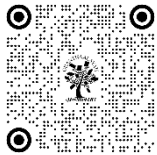


USE OF MOTHER TONGUE INTEACHING-LEARNING PROCESS: PERSPECTIVE FROM STUDENT TEACHERS

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ABSTRACT

The mother language is highly valuable for several reasons. It plays a crucial role in shaping a person's thoughts and emotions. For a child's overall development, learning to speak their mother language is essential. Fluency in their native language benefits children in various ways; it connects them to their culture, promotes cognitive development, and facilitates the learning of additional languages. Children begin to understand the world around them through the language they hear from their mothers, starting before they are even born and continuing throughout their lives. Unfortunately, many children in developing regions receive very little effective instruction in school. This lack of comprehension is often due to teaching being conducted in a language they do not fully understand. Such practices can lead to limited learning outcomes, alienating experiences, and high rates of dropout and repetition in education. This article aims to highlight the important views of student teachers of Goa Education College and the importance and role of the Mother language in the teaching-learning process. To improve the quality of education, language policies must prioritize mother-tongue learning. Educational models that ignore the mother language during early years can be unproductive and detrimental to children's learning. Implementing mother-tongue education, especially in the early stages, allows teachers to instruct more effectively and enables learners to grasp concepts more easily.

Keywords: Student Teacher, Mother Language, Teaching-Learning Process

1. INTRODUCTION

Language is a vital component of a person's existence. The language makes it easier to understand your environment, learn new concepts, and master a variety of abilities. A youngster who successfully learns about their lives develops significant language abilities that allow them to express themselves and expand their cognitive capacity. Furthermore, this language instills confidence and self-worth in children as they learn new topics. Language is an important component of a person's existence. The language makes it easier to understand your environment, learn new concepts, and master a variety of abilities. A youngster who successfully learns about their lives develops significant language abilities that allow them to express themselves and expand their cognitive capacity. Additionally,

Language has an important function in a person's existence. It aids in understanding one's surroundings, learning new concepts, and developing diverse abilities. A youngster who learns their native language effectively develops a wide range of language skills that help them express themselves and think more clearly. Furthermore, language instills confidence and a sense of self-worth in children, which is necessary for learning other disciplines. When you talk to a man in a language he understands, it gets to his mind.

If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his head".- Nelson Mandela

2. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the importance and role of the mother language in the teaching-learning process?
2. What are the perspectives of student teachers toward the mother language in the teaching-learning process?

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH

1. To analyze the perspectives of student teachers on the use of the mother language in the teaching-learning process.
2. To highlight the importance of the use of the mother language in the teaching-learning process

Using the mother language (also known as the first language or L1) in the teaching-learning process is crucial for several reasons. It enhances comprehension, supports cognitive development, and fosters cultural identity. Below are some key points on its importance, supported by academic references.

4. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

A child's mother tongue encompasses not only language but also his or her personal, social, and cultural identity. Words and expressions have diverse connotations between cultures, and asking straight enquiries is deemed intrusive in one language but curious in another. This means that the language used when speaking is considered before it is delivered. (The Importance of Mother Tongue in Education, 2019). Students learn more well when taught in their native language. According to UNESCO (2003), children learn best in a language they understand, allowing them to acquire literacy skills more rapidly.

Learning is all about building knowledge. Reflective thinking fosters learning. Since our student population is becoming more and more diverse (Nanaware, 2022). We must deliberately explore how to engage our students effectively. Cummins (2000) also contends that strong first-language skills lay a solid foundation for acquiring additional languages. Studies show that mother tongue training promotes cognitive development. Vygotsky's (1978) sociocultural theory emphasises that learning occurs through contact in a familiar language, which improves critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. When students study in their first language, they are more engaged in class discussions. Heugh (2011) discovered that mother language-based teaching increases student motivation and self-esteem. Thomas and Collier (1997) discovered that a strong foundation in the mother tongue helps pupils transfer reading skills from L1 to L2. Language transports culture.

According to Skutnabb-Kangas (2000), teaching in one's home tongue helps students identify with their cultural roots and histories. Using the mother tongue in education is critical for cognitive growth, learning effectiveness, and cultural survival. Policymakers and educators should prioritise multilingual education models to guarantee that students get the most out of their learning experiences. Finally, the mother tongue has a significant impact on comprehension and learning results. It enhances a child's cognitive and intellectual growth, engages kids in class, and helps them gain confidence. It also makes the transition to learning a second language easier and helps to preserve cultural identity and tradition.

5. METHODS AND RESULTS

The present research was conducted using a qualitative research design. This study was conducted using the survey research approach. The survey questionnaire was delivered to a purposeful sample of 120 student teachers from B.A.B.

Ed. colleges in Goa, who answered to a Google Forms-created questionnaire. Data gathering involved a questionnaire with both closed and open-ended questions. This questionnaire was issued via Google Forms to student teachers at T.Y.B.A. B.Ed. and Fo.Y. B.A. B.Ed. in Goa. The collected data were analyzed by using percentage analysis during research proceedings.

6. RESULTS/FINDINGS/DISCUSSION

To what extent do you believe that the 'Matrubhasha' (mother tongue) helps in avoiding knowledge gaps and increases the speed of learning and comprehension?

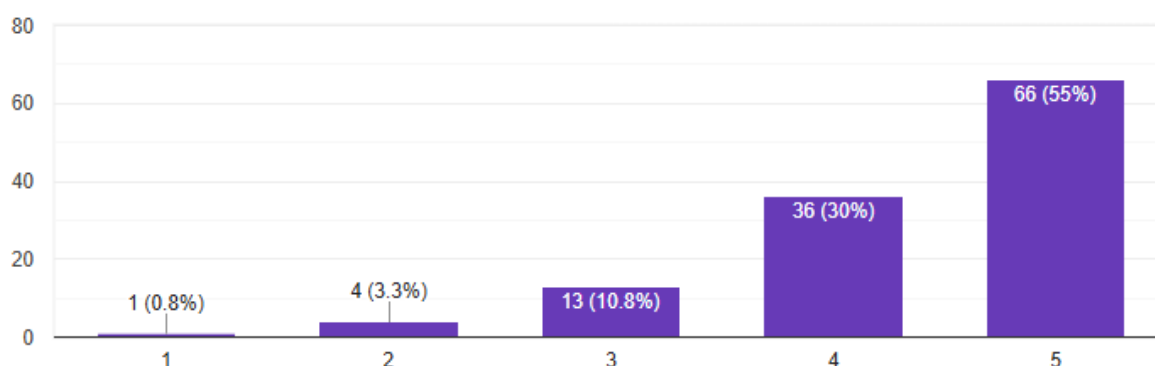


Fig.1: To what extent the 'Matrubhasha' helps in avoiding knowledge gaps.

Many educators and students reported that they had previously met the notion of IKS through various educational disciplines. Approximately 55% of student instructors strongly agree with the statement, whereas 30% agree. Student teachers face the challenge of not understanding concepts well, which leads to a lack of interest in a specific subject, a lack of foundation knowledge, which can lead to less learning and motivation, and misconceptions, whereas using one's mother tongue aids in understanding concepts easily. Student instructors agreed to use a bilingual teaching strategy, translating topics for varied classrooms and using local terminology. The use of audio/videos can help to overcome such situations in the classroom.

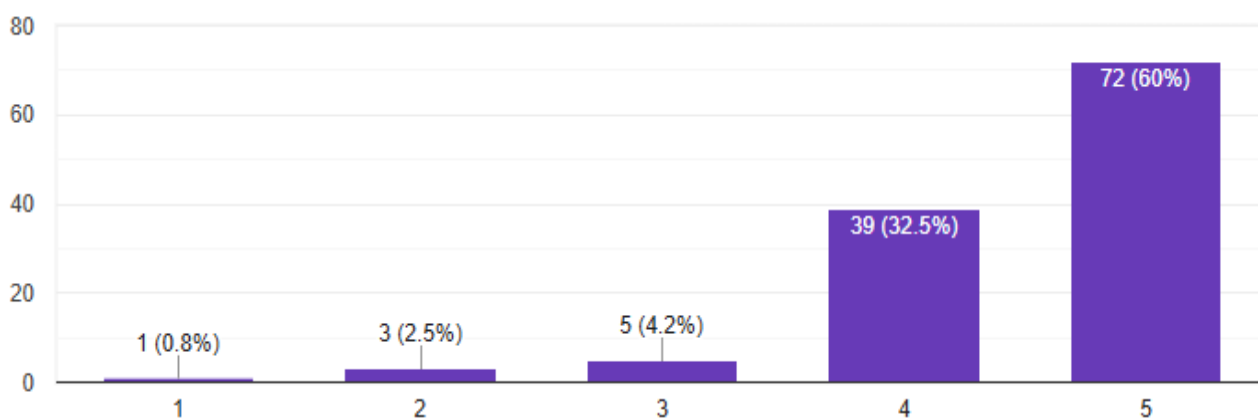


Fig.2: The use of the 'Matrubhasha' can lead to better engagement of the students during the teacher learning process.

60% of student teachers strongly agree whereas 32.5% of teacher students agree that the use of the 'Matrubhasha' can lead to better engagement of the students during the teacher learning process.

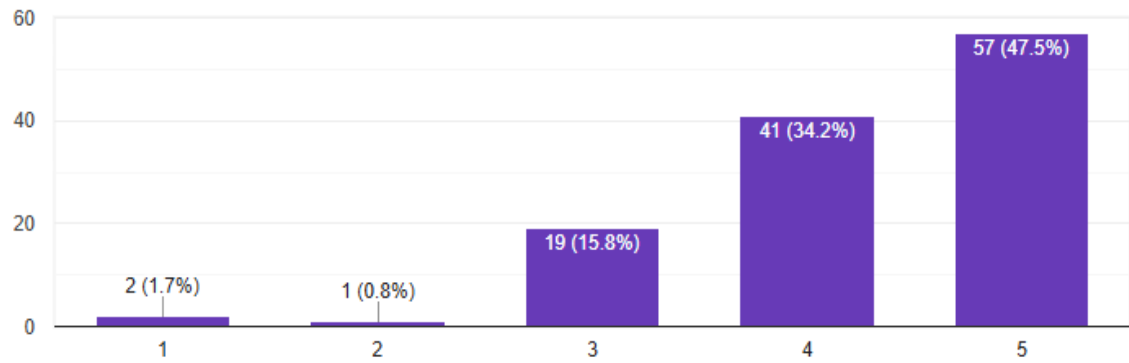


Fig.3: Tse of 'Matrubhasha' will help in the cognitive development of the student.

47.5% of student teachers strongly agree, whereas 34.2% agree that the use of 'Matrubhasha' will help in the cognitive development of the student. According to student teachers, using the mother tongue improves learning outcomes, increases engagement, and fosters motivation and interest among students. Students' knowledge, learning, language abilities, critical thinking, problem solving, and academic achievement improve when they are taught in their mother tongue.

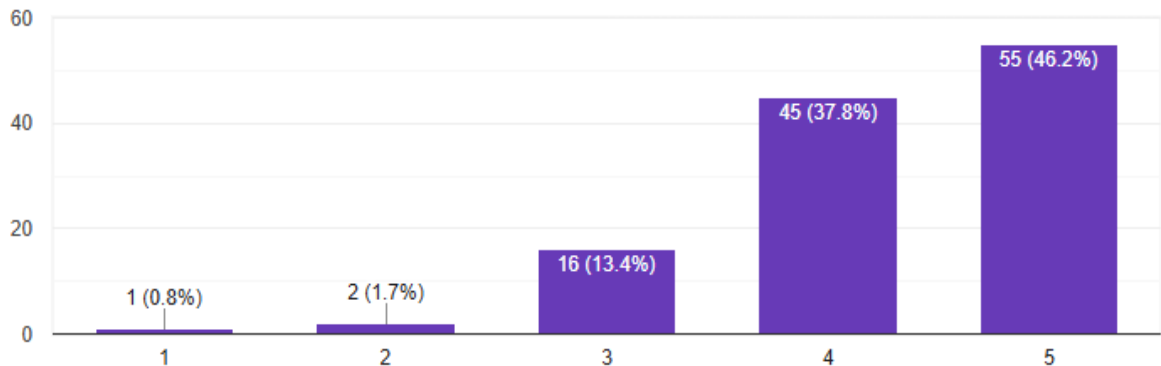


Fig.4: The use of 'Matrubhasha' will help teachers in achieving their learning objectives smoothly.

46.2% of student teachers strongly agreed, whereas 37.8% agreed that the use of 'Matrubhasha' will help teachers in achieving their learning objectives smoothly.

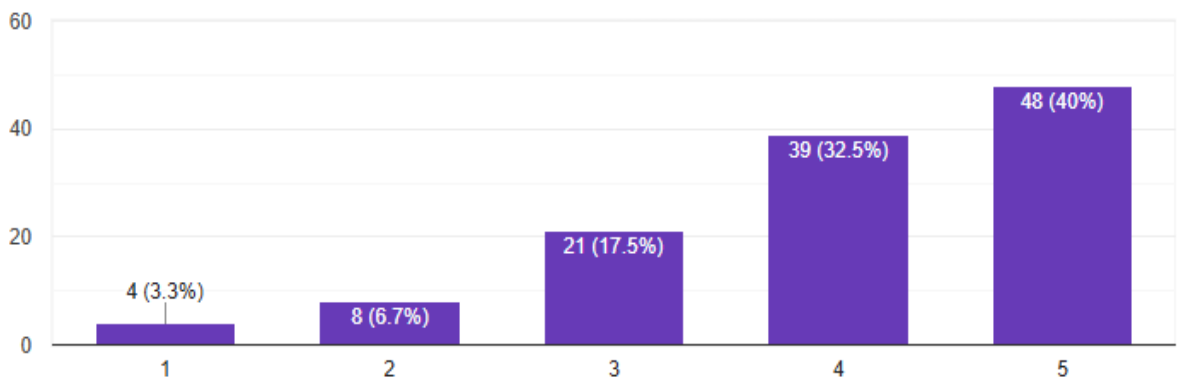


Fig.5: The use of 'Matrubhasha' will help improve students' communication skills.

40% of student teachers strongly agree, whereas 32.5% agree that the use of 'Matrubhasha' will help improve students' communication skills.

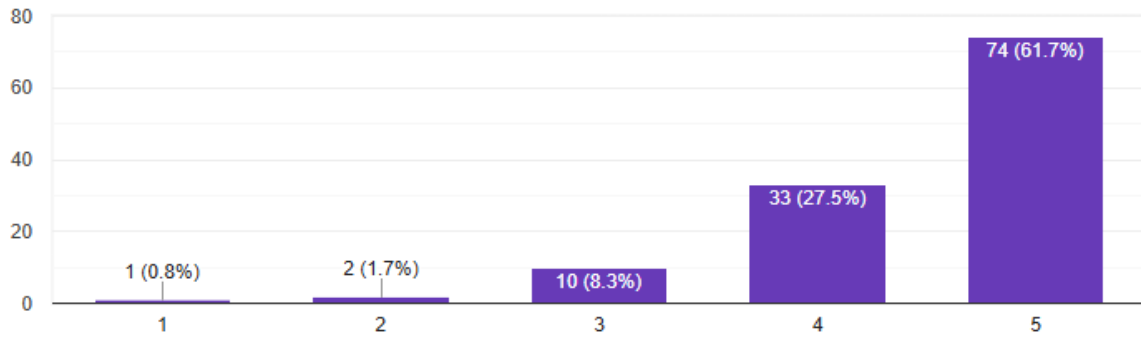


Fig.6: The use of 'Matrubhasha' will help improve the relationship between students and teachers.

61.7% of student teachers strongly agree, whereas 27.5% agree that the use of 'Matrubhasha' will help improve the relationship between students and teachers. Do you think that the use of 'Matrubhasha' will help students in preserving cultural heritage

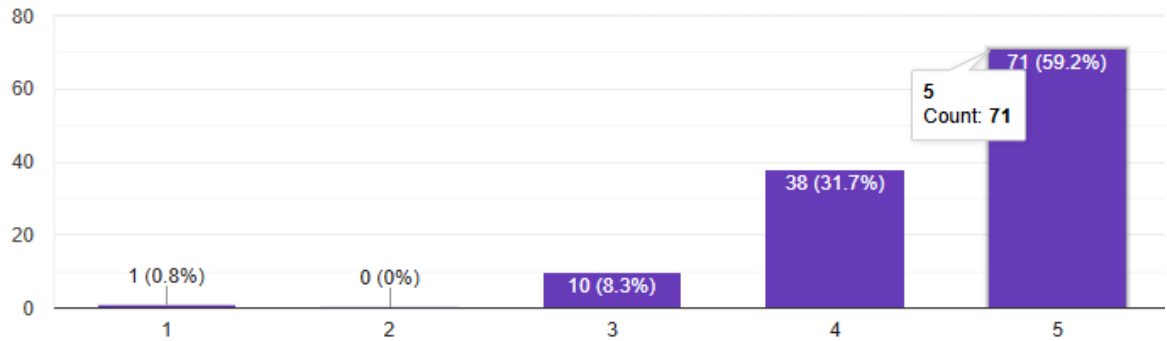


Fig.7: The use of 'Matrubhasha' will help students in preserving cultural heritage

59.2% of student teachers strongly agree, whereas 31.7% agree that the use of 'Matrubhasha' will help students in preserving cultural heritage.

The student teacher has given the opinion for the above statement that learning in their mother tongue allows students to understand and appreciate cultural stories, traditions, and values and it will help to get a better sense of their cultural background, It helps the student to connect to their root, using 'Matrubhasha' preserves cultural heritage by connecting students to their roots, fostering their interest towards their culture, and maintaining traditions. Mother tongue will help the students to pr different festivals, and the folk songs are sung in the mother tongue, for eg, Shigmoutsav songs are sung in Konkani or Marathi...then also the songs that are sung for haldi are in Konkani or Marathi language, which will preserve the cultural heritage.

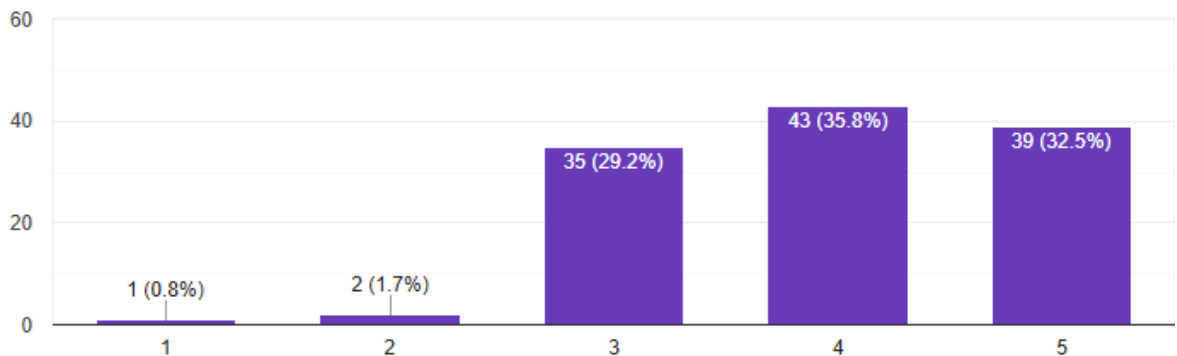


Fig.8: The use of 'Matrubhasha' in education has a vital role in enhancing GER (Gross Enrollment Ratio) ratios

32.5% of student teachers strongly agree, whereas 35.8% agree, and 29.2% somewhat agree that the use of 'Matrubhasha' in education has a vital role in enhancing GER (Gross Enrollment Ratio) ratios.

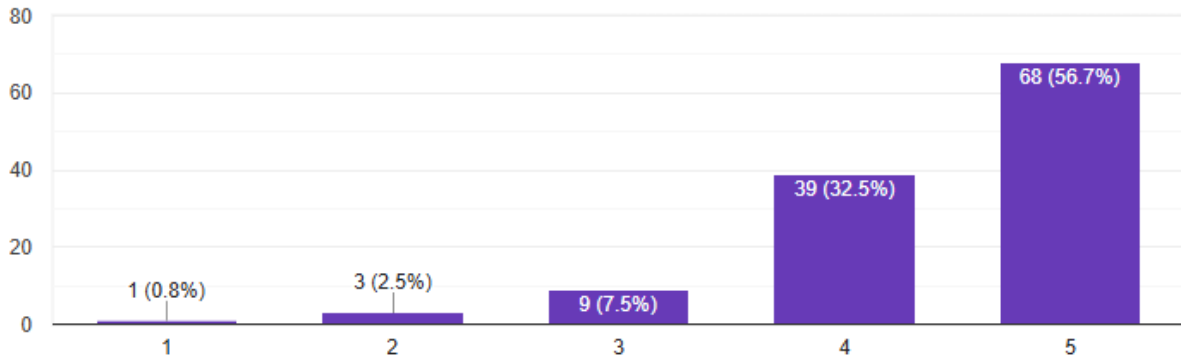


Fig.9: The use of 'Matrubhasha' will create an interest among the students.

56.7% of student teachers strongly agree, whereas 32.5% agree that the use of 'Matrubhasha' will create an interest among the students.

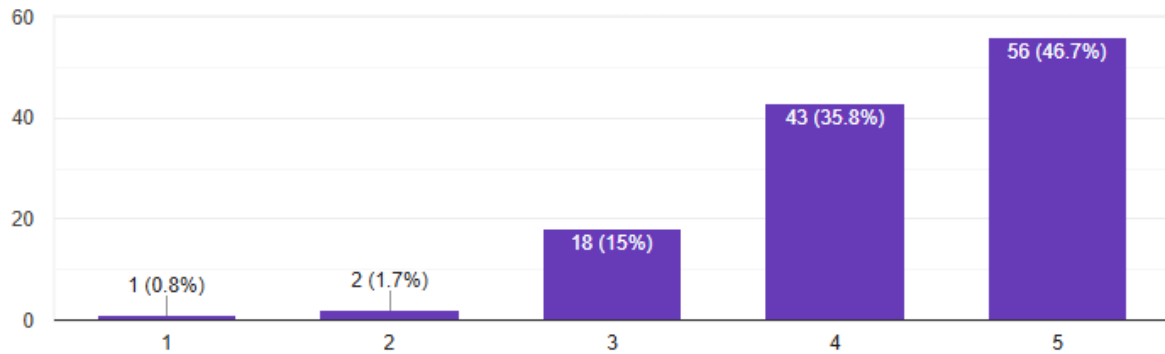


Fig.10: Preserving and promoting linguistic diversity

46.7% of student teachers strongly agree, whereas 35.8% think 'Matrubhasha' can contribute to preserving and promoting linguistic diversity. Student teachers have given the opinion for the above statement that the use of regional language and the use of state language help to preserve and promote linguistic diversity. Mother tongues are closely tied to cultural identity and heritage and so by promoting the use and education of one's mother tongue, we can help preserve unique customs, traditions, stories, and knowledge passed down through generations.

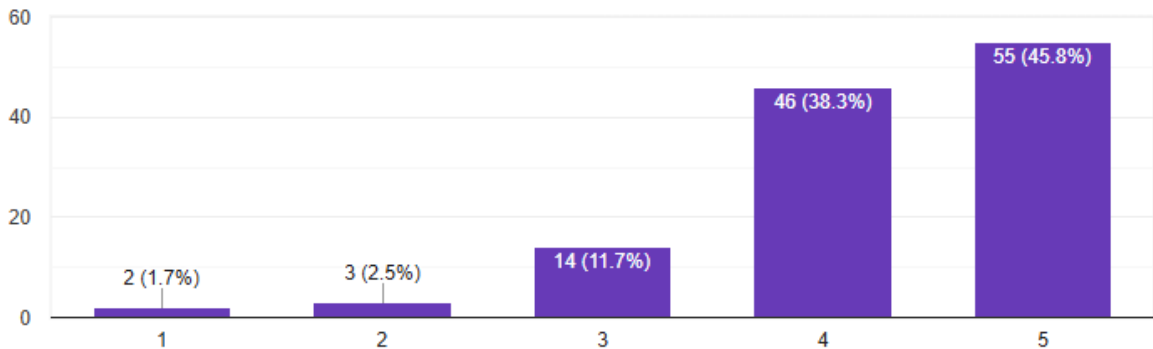


Fig.11: the implementation of 'Matrubhasha' support is effective in teaching.

45.8% of student teachers strongly agree, whereas 38.3% agree that the implementation of 'Matrubhasha' support is effective in teaching.

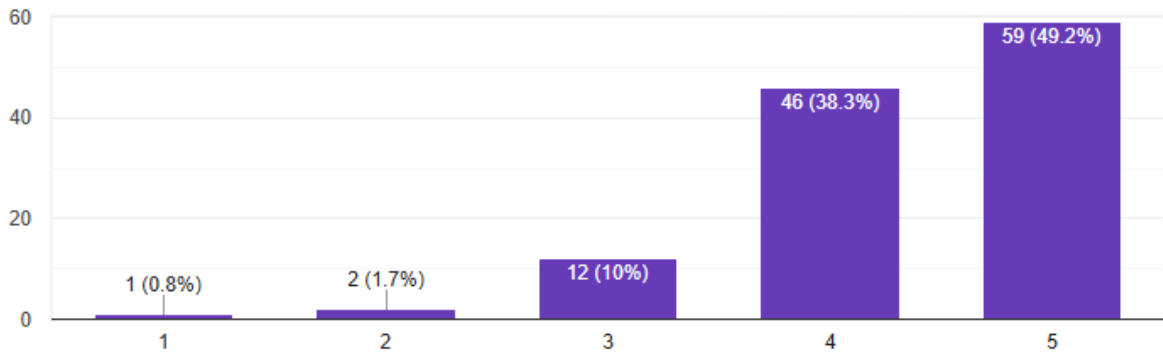


Fig.12: the use of 'Matrubhasha' in the teaching-learning process

49.2% of student teachers strongly agree whereas 38.3% agree with the statement that the use of 'Matrubhasha' in the teaching-learning process will help in releasing the stress and burden of students.

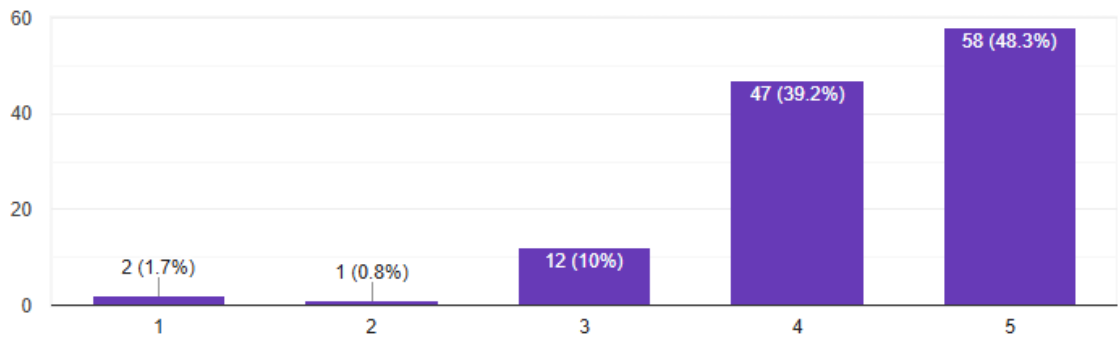


Fig.13: the use of 'Matrubhasha' will result in effective learning and enhanced academic performance.

48.3% of student teachers strongly agree whereas 39.2% agree with the statement that the use of 'Matrubhasha' will result in effective learning and enhanced academic performance.

7. CONCLUSION

The findings indicate that the use of the Mother language can do magics in the teaching-learning process, one who is not interested in the process because of language issues can easily create interest in the subject. These small steps and the use of the mother language have the power to change the scenario of the Gross enrolment ratio, as the above among the students.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

None.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

None.

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