

A Study on Opinions of Elementary School Teachers on NCF-2023

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Abstract:

This study explores the opinions of elementary school teachers on the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2023, with a specific focus on its application at the foundational stage of education. The NCF 2023, introduced by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), aims to revolutionize the Indian education system by promoting a learner-centric, competency-based approach that emphasizes experiential, play-based learning and holistic child development. Through a mixed-methods approach, including surveys and in-depth interviews with elementary school teachers from various regions, the study investigates teachers' perceptions, challenges, and readiness for the adoption of the NCF 2023 framework. The findings reveal a broad support for the framework's emphasis on experiential learning, inclusivity, and cognitive development. However, teachers express concerns over the adequacy of training, resources, and institutional support required for successful implementation. The study also highlights the need for continuous professional development and greater clarity in the curriculum guidelines to ensure that the NCF's principles are effectively integrated into classroom practices. This research contributes valuable insights into the practical implications of NCF 2023 and underscores the importance of addressing the challenges faced by teachers to achieve its goals at the foundational stage.

Keywords: *National Curriculum Framework, NCF 2023, elementary education, foundational stage, teacher perceptions, play-based learning, competency-based education, experiential learning.*

Introduction:

The National Children's Fund (NCF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children across the country. Established in 1993, NCF has been working tirelessly to provide a range of support and services for children in need, including education, healthcare, and social development programs.

In 2023, NCF continues to be at the forefront of advocating for the rights and well-being of children. With an emphasis on promoting child-friendly policies, empowering youth through education and mentorship, and addressing the unique challenges faced by marginalized and vulnerable children, NCF remains committed to creating a brighter future for the next generation.

Through collaborative efforts with government agencies, community organizations, and corporate partners, NCF strives to make a lasting impact and ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential.

To ensure that this NCF is responsive to the needs and aspirations of our people, and the nation, and is also informed by the very best experience and knowledge we have conducted widespread consultations across the country.

This process has benefited from the engagement of over 13 lakh interested citizens including students and parents, and over 1.5 lakh Teachers and educationists from across the country, over 1550 district level consultations from 32 States and Union Territories, and 35 groups of institutions.

The pre-draft of the NCF-SE was placed for public comment on 6 April 2023, and over 100 institutions and educators gave more than 1500 detailed comments. While the NCF-SE is informed by this collective knowledge and wisdom, the real challenge has been to analyse these inputs and develop a cogent, pragmatic, and effective synthesis that will enable changes in practices on the ground.

Objectives of the Study:

The present investigation is carried out to accomplish the following objectives

1. To know the opinions of elementary school teachers on NCF-2023 (foundational stage)
2. To assess the opinions of elementary school teachers on NCF-2023 with regard to their gender i.e male and female teachers in Medchal-Malkajgii district.
3. To study the opinions of elementary school teachers on NCF-2023 with regard to their management i.e government and private in Medchal-Malkajgii district.
4. To study the opinions of elementary school teachers on NCF-2023 with regard to their experience i.e below 5 years, 5-10 years, 11-15 years and above 15 years in Medchal-Malkajgii district.

Hypothesis of the Study:

1. There is no significant difference in the opinions of elementary school teachers regarding the NCF-2023 (foundational stage).
2. There is no significant difference in opinions of elementary school teachers on NCF-2023 with regard to gender i.e., male and female teachers.
3. There is no significant difference in the opinions on NCF-2023 between government and private elementary school teachers in Medchal-Malkajgiri district.
4. There is no significant difference in the opinions on NCF-2023 based on the years of experience of elementary school teachers (below 5 years, 5-10 years, 11-15 years, and above 15 years) in Medchal-Malkajgiri district.

Research Method

- Method is a style of conducting a work research method may be understanding as all those methods technique that are used for conduction of research
- Present studies are aimed at to study the opinions of elementary school teachers on NCF-2023(foundational stage)
- According to best 1971 descriptive research describes the status of what it is same type of comparison or contrast and may attempt to discover the relationship that exists between non manipulated variables.
- This survey method of research is the one of the important types of descriptive studies.
- It is said to be more realistic than experimental as it is investigating phenomena in their natural settings survey studies are conducted to collect the detailed description of existing phenomena.
- Descriptive Survey method is employed in the present investigation.

Research Design:

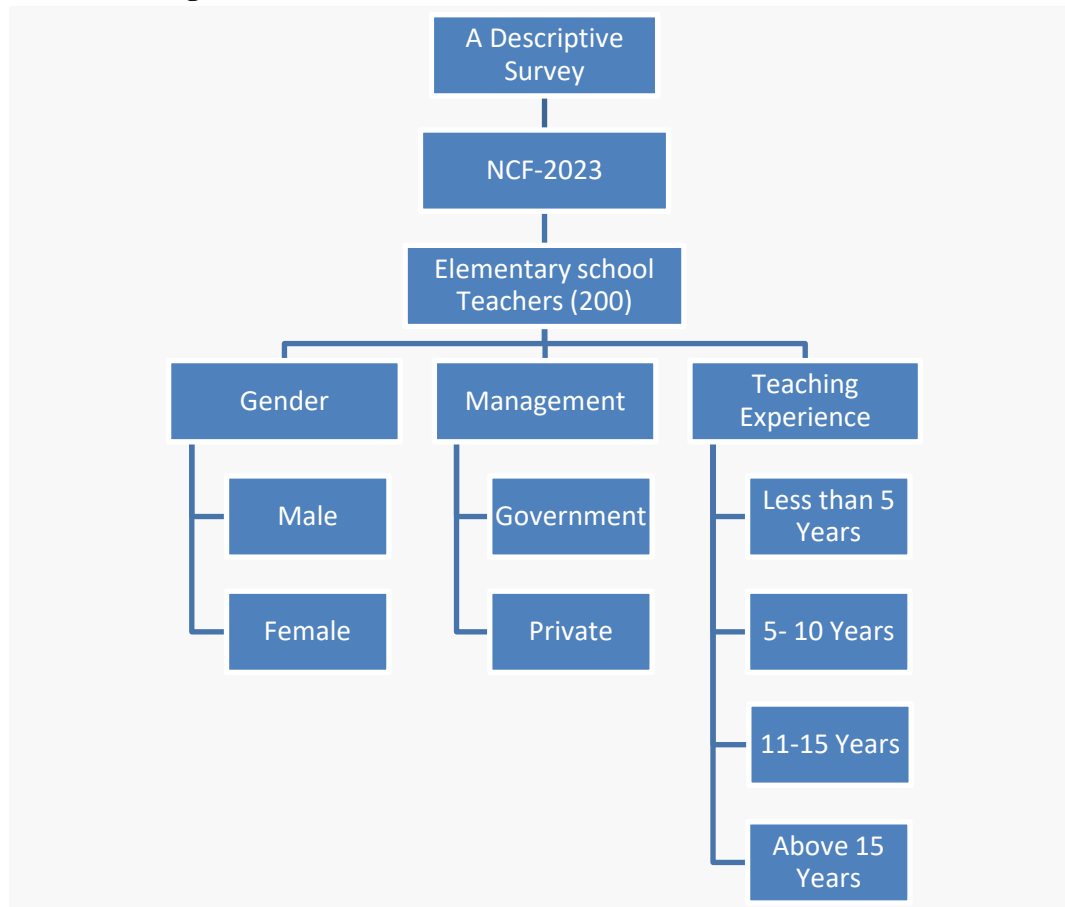


Fig 1: Research Methodology

Analysis of the Data:

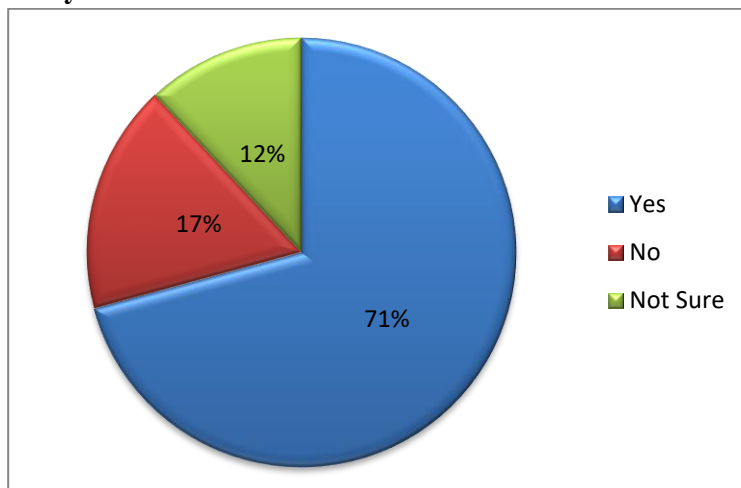


Fig 2: Frequencies and Percentages on opinions of elementary school teachers on NCF – 2023 (foundational stage)

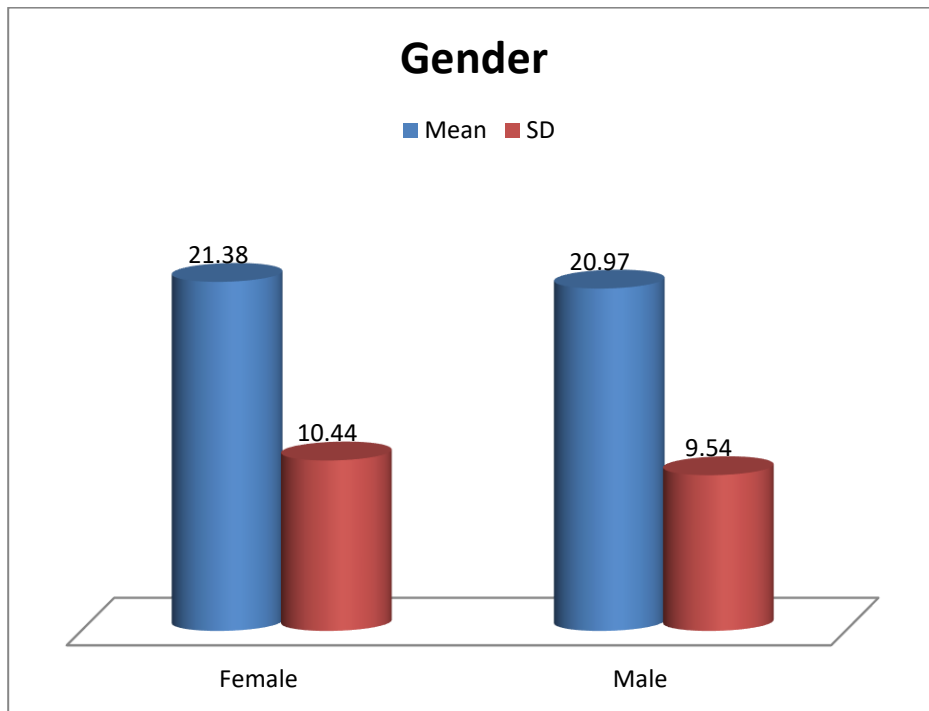


Fig 3: Mean scores, Standard Deviation, t- value and p - value of Male and Female elementary school teachers opinions on NCF-2023 in Medchal Malkajgiri district

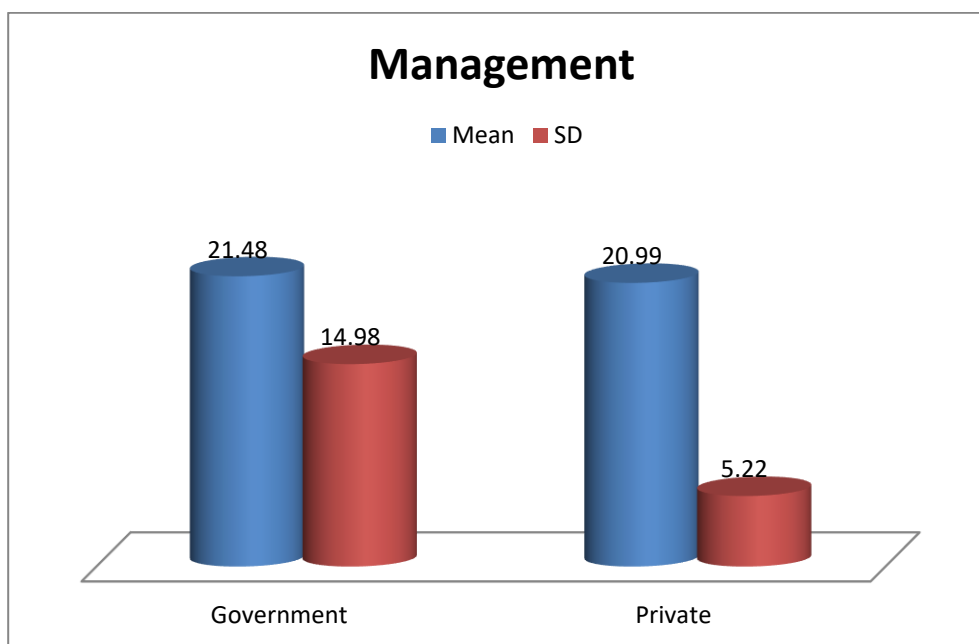


Fig 4: Mean scores, Standard Deviation, t- value and p - value of Government and Private management elementary school teachers opinions on NCF-2023 in Medchal Malkajgiri district

Findings of the Study:

1. Most elementary school teachers (70.78%) hold a positive opinion about the NCF-2023 for the foundational stage, while 11.95% are unsure and 17.26% disagree.
2. There is no significant difference in opinions on NCF-2023 between male and female elementary school teachers in the Medchal-Malkajgiri district, as shown by a t-value of 0.86783 and a p-value of 0.19327.
3. Opinions on NCF-2023 do not significantly differ between government and private elementary school teachers in Medchal-Malkajgiri district, with a t-value of 1.0902 and a p-value of 0.13848.
4. There is no significant difference in opinions on NCF-2023 based on years of experience among elementary school teachers in Medchal-Malkajgiri district, according to the ANOVA test.

Recommendation for Future Research:

1. It is suggested to conduct longitudinal studies to track the long-term impact of NCF-2023 on teaching practices and student outcomes. This will provide deeper insights into how the framework evolves over time and its sustained effectiveness.
2. Explore comparative studies between different districts or states to identify regional variations in the implementation of NCF-2023. Such studies can reveal how contextual factors influence the effectiveness and reception of the framework.
3. Investigate how NCF-2023 impacts specific roles within schools more closely. Future research could delve into the nuanced experiences of class teachers, headmasters, and subject teachers to identify any subtle differences in how the framework affects each role's performance and responsibilities.

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