

Examining Public initiatives towards school education in Punjab

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Abstract

Education is a Panacea for all problems existed in any nation. It plays a key role in the socio-economic and political transformation of any nation. To create a robust economy, foundation of any nation should be built with the literate childhood. It is very essential that each and every child of any nation should be in schools at primary level. Unfortunately, inspite of all efforts made by Indian government, most of our students are still not enrolled in any school. A focused and strong relationship between Public and private sector is the need of hour to enable the students to enjoy their fundamental right to education given in Constitution of India via the 86th amendment. Getting all children in school needs commitment of educators, Public and private partners as well as families along with a pool of funds. Management, governance and co-ordination of education sector is the key to strong education system.

The aim of the present study is to examine the different Public initiatives through various government schemes and private initiatives through CSR in the state of Punjab with special reference to Maja, Malwa, Doaba region. The quantitative and qualitative aspects are touched through referring various government reports on education and CSR. The study attempts to manifest the impact of all these Public and private initiatives on education sector.

Keywords : Education, CSR, Primary, Govt. Initiatives, Schemes

Introduction:

India has the second largest educational system in the world after China wherein more than 1 million primary and secondary school cater to the educational needs of the Indian children. The Indian elementary education system can broadly be considered at Pre-primary level: 5-6 years of age. Primary (elementary) level: 6-14 years of age. Primary and Middle (lower primary (Standards I to V) and upper primary (Standards VI to VIII)) education is compulsory and free in India. Primary education begins at age 6 with Middle/Upper Primary school education ending at age 14. Primary education is guaranteed by our constitution under Article 21 A., in an educational conference in 1948 remarked that:

72.99% of India's Population is literate. Out of which 80.89% are males and 64.64% are females showing a gap of 16.25 percentage points between the sexes at the national level. (Census-2011)

Table 1.1 (Literacy rate trend in India 2011)

	Literate Population 2011	Literacy Rate 2011
TOTAL POPULATION	763,498,517	72.99%
Males	434,683,779	80.89%
Females	328,814,738	64.64%

Source: Census 2011, National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) & National Statistical Office (NSO) data

Education scenario in Punjab :

At grass-roots level, Punjab government is doing continuous effort for sending every student of the state to the school. Primary education is the most important aspect of education system. People who are living in cities and towns have better access to schools, colleges and better teachers whereas people living in rural areas are either deprived of such facilities or have to be contended with less effective ones. In India Punjab is on 28th position in ranking by literacy rate. Total literacy rate of Punjab is 76.7% comprising of 81.5% males and 71.3% females. (Census-2011)

State had adequate net work of educational institution. The number of elementary schools in Punjab has increased from 15610 in 2000 to 17742 in 2010 - an increase of 13.66 per cent. Primary schools in Punjab increased at an annual compound growth rate of 3.4 per cent during the period under review. Nearly 89.26 per cent schools are located in the rural areas but less than the rural geographical area of Punjab. The remaining one – tenth of the schools are in the urban areas. (Kainth-2016). In order to increase the literacy rate, Government has initiated various schemes at center level to enhance primary education which are:

- 1 .Mid Day Meal Scheme
2. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
3. Mahila Samakhya Programme
4. Strengthening for providing quality education in Madrasas (SPQEM)
5. Scheme for Infrastructure Development in Minority Institutes (IDMI)

Only two schemes i.e Mid day meal scheme and Sarav Shiksha Abhiyan are implemented in Punjab for primary education.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

For achieving the goal of universal primary education, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan- universal elementary education schemem was started in 2000-2001. For making the availability of quality education, this scheme is attempts to provide an opportunity for improving human capabilities to all children of the state. The programme lays emphasis on bridging all gender and social category gaps at elementary primary

Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat is a sub programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan launched in 2014 ny thr HRD Minister of India, Smriti Irani. This programme aims to improve the reading and writing skills of children in classes I and II, along with their mathematical skills. The main objective of this programme is to make children keen and self-sufficient readers and writers. It also make sure that schools across the country become better at providing quality education.

Mid Day Meal Scheme

The mid day meal scheme is a school meal programme of the government of India designed to improve the nutritional status of school age children nationwide. The programme supplies free lunches on working days for children in primary and upper primary classes in government, government aided schools. This scheme is a

flagship programme of the Government of India which is implemented in association with the state government. The main objective of this scheme is to provide hot cooked food to children of primary and upper primary classes. Every child is eligible for 100gms food grains at primary level and 150gms food grains at upper primary level on each working day. The cost of foodgrains is fully borne by the Government of India. The foodgrains provided must be of fair quality and average quality of A-grade. The overall responsibility of implementation of Mid Day Meal scheme lies with the State Government/UT administrations.

Aim of the Study

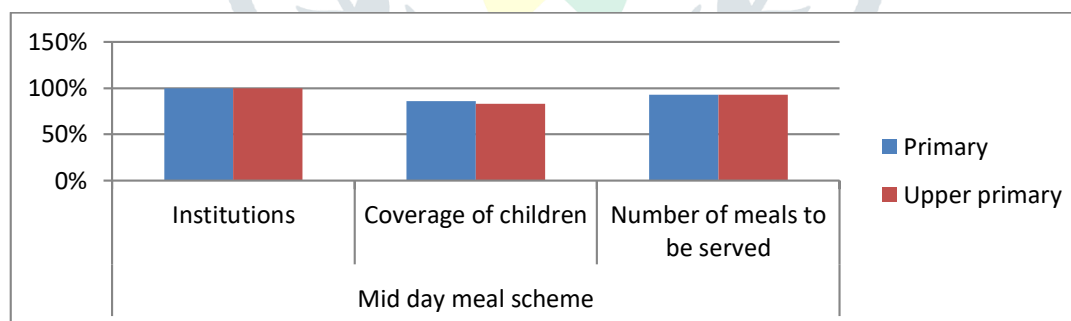
Aim of the study to find out the different government initiatives in the forms of implementation of various schemes towards education in Punjab. The scope of the study is state of Punjab. Special coverage to Doaba region, Maja region and Malwa region. Data is collected through various secondary reports published by the Government of India, research papers, magazines, newspapers and information available on the internet. Percentage method and comparative analysis method was used for data analysis.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS

4.1 Mid-Day Meal Scheme

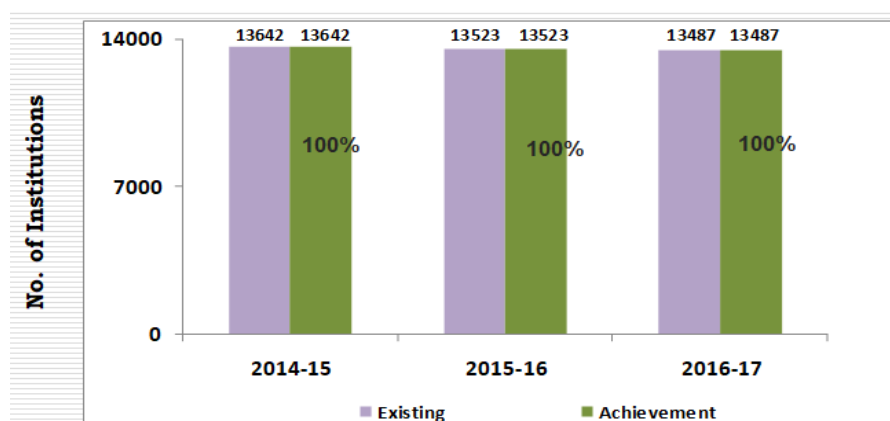
	Coverage of Institutions	Coverage of Children	No. of meals to be served
Primary	100%	86%	93%
Upper Primary	100%	83%	93%

Review of performance of Mid Day Meal Scheme Source: Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India



Interpretation : Performance review of Mid Day Meal scheme where primary and upper primary institutions are 100% covered, coverage of primary children is 86% and coverage of upper primary children is 83% and number of meals served is 93%.

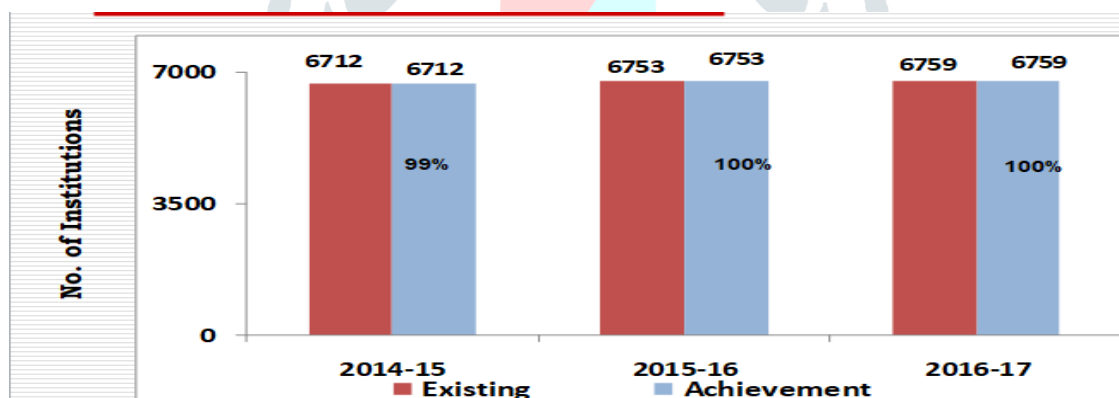
Performance review of coverage of primary institution



Source: Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India

Interpretation: Performance review of coverage of primary institution is 100% in every year i.e. in 2014-15, 2015-16 and in 2016-17.

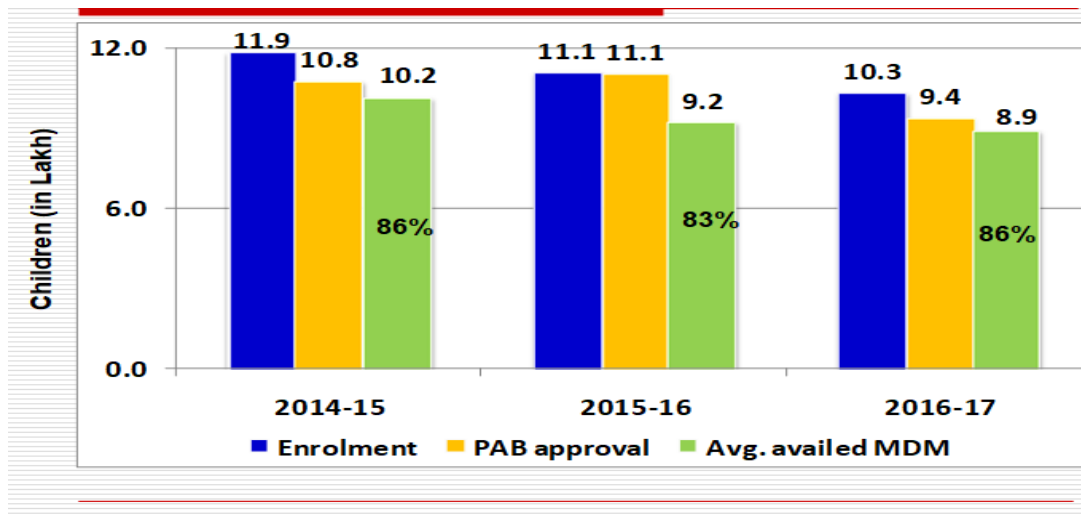
Figure 4.1.3: Performance review of coverage of upper primary institution



Source: Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India

Interpretation: Performance review of coverage of upper primary institutions was 99% in the year 2014-15, 100% in the years 2015-16 and 2016-17.

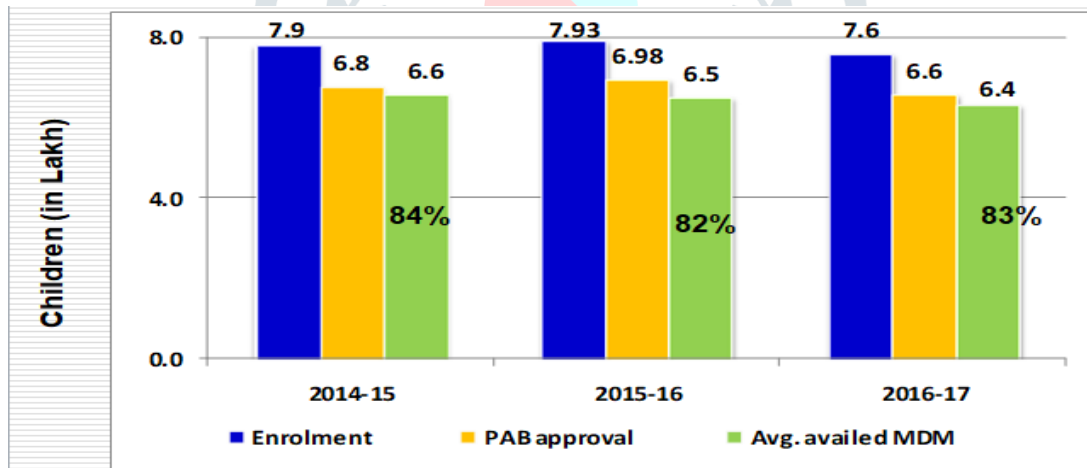
Performance review of coverage of children (Primary)



Source: Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India

Interpretation: Performance review of coverage of children (primary) was 86% in the year 2014-15, 83% in the year 2015-16 and 86% in the year 2016-17.

Performance review of coverage of children (upper Primary)

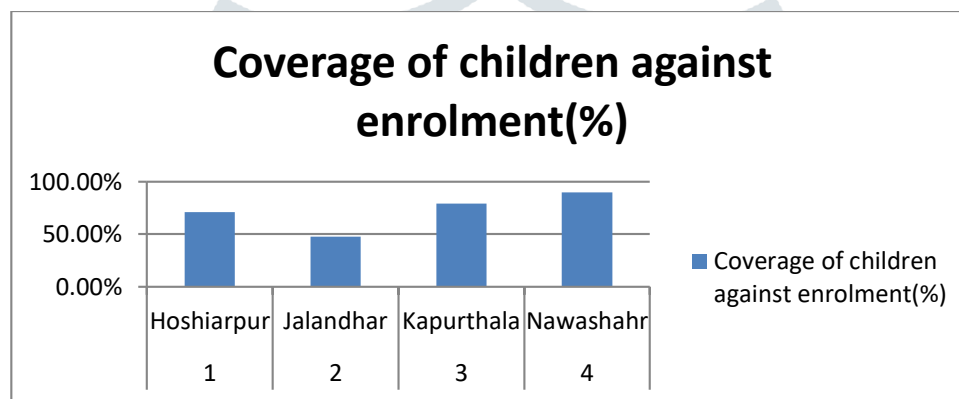


Source: Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India

Interpretation: Coverage of children (upper primary) is 84% in the year 2014-15, 82% in the year 2015-16 and 83% in the year 2016-17.

District wise meals served (Doaba region)

S.No	District	Total Schools	Reported Schools	%Reported Schools	Total Enrolment	Reported Schools Enrolment	Meals Served	Coverage of children against enrolment(%)
1	Hoshiarpur	1789	910	50.87%	111592	58929	41818	70.96%
2	Jalandhar	1483	779	52.53%	132122	74474	55356	47.33%
3	Kapurthala	812	149	18.35%	57455	14534	11477	78.97%
4	Nawashahr	654	440	67.28%	43523	27040	24222	89.58%

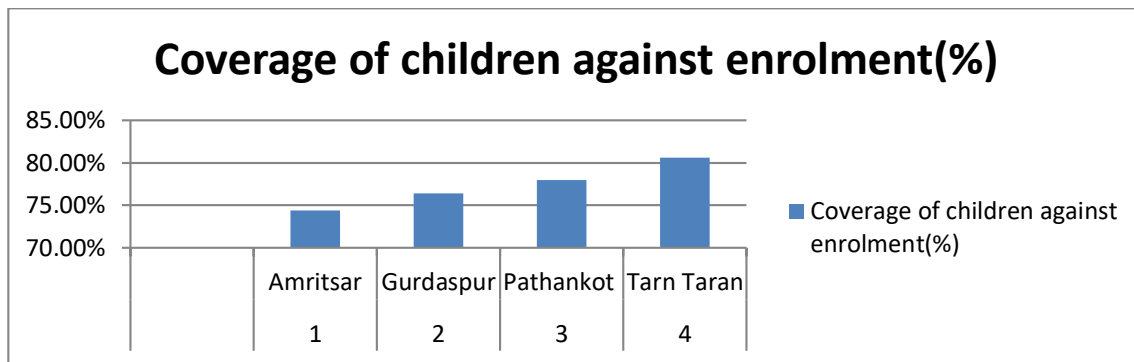
District wise meals served (Doaba Region)

Interpretation: Performance review of coverage of children against enrolment (%) is highest in the district Nawanshahr i.e 89.58% and lowest in the district of Jalandhar i.e. 47.33%

District wise meals served (Majha Region)

S.No	District	Total Schools	Reported Schools	%Reported Schools	Total Enrolment	Reported Schools Enrolment	Meals Served	Coverage of children against enrolment(%)
1	Amritsar	1365	242	17.73%	156438	36822	27365	74.40%
2	Gurdaspur	1585	606	38.23%	103860	40323	31021	76.39%
3	Pathankot	548	366	66.79	35277	23215	18098	77.96%
4	Tarn Taran	797	65	8.16%	89995	9310	7502	80.58%

District wise meals served (Majha Region)

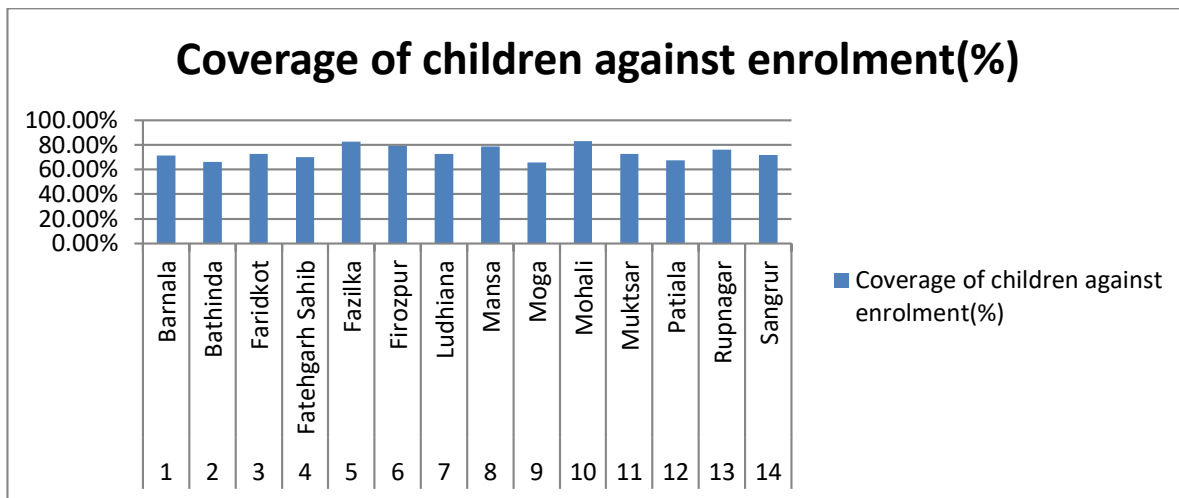


Interpretation: Performance review of coverage of children against enrolment (%) is highest in the district of Tarn Taran i.e. 80.58% and lowest in the state of Amritsar i.e. 74.40%.

District wise meals served (Malwa Region)

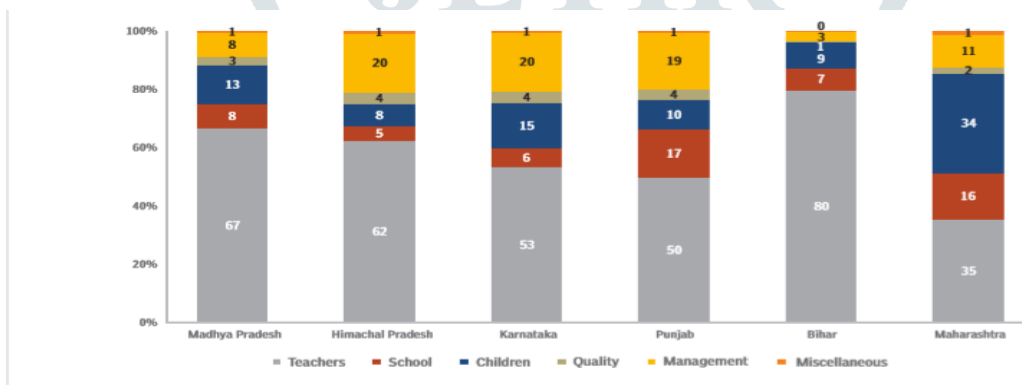
S.No	District	Total Schools	Reported Schools	%Reported Schools	Total Enrolment	Reported Schools Enrolment	Meals Served	Coverage of children against enrolment(%)
1	Barnala	305	178	58.36%	42270	22831	16328	71.52%
2	Bathinda	688	197	28.63%	101966	33129	21864	66.00%
3	Faridkot	414	69	16.67%	52178	12304	89581	72.75%
4	Fatehgarh Sahib	674	113	16.77%	40358	8477	5949	70.18%
5	Fazilka	712	234	32.87%	90950	34083	28228	82.82%
6	Firozpur	859	118	13.74%	79174	15712	12415	79.02%
7	Ludhiana	1627	234	14.38%	187857	37069	26983	72.79%
8	Mansa	499	212	42.48%	67626	30467	23934	78.56%
9	Moga	619	160	25.85%	82367	23327	15384	65.95%
10	Mohali	667	105	15.74%	58608	10285	8549	83.12%
11	Muktsar	563	322	57.19%	73436	42969	31162	72.52%
12	Patiala	1362	391	28.71%	128161	46122	31152	67.54%
13	Rupnagar	856	179	20.91%	49166	13381	10175	76.04%
14	Sangrur	1054	312	29.60%	114757	3801	27295	71.80%

Figure 4.1.8: District wise meals served (Malwa Region)



Interpretation: Performance review coverage of children against enrolment(%) is highest in the district Mohali i.e. 83.12% and lowest in the district of Moga i.e. 65.95%.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

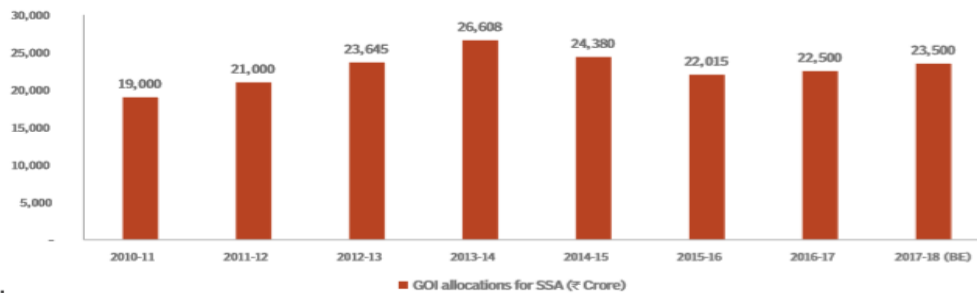


SSA funds allocation

Source: States' Annual Work Plan & Budgets (AWP&Bs) for 2016-17 and PAB Minutes from individual states' education department websites.

Interpretation: Figure 4.2.4 depicts that the highest funds allocated to the teachers is in the state of Bihar i.e. 80%, 7% to school, 9% to children, 1% to quality, 3% to management and 0% funds to miscellaneous and the lowest funds allocated to the teachers is in the state of Maharashtra i.e.35%, 16% to school, 34% to children, 2% to quality, 11% to management and 1% to miscellaneous. And Punjab has allocated 50% of funds to teachers, 17% to school, 10% to children, 4% to quality, 19% to management and 1% to miscellaneous.

Allocation of funds for SSA



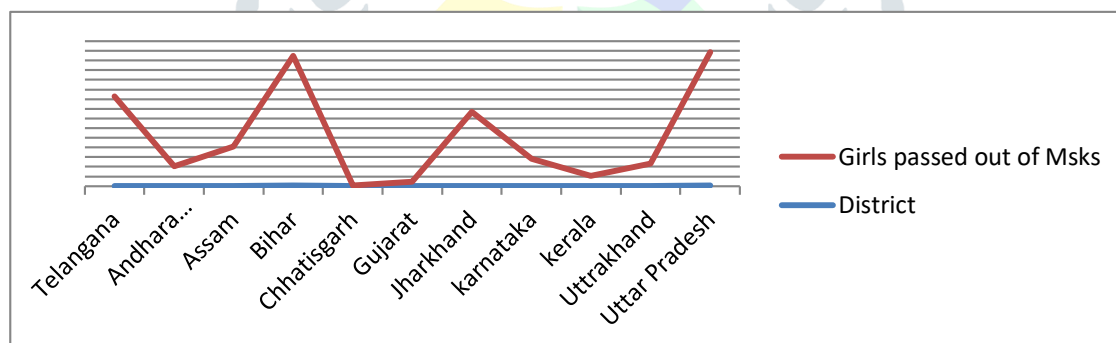
Source: Union Expenditure Budget, Vol. 2, 2010-11 to 2017-18.

Interpretation: Highest funds allocated to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was in the year 2013-14 i.e Rs. 26,608cr. In the year 2016-17, the total funds allocated to the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was Rs. 22,500cr and the total funds allocated to the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in the year 2017-18 has increased by Rs. 1000cr i.e. 23,500.

4.3 Mahila Samakhya Programme

Performance of Mahila Samakhya Programme

	Telangana	Andhara Pradesh	Assam	Bihar	Chhati sgarh	Gujarat	Jharkhand	karnataka	kerala	Uttrakhand	Uttar Pradesh
District	8	7	12	21	6	12	11	18	8	8	19
Girls passed	4643	1030	2045	6722	25	207	3838	1405	508	1166	6918



Performance of Mahila Samakhya Programme Interpretation:

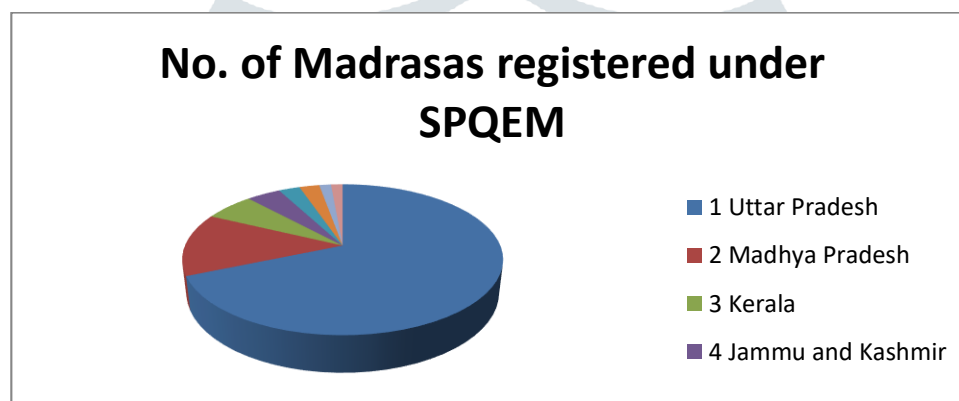
Performance of Mahila Samakhya Programme in the states of Telangana, Andhara Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Uttrakhand, Uttar Pradesh. The highest number of girls passed out of Mahila Samakhya Schools is in the State of Uttar Pradesh i.e. 6918 and the lowest number of girls passed out of Mahila Samakhya Schools is in the state of Chhatisgarh i.e. 25. This programme is not being implemented in Punjab.

Strengthening for Providing Quality Education in Madrasas

Evaluation of states under SPQEM

S.No.	State	No. of madrasas registered under SPQEM
1	Uttar Pradesh	6259
2	Madhya Pradesh	1232
3	Kerala	547
4	Jammu and Kashmir	372
5	Chhatisgarh	233
6	Rajasthan	220
7	Tripura	129
8	Karnataka	128

Evaluation of states under SPQEM



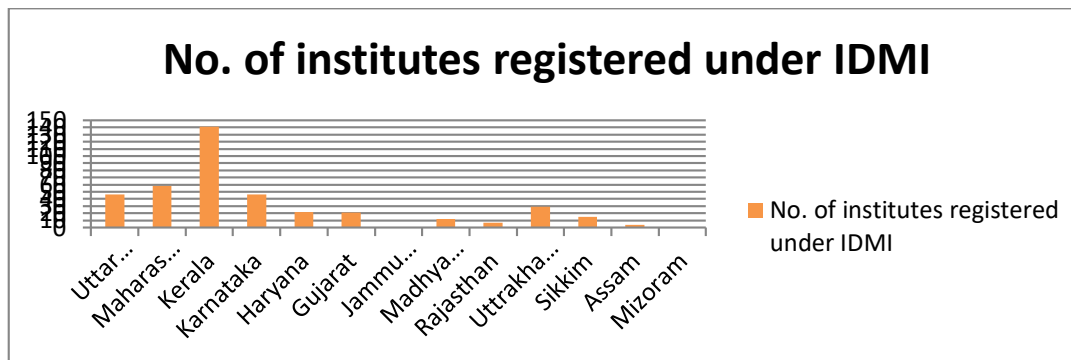
Interpretation: Evaluation of states under Strengthening for Providing Quality Education in Madrasas. This scheme is best working in Uttar Pradesh as number of madrasas registered under the scheme are 6259 whereas only 128 madrasas have been registered under this scheme in the state of Karnataka. This scheme is not being implemented in Punjab.

Scheme for Infrastructure Development in Minority Institutes (IDMI)

No. of institutes registered under IDMI

S.No	State	No. of institutes registered under IDMI
1	Uttar Pradesh	46
2	Maharashtra	58
3	Kerala	141
4	Karnataka	46
5	Haryana	22
6	Gujarat	21
7	Jammu and Kashmir	1
8	Madhya Pradesh	12
9	Rajasthan	7
10	Uttarakhand	29
11	Sikkim	15
12	Assam	4
13	Mizoram	1

No. of institutes registered under IDMI



Interpretation: Total number of institutes registered under the Scheme for Infrastructure Development in Minority Institutes (IDMI). The highest number of institutes registered under this scheme is in the state of Kerala i.e. 141 whereas lowest number of institutes registered under this scheme is in the state of Jammu and Kashmir and Mizoram i.e. 1. This scheme is not implemented in the state of Punjab.

5.1 Findings/ Suggestions

Mid Day Meal Scheme:

Mid Day Meal scheme depicts that the coverage of institutions (primary and upper primary) are 100% i.e. all the eligible institutions in the state have been covered under Mid Day Meal Scheme, coverage of children (primary) is 86% and coverage of children (upper primary) is 83% and the number of meals that were served (primary and upper primary) were 93%.

According to District wise, the Mid Day Meal Scheme that was served in **Doaba** region:

- **Jalandhar - Coverage of children against enrolment – 47.33%**

According to District wise, the Mid Day Meal Scheme that was served in **Majha** region:

- **Amritsar - Coverage of children against enrolment – 74.40%**

According to District wise, the Mid Day Meal Scheme that was served **Malwa** region:

- **Ludhiana - Coverage of children against enrolment - 72.79%**

Linkage of this scheme with the Direct Transfer in proportion to the attendance- It must be clearly told to the guardians that their ward would be entitled to obtain scholarship, dress and mid day meal if their attendance is up to 80%.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan:

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme depicts that the highest funds allocated to the teachers is in the state of Bihar i.e. 80%, highest funds allocated to school is in the state of Punjab i.e. 17%, highest funds allocated to children is in the state of Maharashtra i.e. 34%, highest funds allocated to quality is in the states of Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Punjab i.e. 4%, highest funds allocated to management is in the states of Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka i.e. 20% and highest funds allocated to miscellaneous expenses is in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab and Maharashtra i.e. 1%.

Mahila Samakhya Programme:

The highest number of girls passed out of Mahila Samakhya schools is in the state of Uttar Pradesh i.e. 6918 and the lowest number of girls passed out of Mahila Samakhya schools is in the state of Chhatisgarh i.e. 25. This scheme is well working in other states as many numbers of girls have passed out of Mahila Samakhya Schools but this scheme is not being implemented in Punjab, so this scheme should be implemented in Punjab so that girls of Punjab can take advantage of this scheme and enhance their skills.

Strengthening for Providing Quality Education in Madrasas:

This scheme is best working in Uttar Pradesh as 6259 madrasas have been registered whereas only 128 madrasas have been registered in Karnataka. This scheme is not being implemented in Punjab. there is only 2% of Muslim population. But this scheme should be implemented in Punjab so as to provide quality education to that 2% of population

Scheme for Infrastructure Development in Minority Institutes:

The highest number of institutes registered under the scheme is in the state of Kerala i.e. 141 institutes whereas the lowest number of institutes registered under the scheme is in the state of Jammu and Kashmir and Mizoram i.e. 1 institute. This scheme is not being implemented in Punjab. There are so many minority institutes in Punjab, inspite of that this scheme is not implemented in Punjab. This scheme should be implemented in Punjab so that minority class can avail the benefits under this scheme.

Conclusion

India is a progressing country and the present scenario of Indian education has improved a lot from the past. To make the education system viable i.e. to ensure completion, to stop the trend of dropping out, to ensure the quality education and teaching, a lot of measures are needed. Punjab government has made great efforts in expanding access to education by opening new schools at all levels. Government has provided some schemes for providing free primary education to all children between the age group of 6-14. But many people are still illiterate in Punjab. If more people are educated, there would be more skilled labour and productivity of skilled labour is higher than unskilled labour. Government has initiated a series of programmes such as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid Day Meal Scheme and so on to promote the elementary education by increasing enrolment and decreasing dropout rate.

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