

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to examine the nature of the role of the secondary school in preparing youth for self-employment. The socio-economic conditions of the country indicate that self-employment plays a significant role in the country and its economy. Hence one would expect the secondary school to develop knowledge, attitudes and skills in youth pertaining to this field.

The first chapter explains the nature and changing pattern of youth development. The problem is viewed in the light of the early maturity of youth, the structure of the secondary school and different views held of what is expected of the secondary school.

The second chapter illustrates the different patterns of vocationalization of secondary education in a number of countries with a view to link the secondary school with the world of work.

Chapter three is an attempt to trace the history of education in the country in relation to the world of work. An analysis of the traditional learning system and employment profile is followed by a historical study of attempts in curricular diversification in secondary education.

Chapter four includes an examination of the junior secondary school curriculum in relation to a development of skills much needed for self-employment. Here the objectives, content and methodology of a wide array of subjects is being examined with the objective of finding out whether they help in the development of skills for self employment.

Chapter five conveys the practical approach to the study. It illustrates the design of the investigation and how it is implemented. The survey includes two samples. The main sample is outside school while the subsidiary sample is from the secondary school. Data are collected from both samples pertaining to self-employment. The secondary school students are tested for their attitudes towards self - employment provide information regarding the nature of their socio-economic background, educational achievement, nature of training and employment and attitudes towards self employment. Some ideas expressed by the principals and instructors of the vocational institutions too are included.

The results thus collected have been interpreted and the researcher's conclusions given in chapter six. A hidden curriculum which seems to exert tremendous influence on youth in preparing them for self-employment is described.

The final chapter refers to the limitations of the study and possibilities for further research in the allied field. The concluding paragraphs of this chapter embody suggestions for implementation.