

P R E F A C E

In comparison to school education, the field of higher education in India seems to have attracted the attention of a few researchers only. This is seen from the educational research in India, covering Ph.D. level as well as non-Ph.D. research projects reviewed by Buch and Yadav in "A SURVEY OF RESEARCH IN EDUCATION" (ed. by Buch, 1974), covering the period of 1939-1974. It appears from this SURVEY that the issues investigated in higher education in India were only limited - they included value systems of university students (Agarwal, 1959), financing of higher education (Azad, 1972), examinations (Houhan, 1967, Bennur, 1971), academic attainment (Jain, 1967), Wastage (Colon, 1963), programmed remedial course (Joshi, 1972), personality study of students (Palsane, 1963, Pal, 1969) prejudices among college students (Sharma, 1966), etc. Both Patel (1977) and Shelate (1977) have shown ^{that} though a beginning in research in organizational climate at school level was made in the country by Mehra (1968) and Sharma (1968), this area of research was not extended to the field of higher education till Shah (1975) and Franklin (1975) made some explorations.

in this field. But a full-fledged climate study of a unitary, teaching and partially residential university comes to be undertaken in the present doctoral research for the first time. Mehta (1977) did study institutional climate at the stage of higher education, but her study was limited to affiliated colleges of the Gujarat University, which is rather a regional university spread over North and Central Gujarat. The present study differs from Mehta's study in respect of the construction of a new climate measurement tool, and in other respects such as the use of variables like dogmatism and personality factors of the Heads of the University Departments and further the inquiry it carries into the possible relationship existing between student acts of indiscipline on the University campus and institutional climate of the Faculties/Institutions and Departments of the M.S. University of Baroda, the student control ideology and dogmatism of the University teachers as well as of the institutional administrators. It also seeks to examine the possible impact of biographical characteristics of the University teachers on their perception of the climate of their institution, some of which figure for the first time in the present study.

In completing the present research, the investigator was ably guided and supported by her guide, Professor D.M. Desai, the former Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology and at present the Senior Professor and Head, Department of Educational Administration in the University. The investigator profitted very much from her guide's rich and extensive experience as the Dean of a Faculty, a Head of a University Department, a member of the University Syndicate and a fellow of the Senate over a period of time. She acknowledges her deep indebtedness to him.

She received precious help from two other friends - Dr. Pramila Dekhtawala of the Centre of Advanced Study in Education of the M.S. University of Baroda and Dr. Kirit Gandhi, Lecturer, R.P. Anada College of Education, Borsad, Kheda district of Gujarat State.

She also owes precious much to Dr. B.K. Passi, the then Reader at the Centre of Advanced Study in Education, to Dr. N.S. Pathak, Reader in Psychology, and to Dr. (Mrs.) Neelaben Shelat, Lecturer, Department of Educational Administration, Faculty of Education and Psychology.

Among others whose debt she would like to acknowledge, are Shri C.U. Desai, Shri C.N. Kachhia, the typist, Dr. P.K. Dongre and all the friends who helped her sympathetically in one way or the other, in the completion of her study.

She is also thankful to the PRL, Ahmedabad for making available to her their computer services in the analysis of her data.

Her husband was a mighty source of inspiration and help to her all throughout the course of the progress of the study. She has no words to express her appreciation for silently bearing with her for full two years and a half during which she was busy with her research.

She would also like to acknowledge her gracious thanks to Smt. Sarojben Padhye, the Librarian in the CASE and Shri Karkhanis who helped her in preparing charts.

Last, but not the least, she would like to express her gratitude to Professor M.S. Patel, the former UNESCO Expert in Teacher Education who was the first to motivate her to study further and do a piece of doctoral research.

The investigator would also like to acknowledge with gratitude the assistance and encouragement she has received from the staff of the Department of Educational Administration and the Centre of Advanced Study in Education.

It is hoped, that this study would stimulate further research efforts and experiments in improving the institutional climate not only of the M.S. University of Baroda but also of other unitary, teaching and residential universities in the country, by undertaking parallel or similar studies.

: FORBUNDER :

SEEMA SAHASRABUDHE

23-6-1977