

## The Circumstances of Language Teaching in West Bengal

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**Preamble:** According to language, different type of lingual, culture and religion, there is variety of people in India. In spite of diversity in many states there is a link among this variety. And there is an effortless (for ever), without making unity it is not possible to rule this country. So it is need to make a proper system of education for making alertness among the people. The Government had formed education-committee, advised committee to manage the system of education. There is a dual administration in India, so it is desire to make own favorable rule both in administrative and legislative council. Educational system and economical system both are belong to combined schedule. So the central Government has constitutional right to them for the expansion of educational system. In other hand state Government has given right to form education-committee and advisory-committee. The state Government has been given responsibility to apply of the tri-language formula which is consisted with three languages-

1. National Language, i.e. Hindi
2. English as connective language and
3. Mother Tongue of Regional Language.

Beside these three languages another classical language is also recommended.

These three languages have been applied in different states and the Government had to change the policy of application of these three languages in several times according to demand of general people. Every political party followed captures the political power through constitutional process. They apply their own principle and programme of work to form an own favorable structure in economy, of variety state government should follow a fundamental policy through constitutional process. Tri-Language formula and Government of West Bengal: The West Bengal Government has emphasized on educational, economical and social policy. They form their educational policy according to tri-language formula. There is lingual variety among people if West Bengal. Yet the West Bengal Government has taken a democratic policy in Educational System which is favourable for all the lingual people of West Bengal. Though they (West Bengal Government) have nit violated the constitution. In this state the language Assamese, Bengali, English, Gujrati, Hindi, Lushai, Malayalam, Marathi, Modern Tibetan, Nepali,

Oriya, Punjabi, Tamil, Telegu, Urdu, Santali & Sadani are recognized as first language according to regional language and Mother Tongue. And English, Bengali & Nepali as second language & Sanskrit, Pali, Parsian, Arabic, Greek, Latin, Classical Tibetan, Classical Armenian, French, German, Russian, Portuguese, Spanish, Italian etc. are recognized as classical and modern European Language. Besides this language it is also permitted that in secondary Education the student may use English, Bengali, Nepali, Santali, Hindi, Urdu and Oriya as a medium of learning other subject. The step, in tri-language formula, which is taken by government, is that Hindi will be the first language in Class I to X and English will be second language in Class V to X and any modern Indian language will be there in Class VIII to X where the mother tongue is Hindi. And it will be recognized regional language as first language in Class I to X, English or Hindi in Class V to X, Hindi or English in Class VIII to X where mother tongue is not Hindi. This tri-language formula has made different problems, while it is applied. So it has to be changed and reformed. At the first phase mother tongue had taken for learning of language among the three languages. It is advised to learn and official or associate official language with mother tongue, in the course of higher primary and secondary school. If it is not fulfill by learning mother tongue and second language, the official language should be taught as third language. and the modern India language and Foreign language must be taught in class XI and X II.

Not rejecting the advice of previous committee, the west Bengal Government has performed efficiency in the application of language teaching. there are twenty tow recognized languages in the Indian constitution. Thirteen of them are taught as mother tongue. In this sector the West Bengal Government is very liberal which is rare in other states of India. Not only in Kolkata and city but in the very ruler area the West Bengal Government has given importance to the demands of general people in language learning. Only for few students of Telegu, the West Bengal Government opens a school at Bansbaria in Hoogly district. Only for twenty or thirty student of Oriya, a school is being continued at Kuntighat in Hooghly. So West Bengal Government did not neglect any one in case of language learning. The West Bengal Government has

taken a number of steps for experiment on language learning during debate on it. A number of committees have been formed with excellent and talented educationists. And through the report of this committee the government was able to make experiment on language learning. The Government has to face criticism, difficulties in English learning in Primary & Madhyamik stage but they are trying to overcome the problems. They even open English medium schools for Backward People in Mednapore and Bankura. Because the children of these backward people are neglected by people of higher caste and it is also declared that the children of backward people are not able to learn other languages. The West Bengal Government did not care such as declaration but they open schools for backward class (especially Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe) and prove that the children of backward class are not disabling to learn other languages

At the first phase children off Class I to V are taught with the medium of regional language only. Month tongue and second language English are taught in Class VI to XII. And a third language is taught in Class VII to VII. Recently the Government has given more importance on language learning. So they declared that mother tongue and English language are must have to be learnt in the course of B.Sc. & B.Com. There is a school Board of West Bengal Government for forming Educational policy, which is helped by Urdu Academy and British Council. In other hand there are Madrasha Board, Central School, I.C.S.E. and C.B.S.E. Board. Beside these are schools of AnandaMargh, Schools of Sanskrit (Tole) in West Bengal.

West Bengal Board of Primary and Secondary Education, uprooting English learning in Primary Stage, made and arrangement for learning mother tongue only. It has been introduced English from class III in primary stage. According to report of Pabitra Sarikar Commission, as compulsory additional language. But the advisory committee recommended introducing in class I. for getting support of middle class people. As a result elite class has gotten some advantages. Because they had to expense more for their child education as they had to admit their children in English medium school. In other hand the children of poor people gather in govt. school. As there was no fear of English learning, had to expense spread out. But elite class had to face two problems- i. They had to expense more money for learning of their children in English Medium School. ii. Their children have to face more competition for the spread of education in lower class people. So they could not able to hold the domination in service of upper grade for generation to generation. Anger is created among them, they took step to introduce English again in Primary School by creating own favor-

able support of people through mass media against govt. As a result they gain two advantage - i. The children get opportunity of learning without high expense ii They get opportunity also in higher education and service as competition become less, because of less spread of education among the people of lower caste who could not able to take education for fear of English in Primary School. So it may be said that the intellectual, mass media and govt. are under the control of elite of class.

Class room teaching: It is 21st Century. We are now living in the atmosphere which is advanced through globalization in technology. But we could not able to remove the superstition of religion, caste etc., which is firmly attached in our mind. According to economist Amartya Sen, 'It is present the caste sensitive and community sensitive in the mind of teachers and students of most of the school (Primary & Madhyamik). The teachers, who are the maker of ideal citizen, believe in caste and religion. They are trying to be continued their belief. The children of higher caste do not take mid-day meal with the children of lower caste sitting in one line. They do not sit on one bench with the children of lower caste. They even, neglect the children of lower caste. Most of the teachers behave roughly and neglect the children of lower caste. They (Teacher) punish the children of lower class by heavy stick as the farmers punish their cow.

They think that their prestige of higher caste will be lost if they punished them with hand. To remove these scandal sides there are commission and administrative council. But they can nothing because security cannot present if the goat is brought up by tiger. And it is not, also possible to bring up the goat rightly. The narrow minded officers, who have been appointed in office which is for development of backward people, try to neglect and harm them. Inequality in caste and religion, make obstacle to the learning of lower caste-children. It is a curse to the people of backward classes. Some selfish people of ancient and modern age created caste system according to profession. Later, this tradition is being continued in generation to generation. It is present, even, in not only village but town and cities. The teachers who belong to higher caste think that students of lower caste have no talent. It this tradition is to be continued in generation to then it will be very dangerous and unbearable to education.

Content of language teaching: It will have to be including popular subjects and famous writings of region to region, translating in the language which is need. Thus the communication among different popular subjects and writings in different states and region to region, will be easy. There will not be grammar book of language learning in the book list of school in different

states. Grammar will be taught spontaneously through the content-book. Of course, there will be efficient teachers to teach grammar and they have to mentality to utilize their efficiency and to teach it by making interest and easy process. The speech and events of daily life have to be including in the curriculum of language teaching. It should not be neglect to the regional pronunciation because it is a flow as river's water. Therefore, if is bound in a certain rule then it will be negligible as classical Sanskrit language.

To maintain the tri-language formula through Bengali medium, the W.B.B.S.E. has introduce the mother tongue or regional language and English as compulsory subject up to class XII and Sanskrit or Hindi in class VII & VIII. Conclusion and Author's Annotations (everyone's brain is equal): Once upon a time we were aboriginal man. The modern civilization is nit made by the way of inheritance. Yet some educated people think that backward people, who could not able to tale education, are uncivilized. The historical evolution of man is true, have learned it and they have been teaching it but they cannot believe it in mind. Every man gets equal intelligence by birth and develops their primary intelligence through proper atmosphere. The men who are out of this proper atmosphere, naturally, become backward. But they are not responsible themselves for this backwardness. So it is need to removed, immediately, the traditional believe in caste and religion. It will not be possible to make unity man to man without removing and this unity is mist to language learning. So we have to forget that there is a difference in casts and religion.

Thus we have to make a concert among all the people of our country. Language learning will be successful if all the backward people can learn language properly and efficiently. We observed that rare teachers who come from backward class are neglected by not only other teachers but also the students of higher

class. So this kind of situation cannot make suitable atmosphere on language learning. It is told again and again that thinking of diversity in religion and caste. Must have to be removed if the teachers are expected as a maker of ideal citizen. But there is no change in their mind. If the educated people cannot remove this bad thinking so there is nothing to wonder that it is present among the people of backward class. The aforesaid speeches may be thought un-relevance in the meeting which is held in A.C. room. But on the field it is more dangerous than the aforesaid facts of language teaching and learning. So to remove this fundamental difficulty in language teaching and learning, marrow thinking about religion and cast have to be changed. Or the government has to made different system for different languages. Actually, without remedy of the disease on marrow thinking of religion and caste. Only advice will be useless on language learning. The proper education and socialization are need; syllabus of language learning has to be made with such as fact i.e. appropriate to make an understanding that there is no root caste and religion. To understand fundamental unity among the different cultural and language of different religion, special syllabus has to be made. There will be a general concept in class V to XII ad there will be clear and detail concept about the syllabus in college or graduate level. And this curriculum will have to be including in the syllabus of all books of language learning in India and it will have to be taught with carefully. Beside it, it should be used as content of language learning, the historical, geographical, social, mathematical, literary and other interesting subjects up to class XII, as the students can get interest in one language through reading other language. This content syllabus has to be consisted with popular characters and famous events. In one word language learning is the key to learning all subjects.

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