



Telangana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions Society (TMREIS) - Providing and Maintaining Standard of Quality Education.

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Abstract:

Education is the basic right of every individual. It not only empowers a person to stabilize and attain some livelihood but also opens up the horizons of mind to look at various aspects of life in a better and positive way. Education is one such unique and rare tool, with which if one gets equipped, will groom the personality of the individual. The confidence and social awareness that one attains by being educated itself acts as a source of cutting down the divide of the evil of marginalization. The best source by which the government and non-government organizations can help the deprived groups is through education. Marginalization has existed in society since ages and still continues to exist in different forms under new names. Marginalization in the name of caste, creed, sect, religion or colour can never help humanity bloom. Eradication of this evil must be initiated by the intellectuals and the educated people of the society. A huge responsibility to practice and promote equality, love and brotherhood lies on their shoulders. Apart from such practices, a radical change is expected if education is provided to the marginalized sector by taking suitable measures to attract them, pull them towards getting accoutered with the gems of knowledge. This paper focuses on the journey and achievements of TMREIS in their seven year period since its inception. It shall provide an opportunity to build insights on residential educational institutions as well as help in motivating others towards contributing for bringing a social change through educating the marginalized sectors of the society. The results of the young achievers of TMREIS who have got through national level competitive exams like NEET are enlightening to understand that consistent sincere efforts by the responsible stake holders can contribute to change lives of the children of the deprived groups.

Keywords: Education, Marginalization, TMREIS.

Introduction:

Education is one of the basic needs of every individual to grow and prosper. Any person or a group deprived of education because of poverty, racism or any disability is injustice caused to them by the society they live in. Education transforms the life of an individual in numerous ways. It grooms the personality of an individual both externally and internally. Externally in the sense that it shall provide knowledge of certain domains that shall earn them a job and help establish financial stability for self and family. Internal grooming refers to larger perspective of education which includes broadening of vision, clear understanding of various aspects of life, ability to differentiate between good and bad, decision making, problem solving, behaving as a responsible part of society.

For a country to develop and flourish there is a dire need to work on marginalized groups and help them by uplifting them from ground and providing them open opportunities to aim for the stars. The best approach towards this will certainly be by providing them affordable and worthy educational opportunities. Because empowerment can be possible only through educating the future irrespective of marginality and including marginalized in the mainstream social structures and treating them equal. One such prominent example of providing a giant platform for the upliftment of the marginalized group can be seen as the formation of Telangana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions Society (TMREIS) in Telangana, India.

This paper shall focus on the journey and achievements of TMREIS within a short span of seven years. And if the dedicated efforts of the authorities of TMREIS continues to attract the deprived group and with the services that they are rendering now, there is a high hope for the bright future of the marginalized minorities to excel in their careers and contribute positively towards the growth of the nation.

Concept of Marginalization:

Marginalization is a multi-faceted affair that paves way for the denial of equal opportunities and exposure to people 'living on margins' and provision of prospects and facilities to those at the center of the society.

UK Aid Direct writes "Marginalization describes both a process, and a condition, that prevents individuals or groups from full participation in social, economic and political life."

It further elaborates, "Poverty is both a consequence and a cause of being marginalized."

The definition of marginalized groups by Encyclopedia of Public Health says, "To be marginalized is to be placed at the margins and thus excluded from the privilege and power found at the center".

Marginalization basically refers to the group of individuals who live at the margins of the society. They are into the marginalized zone based on some historical or cultural background. Marginalization has been seen in India with variation in different eras of ancient, medieval, post colonial and modern times. It has existed in various forms based on caste, creed, color, sect, community, etc and based on socio-economic status of a group. This group is likely to have feeble control over their lives as they have less or no access to resources of fair livelihood. A circle is created knowingly or unknowingly where they are deprived of positive and supportive alliance that hinders them to participate in a normal local life.

Marginalization has been mostly not supported by masses though in every period, a certain humane group has raised their voice to support and stand for the rights of marginalized people. Various prominent figures like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Periyar E V Ramasamy are few of the leaders who worked for the marginalized sector till their last breath.

Marginalized groups and their Education in India:

The marginalized groups identified by the Indian Constitution are Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and women apart from the persons with disabilities. Special provision has been made in the Indian Constitution for these groups to facilitate equal fundamental rights.

Article 14 : Equality before law

Article 15: Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex and place of birth

Article 17: Indian Constitution is a legislation that abolishes practice of untouchability in any form

Article 46: Promotion of the economic and educational interests of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections. (Dr.M.N.Mohamedunni Alias Musthafa, 2019)

“Education is the single most important instrument for social and economic transformation. A well educated population, adequately equipped with knowledge and skill is not only essential to support economic growth but is also a precondition for growth to be inclusive, since it is the educated and skilled person who can stand to benefit most from the employment opportunities which growth will provide.” (Para 10.1 of ‘An approach to the 12th Five year Plan’).

Reference to provisions of free and compulsory education to all irrespective of any discrimination in Indian Constitution is,

- Article 45: Right for Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) to all children until they complete the age of six years
- Article 21A: The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE, Right to Education)
- Article 29(2) states "No citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, language or any of them"

Various schemes have been established in order to implicate the mentioned amendments into action. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Seva Abhiyan, Mid-day meal scheme, Integrated Child Development Scheme, District Primary Education Programme, etc. came in at various points of time to educate the masses. Yet numerous issues and challenges hinder the continuity in the perusal of education. Regular drop-outs, health and hygiene, transportation facilities from remote areas have been few of many areas that are to be addressed. Action plans are being taken up to get the marginalized to attend mainstream education, one such extraordinary scheme that came into picture in recent years is formation of TMREIS in Telangana state.

TMREIS came into existence with the dream of Telangana state's chief minister Mr. K Chandrasekhar Rao Garu, of making the state 'Golden Telangana'. The target is inclusive development of every community by integrating and empowering the marginalized sections of the state. The visionary intellectuals of his team profoundly came with the idea of TMREIS on the lines of TSWREIS. TSWREIS Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society was initially established in 1984 by NT Rama Rao, former chief minister of Andhra Pradesh for imparting quality education to the marginalized sector of the state, the scheduled castes, scheduled tribe and other backward classes. Residential schools catering to various needs of a student was aimed to be catered. At present there are 267 such institutions with good infrastructure focusing on holistic development of their students. Excellent work is being done by TSWREIS, its secretary Dr. R.S.Praveen Kumar,IPS along with his team has been giving his untired, dedicated and notable services towards the growth of its institutions.

Soon with the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh in 2014, Telangana Chief Minister K ChandraShekhar Garu to uplift the minorities of the newly formed state fetched inputs to work on their development. A K Khan, IPS and advisor to the government, Minority affairs and President TMREIS has been working on TMREIS since its framework of establishment and TMREIS is now flourishing under his supervision with another visionary Shafiullah, IFS Secretary, TMREIS along with a dedicated team of academicians.

In 2015, government could establish 71 residential schools in its first year of inception. The 204 residential schools 12 residential junior colleges plan that was approved by the government came into existence from next year onwards. It aims to provide quality education to minorities and economically backward children. The concept of having residential schools for minorities and economically backward children is to provide them with a healthy hygienic peaceful environment for their overall development.

TMREIS team is on toes, working and making provisions for continuous professional development of their teachers. The paper will specifically address the latest achievement of students of TMREIS who have got through NEET and EAMCET-2022 and are on the threshold of making their career as future professionals. The paper will talk about the background, their affiliation with TMREIS and the role played by TMREIS and its team in shaping the careers of a group of marginalized sector of the society.

Objectives of the study:

- To study journey and achievements of TMREIS since 2016.
- To understand the role of TMREIS in preparing their students for competitive exams, NEET, EAMCET in particular.

Research Method:

The research was carried out by collecting data, records of achievements from TMREIS head office. Interviewing the academic head to understand the journey of TMREIS was taken up. A list of contact details

of NEET and EAMCET 2022 qualifiers was gathered and few of them were interviewed to understand the role played by TMREIS in their academic journey.

Data Collection:

The details related to journey and achievements of TMREIS were gathered from the head office with the intervention of its authorities. A latest report on significant achievements of TMREIS in last seven years was shared in this regard. Few of TMR schools were visited wherein the researcher had the opportunity to interact with the principals, teachers and the students to understand the system. Academic head obliged to respond the queries of the researcher and briefed about the various challenges faced and talked about their system and strategies being carried out to facilitate and provide quality education to the students TMREIS.

The details of students who have qualified NEET and EAMCET 2022 was collected from TMREIS, students were contacted to know about their affiliation with TMREIS and to understand how it has impacted their academic journey.

Findings:

TMREIS: Efforts and Achievements

TMREIS aimed to provide quality education to 1 lakh children of the deprived sections every year, it has 7069 (which includes 697 outsourcing faculty) trained graduates TGTs, trained post graduate teachers PGTs and junior lecturers JLs. The facilities provided at these residential schools are remarkable, they not only provide free education and residential services but also free books, free stationary, uniform, sports outfit, healthy food thrice a day under a well designed diet plan. These residential schools for the students coming from such a marginalized sector is like a home away from home, where the child's health, hygiene and comfort are given special personal attention 24x7 under the vigilance of trained professionals and caretakers.

TMREIS established 204 schools and 12 junior colleges in a span of 13 months, which reflects some exceptionally great efforts and tiresome work done day in and day out. All the students in TMREIS come from economically deprived community. They have separate residential schools and colleges for boys and girls. There are 107 boys TMR schools and 97 girls schools. The researcher could observe the students both at boys and girls school happy and enthusiastic. They carry a glint in their eyes and high hope of transforming their lives being at TMRS and being accoutered with the gems of knowledge. The facilities and amenities provided at TMR schools give children a sense of security and also create self-belief to move ahead without any uncertainties.

Health and hygiene is taken utmost care, as observed various committees exist at school levels to keep the track of flow of work. For instance, laundry committee assures a particular class students (eg. 8th class) gather their used clothes and deposit it on a particular day (eg. Wednesday) of the week for laundry services.

Apart from free medical assistance for sick students, there is availability of regular staff nurse who monitors health and hygiene of the students.

Nutritious food includes morning milk and evening snacks apart from regular three meals. All TMR schools are under CCTV surveillance 24x7 monitored by various authorities. Security guards with shift in duties are available all the time.

Hostels with bunker beds in dormitory areas, clean and hygienic dining halls with all amenities, R.O. plant for safe drinking water, Geysers in bathrooms for hot water bath. Schools have warden and assistants, cook with helpers, alert teams to address variety of needs of any good standard residential school.

TMREIS believes in overall development of its students, hence co-curricular activities are equally encouraged. Intra-school and inter-school events are encouraged and organized on regular basis to bring forward the hidden talents of the students. One of the TMR school visited had extraordinary paintings across the stair case and over the walls that carried a theme along, multiplication tables and figures, languages and art which was noteworthy. On inquiring it was found that it was the result of painting competition organized within the school with acrylic paints and brushes provided by the institute. It was enthralling.

TMREIS caters to extra-curricular needs of the students by organizing multiple inter school events on a grand scale. SPARK fest, kindles the literary and artistic spark of the students and provide them a platform to perform and win accolades. It is then followed by sports meet. Students not only boys but even girls are encouraged to participate and showcase their interest in various sports and games. Students who exhibit their over the edge passion towards a particular sport or game are analyzed, identified and given special training to excel in that area. Participation in zonal and state level sport competitions and events is adequately addressed.

An attentive vigilance to maintain quality education is on roll by the authorities of TMREIS to keep a track of teaching progress. Any shortcoming by member of TMREIS is addressed spontaneously to assure that students are not at loss and to overcome educational needs being compromised.

TMREIS is all set to give a flight to these students by providing them opportunities and facilities to meet the challenges of 21st century.

Significant Achievements:

To create scientific attitude and develop latest information and technology skills TMREIS has made academic partnership with IIT Hyderabad, students of TMREIS did visit the place and had orientation sessions at its campus in Kandi, Telangana.

In the history of government institutions of Telangana, six TMREIS students took part in International Space Development Conference at Los Angeles, California, U.S.A. organized by NASA AMES space centre.

TMREIS students from remote area like Kagaznagar of Komurambeem Asifabad district innovated 'Fuel Free Bike', which works even without electricity.

Few of TMREIS students in collaboration with Mukhafam Jah College of Engineering participated in National level robotic competition organised by Synopsys and Agastya Foundation in the year 2017-18 and won second position.

Four students of TMREIS scaled Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Tanzania, thus creating history in minority community of Telangana state.

TMREIS students participated in numerous national and international sports and games competitions and events that are worth mention. Their rigorous participation and achievements at National and International levels is getting laurels to TMREIS and Telangana. It's a proud moment for the administrators, staff and students of TMREIS on reaping fruits of hard work and dedication.

During 2021-22, Two Students have participated in International Kick-Boxing & Kabaddi Tournaments.

During 2021-22, the following is the achievement of TMREIS Students in Sports/Games/Athletics in National Level Meets:

Event	No. of Participants	Event	No. of Participants
Athletics	4	Karate	2
Rocball	1	Shotput	1
Wrestling	2	Boxing	4
Snooker	1	Throw Ball	1
Cricket	9	Kabaddi	3
Cycling	1	Total	29

TMREIS too battled the pandemic period without giving up and trying to conduct online classes. In a survey done by Airtel Bharati, it was found that an eighth class student of TMREIS Ms. Safa Zareen from Nirmal was travelling a distance of 2 km from home to attend online classes. Hence Airtel Bharati installed free DTH connection in the entire state to keep the interest burning among all our TMR students.

TMREIS never ceases an opportunity to equip their students with the best of educational opportunities to excel and make a career out of it. It provided IIT/JEE free professional coaching classes to the selected students from T.I.M.E. and MS Education Academy.

The year wise academic achievement of TMREIS students who cleared various state level and national level professional competitive exams is as in the table below.

Year	IIT Mains	IIT Adv.	NEET	EAMCET Engg.	EAMCET Ag.	IIIT RGUKT	Polycet	ICAR	CUET	HCL Techbee	Grand Total
2019-20	4	1	2	3	1	--	--	--	--	--	11
2020-21	15	5	14	176	59	--	--	--	--	--	269
2021-22	17	3	60	147	143	23	1124	18	--	--	1535
2022-23	17	1	74	651	636	7	1845	Yet to	18	21	3267
Progressive Total	53	10	150	977	839	31	2969	18	18	21	5082

A progressive increase in the number of students clearing professional competitive exams is evident. This is indeed a great achievement as all these students belong to poor socio-economical background as they all come from SC/ST and Muslim OBC categories.

All TMR schools have been upgraded to TMR Junior Colleges. Hence, now 204 TMR schools and 204 TMR Junior Colleges are functioning with strength of 1.25 lakh students. That includes 97571 students in TMRS and 27647 students in TMRJCs.

Out of 204 TMRJCs, 12 Colleges have vocational courses which are attracting students in the vocational field. Vocational courses like **MLT, MPHW, ET and CGT are being** offered. Students have the facility of practical labs and are taken for on-field experience to various private diagnostics laboratories as well as government hospitals to gain real life experiences. There are 10 Junior Colleges which have been identified as Centers of Excellence wherein special rigorous coaching is given to the meritorious students for IIT, NEET, NDA and basic foundation course in CA, CPT and CLAT from 2021 onwards.

TMREIS initiated NDA coaching for boys in 2021 and has started the same for girls from 2022 onwards. TMREIS is moving ahead with their latest plan to start training for civil services examinations by identifying the students from class 8th level onwards from the coming academic year.

Most of the students of TMRS, when asked by the researcher about their aim in life, aspire to become IAS, IPS and group one officer apart from aiming to become doctors, engineers and army men/soldiers.

TMREIS NEET EAMCET Qualifiers 2022:

When the researcher interviewed the qualifiers of NEET and EAMCET 2022, it was indeed a joyous moment to judge that tone of happiness and confidence about their future.

Background, Affiliation and achievements of the students:

All the students who have cracked these competitive exams are from below poverty line background. When enquired about the occupation of their parents, it was found that occupation of father of these qualifiers varied from being daily wage workers like laborers on construction sites or light machine to being mechanic, fruit vendor, farmer, RTC conductor, auto driver, salesman on grocery shop and many similar occupations to list down. Their mothers are basically home-makers. Since these students had interest in

studies and scored good marks but didn't have any financial support to carry on further studies, most of them were doubtful of continuing their higher secondary school too. It was their school teachers or the qualified members of the society who directed them towards TMREIS. When these students and their parents got to know of TMREIS that they provide cost-free education, healthy diet along with residential facilities, their dreams got a concrete path to change them into reality.

There were few of these who dreamt to be doctors or engineers. Many of them, kept their hopes low owing to their families financial conditions. But at TMREIS, based on their academic performance in 10th standard and later with their results of 11th standard these students were given special attention. These students were transferred to colleges which are identified as Centre of Excellence. The students from the deprived sector of the society never dreamt of availing high standard facility at no cost and rich expertise.

These talented students are provided extra care and directed efforts are being made to prepare them for this competitive world. TMREIS make an effort to analyze the results of inter first year from all its colleges and gathers the toppers under one roof in centre of excellence. Then provide them with excellent teaching strategies, highly qualified and motivating staff, a well-designed plan of action and create a competitive environment. The NEET qualifiers who were interviewed consented strongly on three of the questions. When asked, "who inspired you to work hard for NEET and developed your confidence" a common answer was "Lecturers", they were a constant source of motivation. They replied in similar lines when asked, "How TMREIS contributed in helping you get through NEET" saying... "With best education and best facilities one could have asked for" and they clearly told without TMREIS in their academic journey, they could not have appeared or worked for NEET.

At CoE Centre of Excellence, the expert faculties are deputed wherein they utilize their proficiency in bringing out the best of the child's abilities and grooming them. Suitable learning material, appropriately planned classes, weekly and monthly tests are designed and executed to keep the spark of competitive exams among students burning.

Since TMREIS was established in 2015, most of these students joined TMR junior college in intermediate. The one who have cleared with good ranks are done with their counseling, few are waiting for the counseling and more than half of those who have cleared NEET but with unexpected high ranks and had hopes of getting a medical seat have already geared up for long term coaching for the NEET 2023. TMREIS centre for excellence is extending their arms to reignite the spark by giving another round of coaching to such candidates.

K Rambabu bagged a seat in Gandhi Medical College, Hyderabad

Tahoor Masood joined Dr. VRK College of Medical Science

Md Saifuddin joined Ayaan Medical College Moinabad RR district

E Sravan Kumar will be travelling to Delhi as a student of Jamia Millia Dental College.

Omer Farooq will be joining Pharma D in Nizamabad.

Md Rayanuddin has got a seat in Bachelors of Veterinary Science.

Each of them have their own story of struggle from below poverty line background, their dream finally came true with their efforts, support of parents and guardians. Moreover, the opportunity that they seized by joining TMRJC and with the support of its motivating qualified team who contributed largely in this tough race.

K Rambabu giving his introduction and expressing his gratitude said, “I belong to a very poor family. My parents do labour work and they are daily wage earners. I wanted to become a Doctor but my parents couldn’t afford NEET coaching for me. Luckily, I was introduced to TMREIS where I got free NEET coaching and quality teaching and a wonderful platform to achieve my dream to become a Doctor. I achieved a great rank in NEET which is state First Rank / first place in Telangana state in my category through which I got a free seat in Gandhi Medical College. I am very much Thankful to CM KCR Sir and the TMREIS team and COE Barkas for making my dream successful.”

Tahoor Masood in her conversation talked about her association with TMREIS, “I joined TMREIS in inter 2nd year, as my parents failed to meet financial expenses of private college. One of my parent’s relative informed us of TMREIS as providing excellent coaching for NEET, a source of free quality education by government. Though admissions in Inter 2nd year in any college is not an easy affair, TMREIS considered my admission because of my good academic records.”

She also added, “My father is a labor, light machine in factory, I always dreamt to be a doctor and my parents supported me, believed in me and sent me to residential school despite the stereotype hindrances by extended family and society I come from. At TMREIS, there was continuous encouragement by teachers. Though I could not get through NEET in my first attempt, seeing my sincerity and hard work towards studies, my teachers and CoE team advocated giving me another chance. TMREIS CoE provided me long-term coaching back to back when I missed out a government seat in my second attempt too. They never let me give up; it is the support of my parents, teachers and TMREIS that this year I got a government medical seat.”

Md Saifuddin who is now a medical student at Ayaan Institute of Medical Sciences is filled with gratitude. He exclaimed saying, “I encountered a miracle of my life, I got a medical seat in Ayaan Medical College, Hyderabad. I am happy I joined TMREIS and am successful too because of TMREIS. I joined TMREIS in seventh grade and since then it has been a constant support that TMREIS offered.”

Saifuddin is a child whose mother passed away and father left him with his maternal family. His uncle enrolled him and his brother at TMRS Hayatnagar. Looking at his excellent performance in 11th standard, he was shifted in College of Excellence CoE Barkas and was given full term NEET coaching with expert vigilance. TMREIS played a life changing role for Saifuddin.

EAMCET qualifiers of TMREIS got seats in the top listed colleges of Engineering and Technology. As per the database provided by TMREIS, TMRJC Barkas COE two boys got seats in Mechanical Engineering at Osmania University and JNTU and 13 of them has registered their admission in top notch colleges of Telangana in Computer Science Engineering. And those who could not make it this year are focused to their goals, TMREIS will assist them by providing another round of long term coaching for JEE-Advanced.

All these students are from various districts of Telangana, most of them from rural or semi-urban areas, only a few of them belongs to urban part of the state. Indeed these budding talents are able to dream big and achieve big, going by the words of its slogan with which TMREIS came into conception – “Har fard padhega, Har ghar badhega”. The team TMREIS is not only giving facilities but also creating visions among their students and training them by establishing a mission to achieve their goals.

It is also worth mention that those students who have got high ranks and are unable to get a medical seat this year and want to make another attempt in NEET. TMREIS is ready to provide them long-term coaching with full residential and academic assistance. In a way TMREIS is all set to facilitate in the best of their capacities to this marginalized group of hard working students, who are serious to convert their dreams into reality.

It indeed reflects a progressive journey of TMREIS and the legacy shall continue far and beyond.

These students of TMREIS do shoulder the responsibility to remain consistent on their way towards their goal and be the guiding source and a helping hand for their juniors.

Conclusion

The journey of TMREIS within this short span of seven years has been incredible. The observation made clearly reflected a consistent tireless team work. Some tough decisions in the time of crisis, reconsidering of long-term coaching of NEET for another year to help and push those dreams hit the target and taking along the entire team motivated to improve on regular basis is revealing in this study. For TMREIS to continue the legacy, its support system must always remain strengthened. Aspiring young deprived children have now their seniors setting new track, new standard for them look up and achieve. Since it's just seven years of inception of TMREIS it's too early to talk about its alumni. But for if the rising stars of today shine high tomorrow up in the sky they shall pool down to support their TMREIS family which paved their way and raised them with care and high aspirations.

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