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Elementary Education in Maharashtra

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1. Introduction : Education is one of the most important social infrastructural facilities for the development of human resources and essential for promoting the economic growth of the country. It is important in the sense that it is crucial input for empowering people with skills and knowledge and giving access to productive employment in future. Accessibility of educational facility is not only expected to enhance efficiency but also improve the overall quality of life of human being. Equitable and inclusive education is sustainable development goals for education.

The provision of universal primary education is an effective anti-poverty measures that promote equity. People are poor because they lack skill entrepreneurship. Article 45 of the constitution stipulates that the state shall endeavor to provide free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of 14 years within a period of ten years from the commencement of the constitution. However the task of providing basic education to all, with concrete plans of action gained greater momentum only after the national policy of education in 1986, revised in 1992 with the world declaration on education for all adopted in Jometin in 1990. Basic education, child care education, the elementary education, education to adolescents, adult education, gender equality and quality improvement have been the focus of international attention. These international developments within the country brought the need for recognizing basic education as fundamental right of every citizen on priority basis. The 86th Constitutional Amendment of 2002 led to inclusion of a new article 21-A in part III of the Indian constitution that made free and compulsory education to all children of 6 to 14 years of age. It is imperative to give good quality of elementary education to all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years. Policies and program in this direction are also necessary for achieving the goal of education under the Millennium Development Goals as well as need commitment under the National Common Minimum Programme for increasing public expenditure on education to 6 percent at the national level.

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was launched toward the end of the Ninth Plan to achieve the goal of universalization of elementary education through guided by five parameters such as i) Universal Access ii) Universal Enrolment iii) Universal Retention iv) Universal Achievement and v) Equity. The aim of the programme was to provide elementary education to all children's in the 6 to 14 age group. It

has a special focus on the educational needs of girls belongs to SCs/STs and other children in difficult circumstances.

2. Research Methodology:

2.1 Objectives of the Research paper : The research paper based on following objectives, because of objectives are gives exact direction to the research work.

i. To study expenditure on elementary education by the government of Maharashtra.

ii. To study progress of elementary schools in Maharashtra.

iii. To study enrollment status at elementary level of education in Maharashtra.

iv. To take review of schemes for encouraging elementary education.

v. To study basic facilities created for development of elementary education.

2.2 Data Base : Secondary data was used for the research paper and the data was collected from government reports and various government websites.

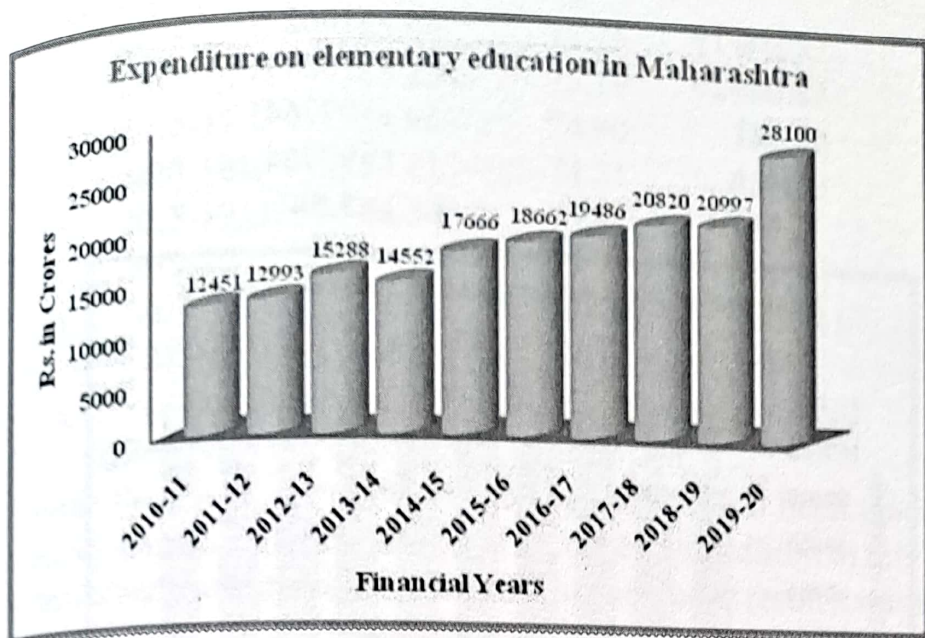
2.3 Data Processing : For getting actual results collected data was processed using appropriate statistical techniques like Percentage, Mean and Compound Annual Growth Rate. As well as bar diagram graphical technique was used for making simplicity in data analysis.

2.4 Period of the Study : The present study based on secondary data and these secondary data collected from the period of 2010-11 to 2019-20. Due to COVID 19 pandemic government has announced lockdown in India. In the economic year 2020-21 and 2021-22 most of the schools and colleges were closed as well as teachers were completed whole syllabus on online mode. Some data of related to research paper in the period of lockdown is not available. Hence, researcher hasn't considered data of economic year 2020-21 and 2021-22 related to the research paper.

3. Expenditure on Elementary Education in Maharashtra:

Table No. 1, Expenditure on elementary education in Maharashtra

Financial Year	(Rs. in Crores) Expenditure
2010-11	12451
2011-12	12993
2012-13	15288
2013-14	14552
2014-15	17666
2015-16	18662
2016-17	19486
2017-18	20820
2018-19	20997
2019-20	28100
Total	181015
Mean	18101.5
CAGR	8.30



Source: Economic Survey of Maharashtra for various years

Keeping in a view the importance of education central and state government has been spending for the development of education facilities in the country and state. Table 1 shows that expenditure on the elementary education was Rs. 12451 crores in 2010-11 which was increased to Rs. 12993 crores in 2011-12, further increased to Rs. 15288 crores in 2012-13, Rs. 17666 crores in 2014-15, Rs. 19846 crores in 2016-17, Rs. 20820 crores in 2017-18, Rs. 20997 crores in 2018-19 and Rs. 28100 crores in 2019-20. This temporal data with respect to expenditure on education has been continuously increasing in view to provide educational infrastructure facilities. In that period yearly growth of expand of money of government of Maharashtra was 8.30%. It means that expenditure on elementary education has been increased year by year, because of education play a major role in economic development of nation. Education is creates capability for employment in person, capability of earning in person and it helps to build up nation as well as economic development of nation.

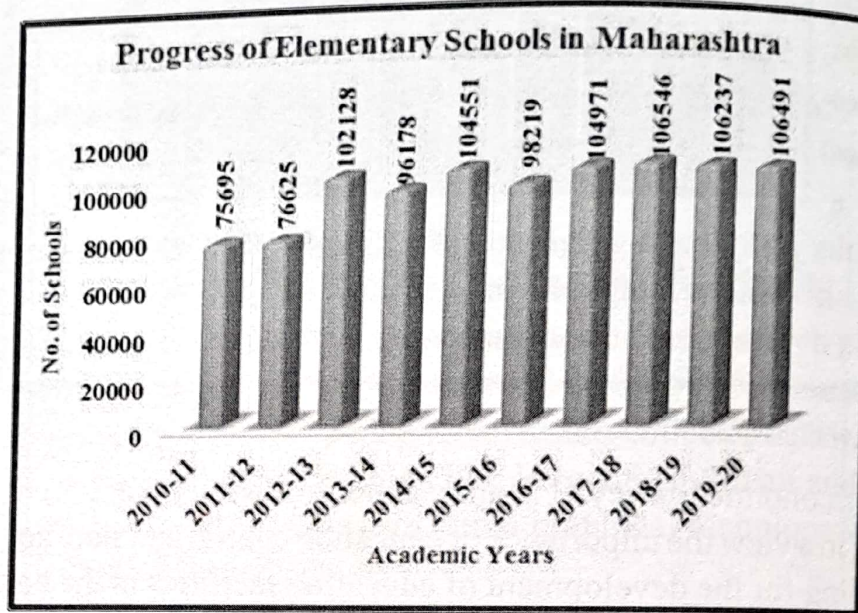
4. Progress of Elementary Schools in Maharashtra:

Table No. 2, Progress of Elementary Schools in Maharashtra

(Figures in as actual)

Academic Year	No. of Schools
2010-11	75695
2011-12	76625
2012-13	102128
2013-14	96178
2014-15	104551
2015-16	98219
2016-17	104971
2017-18	106546

2018-19	106237
2019-20	106491
Total	977641
Mean	97764.1
CAGR	3.56



Source: Economic Survey of Maharashtra for various years

During the planning period as result of various schemes and programmes condition of elementary education has been improved. Keeping in need for elementary education, it revealed from table 2 numbers of primary schools and upper primary schools have increased. With respect to schools of elementary education there were 75695 schools in the Maharashtra in 2010-11 which increased to 102128 in 2012-13 and 106546 in 2017-18 but in the 2013-14 and 2015-16 number of primary schools has decreased related to 2012-13 and 2014-15 respectively. The number of academic year 2018-19 and 2019-20 has indicates 106237 and 106491 primary and upper primary schools in the Maharashtra which are little bit decreased related to the no. of schools in 2017-18. Thus, it showed that in order to meet increasing demand for elementary education in the state schools of providing elementary education have been increased in the state. The annual rate of increased number of primary and upper primary schools has 3.56%.

5. Enrolment of the Children at Elementary Level of Education:

Table No. 3, Enrolment for elementary education in Maharashtra

Years	Enrolment in Schools		
	Boys	Girls	Total
2010-11	56.91	49.35	106.26
2011-12	85.94	75.91	161.85
2012-13	86.28	75.99	162.27
2013-14	85.95	75.64	161.59

(Figures in lakh)

2014-15	85.96	75.76	161.72
2015-16	85.25	75.19	160.44
2016-17	84.96	74.90	159.86
2017-18	84.61	74.51	159.12
2018-19	83.58	73.82	157.4
2019-20	83.16	73.74	156.9
Total	822.6	724.81	1547.41
CAGR	1.88	2.01	1.94

Source: Economic Survey of Maharashtra for various years
Directorate of primary education, GOM.

During the planning period financial provision has been made for the development of educational infrastructural facilities. In addition to this strategy, various schemes and programmes have been implemented as result it was observed that there has been improvement in the educational sector. Table 3 showed data relating to progress in enrolment of children at elementary level of education during 2010-11 to 2019-20. Year wise progress revealed the fact that at Elementary level total enrolment of children was 106.26 lakh in 2010-11 which is continuously increased to 161.85 lakh in 2011-12 and 162.27 lakh in 2012-13. In academic year 2013-14 enrolment of students indicates 161.59 lakh which was continuously decreased in 2013-14 to 2019-20 as compare to 2012-13. Moreover, the relative share of girl students indicated nearly 50% of total enrolment. It is good sign that gender balance in elementary education has been maintained.

6. Schemes for Encouraging Elementary Education : In view to encourage the participation of children in education and to reduce the financial burden of parents, the state government has been providing concession through various schemes to the students. For the purpose of to achieve goal of inclusive education and consequently improve enrolment of students in primary and secondary schools state government has been implemented Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Attendance Allowance Scheme, Ahilyabai Holkar Scheme, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, Free Textbooks to Primary Schools, Book Bank Schemes and Mid Day Meal scheme for the encouraging elementary education with the help of central government.

Table No. 4, Progress of educational schemes

(Figures of Beneficiaries in lakh & Expenditure in Crores)

Years	Attendance Allowance Scheme		Ahilyabai Holkar Scheme		Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya	
	Beneficiaries	Expenditure	Beneficiaries	Expenditure	Beneficiaries	Expenditure
2010-11	4.30	9.3	19.85	108.6	0.04	16.51
2011-12	4.20	9.2	21.84	126.0	0.04	16.83
2012-13	4.52	9.95	18.41	147.15	0.04	11.73
2013-14	4.91	10.81	19.50	57.85	0.04	16.42
2014-15	4.39	8.55	16.09	57.60	0.04	19.23
2015-16	4.11	9.05	16.50	61.37	0.04	22.09

2016-17	3.73	8.21	19.54	62.60	0.04	20.57
2017-18	1.47	3.24	16.24	61.81	0.04	20.53
2018-19	1.47	3.24	16.90	64.28	0.04	18.76
2019-20	1.47	1.78	24.76	141.59	0.04	20.07
Total	34.57	73.33	189.63	888.85	0.4	182.74
CAGR	-13.28	-15.9	-0.24	-3.78	0	3.79

Source: Economic Survey of Maharashtra for various years

Table no. 4 showed that the progress of some educational schemes implemented by the state government for encouraging elementary education. 34.57 lakh students benefited and incurred expenditure Rs. 73.33crores under the Attendance Allowance Scheme, 189.63 lakh students benefited and incurred expenditure Rs. 888.85crores under the Ahilyabai Holkar Scheme and 0.4 lakh students benefited and incurred expenditure Rs. 182.74crores under the Kasturaba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya during 2010-11 to 2019-20. It indicated these schemes have helped to encourage students to take education but trend of the beneficiaries and government expenditure on the Attendance Allowance Scheme as well as Ahilyabai Holkar Scheme has been declined year by year. It indicates negative annual growth of the beneficiaries and expenditure only Kasturaba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya scheme has indicates positive annual growth of the beneficiaries and expenditure.

7. Important facilities created for elementary education:

Table No. 5, Important facilities created for elementary education

Years	Drinking Water	Bounding Wall	Functional Girls Toilet	Computers	Ramps	(Figures in %) Electricity Connection
2010-11	92.2	58.6	71.5	40.8	65.1	74.1
2011-12	94.3	59.1	77.3	44.5	65.0	75.9
2012-13	98.4	68.3	77.0	47.4	86.7	85.0
2013-14	99.9	83.6	99.1	87.4	76.0	95.5
2014-15	99.9	89.2	99.6	92.0	83.9	96.9
2015-16	99.9	89.2	99.6	92.0	83.9	96.9
2016-17	99.9	87.6	99.5	95.0	75.0	97.1
2017-18	97.4	91.4	98.2	95.1	76.9	97.3
2018-19	99.7	93.1	97.7	80	82.5	98.4
2019-20	99.8	93.7	98.6	86.2	86.8	98.8
Average %	98.14	81.38	91.81	76.04	78.18	91.59

Source: Economic Survey of Maharashtra for various years

Keeping in view development of primary and secondary schools availability of drinking water facility, bounding wall for protection to students, functional girl's toilets, computers, ramps for disabled students and electricity connection these basic facilities in the schools is very important. Table no. 5 indicates availability of basic facilities in the primary and secondary schools in Maharashtra state during

2010-11 to 2019-20. According to the Economic survey of Maharashtra of various years 98.14% primary and secondary schools have drinking water facility followed by bounding wall around the school 81.38%, functional toilets for girls 91.81%, computers 76.04%, ramps for disabled students 78.18% and electricity connections 91.59% during 2010-11 to 2019-20.

8. Findings:

i. Education is creates capability for employment in person, capability of earning in person and it helps to build up nation as well as economic development of nation.

ii. Government of Maharashtra has spent Rs. 1,81,015 crore on elementary education during 2010-11 to 2019-20.

iii. Expenditure on elementary education during 2010-11 to 2019-20 has been yearly increased by 8.30%.

iv. With respect to schools of elementary education upward and downward changes seen during academic year 2010-11 to 2019-20, but it was observed that the annual rate of increased number of primary and upper primary schools has 3.56%.

v. Enrolment rate of students in elementary stage of education year by year changes has been seen. Atelementary level total enrolment of students was 106.26 lakh in 2010-11 which is continuously increased to 161.85 lakh in 2011-12 and 162.27 lakh in 2012-13. In academic year 2013-14 enrolment of students indicates 161.59 lakh which was continuously decreased in 2013-14 to 2019-20 as compare to 2012-13, but it was observed that 1.94% average progress in enrolment of students at elementary level of education.

vi. In absolute term number of enrolment of girl's students has increased significantly. It is indicate nearly 50% (2.01%) share in total enrolment and maintained gender balance at elementary level of education. It showed positive achievement of elementary education in Maharashtra.

vii. To achieve goal of inclusive education and consequently improve enrolment of students in primary and secondary schools and encouraging elementary education to the children Maharashtra state government has been implemented Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Attendance Allowance Scheme, Ahilyabai Holkar Scheme, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, Free Textbooks to Primary Schools, Book Bank Schemes and Mid Day Meal scheme with the help of central government.

viii. 34.57 lakh students benefited and incurred expenditure Rs. 73.33 crores under the Attendance Allowance Scheme, 189.63 lakh students benefited and incurred expenditure Rs. 888.85 crores under the Ahilyabai Holkar Scheme and 0.4 lakh students benefited and incurred expenditure Rs. 182.74 crores under the Kasturaba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya during 2010-11 to 2019-20.

ix. Attendance Allowance Scheme, Ahilyabai Holkar Scheme and Kasturaba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya programme helped to encourage students to take education but trend of the beneficiaries and government expenditure on the Attendance Allowance Scheme as well as Ahilyabai Holkar Scheme has been

declined year by year. It indicates negative annual growth of the beneficiaries and expenditure only Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya scheme has indicates positive annual growth of the beneficiaries and expenditure.

x. According to the respective data which was collected from economic survey of Maharashtra of various years 98.14% primary and secondary schools have drinking water facility followed by bounding wall around the school 81.38%, functional toilets for girls 91.81%, computers 76.04%, ramps for disabled students 78.18% and electricity connections 91.59% during 2010-11 to 2019-20.

9. Conclusion : Elementary education is a more important factor of development of nation. Education creates awareness in society about good things and bad things. Under the concept of inclusive education government of Maharashtra spent more amounts on elementary education. Enrolment of students increased yare by year during 2010-11 to 2019-20. Although, share of female students has been increase and it is nearly 50%. Female students aware about education and its important. It means overall sector of elementary education sector was improved during 2010-11 to 2019-20. For the purpose of increase enrolment of students in elementary level of education drinking water facility, bounding wall for safety of students, functional toilets for girls, computers for advanced learning, rams for disabled students, electricity connection these facilities provided to the schools of elementary level from the Maharashtra government.

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