

CLASS: B.Ed. I

PAPER NAME: Sociological Perspective of Education

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By : Ms. Anupama Yadav

Assistant Professor Department of Education

CSJMU Kanpur.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

It is a flagship programme of the government of India, that was started in 2001, to achieve the Universalisation of Elementary Education (UEE). The legal backing to SSA was provided when free and compulsory education for the children in the age group of 6-14 was made a fundamental right in the Indian Constitution under Article 21 A. SSA aims to meet the expectations of this fundamental right in a time-bound manner.

Important facts about SSA

- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Year of Launch 2001
- Government Ministry Ministry of Human Resources and Development (MHRD)
- Official Website <https://mhrd.gov.in/ssa>

A few important facts about SSA are mentioned in the list below:

- SSA is termed as an 'Education for All' movement
- The pioneer of the SSA programme was Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Indian Former Prime Minister.
- The Central Government in partnership with State Governments is implementing this initiative.
- The initial aim of SSA was to meet its objectives by 2010, however, the timeline has been extended.
- SSA aims to provide educational infrastructure to around 193 million children in 1.1 million habitations.
- 86th Amendment Act to the Indian Constitution provided legal backing to SSA when it made education free and compulsory for children in the age group of 6-14.
- New Education Policy 2020 aims to bring about two crores out of school children into the mainstream.
- In the National Education Policy of 2019, it was mentioned that an estimated 6.2 crore children of school age (between 6 and 18 years) were out of school in 2015.

- Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat is a sub-programme of SSA.

There is a government portal under the name 'Shagun' that has been launched to monitor the SSA programme. The World Bank in association with the Ministry of HRD developed it.

.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. A 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, village and urban slum level Education 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.

Objectives 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 of elementary schooling by 2010.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has two aspects:

1. It provides a wide convergent frame work for implementation of Elementary Education schemes.
2. It is also a programme with budget provision for strengthening vital areas to achieve universalisation of elementary education.

Characteristics of SSA

- It is a program with a clear time frame for universal elementary education.
- It is a response to the demand for quality basic education all over the country.
- It is an expression of political will for universal elementary education across the country.
- It was a partnership between central, state and local governments.
- It was an opportunity for states to develop their vision for elementary education.
- It was a result-oriented approach with accountability towards performance and output at all levels.
- It was an approach that focuses on the need for educationally backward areas. It also looks into the needs of disadvantaged social groups including children with special needs.

Components of SSA

All those schemes were included under SSA which were related to upliftment and promotion of primary education in India. Some of them are

1. Education Guarantee scheme:

This scheme guarantee schooling in areas with very low population density. Education is guaranteed to schools with students as less as 25 in numbers.

2. Operation blackboard:

This operation is related to infrastructure improvement of primary and upper primary schools. Until 2014 – 15 about 90% primary and 80% upper primary schools have benefited from this.

3. Mid-day meal scheme

This was started in 1995 and was linked with SSA. Center and state spend in 75:25 ratio in this scheme

4. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya

Started in 2004 July linked to SSA in 2007 There is a separate budget for this scheme to open schools for girls living in underprivileged and marginalized conditions.

5. District primary education program

This program was started in 1994 for educationally backward districts.

SSA Initiatives

Below mentions the initiatives are taken up under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan :

- Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat Aim – To improve the reading and writing skills of Class I and Class II children, and their mathematics skills.

It has a twin-track approach:

Early Reading and Writing with Comprehension – To improve language development with the help of reading and writing through comprehensions

Early Mathematics – To create interests in Maths in relation to the physical and social world

- Shagun Portal To monitor the progress of SSA, it was launched in 2017.
- Shaala – Siddhi School Standard Evaluation Programme (Shaala – Siddhi) is an initiative which aids to achieve the goals of SSA.
- Swachh Vidyalaya National Campaign – Clean India: Clean Schools

Reference Links:

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