



## A Study on the attitude of Secondary school teachers towards the Population Education with special reference to Kamrup district of Assam, India.

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### Abstract

The present study is an attempt to know the attitude of secondary school teachers towards population education in relation to sex and area. For this purpose, 100 teachers (50 male and 50 female) were selected from different schools affiliated to SEBA and CBSE Board on the basis of random sampling. The Descriptive Survey Method was employed for the present study. The Investigator has used self-structured standardized data gathering tools for collecting the data. To test the hypotheses, appropriate statistical technique has been used. The self structured questionnaire was used as a tool. It is found that majority of the respondents in urban area have high level of attitude towards the population education.

**Keywords:** Population Education, attitude, Secondary School Teachers, self-structured.

### 1. Introduction

Population education is an innovative programme which studies the various situations that emerge everywhere in family, nation and in the world due to population growth. Population education provides provision to shape family size according to the own desire and financial capabilities so that a happy and healthy life can be enjoyed by all the members of the family. Population education is not only the need of the present generation but also for the future generation as it has a great impact on the future. The literal meaning of population is “the whole number of people or inhabitants in a country or region” (Webster’s dictionary).

At the beginning of 19th century, India’s population stood at 23.8 crore (Census 1901) and it has witnessed a four-fold increase in India’s population which stood at 84.3 crores in 1991 (Census 1991) and reached 1.21 crore in 2011 against 36 crores in 1951 (Census 1951). Sex Ratio is a term used to define

number of females per 1000 males. According to Census of India

2011, Indian sex ratio has shown some improvement in the last 10 years. The growth of literacy in Assam has shown an encouraging sign. The literacy rate of Assam as per Census 2011 increased to 72.19 percent with 77.8 percent for males and 69.34 percent and 88.47percent respectively. The literacy rate for country as a whole, on the other hand, increased to 73 percent from 65 percent with male and female differentials of 80.09 percent and 64.64 percent respectively.

- There is an urgent need to take appropriate measure to control population growth so as to ensure reasonably good standard of living and avoid human disaster. The term of population education is not to be used interchangeably with birth control, family planning and sex education etc. It is a much wider concept. Population education implies educating the students about

population. It tries to inculcate population awareness amongst the students. Population education has been defined as the educational process by which basic awareness about population problem and a favorable attitude towards a small family size is developed through school and colleges. So far we have adopted a limited approach to this problem. This has rightly been said that a teacher is a role model and thus our schools and colleges can be potential instrument of controlling the population.

## 2. Objectives of the study

1. To know the attitude of rural and urban Secondary school teachers towards population education
2. To make a comparative study of male and female Secondary school teachers regarding their attitude towards population education.

## 3. Hypotheses

Keeping in view of the above objectives the following hypotheses have been framed: -

1. Secondary school teachers in the urban areas have a high attitude towards population education as compared to their rural counterparts.
2. Male Secondary school teachers have a high attitude towards population education as compared to their female counterparts.

## 4. Delimitation of the study

Delimitation is the definition that is set as the boundaries' of the enquiry. Following are the delimitation in the development of the present study

- 4.1 The study was limited to a sample strength of 100 secondary school teachers.
- 4.2 The sample strength of the present study was confined to 10 Secondary schools of Kamrup district schools under Government and Private management.
- 4.3 At least 10 teachers from each school were taken up for the present study

## 5. Methodology

### 5.1 Method

Descriptive survey method is applied for the

collection of data. The descriptive research method has undoubtedly been the most popular and the most widely used research method in education .

### 5.2 Sample of the study

The sample consisted of 100 Secondary school teachers, both male and female, who were from ten government and private schools of Kamrup, representing five from rural and five from urban areas. The schools and teachers were selected by using random sampling technique.

### 5.3 Tools used

The following tools have been used for data collection.

1. General information Schedule- It consists of items like name, address, sex, age, education etc.
2. The investigator also made use of a knowledge questionnaire having twenty items regarding their awareness towards population education.. A five-point Likert type of attitude scale was followed, in which five options were given such as SA,A,UD,D,SD for data collection.

### 5.4 Statistical analysis

The data was analyzed with the help of descriptive statistical methods. Descriptive statistics were used in the form of frequencies and percentage to describe the findings between rural and urban Secondary school teachers, male and female Secondary school teachers.

## 6. Analysis and interpretation of data (objective wise)

The data has been collected by questionnaire and carefully analyzed by applying appropriate statistical techniques in the light of the objectives framed.

**Objective -1** : To know the attitude of rural and urban Secondary school teachers towards population education

**Hypothesis-1** : Secondary school teachers in the urban areas have a high attitude towards population education as compared to their rural counterparts.

After collecting the data, scores for each individual statement were summed up and calculated. The detail analysis has been given below-

**Table 1 :** Number and Percentage distribution of attitude level of teachers towards population education with respect to Area

Attitude level	Range of scores	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Low	Below 20	6	12	0	0	6	6
Moderate	20-50	17	34	18	36	35	35
High	Above 50	27	54	32	64	59	59
Total		50	100.0	50	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Interpretation of table no-1**

From the table no. 1, it has been observed that regarding attitude towards population education, in rural area, 12% of respondents have low level of attitude as against 0% of respondents in Urban area, 34% of the respondents in rural area have moderate level of attitude towards population education as against 36% in urban area and lastly 54% of the respondents in rural area have high level of attitude towards population education as against 64% of the respondents in urban area. It is found that majority of the respondents in urban area have high level of attitude towards the population education

**Objective -2** To make a comparative study of male and female Secondary school teachers regarding their attitude towards population education

**Hypothesis.2** Male Secondary school teachers have a high attitude towards population education as compared to their female counterparts

In order to serve this objective the Investigator collected necessary information and the data from each sample schools with the help of the self- structured data gathering schedule. The Investigator found out the attitude score of male and female respondent.

**Table 2 :** Number and Percentage distribution of attitude level of teachers towards the population education with respect to Gender

Attitude level	Range of scores	Male		Female		Combined	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Low	Below 20	0	0	7	14	7	7
Moderate	20-50	18	36	17	34	35	35
High	Above 50	32	64	26	52	58	58
Total		50	100.0	50	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Interpretation of table no-2**

The above table exhibits the percentage of teachers falling in different category of score range. It was reported that most of the male teachers of both the categories have high amount of population awareness viz. 64% of male teachers and 52% of female teachers in high category of population awareness. Only 0% of male and 14% of female teachers have poor amount of population awareness.

In the category of moderate population awareness we find that male and female. It is observed that the frequencies in low attitude are more in female respondents than male respondents but in case of high attitude the frequencies are more in male respondents. Here, it can be interpreted that the attitude of the male respondents towards the population education is higher than the female respondents. Hence, the hypothesis:2, "Male Secondary school teachers have a high attitude

towards population education as compared to their female counterparts.” framed for the study has been accepted.

#### **Findings related to objective no-1**

1. It has been observed that regarding attitude towards population education, in rural area, 12% of respondents have low level of attitude as against 0% of respondents in Urban area,
2. The study reveals that Secondary school teachers in the urban areas have a better attitude towards population education as compared to their rural counterparts (54% and 64% respectively).

#### **Findings related to objective no-2**

1. The study reveals that the frequencies in low attitude are more in female respondents than male respondents.
2. It is observed that the frequencies in high attitude level towards population education are more in male respondents than female respondents (64% and 52% respectively). In addition, the findings of the present study are also in agreement with the findings of Kavita (2002) who opined that majority of the teachers found to have inadequate knowledge about issues like status of women, marriage, family life and family planning. The urban and rural senior secondary school teachers,

both male and female, had a less attitude toward population related issues.

#### **7. Implications**

The findings of the study imply that our educational system may have to be tuned to meet the issues of population problems in general. In this process, in addition to parents, the schoolteachers play an important role. It would be appropriate if the teachers at the school level are given orientation training in health and population education. The teacher’s attitude towards population related issues is also equally important.

#### **8. Conclusion**

Population problem is a matter of great concern and is closely related to development. The observations of the present study clearly indicate that the school teachers have a low level of knowledge and less favorable attitude towards population related issues. Adolescents of today are the prospective parents of tomorrow. They are expected to have adequate knowledge and desirable attitude towards population issues in general. . At initial stages the concept of population should be included in the form of health education, sex education, by which mass education awareness will be created from the grass root level. This will result in stabilizing the population growth in the country.

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