, 65% students of private institutes agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 43% students of private institutes of Punjab do agreed that examination process is right.

Table-6
Opinions of Students of Punjab According to Level of Their Parental Income

S. No.	Observations of Students	Percentage of Agree Students			
		PI-1	PI-2	PI-3	PI-4
1	Good Attitude of Teachers	68	73	66	65
2	Good Behaviour of Teachers	72	77	65	70
3	Effective Communication of Teachers	68	73	65	65
4	Positive Role of Teachers in Child's Development	74	74	68	68
5	Positive Role of Parents in Child's Development	76	80	78	80
6	Professional Growth of Teachers	76	77	71	72
7	Infra-structure	67	69	67	66
8	Examination Process	52	43	43	43

The results of the table-6 shows that 68% students of Punjab, whose parental income is below Rs. 2500 (PI-1) agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 72% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 68% students of Punjab, whose parental income is below Rs. 2500 (PI-1) agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 74% students, whose parental income is below Rs. 2500 (PI-1) perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 76% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 76% students, whose parental income is below Rs. 2500 (PI-1) accept that teachers grow professionally, 67% students, whose parental income is below Rs. 2500 (PI-1) agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 52% students of Punjab, whose parental income is below Rs. 2500 (PI-1) do agreed that examination process is right.

Again 73% students of Punjab, whose parental income is below Rs. 5000 (PI-2) agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 77% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 73% students of Punjab, whose parental income is below Rs. 5000 (PI-2) agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 74% students, whose parental income is below Rs. 5000 (PI-2) perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 80% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 77% students, whose parental income is below Rs. 5000 (PI-2) accept that teachers grow professionally, 69% students, whose parental income is below Rs. 5000 (PI-2) agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 43% students of Punjab, whose parental income is below Rs. 5000 (PI-2) do agreed that examination process is right.

While 66% students of Punjab, whose parental income is below Rs. 10,000 (PI-3) agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 65% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 65% students of Punjab, whose parental income is below Rs. 10,000 (PI-3) agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 68% of students, whose parental income is below Rs. 10,000 (PI-3) perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 78% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 71% students, whose parental income is below Rs. 10,000 (PI-3) accept that teachers grow professionally, 67% students, whose parental income is below Rs. 10,000 (PI-3) agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 43% students of Punjab, whose parental income is below Rs. 10,000 (PI-3) agreed that examination process is right.

However 65% students of Punjab, whose parental income is above Rs. 10,000 (PI-4) agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 70% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 65% students of Punjab, whose parental income is above Rs. 10,000 (PI-4) agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 68% of students, whose parental income is above Rs. 10,000 (PI-4) perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 80% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 72% students, whose parental income is above Rs. 10,000 (PI-4) accept that teachers grow professionally, 66% students, whose parental income is above Rs. 10,000 (PI-4) agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 43% students of Punjab, whose parental income is above Rs. 10,000 (PI-4) agreed that examination process is right.

Table-7
Opinions of Students of Punjab according to level of Their Parental Education

S. No.	Observations of Students	Percentage of Agree Students		
		PQ-1	PQ-2	PQ-3
1	Good Attitude of Teachers	71	70	62
2	Good Behaviour of Teachers	74	73	66
3	Effective Communication of Teachers	70	69	63
4	Positive Role of Teachers in Child's Development	73	71	61
5	Positive Role of Parents in Child's Development	78	78	82
6	Professional Growth of Teachers	75	77	69
7	Infra-structure	68	71	64
8	Examination Process	46	47	45

The results of the table-7 shows that 71% students of Punjab, whose parental qualification is up to 10th agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 74% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 70% students of Punjab, whose parental qualification is up to 10th agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 73% students, whose parental qualification is up to 10th, perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 78% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 75% students, whose parental qualification is up to 10th, accept that teachers grow professionally, 68% students, whose parental qualification is up to 10th agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 46% students of Punjab, whose parental qualification is up to 10th agreed that examination process is right.

Again 70% students of Punjab, whose parental qualification is up to B.A. agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 73% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 69% students of Punjab, whose parental qualification is up to B.A. agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 71% students, whose parental qualification is up to B.A. perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 78% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 77% students, whose parental qualification is up to B.A. accept that teachers grow professionally, 71% students, whose parental qualification is up to B.A. agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 47% students of Punjab, whose parental qualification is up to B.A. agreed that examination process is right.

However 62% students of Punjab, whose parental qualification is above B.A. agreed that attitude of teachers is good, 66% agreed that behaviour of teachers is good while 63% students of Punjab, whose parental qualification is above B.A. agreed that teachers have effective communication. Similarly 61% students, whose parental qualification is above B.A. perceived that teachers play positive role in their development and 82% perceived that parents play positive role in their development. Whereas 69% students accept that teachers grow professionally, 64% students, whose parental qualification is above B.A. agreed that adequate infra-structure available in schools and 45% students of Punjab, whose parental qualification is above B.A. agreed that examination process is right.

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