

## An Analytical Study of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

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As an intervention programme, SSA has been operational since 2000-2001.<sup>1</sup> However, its roots go back to 1993-1, 1994 when the District Primary Education programme (DPEP) was launched, with the aim of achieving the objective of universal primary education.<sup>2</sup> DPEP, over several phases, covered 272 districts in 18 states of the country.<sup>3</sup> The expenditure on the programme was shared by the Central Government (85%) and the State Governments. The Central share was funded by a number of external agencies, including the World Bank, DFID and UNICEF.<sup>4</sup> By 2001, more than US\$1500 million had been committed to the programme, and 50 million children covered in its ambit. In an impact assessment of Phase I of DPEP, the author concluded that its net impact on minority children was impressive, while there was little evidence of any impact on the enrollment of girls. Nevertheless, they concluded that the investment in DPEP was not a waste, because it introduced a new approach to primary school interventions in India

### Key Words-

The Right to Education Act (RTE) came into force on 1 April 2010. Some educationists and policy makers believe that, with the passing of this act, SSA has acquired the necessary legal force for its implementations.<sup>5</sup>

Features Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a programme for Universal Elementary Education. This programme is also an attempt to provide an opportunity for improving human capabilities to all children through provision of community - owned quality education in a mission mode' It is a response to the demand for quality basic education all over the country.

### Main feature of SSA:

1. Programme with a clear time frame for universal elementary education.
2. A response to the demand for quality basic education all over the country.
3. An opportunity for promoting social justice through basic.
4. An expression of political will for universal elementary education across the country.
5. A partnership between the central state and the local government.
6. An opportunity for states to develop their own vision of elementary education.
7. An effort at effective involving the Panchyati Raj Institutions, school

management Committees, parent's Teachers Associations, Mother-Teacher Associations, Tribal Autonomous councils and other grassroots level structures in the management of elementary schools.

### Aims of SSA:

1. To provide useful and elementary education for all children in the 6-14 age group by 2010.
2. To bridge social regional and gender gaps with the active participation of community in the management of schools.
3. To allow children to learn about and master their natural environment in order to develop their potential both spiritually and materially.
4. To inculcate value-based learning this allows children an opportunity to work for each other's well being rather than to permit mere selfish pursuits.
5. To realize the importance of Early Childhood Care and education and looks at the 0-14 age as a continuum.

### Objective of SSA:

1. All children in school, Education Guarantee centre, Alternate school, 'Back-to-School' camp by 2003.

2. All children complete five years of primary schooling by 2007.
3. All children complete elementary schooling by 2010.
4. Focus on elementary education of satisfactory quality with emphasis on education for life.
5. Bridge all gender and social category gaps at primary stage by 2007 and at elementary education level by 2010.
6. Universal retention by 2010.

### **Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat**

Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat is a nationwide sub-programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.<sup>(6)(7)</sup> Children who fail to read in early education lag behind in other subjects. The programme is designed to improve comprehensive early reading, writing and early mathematics programme for children in Classes I and II. Under this programme, Rs. 762 crore was approved to States. The programme will not only provide print rich environment, timely distribution of books but will also include new teacher mentoring and appraisal systems.<sup>(8)</sup>

### **Present goals**

Its goals up to 2015 are to:

Open new schools in areas which do not have them to expand existing school infrastructures and maintenance.

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Address inadequate teacher numbers, and provide training a development for existing teachers.

Provide quality elementary education including life skills with a special focus on the education of girls and children with special needs as well as computer education.<sup>(9)</sup>

### **Padhe Bharat Badhe Bhqratt<sup>(10)</sup>**

Sub programme of sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan to improve quality of education. The programme is designed to improve comprehensive early reading, writing and early mathematics programme for children in Classes I and II. Under this programme, Rs. 762 crore was approved to states. Create base for reading/writing & math fluency. Teacher's responsibility mainly remains completion of curriculum, Yash Pal committee had earlier pointed out the school learning is joyless and meaningless.

Children who fail to read lag behind will include design development of teaching material and curriculum, building capacity, teacher mentoring and appraisal system providing print rich environment, timely distribution of books, facility to take book at home.

Teaching learning may be primarily done in mother tongue.