



A study on the socio-economic problems of students studying in the blind schools of Assam

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Abstract- The study aims to study the socio economic problems faced by the visually impaired children studying in the blind schools of Assam. A self made interview schedule was used to gather information. Descriptive method has been used to collect data. The population of the study comprises all the student studying in the blind schools of Assam. The data are collected from both primary and secondary sources. It is found that socio economic conditions of the parents of the respondents are not sound. Higher no of blind respondent are found among general caste. They belong to nuclear family. Male respondents are more than female respondent and their family size are big.

Key words – visually impaired, socio-economic, blind school.

INTRODUCTION

In ancient times, visual impaired children were very much neglected by the society. The problem was considered as a curse of God. It was believed that it was the punishment for one's sins. So no any other attempt was made to overcome the problem. But after the Second World War, people like US President Kennedy and President Johnson took initiatives for the upliftment of the education of the handicapped. Gradually, with the development of democracy and socialism in different countries of the world, education came to be considered as the basic right of every child. This realisation opened the way for main-streaming disabled children. Another great effort was made by the "International year of Disabled Persons (IYDP)" 1981.

If the visual information cannot be processed, analysed and interpreted in the brain, it is called visual inefficiency. From the educational point of view, blind children are those children who use Braille and partially seeing are those who use large print. So, partially sighted child is known as print handicapped.

The eye is a very important sensory organ. As visually impaired children cannot use their eyes for



learning, they have to use other senses. So, it is regarded as one of the severe and traumatic of the physical handicaps. Lose of vision create many practical and theoretical problems. The partially blind children are those who have defective vision even after correction. They require adoption of special methods of instruction. In normal schools, these facilities are not available. So, both blind and partially blind children study in the blind schools. In fact they are the first for whom social and educational provision have been made. They have been given special rights and privileges and have more public concern than other categories of handicapped.

According to Census report of India, 2011 defines visually impaired children as follows-

1. Cannot see at all. Or
2. Has no perception of light even with the help of spectacles. Or, move independently
3. Has perception of light but blurred vision even after using spectacles, contact lenses etc. A simple test is whether the person can count the fingers of hand from a distance of 10 feet in good daylight. Such persons can however move independently with the help of remaining sight. Or
4. Can see light but cannot see properly to move about independently. Or
5. Has blurred vision but has no occasion to test if his/ her eyesight would improve after taking corrective measures.
6. One eyed person not to be considered as disabled in seeing.

A visual impaired children is defined in terms of visual acuity, field of vision and colour vision.(Sahu V.K Education of the Exceptional children, 1995, Kalyani publication.p- 133). Visual acuity is measured by the use of Scellens charts. A visual acuity of 30/200 means the eye can see at a distance of 20 feet when a normal eye can see at 200 feet.The field of vision may be effected in two ways- 1) a eye may have central vision restricted to a certain angle or 2) it may have a scotoma, which, if in the centre of the field of vision, may cause less of centre vision.

As per the encyclopaedia of Educational Research (1960), visual impaired person are those whose sight is limited such a degree that they need special consideration in their education and other life activities. The World Council for the Welfare of Blind defines, “ Blindness are those who suffer from either of the following conditions-

- 1) total absence of the sight



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- 2) Visual ability not exceeding 3/60 or 10/200 Snellen in the better eye with correcting lenses.
 - 3) Serious limitations in the field of vision.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act , USA (I.D.E.A), 1993 define, Visual Impairment as “ Visual Impairments with blindness means impairment in vision, that even with correction , adversely affects a child educational performance.The term includes both partial sight (low vision) and blindness. “

In India visual impairment is a serious problem. If we notice the Census Report we see that it is increasing year by year. According to the Census report 2001 there were a total of 21.91 million (219,06,769) disabled persons out of the total population of 1028 million of India. It constituted nearly 2.13% of total population out of which 106,34,881 were visually impaired children. Again, according to Census of India, 2011, total no. of disabled population in India was 2,68,10557 out of which 1,49,86,202 were male and 1,18,24,355 were female. Out of the total disabled population 50,32463 were blind. 26,38516 were male and 23,93947 were female.According to Census report 19% were Visually impaired. Male were 18% and female were 20%. Visually Impaired children were also distributed differently among different social groups. 19.10% were in Scheduled caste, 20% in Scheduled tribe and 18.60% in OTH. According to 2011 census of India, total disabled persons in Assam was 480065 out of which visually impaired was 80553.

Of the six WHO world regions, South East Asia and Western Pacific account for 73% of moderately to severe visually impaired and 58% of blindness. 50 years old is the age which is most affected by visual impairment. It continues to grow rapidly, increasing by 14% in the past 5 years. A major portion of India’s visually impaired children are found in villages in the lower strata of society. The causes of their visual impairment vary from malnutrition to lack of medical care, superstition, poverty and negligence. Many of these children have parents who are visually impaired. So they can not provide attention for their growth, nurture and education. The parents feel guilty and inferior because they are unable to provide care and meet the needs of the children. The feeling of rejection, guilt and aggressiveness are more prevalent among visually impaired children.They are in stress due to feeling of dependency, guilt and financial non-support. In order to make them enlightened and efficient members of the society, the education institutions must take into consideration their needs, abilities, capacities, attitudes, likes and dislikes. In India there are



limited number of educational institutions for visually impaired children. Therefore the educational institutions must be concerned with these considerations.

2. Review of related literature

Some of the earlier studying conducted in India on visually impaired children are as follows-

Akhtar (1971) compared the self concept of visually handicapped children and non-handicapped. The objective were- (1) To study the self concept of the blind children. (2)To study the social adjustment of the visually impaired children. (3)To find out the discrepancy of desirable traits and undesirable traits of the visually impaired children. As sample 20 visually impaired children of the Netrahin Chhatra Vidyalaya , Bhagalpur were taken. An equal number of non handicapped children were selected from the schools of Bhagalpur. The two groups were matched with respect of age, sex and educational level. An self concept inventory developed by Singh (1965) was used. The findings were (1) There is significant difference between visually handicapped and non-handicapped in respect of their self concept. 2) The visually handicapped did not show social conflict .

Bhalerao (1975) investigated the family background, education, socio-religious condition, occupation and economic conditions, recreation, hobbies, bio-medical background and psychology of the visually impaired. The sample comprised of 100 educated blind out of which 90 were male and 10 were female. The investigator used interview and observation schedule. He found that majority of them belonged to middle socio-economic groups. They participated in various recreational programme. They were also interested in different social works.

Singh (1982) conducted a study on the personality adjustment of the blind students in three areas- emotional, social and educational. The investigator attempted to examine personality adjustment of the blind and the extent to which they have been able to adjust themselves on emotional, social and educational adjustment of the blind students. investigator used Sing's Adjustment Inventory. The Hindu students in the age group of 7-22 years from the schools of Patna city were selected as the sample. The investigator seeks to segregate well- adjusted secondary school students from the poorly adjusted students in three areas of adjustment, emotional, social and educational.

Pathak(1984) conducted a study entitled “ A Study of Disable Children In Normal Schools”. The objective of the study were -1) to study the personality traits, adjustment and aspiration of disable children



in normal children. 2) To study their socio-economic status in the classroom. 3) To suggest ways to achieve better integration with normal children. The major findings were - 1) Most of the disable children came from poor family. 2) Most of the disable children were from large family having four or five children. 3) There adjustment was average, emotional adjustment was good , social and educational adjustment was average. But they also found some problems like fear of school,difficulty in classroom learning and inability to participate in co-curricular activities.

Sarita *et. al* (1987) conducted a study on the adjustment pattern of visually handicapped and sighted students. The objective of the study were - 1) To find out the significance of the difference between the mean scores of different dimensions of adjustment of the visually handicapped and sighted students. 2) To examine the socio-economic status on adjustment. The sample consists of 40 visually handicapped and 40 sighted students of age group of 14-18 years of both sexes . The findings were - 1) Visually handicapped students were poorly adjusted in emotional, social and educational adjustment than sighted students. 2) The same condition prevails as regards their total adjustment.

Reddyand Rajguru (1994) conducted a study entitled “ An Investigation of the Self-Concept of the Blind and Visually Impaired Children in Tamil Nadu.” The objective of the study was to find out the significant of differences between blind and totally blind and low vision children with regard to their self concept. Major findings of the study were (1) A significant difference was found between the mean of totally blind and low vision children with regard to their self concept scores. 2) The self concept of visually impaired was positively correlated with their achievement. 3) The socio-economic status of the visually impaired children has least impact on their self concept. Findings of the study revealed that most of the visually impaired children are engaged in different kinds of activities. But they are enable to reach the required level.

3. Significance of the study

The eye sight plays an important role in building the personality of the individual. But seeing or visual impairment has emerged as the topmost prominent disability in the India as well as in the state of Assam. From the Survey Report of Disabled Persons under National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO, 1991), Assam was considered to be most vulnerable state as far as coverage of visually impaired or born with visual impairment population than the other states. Therefore the problem of educating these children



deserves much more research effort, policy programming, development and administrative attention. The primary goal of special education for students with visually impaired is to reduce as much as possible the vision related handicaps they experience. (Topor, Rosenblum and Hatton, 2004).

The socio-economic problem of the family is one of the influential factor for the vision related handicaps. The social and economic problems of the family has bearing influence in their adjustment, self concept etc. It also creates important hurdles in the academic achievement. Because of the ignorance of the parent, pregnant women take dangerous medicine which affect the baby and may affect his/her eyesight. Otherwise because of the poor economic condition they cannot get proper treatment. In our society we have some religious beliefs for which they fear to destroy the fetus after knowing the physical handicap of the child. Many studies have established positive correlation between the socio-economic condition and academic achievement of the child. Because of the negative attitude of the society, the visually impaired children develop negative self-concept and become isolated from the society. The Constitution of India ensures equality, freedom and justice for all. But it is found that although some work have been carried out in the field of education and psychology of the visually handicap children, very little attention have been paid in the area of sociological background. So the investigator was motivated to study the area in sociological point of view.

4. Delimitations of the study-

The major delimitation of the study are-

1. The study is delimited to the visually impaired students studying in the blind schools of Assam only.
2. The study is delimited only the socio-economic condition of the visually impaired students

5. Objective of the study-

The study has only one objective i.e: to study the socio-economic condition of the blind students studying in the blind school of Assam.

6. Methodology--

The descriptive method has been used in the present study. It seems to be more relevant and suitable with the nature of the study.



Population of the study: The population of the present study comprises of all the students studying in the blind schools of Assam.

Sample of the present study: As the population is small in size , therefore the whole population is considered as the sample of the present study. A total of 270 students are found as a sample at the time of data collection.

Tools and Techniques: The data are collected from primary and secondary sources . For collection of primary data the investigator developed an interview schedule based on the socio-economic background of the student . The secondary data are collected from official records , government records etc.

The population of the present study comprise of all the students of preparatory class to class X studying in the blind schools of Assam.

7. Data Analysis:

The investigator made best possible effort to collect most reliable and valid data. For this purpose the investigator personally approached the Principal of all the blind schools with a request to permit the investigator. After being permitted, the investigator collected data with the help of interview scheduled. The investigator met all the students personally. During the collection of data the investigator not only adopted interview scheduled but also relied upon observation.

A total of 270 students are studying in all the blind schools of Assam. So, social backgrounds of all the 270 students are taken into account. There are mainly 5 blind schools in Assam. All the students of all the blind schools of Assam are interviewed in order to bring a clear cut picture of their social background. When interviewed the respondents possessed diverse economic backgrounds having different age groups, sex, cast, occupation, educational qualification of the parents, occupation, size and type of the family, difference in income etc. Social background of the respondents are discussed and analysed below in the tabular form-

1) Class wise distribution of students -

Table 1 shows the class wise distribution of all the students studying in all the blind schools of Assam. Generally in all the blind schools classes starts from class 1 to class x.



Table – 1

	Jorhat	Nagaon	Guwahati	Bihpuria	Moran	Total	
Preparatory	3	14	0	0	0	17	6.3%
I	3	7	8	9	24	51	18.89%
II	2	5	4	4	5	20	7.41%
III	1	4	6	4	4	19	7.04%
IV	2	3	4	6	4	19	7.04%
V	5	4	5	3	7	24	8.89%
VI	5	6	12	4	5	32	11.85%
VII	3	5	7	9	7	31	11.48%
VIII	4	3	3	9	1	20	7.41%
IX	2	4	3	4	3	16	5.53%
X	4	4	9	3	1	21	7.78%
Total	34	59	61	55	61	270	

It is evident from table 1 that total no of student are 270. It is seen in the above table that in Jorhat blind school there are 34 students, in Nagaon there are 59 students, in Guwahati blind school there are 61 students, in Bihpuria blind school there are 55 students and in Moran Janamangal Adarsha Blind school there are 61 blind students. Highest no of students are in Guwahati and Moran and lowest in Jorhat and total no is 61 and 34 respectively. There are no any student in preparatory classes in Guwahati, Bihpuria and Moran blind schools. Total no of students are only 3 in Jorhat and 14 in Nagaon in preparatory classes.. There percentage is only 6.3%. Highest students in class I and Percentage is 18.89%. It is also seen that in class i lowest students are in Jorhat blind school having 3 only and highest in Moran blind school having 24 students. In class ii lowest in Jorhat and highest in Nagaon having 2 only and Moran having 5 number. In class iii lowest in Jorhat blind school having only 1 and highest in Guwahati blind school having 6 students. In class iv Lowest in Jorhat blind school having only 2 students and highest in Bihpuria blind school



having 6 students. In class v lowest students are in Bihpuria blind school having 3 only and highest in Moran blind school having 7 students. In class vi lowest in Bihpuria blind school having 4 only and highest in Guwahati blind school having 12 students. Again in class vii lowest students having 9 students . Jorhat blind school having only 3 students and highest in Bihpuria blind school having 7 students. In class viii lowest in Moran blind school having only 1 students and highest in Bihpuria blind school having 9 students. In class ix lowest in Jorhat blind school having only 2 students and highest in Bihpuria blind school having 4 students and in class x lowest students are found in Moran blind school having only one students and highest in Guwahati blind school having 9 students.

2) Caste wise distribution of students.

The investigator found varied caste of students in different classes in all the blind schools of Assam. Following table shows total no of students belonging to different castes.

Table -2

Caste	Jorhat	Moran	Nagaon	Guwahati	Bihpuria	Total	%
General	5	9	20	15	16	65	24.16
SC	6	12	14	20	8	60	22.30
ST	6	11	10	13	12	52	19.33
OBC	8	17	10	10	10	55	20.45
MOBC	8	12	5	4	9	38	14.07

It is evident from the table 2 that highest number of visually impaired students are belonging to general caste having 65 no and percentage is 24.16% . The investigator found 60 nos of scheduled caste (22.30%) , 52 nos of scheduled tribe (19.33%), 55 nos of Other backward class (20.45%), and only 38 nos of MOBC (14.07%) students in all the blind schools of Assam . In Jorhat blind school the investigator found 5 numbers of general caste students, SC and ST are 6 in each and OBC and MOBC 8 numbers each. In Moran Janamangal Adarsha blind school there are 9 general class students, 12 SC and MOBC students, 11 ST students and 17 OBC students. In Nagaon blind school there are 20 general , 14 SC, 10 ST and OBC



and 5 MOBc students are found. In Guwahati blind school there are 15 general caste students, 20 Sc, 13 ST students, 10 OBC students and only 4 MOBC students. Again in Bihpuria blind school there are 16 general caste students, 8 ST students, 12 ST students, 10 OBC students and 9 MOBc students are found.

3) Religion wise distribution of students are as follows -

At the time of investigation the investigator find different students having different religious belief which are shown in table- 3

Table 3

Religion	Jorhat	Moran	Nagaon	Guwahati	Bihpuria	Total	%
Hindu	15	20	30	30	30	125	46.3
Muslim	14	28	20	24	19	105	38.89
Christian	6	10	11	7	6	40	14.82

It is seen in the table that highest number of visually impaired children are belonging to Hindu community having 125 and 46.3%. 105 out of 270 students are belonging to Muslim community having 38.89% .Only 40 students are belonging to Christian community having only 14.82%. In Jorhat blind school out of 35 students 15 are Hindu, 14 Muslim ans 6 are Christian religion. In Moran Panamanian Harsh blind school 20 Muslim students belongs to Hindu community, 28 Muslim and 10 are Christian. In Nagaon blind school there are 30 students of Hindu community, 20 are Muslim community and 11 are belonging to Christian community. In Guwahati blind school there are 30 students of Hindu, 24 are Muslim and 7 are belonging to Christian religion. Again in Bihpuria blind school there 30 Hindu students, 19 are Muslim students and 6 are Christian students.

4. Do you have your parents -

Following table shows the parental status of the visually impaired students of all the blind schools of Assam.



Table- 4

Family	Jorhat	Moran	Nagaon	Guwahati	Bihpuria	Total	%
Parent	20	40	40	50	33	183	67.76
Only father	05	09	12	03	07	36	13.33
Only mother	09	10	06	08	12	45	16.66
No parent	00	02	01	00	03	06	2.22

It is seen in table (4) that 2.22% student are orphan and they belong with their relatives and total no of family are 6 out of 270. Majority of the student live with their parents. 183 out of 270 student have their parent and it is 67.76%. 36 out of 270 student have their fathers and it is 13.33% and 45 out of 270 students have mother and it is 16.66%. In Jorhat blind school out of 34 students 20 have their parents, 5 have only father and 9 have their mother. In Moran Janamangal Adarsha blind school there are 40 students having parents, 9 having father, 10 having mother and Only two orphan students. In Nagaon blind school out of 59 students 40 having parents, 12 having father, 6 having mother and i orphan student. In Guwahati blind school out of 61 students 50 having parents, 3 having father and 8 having mother. Again In Bihpuria blind school out of 55 students 33 having parents, 7 having father, 12 having mother and 3 orphan students.

5) Family wise distribution of students -

Family is the fundamental unit of society. It is seen that the concept of family have changed. Till the medieval period the constitution of family was primarily joint. But with the changing scenario of time the concept of the family have changed. The joint family size is broken and arise nuclear family. Following table shows the type op families.

Table- 5

Family	Jorhat	Moran	Nagaon	Guwahati	Bihpuria	Total	%
Nuclear	20	50	45	40	38	193	71.48
Joint	14	11	14	21	17	77	28.52

It is evident from table 5 that most of the family belongs to nuclear family and it is 71.48%. Only 77



out of 270 respondents belong to joint family and it is 28.52%. In Jorhat blind school there are 20 students bearing nuclear family, 14 bearing joint family. In Moran Panamanian Adarshblind school there are 50 students having nuclear family and 11 joint family. In Nagaon blind school there are 45 students having nuclear family and 14 having joint family. In Guwahati blind school there are 40 students having nuclear family and 21 having joint family. Again in Bihpuria blind school there are 38 students bearing nuclear family and 17 bearing joint family.

The rapid growth of nuclear family is seen in the above table . It may effected by several factors. The first and foremost is the rapid increase of population. According to the respondent it is not possible for the joint families to carry on all the problems of the family members. Other wise for the manage of food the members of the family have to go for earning money. Again advancement and spread of education play a vital role in breaking down the joint family system.

6) Sex wise distribution of students-

It is important to understand the implications of the differences for diagnosis and treatment. So, realising this fact the investigator tries to calculate the male and female students which are studying in all the blind schools of Assam.

Table- 6

Sex	Jorhat	Moran	Nagaon	Guwahati	Bihpuria	Total	%
male	20	34	45	40	38	177	65,57
Female	14	27	14	21	17	93	34.44

It is seen in the table 6 that 177 students out of 270 students are male and it is 65.57% and 93 students out of 270 students are female which is 34.44% .In Jorhat out of 34 students 20 are male and 14 are female, in Moran out of 61 students 34 are male and 27 are female, In Nagaon out of 59 students 45 are male and 14 are female, In Guwahati out of 61 students 40 are male and 21 are female and in Bihpuria blind school out of 55 students 38 are male and 17 are female. So we can conclude that male visually impaired students are more than female in all blind school of Assam.



7) Size of the family of the respondent -

Size of the family is an important factor in sociological studies. Where there is small family the student get more and proper attention and proper health care so that they can develop in a proper way

Table- 7

Family Size	Jorhat	Moran	Nagaon	Guwahati	Bihpuria	Total	%
0 - 3	3	10	9	5	5	32	11.85
4 - 6	28	16	40	50	40	174	64.44
7 - 10	3	35	10	6	11	64	23.70

Table 7 shows that total number of having big sized family member are 64 (23.70%), having 4-6 family members are 174 (64.44%) and there are only 32 family which have only 2 or 3 (11.85%) family members. It is also seen that majority of the visually impaired children fall having 4 to 6 family members . In 0-3 group Jorhat blind school have 3 students, Moran Janamangal Adarsha blind school have 10 students, Nagaon blind school have 9 students, Guwahati blind school have 5 students and Bihpuria blind school have 5 students. In 4-6 group Jorhat blind school have 28 students, Moran Janamangal Adarsha blind school have 16 students, Nagaon blind school have 40 students, Guwahati blind school have 50 students and Bihpuria blind school have 40 students. In 7-10 group Jorhat blind school have 3 students, Moran Janamangal Adarsha blind school have 35 students, Nagaon blind school have 10 students, Guwahati blind school have 6 students and Bihpuria blind school have 11 students.

8. Educational Qualification wise distribution of family -

In order to present a clear cut picture of the qualification of the parents of the visually imp[aired students they were categorised under 6 heads such as primary, secondary, higher secondary, bachelor, post graduate and no idea. Distribution of parents of the visually impaired students are distributed as below.



Table- 8

Educational qualification	Jorhat	Moran	Nagaon	Guwahati	Bihpuria	Total	%
Primary	17	28	31	41	40	157	58.15
Secondary	4	3	2	5	2	16	5.93
Higher secondary	4	0	0	3	0	07	2.59
Bachelor	1	1	0	0	0	02	.74
Post graduate	0	0	0	0	0	00	00
No idea	8	29	26	12	13	88	32.59

It is seen in the above table that educational qualification of the parents of visually impaired is very low. The investigator find that there are no one parents whose educational qualification are post graduate. Only 02 out of 270 parents are having bachelor and it is .74%. Only 07 out of 270 parents are having higher secondary degree and it is having 2.59% , 16 out of 270 parents are obtaining matriculation having 5.93%. Majority of the parents are obtaining primary education. It is 157 out of 270 and 58.15%. Total 88 (32.59%) out of 270 students do not know the educational qualification of their parents. Having primary education qualification in different districts are as- 17 in Jorhat, 28 in Moran, 31 in Nagaon, 41 in Guwahati and 40 in Bihpuria. Having secondary education are as- 4 in Jorhat, 3 in Moran 2 in Nagaon in Moran 2 in Nagaon, 5 in Guwahati and 2 in Bihpuria . Having higher secondary education as- 4 in Jorhat, 0 in Moran, 0 in Nagaon, 3 in Guwahati and 0 in Bihpuria. Having bachelor degree are as - 1 in Jorhat, 1 in Moran and in Nagaon, Guwahati and Bihpuria there are no parents having bachelor degree . In lower stage the visually impaired students do not the qualification of their parents. It is group as no idea. In this group 8 students in Jorhat, 29 in Moran, 26 in Nagaon, 12 in Guwahati and 13 in Bihpuria Blind school.

9) Sources of income of the parents of the respondents.

In order to present a clear cut picture of the sources of income the investigator divides the different sources into seven heads. They are- Government employees, farmer, carpenter, shopkeeper, tea garden labourer, day labourer, and businessman. Following table shows the various sources of income of the parent of the visually impaired students studying in the blind schools of Assam.



Table- 9

Source	Jorhat	Moran	Nagaon	Guwahati	Bihpuria	Total	%
Govt.. employee	2	1		0	0	3	1.11
Farmer	10	11	9	18	15	63	23.33
Carpenter	3	4	2	3	4	16	5.93
Shopkeeper	4	5	3	10	10	32	11.85
Tea garden labourer	7	28	30	20	16	101	37.41
Day labourer	3	5	9	8	5	30	11.11
Businessman	3	7	6	2	5	23	8.52
Any other	2					2	.75

It is seen in the above table that students of government employees in different blind schools are as- 2 in Jorhat and 1 in Moran , total Government employees are 3. But In Nagaon, Guwahati and Bihpuria blind school there are no students of government employees. Farmer are 10 in Jorhat, 11 in Moran, 9 in Nagaon, 18 in Guwahati and 15 in Bihpuria and total farmer are 63. Carpenter 3 in Jorhat, 4 in Moran, 2 in Nagaon, 3 in Guwahati and 4 in Bihpuria, total 16 Shopkeeper 4 in Jorhat, 5 in Moran , 3 in Nagaon, 10 in Guwahati and 10 in Bihpuria , shopkeeper are 32. Tea garden Labourer 7 in Jorhat, 28 in Moran, 30 in Nagaon, 20 in Moran,9 in Nagaon,8 in Guwahati and5 in Bihpuria blind school ,30 in total . Again in businessman 3 in Jorhat, 7 in Moran, 6 in Nagaon, 2 in Guwahati and 5 in Bihpuria blind school , total businessman are 23. The investigator found that majority of parents of the visually impaired children of Assam are tea garden labourer having 101 number . Out of 270 parents only 3 are government employee. All most all the parents are small scale labourer. So, financial condition are not sound.

10.. Does economic background of the parents hamper them in teaching learning process?

The investigator have already discussed the impact of financial condition on their education. So, the following table shows whether they are influenced by financial condition of the parents.



Table- 10

Response	Jorhat	Moran	Nagaon	Guwahati	Bihpuria	Total	%
Yes	30	00	00	5	53	88	32.59
No	4	61	59	56	02	182	67.41

The investigator find various type of responses regarding impact of financial background of the parents. In Jorhat 4, in Moran 61, in Nagaon 59, in Guwahati 56 and in Bihpuria only 2 student replied that they are not effected by the financial condition of the parents. Again in Jorhat 30, 5 in Guwahati , 53 in Bihpuria replied that they are effected by the financial condition of their parents. In Moran and Nagaon blind school no one reply negatively .

It is seen in the above table that 67.41% of the blind students do not face any problem in teaching learning process. It is also seen that in Moran and Nagaon all students replied that they donot face any problem. Because financial condition of both the schools are sound. Only 32.59% of the blind student replied that they face problem in the school. In Bihpuria all the student except two face problem. Again 30 out of 34 student of the Jorhat blind school face problem in teaching learning process.

Major findings of the study-

Major findings are as follows-

1. It is found that parents are not conscious at the early stage. Because there are students in the preparatory class in the Jorhat and Nagaon only. In Jorhat there are only three students and fourteen in Nagaon blind school.
2. Highest no of blind students are found among general caste. Total no of blind students among general class are 65 (24.16%) out of 270 students. Lowest among MOBC having 38 students (14.07%)
3. It is found that highest no of visually impaired students are from Muslim community. That is 125 (46.3%) out of 270 students. Lowest among Christian community having only 40(14.82%)out of 270 students.
4. It is also found that out of total respondents there are more nuclear family than joint family i.e.193



(71.48% and 77(28.52%) joint family .

5. Male students are more than female students Male students are found to be 177 (65.57%) and female only 77 (26.52%).

6. Most of the blind students are having big size family member. It is found that 174 students have four to six member. Percentage is 66.44. Only 32 students having small family member, the family member is only three(11.85%)

7. Though financial condition of the parents of the respondents are not sound 66.67% of the student have not faced any problem in the school. The financial condition of all the school except Jorhat and Bihpuria is sound. 25 out of 34 students in Jorhat and 37 out of 55 students in Bihpuria replied positively.

8. Most of the visually impaired students belongs to tea garden community.

9. Educational qualification of the parents of the visually impaired students are very low. The qualification of the majority parents are primary education pass and it is 92.59%

Suggestion-

Though the financial condition of some of the schools are sound , the government should provide facilities for visually impaired students such as stipends and scholarship. The condition of Bihpuria blind school is very deplorable. So special provision should be taken by the government for the upliftment of the Bihpuria blind school. They should given vocational training in the school and employment opportunity should be available for them.Awareness programme should be organise for the parents to make them aware about the pros and cons of visually impaired students .

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