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# **A STUDY ON PARTICIPATION OF SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (SMC) MEMBERS IN SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME AT ELEMENTARY STAGE**

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To achieve all the objectives of elementary education and for quality improvement, the Government of India under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) decided to constitute a School Management Committee in each school for planning monitoring and implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Schemes as per Right of children to free and compulsory Education Act-2009. Following functions has been assigned to SMC committee:

## **A. Monitor the Functioning of the School**

- (i) Ensure the regularity and punctuality in attendance by teachers of the school.
- (ii) Assess the learning ability of each child and accordingly supplement additional instructions if any required.
- (iii) Ensure the enrolment and continued attendance of all the children from the neighbourhood of the school.
- (iv) Bring to the notice of the Local Education Authority any deviation from the rights of the child, on particular mental and physical harassment of the children of admission and timely provision of free entitlements.

- (v) Communicate in simple and creative ways to the population in the neighbourhood of the school, the rights of the child as enunciated in the Act as also the duties of the appropriate government, local authority, school, parents and guardian.
- (vi) Ensure that no child shall be liable to pay any kind of fee or charges or expenses which may prevent him or her from pursuing and completing the elementary education.
- (vii) Identify the needs, prepare a plan, and monitor the implementation of the provisions, where a child above six years of age has not been admitted in any school or though admitted, could not complete his or her Elementary Education, then, he or she shall be admitted in a class appropriate to his or her age.
- (viii) Monitor the identification and enrolment of CWSN and mobilize facilities for education of children with disability, as per equal opportunities, protection and full participation Act 1995 and ensure their participation in and completion of Elementary Education.
- (ix) List out specification for equitable quality of education in a school.
- (x) Monitor the implementation of the mid day meal in the school
- (xi) Ensure that no teacher shall engage himself or herself in private tuition or private teaching activity.

#### **B. Preparation, Recommendation, Implementation and Monitoring of the School Development Plan (SDP)**

- (i) Every School Management Committee constituted under sub section (1) of section 21 shall prepare a School Development Plan every year in such manner as may be prescribed.
- (ii) The School Management Committee shall prepare a School Development Plan at least three months before the end of the financial year in which it is first constituted under Act.
- (iii) Monitor that teachers are not burdened with non academic duties other than those specified in section 27. No teacher shall be deployed for any non-educational purposes other than the decennial population census, disaster relief duties or duties relating in elections to the local authority or the state legislatures or parliament, as the case may be.
- (iv) Assess financial requirement and needs of the RTE Act 2009, including for providing special training facility specified in section 4. Entitlements of children such as free text books and uniforms, and any other additional requirement for fulfilling the responsibilities of the school under Act.
- (v) The School Development Plan shall be signed by the Chairperson or vice chairperson and convenor of the School Management Committee and submitted to the local authority before the end of the financial year in which it is prepared.
- (vi) Sub committees and sub groups with co-opted members for effective implementation & monitoring of the School Development Plan may be formed as requested/needed by the SMC preferably with parents. HM, teachers, children, educationalist, BRTes, Local Engineers, elected representatives, Civil Society members supporting the school.

### **C. Monitoring of Utilisation of the Grants Received from the Appropriate Government or Local Authority or Any Other Source**

- (i) Prepare an annual account of receipts and expenditure of the school. Any money received by the said committee for the discharge of its functions under this Act, shall be kept in a separate account to be audited annually.
- (ii) The Annual account should be signed by the chairperson or vice-chairperson and convener of the said Committee and make available to the local authority within one month of their preparation.

### **D. Performance of Other Functions**

The School Management Committee shall play such roles and functions as ordered from time to time.

The State Project Director, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is directed to take necessary action to constitute a School Management Committee in each school for planning, monitoring and implementation of Sarve Shiksha Abhiya schemes as per RTE Act.

### **Need and Importance of the Study**

According to RTE 2009 every child has the right to have quality education. Focusing aim many new dimensions and programmes have been implemented to primary education. In order to accomplish the goal of quality education all government elementary schools have constituted SMC's as per section 21 of RTE Act, in order to enhance the functioning of schools. Parent and Children are primary stake holders of an education system and in these committees parent or guardians' participation has been given main importance. So that functioning of school can be managed properly.

Parents are most important part of SMC. However, the fact that most of the parents of students studying in these government elementary schools belong to low socio economic status and are illiterate, or may be their first generation is studying in school. For this reason the question arises: How actively they participate as SMC Members?

Since SMC is indirectly related to better learning outcome of students so researcher decided to work upon the problem entitled-

**“A Study on Participation of School Management Committee (SMC) Members in School Improvement Programme at elementary stage.”**

### **Operational Definition of Participation of SMC Members**

According to RTE-2009 Government of India under SSA have made various provisions for constitutions of SMC and prescribed their functions as discussed earlier. In the present study participation of SMC members means their involvement in the above described functions of SMC.

### Objectives of the Study

To study the participation of School Management Committee members of elementary schools in school improvement programme.

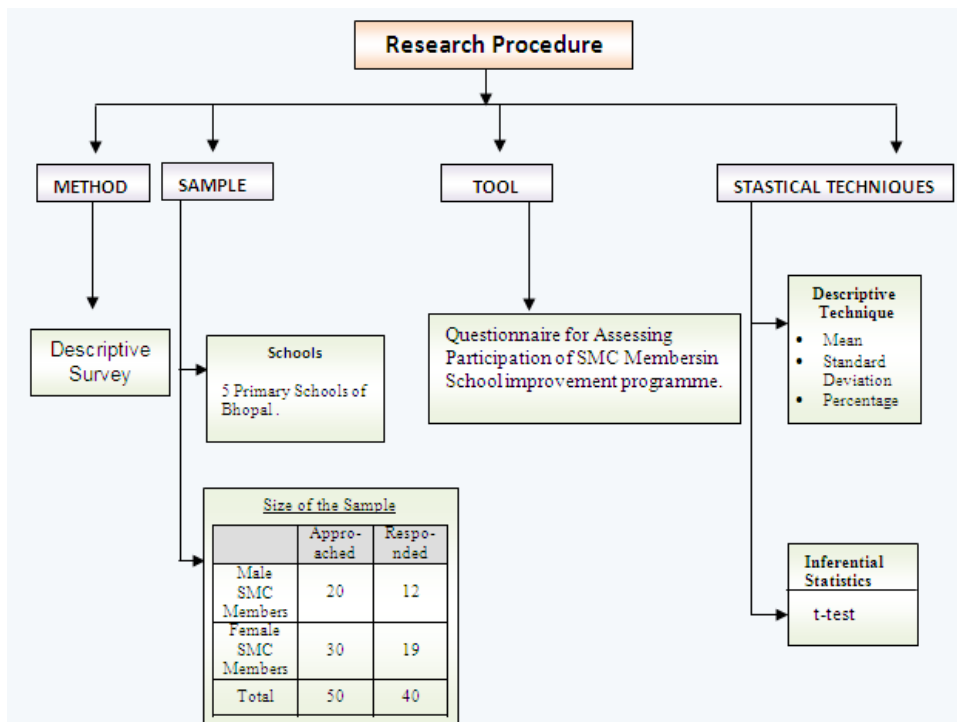
### Hypotheses of the Study

There is no significant difference in the participation of Male and Female School Management Committee members of elementary schools in school improvement programme.

### Method of the Study

Present study is based on Descriptive method.

### Flow Chart of Research Procedure



### Sampling and its Selection

For the present study stratified random sampling method has been used for data collection.

**Selection of the Schools:** For the study, 5 primary schools of Bhopal were selected purposively.

## Selection of the Sample Units

In the present study, the sample may be defined as “A selected number of parents who are the members of School Management Committee constituted at primary school in which their ward studies.”

**Table 1:** Showing Sampling Units of the Study

	<i>Approached</i>	<i>Responded</i>
Male SMC Members	20	12
Female SMC Members	30	19
Total	50	31

## Tools

The following questionnaire has been developed by the researcher:

**“Questionnaire FOR ASSESSING PARTICIPATION of SMC members of ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME.**

## Statistical Techniques

The role of statistics in research is to function as a tool designing research, analyzing its data and drawing conclusions there from. In order to arrange and thrash out the essence from the collected data and to make the data meaningful, the following statistical techniques were used:

### Descriptive Statistics

- Mean, Standard Deviation, Percentage

### Inferential Statistics

#### *Analysis and interpretation of data*

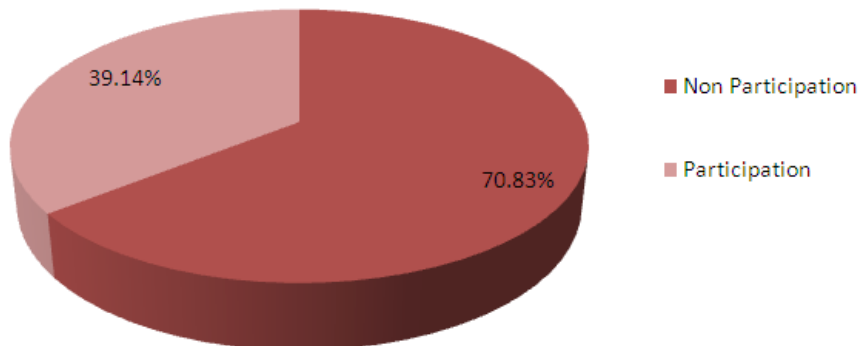
Through the questionnaire the responses of SMC members were recorded in Yes or No. For total score each yes response has been given 1 mark and 0 mark for no response and thus total yes were calculated for obtaining over all scores and mean and percentage was calculated as shown in following Table:

**Table 2:** Showing percentage of Participation of SMC Members in School Improvement Programme

S. No.	SMC Members	No. of Members	Score of Participation in School Improvement Programme	Percentage of Participation in School Improvement Programme
1.	Male	12	67	37.22%
2.	Female	19	115	40.35%
	Total	31	182	39.14%

Table 2 reveals that percentage of participation of Male SMC members is 37.22 per cent and that of Female SMC members is 40.35 per cent. This indicates that Female SMC members are more active in participation in school improvement programme than the Male SMC members. Total percentage of participation of SMC members in school improvement programme is 39.14 per cent which is even less than 50 per cent. This indicates that the participation of SMC members in school improvement programme is not satisfactory.

**Diagram 4.2:** Showing percentage of Participation and Non-participation of SMC Members in school improvement programme:



It can be visualized from the above pie chart that the percentage participation of the School Management Committee members in school improvement programme is 39.14 per cent while a huge percentage (70.83%) received under non-participation.

To test whether there is any significant difference in the participation of male and female SMC members in school improvement programme t-test was employed. The results are shown in the following Table.

**Table 3:** Mean and t-Value for Participation of Male and Female SMC Members in School Improvement Programme

S. No.	SMC Members	Mean	t-test	p-value	Level of Significance
1.	Male	5.58	5.68	0.574	N.S. at 0.05 level
2.	Female	6.05			

It can be visualized from the table 4.5 that p-value for t test is 0 .574 which is not significant at 0.05 level of confidence. So, the null hypothesis is accepted. Thus it shows that there is no significant difference in participation of male and female SMC members in school improvement programme.

Item wise percentage of participation of SMC members in school improvement programme:

To analyses the participation of SMC members in particular areas of school improvement programme, percentage of yes and no for each item have been calculated and shown in the following table:

**Table 4:** Showing Percentage of YES and NO for Each Item Related to Participation of SMC Members in School Improvement Programme

S. No.	Item	Yes %	No %
1.	You participate in most of the SMC meetings.	48.38	51.62
2.	You inspect about the regularity of classes.	35.48	64.52
3.	You are satisfied about the punctuality of teachers.	45.16	54.84
4.	Syllabus is completed on right time by the teachers.	41.93	58.07
5.	Regular homework is given by teachers.	48.38	51.62
6.	You co-operate to maintain regular attendance of students.	41.61	48.39
7.	Students' progress report is discussed with parents.	32.25	67.75
8.	You check the quality of Mid Day Meal by tasting it.	41.93	58.07
9.	You do inspection about the financial needs of the school.	32.58	77.42
10.	You have given some suggestions regarding expenditure of different areas of last year's annual budget.	35.48	64.52
11.	You participate in cultural programmes organized in school.	41.93	58.07
12.	You motivate children to participate in school activities.	61.29	38.71
13.	Training has been given to you about RTE-2009.	41.93	58.07
14.	You encourage your neighbourhood children to study in this school.	38.70	61.3
15.	You do inspection of teachers work whether they accomplish other school related work or not.	18.90	81.1

### Major Findings of the Study

Major findings related to the participation of SMC members in school improvement programme are as follows:

1. The participation of SMC members in school improvement programme is not satisfactory.
2. There is no significant difference in participation of male and female SMC members in school improvement programme.
3. Participation of School Management Committee members is satisfactory in motivating children to participate in school activities since 61.29 per cent of School Management Committee members say yes on the item “Do you motivate children to participate in school activities.”
4. Participation of School Management Committee members is less in inspection of teachers’ performance since 81.1 per cent School Management Committee members say No on the item “You do inspection of teachers work whether they are engaged in other school related works rather than teaching.”
5. Majority of School Management Committee members do not participate in inspection of the financial matters of school. As 77.42 per cent of members say No on item “You do inspection of the financial needs of the school” and 64.52 per cent responded No on item “You have given some suggestions regarding expenditure in the different areas of school.”
6. Participation of SMC members is average in SMC meetings.
7. Participation of SMC members is average too in maintaining regular attendance of the students.

### **Educational Implications**

Findings of the study indicate that the participation of the SMC Members in school improvement programme is not up to the mark. Though they are participating well in some areas but more participation is needed in rest areas of school improvement. There may be several reasons which influence their participation but most significant factor is their unawareness in school improvement programme. Though they are functioning well in some areas but there is need to strengthen the SMCs by eradicating the weaknesses of it. To increase the participation of SMC members the government should take following necessary steps:

1. Duration of the training programme should be increased.
2. Some self-descriptive material in form of Audio- Visual CDS/DVDs should be provided to the members.
3. Training should be provided in practical form.
4. SMC members should be specially trained in planning of annual budget.
5. There should be some helpline toll-free numbers on which members can get the answer of their queries.
6. Some award/honour should be announced to the SMC members whose participation would be satisfactory.



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