

Introduction to English medium in the Primary Schools of Andhra Pradesh

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Abstract:

This paper aims to find the possibilities for sensible implementation of English medium instruction in the primary schools of Andhra Pradesh under all managements. It is going to explore through the practical scenario of enacting English medium in lieu of mother tongue at the initial level of Education. In favour of these conditions, this study will look into the perspective of the teachers those who are considered the supreme stakeholders of Educational system for carrying out the pedagogical strategies at the classroom level. Teachers may find numerous challenging tasks as they are dealing with the students of Primary standard those who are contemplated as disproven language learners. Somewhat, this will be beneficial for the teachers to execute their strong notion of instruction. It is also to discuss their experiments and experiences being reaped during the instruction as they are witnessed whether we obtain expected outcomes.

Key-words: *English medium instruction, Practical scenario, supreme stakeholders, pedagogical*

Background:

Lord Macaulay was primarily responsible for introducing English Medium and western concepts in the Indian Educational system. He has come up with a substitute for the official language by replacing Persian with English. During the 1840s and 50s, many schools were established with English medium Instruction. In 1857, three universities were established in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras with the pattern of the University of London in using English as the medium of instruction. During the rule of the British, between 1858 to 1947, English language has been enormously flown across India. Our Indians have been gradually hired in the civil services. When India got independence in 1947, English became the only functional lingua franca in the country. During 2009-2010, NCERT (National council for Education and Training)-New Delhi conducted a study in collaboration with EdCIL (Education development Solutions International Ltd.), SSA (Sarva Siksha Abhiyan) on 'The pace of preparing Teaching Learning Material (T.L.M)' and also addressed Challenges for 'Teacher Education and Planning' for English medium instruction at the Primary level.

Introduction:

The academic year of 2020-2021 has stepped forward with a revolutionary resolution in Andhra Pradesh School Education system at Primary level. All classes from I to VI under all management schools had been converted into English medium from the academic year of 2020-2021 and the policy will be implemented to the increasing classes from the next consequent academic year. The disclosure of unpredicted course of action might make startled a few intellectuals across the state. Though the

government had been pulled behind to drop the decision, the policy makers implemented the same with the recommendations suggested by Andhra Pradesh State Council Education and research training (APSCERT). As well as, the Government has defended its decision at Supreme court as a progressive and visionary measure of their government in order to make the students prepare for career marathon at the global context.

Besides, Telugu (Mother tongue) has become a compulsory subject under all management schools across the state. This rule might not console the people who wrestled for the existence of Telugu medium at the school level. Amid numerous debates against this issue, the students have emerged into the new ambience of instruction that can't be expected to be an immediate transformation. However, it will be accomplished sooner or later as a famous saying exists. "Every success story begins with a single step." Every student will be acquiring new experiences during the voyage of an English medium that has to endure several fluctuations as well. So, the sustainable implementation of policy will result in the expected reverberation.

Recommendations suggested by APSCERT (Andhra Pradesh State Council Education Research and Training)

The Government has conducted an opinion poll among the parents of students studying class I to VI for the academic year of 2020-2021. Around 96% of the parents have chosen English as a Medium of Instruction. In this regard, As soon as, the State Council of Educational Research and Training (APSCERT) has been sought recommendations to introduce English as a medium of instruction, it has prepared a comprehensive report with 58-pages and submitted the same to A.P Government on the Introduction of English medium at primary level.

Core elements mentioned in the report submitted by APSCERT:

- Classroom atmosphere must be student-centric.
- All-round knowledge would be improved through English medium instruction.
- Stress-free education is an indispensable element of any form of study.
- Required Infrastructure has to be provided by various Government schemes
- Training programs through ICT platforms will be supportive.
- Parents' meetings would be for appraising students' progress.

English as a medium of instruction:

As Crystal, an eminent educationist says about English "Its mastery opens the doors to more information than the mastery of any other language", English has become widely spoken language in the world since it aids to have numerous opportunities in the swiftly globalising world. When a student studies in English medium right from Primary Education can challenge the complications around the various subjects studying at higher level effortlessly. On the other hand, it is not easier for a student studied through vernacular medium, being accustomed with a new language.

Findings:

- ❖ State books focus less on Listening & Speaking.

- ❖ Lack of proper Library facilities
- ❖ Improper utilisation of Grants sanctioned for Teaching Learning material
- ❖ Unable to carry out brief conversations and to narrate experiences and exchanges

- ❖ Hands on experiences were not given during training programmes

Expected outcomes:

So, it would be better focus on few things in order to sustain English as a medium of instruction and to optimise the grand introduction towards the emergence of anticipated output.

- (a) It is much essential to conduct a study by expert committee on English medium instruction at various states where it has been running successful.
- (b) Teachers should be trained by efficient resource persons on pedagogical strategies and methods as they are going to perform an imperative role as a facilitator throughout teaching learning process in order to bring out the curiosity among the students.
- (c) Emphasis must be given to listening skill which plays quite significant role in the teaching learning process of Primary Education.
- (d) Workshops have to be conducted at the district level aimed at the preparation of innovative and attractive teaching learning material to the students of Primary schools.
- (e) It is mandatory to allocate the required library facilities at Every primary schools.
- (f) Encouraging the establishment of English Language Lab (E.L.L) at every school of A.P for constraining the influence of local dialects on phonetic manifestations of English language.

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