ABSTRACT

Title “Impact of ‘Education for All’ Programme of Ministry of Education for Increasing Literacy Rate in Pakistan”

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The present research entitled “Impact of ‘Education for All’ Programme of Ministry of Education for Increasing Literacy Rate in Pakistan” was conducted to investigate the impact of EFA in adult literacy. To conduct the study population consisted of literacy instructors working in different districts of the Punjab province of Pakistan, EDOs (Executive District Officers) literacy, personnel working at EFA Wing Ministry of Education Government of Pakistan and Completers of literacy programmes living in the rural areas of the Punjab Province. For the selection of sample whole population of Executive District Officers literacy and personnel from EFA Wing Ministry of Education Government of Pakistan and Punjab Literacy Department was selected. Whereas 372 literacy instructors and 8082 adult illiterates were selected adopting the technique of random and cluster respectively.

For the purpose of data collection questionnaires and the structured interview schedule were used. Questionnaires developed on five point rating scale were delivered to
literacy instructors and Executive District Officers literacy whereas; researcher personally interviewed the personnel from EFA Wing. In the same way opinions were collected from Completers (adults) of EFA Programme through an interview. The study revealed that instructors were not trained to teach adults in local perspective and traditional literacy centres are not being regularly converted into functional literacy centres. Moreover both rural and urban areas were not being focussed by EFA Programme. The benefits of EFA literacy programmes were properly publicized and media campaign of EFA Programme had not motivated the community for involvement in literacy efforts.

Resultantly, EFA Programme had resulted into improvement of literacy rate and participation rate had increased in response to the EFA literacy programme. But it was observed by respondents that Government did not provide sufficient funds for literacy programmes and similarly lack of planning, coordination, funds, commitment and accountability were the main problems pointed out by the respondents. Training of literacy instructors had been identified as an issue that needed to be addressed. There was no particular arrangement for the training required to teach adults. In this regard, it was proposed that the Government had to encourage the involvement of the NGOs and private sector to establish sufficient and proper training system for literacy instructors. Based on the results of the this research study it was clear that major initiatives might be needed to meet up the EFA goals for adult literacy, mainly for female. There were vital regional differences in GPI. It was recommended to focus serious efforts to achieve gender parity and ultimately equality. It was suggested that sufficient funding should be allocated for EFA literacy programmes along with political commitment.