

UNIT-IV

Language policy in education

SYLLABUS :

Language policy during the pre-independent and post independence in India – language policy as specified in Indian constitution – Great thinkers and medium of institutions – Tagore , Gandhiji, and Vivekananda.

Language policy during the pre-independence:

- **Muslims** ruled in India, they concentrate more on Urdu language for all government work.
- **Sanskrit** and other native language **Hindi** also occupy that place.
British teaches in English.
- Lord Macaulay and Lord William Bentick:
- They also stressed the medium of English.
- Wood Despatch (1854):
- Medium of instruction is English and also planned to keep the state language also but it was a failure one.
- 1st education commission i.e hunter commission: Medium of instruction is English but education gives through Indian language.
- Calcutta university commission (1917): Adopted, Medium of instruction is Indian language upto higher secondary stage. In 1935, Regional language become the medium of instruction but some Christian missionaries made medium of instruction was English. In 1942, a British ruler accepted, Indian language as the 1st compulsory language and English as the 2nd compulsory language for education but English as the medium of instruction for higher education.

Post independent period:

1. Radhakrishnan commission (1948) :

- This is the first education commission. They introduced three language formula in education. Every student should be taught three languages at the secondary stage.

✓Regional / state language.

✓National language.

✓International language.

- Higher education should be given in regional language and union language.
- The teaching of English is continued in the secondary and higher secondary stage.
- At the higher secondary stage, medium of instruction should be Indian language but not Sanskrit.

2. Lakshmana mudaliar commission (1952):

This commission has given two types of recommendations: ✓On account to the 1st, the following three language will be taught to the students

- Mother tongue/state language.
- English language.
- One other Indian language different from mother tongue.
- Two language formula should be adapted.
- Mother tongue/ state language.
- English/ any other Indian language.
- Every child should be taught other Indian language from 6th or 5th.
This language should be the same Indian language of south india.
- In hindi speaking areas, National language is hindi.

3. Kothari commission (1964-1966):

The language teaching at different stages should be the following,

- Three language should be taught to the students and teaching of four language should not be compulsory.
- At lower stage, only mother tongue/ state language should be taught.
- In higher level classes, union language must be taught along with mother tongue.
- At the high school stage, the student should be taught mother tongue, union language and other modern Indian language.
- At the higher secondary stage, the study of atleast two language must be compulsory. There should not be compulsion of language at

the higher education.

Language policy as specified in Indian constitution:

Article 343: On account to this, the official language of the union can be “hindi”.

Article 351: For a period of 15 years, from the commencement of this constitution “English” shall be continued for official purpose.

Views of Vivekananda:

- At the level of classroom instruction, he imparted the use of AV aids.
- The application of educational technology in the spread of literacy. In higher form of education, he had more attitude to English as medium of instruction and as a subject of study.
- Recommending free and compulsory education.
- Inclusion of subject on the cultural heritage of india in school curriculum.
- Social service is a component of education.
- Insisted on learning of western technology.

Gandhiji:

- Craft was given a central place in education.
- Craft was the medium of instruction and i.e why the basic education is referred to “Craft-Centered Education”.
- Free and compulsory education for all boys and girls between the age group of 6-14 years.
- Choose craft as the center of education.
- All knowledge to be correlated.
- Mother tongue of the child should be the medium of instruction. • He has stressed on the teaching of mother tongue because it is an effective instrument for expression and communication of ideas and gaining of more knowledge.
- The mother tongue is to be used as medium of instruction in schools.

Tagore:

- He wanted children to learn education through music, fine arts, painting,

drama, dance, craft etc.

- He wanted science to be taught at the higher level of education and world history to be learned by all the children.
- Teaching three mother tongue but he was not against teaching of English at higher level.