

Assessing quality of Vocational and Technical Education in the specialized subjects/areas

Background of the Research Assignment:

Because of increasing demand for educational information on its quality matter, BANBEIS has recently extended its responsibilities, and started the task for conducting quantitative and qualitative research in different areas of education sector. In this matter, BANBEIS has its own regular budget for research, and also owned some funds from ADB and CIDA assisted TQI-SEP project, for the purpose. Under these budget provisions, BANBEIS has intended to conduct this research/survey through hiring a consulting firm/organization.

Objective of the Research Assignment:

The overall objectives of this assignment are to assess quality of Vocational and Technical Education in the specialized subjects/areas offering in independent/attached SSC (Vocational) institutions which are getting salary subvention from the Government, and also to assess the skill development in the offered courses and deployment of the students in the concerned Trades.

Scope of the Research Assignment:

During the concerned research/study, data and information are to be collected from independent/attached SSC (Vocational) institutions having salary subventions from the Government. About 10% of the institutions are to be selected as sample that would represent all Divisions and rural/urban locations. A sample of 100 students those who have completed the concerned trade courses are to be interviewed to assess their deployment in different trades, or else. The sample of students is to be covered from the sample institutions.

Methodology, including Sampling Process and Samples:

The methodological approach consisted of both collection of relevant data and information from secondary sources, and field survey. The sampling process, as has been stated in the RFP, has been followed. The sample size of the institutions has been determined to be 154. The sample sizes of different stakeholders stood as follows:

No. of sample Institutions	: 154
No. of the head of the institutions interviewed	: 154

No. of Trade Teachers interviewed	: 154
No. of FGDs conducted with Teachers as participants	: 106
No. of FGDs conducted with the students as participants:	106
No. of students interviewed	: 154
No. of past students interviewed	: 83
No. of Class Room Observations	: 154

Conclusion

The following major conclusions need to draw attention of the concerned authority:

01. Excepting few exceptions, the sample Institutions have been operating/running well;
02. Those which do not operate/run well have got valid reasons, which need to be individually sorted out;
03. The most important problems that almost all sample Institutions have been facing are dearth of sufficient number of modern Lab./Workshop equipment and teaching logistics/aids, lack of sufficient number of trade teachers, lack of advanced training of the trade teachers etc.
04. Lack of necessary investment fund to develop necessary physical facilities and introduce demanding trade courses;
05. Lack of adequate monitoring of the Institutions by the concerned authority, due to which their problems and prospects are often ignored or are not known by the concerned authority;
06. Even after all the above problems, the study findings reveal ample opportunity and need (Baswd on existing and prospective market demand) for much expansion of skill training facilities in the country.

Recommendation

The recommendations lie at the back of the problems and opportunities, as stated in the conclusion part above. More specifically, the existing Institutions need thorough study about their problems, potentialities and prospects. Once this is done, many specific, measurable and sharply objective-oriented recommendations will come out, on the basis of which, the concerned authority should take action.