

IMPORTANCE OF SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN

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SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN :

According to article 45 of constitution, all children between 6-14 years of age should be given compulsory education. By stressing on this fact, the government started the scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. This scheme is different from the other policies of education. Through of this scheme, quality improvement will be made in the basic education in the whole country. This scheme provides special facility to children to develop their abilities, qualities and interests. This scheme is developing so that constitutional responsibilities may be fulfilled by seeking the help of community.

This is a time-bound programme according to which, by the year 2010, all the people of this country will be provided elementary education. By this the people are promised to give justice on economic and social field and local bodies, school committee, on urban and rural level etc. are given importance due to their contribution. To make Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan successful it is necessary to provide economic help. Thus, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is a time bound programme which arranges free and compulsory education to all children between age group 6-14 years.

Time Bound Programme

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is a time-bound programme. According to this by the year 2010, the children of this country by the age group of eight years will be provided education.

Universalisation of Elementary of Education :

This programme is a great determination for universalisation of elementary education.

Quality Education :

At the very demand of education, quality education will be provided in the whole country, so that the mental level of children could be raised.

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Effective Involvement of Local Bodies :

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan engages the local bodies, effective involvement. This gives importance to units of Panchayati Raj Institutions, rural and urban level committees, school committees, parents-teacher institutions and other local level committees.

Centre and State's Co-operation :

Under the supervision of centre, state and local level government the feelings of co-operation should be established so that this programme could meet its targets soon.

Social Justice :

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is determined at social level so that people are given social justice without any bias on caste, creed and religion and any other distinction.

National Unity :

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is an effort to establish national integration.

Development of Stat's Own vision :

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan gives rights to all stages so that they could develop education.

SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN AND QUALITATIVE REFORMS:

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan scheme was applied in 2001 under this scheme quality improvement was made in middle education. There is detailed description of improvement as follows:-

1. Research/Evaluation/ Supervision:

To bring about qualitative improvement the middle level, Research/Evaluation/Supervision has been made effective. The ways, by which this qualitative improvement is to be brought, are also decided. Besides this, the monitoring of grants make sure whether, they are being used for the desired purpose or not. The research work is also encouraged it bring about improvement for this purpose, the grants are issued at Block level and cluster level under SSA.

2. Education for different groups:

Under this scheme, special schools for different groups, such as SC/ST (and particularly girls of those groups), have been established so that the children belonging to these groups may easily reach, the school and get middle education.

3. Computer Education:

Realizing the importance of technical education , special provisions have been made for computer or education for children of middle level. In present time, free computers are provided to schools under ICI project so that the future generation may learn the use of

computers. The government has also planned to bring computer education at primary level also which will surely be a positive step.

4. Education for out of school children:

To bring about qualitative improvement at the middle level. Special schools, alternative schools and alternative and innovative education is being provided for out of school children under SSA.

5. Establishment of New Schools:

Under SSA, there is a provision for establishing new schools to raise the quality of education at the middle level. The scheme ensures establishment of education guarantee scheme (EGS) centre in those areas where establishment of schools is not possible. Besides this, opening of schools in backward area has also been ensured.

6. Training of Community Leaders:

SSA scheme nurtures the communal brotherhood, under the scheme, Rural Education Development Committee have been formed which are responsible to raise, the qualitative level of education. The scheme makes provisions for their training also. From every village at least 8 persons will be given training for two days; the women will be given preference.

SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN AND QUANTITATIVE REFORMS:

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan strengthens not only the qualitative level of middle education but also tries to improve quantitative side. Under the scheme following measures have been taken to raise the quantitative level.

1. Classrooms:

With the move of providing basic facilities to the middle schools, arrangements have been made for providing class rooms. According to the guidelines of NPE 1986, SSA also lays down the condition of providing a separate room for every class and an office for the head of the school at middle level. The scheme has been implemented throughout the country due to which, the schools of middle status got the rooms as per their requirement.

2. Facilities for children's:

Under the scheme provisions for classrooms and toilets have been made. The scheme gives a grant of Rs. 1,70,000/- for rooms and Rs. 35000/- for water and toilet arrangements. The effort has helped to retain the number of students enrolled in the schools.

3. Block and Cluster Resource Centre:

To strengthen the quantitative side, resource centres have been established at Block and Cluster level. For the supervision of work at Block level, Block Resource Persons and at the

cluster level, cluster resource persons have been appointed. The report of the entire work is sent to higher authorities through these persons only.

MAJOR CENTRAL INTERVENTIONS AND THEIR INTEGRATION WITH SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN

1. Operation Blackboard:

Under NPE 1986, a scheme named 'Operation Blackboard' was started to fulfill the basic needs of elementary schools. Though this scheme was limited to basic needs, but under SSA, the present structure has been expanded. Under SSA, it has been made sure that when SSA scheme is into action, no new appointment of teachers will be there under operation Blackboard. The teachers appointed under operation Blackboard till date will be paid as per the 9th five year Plan. Besides this, the basic needs of the schools will be fulfilled through SSA.

2. Strengthening the teacher education:

Under SSA, teacher education will be strengthened and it will include new appointments of teachers also. After the completion of 9th five year plan, the whole teacher education programme will be under SSA. The DIET's at the district level will be given proper guidance. Apart from this, SCERT's at state level will be inspired to give proper attention to teacher education.

3. Education Guarantee Scheme and other Type of Education:

Realizing the rigidity of non-formal education, government has tried to make it flexible and to implement it in different states. Targeting the universalization of elementary education, 'Education Guarantee School', 'Balika Shiksha Shivir; have been established under E.G.S and other schemes through SSA.

4. Mahila Samakhya:

It has been proved that under '*Mahila Samakhya Programme*' great progress has been achieved in the field of women education. Keeping women education in mind, great emphasis has been put on the middle education of girls. All such efforts, to strengthen women education, are being made under SSA.

5. Mid-day Meal:

To make sure all the students who have been enrolled definitely attend the school, Mid-day meal scheme has been started. The scheme will fulfil two purposes. One of the surely that students will attend the school and second that the students get nutritious food.

6. Janshala Programme:

'Janshala Programme' has been started with the joint efforts of UNO agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNESO, ILO, UNFPA) and government of India. This programme has played a vital role in the universalization of elementary education. 'Janshala' is a group based primary education programme which aims at strengthening middle education and making it more effective. Emphasis has been laid on the education of weaker section girls/SC/ST and SC. This 'Janshala Programme' will also work under SSA at the district level.

Education is an essential human virtue. Man becomes 'man' through education. He is what education makes him. It has been rightly said that without education, man is a splendid slave, reasoning savage.

Education teaches what man lives and struggles for. It cultivates an integrated life. By so doing, it gives significance of life.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan proves significant step towards achieving the long cherished goal of universalization of elementary education through a time-bound integrated approach, in partnership with States. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is an effort to improve the performance of the school system and provide community owned quality elementary education in the mission mode. It also envisages bridging of gender and social disparities of elementary level of education.

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