



## Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Kerala

### Need to initiate second generation reforms based on quality and equity

Kerala continues to be a top achiever in composite ranking of primary and upper primary education in our country. In Kerala schools are mostly run by government and Govt Aided corporate management or individuals. Government run schools offer Malayalam and English as the medium of instruction. A handful of government and Aided schools provide instruction in Sanskrit supplemented by Malayalam, Arabic, English, Tamil or Kannada. There are Linguistic minority schools in the state with the medium of Tamil and Kannada.

The state of Kerala has achieved impressive results in terms of access, enrolment, retention and completion. All teachers of the state are trained as per RTE norms. The class size, school infrastructure, social support and parental involvement are appropriate for high performance. In addition to all primary school age children being in school, the State's adult literacy programme has managed to bring all adult illiterates to primary level. The primary schools of Kerala are by and large praised for their child-centered pedagogical practices. They have also performed robustly in various achievement surveys like ASER, NAS and SLAS.

As per NAS, the average achievement score of Kerala students was higher than the national average (241). State's rank is 3rd in the country. However, the average performance



of the students of the state in class 5 is lower than the national average (241) for Maths, EVS and Language as per NAS 2015. This sad situation mandates Kerala to think about next level of educational reforms based on equity and quality. As Kerala has impressive achievements in a number of indicators, the State's key challenges are in terms of attaining the second level of reforms in school education. It is essential that the state prepares a road map to improve the quality of education so that the students at elementary level can perform at the grade appropriate level.

### **Programmes initiated by the state to improve the quality of Education**

#### **Mission for Safeguarding General Education:**

GOVT of Kerala has initiated a Mission for Safeguarding General Education in its GOVT and AIDED Schools as part of Mission for Reforming Kerala. The mission has been planned to implement with the support of the people. The mission is in the process of developing a 'Master Plan' to improve the quality of school education so that all the students can perform at the grade

appropriate level and even to achieve the international standard.

Mission for Safeguarding school Education intends to transform the GOVT and AIDED Schools of the state as centers of excellence providing equal opportunities to all children to attain excellence and all-round development. Such a mission is based on social equity and quality.

For protecting and safeguarding school education, GOVT of Kerala has initiated the following programmes.

#### **1) Comprehensive Quality School**

**Planning:** As part of this programme, 1000 schools in the state will be transformed into centers of excellence. Physical infrastructure, quality of teaching and learning, relationship with the society in these schools will be enhanced through a mission mode work by developing a master plan. The state will make use of ***Shaala Siddhi programme an MHRD intervention*** to achieve this.

2) All classrooms from class VIII to class XII will transformed into high tech classrooms to provide a new dimension to learning

3) The Govt will reach out to the people to include them in the school

development process. Govt with the cooperation of three types of committees-PTA &SMC, Old Students Association (OSA), and School Development Committee (SDC) –will ensure the comprehensive development of Elementary schools in the state.

- 4) Schools that are 50 or 100 years old will be provided help through a special package.
- 5) There will be a special project for enhancing the English Language proficiency of all students.
- 6) As a part of making “Campus itself as a Textbook” Govt intends to transform the school campuses into biodiversity gardens. Bio Diversity garden fosters scientific temper and science

education. The elements of mathematics can also be incorporated in this. One can place Bio Diversity garden as a concept and the students can understand how *Life science and Physical science* is integrated in an ecosystem.

- 7) Biodiversity gardens in Elementary schools will help develop an inclination for science and scientific processes and spur their critical thinking. This will be integrated with classroom
- 8) There will be special programmes for enhancing proficiency and literacy skills in Malayalam (*Malayalathilakkam*), English (*Hello English*) and Hindi (*Meetti Hindi*).
- 9) SSA has initiated programmes to improve the learning of science through a project called **Sasthrotsavam** and the learning of mathematics through **Ganitotsavam**.





## SSA Interventions

### 1. Special Training for mainstreaming out of school children:

#### Major Programme 2016-17

- Organising survey to identify OOSC with the help of Kudumbasree activists, Voluntary Organisations, SC/ST promoters and Anganwadi teachers
- Special training centers in Adivasi Ooru(Habitation) for SC/ST children
- Development of special training modules and package for OOSC
- Training and appointment of bilingual volunteers in special training centres
- Appointment of special teachers in Tamil, Hindi, Odisha and Bengali for teaching children of migrants
- Special training to teachers and educational volunteers by master Trainers
- Training for all HMs, teachers, Grama Panchayath Presidents and members, PTA presidents of the schools with OOSC



### 2. Free Text books



All children from standard II to VIII are eligible for getting textbooks yearly. Students of standard 1<sup>st</sup> are getting the textbooks from the government directly as that of the state policy. Text books are of two volumes and prepared for two terms. First volume of textbooks were distributed during June 2016 and the second volume during October/November 2016.

### **3. Uniform**

Two sets of uniform at the cost of Rs 400 per child are supplied to all children except to the boys belongs to APL category. The uniforms are being purchased by the SMC and the settlements are made through the BRCs.



### **4. Teacher Training**

Based on the results of the CCE, SLAS, QMT and NAS the State visioned for activities to achieve quality education in the elementary education. The focus areas in the LP and UP teacher training aimed at enhancing and strengthening the professional knowledge, develop positive attitudes and skills among servicing teachers. Hence teacher training plays a prominent place in educational development. The focus is on quality education



for which training and retraining are proposed. The major highlights of the teacher training programmes are early grade reading, writing and arithmetic, enhancing the subject wise transactional skills, Development of skill for integrating scholastic area with non-scholastic areas, ICT, training on TLM for remedial and enrichment programmes and

communicative English.

#### **Highlights:**

1. One lakh five thousand Elementary teachers were trained
2. Main objectives was to enable teachers to practice strategies and processes to enable learners to acquire learning outcomes
3. Teachers were trained in planning lessons and using TLMs including ICT in the class room

4. Two cluster trainings were conducted for teachers to enable them to try out best practices in the classrooms to address the challenges of learning

#### **Major Programme 2016-17**

- 5 day training to teachers during mid summer vacation April and May-2016
- Two one day cluster training sessions during August and November 2016
- Head teachers were also trained to enable teaching learning process in the school and to provide learner friendly and meaningful environment for promoting learning
- Special training in English, science and maths for teachers



### **6. Academic Support through BRC/URC**

#### **Major Programmes 2016-17**

- 1) Implementation of Teacher training and cluster training programmes
- 2) Giving onsite support to teachers
- 3) Giving training to Head teachers
- 4) Gives support to school through Resource Teacher to help CWSN children
- 5) Coordinates all the academic activities at BRC level

### **7. Academic Support through CRC**

#### **Major Programmes 2016-17**

- 1) Acts as the center for teacher training and cluster training
- 2) Acts as the basic academic unit for coordinating all the academic activities at the panchayath level.
- 3) Provides Onsite support to teachers



## 8. *Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA) (CAL)*

RAA is a convergent framework that aims at nurturing a spirit of inquiry and creativity, love for Science and Mathematics and effective use of technology amongst children. As the achievement of learners in Maths, science and reading comprehension is low as per NAS 2015, the implementation of RAA is very important for Kerala.



### **Major Programme 2016-17**

- Promotion of Science & Mathematics Teacher Circles



- Strengthening School Science and Mathematics Laboratories
- Use of Technology in Science and Mathematics teaching
- Development of Resource Materials
- Science, Mathematics and Technology Clubs for Children
- Developing Bio diversity garden in schools

- Preparation of bio diversity register in schools
- Preparation of Activity Book for students
- Preparation of Handbook for teachers.

## 9. *Teacher Grant*

The State is following critical pedagogy in the class room transactions and text book are prepared in tune with the changes included in the Text Book / Hand Book. The State has revised text book all classes by 2016-17. Different teaching learning materials are required to the execution of all learning units included in the text books. There are 1.2

lakh teachers working in LP and UP section @ Rs.500/- was granted to all teachers teaching in Std. I to VII.

#### **10. School Grant**

Every LP section and UP section in the state is getting an amount of Rs 5000 and 7000 as school grant intended for supplementary learning facilities. The utilization of the funds is being monitored by the BRCs and periodical directions are issued for maintaining proper records of utilization.

#### **11. School Maintenance Grant**

Every government school in the elementary sector is provided with maintenance grant for minor repairs in the school. Proper guidelines are usually been given to schools for utilizing the fund.

#### **12. Research & Evaluation**

##### **Major Programme 2016-17**

Achievement survey

- Monitoring and supervision of PINDICS
- Achievement study of *Hello English* and **Malayalathilakkam**
- Achievement study of **Sasthrotsavam** and **Ganitotsavam**
- Compilation of QMT based on Quarterly and half yearly student assessment

#### **13. Inclusive Education**

Inclusive education for disabled children is the most important intervention of SSA



for it brings the light of charity and divinity. During 2015-16 State had included only the children who are using assistive devices and those required external support for the schooling facilities and having DISE code. There are dedicatedly working Resource Teachers in the State who give assistance and adaptation in



school as well as home based education. Their continuous and updated training is an important factor in upholding IEDC an effective step for specially challenged children to feel their eligible rights. Considering the experience so far 93874 children will be benefited under assistive aids. Major activities proposed are medical camps, setting up of Resource Centres, setting up and augmentation and strengthening of learning centers, creation of barrier free atmosphere, parental awareness, teacher empowerment programme, home based education programme, remedial teaching programme, adopted toilets etc.

#### **Major Programme 2016-17**

- Medical Detection Camp
- Social inclusion programme for CWSN
- Parental Education Programmes
- Hiring the service of Therapists
- Distribution of Aids and Appliances, ICT material, equipment for CWSN
- Corrective Surgery for CWSN
- Resource Teachers' Salary
- 7 day Cross disability training of RPs
- 5 day Teacher training on NCERT material
- Transport allowance
- Escort allowance



#### **14. Innovative Education (Padhe Bharath Badhe Bharat)**

##### **Major Programme 2016-17**

- **Girls Education**
- **Intervention for SC/ST education**
- **Intervention for minority education**
- **Intervention for urban deprived children**

## 16. Community Training

Training to community leaders and social categories had enhanced the day to day schooling facilities though continuous sensitization programmes and information dissemination on RTE Act focusing on the importance of community participation. Finding the need and importance of the programmes SMC is one of the vital elements to ensure the Right to Education. So it is essential to train the SMC members. Community training focuses on both SMC members and LSG members, to monitor the whole school development. As the SMC and LSG members are in constant touch with the schools for the preparation, recommendation and implementation and monitoring of the School Development Plan (SDP) the training programmes are beneficial to the project.



### Major Programme 2016-17

- Training to Members of PTA/SMC
- Praveshanolsavam 2016
- Training to state, district, BRC, Panchayath levels as part of Mission for Safeguarding General Education
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## 17. Civil Works



- 102 Additional Class room
- 141 Boys toilets
- 47 Girls toilets
- 26 Major repair

## 18. LEP

LEP is the quality elements included in the elementary sector of education. The State launched this massive movement during 2008-2009. It has been planned to enhance the quality of elementary education through a series of programme. All subjects and languages are included in this



programme. Major outcomes expected are the enhancement of basic skills, developing scientific attitude and interest in solving problems. The activities are complementary to the curriculum and text books. The studies to assess the level of achievement during 2016-17 is one of the commitments to the PAB 2016.

### Major Programme 2016-17

- 1) Reading cards for maths and Malayalam (Classes 1 & 2)
- 2) English reading cards and Ganithachepu (Classes 3 & 5)
- 3) Hindi Reading cards (Meetti Hindi) (Classes 6 & 7)
- 4) Hello English (A Project for making learners fluent and confident users of English)
- 5) Malayalathilakkum (A Programme for Malayalam Literacy skills of learners at elementary level)





## 19. Community Mobilization

To sensitize the parents, for setting positive attitudes towards school functioning and to become part of school development, all districts have conducted the community mobilization programmes

