



Panel Discussion On Report and Book

Activity-based learning (ABL) – done through encouragement of self-learning and peer learning using cards, counting boards, games, flexes, songs and plays – goes a long way in increasing school participation and learning enhancement of children.

This came to the fore during a panel discussion, held here on Friday, August 24, on a report prepared by research-based NGO **Deshkal Society**, Delhi on its findings in course of its project carried out in Krityanand Nagar block of Purnia district in Bihar. It was followed by a discussion on the book titled ‘Dynamics of Inclusive Classrooms: Social Diversity, Inequality and School Education’.

Binodanand Jha, director, department of education, government of Bihar, chaired the panel on the report, while Vyas ji, vice-chairman, Bihar State Disaster Management Authority, chaired the panel discussion on the book.

The book titled Dynamics of Inclusive Classrooms Social Diversity, Inequality and School Education has been edited by Manoj Kumar Tiwary, Sanjay Kumar and Arvind K Mishra, published by Orient Blackswan, Delhi.

It makes the point that in India, the increased enrolment of socially diverse students requires us to give special attention to issues of inequality based on caste, class, religion, gender, language and region, which affect children’s learning processes and outcome. Collectively, in order to render Indian classrooms inclusive, the country needs to formulate a school education policy that would result in pedagogical preparedness to deal with the increased enrolment of historically marginalised and oppressed children from diverse backgrounds.

Sudhir Kumar, faculty, A N Sinha Institute, Patna and Kishore Darak, Tata Trusts, were on the panel that discussed the Deshkal Society’s report on its project.

Sudhirendra Sharma, lead consultant, World Bank, P P Ghosh, ADRI, Patna and Smriti Singh, associate professor, IIT, Patna were part of the panel discussion on the book.

