

ISBN: 978-81-949112-2-7

Performance, Aspirations, Access and Adaptation of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students of Engineering at Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha¹

Team Centurion

Introduction

The Education Scenario in India

Education in India, has not been a policy priority area in spite of high adult illiteracy rates. There are challenges in adequately staffing rural institutions and school retention rates. Radhakrishnan (2009) suggests that the state has failed to provide education to India's youth in 'socially equitable and globally competitive ways' (71), with higher education reaching only a small fraction of the population. In the neoliberal context, he suggests that groups traditionally excluded from education now face a double barrier because on top of facing initial barriers to access to, the climate of globalization, which privileges formal education-derived knowledge, also proves exclusionary. Siddhu (2010) in a similar vein, notes that the two most important determinants of transition were the additional costs and the additional distance to secondary

1. This chapter was earlier published as an article in *Centurion Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*, 2016, Vol 2. No.1, pp 1-27.