

The Use of Bharatiya Bhasha in Teaching and Learning

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Some distinct universals

- Children and young adults possess some remarkable characteristics such as wonder and curiosity. These characteristics exhibit in the educational programmes they pursue.
- Backed by these characteristics, children and young adults show inquisitiveness to know, acts of exploration and courage to experiment. These characteristics grow when education is available in the mother tongues and local languages.
- Therefore, it is important to provide education in the language of the people that enable the quest to know and innovate.
- Learning opportunities in Bharatiya Bhashas merits special attention.

The role of (any) language in learning

- Most, if not all, learnings are linked to language.
- The performance of learners in a subject is greatly linked to the difficulty level of the language in which the subject is being taught.
- The performance of learners in a subject is also often linked to the language in which the subject is being taught. The more familiar the language the higher are the chances of good performance.
- Language plays a key role in the successful implementation of any education policy. The success of NEP 2020 also rests in the uplift of languages and mother tongues of India.

The role of Bharatiya Bhashas in learning

- For very long, longer than desirable, the medium of instruction and the role of mother tongues did not receive much attention in education.
- India has 121 languages and 270 mother tongues and only few of them serve as the medium of instruction. Consequently, learning gaps are occurring and need to be removed.
- Language is not only a medium of communications; it is a medium of cognition as well. That is why NEP 2020 emphasized education in Bharatiya Bhashas.
- All children are capable of learning multiple languages.

NEP 2020

- The demand for developing teaching-learning infrastructure in Bharatiya Bhashas is essential.
- Education in mother tongue and mother tongue based multilingual teaching constitute an inclusive approach and have received appreciation across the globe.
- One of the biggest and most visible gains from the National Education Policy 2020 was the emphasis on teaching in Bharatiya Bhashas and matribhashas.
- A lot of positive developments began since the launch of NEP 2020. These developments also necessitated new steps to increase the use of Bharatiya Bhashas through resource generation and capacity building.

Motivations for the use of Bharatiya bhashas in classrooms

- Improved comprehension, grasp and retention of subject
- Increased engagement and enhanced cognitive development
- Accessibility of knowledge, inclusivity and equity
- Cultural preservation and promotion of linguistic plurality
- Honouring by aligning with the national policy (NEP 2020)
- Bridging the language gap and creating social harmony
- Improved communication skills and enhanced social integration
- Cultural rootedness and nationalistic outlook of personality
- Stronger foundation for future learning

Challenges

- The shortage and lack of availability of textbooks in Bharatiya Bhashas.
- The shortage and lack of trained teachers who can teach subjects in Bharatiya Bhashas.
- Resource creation, transition phase and time factor.
- New institutions of teaching learning need to be encouraged to offer education in Bharatiya Bhashas.
- Incentivization through awards of fellowships, increments in pay, and promotions and recruitments in job.
- Building trust of the parents and instilling confidence among the learners and impacting a perception change at the societal level.

The future- ahead

- The government of India has taken some very important initiatives that can positively contribute to the cause of education in mother tongues.
- Language institutions, language consultants, language experts, language translators.
- NTM at CIIL has been translating textbooks of higher education in 22 scheduled languages.
- Augmenting Study Materials in Indian Languages through Translation and Creative Writing (ASMITA Project), and
- Bharatiya Bhasha Pustak Yojana (BBPY) are projects aimed at the development of pedagogical materials in Indian languages.
- It is important that teachers, students, language enthusiasts and translators join the language development-centric initiatives of these government.

धन्यवाद!

Thank you!

