ROLE OF RASHTRIYA MADHYAMIK SHIKSHA ABHIYAN SCHEME IN INDIAN SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mariamma Alex, Dr. D. Sivakumar

1Assistant Professor, 2Associate Professor
1Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala,
2Political Science and Public Administration.

Abstract

RMSA is a National Mission for Secondary Education. The main aim is to provide secondary education in primary schools of India. It focuses to provide condition for efficient growth, development and equity for all students. The main objectives of RMSA include improvement of quality of secondary education and to increase the total enrolment rate. RMSA ensures Universal education for all children between the years of 15 and 16.

INTRODUCTION

“Education is a social process; education is growth; education is not preparation for life but life itself” – John Dewy. Education is one of the most cherished of all rights and freedoms available to any individual. It can be linked directly to the individual’s right to live with respect and dignity. Education to all is the primary focus in RMSA. The state government undertakes community mobilization at the habitation/village/urban slum level especially among SC/ST Educationally Backward minorities.

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) is the three schemes of Samagra Shiksha. Samagra Shiksha is an integrated scheme for school education. Extenting from pre-school to class XII to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at
all levels of school education. The vision of the scheme is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for Education. It aims to support states in the implementation of the Right of Children to Free Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. It is a fundamental right under Article 21-A of the Constitution of India.

RMSA was launched in March 2009 by Dr. Manmohan Singh with the objective to enhance access to secondary education and to improve its quality. Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) is the nodal central government ministry Co-ordinating RMSA. The main aim is quality of secondary level removing gender, socio-economic and disability barriers and achieving Universal access to secondary level education by 2017 i.e by the end of 12th Five year Plan and retaining universal retention by 2020. It states that one of 12th Plan Goals for the Secondary Education sector is achieve near - Universal enrollment in Secondary Education, with the GER exceeding 90% by 2017.

**STRUCTURE**

[A National resource group (NRG) provides guidance for bringing about reforms in teaching learning material ICT education and mechanisms of monitoring and evaluation. The Technical Support Group (TSG) Supported by MHRD, is a constituent of the NRG and has a direct reporting relationship with the ministry. TSG provides technical and operational support and expertise to national and state level teams.

The Sub-committees of RMSA include Curriculum Reform, Teacher and Teacher Development, ITC and Planning and Management. These Sub committees comprise numbers from the TSG and meet thrice a year to apprise themselves of the progress made on mutually set goals and commitments. NCERT and NUEPA support through dedicated RMSA units. RMSA – TCA has been set – up for capacity building support with the assistance of DFID.

**VISION**

Provision of free access to good quality Secondary Education to all young persons in the age group 14-15 years irrespective of gender, creed, religious denomination, physical and mental disabilities and social and economic status so as to enable them to progress towards becoming socially and economically active
citizens capable of control contributing positively to their own holistic development and that of the state and the country as a whole.

**Objective**

To universalize Secondary Education by enhancing access and to improve quality of indication at the secondary stage while ensuring equality.

**Funding System**

The central share is released to the implementing Agencies directly, whereas the applicable state share is also released to the agencies by the respective State Governments.

**Core purpose of RMSA**

1) To improve the quality of Secondary Education.
2) To eliminate the barriers of gender, socio-economic and disability.
3) Universal access of secondary level education.
4) The universal retention of students by the year of 2020.

**Development partners of RMSA**

1) World Bank
2) DFID
3) European Union

**Aspects of the inclusion**

RMSA gives priority to children who belong to educationally backward groups – SCs/STs/minorities. The measures for the development of secondary students include intensive micro planning to provide flexibility to develop specific interventions, reduction of institutional in-equalities, Bridge courses, regular enrollment drives, distance learning, special coaching and remedial classes especially for minority girls, teacher sensitization programme etc. for accessibility of these groups. It also focuses on providing textbook, uniform, boarding and lodging stipend for day scholars etc. to children belongs to SC/ST and disabled children.
Major Heads of RMSA

1) Quality improvement
   RMSA imitates promotion of environmental education, science Laboratories and Central sponsorship schemes of education project, International mathematics and Science Olympiads. The state government provide in-service training and Research inputs also.

2) Access and equality
   It focuses on removing exiting the disparities in socio-economic and gender background in the secondary level of education along with the attention for the special focus groups in the secondary level of education like SC/ST, Tribes, minority girls and CWSC children. RMSA implement that certain strategies to provide free access to secondary education.

3) Information Communication Technologies (ICT)
   It includes funding support towards computer education plans, strengthening and reorientation of the staffs, digitalization using audio and video cassettes with the partnership of NGOs and management of Internet – based education.

4) Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC)
   It includes several components for convergence with integrated child development services for early interventions, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for the particular group at the elementary level and special school.

Initiatives for enhancing education quality
   RMSA take initiatives for Additional Teachers to improve PTR Teacher, Headmaster and staff for new secondary schools. In-service training is arranged for headmasters and teachers, in order to refresh their knowledge and to make them up-to-date. Grants are issued to various areas in school for it’s developmental activities. Science and Math Lab kits are also provided to schools. Remedial teaching for weaker are also given great attention. RMSA undertake various schemes for secondary education in order to enhance better efficiency. The new initiatives include Girls’ Hostel, Vocational Education, IEDSS and ICT at secondary level. Monitoring and evaluation of fund utilization is also given greater importance. A process of release of adhoc grant up to 25% of the expenditure on recurring grant of the previous year of the State/UT has been adopted in order to assure availability of fund.
Achievements include opening of new Secondary Schools, additional classrooms, approval for science Laboratories, computer labs, modern libraries, craft rooms, water facilities, quarters for teachers and various repair works in schools, the implementation of the scheme is to generate human capital and provide sufficient conditions for accelerated growth and full stop it also enhance equity and quality of life for everyone in India. Greater concern for multidimensional research, technical Consulting, implementation and funding support is also a part of RMSA. Secondary Education paves way to economic development and establishment of Social Justice. Liberalisation and globalisation made innovation in scientific and technological world. It is succeeded in attaining general needs of improved quality of life and reduced poverty. Secondary education stage empowers children to aggrandise nations by preparing them for higher education and also to the world of work. The IEDSS girl’s hostel, Vocational Education and ICT schools are mainly initiated for accessible and relevant secondary education of good quality in India. RMSA enjoy the benefits of partnership with State Government and Local Self Government.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

ICT in schools is a component of the impact. The scheme is a major catalyst to bridge the digital divide amongst students of various social economic and other geographical barriers to stop it is supports States/UTs to establish computer labs on Sustainable basis.

Project Monitoring System (PMS)

In order to leverage Technology for enhancing efficiency and managing the implementation of RMSA, a project monitoring system (PMS) has been enabled in the website. States/UTs can view the status of all components (RMSA, ICT, IEDSS, GH&VE) GOI releases approved outlays, coverage as per UDISE, status of teachers, school wise list of approval, school wise gaps etc. Under integrated RMSA. In addition, an online submission of Monthly Progress Reports, physical as well as financial, can also made by the respective state/ UTs in the PMS.
Core Objective of PMS

1) To obviate the need for submitting hard copies, except where it is mandated otherwise.
2) To have transparency and accuracy in System w.r.t Approvals, Releases, Financial Status.
3) To streamline the Financial Management system.
4) To facilitate Just-In-Time movement of funds to lower levels of programme implementation.
5) To enhance better Financial Management and make more accurate assessment of actual requirement of implementation.

Conclusion

RMS A Remarkable role in providing Secondary School within reasonable distance of any habitation. In the light of recent passage of right to education as a fundamental right to all children there is a critical need to find ways in which this can be realised. It is also widely acknowledged that without community as a primary stakeholder in the process this right would not meet its intent. This scheme enhance efficiency with the active support of School Management and Development Committee and PTAs in planning process, implementation monitoring and evaluation.

KEYWORDS

RMSA
Project Monitoring System
Information and Communication Technology
Quality Improvement