



IMPACT OF SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN (SSA) SCHEME IN INDIA: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY.

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ABSTRACT

Education is a tool that can play a vital role in improving the socio-economic condition of a nation.. *The story of India's educational achievements is one of mixed success. On the down side, India has 22 per cent of the world's population but 46 per cent of the world's illiterates, and is home to a high proportion of the worlds out of school children and youth. On the positive side, it has made encouraging recent progress in raising schooling participation. While the base of India's education pyramid may be weak, but "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan" which is a centrally sponsored integrated flagship scheme launched by the Central government for the universalization of elementary education with a specific time frame is a big step towards universalization of elementary education. The main thrust of SSA is on community participation, decentralized planning and better quality of education. It covers the entire country in a mission mode and was launched in India in the year 2001-2002 in collaboration with the state governments and local self governments. The programme aims to provide useful and relevant, elementary education to all children in the 6 to 14 age group. The scheme is also being implemented in Jammu and Kashmir, the border state of India which consists of three regions-Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh. SSA was launched in J&K in the year 2005. The success of the programme of providing free and compulsory education of high standard to all the children in the age group 6-14 will largely depend upon the extent and quality of the research work developed in this particular field during the next few years. This paper aims to have a sociological study to know the impact of this scheme in Indian elementary education.*

Keywords: Decentralization, Education, Empower, Gender gap, Scheme, SSA, Universalization