EDUCATION AS A DILEMMA IN THE PHILIPPINES

by:
Marc Ernest A. Javier
Teacher III, Jose C. Payumo Jr. Memorial High School

There is a huge problem in education in the Philippines. According to the latest released report of World Bank together with Unicef, FCDO, USAid, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 90.9 percent of Filipino children aged 10 appear to be in a situation of learning poverty, while 90.4 percent are classified as suffering from learning deprivation. Additionally, 5 percent of Filipino children at that age are still unschooled. There is also a report that 9 out of 10 Filipino children aged 10 are still struggling to read even the simple texts.

Our country is one of the countries here in Asia with the highest rate of learning poverty. It means that many of the children here in the Philippines cannot read and understand even simple text that are appropriate to their ages. It is very worrisome because many children are deprived of learning.

The pandemic that caused schools to shutdown for more than two years has worsen the situation. The Department of Education together with the educators and parent should not keep their eyes closed with this problem.

Children's ability to read is necessary for them to learn their subjects but if they cannot read it hinders them and takes away further opportunity for them to learn and progress.

The education of the country is not a small thing. It is very important for the whole country. The state of our education speaks volume to how our country will grow and

progress. If learning poverty and education crisis continue in our country, what then will be the future of the Philippines.

References:

https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/972851624613012971/philippines-learning-poverty-brief-2021

https://interaksyon.philstar.com/politics-issues/2022/08/08/224499/crisis-in-education-pinoys-fret-over-philippines-high-learning-poverty-rate/amp/