

A Study on Functioning and Management of The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) Schools in Madhya Pradesh

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Abstract:

Education has been recognized as the fundamental right and it is viewed as the process of human resource development where the knowledge, skills and capabilities are sharpened to achieve a wide range of objectives. The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme was launched by the Government of India in August, 2004 for setting up residential schools at upper primary level for girls belonging predominantly to the SC, ST, OBC and minorities in difficult areas. The scheme provides for a minimum reservation of 75% of the seats for girls belong to SC, ST, OBC or minority communities and priority for the remaining 25%, to the girls from families below poverty line. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are providing residential school facilities with free textbooks and uniform along with quality education.

Keywords: KGBV, SSA, NPEGEL, School Management, Locality, Gender, Age, Educational Qualification Designation, Teaching Experience, School management, Parental Qualification, Parental Occupation, Parental Income.

Introduction:

Education has been recognized as the fundamental right and it is viewed as the process of human resource development where the knowledge, skills and capabilities are sharpened to achieve a wide range of objectives. The success of democracy, conceived programs, community involvement, utilization of physical and human resources, national integration, cultural transformation etc., are influenced by the education development with outlaying emphasis on education.

The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme was launched by the Government of India in August, 2004 for setting up residential schools at upper primary level for girls belonging predominantly to the SC, ST, OBC and minorities in difficult areas. The scheme of the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya ran as a separate scheme but in harmony with the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA), National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) and Mahila Samakhyas (MS) for the first two years but has since 1st April, 2007 merged with the SSA programme as a separate component of that program.

Need and Importance of the Study:

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) is a scheme launched, in 2004 in the state of Andhra Pradesh for setting up residential schools for girls at upper primary level belonging to the SC, ST, OBC and minority communities. This scheme is being implemented in across the state where the female rural literacy is below the national average and gender gap in literacy is above the national average. The scheme provides for a minimum reservation of 75% of the seats for girls belong to SC, ST, OBC or minority communities and priority for the remaining 25%, to the girls from families below poverty line. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are providing residential school facilities with free textbooks and uniform along with quality education. Presently 345 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are functioning in the state of Andhra Pradesh with the financial assistance under SSA. In Madhya Pradesh KGBVs were established to provide quality education to the girls belonging to the deprived groups.

Limitations of the Study:

The researcher limited the study to know perceptions of school managements, teachers, and students of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya School in Madhya Pradesh. It was further been delimited to know the functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools in Madhya Pradesh.

Further, this study is also delimited to collect data from the 10 managements, 136 teachers and 150 students from Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools cover in rural and urban areas (localities)

of Madhya Pradesh state including 5 districts (Ratlam, Chhindwara, Singroli, Morena and Vidisha).

Research Methodology:

Research has originally drawn its spirit and pattern from the physical science – wherein constant efforts were made to understand the physical world around us. Research marks the use of rigorous and structured type of analysis of observed phenomena. The secret of cultural development has been research, pushing back the area of discovering new truths, which in turn lead to better ways of doing things and better products and conveniences to live and enjoy life at large.

Objectives of the Study:

The present study was undertaken with the following objectives.

1. To study the functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
2. To find out the influence of the following variables on the perceptions of school management towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh
 - a) Management,
 - b) Locality and
 - c) type of Building.
3. To find out the influence of the following variables on the perceptions of special officers and Contract Resident Teachers (CRTs) towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh
 - a) Gender,
 - b) Age,
 - c) Educational Qualification
 - d) Designation
 - e) Teaching Experience,
 - f) Locality and
 - g) School management.
4. To find out the influence of the following variables on the perceptions of students towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh
 - a) Gender,
 - b) Age,
 - c) Class
 - d) Social Status
 - e) Parental Qualification
 - f) Parental Occupation,
 - g) Parental Income and
 - h) Locality.
5. To suggest ways and means for Effective Functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.

Hypothesis of the Study:

Managements:

1. There will be no significant difference among school managements perceptions based on their locality towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
2. There will be no significant difference among school managements based on their school management towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.

Teachers:

1. There will be no significant difference between male and female teachers' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
2. There will be no significant difference among teachers' perceptions based on their age towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
3. There will be no significant difference among teachers' perceptions based on their General Qualifications towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
4. There will be no significant difference between principal and CRTs perceptions towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools in Kasturba.

Students:

1. There will be no significant difference between boy and girl's students' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayaschools in Madhya Pradesh.
2. There will be no significant difference among student's perceptions based on their age group towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayaschools in Madhya Pradesh.
3. There will be no significant difference among student's perceptions based on their studying class towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayaschools in Madhya Pradesh.
4. There will be no significant difference among students' perceptions-based on their parental qualification towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools in Madhya Pradesh.

Design of the Study:

The discussion over the methodological aspects of the study, to begin with, focuses upon the research design applicable for the study. Describing research design as a tool of guidance in seeking required information, in processing the data and in combining the data with a purposeful procedure.

The type of research undertaken by the investigator is exploratory in nature. It is a descriptive survey method of research. The word 'survey' has been derived from the two words 'sure' and 'veer' which means 'over' and 'see' respectively. Descriptive survey tells us 'what is'. This has a very wide scope. It described and interpreted what exists at present.

Selection of the Sample

The generalization of the results of the research depends upon the sample, the investigator selects. A sample is a small proportion of a population selected for observation and analysis. By observing the characteristics of the population from which it is drawn. The respondents for selected based on random sampling giving proportionate representation to different kind of characteristics.

Since, the study involves in collection of information regarding the functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh. The information is elicited from the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayaschools in Madhya Pradesh.

Research Tool:

According to John W. Best like the tools in the carpenter's box, each research tool is appropriate in each situation to accomplish a particular purpose. Each data-gathering device has its own merits and hazards or limitations.

The instruments that are employed to gather new facts or to explore new fields are called as 'tool'. It is of vital importance to select suitable instruments or tools. Different tools are suitable for selecting different types of data. The investigator may use anyone or more of the tools in combination for this purpose, there are two types of tools called standardized tool and prepared by the investigator.

Construction of the Tool

The present investigation is intended to study the functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh. After going through various previous investigations and research articles in journals and periodicals and some of the research papers published on the subject matter, the investigator has present research problem into – Functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh perceived by school managements, teachers, and students. The investigator had employed and adopted the tools as given in the annexure to collect the opinions.

Standardization of the Tool

The opinionnaires was constructed for the teachers' trainees. The pilot testing was done on 10 school managements, 30 teachers and 40 students randomly selected from the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh. The data analyzed and the reliability test was calculated. Item analysis was carried out to find out the difficulty and discrimination of each of the items. The reliability coefficient of the tool was calculated using split half method and found to be 0.82, 0.79 and 0.81. The items which are unanswered by all student teachers and which are marked by undecided/blank by all are omitted. The items with poor discriminating values are also deleted. After deleting those items, the research tools were validated by three subject experts for the content validity and the construct validity. The items which are identified as vague or unclear were removed.

Administration of the Tool:

The researcher personally visited the schools number of times and personally met the concerned special officers of the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools for an appointment to gather the managements, teachers, and students to give the opinionnaires and find out the preliminary

information about functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools.

Collection of Data:

A brief orientation is given before distributing the tool to the sample. Necessary instructions are provided to student teachers. No time limit is kept for answering of the tool but almost all managements of schools, CRTs and students answered the tool. Hence 10 school managements, 136 CRTs and 150 girl students from Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.

Major Findings:

Management:

1. School managements expressed positive response with respect to staff related aspect, school infrastructure, Hostel Facilities, Teaching learning Material, Teaching Learning process and evaluation and overall response towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
2. There is no significant difference among school managements based on their locality with respect to school infrastructure towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
3. There is no significant difference among school managements based on their locality with respect to hostel facilities towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
4. There is no significant difference among school managements based on their locality towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.

Teachers:

1. The teachers expressed more positive opinion towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
2. There is a significant difference between below 35 and 35 to 50 years age group teachers' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
3. There is no significant difference among student's perceptions based on their general qualification towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
4. There is a significant difference among teacher's perceptions based on their teaching experience towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
5. There is a significant difference between below 10 years and 10 to 20 years experienced teachers' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.

Students:

1. The students expressed more positive opinion towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
2. There is a significant difference among student's perceptions based on their age group towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
3. There is no significant difference between 13 and 14 year age group students' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.
4. There is no significant difference between 8th and 9th class students' perceptions towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools in Madhya Pradesh.
5. There is no significant difference among student's perceptions based on their class towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.

Conclusion:

The present study "A Study on Functioning of the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya in Madhya Pradesh" is an attempt to focus on the inquiry on the facilities and services that are being provided including functioning the management and administration, the educational facilities for improving quality in education. Though the study is limited to a particular area in subject and number it has relevance to the appraisal of the scheme into and implications on the effective functioning of the institutions. It covers all the sections of the personnel and students attached to the institutions. The following key findings of the study envisage major trust of the improvisation of the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya to meet the needs of the students.

School managements have expressed positive response with respect to staff related aspect, school infrastructure, hostel facilities, teaching learning material, teaching learning process and evaluation and overall response towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh. According to their locality and school management, managements of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed one and the same opinion towards functioning Of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh.

Implications of the Study

The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme was launched by the Government of India in August 2004 for setting up residential schools at upper primary level for girls belonging predominantly to the SC, ST, OBC and minorities in difficult areas. The scheme of the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya was conducted as a separate scheme but in harmony with the SSA, National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) and Mahila Samakhya (MS) for the first two years but has since 1st April, 2007 merged with the SSA programme as a separate component of that programme.

Suggestions:

1. Majority of the managements of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed that there are no well-equipped lab facilities in the schools. So, the government should provide well equipped facilities to the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya's.
2. Majority of the management of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed that there is maintenance of computer labs in the schools. So, government should provide provision of proper maintenance of computer lab.
3. Majority of the managements of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed that there is no collection of good books in the library. So, the government should provide sufficient books in the library.
4. Majority of Managements of the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed that they have no proper medical facilities. So, adequate medical facilities and regular health check-up for Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya students are required.
5. Some of the Governments of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are expressed that they have no T.Vs for recreation. T.V.s may be provided where they necessary.
6. Trained teachers Vocational Courses may be provided to Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas.
7. Special classes are needed the backwards students in Learning, Reading, Language Skills.
8. Job security is to be provided for the staff of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas.

Suggestions for Further Research:

The present investigation was taken up with as selected random sample in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools in Madhya Pradesh because this research work must be completed in a limited time. In order to throw more light into the problem, the following modifications or suggestions may be incorporated to get more refined information.

1. The present investigation is open for a further study on broader area towards the functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools.
2. A study can also be undertaken to find the results of knowing about functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools.
3. This research is studied only in Madhya Pradesh only; hence the study can also be taken in another district also.
4. A comparative study may be conducted between Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya school teachers and Non-Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya school teachers to make a probe into the effective functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools.
5. Government should encourage in improving the quality of girl child education by providing funds towards functioning of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools.

Recommendation:

The study has few limitations that it has been applied on 10 schools from Madhya Pradesh only. This study is related with the Management of KGBV. Further research studies may be done on other aspects of KGBV. As this study is done in Madhya Pradesh so further studies may be done in other districts, regions in India.

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