ATTITUDE OF PARENTS TOWARDS PRIVATE TUITION: A CASE STUDY

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Abstract
The present study attempts to explore the attitude of parents towards private tuition and its causes, effectiveness of private tuition and the problems on the lives of parents. From the result of the research the causes of increasing trend of private tuition are — overcrowded classrooms and lack of individual attention in the school, heavy stress on academic performance, frequent bandhs, general strikes or blockade and other social issues, ineffective classroom teaching and rigid curriculum, examination oriented school culture, influence of family members, relatives and friends, an alternative means to help weak children, insufficiency of academic guidance for the future in the family, to keep children gainfully occupied in their studies and means for minding children and keeping them with their books. While studying the problems of private tuition in the lives of the parents, the problem are — large amount of money spend on children's private tuition, socially accepted culture to improve the learning and academic performance, wealthy households are capable of spending more money than poor households and has created a serious socio-economic division in the society, put parents in the society into financial burden and exhaustion, parents to pay less attention to their professions as they are confined in attending their children in private tuition centres on daily basis, resulted a negative backwash in the society by robbing the thinking power, creativity and problem solving skills of the children, parents are compelled to send their children to private tuition under the pressure and influence of their family, friends and relatives, parents as a whole are not proportionately benefited in terms of the results of their children academic performance as to the money they have spent on private tuition and spending most of the time in attending children private tuitions affects physical and mental health. The findings may help to improve the present education system and to enable eradication of private tuition in our society.

Keywords: Parents' attitude, private tuition, factors of private tuition, problems of private tuition, Imphal, Manipur.
ATTITUDE TOWARDS PRIVATE TUITION

thinking power of our young students. This slowly cultivates a mindset of dependency among young students which they cannot think of solving any problem without teacher’s assistance. The National Curriculum Framework of 2005 had adopted a constructivist perspective. In the teaching which aims at developing learners who construct their knowledge themselves, for the learners it is learning for construction of knowledge, and for the teachers it is teaching for construction of knowledge. So, the present education system needs to change in the constructivist view of learning. Private tutoring is defined as fee-based tutoring that provides supplementary instruction to children in academic subjects that they study in the mainstream educational system. The study primarily focuses on tutoring lessons for children or adolescent paid for by their households or parents, so private tutoring can clearly be considered to be a form of private education. The present study aims at exploring a little more the phenomenon of private tutoring, the causes for taking private tuition, the effectiveness of private tuition and the problems of private tuition on the lives of the parents.

Objectives of Study
To find out the opinion of the parents for the causes of increasing private tuition in Manipur. To find out the opinion of the parents on the effectiveness of private tutoring in improving the academic performance. And To find out the problems on the lives of the parents caused by the increasing trend of private tuition in Manipur.

Method of Study
The present study was conducted through survey method of research on the simple random sampling of 100 parents who came to guard their children from selected 10 (ten) tutorial centres of Imphal – East and West districts of Manipur. The sample comprised of 10 parents from Gurukul tutorial centre, Keishampat Hodam Leirak, 10 COMET tutorial centre, Keishampat, 10 MECI tutorial centre, Keishampat, 10 LAMJINGBA tutorial centre, Lamphel, 10 KIMES tutorial centre, Singjamei, 10 Panacea tutorial centre, Choukion, 10 Shine tutorial centre, Wangkhei, 10 Social Science tutorial centre, Soba Limelai, 10 ESPM tutorial centre, Wangkhei Ayangpalii, 10 Splice tutorial centre, Choukion, Imphal. The tools for the study were used questionnaire which was developed by investigator himself keeping into account the various aspects of private tuition. The data are interpreted in term of percentage.

Result and Discussion

1. Causes for Increasing Trend of Private Tuition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Causes</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Overcrowded classroom and lack of individual attention in the school</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Heavy stress on academic performance</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Frequent bandhs, general strikes or blockade and other social issues</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Ineffective classroom teaching and rigid curriculum</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Examination oriented school culture</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Influence of family members, relatives and friends</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>An alternative means to help weak children</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Insufficiency of academic guidance, for the future in the family</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>A way to keep the children gainfully occupied in their studies</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Means for minding children and keeping them attach with their books</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(N = 100) While studying the causes of increasing trend of private tuition in Manipur, it was found that 91 i.e. 91% of parents agreed that overcrowded classroom and lack of individual attention in the school is also cause for raising the demand for private tuition. 63 i.e. 63% agreed that the heavy stress on academic achievement of their children is the cause for the trend of private tuition. 75 i.e. 75% of the parents agreed to the statement that frequent bandhs, general strikes or blockade and other social issues are the cause of increasing trend of private tuition. 79 i.e. 79% of the parent agreed that ineffective classroom teaching and rigid curriculum are the cause for the trend of private tuition. 61 i.e. 61% of the respondents agreed to the statement that examination oriented school culture is the reason to seek for private tuition. 58 i.e. 58% of the parents agreed that their family members, relatives and friends influence them to sent their children for private tuition. 57 i.e. 57% of the parents responded yes to the statement that private tuition can be an alternative means to help the weak students. 68 i.e. 68% of the parents agreed that insufficiency of academic guidance for the future career is the cause for seeking private tuition. 55 i.e. 55% agreed that they sent their children to private tuition to keep them gainfully occupied in the studies. 71 i.e. 71% of the parents agreed that it serves as means for minding children and keeping them attach with their books.

2. Effectiveness of Private Tuition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Effectiveness</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Improve academic performance</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Help to revise and understand lessons and deepen knowledge</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Provide flexible time and individual attention to improve weak subjects</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Help academically sound and successful children to maintain their competitive advantage over others</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Help prepare Well for the competitive exams, entrance exams (Medical, Engineering and other professional courses) and for higher studies</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Kind of educational investment to gain benefits in the future</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>An alternative means to supplement learning beside school classroom teaching</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(N = 100) In the aspects of the effectiveness of private tuition, it was found that 88 i.e. 88% of the parents agreed that private tuition help their children to improve the academic performance. 82 i.e. 82% of the respondents gave their positive response that private tuition help them to revise and understand their lessons and deepen their knowledge. 62 i.e. 62% of the parents agreed that private tuition provide children a flexible time and individual attention to improve the weak subjects. 76 i.e. 76% of respondents agreed that private tuition helps academically sound and successful children to maintain their competitive advantage over others. 83 i.e. 83% of the parents agreed that private tuition help the children in preparing well for the competitive exams, entrance exams (Medical, Engineering and other professional courses) and for higher studies. 66 i.e. 66% of respondent agreed that private tuition is a kind of educational investment to gain benefit in the future. 72 i.e. 72% of the parents agreed that private tuition is an alternative means to supplement learning beside school classroom teaching.
3. Problems of Private Tuitions on the Lives of the parents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Problems</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Large amount of money spent on children’s private tuition</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>89 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Socially accepted culture to improve the learning and academic performance</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wealthy households are capable of spending more money than poor households and has created a serious socio-economic division in the society</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>92 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Parents in the society into financial burden and exhaustion</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>91 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Parents are compelled to send their children to private tuition centres on daily basis</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Resulted a negative backwash in the society by robbing the thinking power creativity and problem solving skills of the children</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>89 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Parents are compelled to send their children to private tuition under the pressure and influence of their family, friends and relatives</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>76 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Parents as a whole are not proportionately benefitted in terms of the results of their children academic performance as to the money they have spent on private tuition</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>68 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Spending most of the time in attending children private tuitions affects physical and mental health</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>73 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(N= 200) While studying problems in the lives of the parents through the private tuition, it was found that 89 i.e. 89 % of the parents agreed that large amount of money is spent on children private tuition. 90 i.e. 90 % of the parents agreed that private tuition has become a socially accepted culture to improve the learning and academic performance. 92 i.e. 92 % of the parents agreed to the statement that wealthy households are capable of spending more money than poor households and it had created a serious socio-economic division in the society. 91 i.e. 91 % of respondents agreed that private tuition has put parents in the society into financial burden and exhaustion. 90 i.e. 90 % agreed that they pay less attention to their professors as they are confined on a daily basis to attend their children in private tuition centres. 89 i.e. 89 % of the parents agreed that private tuition resulted in a negative backwash in the society by robbing the thinking power creativity and problem solving skills of the children. 76 i.e. 76 % of respondents agreed that they faced heavy pressure from their family, friends, and relatives and are compelled to send their children to private tuition. 68 i.e. 68 % of the parents agreed that as a whole are not proportionately benefitted in terms of the result of their children academic performance as to the money they have spent on private tuition. 73 i.e. 73 % of the parents agreed that spending most of the time in attending children private tuitions affects physical and mental health.

4. Educational Level of the Parents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Level</th>
<th>Number of Parents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-graduate and above</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(N= 100) From the above table 4, it shows that 23 i.e. 23 % of the parents of the students are undergraduate. 34 i.e. 34 % of the parents of the students are graduate. 43 i.e. 43 % of the parent are post-graduates and above. It can be therefore interpreted that most of the highly educated parents send their children for private tuition.

5. Professional Level of the Parents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Level</th>
<th>Number of Parents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government Employee</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Sector Employee</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(N= 100) From the above table 5, it is found that 53 i.e. 53 % of the parents of the students are government employees. 22 i.e. 22 % of the parents of the students are private sector employees. 25 i.e. 25 % of the parents are doing business. It is therefore interpreted that maximum number of government employee parents send their children for private tuition than private sectors and business parents.

6. Economic Status of the Parents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Level of the Parents in a year</th>
<th>Number of Parents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Lakh – 2 Lakh</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Lakh – 3 Lakh</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Lakh – 5 Lakh</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Lakh and above</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(N= 100) From the above analysis of the economic status of the parents who send their children in private tuition, it is found that 13 i.e. 13 % of the parents’ income level is 1 Lakh – 2 Lakh rupees in a year. 16 i.e. 16 % of the parents’ income level in 2 Lakh – 3 Lakh rupees in a year. 17 i.e. 17 % of the parents’ income level is 3 Lakh – 5 Lakh rupees in a year. 54 i.e. 54 % of the parents’ income level is 5 Lakh and above rupees on a year. It can be therefore interpreted that parents earning annually an income of 5 Lakh and above send their children for the private tuition more than the parents earning less income.

Conclusion and Suggestions

While studying the causes for increasing trend of private tuition, the highest number of parents consider that overcrowded classroom and lack of individual attention in the school is the cause for increasing trend of private tuition in Manipur. Ineffective classroom teaching and rigid curriculum is the second rank for cause of the parents seeking private tuition. The teachers are focusing more on private tuition rather than classroom teaching. And the present curriculum does not provide knowledge useful to children’s future career. In the third rank is the frequent bandhs, general strikes or blockade which is used as a means for any demand of the social issues to the government which become the cause of increasing trend of private tuition in Manipur. Private tuition serves as means for minding children and keeping them attach with their books is cause for trend of private tuition. Insufficiency of academic guidance for the future career of the children is the cause for seeking private tuition. Many of the parents consider that heavy stress on the future career of the children is the cause for seeking private tuition. Influence of family members, relatives, friends and the society are the cause for sending the children to join private tuition. An alternative means to help the weak students which in
results a negative backwash in the society by robbing the
exhaustion. Private tuition which has led parents to pay less
tuition put parents in the society into financial burden and
educational inequality and social inequality issues. Private
households are capable of spending more money than poor
levels of the parents is due to the reason that wealthy
Majority number of parents agreed that problems in the
and it will also affect the learning process of the students.
and it also implies that it will largely affect the functioning of the mainstream school system and it will also affect the learning process of the students. Majority number of parents agreed that problems in
the lives of the parents is due to the reason that wealthy
households are capable of spending more money than poor
households and has created a serious socio-economic division
in the society. It means that this will bring about an
educational inequality and social inequality issues. Private
tuition put parents in the society into financial burden and
exhaustion. Private tuition which has led parents to pay less
attention to their professions as they are confined in attending
their children in private tuition centres on daily basis. It has
resulted a negative backwash in the society by robbing the
thinking power, creativity and problem solving skills of
the children. Parents as a whole are not proportionately benefited
in terms of the results of their children academic performance
as to the money they have spent on private tuition. Spending
most of the time in attending children private tuition affects
physical and mental health of the parents.

Based on the Above Situations, it is Suggested to Eradicate
Private Tuitions in our Society: The present education
system need to change in the constructivist view of
learning. In the teaching which aims at developing
learners who construct their knowledge themselves, for
the learners it is learning for construction of knowledge,
and for the teachers it is teaching for construction of
knowledge. Teacher must realize that knowledge / concepts
learned today should change to modify tomorrow.
Therefore, they do not stress on memorising the facts by
students but help teachers to nurture students as
independent thinkers and constructors of knowledge. The
role of teacher change from ‘transmitter’ of knowledge to
facilitator’ of knowledge construction. They must employ
a range of strategies to support individual student’s
understanding by problem – based activities. Teachers must
not be grafted on traditional methods of teaching; these
need a change in the culture – a set norms, attitudes, beliefs
and practices that constitute constructivist culture. Learning
is not a passive receptive process but is instead an active
meaning making process required to solve meaningful
problems. So, students should take the responsibility of
their own learning. They must construct knowledge and
should not receive knowledge as passive learners. It is to
suggest to the parents and the students that private tuition
is not the only means to guarantee the academic improvement
and higher performance. Because private tuition cultivate a
mindset of dependency and culture of rote learning. So,
parents and students should aware of disadvantages of
private tuition. Teachers must not be commercialized instead
they should be dedicated to their teaching profession, in
their mainstream school education. It is also suggest that
students, parents and the government should promote the
learning in the school rather than those in the private tuition
centres. They should aware that the learning which the private tuition provide is incomplete. It undermines the all
round education as provide in the schools. This serious issue
of growing demand of private tuitions has to be emphasized
by the policy makers intervening on curriculum, teachers
salary structure, pedagogical development, evaluation system
etc., and to think what can be executed for the slow
learners. In the present education system curriculum should
be based on constructivist. In the constructivist curriculum
emphasis is given on the individual learner as an important
role in determining what will be learned. Government should
framed a policy like remedial classes for the students in the
schools. It should be made compulsory implementation
and monitored the working of its policy for the welfare of
the students, parents and the society as a whole.

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