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A study on Perception of Tribal Girls at Kalinga Institute of Social Science (KISS) with reference to Holistic Education

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Abstract:

The aim of the paper is to present different means of holistic education towards empowerment of tribal girls those who are pursuing education at KISS in different classes. In the state of Odisha, KISS is a reputed institution which is recognized as Tribal University by the University Grants Commission. The institution fully focusses on education of tribal children with allied training for their career prospects with free of cost in all respect. The tribal girls are socialized and educated through the implication of quality education and course-oriented training. As revealed KISS has been playing significant role since its inception towards welfare of tribal people in imparting free education along with food and accommodation. Now KISS is proud of its means of education and allied training by which many qualifiers and achievers in different activities are awarded at global and national level. Many students are able to earn money through their training output. Such aspect enhances socio economic empowerment of their status and family. The significant and constant effort of staff, mentors of the KISS are reflection of student achievement and success in their life. In this context, a study has been conducted to know the perception of tribal girls' students on implication of holistic education.

Keywords: - Holistic education, career prospectus, free accommodation empowerment, vocational trainings, extracurricular activities, Perception

Introduction:

In the last 30 years Kalinga Institute of Social Science (KISS) initiative for tribal education is not only a memorable aspect but also an achievable aspect with constant endeavour and meticulous care. KISS has been considered as one of the premier institution in the state of Odisha and across the country. KISS has recognized as a tribal University by University Grants Commission (UGC), Government of India, in the year 2017. Earlier it was functioning as an independent institution and considered as a sister concern institution of Kaling Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT). Both KIIT and KISS are the growing institution in Odisha founded by eminent academician, institution builder. Dr. Achyutananda Samanta. His noble ideas and foresights have reached KISS a renowned institution which specially meant for education of tribal people.

Tribal peoples are less educated, poor and vulnerable group living in remote areas. The innovative and constructive ideas taken by Dr. Achyutananda Samanta for enriching tribal peoples into mainstream of the society. He felt that education of tribals with allied training and holistic approaches of education can enhance their status, position, knowledge and future prospects. As such, the KISS institution has become able to impart education from Standard-1 to Ph.D level only to tribals with free of cost in the sphere of food, accommodation, health etc,. Moreover, the record available shows that more than 50% girls are enrolled at KISS at the entry level.

Rationale:

The Govt. has taken number of policies, programs, schemes towards tribal development in general and education aspect in particular. Constitution of India guarantees equal principle and education for all. Under such circumstances many institutions and civil society organizations are trying to include tribals in the education sphere. We know tribals are indigenous and disadvantage group staying at interior places which are far distance from urban influence and impact. They are remaining behind from education. The current initiatives have gradually taken inclusive part towards education of tribal girls. Though schools are established at their localities yet their enrolment level is low due to the lack of awareness. Few tribal people who are advanced and staying at city, they could able to afford higher education to their children. Majority of the tribals at remote areas are deprived from quality higher education. In

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this respect, KISS institution is playing an important role in giving education and allied vocational training with free of cost for future prospects of the tribal children.

Objectives:

The following objectives are meant for the study.

- 1. To study socio-economic status of the respondent.
- 2. To study the entry levels.
- 3. To study the ideas on allied trainings
- 4. To study accommodative aspects
- 5. To study level of empowerment through education.

Methodology:

The study has been conducted at KISS campus with interaction of girl students. A set up question has been prepared and asked systematically to them. The study is confined with only holistic education implications towards development of tribal girls. Total of 150 numbers of respondents have been covered in the study. The socio-economic background of the students covered under study have been reflected in the respondents profile part.

Perception and Discussion:

i) Respondents

The researcher interacted with girl students of KISS pertaining to its study. The socio-economic background of the respondents is presented in table no. 1.

Table.No.1 Socio economic profile of the respondents

G1	l a .	Socio economic profil	ı	I #
Sl	Category	Particulars	Nos attributed	Total
1	Class (Each	Eighth Class	15	150
	class@15nos)	Nineth Class	15	
		Tenth Class	15	
		Higher Secondary (+2)	30 (1 st & 2 nd yr)	
		Degree (+3)	45 (1 st ,2 nd & 3 rd yr)	
		Post Graduate & Ph.D	30 (1 st &2 nd yr)	
2	Age	13 – 16 y <mark>ears</mark>	47	150
		17-20 years	40	
		21-24 years	44	
		25-28 years	16	
		29 years and above	03	
3	Religion	Hindu	136	150
		Christian	14	
	484	Muslim	00	
4	Marital status	Unmarried	146	150
		Married	04	1
5	Mother tongue	Tribal Language	128	150
		Odia	15	1 1 7
		Hindi	07	
		Urdu	00	
6	Place of Birth	Interior village / Hill area	30	150
		Rural village area	75	1
		Semi Urban area	35	
		Urban area	10	1
7	Education of	Illiterate	78	150
	Parents	Just Literate (only putting	34	
		signature)		
		Primary pass	16	
		Middle pass	12	
		High school Pass	08	
		College Pass	02]
		University pass	00	
8	Annual income of	Rs. 12000 /- and below	74	150
	parents	Rs. 12001- to 15000 /-	38]
		Rs. 15001/- to 20000/-	22	
		Rs. 20001/- to 30000 /-	12	
		Rs. 30001/- to 40000 /-	03	
		Above 40001/-	00	1
9	Occupation of	Farmer- Own house work	52	150
	parents	Occasional labourer	40	1
		Labourer	36	1
		Own business	10	1
		Private job	08	1
		Government job	02	1
		Social worker	2	1
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10	Decision maker	Father	120	150
	of the family	Mother	18	
		Others (brother, sister, Elder	12	
		Father, Grand father)		

ii) Entry to KISS

Students have interest to go to school for acquiring knowledge preferably to a good school having facilities. Tribal area school lacks behind from providing such facilities. The researcher tried to know the different aspects for the entry of tribal girls students to KISS. In this regard, questions are asked and the responses are presented in table no. 2.

Table No. 2 Responses on entry to KISS

N-150

Sl.No	Questions	Responses			
		Yes	% of Yes	No	% of No
1	Do you know year of entry in KISS ?	125	83.33%	25	16.66%
2	Do girls of your family / village/ are studying in KISS?	150	100%	00	0%
3	Is there any difference in education system in your village & KISS?	150	100%	00	0%
4	Do you take interest to continue study in KISS after joining?	150	100%	00	0%
5	Do you feel that your knowledge is increasing in KISS rather than your village?	150	100%	00	0%

Source: Questionnaire data from field Studies

iii) Counseling system at KISS

As discussed, KISS is famous for its humanitarian approach towards tribal students including tribal girls. Counselling system at KISS is very reach and high manner. The researcher wanted to know about counselling and accordingly asked questions. The responses are presented in table no. 3.

Table No. 3
Responses on Counselling to adolescent girls

N-150

Sl.No	Questions		Responses			
		Yes	% of	No	% of	
			Yes		No	
1	Do you get good counselling at times of difficulties	150	100%	00	0%	
2	Does this facility influence you to pursue your higher	150	100%	00	0%	
	studies?			C_{i}		
3	Does it change your psychology?	150	100%	00	0%	
2						

Source: Questionnaire data from field Studies

iv) Physical education at KISS

From the observation method, it is clear that the provision of physical education and sports activities in KISS are high level. The instructors are so expert by which students could able to achieve medals and prizes at national, international level. The researcher wanted to know about physical education and sports activities and accordingly asked questions. The responses are presented in table no. 4.

Table No. 4
Responses on Physical education and sports activities

N-150

Sl.No	Questions	Responses			
		Yes	% of Yes	No	% of No
1	Do you have Sports/Yoga/ Physical Education classes?	150	100%	00	0%
2	Do you like Sports/Yoga/ Physical Education classes?	150	100%	00	0%
3	Does the Sports/Yoga/ Physical Education class influence you to pursue your higher studies?	150	100%	00	0%
4	Does it change your psychology ?	150	100%	00	0%

Source: Questionnaire data from field Studies

v) Educational Training programmes at KISS

There are so many training programmes offered by the KISS for career development of students. Such training programme includes Computer training, skill development training, cultural development training, To gather information on such activities the researcher asked question and the responses are presented in table no. 5.

Table No. 5 Responses on educational training programme

N-150

Sl.No	Questions	Responses				
		Yes	% of	No	% of	
			Yes		No	
1	Do you have computer classes in KISS?	150	100%	00	0%	
2	Are you benefited by the computer classes?	150	100%	00	0%	
3	Do the computer classes influence you to pursue your	150	100%	00	0%	
	higher studies?					
4	Do you have vocational/ Skill development training	150	100%	00	0%	
	classes in KISS?					
5	Are you benefited by the vocational/ Skill development	150	100%	00	0%	
	training classes?					
6	Does the vocational/ Skill development training classes	150	100%	00	0%	
	influence you to pursue your higher studies?					

Source: Questionnaire data from field Studies

vi) Special Training programmes at KISS

To gather information on such activities the researcher asked question and the responses are presented in table no. 6.

Table No. 6
Special training programe

N-150

Sl.No	Questions	Responses			
		Yes	% of	No	% of No
			Yes		
1	Does KISS conduct any special training programme on	150	100%	00	0%
	Self Defence for the girls?		144		
2	Does KISS conduct any special training programme on	150	100%	00	0%
	disaster management for the girls?				
3	Does KISS conduct any special training programme on	150	100%	00	0%
	Toys preparation for the girls?				
4	Does KISS conduct any special training programme on	150	100%	00	0%
	Handicraft / Tribal craft work for the girls?			1	
5	Does it help you to improve yourself	150	100%	00	0%
6	Does it influence you to pursue your higher studies?	150	100%	00	0%

Source: Questionnaire data from field Studies

vii) Cultural, professional / technical programmes at KISS

To gather information on such activities the researcher asked question and the responses are presented in table no. 7.

Table No. 7 Cultural, professional / technical programme

N-150

Sl.No	Questions	Responses				
		Yes	% of Yes	No	% of No	
1	Do you have cultural programme in KISS?	150	100%	00	0%	
2	Are you benefited by the Cultural programme?	150	100%	00	0%	
3	Does the cultural programme influence you to pursue your higher studies?	145	96.66%	05	3.33%	
4	Do you have any opportunities for pursuing professional/Technical education facility in KISS?	150	100%	00	0%	
5	Are you benefited by professional/Technical education facility in KISS?	150	100%	00	0%	
6	Does the professional/Technical education facility in KISS influence you to pursue your higher studies?	150	100%	00	0%	

Source: Questionnaire data from field Studies

viii) Sanitation and health facilities at KISS

To gather information on such activities the researcher asked question and the responses are presented in table no. 8. Table No. 8

Sanitation & Health Facilities

N-150

Sl.No	Questions	Responses			
		Yes	% of Yes	No	% of No
1	Do you have separate toilet facility in KISS?	150	100%	00	0%
2	Do you have pure drinking water in KISS?	150	100%	00	0%
3	Is KISS campus clean and well protected with compound walls?	140	93.33%	10	6.66%
4	Do you have health care facilities in KISS?	150	100%	00	0%
5	Does this facility influence you to pursue your higher studies?	150	100%	00	0%
6					

Source: Questionnaire data from field Studies

ix) Motivational measures at KISS

To gather information on such activities the researcher asked question and the responses are presented in table no. 9.

Table No. 9 Motivational measures

N-150

Sl.No	Questions	Responses			
		Yes	% of	No	% of
			Yes		No
1	Are you satisfied with the overall motivational measures	150	100%	00	0%
	of KISS?				
2	Do you get support from staff of KISS?	150	100%	00	0%
3	Do you want to pursue higher studies?	148	98.66%	2	1.33%
4	Is there any change in your lifestyle after joining KISS?	130	86.66%	20	13.33%
5	Do you experience gender based discrimination in KISS?	00	0%	150	100%
6	Are you happy about being a girl& studying in KISS?	150	100%	00	0%
7	Do you encourage other tribal girls to continue study in	150	100%	00	0%
	KISS?				1

Source: Questionnaire data from field Studies

x) Placement / job opportunities at KISS

To gather information on such activities the researcher asked question and the responses are presented in table no. 10.

Table No. 10

Placement / job opportunities

N-150

Sl.No	Questions	Responses			
		Yes	% of Yes	No	% of No
1	Are girl students getting government job after education from KISS ?	146	97.33%	4	2.66%
2	Are girl students getting private job after education from KISS?	142	94.66%	8	5.33%
3	Do you feel girls students are becoming well advanced in regard to job searching and job applying?	150	100%	00	0%
4	Are girl students starting self business / start up after education from KISS ?	139	92.66%	11	7.33%
5	Are girl students becoming socially and economically sound after education from KISS?	150	100%	00	0%

Source: Questionnaire data from field Studies

Conclusion:

The present study deals with holistic education imparted to tribal girls by KISS. The study reveals that tribal girls are enrolling in the institution at the age of 6-7 year and they pursue course at class 1 and onwards. The constant class promotion is made up to 10th class where no dropout is found. From entry to qualifying in matriculation and thereafter higher studies the girl student's continuation are in greater than boys. As the study focused on empowering of tribal girls it is found that enormous achievements are made by the girls. The friendly environment of the campus encourage them to build their carrier opting different vocational, sports, training etc.. The mentors, hostel matron, teachers are so quite supportive by which the progress path of the girls are effective and fruitful. Moreover, the environment for training activities has given a chance for them to earn money through the vocational training programme of KISS with following a message known as "Earn while you Learn". The vocational training does not hamper to their study. Girl students of each and every class are assigned specific training activities for their career prospects. As a matter of fact, the girl students think positively to continue education at KISS for their career development, skill development and all around development. The study reflects that tribal girls less prefer to go to their village keeping in mind to study along with practising vocational and allied training. As such the dream of Dr. Achyuta Samanta for educating tribals are being realized in present society. However, in another aspects it is found that the role of alumni is important in sensitizing their community and people for enrolling at KISS. The heavy demand from tribal communities is received for inclusion of more children in the academic curriculum at KISS.

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