
Education for All

Objectives

- Provide all children up to 14 years free and compulsory elementary education
- Universalize secondary education up to Class 10.
- Improve access to higher education

What was done ?

- “The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008” introduced in Parliament
- Funds for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan increased substantially from Rs. 17000 crore in the 10th Plan Rs. 71000 crore in the 11th.
- Enrolment in schools has gone up from 15.6 crore children in 2003-04 to 18.5 crore and the number of children not going to schools gone down from 320 lakhs to 76 lakhs.
- A national “hot cooked mid-day meal” programme launched in 2004. More than 12 crore children in primary and upper primary schools getting nutritious mid-day meals all over the country.
- The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan with an allocation of 20,000 crore launched to make secondary education accessible and affordable.
- 2,500 high quality model schools being established in educationally backward blocks
- Six new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) functioning: one each for Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Gujarat and Punjab. Two more IITs in Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh will start activities during 2009-10.
- One new Indian Institute of Management (IIM) established at Shillong. Six more IIMs will come up during the XI Plan.

- 15 new central universities approved. Every state will now have at least one central university.
- Five new Indian Institutes of Science Education & Research (IISERs) have started functioning at Kolkata, Pune, Mohali, Bhopal and Thiruvananthapuram.
- Two new Schools of Planning & Architecture (SPAs) set up at Bhopal and Vijayawada.
- The National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (ICT) launched to equip all institutions of higher learning with computers and internet, etc.
- 1500 ITIs to come up at block levels to enhance opportunities for employment-oriented vocational education.