

Adult Education Terminology

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Indian Adult Education Association

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PREFACE

Adult Education is now recognised as an important instrument of social change and as an essential component of development. Governmental, non-Governmental organisations, universities, colleges, schools and Nehru Yuvak Kendras are involved in the enormous task of eradication of illiteracy and providing continuing education opportunities to the masses in India.

The booklet 'Adult Education Terminology' has been compiled so as to help planners, policy makers and decision makers to have knowledge of the terms and concepts associated with it. An effort has been made in this booklet to include the terminologies which are used internationally by Unesco and those which are used in Indian context.

The booklet, it is hoped, will be of interest to all those involved in adult education and development programmes, both professionals and non-professionals. Any suggestion to improve it will be welcomed.

J.L. SACHDEVA

LIST OF TERMS

Adult Education

- All those educational activities that are designed for adults outside the formal system of education.

In the Unesco Recommendation on the Development of Adult Education the term denotes the entire body of organized educational processes, whatever the content, level and method, whether formal or otherwise, whether they prolong or replace initial education in schools, colleges and universities as well as in apprenticeship, whereby persons regarded as adult by the society to which they belong, develop their abilities, enrich their knowledge, improve their technical or professional qualifications or turn them in a new direction and bring about changes in their attitudes or behaviour in the twofold perspective of full personal development and participation in balanced and independent social, economic and cultural development.

Adult Education Centre

- Establishment in which activities organised for the education of adults take place.

Also adult centre

adult school

continuing education centre

Adult Education Worker

- Organizer, administrator or teacher engaged in adult education.

Also adult educationist
adult educator

Adult Educator

- One who educates or organizes the education of adults
- A person engaged in the study of adult education.

Adult Elementary Education

- Education of adults in the areas of primary knowledge such as reading, writing and numeracy, social and life skills and understanding of community life necessary for responsible participation in society.

Adult Learning

- The acquiring of new knowledge and skills, the development of new attitudes by persons having reached mature intellectual, physical and social development.

Adult School

- Establishment for the education of adults below the level of higher education.

Adult Teacher

- A person who facilitates the learning of adults individually, in groups, and in organizations and institutions.

Adult Teaching

- The processes by which teachers, leaders, tutors, trainers and other persons facilitate the learning of adults individually, in groups and in institutions.

Adulthood

- The period of life following adolescence, and extending for the rest of life.

Ageing

- The continuous process of change including physiological, psychological and social changes, to which an individual is subject through life as a consequence of advancing chronological age. In adult education it is particularly used to denote the period following the attainment of peak physical and psychological development.

Agricultural Extension

- Education and counselling carried out in the farming community by institutions of agricultural education to improve practices in agriculture.

Andragogy

- The art and science of helping adults to learn.
- The study of theory, processes and technology of adult education.

Animateur

- A French term which denotes a person in the field of

education, social work or community development who works to stimulate people to awareness of their own needs as a group, so that they define the nature of the needs, determine the means to satisfy them and collectively act to achieve them.

Base-Line Survey

- An initial survey that can serve as a base for comparing changes observed subsequently.

Brainstorming

- Technique designed to increase creativity in group problem-solving by unstructured discussion. Participants are encouraged to contribute relevant ideas freely without critical examination, which comes at a later stage. By this method the choice of solutions is maximized.

Buzz method

- Division of a learning group into smaller units for a relatively short time to undertake a specific task relevant to the subject being studied by the group.

Change Agent

- An individual or group attempting to bring about change, giving aid to those attempting to accomplish change, or helping others to cope with change and conflict.

Citizenship Education

- Education to make persons aware of their rights and duties as citizens, capable of exercising them effect-

ively and responsibly, and conscious of their obligation to do so.

Community Centre

- Establishment serving as a centre of social and cultural life of a community (Village : neighbourhood). It provides a place for meetings, and offers facilities for social, recreational and educational activities. Usually managed by a committee of users, it may be privately owned by an association of users, or publicly owned by the local authority.

Community Development

- Activities aimed at "Community uplift through 'community action'" covering agriculture, irrigation, communication, education, health, social welfare etc. The inhabitants should play a major role in decision-making and participate in activities.

Comparative Adult Education

- Field of study concerned with the comparison of adult education theory and practice in different countries and societies. Its purpose is to broaden and deepen understanding of educational problems or phenomena in one's own or another country.

Conscientization

- Educational process to enable an illiterate public, living in conditions of extreme deprivation, to achieve freedom and mastery over its own destiny. It attempts to develop consciousness and a critical appreciation of one's situation in order that one may act to transform

it. The method of dialogue is used to prepare for action. The expression derives from Portuguese.

Consumer Education

- Education in intelligent and effective methods of buying and using goods and services, competent money management, and relationship of the consumer to the economic system.

Continuing Education

- Education offered to, or undertaken by, persons who have completed the cycle of full-time education in childhood.

Co-operative Education

- Educational programmes provided by the cooperative movement which promotes the combination of producers and/or consumers for the economic production and/or distribution of goods, the profits of which they share. The programmes include, but are not restricted to education in the principles and practice of the movement.

Correspondence Education

- Education conducted by the postal services without face-to-face contact between teacher and learner. Teaching is done by written or tape recorded material sent to the learner, whose progress is monitored through written or taped exercises sent to the teacher who corrects them and returns them to the learner with criticism and advice.

Drop out Rate

- The number or proportion of people enrolling for a course or programme or study who abandon it before its completion.

Each one Teach one

- Programme in which one literate person teaches an illiterate person on purely voluntary basis i.e. without any remuneration or honorarium.

Evaluation

- The process of determining the worth, significance, value or quality of an item, event and/or person, usually by careful appraisal and study. It is the process of describing experience objectively to improve performance.

Experiential Learning

- Learning which derives either from the general life-experience or from specific activities of the learner. Learning derived from the feelings and thoughts aroused in the learner while, or after, undergoing such experiences.

Folk High Schools

- Institution to help students to behave as independents and matured members of the community and think, believe and speak freely. The schools were first established in Denmark and its founder was Bishop Nikolai Grundtvig.

Follow-up Material

- The material used to stabilise knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic of the neo-literate and which also helps them to get new knowledge and information.

Formal Education

- Education imparted in the formal system of education organised and supported by the State.

Formative Evaluation

- Evaluation undertaken during the formative stages of a project to provide planners with feedback so that they can alter and improve the programme.

Functional Literacy

- The ability to read, write and calculate so that a person may engage in all those activities in which literacy is required for effective functioning in the group and community and also enabling him to continue to use reading, writing and calculation for his own and the community's development.

Fundamental Education

- Remedial education for these who have dropped from the formal education system.

Gram Shikshan Mohim (Village Literacy Campaign)

- A *Mohim* (Campaign) to eradicate illiteracy among adults in the age-group 14-50 by [starting classes,

retaining literacy and enriching the knowledge of neo-literates through circulating library scheme and bringing thereby all sided development of the village through Social Education Centres.

The Mohim was started in Maharashtra in 1959. The campaign lasts for four months during which the aim is to make the whole village literate.

Illiteracy

- Inability to read, write and to calculate.

Illiterate

- Person who has not acquired the basic skills in reading, writing or arithmetic.

Incidental Education

- Also called informal education. It means all that one learns as a concomitant of growing up in a society.

Informal Education

- The lifelong process whereby every individual acquires attitudes, values, skills and knowledge from daily experience, educative influence and resources in his or her environment—from family and neighbours, from work and play, from the market place, the library and the mass media.

Input Evaluation

- Assessing the various resources used in conducting a programme.

Jana Shikshan Nilayam (JSN) (Peoples' Education Centre)

- A permanent centre for post literacy and continuing education. It aims to ensure retention of literacy skills, provision of facilities to enable the learners to continue learning beyond elementary literacy and to create scope for application of their learning for improvement of their living conditions. Started in 1988 under National Literacy Mission, the objectives of JSN are :
 - i) Provision of facilities for retention, continuing education and application of functional literacy.
 - ii) Dissemination of information on development programmes, widening and improving participation of traditionally deprived section of society.
 - iii) Creation of awareness about national concerns such as national integration, conservation and improvement of the environment, women's equality, observance of small family norms etc. and sharing common problem of the community.
 - iv) Improvement of economic condition and general well being as well as improvement of productivity.
 - v) Recreation for healthy living.

Janta College

- A residential institution for the education of rural adults, which aims at providing attitudes and skills essential for participation in the country's planned development.

Learner-based Education

- Education in which the content and the learning and

teaching processes are determined by the needs and desires of the learners who participate actively in shaping and controlling them. It draws upon learners' own resources and experiences.

Leisure Education

- Educational activities offered either during leisure time or in order that participants may derive greater benefit from leisure. These activities are non-vocational and involve mainly recreational and cultural subjects.

Liberal Adult Education

- Education intended to equip the adult with a broad general culture, which will enable him to realize himself, as an individual and a citizen. It excludes direct occupational training. Although in principle no subject is excluded, since any subject may be taught in such a way as to achieve the aim of liberal adult education, it favours literacy, social, philosophical, historical and artistic studies as the ones through which its aims may most easily be attained.

Lifelong Education

- Education is not a once-for all experience confined to the initial cycle of full-time education commenced in childhood, but a process that must continue throughout life. Life itself is a continuous learning process but each person also needs specific opportunities for further and new education, both vocational and general, throughout life, in order that he may keep abreast of technical and social change, may adapt to changes in his own circumstances (Marriage, parenthood, professional situation, old age, etc.) and may achieve his fullest potential for individual development. Life-

long education comprehends both an individual's intentional and incidental learning experiences.

Literacy

- The ability to read, write and to calculate, in the mother tongue.

Literacy Education

- The teaching or acquisition of reading, writing and numeracy skills to prepare persons to function in society.

Mass Programme for Functional Literacy (MPFL)

- Programme to involve educational institutions, teachers, students, youth, military, para-military personnel, house-wives, ex-servicemen, employees trade unions etc. in adult education work on voluntary basis. It is also broadly called "each one teach one" programme.

Monitoring

- Collection of certain aspects of the programme so as to check the wastage and shortcomings, if any.

Motivation

- An act to induce or stimulate a person to learn a certain thing.

National Adult Education Programme (NAEP)

- A national adult education programme launched in India in 1978 to provide functional literacy to 100

million illiterate people in the age-group 15-35 within five years. It had three components—awareness, functionality and literacy. The programme included :

- (a) Literacy with assured follow-up.
- (b) Conventional functional literacy.
- (c) Literacy with learning-cum-action groups.
- (d) Literacy for conscientisation and formation of organisations of the poor.

National Literacy Mission (NLM)

- The Mission launched in 1988 in India aims to impart functional literacy to 80 million illiterate people in 15-35 age-group by 1995. Functional Literacy in the Mission implies :
 - Achieving self reliance in literacy and numeracy.
 - Becoming aware of the causes of their deprivation and moving towards amelioration of their conditions through organisation and participation in the process of development.
 - Acquiring skills to improve the economic status and general well being.
 - Imbibing the value of national integration, conservation of the environment, women's equality, observance of small family norm etc.

Nehru Yuvak Kendras (Nehru Youth Centres)

- Kendras being established in every district of India to provide rural and non-student youth an opportunity to take part in national development and also to develop his her own personality.

Neo-Literate

- A person who has acquired the basic knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic (3 R's).

Non-formal Education

- Any organised, systematic, educational activity, carried on outside the framework of the formal system to provide selected types of learning to particular subgroups in the population, adults as well as children. Thus defined, non-formal education includes, for example, agricultural extension and farmer training programmes, adult literacy programmes, occupational skill training given outside the formal system, youth clubs with substantial educational purposes, and various community programme of instruction in health, nutrition, family planning, co-operatives and the like.

Open School

- An institution designed to offer adults access to education at the secondary level and the tertiary level below that of higher education. No academic conditions for enrolment are imposed. Teaching is by correspondence, radio and television, or by face-to-face contact between teacher and students.

Open University

- An institution designed to provide adults with access to higher education. All adults are eligible to enrol, without regard to formal academic qualifications. Teaching is by correspondence, radio and television, and may be supplemented by some face to face tuition and counselling. Credit courses leading to degrees are

offered by the university. Some non-credit courses are also provided.

Out of School Education

- A term denoting all education carried on outside the formal school and higher education system, except vocational training.

Output Evaluation

- Assessing the quality and quantity of the final product(s) of the programme.

Participatory Method

- Term to denote a set of activities and procedures used in a learning situation, which are aimed at promoting an active involvement of the student. In the use of this method, it is assumed that the teacher's role is one of facilitating the learning process, whilst the student assumes an active role in it.

Participatory Research

- Means that those persons who are likely beneficiaries of research should be involved in the entire research process.

Polyvalent Education

- Education of workers for upgrading their skills, broadening their knowledge and enriching their lives.

Population Education

- Education intended to increase understanding of demo-

graphic questions and the ability to resolve problems arising from them. It is particularly concerned with the interaction of population growth and control with social and economic conditions.

Primer

- The first book used to teach illiterate adults.

Psychology of Adult Education

- The psychological factors which influence adult learning and participation in education experiences; the study of the operation of these factors, particularly those specific to adult life.

Radio Rural Forum

- A group of about 15-20 villagers who meet together fairly regularly to listen to special programmes, broadcast for them at appointed hours, engage themselves in post listening discussions, arrive at some conclusions and then implement their decision by suitable action programmes.

Recurrent Education

- Organization of lifelong education into periods of systematic study alternating with extended periods of other activity, e.g. work or leisure.

Role playing

- Teaching technique in which students are presented with a situation or problem which they are required to resolve by acting out the roles of those concerned in this situation.

Rural Functional Literacy Project (RFLP)

- Functional Literacy Project undertaken by State Governments in rural areas with financial assistance from the Central Government.

Self-directed learning

- A process by which an individual or group initiates and takes primary responsibility for planning, conducting and evaluating its own learning projects. Unlike independent learning, it usually takes place with the help of persons such as teachers or friends, or of an institution.

Shramik Vidyapeeth

- Shramik vidyapeeth or Polyvalent workers education centre to meet various inter-related needs of workers with specifically tailored programmes. It aims at enriching personal life of workers and their families, providing opportunities of adult education, physical, culture and recreation, improving the occupational skills and technical knowledge of the worker, for raising his efficiency and increasing productive ability, organising programmes of vocational and technical training with a view to facilitating horizontal/vertical mobility and employability.

The first Vidyapeeth was set in 1967 in Bombay and by the end of 1985 there were 36 Vidyapeeths in India.

Social Education

- A course of study directed towards the production of consciousness of citizenship among the people and promotion of social solidarity among them, has three

aspects : (i) The spread of literacy among grown up illiterates, (ii) the production of an educated mind in the masses in the absence of literacy education and (iii) The inculcation of a lively sense of rights and duties of citizenship—both as individuals and as members of a powerful nation. The content of social education programme includes (i) health and hygiene, (ii) family and community living (iii) vocations, (iv) literacy, (v) cultural activities and, (vi) recreational activities.

Social Education Organisers Training Centres(SEOTCs)

- Centres established in 1950s in India to provide training to chief social education organisers and the block level organisers.

Sociology of Adult Education

- The sociological factors which influence adult learning and participation in educational experiences: the study of the operation of these factors, particularly those specific to adult life.

State Adult Education Programme (SAEP)

- Adult Education Programme undertaken by the State Government with its own funds.

State Resource Centres (SRCs)

- Centres established in 1976 in different States in India to provide technical support to adult education such as curriculum development, preparation of teaching and learning materials, training of field functionaries, producing post literacy and follow-up materials, undertaking evaluation, research and providing assistance

in environment building through mass media, publication of posters and other materials, exhibition etc.

There are 16 SRCs in India at present.

Summative Evaluation

- Evaluation which is carried out at the termination of the programme to find out how much learning has taken place. Comparison of observed effects with anticipated or desired effects is done.

Three R's

- Means giving literacy education to an illiterate in reading, writing and arithmetic.

Trade Union Education

- Systematic development of attitude, knowledge and skill patterns necessary for effective performance of an individual's role as a member of a trade union.

University Extension

- Activities by which the teaching and other resources of a university—on or off campus—are offered to adults living in the region served by the university, other than those belonging to the regular student body. It may include a varied programme of credit or non-credit instruction, counselling, advisory services, etc.

Voluntarism

- The principle or practice of reliance on voluntary action not coercion.

Voluntary Association

- A private, non-profit making association controlled by its members, who give their services without remuneration in order to further the aims of the association, which are of an educational or socio-cultural nature. A Voluntary Association may have a cadre of paid employees. It is free organisation of people, taking its own decisions for the betterment of fellow-being, or pursuing its own programme.

Workers' Education

- The systematic development in working class adults of the knowledge, attitudes and skills to enable them efficiently to fulfil the social roles they are called upon to play, particularly in trade unions.

Workshop

- Meeting that offers opportunities for persons with a common interest or problem to meet with specialists to receive first-hand knowledge and to undertake practical work.

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