

OVERVIEW OF INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN SSA



INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN SSA- AN OVERVIEW

Background

The key objective of SSA is Universalization of Elementary Education (UEE). Three important aspects of UEE are access, enrolment and retention of all children in 6-14 years of age. This goal of UEE, has further been facilitated by the Constitutional (86th Amendment) Act, making free and compulsory elementary education a Fundamental Right, for all the children in the age group of 6-14 years. This Amendment has given a new thrust to the education of Children With Special Needs (CWSN), as without their inclusion, the objective of UEE cannot be achieved. In-fact inclusion of one of the groups, which is extremely crucial for UEE, is perhaps that of the CWSN. Hence, education of CWSN is an important component of SSA.

Provisions for CWSN under SSA

SSA provides upto Rs.1200/- per child for the inclusion of disabled children, as per specific proposal, per year. District plan for children with special needs is formulated within the Rs.1200/- per child norm. The interventions under SSA for inclusive education are identification, functional and formal assessment, appropriate educational placement, preparation of Individualized Educational Plan, provision of aids and appliances, teacher training, resource support, removal of architectural barriers, research, monitoring and evaluation and a special focus on girls with special needs.

SSA's Policy on Inclusion - Policy interventions

SSA ensures that every child with special needs, irrespective of the kind, category and degree of disability, is provided meaningful and quality education. Hence, SSA has adopted a **zero rejection policy**. This means that no child having special needs should be deprived of the right to education and taught in an environment, which is best, suited to his/her learning needs. These include special schools, EGS, AIE or even home-based education.

The major thrust of SSA is on inclusion or mainstreaming CWSN into the fabric of formal elementary schooling. Experiences of programmes like DPEP and various research findings have shown that inclusion is best determined by the individual needs of the child. Most children with special needs can be enrolled and retained in regular schools if adequate resource support is provided to them, whereas there are others who might have to be provided some kind of pre-integration programmes, before they can be mainstreamed in a classroom. There might also be still some CWSN with severe profound disabilities, who would require an educational programme and intensive specialized support completely beyond the purview and scope of a formal school in the current situation.

Thus, SSA has adopted a more expansive and a broad-based understanding of the concept of inclusion, wherein a multi-option model of educating CWSN is being implemented. The dual objective of embracing this model is to bring more CWSN under the umbrella of SSA and to provide to CWSN appropriate need

based skills, be it vocational, functional literacy or simply activities of daily living. Further, an attempt is being made to provide these skills in the most appropriate learning environment.

Efforts so far (Data Trends & Performance)

The implementation of this multi-option model of inclusion in SSA has been made possible due to the flexibility offered to each State by the programme. Although most SSA States have identified and enrolled CWSN in schools, they differ in the approaches and strategies adopted to achieve the ultimate objective of inclusion. States like A.P., Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya- Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, and U.P. have conducted residential bridge courses for CWSN with the main objective of preparing CWSN for schools, thereby endeavouring better quality inclusion for them. Whereas Rajasthan is conducting these bridge courses entirely through NGOs, U.P is conducting them through the resource teachers especially recruited by the District SSA Societies for this purpose. Andhra- Pradesh has adopted a mixed model, with some districts conducting these courses through NGOs and others through the District SSA Societies. CWSN are also being covered through the EGS. So far in SSA, 40929 CWSN are being covered through AIE/EGS in 19/UTs States.

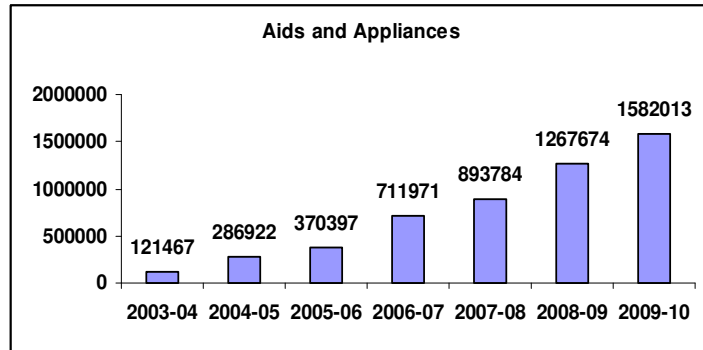
Another practice adopted by SSA States (29 States so far) is that of the home-based education for children with severe-profound disabilities with the objective of either preparing CWSN for schools or for life by imparting to them basic living skills. Again States have adopted different ways to provide home-based support to CWSN. States like Himachal-Pradesh and Uttarakhand are using NGOs for this purpose, whereas States like Karnataka and Kerala have appointed resource teachers who visit the homes of CWSN to provide them basic functional skills. Still other States like Tamil- Nadu are using special schools as resource centers to provide short-time or part-time help to individual children with special needs and their parents. Parental counseling and vocational training are two important aspects of the entire home-based instruction programme. Through home-based education, SSA has been able to cover 133289 CWSN. A notable feature of this programme has been an increased and a sustainable school- community linkage by actively involving parents in the educational process of their CWSN.

No matter what the educational setting, it is widely accepted that there can be no inclusion of CWSN without adequate resource support. This aspect has been taken care of in SSA mainly through NGOs, inclusive education resource teachers (IERTs), volunteers or by imparting long-term training to regular teachers on inclusion. States like Haryana have opened model inclusive schools in every block and equipped them with all possible facilities (like transport, equipment for physiotherapy, occupational therapy, resource teachers etc.) mainly to provide all kinds of support services, including remedial teaching to CWSN.

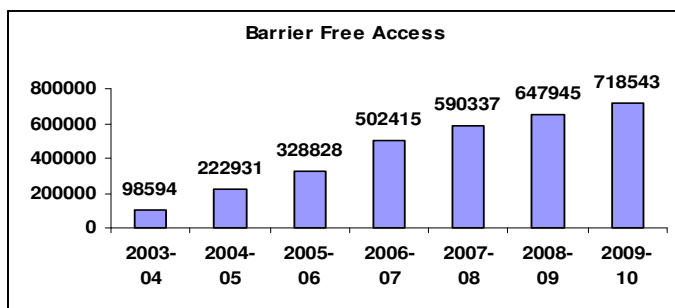
28 States/ UTs have appointed 9779 resource teachers and 877 NGOs are involved in the IE programme in 29 States/ UTs. An important and unique facet of this involvement is the range of activities that the NGOs have undertaken in the States for IE. These activities vary from planning for inclusion as in West- Bengal, to implementation and monitoring of IE, like in Tamil- Nadu. Other States have engaged NGOs for designing and initiating innovative programmes. These include

theme-based camps in Orissa and development of low-cost / no- cost simulation park for social inclusion of CWSN in every BRC of Tamil- Nadu to training of Key Resource Persons from the Families of CWSN in West- Bengal and preparation of adapted TLM for CWSN in Karnataka.

Two additional forms of resource support, complimentary to each other, being provided to CWSN are through assistive devices and barrier free access. Both of these aim enhancement of the functional capacity/ mobility of CWSN to promote their easy access to the schools.



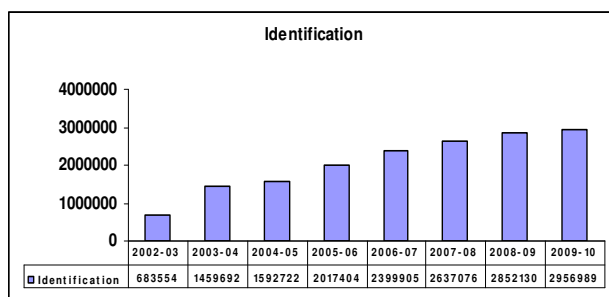
15.82 lakh CWSN (73.68% of the CWSN requiring aids and appliances) under SSA have been provided assistive devices through various modes. Some States like Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and U.P. have converged with District Disability Rehabilitation Centers, local Red Cross, Composite Regional Centers, NGOs etc. and some States like Kerala and A.P. have made arrangements to provide the necessary equipment to CWSN through the State Government supported organizations – like A.P. Viklaangula Corporative Corporation (APVCC) and Kerala State Electronic Development Corporation (KELTRON). However, the largest provider of aids and appliances to CWSN under SSA is ALIMCO (Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation of India), a public sector undertaking functioning under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJ&E) with which an agreement has been signed at the national level, as per which 60% of the cost of the assistive devices would be borne by MoSJ&E and 40% by the State SSA Societies.



Schools are being made more disabled friendly by incorporating barrier free features in their designs 7.18 lakh schools have been made barrier-free and very focused efforts are being made by all the States to cover more

schools in a phased manner. **Details given at Annex-I (a – h).**

The Outcome (Impact and Evaluation)

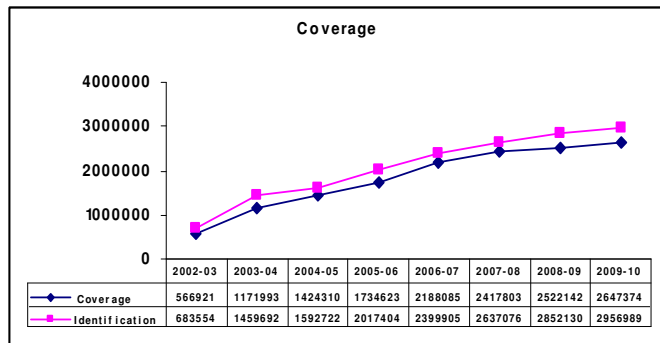


These practices and innovations in SSA are no doubt leading to a gradual increased identification of CWSN. From 14.59 lakh CWSN identified in 2003-04, 29.57 lakh have been identified till now. Similarly, the enrollment of CWSN has gone up to 24.77 lakh CWSN (83.78%) as compared to 11.71 lakh CWSN in

2003-04. More CWSN are likely to be covered this year through various interventions and strategies. The current coverage of CWSN is 26.47 lakh (89.53%).

Besides increasing the physical coverage, the expenditure on inclusive education in SSA has also shown an upward trend. From a mere 26% expenditure in

2003-04, the States have shown an overall expenditure of 81.77% on CWSN inclusion related activities in 2008-09.



The Challenges

It can be seen from the foregoing that several novel initiatives have been taken up to address the divergent needs of special children. An endeavour has also been made to develop in teachers, the necessary attitude, skills and competencies required to deal effectively with children with various special educational needs. The focus of SSA is now on reaching out to those out of school CWSN, not covered so far and developing a strategy that will ensure that every child with special needs receives continuing on site support. ***This perhaps is the biggest challenge of all and a crucial determinant of the success of the inclusive education programme under SSA.***

However, there are a few important issues in IE that are being continued to be stressed upon by Government of India with the States, namely :-

- (i) The percentage of CWSN identified being only 1.44 % of the total child population in comparison to Census 2001, wherein 2.1% of the population has been found to have some disability. Hence, States should further streamline identification procedures
- (ii) Monitoring mechanisms to assess both the quantitative and qualitative progress in IE to be constantly improved by States.
- (iii) Emphasis on classroom practices and teaching methods adopted by teachers for effective classroom management of CWSN
- (iv) 57.31% schools have been made barrier-free, more schools need to be covered.
- (v) To ensure that every child with special needs receives continuing on site support.

Annex-I a

Number of CWSN Identified and Covered Under SSA

No.	Name of the State	Total CWSN Identified	CWSN Enrolled in Schools	% Enrolled in schools	CWSN Enrolled in EGS/AIE Centers	CWSN provided Home Based Edu.	Total Coverage of CWSN	% CWSN covered against identified CWSN
1	A.P.	181999	159266	87.51	2500	12840	174606	95.94
2	Ar. Pradesh	12189	9765	80.11	0	3	9768	80.14
3	Assam	97801	72084	73.70	5405	19197	92537	94.62
4	Bihar	313500	241995	77.19	9643	8244	259882	82.90
5	Chhattisgarh	46153	45196	97.93	517	187	45900	99.45
6	Goa	2140	1393	65.09	0	4	1397	65.28
7	Gujarat	78900	64944	82.31	1250	422	66616	84.43
8	Haryana	25075	20431	81.48	0	0	20431	81.48
9	HP	22040	19643	89.12	10	2387	22040	100.00
10	J&K	25906	20117	77.65	0	1	20118	77.66
11	Jharkhand	47312	35695	75.45	105	213	36013	76.12
12	Karnataka	135301	121153	89.54	0	14148	135301	100.00
13	Kerala	157147	145476	92.57	2544	809	148829	94.71
14	MP	111492	102567	91.99	697	2126	105390	94.53
15	Maharashtra	414277	380723	91.90	2981	11412	395116	95.37
16	Manipur	7423	4357	58.70	47	147	4551	61.31
17	Meghalaya	9224	7496	81.27	659	249	8404	91.11
18	Mizoram	6390	6303	98.64	0	87	6390	100.00
19	Nagaland	3672	2948	80.28	0	321	3269	89.03
20	Orissa	124741	115344	92.47	0	2535	117879	94.50
21	Punjab	114473	86696	75.73	378	4174	91248	79.71
22	Rajasthan	248084	236912	95.50	2026	3824	242762	97.85
23	Sikkim	1045	770	73.68	0	0	770	73.68
24	TN	118151	90976	77.00	459	26716	118151	100.00
25	Tripura	3832	3417	89.17	0	53	3470	90.55
26	UP	391708	315194	80.47	3886	0	319080	81.46
27	Uttarakhand	21577	18483	85.66	58	1248	19789	91.71
28	West Bengal	219075	133662	61.01	7683	21733	163078	74.44
29	A & N Islands	815	815	100.00	0	0	815	100.00
30	Chandigarh	3704	3532	95.36	81	1	3614	97.57
31	D & N Haveli	298	164	55.03	0	0	164	55.03
32	Daman & Diu	141	70	49.65	0	33	103	73.05
33	Delhi	8015	6504	81.15	0	0	6504	81.15
34	Lakshadweep	463	398	85.96	0	65	463	100.00
35	Puducherry	2926	2816	96.24	0	110	2926	100.00
	Total	2956989	2477305	83.78	40929	133289	2647374	89.53

State wise Number of Resource Teachers in SSA

No.	Name of the State	No. of Resource Teachers
1	A.P.	856
2	Ar. Pradesh	0
3	Assam	175
4	Bihar	350
5	Chhattisgarh	30
6	Goa	3
7	Gujarat	1193
8	Haryana	70
9	HP	120
10	J&K	0
11	Jharkhand	25
12	Karnataka	606
13	Kerala	730
14	MP	162
15	Maharashtra	1417
16	Manipur	0
17	Meghalaya	4
18	Mizoram	8
19	Nagaland	0
20	Orissa	253
21	Punjab	220
22	Rajasthan	296
23	Sikkim	2
24	TN	826
25	Tripura	0
26	UP	1310
27	Uttrakhand	8
28	West Bengal	1023
29	A & N Islands	23
30	Chandigarh	15
31	D & N Haveli	0
32	Daman & Diu	1
33	Delhi	50
34	Lakshadweep	0
35	Puducherry	3
	Total	9779

State wise Number of Teachers Trained Through 90-days in SSA

No.	Name of the State	90 day Trained Teachers
1	A.P.	633
2	Ar. Pradesh	67
3	Assam	4135
4	Bihar	6449
5	Chhattisgarh	612
6	Goa	95
7	Gujarat	9823
8	Haryana	1250
9	HP	1172
10	J&K	415
11	Jharkhand	348
12	Karnataka	29352
13	Kerala	0
14	MP	13533
15	Maharashtra	19446
16	Manipur	2642
17	Meghalaya	666
18	Mizoram	435
19	Nagaland	164
20	Orissa	5293
21	Punjab	970
22	Rajasthan	12824
23	Sikkim	0
24	TN	0
25	Tripura	0
26	UP	448
27	Uttrakhand	13622
28	West Bengal	1013
29	A & N Islands	0
30	Chandigarh	289
31	D & N Haveli	0
32	Daman & Diu	0
33	Delhi	0
34	Lakshadweep	0
35	Pondicherry	0
	Total	125696

Progress on Aids & Appliances in SSA

No.	Name of the State	Aids & Appliances Required	Aids & Appliances Provided	% of Aids & appliances
1	A.P.	228600	197282	86.30
2	Ar. Pradesh	15965	5665	35.48
3	Assam	34948	28023	80.18
4	Bihar	144356	94296	65.32
5	Chhattisgarh	57071	33788	59.20
6	Goa	810	43	5.31
7	Gujarat	195839	158179	80.77
8	Haryana	49437	39625	80.15
9	HP	18140	11425	62.98
10	J&K	8560	4488	52.43
11	Jharkhand	58579	30855	52.67
12	Karnataka	78161	59593	76.24
13	Kerala	29272	13793	47.12
14	MP	152202	90450	59.43
15	Maharashtra	191553	191553	100.00
16	Manipur	1739	1117	64.23
17	Meghalaya	7464	3189	42.73
18	Mizoram	1840	1735	94.29
19	Nagaland	2014	941	46.72
20	Orissa	203243	131033	64.47
21	Punjab	126037	84749	67.24
22	Rajasthan	48282	25368	52.54
23	Sikkim	48	0	0.00
24	TN	141713	96677	68.22
25	Tripura	4484	1596	35.59
26	UP	246307	211130	85.72
27	Uttarakhand	37294	9441	25.32
28	West Bengal	52826	46377	87.79
29	A & N Islands	825	825	100.00
30	Chandigarh	1071	793	74.04
31	D & N Haveli	0	0	0.00
32	Daman & Diu	52	11	21.15
33	Delhi	6388	6371	99.73
34	Lakshadweep	125	0	0.00
35	Puducherry	2011	1602	79.66
	Total	2147256	1582013	73.68

NGOs Involvement in IE in SSA

No.	Name of the State	No. of NGOs involved
1	A.P.	52
2	Ar. Pradesh	5
3	Assam	17
4	Bihar	14
5	Chhattisgarh	15
6	Goa	4
7	Gujarat	47
8	Haryana	13
9	HP	21
10	J&K	5
11	Jharkhand	0
12	Karnataka	45
13	Kerala	9
14	MP	27
15	Maharashtra	48
16	Manipur	7
17	Meghalaya	18
18	Mizoram	8
19	Nagaland	3
20	Orissa	66
21	Punjab	78
22	Rajasthan	41
23	Sikkim	2
24	TN	38
25	Tripura	0
26	UP	0
27	Uttarakhand	18
28	West Bengal	263
29	A & N Islands	2
30	Chandigarh	6
31	D & N Haveli	0
32	Daman & Diu	0
33	Delhi	3
34	Lakshadweep	0
35	Pondicherry	2
	Total	877

Progress on Barrier Free Access in SSA

No.	Name of the State	No. of Schools	Barrier Free Access	%
1	A.P.	79996	31559	39.45
2	Ar. Pradesh	3325	985	29.62
3	Assam	43358	37659	86.86
4	Bihar	96052	33246	34.61
5	Chhattisgarh	46029	15617	33.93
6	Goa	1533	653	42.60
7	Gujarat	56096	32128	57.27
8	Haryana	14612	9391	64.27
9	HP	15046	6566	43.64
10	J&K	29001	3160	10.90
11	Jharkhand	53799	20001	37.18
12	Karnataka	72457	38021	52.47
13	Kerala	14157	18749	132.44
14	MP	113316	59943	52.90
15	Maharashtra	106402	85211	80.08
16	Manipur	3659	122	3.33
17	Meghalaya	9516	711	7.47
18	Mizoram	2535	1354	53.41
19	Nagaland	1938	55	2.84
20	Orissa	68465	43393	63.38
21	Punjab	19466	11513	59.14
22	Rajasthan	109204	68445	62.68
23	Sikkim	1143	46	4.02
24	TN	52842	35408	67.01
25	Tripura	5977	2273	38.03
26	UP	151217	99290	65.66
27	Uttrakhand	17953	9494	52.88
28	West Bengal	59421	49589	83.45
29	A & N Islands	428	24	5.61
30	Chandigarh	204	37	18.14
31	D & N Haveli	393	0	0.00
32	Daman & Diu	84	50	59.52
33	Delhi	3475	3475	100.00
34	Lakshadweep	47	32	68.09
35	Pondicherry	590	343	58.14
	Total	1253736	718543	57.31

Expenditure on IE in 2008-09

No.	Name of the State	Outlay approved	Achievement	%
1	A.P.	1550.65	913.64	58.92
2	Ar. Pradesh	72.08	72.08	100.00
3	Assam	969.29	866.50	89.40
4	Bihar	1881.00	1174.64	62.45
5	Chhattisgarh	500.06	400.02	79.99
6	Goa	13.56	4.58	33.78
7	Gujarat	907.30	906.86	99.95
8	Haryana	300.90	162.95	54.15
9	HP	305.71	249.77	81.70
10	J&K	216.97	24.51	11.30
11	Jharkhand	406.03	231.58	57.04
12	Karnataka	1567.13	1522.78	97.17
13	Kerala	1112.43	1002.87	90.15
14	MP	678.13	581.84	85.80
15	Maharashtra	3982.32	3893.29	97.76
16	Manipur	59.27	0.00	0.00
17	Meghalaya	70.74	51.52	72.83
18	Mizoram	65.14	65.14	100.00
19	Nagaland	42.72	38.52	90.17
20	Orissa	1262.45	1262.40	100.00
21	Punjab	394.26	429.60	108.96
22	Rajasthan	1606.78	1261.83	78.53
23	Sikkim	9.78	4.28	43.76
24	TN	1262.26	1051.38	83.29
25	Tripura	21.65	21.65	100.00
26	UP	3185.05	2504.65	78.64
27	Uttrakhand	169.24	143.87	85.01
28	West Bengal	1797.04	1168.81	65.04
29	A & N Islands	2.45	0.30	12.27
30	Chandigarh	57.88	22.82	39.43
31	D & N Haveli	1.84	0.16	8.70
32	Daman & Diu	1.75	0.16	9.13
33	Delhi	60.63	22.88	37.74
34	Lakshadweep	3.84	1.64	42.71
35	Puducherry	35.80	35.80	100.01
	Total	24574.11	20095.32	81.77

Financial Target for Inclusive Education: 2009- 10

S. No.	Name of the State	Total Budget Sanctioned in lakhs
1	A.P.	1091.994
2	Ar. Pradesh	97.51
3	Assam	1026.91
4	Bihar	2194.5
5	Chhattisgarh	553.836
6	Goa	12.08
7	Gujarat	752.19
8	Haryana	240.19
9	HP	264.48
10	J&K	129.53
11	Jharkhand	331.184
12	Karnataka	1453.836
13	Kerala	1125.15
14	MP	678.13
15	Maharashtra	4971.324
16	Manipur	44.54
17	Meghalaya	83.016
18	Mizoram	65.136
19	Nagaland	44.064
20	Orissa	1496.892
21	Punjab	700.64
22	Rajasthan	2158.331
23	Sikkim	9.65
24	TN	1417.812
25	Tripura	19.18
26	UP	4316.74
27	Uttrakhand	198.2
28	West Bengal	2244.34
29	A & N Islands	5.48
30	Chandigarh	53.48
31	D & N Haveli	2.75
32	Daman & Diu	1.692
33	Delhi	40.08
34	Lakshadweep	4.63
35	Pondicherry	29.26
	Total	27858.757