

Zero Investment Innovations for Education Initiatives (ZIIIEI)

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Article Info

Volume 83

Page Number: 1041 - 1044

Publication Issue:

May - June 2020

Article History

Article Received: 11 August 2019

Revised: 18 November 2019

Accepted: 23 January 2020

Publication: 10 May 2020

Abstract:

ZIIIEI is a large scale initiative to impart and share the best teaching ideas of some of the best teachers of the country to each and every government school of the country which are appropriately 1 million in number. This is the initiative started in 2015 by Sri Aurobindo Society as an objective to transform the Indian Education System. It enforced those ideas and innovations in teaching which require zero investment in implementing improving the quality of teaching at a higher level. Under this scheme in April 2019 for the first time TIA is launched which is global Teacher's Innovation Award for Zero-Investment innovation ideas in education initiative across world. In 2015 Uttar Pradesh was the first state to start ZIIIEI implementation. In 2017, the program is expanding to 9 more states and 2 union territories, and will reach to 6 lakhs schools.

Keywords: Investment, Quality, Innovation & Education.

Introduction:- This research topic is related to the scheme launched by the Sri Aurobindo Society in the name of ZIIIEI which means Zero Investment Innovations For Education Initiatives with the aim of collecting the best teaching ideas from the best teacher's of the country and implementing them in the present classroom teaching which involve Zero Investment in implementing such plans. When we talk about the Zero Investment it means no additional money is needed to be invested in implementing such teaching ideas in teaching students and these ideas can be implemented with the resources that are on hand available to the school. ZIIIEI believes that teachers are the pillars of society and it aims to find scattered, isolated and unrecognized, but effective solutions created by the teachers at grassroots and systematically scale them upto million of schools. Taking this forward ZIIIEI launched its new TIA i.e. Teacher's Innovation Award in April, 2019 to take participations of the teacher's and getting ideas at global level. It is a

digital campaign in which teachers submit their zero-investment innovation ideas and shares relevant document, images and videos files. In the first edition more than 3 lakhs teachers participated from approx. all the states of the country and 66 teacher's were awarded this prestigious award by the Honorable Minister of Human Resource and Development, Government of India, Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal at a grand event in New Delhi on August 17th 2019. In this research paper we will get to know about the objectives, initiatives, advantages, barriers and finally concluding points about the ZIIIEI programme.

About ZIIIEI:- ZIIIEI is one of the first and the largest-ever initiatives of India that have been taken to honour those teachers and government schools who are bringing about a change at the grassroots level in the education system through simple yet effective innovations to improve the quality and reach of the education at zero and minimal cost to each and every part of the society

where teaching-learning process is going on between the teachers and its students. The best and most effective teaching practices are chosen every year and are published in the Innovations Handbook and systematically scaled up to reach to the thousands of schools in the country whether in cities or in rural areas. ZIIIEI is an initiative of Sri Aurobindo Society's nation-wide education transformation programme Rupantar, and is supported by HDFC Bank.

Objective of the ZIIIEI:- The objective behind the implementation of this programme was very clear i.e. to provide best quality education to all the government school students of the country along with the private ones with the no cost involved in creating teaching ideas. According to statistics there are 150 million students, 5 million teachers and 1 million government schools in India. So in this scenario it is the power of the teachers only that could change the game and ZIIIEI is performing the role of the mediator in collecting and sharing the best teaching ideas across the teaching communities of the country. Till now 17.8 lacs teachers oriented for innovation in education, 10.5 lacs government school teachers submitted zero-investment innovations, 9.4 lacs teachers adopted ZIIIEI innovations in their classrooms and 26 states implementing ZIIIEI according to the data collected by ZIIIEI on 30th September 2018.

Initiatives of the ZIIIEI:- To digitalized the platform of ZIIIEI it has also developed an inline android app named 'ZIIIEI Innovation Pathshala App' which is one-stop junction for subject-specific teaching tools mapped with all the educational boards like C.B.S.E., I.C.S.E., U.P.-M.P. board and many more. In this app teacher's have access to innovative and experiential learning concepts, based on existing school curriculum, applicable to any grade, multigrade

and inclusive classrooms. With the support of the HDFC Bank, hundreds of thousands of teachers and principals are being oriented to innovation as a concept and encouraged to share their ideas with the education fraternity. The most outstanding ideas are published in the book named Innovations Handbook (Navachar Pustika) so that lakhs of schools across India can acknowledge and implement those ideas in their existing classroom teaching system. To appreciate the efforts of the teachers giving their ideas from across the country ZIIIEI through its digital app also provides the appreciation certificate of Teacher's Innovation Award time to time in the form of e-certificate which can be downloaded from its app.

Advantages of the ZIIIEI:- This initiative which was started by the Sri Aurobindo Society in the year 2015 brought up a drastic change in the education system of the country as it changed across to million of the teacher's teaching across the country through its digital platform and Innovation book launched by the ZIIIEI under Teacher's Innovation Award Scheme. It has been noted that schools which are using these innovations in their classrooms are observing an increase in children's attendance and enrolment, teachers motivation to teach well and to bring improvement in the way they teach and increased community participation all together. The biggest advantage is that these innovation ideas don't involve any additional cost in implementing them which government schools really appreciate about and it also increases the curiosity of the students in the teaching-learning process. One of the major advantage of this programme is that it also promotes the vocational learning and to take into consideration the major environmental problems and bring them in front of the small children and making their mind to make the environment clean and green by planting more trees and collecting the garbage and disposing them at the right place. These environmental problems when comes

into the consideration at a very little age than there is a much good possibility to take their help in making the environment safe of living in which they live. Also many play-way method teaching ideas are brought up through the ideas put forward through this programme which increases the interests of the students in the teaching-learning process in schools. Also through its ground case studies from time to time the ZIIIEI is trying to reach to large scale of peoples belonging to the communities of teaching-learning process. Such a case study of Uttar Pradesh show the statistics that within one year it reached to 75 districts, 821 blocks, 10,000 education officers and 1 lakh principals. Moreover, 5.5 lakhs teachers were trained and 3 lakhs participated in this programme. In 30 most effective ideas by teachers were refined into 11 replicable case studies and 75,000 schools implementing Zero Investment Ideas.

Benefits of ZIIIEI to school, students and community-: The ZIIIEI program has so many countless benefits to all these three categories due to its outreach in these areas at broad level. At first the ZIIIEI programme benefits the school through streamlined school management, improvement in students attendance and enrollment which also motivates the rural teacher's to teach well. It helps in creating disciplined environment along with the optimum use of the available resources to the school. Implementation of educational and co-educational activities in a systematic manner as advised by the state education department , better remedial teaching and contribution of the students in the school management. Talking about the benefits of ZIIIEI program to students are increase in the confidence of the students, development of the leadership skills in the students, improved expression and communication, hands on knowledge of democratic values, awareness of human values in students, staff and community, development of topic based skills and

environment for healthy competitions among the students. At lasts the ZIIIEI program has so many benefits for the community too that are awareness of voluntary contribution, health and environment in the community and the students, society and guardians participation possible in the school activities, knowledge beyond the limited environment and awareness of available opportunities, exploration of opportunities for livelihood through limited resources, solidarity against social evils and encouragement towards environment protection. Out of all the benefits that are mentioned above the foremost important benefit of the ZIIIEI program is its contribution for making students, teachers and communities aware about their responsibilities towards the protection of the environment. Many of the ideas are being implemented for environment protection through ZIIIEI that are plantation of trees, taking students to garden visit and explaining them the importance of each and every plant, making manure from the waste products, etc.

Barriers to the ZIIIEI-: India is the second most populated country in the world and still it is in the list of developing nations and due to the fast growing changes in the education and teaching methodology India desperately needs more energetic, motivated and innovative teachers so that they could transform the education system of the country. But due to negligence of authorities, scattered resources and information and traditional teaching style approach followed by the last generation teacher's it is a difficult task to reach to soon. Also many of the village teacher's doesn't have proper access to the digital platform which they can use well in teaching-learning process and mentality of rural parents needs to be changed to and they should be explained the need and importance of education in today's life. At times lack of funds for such initiatives also acts as a barrier to the process to reach to the most of the people as HDFC bank is alone dealing with the expenditures that are going on under this scheme.

Future Scope and possibilities of ZIIIEI:- After looking the performance and statistics report of the ZIIIEI programme in the last five years it can be said that this programme is doing quite well in expanding and reaching to most of the teaching community people and till 2019 it has reached to all the states and union territories of the country what is left now is different parts that are present within these states boundaries and if this performance continues soon it will reach to each and every part and classroom of the country. The teacher's training process also helps the teachers to upgrade and groom themselves better from what they are earlier. Students in rural areas have less understanding of the importance of identifying their career goals. With the help of this innovation, teacher helps them discover their own potentials and then decide their career goals accordingly. Also this program will provide various types of teaching ideas to rural teacher's which have lack of resources and could implement these ideas free of cost and can make the teaching-learning process more interesting for their class students. The two primary focus areas for the development and reach of ZIIIEI programme to all parts of the country are school management and community participation

Conclusion:- At the end we can say that this ZIIIEI programme is truly transformed the education system of our country. Over 13 lakh teachers oriented for innovation in education responded, of these over 7 lakh government teachers submitted their zero investment ideas. The ZIIIEI Navachar Pustika Comprising these case studies was provided to 5 lakhs schools through distribution drives and face to face training. As a result, 1,50,126 teachers implementing zero investment innovations in their schools. In 2018, Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS), Mumbai conducted a third party assessment study of the project and reported that

“The programme has created a strong network of energized teachers, principals and administrators; these groups could be further mobilized to create strong leaders within the education department. ZIIIEI is unique initiative, which focuses on better utilization of resources available in government schools, the teachers, thus unleashing the immense potential of educators by instilling self-belief and making innovation a core value”. It has reached to millions of teachers, students and classrooms and to all the states of the country in the period of just 5 five years. This programme not only replaced the traditional method of teaching with the new ones but also introduced the play way method and vocational methods of teaching subjects and environmental issues and it has increased the curiosity and interests of the students in classroom learning from their teachers. The greatest benefit was development and learning of government school teachers and increase in the attendance, enrollment of the students in the government schools. ZIIIEI program through its small innovation ideas that are given shaped in the small classroom provides the scope to research to the students by making them more thoughtful in the teaching-learning process. It has shared the based teaching-learning ideas of the country through its digital platform and publishing book to all parts of the country so that every school and teacher could take the benefit of it while teaching in his/her classroom. The support of Human Resource and Development Ministry and our Honourable Education Minister gave it more empowerment to increase its horizon and scope to whole of the country and at global level too.

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