

E-Content
Department of Education, Patna University.
M.Ed Semester IV
Paper-S.C.3

By: -

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Unit III: Educational Planning in Context of Secondary Education .

Topic: Secondary Education Commission.

Objectives:-

After going through this content, the students will be able to—

- Understand about the background and appointment of the secondary education commission.
- Explain about the recommendations on the aims of secondary education..
- Discuss impact of Secondary Education Commission.

Introduction

Secondary education is the stage of education that includes all the classes after the primary school and before university education is started. This stage is considered to be the backbone of the country's entire educational programme. This however, is also the stage which marks the completion of education for the large majority of pupils. Secondary education is also the basis of higher education which gives the desired direction to the nation's power. An inefficient system of secondary education therefore is bound to affect adversely the quality of education at all later stages.

Background and Appointment of the Secondary Education Commission

After achieving the independence in 1947, both the public and the Government began to take keen interest in the development of secondary education. Although the number of secondary schools and its enrolment began to significantly increase even before India's attaining independence, the quality of education imparted was unable to meet the changing socio-economic needs of the country.

In view of these considerations, the Government of India set up, the Secondary Education Commission by Resolution dated 23rd September, 1952, under the

Chairmanship of Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, the Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University. Therefore this commission is also known as Mudaliar Commission.

Report of the Commission

As the report is a very lengthy one containing 311 pages, it is not possible for us to discuss all aspects in detail. We will confine our discussion to the defects of the prevailing system of secondary education in India and the recommendations given by the Commission regarding its aims, new organizational pattern and the curriculum.

Management and Administration of Secondary Schools

The commission have given the following suggestions in this reports :

1. The post of education director should be equivalent to the joint secretary of the secretariat and he should advise the minister in this capacity.
2. The secondary education board should be organised under the chairmanship of education director who should arrange for secondary education in his State.
3. A board for teacher's training should be established.
4. Central and State Committees should be organised for giving advice on secondary education.
5. The district inspector of schools should not only find faults with teachers but should also assist them in performance of their duties. They should solve their problems arising form time to time and should acquaint them with latest developments in the field of education

Merits of Secondary Education Commission:

The Commission has given numerous practical suggestions for the reforms of secondary education in the country. The Commission has drawn our attention to the various defects of the existing system of secondary education. This itself is a great service which the commission has rendered. It has rightly pointed to the evils of the prevailing examination system and has given practical suggestions for its overhauling.

Demerits of Secondary Education Commission:

The Commission's suggestions regarding the High Power committee for selecting text books is ridiculous and unrealistic, How can a high court judge assess the suitability of a text-book for schools? The Commission has not chosen to pay adequate attention on the various aspects of women education.

Defects of the Existing System

The Commission pointed out the following defects of the existing system.

- First, the education given in our schools is isolated from life. The curriculum as formulated and as presented through the traditional methods of teachings does not give the students insight into the everyday world in which they are living.
- Secondly, it is narrow and one sided and it fails to train the whole personality of the student.

Aims of Secondary Education Commission

1. To produce Ideal Citizen.
2. To Develop Capacity for Earning Money.
3. To Develop Human Virtues.
4. Quality of Leadership.
5. Improvement of Vocational Efficiency
6. Development of Personality.

New Organisational Pattern of Secondary Education

1. Duration of Secondary Education
2. High School and Higher Secondary Schools
3. Technical and Vocational Education
4. Need for Diversification of Courses

5. Multilateral and Multipurpose Schools 6. Agricultural Education in Secondary Schools

Medium of Instruction

The mother tongue or the stage language should be made the medium of instruction. In this connection the Commission expressed the following ideas also :

1. The students should be taught at least two languages at the junior high schools stage.
2. The commission has suggested that the secondary stage a student should learn at least three languages, the national language, the mother tongue or the regional languages and a foreign languages.

Selection of Text Books

The Commission has opined that text books should be selected on the basics of their merits and utility. For this; purpose the Commission has recommended the appointment of a High Power Committe which will select. The standard of production, printing and paper used and pictures and illustrations incorporated and suitable content will be the basis of selection. In the opinion of the commission the following persons will constitute the High Power Committee for selection of text-books :

1. A High Court judge.
2. A Member of the Public Service Commission
3. A Vice-Chancellor of an University.
4. A Principal of the Some government educational institution.
5. Two eminent educationalists and the director of education of the stage.

Barriers for Impact of Secondary Education Commission

The Narendradeo Committee report did not make powerful impact on Indian Education because of the following were the main barriers :

1. The introduction of core-subjects like crafts and general science in the curriculum of the higher secondary school required more staff.
2. The financial implication of the upgrading of a larger number of high schools into higher secondary pattern in every state were not worked out.
3. The multipurpose schools have benefited neither the schools leaves nor the seekers of higher education.
4. The Commission did not recommend clearly vocationalised education.
5. Even with Central aid the states that accepted the pattern could convert not more than a certain number of schools into higher secondary institutions. Financial implications were not worked out.

Recommendations on the Aims of Secondary Education

The Commission has made the following recommendations in regard to its aims of Secondary Education –

- Development of democratic citizenship
- Improvement of Vocational efficiency
- Education for leadership
- Development of personality

Re-organisation of Secondary Education

- The duration of secondary education should be 7 years. It should cover the age of group of 11-17.
- Under the new organizational structure secondary education should commence after 4 or 5 years of primary or junior basic education.
- The middle or senior basic or lower secondary stage should cover a period of 3 years.
- The higher secondary stage should cover 3 years.

- The commission also suggested abolition of the present intermediate classes. The 12th class should be attached to the university and the 11th class should be added to the high school. Thus it pleaded for one year pre-university and 3 year degree courses.

Check your progress:

- What are the aims of secondary education commission?.

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