

corruption in its diversified forms. However, on the other hand we also got to know that it has been useful in accomplishment of valuable tasks of government.

Common people said that 'development' has always been an agenda for getting votes. They also praised the works done by the present government, but they expect much more from them. Masses are striving hard for development. Their basic amenities are their top priorities. No wonder, 77% people feel that development and not caste ideology will affect the next coming 2010 Bihar Legislative Assembly elections.

Conclusion :

Caste is a distinctive category in the Indian Social System. Though it had its beginning in the Hindu Philosophy for four Varnas corresponding to four functional divisions, it has resulted in the perpetuation of several caste groups by birth among the Hindus. It is also important to acknowledge that representative politics has strengthened caste. In Bihar, important political factions are based on caste lines. Bihar stands as an exception in terms of caste arithmetic in the entire range of Hindi belt. The Upper OBC represent 41.12% of the population. In no other state of North India does an OBC caste represent more than 1 percent of the population. But Yadavs in Bihar are 24% of the total population. The lower OBC represents 18.2% of the state population. SCs represent 16.5% of the state population. Bihar will always have strong hold over caste politics. 1% STs exist after formation of Jharkhand.

At present, change in caste structure in the Legislature in Bihar is clearly in terms of M.N. Srinivas's notion. According to him, the dominant status shifts from upper caste which he calls 'dominating' to dominated (Kurmis, Koeris and Yadavs) and from dominated to under privileged class (SCs and Dalits). It is evident from the fact that Nitish Kumar is adding much importance to Extremely Backward Castes, Four members (almost 15%) of cabinet are from Extremely Backward Castes. Caste has become deep rooted in Bihar – Politics be it in nominating candidates for election or in voting behavior. The murky fact of Bihar politics is that it cannot do without caste. Every new government formed, has a new kind of caste strategy. This is however not suggesting, that caste is bad or has negative impact. It simply means that caste has a liberating impact upon politics but politicization of caste is dangerous and as it distracts demagogue and electorate become fragmented. To support this view D.L. Sheth is quoted "By drawing caste into its competitive structure, politics find its bases in the society".

Caste is also seen as an infrastructure of modern democratic society. It is an important factor governing political participation and mobilization. Even uneducated masses can be mobilized in political process using caste channel, but it will not be out of point to say, that politicization of caste for ulterior motive is absolutely wrong. If our leaders are so cunning to use caste for increasing their vote bank, they must be equally wise to use it for the uplift of downtrodden and then only can Bihar Legislative Assembly change and develop in its functioning for making Bihar a state of substance and prosperity.

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Right to Education: A Democratic Perspective

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*Education is an attempt to cure a mental malady by a mental medicine. It is one of the major determinants of nation building. So it should be provided to one and all. In our country India, a large section of the society is still far away from the reach of education. so our **President Pratibha Patil** and many leaders have taken an initiative to sort out this problem by introducing an Educational Bill under Art21 (A) of the Indian Constitution which provide free and compulsory education to every child between the ages of 6-14 years. According to this bill all the school should provide free and compulsory education to all the children and the private school shall admit at least 25% of the children without any fee. This bill successfully implemented on September 2nd, 2009 and became an Educational Act. But this effort of government will fully succeed on that day when the provision of this bill, will reach every nook and corner of the society and will be fully accepted and enjoyed. We students also tried to make some sections of the people aware about this Education Bill by doing a questionnaire session in our specific area.*

Though this Bill was meant to help us reform our society and educational status, yet it suffered some flaws like, it neglects opportunity for public employment under Art 16. Then it neglects the very fundamental right of every citizen under Art 21 for the right to a dignified life. It is also expected to be the end of the hopes of the champions of equality and justice, pinning on radical changes etc.

Until and unless Education reaches all sections of the society, we cannot overcome these flaws. And will also be unable to fulfill the dream of our founding fathers to make Indian society an egalitarian society.

With this objective an empirical study was conducted and was found that 96% of the people are still unaware of the Education Act. Infact they don't even know the difference between Literacy and Education which has become a part and parcel of day to day life. So it is very important for us and our government to implement this act proactively.

Key words: *Educare, Emanicipates, Infrastructure.*

Introduction : In the words of **S.Radhakrishnan** "The aim of education is not the acquisition of information, although important, or acquisition of technical skills, though essential in modern society, but the development of that bent of mind, that attitude of reason, that spilt democracy, which will make us responsible citizens".

The term "**education**" is derived from the Latin term **educare** meaning "bring up" and the suffix "**ion**" refers to a particular action or process. Education is the most potent mechanism for the advancement of human beings. It enlarges, enriches and improves the

individual's image of the future. A man without education is no more than an animal. Education emancipates the human beings and leads to liberation from ignorance. It is a crucial plank in the process of development of any nation. It also empowers the citizen of a country to be an active stakeholders in the functioning of the country. It is the very foundation of good citizenship.

In a country like India where literacy is still a crucial factor, the importance of education becomes all the more pronounced. Since independence, successive governments have adopted a slew of measures to address the problem of literacy.

The right to education is enshrined in Article 26 of the universal declaration of human rights and Article 14 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The founding fathers of the nation recognizing the importance and significance of right to education made it a constitutional goal, and placed it under Chapter IV, Directive Principles of State Policy of the Constitution of India. With the object to abolish illiteracy, Article 45 of the constitution requires state to make provisions within 10 years for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of 14 years.

After independence in the field of education India started almost from scratch and has since made significant progress in educational development.

The quality of education of the child will determine the quality of life in nation. "In ancient shadows and twilights where childhood had strayed, the world's greatest sorrows were born and its heroes were made. In the lost boyhood of Christ was betrayed. "Both at national and international levels efforts are being made to educate more and more people as education contributes in the development of the society which is consistent with the dignity of the human being.

The right to education has been recognized by the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. **Article 14 which states right to education to everyone.**

The right to education springs from right to life. The right to life under Article 21 and the dignity of the individual cannot fully be appreciated without the enjoyment of right to education.

The government of India by 86th Constitutional (86th Amendment act), 2002 had added a new Article 21A which provides that "the state shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of 6 to 14 years as the state may, by law determine." And further strengthened this Article 21A by adding clause (K) to article 51-A

Article 41, 45, 46, 21A and various judgments of Supreme Court, and the Government of India has taken several steps to eradicate illiteracy, improve the quality

of education and bring children back to school who left the school for one reason or other.

With the object of abolishing illiteracy, Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development (HRD) **M.A.A Fatmi** introduced the "Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education bill, 2008", in the Rajya Sabha on 15th Dec. The efforts of the Indian Minister reached its zenith on September 2nd, 2009; when the right of children to free and compulsory education act came into force with the presidential assent. **President Pratibha Patil** gave her assent on August 26 and the Act was notified the following day. The bill was passed in both the houses of the Parliament during the budget session and the flagship programme of 100-day agenda of UPA government reached its goal.

The Bill, besides giving every child in the group of 6-14 years the right to free education, also aims at evolving certain norms and standards for primary education. Apart from country's government schools, the private schools have also been rendered law-bound by the new bill. 25% of seats in every private school would be allocated for children from weaker and disadvantage sections, including differently -able children at the entry level. The government will reimburse these schools. As far as minority institutions are concerned, - up to 50 percent of the seats could be offered to student from their communities. As regards infrastructure, the bill provides for establishing a recognition authority in every state, under which all schools will have to fulfill the basic minimum requirements of infrastructure within three years from the implementation of the law. Thus, the overall welfare of the children is the overreaching theme behind the passage of educational bill, the children of the nation can look forward to a better tomorrow.

However the constitution of India and supreme court have declared that the education is now a fundamental right of the people of India, but it does not speak about millions of children who are in the age group of 0-5 years should be included; as by the time the child reaches the age of 6 years he/she goes into the child labour due to poverty. Moreover the constitution only ensures that the state shall provide primary education to the children up to the age of 14 years, and secondary and higher education is contingent and conditional upon the

economic capacity of the state.

Therefore, the right to education will be meaningful only if the all levels of education reaches to all the sections of the people otherwise it will fail to achieve the target setout by our Founder Father to make Indian society an egalitarian society.

Objectives of The Project :

- To create awareness among the students about their basic rights.
- To encourage the student's consciousness especially the weaker sections and persons living below poverty line about their rights and duties.
- The development of human personality, a sense of dignity of individual talent, and mental and physical ability.
- To involve teachers, students and masses, organizations to work together for the protection of right to education in Bihar.
- To make people aware of their role in the political process of the country and to participate effectively in a free society.

Methodology :

- It is an empirical study based on both **primary** and **secondary methods**.

Primary method include interview of **50 respondents** including **25 literate** as well as **25 illiterate**. And secondary method includes interpretation of data available in **black and white**.

- **Area of Study** : Shastri Nagar in Patna District
- Sample size and sampling method:-**50 and incidentals sampling**.
- Tools and Techniques for Data collection: - **Questionnaire method**.
- Method (S) of data analysis:-**Table and content analysis**.

Results and Discussion :

After the survey of **Shastri Nagar** based on the questions prepared on Right to Education: A Democratic Perspective, we came across the fact that after the passing of the bill also, **96%** of the people are still unaware of the educational bills which are at least very beneficial for the underprivileged class.

But a good point lies there where the people who are far apart from the prospects of education are keenly concerned in becoming aware of it and gain the benefits for their children. But on the other hand, the educated people were too rigid and too unsupportive regarding the project.

During this project, we also came across people who were not at all ready to disclose their name and listen to us or converse with us.

At the time of our survey our group was shocked to hear a silly response to our question "Is education and literacy same"? And the answer was almost absurd. As yes! So we came to the conclusion that when people are too confused of the literary and education, then how could they be aware of an "**Educational Bill**".

Conclusion :

With the very subject matters, we gathered for our project we came to the conclusions that **Right to Education Bill** which constitute free and compulsory education under the age group of 6-14 is a tremendous achievement but it, will be fully achieved only when it will be openly widely implemented and accepted by one and all in every nook and corner of our country. Otherwise it will fail to achieve the target set out by our founding fathers to make Indian society literate.

It provides a great prospect for those who are far behind to acquire a proper meal for two times. Atleast with the help of the government through educational bill – they would be able to see with the pride of their children to be literate.

When a child takes birth, it's just like any other animal. It is education which gives shape to a human being. Today's children are the future of a nation. So basic education is very important and should be provided to one and all. As it improves the whole structure of the society, so it is our duty to groom them in such a way that they can compete with the growing

standards of the world. If our youngsters are imparted good education, they would be an asset for the country tomorrow.

Education is the main instrument through which a man becomes a social and enlightened animal. It is only through education that the triumph of the forces of goodness, beauty and justice can be secured over the forces of evil, ignorance and injustice. Education infuses enthusiasm in us to do something new or different.

Regarding educational status India is far behind. As a result of which 213 million people in India live below poverty line. They are like blind men groping in the dark. Therefore education is compulsory for stability of democracy, social integration and to eliminate evils.

Thus we came to conclusion that education is the first and primary right of everyone. That is why the right to education bill has been passed in parliament to make primary education a fundamental right. As we know that education is the base and pillar of success it is a must for our life. With the foundation stone of the futuristic project having already been laid, the people of India can breathe easy and it is now only a matter of time for India, bolstered by increasing literacy, to emerge as one of the leaders of the 21st century.

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