

KNOWLEDGE INFLATION AND ITS IMPACT ON DIFFERENT LEVELS OF EDUCATION IN WEST BENGAL

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Abstract

Education in rural areas, despite being promoted on a large scale by the government, is lagging far behind the expected goal. Due to the rapid change of science and technology and stupendous development in the field of multimedia, computer and internet it is easy to acquire knowledge about different fields. As a result we can find a system of knowledge inflation in the society. The impact of knowledge inflation on our education system is essentially important to make plans for harmonious development of society. But a gap has been found in rural and urban areas in regard to inflation of knowledge. Findings of the study leads to conclude that the impacts of knowledge inflation on the literacy programme is significant in connection with continuation of education. The proper measure for utilizing knowledge inflation may help for reaching the unreached in our country. Thus the results of the study have significant impact in taking literacy programme for reaching the unreached children.

Introduction

India today is striving out into the modern world. We are looking ahead to new technology, new types of employment and a new dynamism in our economic growth. But we must pay attention to the scenario of education prevailing in rural areas of the country. Education in rural areas, despite being promoted on a large scale by the government, still struggles to survive. Increase in drop out rate, decrease in enrolment rate, lack of infra structural facilities, indifferent, attitude of teachers towards students and vague understanding of the benefits of education among the parents of rural areas.

The knowledge inflation has given the rise to many good impacts on our society and its changing aspects have many sultry benefits. Change is a common phenomenon in each and every society. It happens more when they inch closure to any new thoughts, ideas and with new innovations and development. The basic characteristics of a society are to search for something new, superior in nature and beneficial.

Modern age is considered as the age of science. Due to the rapid change of science and technology and stupendous development in the Field of multimedia, computer and internet it is easy to acquire knowledge about different fields. Computer and multimedia systems have been functioning as the essential components of our modern life. It has a clear impact in changing our habits to acquire knowledge. It has been exploiting our inquisitiveness. In recent time it is easy to acquire knowledge through internet system without having much effort to the basic facts or the sources. As a result we can find a system of inflation in the knowledge dimension.

Inflation is considered as an unhealthy rapid growth of specific aspects of society. Inflation affects harmony of the society. It helps to categories society into two complete isolated sections. It affects the normal social development is severely hampered. How far this proposition is true and what are the impacts of inflation on our education system is essentially important to make plans for harmonious development of society. A study was conducted to verify the propositions as stated above.

Objectives of the Study :

In the study the basic objective was to estimate the impact of knowledge inflation on different levels of education.

Sources of Data :

In this connection 150 heads of the families with diversified economic conditions were selected as sample. Data were collected from census report, Govt. reports on economic progress and from heads of the selected families.

Key Terms :

Knowledge Inflation : Inflation is generally considered as the rate of growth beyond normal trend. Inflation signifies the certain change in the dimension of different social components. Change is a natural phenomenon. It has happened due to the change of the time, social system and due to the impact of many other external forces. It is observed that in all aspects of our social system there is a change, as we consider that the systems are dynamic organization. In many situations changes occur beyond the normal trend due to impact of different factors. Inflation is justified as the changes which are beyond the normal trend of the component. In term of mathematical equation knowledge inflation can be stated as Knowledge Inflation = f (projected growth of knowledge Actual growth of knowledge) = f (PGK AGK).

Level of Education : The system of education consists of different stages. It starts from very early age and continuous to the highest level. To develop a systematic infrastructure of education of different stages, a gradation is maintained with the stage and those gradation are entitle with specific name such as pre-primary, primary, secondary, higher education etc. In this study level of education was considered as the stages of education i.e. the standard of education of the selected sample.

Hypotheses :

^HO₁ : Knowledge inflation and expenditure on education of the families are significantly independent to each other.

^HO₂ : There is no significant difference between the rate of expenditure on education of the families belong to High knowledge inflation and Average knowledge inflation groups.

^HO₃ : There is no significant difference between the rate of expenditure on education of the families belong to Average inflation and low knowledge inflation groups.

^HO₄ : There is no significant difference as between the rate of expenditure on education of the families belong to high knowledge inflation and low knowledge inflation groups.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data :

Table 1. Showing the distribution of families with respect to knowledge inflation & expenditure on education Knowledge inflation

	High	Average	Low	Total
High	23	20	2	45
Average	20	28	12	60
Low	2	12	31	45
Total	45	60	45	150

$x^2 = 54.07, df=4$

For 4 df x^2 at .05 level = 13.28

Obtained value 54.07 > 13.28

So, the x^2 value is significant at .01 level.

Interpretation :

Result indicates that the χ^2 value is significant at .01 level that means, the null hypothesis (H_0) on the assumption, that the variable are independent to each other is rejected. From χ^2 result, it may be said that the knowledge inflation and Expenditure on education of the families are interdependent.

Table 2 : Showing the comparison between the rate of expenditure of families with respect to their knowledge inflation

Group	N	Rate of Expenditure	SE%	df	t	Level of significance
High	45	46.52	9.82	103	0.15	.05
Average	60	45.04				

Interpretation :

Table 2 indicates that the value of t' is not significant at .05 level, so the null hypothesis (H_0) on the assumption that no true difference exists, is accepted. Result leads to infer that the rate of expenditure on education of two groups of families with High knowledge inflation and with Average knowledge inflation do not differ significantly.

Table 3 : Showing the comparison between the rate of expenditure of families with respect to their knowledge inflation

Group	N	Rate of Expenditure	SE%	df	t	Level of significance
Average	60	45.04	8.98	103	4.08	0.01
Low	45	8.44				

Interpretation :

Table 3 indicates that the value of t' is significant at .01 level, so the null hypothesis (H_0) on the assumption that no true difference exists, is rejected. Result leads to infer that the rate of expenditure on education of two groups of families with Average knowledge inflation and Low knowledge inflation differ significantly.

Table 4 : Showing the comparison between the rate of expenditure of families with respect to their knowledge inflation

Group	N	Rate of Expenditure	SE%	df	t	Level of significance
High	45	46.52	9.82	103	0.15	.05
Average	60	45.04				

Interpretation:

Table 4 indicates that the value of t' is significant at .01 level, so the null hypothesis (H_0) on the assumption that no true difference exists, is rejected. Result leads to infer that the rate of expenditure on education of two groups of families with high knowledge inflation and with Low knowledge inflation differ significantly.

Major Findings:

- (i) The impact of Knowledge inflation on the education is significant.
- (ii) The rate of expenditure on education of the average knowledge Inflation families is significantly higher than low knowledge Inflation.
- (iii) The rate of expenditure on education of the High knowledge Inflation families is significantly higher than Low knowledge Inflation

Conclusion :

Keeping the findings of the study in view following conclusions may be made:

Findings of the study lead to conclude that the impacts of knowledge inflation on the literacy programme are significant in connection with continuation of education.

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