

**ATTITUDE OF PRE-SERVICE STUDENT-TEACHERS OF
CTE (B.ED.COURSE) TOWARDS TEACHING PROFESSION**

Mrs. RANJANA MUTUM*

ABSTRACT

One of the emerging issues of education in present Indian Society is the professional preparation and development of Teachers in producing quality teachers in a global perspective in the twenty- first century .The present article is to focus the attitude of pre-service student –teachers of College of Teachers Education (CTE) reading in B.Ed.Course in Manipur towards teaching profession. To produce and equip a quality teacher in the educative process and education system is very much relevant with the attitude of student – teachers admitted in teacher education institutes for professional preparation.

Keywords: Attitude, Pre-service, student-teacher, CTE, B.Ed. Course.

*** SCHOLAR, Edn.Deptt., Nagaland University, Kohima.**

Introduction:

Teaching profession is a highly skilled job and cannot be performed satisfactorily without a sound preparation for it. The progress of a nation depends upon the quality of its people, the quality of the people depends upon the quality of their education and the quality of their education depends upon the quality of its teacher and further the quality of teacher is also depended upon the quality of teacher education programme. The quality of teacher education programme is further very much related with the potentialities of its student-teachers-their interest, aptitude, attitude, abilities, personality, achievement, motivation as well as their mental and academic achievement level.

Now-a-days teacher's professional development is an important issue in the area of teacher education with the implementation of National Policy on Education 1986, POA 1980, Revised NPE 1992 and its Programme of Action 1992. A professional is one the practitioner of which possesses a body of specialized knowledge and have undergone practical training. Teaching profession is a profession of teaching job. It can be stated as job- role of teaching. Teaching profession requires education and training for job –role. In this profession a teacher tries to impart knowledge develops skills and attitudes towards his student. Teaching is considered as noblest profession. Teaching as a profession implies that a candidate who has joined teaching, he should take it as vocation or career that he has the aptitude of teaching. It consists of teaching aptitude, teaching skill, teaching personality and teaching motivation. These factors should be considered and awareness can be provided about the teaching profession. Love of teaching profession feels pleasure to make children learn, love of children and attachment by them are the prerequisite attitude for prospective teacher. It is not forgettable that teaching is a noble profession which counts amongst its members the greatest and noblest figures of human history. It is the teaching profession which is helping the individual for their growth and development fully concerning their cognitive, affective and psychomotor behavior as to fulfill their needs and requirements in particular and the society or nation in general at large. Therefore, teaching has been accepted as the noblest and ideal profession.

In developing one's carrier in life towards right selection of profession or vocation or occupation, the development of positive attitude is so essential. If the individual has negative attitude towards anything, he will not be able to lead his life successful. Attitude

plays a significant part in life. It directs one's behavior in much circumstance. Development of proper and favourable attitude is also required in making one's career in life. The present study is to find out whether the pre - service student -teachers of College of Teacher Education (CTE) reading in B.Ed. course have favourable or un-favourable attitude towards teaching profession.

The National policy on Education, 1986, while discussing various aspects of education has placed immense trusts in the teaching community. Teacher competency, accountability, aptitude and favourable attitude to the profession are to be ensured before teacher training or recruitment takes place.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

College of Teacher Education provides B.Ed. course of teacher education of Secondary school level in general and sometimes provides M.Ed. course. In Manipur there are 6(six) colleges of teacher education institute and one Hindi Teachers Training College (Govt.) providing B.Ed. course, of these 2(two) of them viz. D.M. College of Teacher Education(Govt.) and R.K. Sanatombi Devi College of Education (private) provided M.Ed. course. No institutes of teacher education are there in the Hill Districts till date. The intake capacity of 6 (six) Colleges of Teacher Education for B.Ed.course in overall is 780 including 130 in-service teachers of Government Schools .83.3% of the student-teachers are pre service category. So the present study is stated and entitled as

“ATTITUDE OF PRE-SERVICE STUDENT-TEACHERS OF CTE (B.ED COURSE) TOWARDS TEACHING PROFESSION”

OPERATIONAL KEY WORDS:

ATTITUDE:

“An attitude is a dispositional readiness to respond to certain situation, persons or objects in a consistent manner which has been learned and has become one's typical mode of response”(F rank. S. Freeman).

In the words of Traver, “An attitude is a readiness to response in such a way that behavior is given a certain direction”. Attitude in the present study is the favourable and un-favourable response towards teaching profession.

PRE-SERVICE:

The term ‘Pre-service’ here refers to the status of job before entering the service of teaching job.

STUDENT TEACHER:

The term ‘Student –Teachers’ here refer to those persons or individuals who are reading in teacher education institutes (The students reading in B.Ed. course in College of Teacher Education for the present study).

CTE:

CTE is the short form of College of Teacher Education which provides B.Ed. and M.Ed. courses of secondary School Teachers and Higher Education teachers.

TEACHING PROFESSION:

Teaching profession is a profession of teaching job which requires education and training for job role.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the present study are:

- i. To study the favourable and un-favourable attitudes of the student-teachers of pre-service teacher education of the B.Ed. Course towards teaching profession.
- ii. To find out whether the female student –teachers have more favourable attitude than the male student –teachers towards teaching profession.
- iii. To seek suggestion for improving the favourable attitude among the student –teachers of pre service education.

DELIMITATION

The present study is delimited to the 4(Four) College of Teacher Education of Imphal East and Imphal West District, Manipur. Sample size of 200 students teacher, 100 each of male and female were drawn for the collection data of the study.

METHOD ADOPTED:

The present study is an attempt to describe and interpret what exists at present in the form of attitude towards teaching profession of student teachers of Pre-service education, ‘Normative-Survey research method’ has been adopted.

SAMPLE:

For the study 200 pre-service student-teachers of B.Ed. course of 4 (four) colleges of Teacher education (CTE) located at Imphal East and Imphal West Districts have been drawn using Stratified Random sampling technique, 100 each of male and female student-teachers reading in the academic session of 2012-13. The sample of the study is shown in the following table no. 1.

Table No. - 1

Sample of the Study

Sl.No	Name of the Sample College of Teachers Education	STUDENT TEACHER		TOTAL 200
		Male(100)	Female(100)	
1.	D.M. College of Teacher Education	25	25	50
2.	Kanan Devi Memorial College of Education	25	25	50
3.	R.K. Sanatombi Devi College of Education	25	25	50
4.	Trinity Teacher Training college	25	25	50
Grand Total =		100	100	200

TOOL USED:

Self developed attitude scale has been used based on 3-point scale: Agree (A), Undecided (U) and Disagree (D). a modified Likert scale. The scale consists of positive and negative statements expressing attitude towards teaching profession.

TREATMENT OF DATA:

The collected data through attitude scale were converted into percentages of favourable and un-favourable responses of “Agree” (A) and “Disagree” (D) and left out the responses of “Undecided” (U)

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA:

There are overall 16 (sixteen) statements having 8 (eight) each of positive and negative items. For the convenient of the analysis and interpretation, positive and negative statements were separately treated to find out favourable and un-favourable percentage of responses of 200 student-teachers (100 each of Male & Female). The response of “Agreed” is treated both for ‘favourable’ and ‘un-favourable’ according to the statements given in the positive and negative attitudes. The analysers and interpretation of the present study is shown in the following tables (2) and (3).



Table No.2
Responses of Positive statements towards teaching Profession
N=200(100male and 100female)

Sl.No	Statements	Percentage of Responses		
		Favourable (200 overall)	Male (100)	Female(100)
1.	Teaching Profession is the best profession of all	162 (81.0)	73 (73.0)	89 (89.0)
2.	Teaching is the noblest profession	170 (85.0)	78 (78.0)	92 (92.0)
3.	Teaching profession is highly prestigious than other Profession	165 (82.5)	80 (80.0)	85 (85.0)
4.	I like the profession of teaching to make my career	110 (55.0)	47 (47.0)	63 (63.0)
5.	Teaching profession is consider as the most ideal profession	168 (84.0)	79 (79.0)	89 (89.0)
6.	Teaching profession is the best educational social service for mankind	180 (90.0)	84 (84.0)	96 (96.0)
7.	Teaching profession is a highly skilled and competent job	125 (62.5)	62 (62.0)	63 (63.0)
8.	If one neglects teaching profession, it neglects the development of society	177 (88.57)	88 (88.0)	89 (89.0)
Overall percentage of Response =		1257 (78.56)	591 (73.88)	666 (83.25)

Agreed =Favourable Response

The above table no. 2 reveals the responses of the 200 pre-service student-teachers of College of Teacher Education (CTE) on the 8 (eight) positive statements of attitude scale towards teaching profession. The overall percentage of responses in favour of the statements was 78.56 (73.88 Male and 83.25 Female student-teachers). It can be observed the majority of the pre-service student-teachers of CTE have favourable attitude towards teaching profession. It is also realised that female student-teachers have more favourable attitude than male counterpart.

Table No.3
Responses of Negative Statements towards Teaching Profession
N=200 (100male and 100 female)

Sl.No	Statements	Percentage of Responses		
		N=200 Un-Favourable (overall)	Male (100)	Female(100)
1.	Teaching Profession is the most simplest and easiest profession for everybody	18 (9.0)	11 (11.0)	7 (7.0)
2.	Teaching profession is disregarded by most of the people in the present day society	157 (78.5)	92 (92.0)	65 (65.0)
3.	In our Society every body looks down the profession of teaching	156 (78.0)	91 (91.0)	65 (65.0)
4.	Choosing of teaching profession should be a wrong career in one's life	48 (24.0)	32 (32.0)	16 (16.0)
5.	Only the average educated persons enter the job of teaching profession as career	102 (51.0)	67 (67.0)	35 (35.0)
6.	Everybody can become a most successful and ideal teacher after passing B.Ed. course while entering the job of teaching	47 (23.5)	25 (25.0)	22 (22.0)
7.	Nobody love the profession of teaching	17 (8.5)	8 (8.0)	9 (9.0)
8.	I take the B.Ed. Course for getting the job of teaching easily	82 (41.0)	32 (32.0)	50 (50.0)
	Overall percentage of Response	627 (39.19)	358 (44.75)	269 (33.65)

Agreed= Unfavorable Response.

The table no. 3 shows the responses of the 200 pre-service students of CTE on the negative items of attitude scale towards teaching profession. The overall percentage of responses on un-favourable student-teachers is 39.19 (44.75 Male and 33.63 Female student-teachers). It seems that some of the pre-service student-teachers have un-favourable attitude towards teaching profession even though they are under-going B.Ed. course. Some of them do not like the job of teaching. From the analysis, it is also learnt that majority of the student-teachers agreed that teaching profession is disregarded by most of the people and also looks down in our society.

MAIN FINDINGS:

The main findings of the study are as follows:

1. Majority (78.56%) of the pre-service student-teachers reading B.Ed. course in the CTE of Imphal East and Imphal West Districts have favourable attitude towards teaching profession. They realised that teaching is the best educational social service for mankind, the ideal and noblest profession. If one neglects teaching profession, it neglects the development of society.
2. Female student-teachers of pre-service education of CTE have more favourable attitude (83.25) than the male counterpart. 96.0% of them have realised that teaching profession is the best educational social service for mankind. 92% have agreed that teaching is the noblest profession. 89.0% of them realised that teaching is the best profession of all the ideal profession, if neglects teaching profession, it neglects the development of society.
3. Both the male and female student-teachers feel that teaching profession is disregarded by most of the people and everybody looks down the profession of teaching.

SUGGESTIONS FOR DEVELOPING FAVOURABLE ATTITUDE FOR QUALITY TEACHER EDUCATION:

For seeking suggestions for developing favourable attitude of quality teacher education, the interview schedule was used and collected suggestions made by the Principals of the CTE's Teacher-Educators and student-teachers, some of the pertinent points have been highlighted.

- a) Aptitude test for teaching should be adopted in the selection of candidates.
- b) Psychological tests like intelligence test, logical reasoning, interest inventory, personality test etc. have to be employed for screening.
- c) Achievement tests for subjects also have to be conducted.
- d) General knowledge and knowledge of current affairs have to be tested.
- e) Pre-demonstration teaching should be organised to expose their talents.
- f) Personal interview should be made for final screening by a Board of expert educators of selection committee.
- g) The intake capacity of an institution should not be more than 100 and less than 50 in a class.

- h) Competent, efficient and dedicated teacher-educators should be appointed under National Eligibility Test for teacher-educators.
- i) Need for raising the social status of the teacher community under certain provisions and facilities of Government and to exercises certain jurisdictional judicial and administrative power to some extent is required.
- j) Inter-departmental service facilities from the Educational Institutes to different Departments from time to time should be made under certain parameters and criteria.

IMPLICATION OF STUDY:

In Manipur, the study of B.Ed. course is now very popular due to increasing demand of graduate and post graduate students after the completion of the courses. B.Ed. course become the essential eligibility of the school teachers' recruitment. In the context of Manipur, due to the ban of recruitment and appointment of any service by the Government of Manipur for the last decades, numbers of un-employment educated youths have been increasing tremendously during the decade. The entering in the teaching profession in the private schools is the only means for their survival and alternative of the educated youths. Therefore, the study of B.Ed. Course became an indispensable for every graduate and post-graduate student whether they favour the teaching profession or not. There is heavy rush for getting admission of B.Ed. course in the college of Teacher Education in the state for the last few years. Only affordable candidate can get admission whether they are deserving or having favourable attitude towards teaching profession or not. There are 6 (six) colleges of teacher education including one Government college in Manipur. Private colleges of Teacher Education are expensive so that poor and highly desirous candidates cannot afford to get the B.Ed. course. Number of degree holders of general education has also been increasing year by year. There is a great un-employment problem in the State. Keeping in view to solving the problem to some extent, the problem of un-employment, some private enterprises began to establish number of schools both high and higher secondary level. There is a great opportunity for the student-teachers to enter in the teaching profession in such institutions if they are desirous of the job of teaching. Though, it is not the matter of the certificate holder, it is the attitude towards the teaching profession of the student-teachers. It is imperative to study the attitudes of the student-teachers of the pre-service education whether they have desirable and favourable attitudes towards the profession of teaching. It is also essential to know how far the colleges of teacher education have been promoted and encouraged in providing B.Ed. Course for the desirable candidates. So the favourable and un-favourable attitude of student-teachers of pre-service teacher education programme towards the teaching profession.

It should be a significant study for the teacher-educators, administrators, Principals, Managers and Planners of teacher education for effective functioning and providing quality teacher education in the 21st Century from the findings of the study. Selection of candidates for teacher education of pre-service education as well as recruitment of teachers in the school be adopted on the basis of this finding.

CONCLUSION :

The study of attitude of the student teacher of pre-service teacher education programme is so essential for providing quality teachers in the society, without understanding favourable attitude of the student-teacher. The imparting of teacher education programme will not be so effective and the education system of the state will also be paralysed generally. For producing efficient and competent teachers in the educative process, the teacher education institutes should have sound knowledge of determining the favourable attitude of the student-teachers towards teaching profession. If the student-teachers do not have positive and favourable attitude towards teaching profession, it is not possible to produce a deserving teacher by the teacher education institutes in the educative process of the society and nation. One should not consider that "Teaching is not every body's cup of tea" (C.E.M. Joad). Teaching is highly artistic and scientific. The old conception "Teachers are born and not made" became vague in modern days. Teachers have to be trained and made along with the potentialities which they possessed. Favourable attitude in teaching profession should be cultivated by the teacher education institutes keeping with the view to train and develop the student-teachers in order to produce a successful and ideal teacher in the educative process. The present study can highlight the essentiality for determining the attitude of student-teachers whether they have favourable attitude towards teaching profession or not. Every student-teacher has to realise that teaching is the most noble and ideal profession and teachers are the architect of the nation or nation-builders. It should be kept in mind that all the student-teachers should have and develop favourable and positive attitude towards teaching profession before they enter to the teacher education institutes to take B.Ed. course or any course of teacher education as well as to enter the job of teaching. The study of attitude of the student-teachers of pre-service education will be so benefitted in proving effective teacher education programme by the institutes of teacher education in the educative process to a great extent in the 21st Century.

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