

Educational Research at NEHU 1978-93

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Introduction

Research in any area provides a knowledge base for the development of any society. The discipline of education is no exception. It is out of the research findings in education that the system of education gets improved over a period of time. An educational system with a weak knowledge base would be unfit to accomplish what is expected of it. Therefore, before any specific tasks are assigned to education, it is necessary to build and strengthen its knowledge base (Buch, 1988). Educational research provide us the direction to do so.

History of educational researches at NEHU, Nagaland campus, Kohima can be traced back to the establishment of the Department of Education in 1978 which started a regular M.A. Education programme in the same year. Since then many research studies have been carried out by faculty members and students in the form of research projects and M.A. dissertations or doctoral theses. The present paper attempts a survey of the various research studies in education carried out under the department of education, NEHU, Nagaland campus Kohima over the period 1978 to 1993. This survey may provide us the trend of various research studies area wise and the type of studies within each area. It may finally indicate the status acquired by researches in education.

As a subject of study education is a developing discipline. Hence there are many areas of education which are yet to be defined clearly. It is because of this reason that any effort to classify educational research may involve overlapping. A single piece of research may be categorised in more than one area of education. In the present paper, though the studies have been categorized on the basis of their main focus, still the little overlapping here and there can not be ruled out.

Researches at Postgraduate Level

Researches by the students at the postgraduate level are carried out in the form of dissertation in

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partial fulfilment of their M.A Education programme. 123 dissertations have been completed over a span of one and half decades (1978-1993) covering 15 of areas in education. Table 1 presents area wise classification of educational researches.

Table 1 : Area Wise Classification of Educational Research at P.G. Level (1978-1993)

Sl No.	Area of Education	No. of studies undertaken	% of studies undertaken
1.	History of Education	5	4%
2.	Sociology of Education	17	13.8%
3.	Psychology of Education	14	11.38%
4.	Philosophy of Education	11	8.94%
5.	Primary Education	10	8.14%
6.	Higher Education	4	3.25%
7.	Teacher Education	9	7.31%
8.	Adult Education	7	5.69%
9.	Women's Education	3	2.44%
10.	Problems of Education	7	5.69%
11.	Educational Management	6	4.88%
12.	Educational Evaluation	3	2.44%
13.	Science Education	6	4.88%
14.	Curriculum Development	8	6.50%
15.	Educational Technology	13	10.57%
		123	100.00

History of Education

The survey reveals that in total 5 research studies were conducted in the area of history of education. Table 2 presents the theme area in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 2 : Research in History of Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Contribution of church/christianity/ Missionaries on the development of education in Mizoram/Angami Community/Mokokchung Dist	3
2.	Development of education in Kohima/ Mokokchung town	2
		5

During survey, it was found that maximum number of studies have been conducted in the area of sociology of education. Table 3 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 3 : Research in Sociology of Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Dropout, wastage and stagnation	5
2.	Discipline & student unrest	3
3.	Social change, modernization & education	3
4.	Sociological correlates of pupil's achievement	2
5.	Students attitude towards higher education	1
6.	Education & national integration	1
7.	Educational implications of tribal traditions	1
8.	Education and community development	1
Total		17

Psychology of Education

After sociology of education, it is the area of psychology of education in which most of the researches were undertaken by students. Table 4 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 4 : Research in Psychology of Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Edl. & vocational aspirations	3
2.	Edl. & vocational guidance service	1
3.	Personality, adjustment & delinquency	3
4.	Creativity	2
5.	Innovative pronness of teachers	1
6.	Achievement motive	1
7.	Reading interest	1
8.	Home correlates of achievement	1
9.	Study habits	1
Total		14

Philosophy of Education

Like other foundations of education, the area of philosophy of education has also drawn the atten-

tion of student researchers to a great extent. In all 11 research studies have been conducted in this area out of the total of 123. Table 5 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 5 : Research in Philosophy of Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Educational values of tribal traditions and folk tales	5
2.	Edl. thoughts—Aurobindo's & Gandhi's	2
3.	Edl. implications of Indian values	1
4.	Impact of moral values on education	1
5.	Moral education programme in schools	1
6.	Identifying teachers' values	1
Total		11

Primary Education

As the primary education is the foundation stone of further education, concern for primary education has been taken care of by the student researchers as revealed by this survey. In all 10 studies have been conducted in this area. Table 6 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 6 : Research in Primary Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Development of primary education in Aizwal/Meghalaya/Manipur/Tuensang/Mokokchung/East Siang Dist of A.P.	6
2.	Primary education in general in Nagaland	1
3.	Objectives of primary education	1
4.	Integration of child development scheme	1
5.	Environmental education programme in primary schools.	1
Total		10

Higher Education

Though higher education is one of the very important areas of educational research, not much work has been in this area. The survey reveals that only 4 studies have been conducted in this area out of the total 123. Table 7 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 7 : Research in Higher Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Development of higher education in Manipur	1
2.	Problems of higher education in Manipur	1
3.	Problems of educational administration in higher education in Nagaland	1
4.	Attitude of P.G. students of NEHU towards internal assessment	1
Total		4

Teacher Education

Sound education of children finally depends on the proper training of teachers. From this point of view the area of teacher education is very important for research. This fact has been quite alive in the minds of student researchers while selecting the topic. In all 9 studies were conducted in this area out of the total of 123 studies. Table 8 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 8 : Research in Teacher Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Development of teacher education in Nagaland/Manipur	2
2.	Attitude of school teachers towards teaching profession	2
3.	Problems of pupil teacher during teaching practice	1
4.	Problems of secondary teacher education programme in Manipur	1
5.	Teaching practice in elementary teacher education instts of Nagaland	1
6.	Status of high school teachers in Aizwal	1
7.	Teacher's academic level and student's performance	1
Total		9

Adult Education

Though adult education is one of the recent areas of educational research as compared to other areas, still 7 studies have been found completed out of the total of 123 studies. Table 9 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 9 : Research in Adult Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Problems of adult education instructors in Nagaland/Manipur	2
2.	Development of adult education in Manipur	1
3.	Problems of administration in NAEP in Nagaland and Mizoram	1
4.	Problems of adult learners	1
5.	Reactions of adult learners towards adult education programme	1
6.	Motivational factors for adult learners	1
Total		7

Women's Education

Though only 3 studies have been conducted in this area, it has been thought appropriate to classify this area separately because of the special stress being given on women's education in recent years. Table 10 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 10 : Research in Women's Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Development of women's education in Meghalaya	1
2.	Problems of women's education in Mizoram/Manipur	2
Total		3

Problems of Education

A fairly good number of student researchers have selected their study on problems of education. It is because of this reason, this area has been classified separately. Table 11 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 11 : Research in Problems of Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1	Problems of primary school teachers	4
2	Edl. problems of girls	1
3	Problems of education in chakkasang community	1
4	Problems of population education	1
Total		7

Besides, one study on the problems of mathematics teachers in teaching mathematics is in progress.

Educational Management

Educational management is one of the vital areas of research because it is this aspect of education which finally affects the educational output. The survey reveals that 6 studies have been completed in this area out of the total of 123. Table 12 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 12 : Research in Educational Management

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Decision making strategies of Heads in NEHU, Kohima	1
2.	Supervisory practices in schools	1
3.	Attitude of school teachers towards the implementation of NPE	1
4.	Performance of Govt. & Pvt. schools	1
5.	Working of SUPW in primary schools	1
6.	Service conditions of teachers in govt. & Pvt. schools	1
Total		6

Educational Evaluation

Though educational evaluation is a very significant area of educational research, not much work has been done in this field. Out of the 123 studies completed, only 3 studies have been undertaken from this area. Table 13 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 13 : Research in Educational Evaluation

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Causes of low high school exam results of NBSE, Kohima	1
2.	Causes of high failure in Science & Maths in HSLC examination	1
3.	Analysis of BEd examination result of NEHU 1982	1
Total		3

Science Education

Research in science education is of special importance for the North East region because it is

observed that very few students are attracted towards science stream after they pass out their matriculation. The survey indicates that 6 studies have been conducted in this area out of the total of 123 studies. Table 14 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 14 : Research in Science Education

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Difficulties faced by teachers in teaching science in schools of Kohima	1
2.	Difficulties faced by students in learning science in schools of Aizwal	1
3.	Errors committed by teachers in teaching Sc.	1
4.	Attitude towards Science subjects	2
5.	Survey of science laboratories in high schools of Aizwal district	1
Total		6

Curriculum Development

Besides other factors, curriculum is one of the main factors which is taken as a criteria for judging the system of education. 8 studies have been found completed in this area out of the total of 123 studies. Table 15 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 15 : Research in Curriculum Development

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Evaluation of teacher education curriculum at elementary level (Mizoram & Meghalaya)	2
2.	Evaluation of high school science curriculum (Nagaland)	1
3.	Comparison of class X syllabus of Mizoram and Nagaland	1
4.	Study of new BEd curriculum of NEHU	1
5.	Work Experience curriculum/SUPW programme in Aizawal/Kohima	2
6.	Study of the syllabus of education philosophy at P.G. level in central universities	1
Total		8

Educational Technology

Educational technology is one of the fast developing areas in educational research. After the foundations of education, most of the student research-

ers have selected their research study from this area. Out of the total of 123 studies, 13 studies have been found completed in this area. Table 16 presents the theme areas in keywords along with the number of studies undertaken.

Table 16 : Research in Educational Technology

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies
1.	Identification of teaching skills for teaching various subjects, adult education instructors/developing values	5
2.	Preparation of instructional material in teaching of English for developing skills of listening/teaching reading	2
3.	Identification of creative teaching skills	1
4.	Programmed learning	1
5.	Behaviour modification	1
6.	Identification of supervisory skills	1
7.	School broadcast	2
Total		13

Researches at Doctoral Level

Another level of researches in education is the research studies undertaken by students in the form of theses for their doctoral degree. Study of the related literature reveals that research at this level has just begun as only one Ph.D. thesis has been found completed by 1992 while others are still in progress. At present six student researchers are engaged in their doctoral work and their work is at different stages. Besides, two students have just begun their work. Thus, it can be said that in total eight research studies are in progress while one is completed. Table 17 presents the area wise classification of the research studies at doctoral level.

Table 17 : Area Wise Classification of Educational Research at Doctoral Level

Sl No	Area of Education	No. of studies
1	Teacher education	3*
2	Special education	2
3	Pre-School education	1
4	Educational testing	1
5	Economics of education	1
6	History of education	1
Total		9

*One study is completed out of the three studies.

Research at the Project Level by Faculty Members

Besides the research studies at PG and doctoral level, some researches have been found completed by the faculty members of the department in the form of research projects in collaboration with outside agencies. Study of the related literature reveals that in all five research projects have been completed while some are in progress. Table 18 presents the theme areas of completed research projects in keywords along with the number of studies completed and the name of the collaborating agency.

Table 18 : Research Completed at Project Level by Faculty Members

Sl No	Theme areas in keywords	No. of studies	Agency with which collaborated
1	Effect of integration of teaching skills upon teaching competencies of student teachers	3	NCERT New Delhi
2	Evaluation of Programme for Mass Orientation of School Teachers (PMOST) in Nagaland	1	NCERT New Delhi
3	Status of School Education in the state of Nagaland	1	SCERT, Kohima
Total		5	

Findings

The survey of research studies completed at NEHU, Nagaland Campus, Kohima reveals that researches in education were undertaken at three levels viz. M.A. dissertation level, doctoral thesis level and project level. Most of the research work done has been at M.A. dissertation level while researches at Ph.D level have just begun. Some research work by the faculty members has also been done at project level.

P.G. Level Research

At PG level, in all 123 dissertations on various areas of education were completed while one dissertation is still in progress. Findings in details at PG level of research are as follows:-

- (i) Relatively more researches were completed in the foundation areas of education viz. sociology of education, psychology of education and philosophy of education which constitute about 34% of the total number of studies. Out of the foundation areas of education, maximum number of 17 dissertations (i.e. 13.8%) were found

completed in the area of sociology of education. Next to the sociology of education researches in the area of psychology of education were found to be 14 (i.e. 11.38%) and then in philosophy of education whose number is 11 (8.94%).

From these facts, it appears that educational researchers lean heavily on the foundation areas specially sociology and psychology of education.

(ii) After foundation of education, the areas of educational technology and primary education claimed the next higher priority among student researchers in which 13 (10.57%) and 10 (8.14%) research studies respectively were completed out of the total of 123 studies.

It is encouraging to note that the student researchers had a serious concern for investigating the areas of primary education, which is the foundation stone of education, and educational technology, which is the basic instrument of education.

(iii) Researches in the areas of teacher education (9 i.e. 7.31%), curriculum development (8, 5.69%), adult education and problems of education (7 each, 5.69%) have also drawn enough attention of student researchers.

(iv) Six research studies each (i.e. 4.80%) have been found completed in the areas of science education and educational management.

(v) Areas of history of education and educational management have also not remained untouched with 5 (i.e. 4%) and 4 (3.25%) research studies respectively.

(vi) However, very few research studies have been undertaken in the areas of women's education and educational evaluation with 3 studies each (i.e. 2.44%).

Doctoral Level of Researches

The present survey reveals that in all 8 doctoral level researches are in progress and one research study is completed. The maximum number of 3 research studies belong to the area of teacher education. This shows the concern of student researchers towards the teacher education programme in the region. Special education has also been found to have attracted attention of the student researchers

after teacher education. In other areas of pre-school education, educational testing, economics of education and history of education, one student researcher each is engaged. But as already pointed out researches at doctoral level have just begun and some more student researchers are expected to join the department with more research proposals in different areas of educational research.

Project Level Researches

The survey reveals that in all 5 research projects have been completed by faculty members. Out of these 5, 3 research studies belong to the area of teacher education and 2 to the area of school education. All the projects have been completed with the collaboration of either NCERT, New Delhi or SCERT, Kohima.

Conclusion

The quantitative growth of educational research during the last one and half decades has thus been traced. The growth has been quite encouraging in almost all areas of education. Area wise growth further indicates the growing interest of researchers in probing certain thrust areas. It also indicates the neglect of some crucial areas. At PG level, most of the research studies have been concentrated in the area of foundations of education viz. sociology of education, psychology of education and philosophy of education followed by educational technology, primary education and teacher-education. Some areas of education viz. vocational and technical education, non-formal education, compensatory education have not been touched at all.

Most of the researches have been undertaken on the sample of Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur and Assam.

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