A Study On Financial Decentralisation In Education, Karnataka

Prajayatna 2011

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Preface

Over the last ten years, Prajayatna, has been involved in facilitating systemic reforms in order to bring about a qualitative improvement in Primary Education. Towards this, the organization has been enabling processes of institutionalizing community ownership of schools by engaging with parents and other key stakeholders like the Department of Education and the Panchayat Raj Institutions at the different levels of governance.

As a part of the continuous effort to understand various aspects impacting Elementary education, Prajayatna had initiated a study on financial decentralization and planning in education. This document analyses the education budget in terms of how it involves local Government bodies* in planning and thereby its implementation for effecting change in Primary and Secondary schools.

This document is divided into two parts:

Part 1-Primary and Secondary Education Budget of the Union Government.

Part 2-The Primary and Secondary Education Budget of the State Government.

Part one analyses data pertaining to the Union budget documents from the Ministry of Finance and data from documents on expenditure incurred by the Ministry of Human Resources. The data used are revised estimates for Primary and Secondary education from the website of Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Part 1 also looks at the education scenario in all the States of the country and the Education Development Index (EDI) is used to compare status of education vis-à-vis the expenditure on education. Data pertaining to various State Government budget documents have been taken from the web site of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG).

The second part of the study analyses Karnataka's budget expenditure on Primary and Secondary education for a 10 year period (from2000 to 2010). It focuses on expenditure for Primary and Secondary education that is allocated to the local Government bodies. Data published in the budget papers available from the web-site of the Ministry of Finance, Karnataka, have been used extensively in this study. The audited expenditure under the minor budget heads for Primary and Secondary education is taken from the CAG web-site and the data available is for the last 5 years. To analyze the budget allocation to the local bodies, link documents have been used. The study uses budget estimates from the link documents, as the audited expenditure Statements of the districts were inaccessible and difficult to get from various districts.

Acknowledgment

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We would specially like to thank Mr. Rajesh Joseph, for undertaking the study on behalf of Prajayatna.

Prajayatna would like to acknowledge and thank Tata Education Trust for their support in bringing out this study.

Their combined efforts enable Prajayatna to make use of the knowledge gained through the study, and to share valuable learning with the different stakeholders in the system.

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Part One

Education Budget - The Union Government

A lot has been written and discussed in various forums about the importance of education and its role in solving the diverse social and economic problems faced by the country since Independence. It has taken nearly six decades for the country to enact the Right to Education. The bigger challenge for the Right to Education is the implementation of policies; putting in place systems and institutional structures which in turn obligate the State to set aside substantial resources to be invested in education. Problem of resource crunch for education is not a new problem, as identified way back in 1968 by the Kothari Commission which had suggested 6% of GDP* to be invested in education. Four decades later the country is nowhere near this figure, with the combined expenditure on education by the Centre and State Governments at 3.2% of the GDPⁱ.

India's economic growth has been one of the highest in the world. Despite this, the economic well being for all sections of its large population is not guaranteed. The rapid growth has also led to inequities and greater disparity in the society. The dismal ranking of 119 (for the year 2010) in the Human Development Index (HDI)*, which measures the well being of its citizens with respect to aspects pertaining to Health and Education, even as the economy continues to improve, is a clear sign that more attention needs to be paid to these aspects.

Economic development hinges on the educational level of its population. Education enables people to take advantage and participate in the political, socio-cultural and economic structures of a democracy, also ensuring the sustainability of the current economic growth. Leaving aside the rhetoric of the current economic growth success, it is the education level of its population which will determine in the long run India's democratic credentials and its commitment towards tackling poverty.

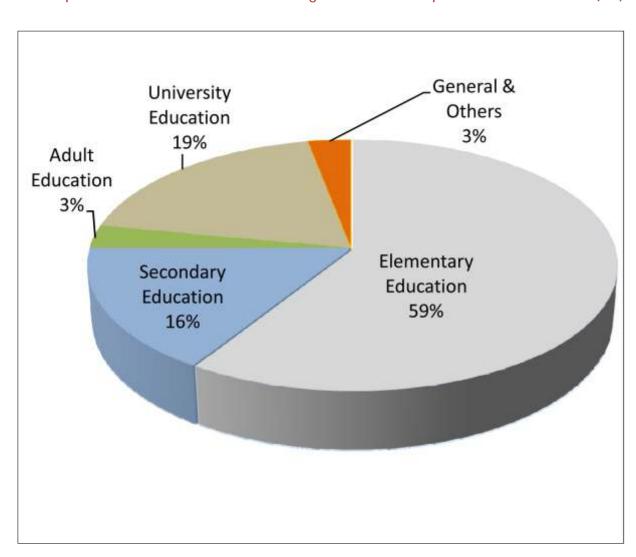
Various attempts have been made by the Government to bring education to the forefront of development. Most of these attempts have been made through planned interventions in the form of introduction of various schemes and programmes by Governments at the Centre. However, these schemes that have been introduced by the Government have to be backed by adequate finances to make it successful.

In other words, the Government's ability and willingness to invest in education will make a real difference in addressing some of the major social concerns of the country.

^{*}see brief explanation at the end of the document

In India, Education was a State subject until 1976. Due to the slow progress, education was brought into the concurrent list through the 42nd constitutional amendment, making both the Centre and the State responsible for implementing education programmes. Thereafter the 73rd and 74th Amendment Act, 1993 brought in the local Government to play a prominent role, in Primary and Secondary Education. The Central Government's intervention in financing education is mainly in the areas of Primary, Secondary and Higher Education. Figure-1 depicts the share of various sub-sectors in education in revenue expenditure* for the year 2010-11.

Figure - 1
Breakup of the Centre's Education Budget- Revenue Expenditure 2010-2011(BE)



Data compiled from Union budget documents, 2010-11

^{*}see brief explanation at the end of the document

The share of Primary education in the total education budget is around 59% of the total education revenue budget followed by University Education which is around 19% and Secondary education which is around 16%. Both Primary and Secondary Education constitute around 75% of the total revenue expenditure on education. The Central Government's interventions are mainly through transfer of funds to the States through its various schemes. The major portion of the budget allocated is to Primary Education especially, for Sarva Siksha Abhiyan and the Mid-day Meal Programme. These programmes are under the Plan expenditure* of the Central Government which constitutes 88.62% (2010-2011 BE) of the total Primary and Secondary Education budget. The transfers of funds to the State Government for Primary and Secondary Education have been through the Revenue Expenditure.

Table- 1, shows the revenue expenditure for Primary and Secondary Education during the last 10 years by the Central Government. As seen from the table, a substantial increase (32%) in the budget allocation was in the year 2003-04. This is due to an increase in spending for the Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan (SSA)*. The allocation for the SSA increased from 100 crores in 2000-2001 to Rs 1220.03 cores in 2002-03 and in 2003-04 it was increased to Rs. 2732.32 crores. Another significant increase in the education expenses has been in the year 2005-06. This was the year when the 2% Education Cess was imposed on all major central taxes.

Table - 1
Total Primary and Secondary Education Budget, 2000 to 2011

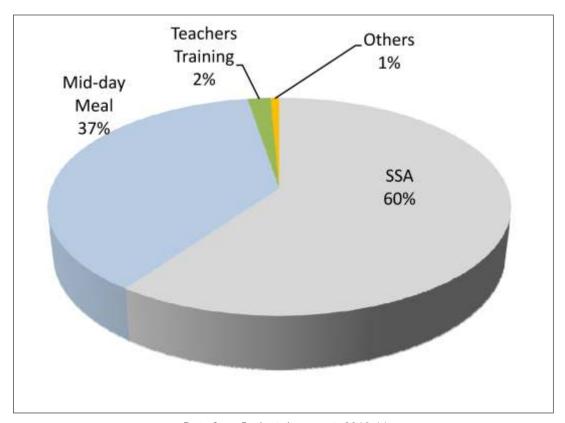
Year	Total Revenue Expenditure	Revenue Expenditure for Primary & Secondary Education (Revised estimate)	Percentage of Expenses on Primary and Secondary Education to Total Revenue Expenditure	Growth rate(%) of Revenue Expenditure for Primary & Secondary Education
2000-01	348742.65	43 45.91	1.25	11.13
2001-02	369491.48	4812.65	1.30	10.74
2002-03	412976.38	4996.92	1.21	3.83
2003-04	442311.99	6617.28	1.50	32.43
2004-05	458871.89	85 88.30	1.87	29.79
2005-06	541654.29	13967.59	2.56	61.47
2006-07	644122.97	18863.48	2.91	35.26
2007-08	721649.69	22938.08	3.18	22.29
2008-09	102 2935.73	25818.41	2.52	12.56
2009-10	1047425.87	24879.46	2.38	-3.64
2010-11 BE	1088220.79	31906.30	2.93	28.24

Figures in Crores, data compiled from the Union budget documents, 2000-01 to 2010-11

As seen from the table 1, the percentage spent on Primary and Secondary Education has not crossed more than 3% except in the year 2007-08. Figure-2 shows the allocation made for various programmes under Primary Education.

^{*}see brief explanation at the end of the document

Figure - 2
Breakup of Budget for Primary Education 2010-2011 (BE



Data from Budget document, 2010-11

In the year 2000, the Centre started its flag ship programme Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan (SSA) for achieving universalisation of Primary Education in a time-bound manner.

Since the availability of finances for the State Government was a key problem in improving Primary Education, the SSA provided support towards this. The SSA was instituted as a registered society in each State and the expenditure of the SSA was agreed to be contributed by the States and the Centre. The SSA funds were used by the States in improving Primary Education, mainly by creating infrastructure and by appointment of teachers. The agreement for contribution between the Centre and States was 85:15 in the ninth Plan, 75:25 in the tenth plan, 65:35 in the eleventh plan and 50:50 thereafter.

In spite of schemes and policy changes announced, the major challenge was to find resources to fund these projects and schemes. The UPA Government in the year 2004 proposed a cess of 2% on all central taxes and Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (PSK)* was established as non-lapsable fund to receive the proceeds of the cess.

Table 2, shows the allocation of PSK to the Primary Education budget. Since 98% of the Primary Education budget is set aside for Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan and the Mid-day Meal scheme, the funds in the PSK are utilized exclusively, so far, for Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan and the Mid-day Meal (Nutrition Support to Primary Education).

^{*}see brief explanation at the end of the document

Table - 2 Allocation to Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh

Year	Expenditure for Primary Education (Revised Estimates)	Amount from PSK fund	Government budgetary allocation without PSK contribution	Percentage of PSK contribution to total Primary Education expenditure
2006-07	16895.44	8746.00	8149.44	51.77
2007-08	20310.40	11128.10	9182.30	54.79
2008-09	21471.39	12134.33	9337.06	56.51
2009-10	19122.55	14028.67	5093.88	73.36
2010-11(BE)	25066.70	14433.00	10633.70	57.58

All figures in crores, data compiled from budget documents, 2006-07 to 2010-11

As seen from the table 2, more than 50% of the Primary Education budget is financed by the Education Cess. In 2009-10, almost 73% of the budget was financed by Education cess. The Government budgetary allocation was almost equal to the budget for Primary Education in the year 2003-04 which was Rs 5219.47 crores. It has been observed from table 2, that the Centre's contribution from the revenue account towards Primary Education has been showing a slow growth rate as most of the funds are transferred from the PSK funds.

Table - 3
SSA Allocation and Expenditure

Year	Allocations	Expenditure	% of Expenditure Against Allocations
2005-2006	1360817.75	900613.45	66.18
2006-2007	2091082.27	1348434.73	64.49
2007-2008	2146143.88	1578452.28	73.55
2008-2009	2460874.33	1933579.32	78.57
2009-2010	2790190.16	2065815.17	74.04

Figures in lakhs, compiled from SSA Financial statements

The SSA programme for each State is implemented by a separately registered Society and the SSA has certain amount of flexibility in the way expenses are done as compared to programmes implemented from funds routed through the Department of Finance. However, as observed from Table 3, for the year 2009-10, 25% of the fund has not been spent as per the plan.

According to the data available for the years 2005-06 to 2007-08, the percentage expenditure as per the availability of funds has increased from 66% to 80% Among the States which failed to spend in 2005-2006 was Bihar, which spent only 14% of the funds available and Jharkhand which spent around 32%. By 2007-08, Bihar was able to increase its expenditure to 75% and Jharkhand to 64%.

The pattern of disbursing SSA funds is different from that of the State's, which is done through the Department of Finance. As the SSA funds are directly released to the accounts which are in the names of the SDMC* of the schools, it should have enabled better management of funds.

^{*}see brief explanation at the end of the document

The Education budget in the various States of India

In the total education budget of the country, the share of the Central Government and the State Government is about 25.01% and 74.99% respectively^{iv}. The programmes, for which funds are transferred from the Centre, are implemented by the States. Hence, education is primarily the responsibility of the State with the Centre playing a supporting role.

To understand the impact of budgetary allocations on the status of education in the various States and Union territories, this document looks at the Education Development Index (EDI)* of all States vis-à-vis its expenditure on education. The EDI is an index computed by the National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) using the information provided by the District Information System for Education (DISE). EDI is calculated, considering as many as 23 indicators which are grouped under the following four main categories: Access, Infrastructure, Teachers and Outcome indicators.

To improve the index under the first three categories, which are more resource driven, the States need to invest in infrastructure and appointment of more teachers. The fourth category- outcome indicators shows the impact of the first three categories and shows whether investments have translated into more enrollments, reduction in drop-out children, and pass percentage of children which are in some ways indicative of the quality of education.

Table 4, shows the EDI index along with the EDI ranking for the years 2007-08 and 2008-09.

^{*}see brief explanation at the end of the document

Table - 4
State-Wise EDI Values and Ranks

		2007-2008		2008-	2009
Sl.No	State/UT	EDI	Rank	EDI	Rank
1	Puducherry	0.808	1	0.841	1
2	Lakshadweep	0.788	3	0.812	2
3	Kerala	0.791	2	0.756	3
4	Haryana	0.755	7	0.752	4
5	Tamil Nadu	0.771	5	0.75	5
6	Punjab	0.732	12	0.737	6
7	A&N Islands	0.707	15	0.738	7
8	Delhi	0.78	4	0.732	8
9	Daman & Diu	0.75	8	0.728	9
10	Chandigarh	0.763	6	0.722	10
11	Mizoram	0.705	16	0.714	11
12	Karnataka	0.743	10	0.708	12
13	Gujarat	0.748	9	0.702	13
14	Andhra Pradesh	0.74	11	0.702	14
15	Maharashtra	0.727	13	0.7	15
16	Himachal Pradesh	0.695	17	0.679	16
17	Goa	0.716	14	0.678	17
18	Sikkim	0.656	21	0.67	18
19	Uttarakhand	0.66	19	0.661	19
20	Nagaland	0.653	23	0.654	20
21	Jammu & Kashmir	0.678	18	0.623	21
22	D&N Haveli	0.656	20	0.617	22
23	Uttar Pradesh	0.586	27	0.614	23
24	Rajasthan	0.653	22	0.612	24
25	Madhya Pradesh	0.59	26	0.578	25
26	Chhattisgarh	0.57	29	0.577	26
27	Manipur	0.611	24	0.547	27
28	Orissa	0.572	28	0.545	28
29	Tripura	0.609	25	0.539	29
30	Arunachal Pradesh	0.485	34	0.516	30
31	Meghalaya	0.556	30	0.51	31
32	West Bengal	0.488	33	0.494	32
33	Assam	0.515	31	0.483	33
34	Bihar	0.406	35	0.463	34
35	Jharkhand	0.491	32	0.456	35



Among the States with the top 10 EDI ranks in 2008-009, five are smaller States and have fewer schools to manage. The bigger states in the top 10 are Kerala, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Delhi. Of these, Haryana and Punjab have made remarkable progress in their ranking. Haryana from a previous ranking of 7 moved up to the 4th place and Punjab moved up by 6 places from the previous ranking of 12. It is interesting to note that out of the States with the top 10 ranks in 2008-09, six States had negative growth in EDI from the previous year.

The EDI ranks shows the relative position of the States when their EDIs are compared. However, the rankings do not show year on year improvement of education development in a State. For this, it is required to compare the value of the index itself over the years for a given State.

The data from table 4, shows that there are States which had improved rankings, though there was no improvement in the index itself. In fact, in some cases the index had reduced from the previous year. Out of the 35 States (including the Union Territories), 13 States have shown improvement in EDI from 2007-08 to 2008-09 and the remaining 22 have a negative growth in their EDI.

14 States have shown an improvement in EDI rank. Out of these States, three of them showed a decrease in their EDI over the previous year. Four States had the same ranking as the previous year and seventeen had lower rankings as compared to the previous year. Out of the four States with the same ranking, two showed improvements in EDI (Puducherry and Uttarkhand) and two had lower EDI (Tamil Nadu and Orissa). Amongst the 17 States that showed a drop in ranking, none of the states showed an improvement in the EDI.

Some of the States like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, which have a large number of out of school children, have shown considerable progress in EDI from 2007-2008. If the 2008-2009 data is analyzed, Bihar has shown the highest improvement in the EDI from the previous year, followed by Arunachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. Although there is a considerable improvement in their EDI, the ranking of these States as compared to other States have not shown much improvement, indicating that progress is still slow.

In order to understand the impact of the expenditure on education to the EDI in a State, one needs to look at the total expenditure, percentage of total expenditure on education and EDI for all States as shown in table 5.

Table - 5
State EDI Ranks and Education Expenditure

SI.No	States	EDI	Primary & Secondary	% of Primary & Secondary
		2008-09	Education Budget	Education Budget
				to Total Budget
1	Kerala	3	360430.12	13.67
2	Haryana	4	210613.51	10.05
3	TamilNadu	5	570059.92	11.30
4	Punjab	6	232057.52	9.19
5	Mizoram	11	23627.02	9.63
6	Karnataka	12	575748.44	12.51
7	Gujarat	13	485102.42	12.03
8	Andhra Pradesh	14	526071.28	9.75
9	Maharashtra	15	1150224.75	15.08
10	Himachal Pradesh	16	141402.68	14.57
11	Sikkim	18	21938.04	7.94
12	Uttarakhand	19	143508.01	14.66
13	Jammu & Kashmir	21	110665.84	6.96
14	Uttar Pradesh*	23	1166231.95	11.86
15	Rajasthan	24	497321.29	13.94
16	Madhya Pradesh	25	324407.37	8.65
17	Chhattisgarh	26	168199.02	9.89
18	Manipur	27	33800.49	9.94
19	Orissa	28	262917.37	12.78
20	Tripura	29	48469.88	13.04
21	Assam	33	249461.09	17.28
22	Bihar	34	485406.41	16.36
23	Jharkhand	35	196378.85	14.64
*2008-09	Audited budget			

All figures in Lakhs, compiled from CAG reports of 2007-08

The allocations made by the States are more or less a fixed percentage of the total revenue expenditure. The amount allocated for education increases only when the total revenue expenditure increases. The expenditure for education as a percentage of the total revenue expenditure does not show substantial increases for any of the states. As per the 2008-2009 data, on an average the States spent 11.98% of the total revenue and capital expenditure* on Primary and Secondary education.

As seen from the table, several States with higher percentage of expenditure like Karnataka and Gujarat, have not shown improvements in EDI ranking. At the same time, some of the States with lower percentage of expenditure on education have shown improvements in EDI rankings from previous years. For instance, Haryana spent only 10.05% of their total expenditure on education and saw an improvement in its EDI. Bihar is another example. In the year 2006-07, the total amount spent on Primary and Secondary Education was Rs 485760.58 lakhs which was around 18% of the total revenue and capital expenditure. In the next year 2007-08, Rs 485406.41 lakhs was spent which was around 16% of the total revenue and capital expenditure. Yet, there was increase in its EDI for the same year. It is difficult to correlate EDI with expenditure on education, especially if the data analyzed is for a short term period. The relation between the two could be more obvious, if the data is followed for a longer period. Since the EDI considers aspects like teachers and outcomes, factors other than financial investment will also have significant impact on the EDI. The first two aspects (Access and Infrastructure) used to compute the EDI, are highly dependent on financial investments but the other two aspects-Teachers and Outcomes have various other factors like governance which can create a more significant impact.

^{*}see brief explanation at the end of the document

Conclusion to Part One

The central Government spends around 75% of the total education budget on Primary and Secondary Education of which 59% is spend on Primary education. Major proportion of the funds is spent on Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan and the Mid-day Meal Scheme and these funds are transferred to the State Government to implement. Both these schemes are major heads in Primary Education constituting more than 97% of the total education budget.

It is seen that over the last five years 58% of the Centre's Primary Education budget has been funded through the Education Cess and 6% of the SSA budget is from foreign contribution. This makes the Centre's contributions from revenues a mere 38% of the total Primary and Secondary education budget. The Cess and other contributions, instead of supplementing the Centre's contribution towards education have gradually been replacing it."

In the past 10 years, Sarva Shikhana Abhiyan has created the much needed infrastructure for Primary schools. Though the work of SSA has had tremendous impact, its work so far has been limited to Primary Education. This has created a lacuna between the facilities and even the number of schools in Primary and Secondary Education. Currently, the Centre spends around 16% of the total education budget on Secondary education which seems to be inadequate and could lead to higher drop outs as children move from Primary to Secondary levels.

In recent years, there has been a progress in school enrollment across the country. The number of out of school children has come down to 81.5 Lakhs in 2009 from 134.6 Lakhs in 2005. But finances alone do not solve the problem of getting children to school. In spite of the increased spending to create infrastructure, a few States like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Orissa still account for 75% of dropout children in the country and out of 81.5 Lakh school children 61.04 Lakh children have never attended school. This indicates that for further improvement in enrolment, it would require other strategies which can persuade communities to be sensitized. It is universally regarded that quality education that is demonstrable at the school level by teachers, persuades parents to enroll their children in schools.

The Right to Education will surely augment efforts to ensure that all children attend school. For this Act to be implemented in the true spirit, it requires not only more financial support from the Centre but more importantly, active involvement from the State Governments to implement in right earnest. The State Governments also have to set aside more resources to meet the challenges of providing quality education as envisaged in the RTE Act.

Part Two

Karnataka's Education Budget

This section of the document looks at Karnataka's education scenario with a focus on the Primary and Secondary Education budget. It highlights the trends in expenditure for education in Karnataka from 2000 to 2010. The data is compiled from budget documents, accessed from the web-site of the Karnataka Department of Finance and CAG audited reports. The link documents have been used to analyze the budget and its allocation to the local Government bodies, especially the Zilla and Taluk Panchayat. Though there are different departments which incur expenditure on education, this document looks only at the budget allocations for Primary and Secondary Education under the budget head of General Education (2202).

Background of the State

Karnataka is one of the progressive States in terms of Industrial growth and has achieved remarkable growth in the emerging new sectors of the economy especially in the services sector. Bangalore, the State capital has become the centre of software exports in the country. However, this impressive State ranking of the knowledge industry is in stark contrast to the literacy rate of the State which is 64.8% (for both female and male population), which is just above the average literacy rate of the country at 64.4% The State ranks 12th in the EDI (2008-09), down from the 10th position in 2007-08^{viii}.

Karnataka is also one of the States which have been successful in fiscal reforms. The fiscal situation in the State was grim around the year 1997. The State had taken a number of measures to address this and as a result, by 2004-05 the State was able to improve its fiscal situation and this enabled an increase in expenditure on social and economic services^{ix}. The State has also been in the forefront in decentralization, implementing a local governance system even before the Panchayat Raj Act was implemented and was one of the first States to implement the 73rd and 74th Amendments.

Karnataka has one of the largest numbers of schools and teachers with the State Department of Education managing over 56,158 schools which is 81 % of the total schools in the State and has appointed 2,97,687 teachers which is 75% of the total teachers strength in Primary and Secondary schools.

Table - 6
Number of Schools and Teachers in Karnataka, 2008-09

Details	Government	Aided	Un-aided	Other	Total	Teachers
Lower Primary Schools	23696	272	2653	23	26644	289764
Higher Primary Schools	22334	2177	6217	148	30876	209704
High Schools	4387	2997	4245	124	11753	107912
Total	50417	5446	13115	295	69273	397676

Data compiled from 2008-09 Report: Department of Public instruction, Karnataka

Education expenditure like that of other sectors is made through both the revenue and capital accounts. Both the Revenue and Capital expenditure allocations are split into Plan and Non-plan expenses. The Plan expenditures are for new schemes and programmes and are made in consultation with the Planning Commission. Non-Plan expenses are for ongoing and recurring expenses. Non-Plan includes interest payments and salaries for Government officials amongst others.

The budget is divided under various subcategories and General Education can be found under the major head of 'Social Services'. There are various categories under Social Services and General Education is classified under 'Education, Sports, Art and Culture'. In this category, along with General Education, the other heads are - Technical Education, Sports & Youth Services and Art and Culture. The expenses for Primary and Secondary education come under the head 'General Education' which is coded as 2202.

In Karnataka, revenue expenditure takes more than a large share of the Primary and Secondary education budget. The major sub-heads under the head General Education are as follows:

- 01 Elementary Education
- 02 Secondary Education
- 03 University and Higher Education
- 04 Adult education
- 05 Language Development
- 80 Others

This document focuses only on two major subheads: 01-Elementary Education and 02-Secondary Education.

Education budget allocation under Revenue Expenditure

Revenue Expenditure is met from the current income generated by the State through taxes, duties, fees from services rendered, fines and penalties, revenue from the Government estates and Grant in-aid from the Union Government. As seen from the table -7, for the years 2000-2010, the total revenue expenditure on education has been on an average 17.84% percent of the total revenue expenditure.

The amount spent on Primary and Secondary Education, on an average has been 15.34% of the total revenue expenditure. Of the total budget allocated to Education, 86.04% was spent on Primary and Secondary Education. Thus a major portion of the allocation on Education is spent on Primary and Secondary Education.

Over the last 10 years, revenue expenditure on both Primary and Secondary Education saw an average growth rate of 11.79%, while the average growth rate in total revenue expenditure has been 12.12%.

Table - 7
Total Education Budget's Revenue Expenditure - 1999 to 2011

Year	A Total Revenue Expendit ure	B Total Revenue Expenditu re on Education	c Total Revenue Expenditure on Primary and Secondary Education	B/A% Expenditure on Education to Total Revenue Expenditure	C/A % Primary and Secondary Expenditure to the Total Revenue Expenditure	C/B % Primary and Secondary Education Expenditure to Total Revenue Expenditure on Education
1999-2000	15231.75	2877.47	2472.75	18.89	16.23	85.93
2000-2001	16684.95	3349.57	2745.03	20.08	16.45	81.95
2001-2002	18605.7	3356.32	2843	18.04	15.28	84.71
2002-2003	18814.5	3399.63	2850.05	18.07	15.15	83.83
2003-2004	21284.72	3609.93	3053.16	16.96	14.34	84.58
2004-2005	24931.85	4184.87	3608.16	16.79	14.47	86.22
2005-2006	28040.9	4570.82	3971.36	16.3	14.16	86.89
2006-2007	33435.43	5360.03	4715.32	16.03	14.1	87.97
2007-2008	37374.77	6434.67	5718.93	17.22	15.3	88.88
2008-2009	41659.29	8121.7	7285.04	19.5	17.49	89.7
2009-2010(RE)	45867.84	8179.36	7250.17	17.83	15.81	88.64
2010-2011(BE)	53138.29	9811.87	8164.06	18.46	15.36	83.21

Figures in Crores, compiled from Budget papers, 1999-2000 to 2010-2011, Department of Finance, Karnataka

The highest percentage of total revenue expenditure spent on education was in the year 2000-2001 but this increase was for Higher Education and not for Primary and Secondary Education. For Primary and Secondary Education, the highest percentage (17.49%) of total revenue expenditure was in 2008-2009, where almost 90% of the total education budget was spent on Primary and Secondary Education.

Trends in revenue expenditure on Primary & Secondary Education, 2000-2010

The Primary and Secondary revenue expenditure is divided into Plan and Non-Plan expenses. A detailed look at both the Plan and Non-Plan expenses for Primary and Secondary Education sector helps us to understand the trends in allocation of funds for education in Karnataka.

Table - 8
Revenue Expenditure on Primary and Secondary Education

	Primary Education				Secondary Education					
Year	Plan	Non-Plan	Total budget	Nominal growth rate	Plan	Non-Plan	Total budget	Nominal growth rate		
1999-2000	345.31	1196.75	1542.06	18.27	92.69	838.00	930.69	19.57		
2000-2001	443.82	1315.36	1759.18	14.08	119.41	866.44	985.85	5.93		
2001-2002	510.34	1274.40	1784.74	1.45	138.90	919.36	1058.26	7.34		
2002-2003	353.31	1442.47	1795.78	0.62	70.66	983.61	1054.27	-0.38		
2003-2004	436.18	1588.11	2024.29	12.72	66.11	962.76	1028.87	-2.41		
2004-2005	709.86	1738.58	2448.44	20.95	84.72	1075.00	1159.72	12.72		
2005-2006	731.52	1935.57	2667.09	8.93	94.83	1209.44	1304.27	12.46		
2006-2007	772.53	2290.68	3063.21	14.85	263.83	1388.28	1652.11	26.67		
2007-2008	760.05	2945.74	3705.79	20.98	308.30	1704.84	2013.14	21.85		
2008-2009	1057.37	3666.69	4724.06	27.48	404.40	2156.58	2560.98	27.21		
2009-2010(RE)	824.66	3671.59	4496.24	-4 .82	517.13	2236.80	2753.92	7.53		
2010-2011(BE)	900.41	4169.90	5070.31	12.77	565.71	2528.04	3093.75	12.34		

Amount in crores, compiled from budget papers, 1999-00 to 2010-11; Department of Finance, Government of Karnataka

The first major increase in expenses for Primary Education was in the year 2004-2005. This was in the planned budget of Primary Education. This increase in the planned budget is mainly under the sub-head of 'Scholarship and Incentives' (an increase of Rs 3781.76 lakhs) and 'Assistance to Taluk Panchayat' (an increase of Rs 4225.27 lakhs).

In 2008-2009, there has been increase in both Plan and Non-plan expenditure of Primary Education. The increase has been mainly due to an increase in the planned budget for the Akshara Dasoha Scheme (Midday Meal) to Rs. 11812.22 lakhs and Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan to Rs 22600 lakhs. In the unplanned expenditure, the increase has been 'Assistance to Taluk Panchayat' to Rs. 357751.62 lakhs.

In 2009 -10, there has been a decrease mainly due to the reduction in allocation for planned expenditure in Primary Education. There also been a reduction in the Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan expenditure from Rs. 22600 lakhs to Rs. 7000 lakhs.

In Secondary Education, the major increase has been in the year 2006-2007. This has been in the Plan expenditure, an increase of Rs. 169 crores. The increases were allocated under the following subheads: 'Government Secondary Schools' (increase of Rs. 918,073 lakhs), 'Assistant to Taluk Panchayat' (increase of Rs. 392,373 lakhs), and 'Assistant to Zilla Panchayat' (increase of Rs. 324,462 lakhs).

The next major increase was in the year 2007-2008. The increase this time is seen in the Non-Plan expenditure with an increase of Rs. 316.56 crores. The increase is seen in 'Assistance to Taluk Panchayat' with an increase of Rs. 15509.59 lakhs. This amount has also gone for salary payments to high school teachers. The increase in the salary payment is due to the implementation of the Fifth Pay Commission^{xii}.

In 2008-2009, the increase in the planned budget was due to additional amount towards 'Assistance to Taluk Panchayat' of Rs 9239.06 lakhs, which has been a new planned expenditure. In the unplanned expenditure, the major increase has been in 'Assistance to Zilla Panchayat' (an increase of Rs.19096.96 Lakhs), 'Assistance to Taluk Panchayat' (an increase of Rs. 19342.68 Lakhs). There was also an allocation for text books for Rs 589.75 lakhs, which was not present in the previous budget.

In 2009-10, the increase in expenditure on Secondary Education was very moderate at 7%.

The nominal growth rate of expenditure on Primary and Secondary Education for the last 10 years has been erratic with sharp increases and decreases as seen in figures 3 and 4. A detailed look at the expenses shows the variations to be more in the Plan expenditures of both the Primary and Secondary Education. In Primary Education, the Plan expenses have seen an increase of 23.46% in 2003-2004 from a negative growth of 30.77% in the previous year. The Plan expenses for Primary Education has seen negative growth thrice while the Non-Plan showed negative growth once in the last ten years.

Secondary Education also had one year of negative growth for Non-Plan expenses and two years with negative growth for Plan expenses. The Plan expenditure for SecondaryEducation saw a major increase of 178.21% in 2006-2007 which was preceded by years of negative and gradual growth (from 2000 to 2005).

Over the last few years, major allocations have been made to both the Taluk and Zilla Panchayats. The allocations however have been more for Non-Plan expenses in both Primary and Secondary Education.

Figure - 3

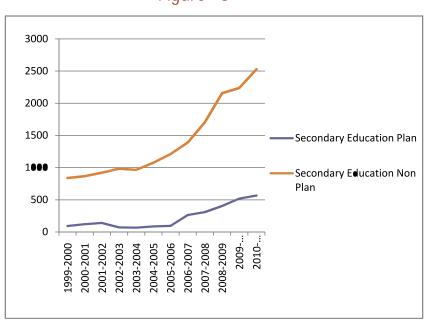
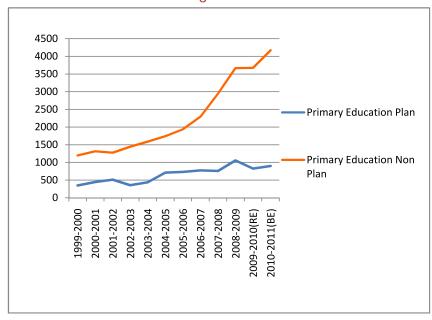


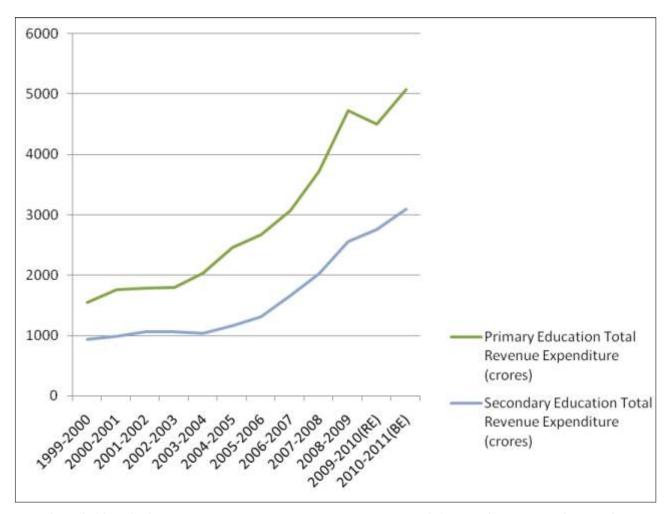
Figure - 4



Compiled from budget papers 1999-2000 to 2010-2011; Department of Finance, Government of Karnataka

As seen from Figure 5, the differences between revenue expenditure in Primary and Secondary Education has been significant. Expenditure in Primary Education for the last ten years has been much more than in Secondary Education. In the year 1999-2000, the difference has been Rs. 611.37 crores and in the budget estimates of 2010-2011 the difference is Rs. 1976.56 crores. In some of the years (2004-05, 2005-06) the expenditure for Primary Education has been more than double that of Secondary Education.

Figure - 5
Revenue Expenditure on Primary and Secondary Education



Compiled from budget papers 1999-2000 to 2010-2011; Department of Finance, Government of Karnataka

The difference in expenditure on Primary and Secondary schools is largely due to the Non-Plan component which is much greater for Primary schools, which have a significantly larger number of schools (as seen in table6) and teachers. Since there is considerable difference in the number of schools between Primary and Secondary School, it is clear that more investment is required for Secondary schools.

Budget allocation under Capital Account

Capital expenditure is the account of expenditure incurred for the creation of concrete assets such as buildings etc. This expenditure is met from sources other than current revenue, through loans, cash balances, and surplus revenue. However, it is up to the Government to decide whether a particular item of expenditure shall be met from current revenue or from borrowed funds.

As the capital expenditure on education shows the Government's expenditure on creation of permanent structures for educational institutions, they indicate the long term planning undertaken for the education sector. Table 9, shows the capital expenditure for the overall education sector in the State from the year 2000 to 2011.

Table - 9 Capital Expenditure on Education

	General Ed	In crores	
Years	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
2000-2001	4.26	1.88	6.14
2001-2002	3.47	1.00	4.47
2002-2003	6.40	0.31	6.71
2003-2004	5.08	0.23	5.31
2004-2005	4.72	0.21	4.93
2005-2006	50.58	2.09	52.67
2006-2007	54.19	0.79	54.98
2007-2008	113.82	6.95	120.77
2008-2009	195.74	3.59	199.32
2009-2010(RE)	252.52	3.73	256.25
2010-2011(BE)	324.57	3.88	328.45

Source: budget paper; Department of Finance; Government of Karnataka

As observed in Table 9, there has been a major increase in budget allocation in the year 2007-08. However, data available from the year 2005-2006 for Primary and Secondary Education depict that most of the allocation has gone towards Higher Education. The amounts spent on Primary and Secondary Education is very minimal. This does not mean that no capital expenditure was incurred. Most of the civil works for Primary Education sector in the State was undertaken by SSA and hence the State Government's share of capital expenses was minimal. During the period 2001-09, through SSA funds, 90 Block Resources Centres, 1411 Cluster Resources Centres*, 3246 new buildings, 38922 additional class rooms, 23314 toilets, 1177 compound walls were built.

The State's share of expenditure of Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan fund is shown in the revenue budget, but the capital assets created under Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan is shown in SSA books which is to be later shifted to the accounts of the Department of Education on the closure of the SSA.

Table - 10
Capital Expenditure on Primary and Secondary Education

Year	Total capital expenditure on Education	Capital Expenditure on Primary Education	Capital Expenditure on Secondary Education	Total expenditure on Primary and Secondary education	% expenditure on Primary education	% expenditure on Secondary Education
2005-2006	52.67	0.98	6.55	7.53	1.86	12.44
2006-2007	54.98	19.01	5.13 19.54	5.13 38.55	0.00 15.74	9.33 16.18
2007-2008	120.77 199.32	11.58	3.7	15.28	5.81	1.86
2009-2010(RE)	256.25	10	54	64	3.90	21.07
2010-2011(BE)	328.45	20	42	62	6.09	12.79

Figure in crores, compiled from Audited budget papers of CAG

As seen from the table 10 in 2005-2006, 14% of the education capital expenditure was spent on Primary and Secondary Education. This was mainly spent on Primary schools and building of administrative building for Pre-university. In 2006-2007, there was no allocation for Primary Education and for Secondary Education Rs. 509.82 Lakhs was spent on construction of Junior Colleges.

In 2007-2008, the expenditure on Primary education peaked with Rs 1901.04 lakhs being spent and there was a decrease in the following years. 2008-2009 saw a minor decrease with only Rs 1158.49 lakhs being spent for Primary education which was used for the construction of cluster complexes* in backward Taluks under a special development plan. The capital expenditure further reduced to Rs 1000 lakhs in 2009-2010, which was used to complete the cluster complexes. This was followed by an increase of allocation as seen in the budgetary estimates of 2010-2011 with an allocation of Rs 1700 lakhs, again for cluster complex, apart from Rs 300 lakhs for constructing compound walls and play grounds in Primary schools.

Capital expenditure for Secondary Education has been better than that for Primary Education and it has seen an increase over the last five years. In 2007-2008, out of the Rs. 19.54 crores allocated for Secondary Education, Rs. 500 lakhs was spent on Sainik Schools* and the rest in building Junior Colleges. 2008-2009 saw a major decrease in capital expenditure for Secondary Education where only Rs. 3.7 crores were allocated and this was spent completely on Sainik schools. However, the allocation increased drastically with the revised estimates for 2009-2010 and the budget estimates of 2010-2011 showing an allocation of Rs. 54 and Rs. 42 crores respectively. In 2009-2010, Sainik schools were further allocated with Rs. 400 lakhs. A huge allocation of Rs. 5000 lakhs was made for infrastructure in high schools and this was allocated under the special development plan, special component plan and tribal sub-plan. The allocation for 2010-2011 is mainly for infrastructure in high schools (Rs. 3700) apart from Rs. 700 lakhs for building Sainik School in Koodige.

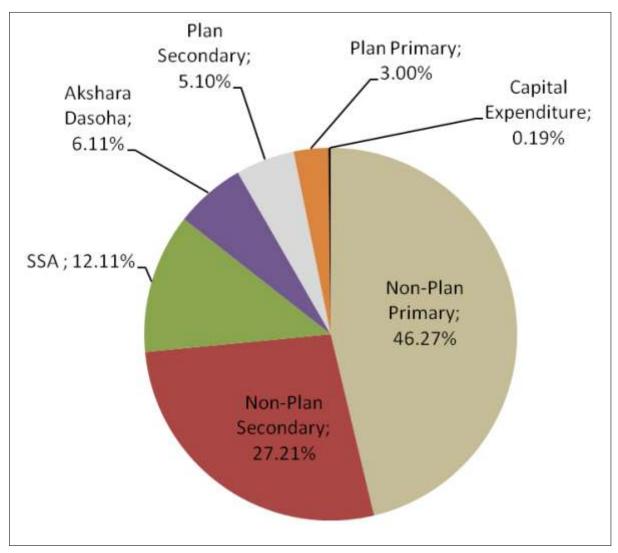
^{*}see brief explanation at the end of the document

Thus, it is seen that over the last five years, a major part of the capital expenditure in Primary Education has gone for cluster complexes. Initially, in Secondary Education, most of the allocation was for Junior Colleges and Sainik schools and it is only over the last two years that significant allocations were made for high schools.

As compared to revenue expenditure, the States share on capital expenditure for Primary and Secondary Education is minimal. Almost 85 % of the State's total revenue expenditure on education is in Primary and Secondary Education while only around 17% of total capital expenditure on education is spent on Primary and Secondary Education.

The trend for the last five years show that the revenue expenditure for Primary education has been much more than that of Secondary Education while in capital expenditure there is a reverse trend with Secondary Education getting more allocation than Primary.

Figure - 6
Breakup of Primary and Secondary Education budget (%), 2008-2009



Source: Budget document 2008-09, Department of Finance, Government of Karnataka

The figure 6 gives the breakup of the total expenditure for education in the State for the year 2008-2009. This includes the Centre's contribution which comes under SSA and Akshara Dasoha. The total contribution from the Centre had been around 12% of the total expenses for education and the remaining 88% has been the State's contribution, for the year 2008-2009. Out of the total, major part of it is for Non-Plan expenses and only 26.33% is for plan expenditure.

The total education budget of the State which comprises of mainly the Non-Plan component is allocated to the various districts of the States. The following section of the document takes a broad look at the way in which the State distributes the budget amongst all the districts. It tries to understand how this allocation is done and how the budget is broken up proportionally to meet the needs of the various districts.

Budget allocation to Districts

The table 11, gives the data with total allocations made for each district with other important indicators pertaining to each of the 30 districts in Karnataka, along with the rankings of the districts for each of these aspects for the year 2008-2009. Data, mostly for the year 2008-2009, is analyzed in this section and some of the aspects are highlighted here. The allocations to districts are classified under the subheads "Assistance to Zilla Panchayats" (2202-196) and "Assistance to Taluk Panchayats" (2202-197).

In the year 2008-09, there has been an increase of 17.49% in the revenue budget for education and this has been the highest in the decade. This increase has also been reflected in the budget allocated to the local self Government. Certain districts like Gulbarga (47.12%), Bidar (42.82%), Bellary (36.73%), Chamarajanagar (34.76%) and Dharwad (32%) saw significant increase in their allocations compared to the previous years. For Gulbarga, the increase in allocation was mainly for the appointment of school mothers*, Primary schools and high schools. The non-plan budget of Gulbarga increased by 50.32%. This increase was for salaries, suggesting an increase in appointment of teachers. For Bidar, the non-plan expenditures increased by 47.30% in 2008-2009. This increase was mainly for assigning more teachers in Primary and high schools. In Bellary, there has been major increase (191.86%) in the high school budget, an increase to Rs 353.97 lakhs from Rs 121.28 lakhs. The amount under the head Grant in Aid* allocated to Bellary also increased by 106.26%. For Chamarajanagar, the non-plan expenditure increased by 39.72% which was for salaries of Primary and High school teachers. Finally, Dharwad saw increases in the non-plan expenditure where the increased allocation was for appointment of school mothers (38.15%) and High schools (66.61%).

In 2008-2009, substantial allocations were done through the RIDF scheme of NABARD*. This scheme is used to develop infrastructure in rural areas and was set up in the mid- nineties when the State Governments were faced with severe resource crunch and commercial banks were unable to channelise 18 percent of their total lending to rural infrastructure as required under priority sector guidelines. The State Governments borrowed from NABARD to provide the rural areas in their districts with the necessary infrastructure. Increase in allotment to Gulbarga district has been mainly through the NABARD RIDF scheme, where the increase has been from Rs.340 lakhs in 2007-08 to Rs 1062.49 lakhs in 2008-2009, which is an 212.50% increase and the amount allocated for Gulbarga is 16% of the total allocations made through the NABARD RIDF scheme. Increase in allocation for Bidar through NABARD RIDF scheme was to build class rooms. This increase was 202.25%, from Rs 104 lakhs to Rs 314.35 lakhs. Bellary, Chamarajanagar, Bagalkot, Gadag, Udupi and Kodagu were the other districts which saw increases in allocation through the NABARD RIDF scheme in the year 2008-2009.

^{*}see brief explanation at the end of the document

Table – 11
District wise data for the year 2008-2009

District Name	Budgetary Allocation for Education 2008-2009	Rank (by allocati on)	Total Number of Schools	Rank (by no. of schools)	Populatio n of children (6-13 yrs)	Rank by populati on of children	ED I 08- 09	Number of out of school children (oosc)	Rank (by no. of oosc)
BELGAUM	53,949.78	1	3,983	2	682011	2	22	1442	14
GULBARGA	53,181.15	2	2,003	11	313896	6	28	11811	1
BANGALORE URBAN	32,783.87	3	3,917	3	727280	1	1	3301	7
TUMKUR	32,641.08	4	4,021	1	347139	4	6	1277	18
HASSAN	25,045.32	5	2,934	4	197781	21	8	451	27
UTTARA KANNADA	23,347.07	6	2,345	6	195731	22	14	1434	15
MYSORE	23,217.59	7	2,525	5	278772	9	5	1424	16
BIDAR	22,117.01	8	1,679	18	263522	12	24	2416	9
BIJAPUR	21,782.88	9	2,323	7	338966	5	26	5275	4
DAVANAGERE	21,141.97	10	1,856	13	267519	11	17	1745	11
CHITRADURGA	20,838.80	11	1,979	12	228935	15	19	1181	20
BELLARY	20,525.41	12	1,813	15	351303	3	25	4581	5
SHIMOGA	19,115.76	13	2,305	8	243380	13	13	1311	17
MANDYA	18,211.37	14	2,165	10	191134	23	9	731	21
KOLAR	18,076.15	15	2,200	9	223224	16	12	622	23
DHARWAD	17,980.64	16	1,097	26	219809	18	16	671	22
DAKSHINA KANNADA	17,563.35	17	1,429	21	231225	14	11	480	25
HAVERI	17,223.73	18	1,381	22	221572	17	23	1184	19
BAGALKOT	15,982.40	19	1,616	19	281435	8	21	1492	13
CHIKKAMANGALORE	15,119.06	20	1,781	16	135426	25	7	561	24
RAICHUR	14,556.90	21	1,739	17	283909	7	29	5842	3
CHIKKABALLAPURA	13,574.36	22	1,853	14	178478	24	15	1788	10
RAMANAGARA	12,681.74	23	1,585	20	36177	30	18	457	26
UDUPI	11,895.26	24	967	27	131162	26	3	197	29
GADAG	10,958.04	25	786	29	124071	27	20	3032	8
BANGALORE RURAL	10,427.70	26	1,314	23	240619	10	4	157	30
KOPPAL	10,248.17	27	1,169	25	218263	19	27	4458	6
CHAMARAJANAGARA	8,977.46	28	945	28	118957	28	10	1672	12
KODAGU	4,934.81	29	535	30	66572	29	2	208	28
YADAGIRI	NA	NA	1,272	24	200259	20	NA	11164	2

Compiled from SSA Report 2008-09, Budget Link documents and DISE data for Karnataka

In 2009-2010, there was only a 4.15% increase in the total budget allocation to the local self Governments. The districts which got the highest increases in allocation compared to the previous year were Bagalkot (27.11% increase), Ramanagar (12.66%), Haveri (11.46%) and Gadag (10.20%). The increase in the budget allocation was mainly in the planned expenditure. This increase in the planned budget is due to the fact that two new grants were provided under the heads 'GIA Elementary School' and 'Government Secondary Schools'. The total addition under 'GIA Elementary School' was 793.78 lakhs and under 'Government Secondary schools' was Rs 12075.11 lakhs. Bagalkot had got the highest increase in its planned budget with an increase of 115.76 % over the previous year. The new district of Ramanagar was allotted a plan budget of 1840.74 lakhs, up from 1125.81 lakhs. This increase was mainly under the budget head 'Akshara Dasoha Scheme'. The districts of Gadag got major increases in its planned budget but there was a reduction in allocation under Non-Plan. For Gadag, the major increases have been under 'Akshara Dasoha scheme' (60.31%), 'Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan' (221.40%) and 'Improvement in the Secondary school fund (NABARD-SDP), (46.23%). However, for Haveri, the increase was in the Non-Plan budget mainly in 'GIA to Non Government Secondary schools', an increase to Rs 3377.64 Lakhs from Rs 2598.3 Lakhs. Haveri also got an increase in allocation under 'Improvement in the Secondary school fund (NABARD-SDP)'. The budget for the year 2010-11 showed an overall increase of 10.20% in allocation to the local self Government. The districts which got major increases in allocation were Udupi (48.99%), Kodagu (26.01%), Koppal (19.10%), Chamarajanagara (17.29%) and Raichur (17.05%).

Looking at the allocations for the year 2008-2009 for all districts, the distribution of the total funds for education by the State amongst the districts is understood to be based mainly on the total number of schools in a district. Districts with more schools receive more allocation than those with fewer schools. Since a larger share of the budget is Non-Plan, it is not surprising that districts with more schools should receive a larger share of The budget allocations. The districts which are underdeveloped with respect to education (those with poor EDI rakings) do not always get more allocations from the State. However there are a few exceptions to this norm followed by the State.

In 2008-2009, Belgaum, the district with the second highest number of schools received the highest allocation for education; Tumkur with the highest number of schools got the third highest allocation. Gulbarga, although ranked 11th by the total number of schools in the State, got the second highest allocation. This priority given to Gulbarga despite the lesser number of schools could be because it's EDI is one of the lowest in the State and it is has one of the highest population of children in the school-going age (rank 6). Gulbarga is also the district with the highest number of out of school children in Karnataka. Bidar and Dharwad are two other districts with lower number of schools which have received higher allocations. Though Bidar's ranking in the EDI is one amongst the lowest, Dharwad has a moderate EDI rank. Unlike these districts, Koppal and Gadag which also have low EDI rankings as well as a large number of out of school children, have not received higher allocations in the year 2008-2009. However both these districts have comparatively lower number of schools and Gadag received an increase in allocation of nearly 10% in the following year.

The following section of the document analyses the allocations made within the different local Government bodies in a district, especially the Zilla and the Taluk Panchayats.

Expenditure on Primary and Secondary Education by Local Government Bodies

As seen in this document, a significant part of the States revenue expenditure is spent on education and a majority of this expenditure is for Primary and Secondary Education. Out of the total outlay of the State's Primary and Secondary Education budget, a major portion of it is allocated for various activities through the local Government bodies, mainly the Taluk and Zillah Panchayats in the various districts.

To manage the Primary and Secondary schools the State's education budget is categorized under various major sub- heads. The major sub-heads are further divided into various minor heads through which the Government spends for its various schemes and programmes. The table 12 gives the expenditure through various minor heads from 2005 - 2010 under the major sub-head Primary Education.

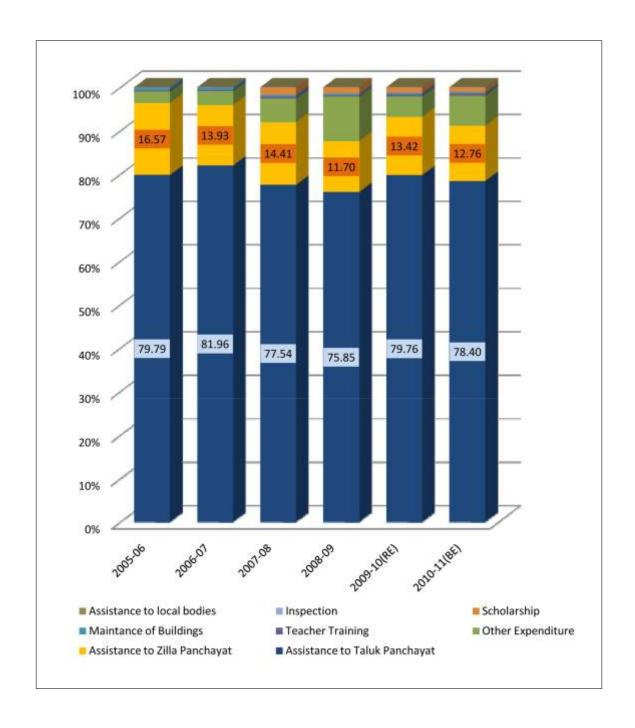
Table - 12
Revenue Expenditure, minor heads- Primary education

Minor Heads	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10(RE)	2010-11(BE)
053-Maintance of Buildings	1634.19	1672.65	1735.93	1828.12	1964.19	1964.00
104-Inspection	48.06	53.18	114.80	108.49	116.74	130.36
107-Teacher Training	1075.46	1116.22	1362.92	1471.77	2104.44	2144.31
109-Scholarship	0.00	0.00	6342.90	6972.20	5500.00	5600.00
191-Assistance to local bodies	15.09	10.10	13.71	14.99	19.92	20.69
196-Assistance to Zilla Panchayat	44191.53	42684.56	53415.26	55252.41	60340.99	64695.77
197-Assistance to Taluk Pancha yat	212802.58	251072.40	287330.14	358335.77	358613.27	397518.15
800-Other Expenditure	6942.14	9711.19	20263.43	48421.86	20964.59	34957.68
Total - Primary Education	266709.05	306320.30	370579.09	472405.61	449624.14	507030.96

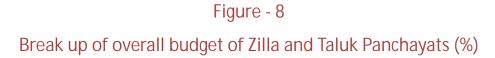
Figures in Lakhs, source: compiled from audited budget paper CAG and budget paper, Dept of Finance, Government of Karnataka

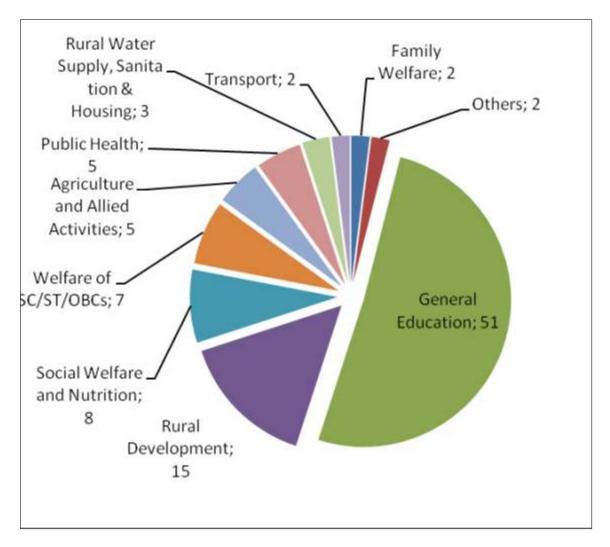
As seen from table 12, a major proportion of the State's education budget is under the head 'Assistance to Zilla Panchayat' and 'Assistance to Taluk Panchayat'. This is with accordance to the 73rd and 74th amendment of the Constitution, where the powers are given to the local self Government to participate in the development of education. The Panchayat Raj Act of Karnataka, in principle, confers a lot of power on the Panchayat to participate in Primary and Secondary Education. Accordingly the budget documents reflect this, by way of allocating around 90% (as seen in figure 7) of the Primary and Secondary Education budget to the Zilla and Taluk Panchayats.

Figure - 7
Breakup of the State's education budget (%) under the various minor heads



The education budget is a major component of the total budget allocated (51%) to the Zilla and Taluk Panchayat as shown in figure 8. According to the Link documents for the year 2010-2011, 31% of the total Plan budget for the local bodies and 69% of total non-plan budget for the local bodies comprised of education.





As seen from figures 7 and 8, not only is a major portion of the State's expenditure routed through the Taluk and Zilla Panchayat, but also a major part of the Taluk and Zilla Panchayat's total budget comprises of allocation for education. Thus it can be considered that the local Government bodies have a significant role to play in the management of Primary and Secondary schools.

Since a large part of the expenses for Primary education is allocated through the Zilla and Taluk Panchayats, it is important to understand the budget of these local bodies. For both the Zilla and Taluk Panchayats, the education budget for Primary and Secondary Education is broken up into various subheads and each of these sub heads come under either Plan or Non-Plan expenses.

In order to understand these allocations better, the table below provides the allocation of expenses under the various minor subheads for the year 2008-2009.

Table - 13

Minor heads under Assistance to Zilla Panchayat and Taluk Panchayat for Primary Education

Primary education- Assistance 2008-09	to Zilla Panch	Primary education- Assistance to Taluk Panchayat 2008-09			
Minor Sub-heads	Plan	Non-Plan		Plan	Non-Plan
Training to In-service teachers	4.05		Additions and Alterations	507.08	
Akshara Dasoha	36626.41		Elementary schools GIA	38.36	
Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan Society	10908.81		Primary Schools		318400.70
Remuneration to Contract Teachers	145.74		Residential School		117.08
Appointment of school mothers		4988.98	Elementary schools GIA		32409.30
Appointment of nursery school		32.93	Pre-Elementary schools		741.75
			Inspection		6646.46
Total Amount(in Lakhs)	47685.01	5021.91	Total Amount(in Lakhs)	545.44	358315.29

Source: Link documents of 2008-09 budgets, Dept of Finance, Government of Karnataka

As seen in table 13, the allocations for the year 2008-2009 shows that only an insignificant portion of the allocations are made for planned activities to be implemented by the local Government bodies. In the assistance to Zilla Panchayat for Primary Education, substantial allocations are under the heads Akshara Dasoha (Mid-day Meal Scheme) and Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan. Akshara Dasoha scheme is determined by strength of the children in schools and the expenditure through Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan mainly consists of the salary component. The expenditure allocated under SSA is used for salaries as clearly given in the 2010-2011 link documents. The two non-plan expenditures are also salary components. In the Taluk Panchayat too, 90% of the funds are allocated to salaries and another 9% is grant in- aid to schools which is also primarily the salary component. That leaves the local bodies with less than 1% of the funds for planning for development work in Primary schools.

Table - 14

Minor heads under Assistance to Zilla Panchayat and Taluk Panchayat for Secondary Education

Secondary Education- Assistan 2008-09	ce to Zilla I	Secondary Education- Assistance to Taluk Panchayat 2008-09				
Minor -sub head	Plan Non-plan		Minor -sub head	Plan	Non-plan	
Training to In-service teachers	7.10		High schools	10.15		
Scholarship & incentives	3.00		High schools		80246.86	
Additions and Alteration	711.01		Residential High Schools		64.16	
High schools GIA(7 year)	254.34					
Vidya Vikasa	1088.32					
NABARD	6368.66					
Other Minorities	8.11					
Inspection		6145.75				
scholarships & incentives		100.35				
High schools		3190.73				
GIA		81087.5				
Gandhi Grameena Gurukula		36.41				
Total Amount(in Lakhs)	8440.54	90560.74	Total Amount(in Lakhs)	10.15	80311.02	

Source: Link documents of 2008-09 budgets, Department of Finance, Government of Karnataka

The actual allocation for Plan is better for the Secondary Education when the data for the year 2008-2009 is analyzed. However, most of the funds routed through the Zilla Panchayat are pre-determined by the Department of Education. This also includes some of the sub heads classified as Plan. The major grants given is the Vidya Vikas scheme which is a reimbursement scheme for SC/ST girls and boys and the allocation under this scheme is determined by the strength of the eligible children. The other schemes under the Plan are also predetermined with the exception of – Additions and Alterations.

It is observed from the data shown in tables 13 and 14 for the year 2008-2009, that the local self Government has a small role in implementing planned activities either for the Primary or Secondary schools as the budgets allocated for all such activities, is insignificant. The same picture is reflected if one looks at the Education Plan Budget estimates for the year 2010- 2011, given in table 15 and 16 for both Primary and Secondary Education.

Table - 15 **Primary Education Plan Budget 2010-11(BE)**

Head of A	Accounts	Amount (Lakhs)	Percentage %
2202-01-104	Inspection	60.00	0.10
2202-01-109	Scholarship and Incentives	6000.00	6.70
2202.04.405	Akshara Dasoha	43785.29	48.60
2202-01-196 (Zilla Panchayat)	Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan	14223.72	15.80
	Other Expenditure*	278.94	0.30
2202-01-197(Taluk Panchayat)	Additions and Alterations	427.64	0.50
	Elementary school GIA	735.65	0.80
2202-01-800	Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan	13000.00	14.40
	Pancha Soulabhya	6500.00	7.20
	Block and Cluster Resource Centre	3250.00	3.60
	Akshara Dasoha		1.20
	Other Expenditure	720.00	0.80
	Total	90041.24	100.00

Figures in Lakhs: source budget documents, 2010 - 11, Government of Karnataka

In the 2010-11 budget estimates, 66% of the total Plan for Primary education flows through the Zilla Panchayat and Taluk Panchayat. If the heads of accounts is broken-up, a clearer picture can be seen. 30.2% of total Plan budget is for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, of which 15.8% of the amount routed through the Zilla Panchayat is the salary component. 49.8% is to be spent on Akshara Dasoha, the Mid day Meal Scheme, which is a pre-defined scheme. The total of these two schemes amounts to 80% of the budget that is spent through allocations made to the Zilla Panchayat. These schemes are planned by the Department of Education and in most cases directly handled by the department. The resources available for the local self governments to utilise are routed through the Taluk Panchayat under the budget head of 'Addition and Alteration' which amounts to 0.5% of the total Plan budget.

Table - 16

Secondary Education Plan Budget 2010-11(BE)

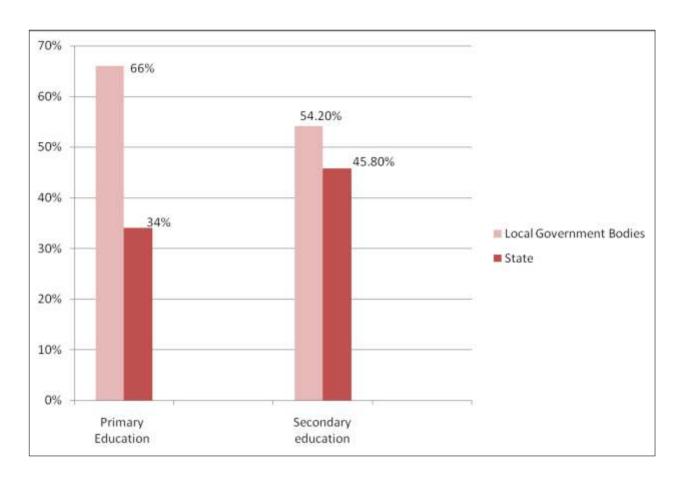
Head of	Accounts	Amount (lakhs)	Percentage %
2202-02-001	Direction & Administration		
2202-02-101	Inspection	60	0.11
2202-02-105	Teachers Training	500	0.88
2202-02-107	Scholarships	200	0.35
2202-02-108	Examination	250	0.44
2202-02-109	High School (district sector)	2500	4.42
	Infrastructure for Junior colleges	350	0.62
	Junior Colleges salaries	8800	15.56
	Assistance GIA	500	0.88
2202-02-110	GIA	2250	3.98
2202-02-196	Additions& Alterations	630.44	1.11
(Zilla Panchayat)	GIA	1477.56	2.61
	Vidya Vikas	1221.33	2.16
	Improvement of Secondary schools(NABARD)	8799.55	15.55
2202-02-197 (Taluk Panchayat)	High School	13781.99	24.36
2202-02-800	Scholarships	1760	3.11
	Examination	300	0.53
	NABARD	600	1.06
	Bicycles	7500	13.26
	KGBV	3500	6.19
	Vocationalisation of high school	1350	2.39
	Total	56570.87	100

Figures in Lakhs: source Budget documents, 2010-2011, Government of Karnataka

In the 2010-11 budget estimates, 45.80% of the total Plan for Secondary Education flows through the Zilla Panchayat and Taluk Panchayat. As in the case of the Primary Education budget, a detailed look at the heads of accounts shows that for Secondary Education, the Zilla Panchayat gets a larger share of the total allotment where it is able to implement activities that are planned for. This allocation is under the heads "Additions and Alterations" and "Improvement of Secondary schools (NABARD)". As seen from table 16, both these allocations add up to 16.66% of the total Plan budget for Secondary Education. The remaining allocation to the local Government bodies adding up to 29.13% of the total Plan budget for Secondary Education including the 24.36% allocation to the Taluk Panchayat, are for pre-determined expenditures like salaries and scholarships.

Figure - 9

Plan Budget for Primary and Secondary Education 2010-2011(BE) – breakup of allocation between the State and the Local Government Bodies (Zilla and Taluk Panchayat)



Looking at the total allocations for both Primary and Secondary education, even though a significant portion goes to the local Government bodies, the actual funds available with them for implementation of plans made at the school or Gram Panchayat level is negligible. For Secondary education, this is slightly better at 16.66% of the total Secondary Education Plan budget than for Primary Education which has just 0.5% of the total Primary Education Plan budget, as per the 2010-2011 budget estimates.

The high percentage of budgetary allocation to the local self Government misleads one to think that the local self Governments have a greater responsibility concerning Primary Education, though the data available shows that the way in which allocations are made is such that the involvement of the local Government bodies in planning, allocating and supervision of activities which are routed through them is minimal and they are merely a disbursing channel for these funds.

Monthly Programme Implementation Calendar (MPIC)

Though there has been a substantial increase in the Plan outlay in education, the quality of expenditure and effectiveness depends on the spread of expenditure over the financial year. According to the fiscal report of the Department of Finance, 30% of Plan expenditure is spent towards the last quarter, especially in the month of March. This back-loading of expenditure in the last month of the financial year compromises the quality of expenditure and also leads to spill over of expenditure to the next financial year. In order to improve the expenditure management for effective and timely implementation of plans, the Government passed an order delegating financial powers that enable various Departments to release funds to implementing officers during the first two quarters of the financial year presuming the prior concurrence of the Department of Finances. In order to improve the implementation of plans and programmmes of the Government, every department has to prepare a monthly programme implementation calendar, more commonly known as the MPIC document.

The MPIC document is the extension of the Monthly Multilevel Review (MMR) system, which has been in operation in the State since the early 1980s. The MPIC format, apart from indicating the physical and financial targets, depicts the typical activities to be undertaken for implementing the programme every month. Thus, even if no physical or financial targets/ milestones are expected to be achieved in a given month, the preparatory activities for achieving the programme targets during subsequent months are shown in the calendar (annexure 1). The completion or non completion of the activities planned for every month is reported to enable implementing officers and reviewing authorities to take corrective action on a timely basis so that the targets are achieved within the time allowed for implementing the programme. Thus the MPIC is expected to:

- Facilitate effective and timely implementation of programmes by the line departments.
- Pro-actively disclose to citizens about the progress of implementation/performance.
- To reduce rush of expenditure in the 4th quarter.

The use of MPIC reports in the monthly meetings in place of the earlier MMR formats is therefore expected to substantially improve the quality of implementation of various Government programmes.

The MPIC reports of the Department of Education have the State plan which has been published in the web-site of the department.

Table - 17

MPIC Report - Primary and Secondary Education, State Plan

Year	Allocation	Programme for the year	Total Expendit ure	Total Grant Released	Expendit ure for March	% expenditur e to total grant released	% Of actual exp to programme for the year	% Of Exp in March to total exp
2009-2010	56242.53	55676.4	47323.14	47575.65	17235.89	99.47	85.00	36.42
2010-2011	73617.00	63956.50	66031.39	66350.83	20031.22	99.52	103.24	30.34

Figures in Lakhs, Source: MPIC reports, Department of Education, Karnataka

As per the MPIC document, 99.47% of the Plan Expenditure has been utilized from the total grant release, but only 85% of the expenditure has been done as against the plans. One of the main objectives of the MPIC, i.e., avoiding rush of expenditure in the last quarter or in the month of March has not been fulfilled, as 36% of the expenditure was done in the last month; in fact this is the largest expenditure for that financial year. In the year 2010-2011 as per the data of the Department of Education, the target has been reduced to 30%, which is lesser than the previous year.

To make the MPIC more useful, the data of the districts' plans should also be published at the district level which would help citizens participate more at the local level planning and make decentralization more realistic. The data also has to be updated every month in order to enable the citizens or civil society groups to actively take part in the planning and implementation process.

Key Observations

- 1. Major share of the Centre's Education budget is for Primary Education.
- 2. The percentage spent by the Centre on Primary and Secondary Education has not crossed more than 3% of the total Revenue Expenditure except in the year 2007-08, for the last 10 years.
- 3. From 2006-07, more than 50% of the Centre's Primary Education budget comprises of contributions from the 2% Education Cess.
- 4. Over the last 10 years in Karnataka, revenue expenditure on both Primary and Secondary Education saw an average growth rate of 11.79% while the average growth rate in total revenue expenditure has been 12.12%.
- 5. In Karnataka, the amount spent on Primary and Secondary Education on an average has been 86.04% of the revenue expenditure on education and 15.34% of the total revenue expenditure.
- 6. Expenditure in Primary Education for the last ten years has been much more than in Secondary Education. In the year 1999-2000, the difference has been Rs. 611.37 crores and in the budget estimates of 2010-2011, the difference is Rs. 1976.56 crores. In some of the years, the expenditure for Primary Education has been more than double that of Secondary education.
- 7. Capital expenditure for Secondary Education has been more than that for Primary Education over the last five years.
- 8. Almost 85 % of the State's total revenue expenditure on Education is for Primary and Secondary education while only around 17% of total capital expenditure on education is spent on Primary and Secondary education.
- 9. Close to 90% of the State's education budget is routed through the Taluk and Zilla Panchayats.
- 10. Out of the amount allocated to the Taluk and Zilla Panchayats for Primary and Secondary Education only a negligible portion of it is available for implementation of activities planned at village or school level. As per the 2010-2011 Plan Budget estimates it is just 0.5% for Primary Education and 16.66% for Secondary Education

Conclusion

Karnataka is amongst one of the progressive States in India and has been at the forefront in implementing reforms impacting education and local governance. It is also one of the States that has a relatively higher investment in education and where much of the infrastructure needed for Primary Education has been provided. This is reflected in the high accessibility of schools and the teacher student ratio of 1:27. It is one of the best in the country as against the national average of 1:45.

The reforms coupled with increased expenditure over the years should have improved the overall status of Primary and Secondary Education in the State. On the contrary, the State has seen a decline as indicated by the Education Development Index where the State ranks 16th for the year 2009. This is a clear indicator that investments and the mere passing of acts are insufficient. Along with necessary financial investments, better decentralized governance in education would play a decisive role in addressing some of the critical areas requiring improvement.

Tools such as the MPIC have the potential to bring in transparency, leading to more efficiency in the education system. If implemented effectively these tools can provide more accurate information to all stakeholders and thereby increase participation, necessary for ensuring accountability.

With over 56000 Government Primary and Secondary schools spread across the State, there exists an extremely challenging situation with respect to governance of these schools. The necessity for decentralization and active stakeholder participation is apparent when the complexity of managing these schools is considered. Though the State can take pride in financial decentralization in education citing that 90% of the education budget has been disbursed to local Government bodies, as seen in this study, it is mainly salaries of teachers that have been allocated to local bodies. The amount allocated to local bodies for plans made at the school level, is a minute percentage of the overall budget. There should be more funds allocated to local bodies which are not tied to centralized planning but can be used by the village Panchyats and the school committees (SDMCs*). Availability of funds at their disposal will make the local bodies more involved in the development of their schools rather than being merely involved in implementing plans according to a budget given by the Department of Education. For decentralized planning and implementation to be effective, genuine financial decentralization is imperative.

Though local structures like the SDMCs are involved in planning for their schools, the processes and structures, necessary for these plans to be communicated to the higher levels of the Government bodies for consolidation and approval, are not in place. Hence, the local bodies have no clear indication that their plans are given due consideration when budget allocation takes place. In addition, the time taken for plans to get approved by various concerned departments and to finally get budgetary approval, is protracted and often accurate update information is unavailable to local bodies. These factors create a non-conducive environment for the local bodies, leading to inactive or disinterested local structures. A change in how and when allocations are made can decide the extent to which the local bodies will participate in the governance of their schools and this in turn will determine the quality of education in the State by active participation of the citizens.

Brief explanations of terms used in this document

CAG –Comptroller and Auditor General: is an authority, established through the Constitution of India. The CAG audits all receipts and expenditure of the Government of India and the State Governments, including those of bodies and authorities substantially financed by the Government.

Cluster complexes: In Karnataka all Government schools in two to three Gram Panchayats (comprising of an average of 18 schools) are grouped together to form a Cluster and each of these Clusters are managed by a resource person (CRP) and are allocated with a Resource Centre or a Cluster Complex.

EDI- Education Development Index: is an index computed by the National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) and the Ministry of Human Resource and Development (Department of School Education and Literacy) separately for Primary and Upper Primary levels of Education and also a composite index for the entire Elementary education which is exclusively based on the DISE data.

GDP – Gross Domestic Product: refers to the market value of all goods and services produced within a country in a given period. It is often considered an indicator of a country's standard of living.

HDI- Human Development Index: is a composite statistic used to rank countries by level of "human development". It is a comparative measure of life expectancy, literacy, education and standards of living for countries worldwide. It is a standard means of measuring well-being, especially child welfare and is also used to distinguish whether the country is a developed, a developing or an under-developed country.

Local Government bodies: are elected units at the various decentralized levels of governance ranging from the Gram Panchayat to the district level. Here the Gram Panchayat covers about 6-7 villages, a taluk covers 30-35 Gram Panchayats, a district covers 5-7 Taluks. Each Gram Panchayat has has about 6-7 Elementary schools under its jurisdiction).

NABARD- National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development: is set up as an apex Development Bank with a mandate for facilitating credit flow for promotion and development of agriculture, small-scale industries, cottage and village industries, handicrafts and other rural crafts.

PSK- Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh: is a non lapsable fund created in the Public Account of India with the money collected from the Education Cess. The PSK is maintained by the Department of School Educationand Literacy under the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

SDMC – School Development and Monitoring Committee: In Karnataka the SDMC is a school level committee comprising of a group of 9 elected members (parents) responsible for school development. The SDMC is a statutory body and is a sub-committee of the Civic Amenities Committee (a standing committee of the Gram Panchayat).

SSA - Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan: is Government of India's flagship programme for achievement of Universalization of Elementary Education (UEE) in a time bound manner, as mandated by 86th amendment to the Constitution of India making free and compulsory Education to the Children of 6-14 years age group, a Fundamental Right.

Sainik Schools: are schools in India established and managed by the Sainik Schools Society. They were conceived in 1961 by V. K. Krishna Menon, the then Defense Minister of India. Today there are over 24 such schools covering all the States of the country and they come under the purview of the respective State Governments and the Ministry of Defense.

School Mothers: During the initial phase of the ICDS (Integrated Child Development scheme), the programme was under the Department of Education and School Mothers were appointed to assist with work in anganwadis. Later the programme was shifted to the Department of Women and Child Development; however the School Mothers continued to be a part of the Department of Education. The roles and responsibilities of these School Mothers were redefined and they are more involved now in administrative work.

Plan Expenditure: are for new schemes and programmes, which are made in consultation with the Planning Commission. Plan expenditures are estimated after discussions between each of the ministries concerned and the Planning Commission.

Non-Plan Expenditure: are for ongoing and recurring expenses. Non-Plan expenditure includes interest payments and salaries for Government employees amongst others.

Revenue Expenditure: is the payment incurred for the normal day-to-day running of government departments and various services that it offers to its citizens. The government also has other expenditure like servicing interest on its borrowings, subsidies, etc. Usually, expenditure that does not result in the creation of assets are categorised as revenue expenditures. Revenue Expenditure is met from the current income generated by the State through taxes, duties, fees from services rendered, fines and penalties, revenue from the Government estates and grant in-aid from the Union Government.

Capital Expenditure: is the account of expenditure incurred for the creation of concrete assets such as buildings etc. This expenditure is met from sources other than current revenue, through loans, cash balances, and surplus revenue.

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- vii NSS report 2007, Education Statistics of India
- viii DISE 2008-09; National Institute of Education Planning and Administration
- ix Medium Term Fiscal Plan 2008-2012: Department of Finance, Karnataka, Report tabled in Karnataka Legislature in July 2008
- x Annual Report 2008-09: Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan, Karnataka
- xi Government Order No.FD 1 TFP 2008, dated 16.5.2008
- xii Karnataka Budget speech, 2007-08

Department of	(State)
Monthly Programme Implementation Calendar - MPIC (2008-09)	Month

Schem	ne							
Head	of Accour	nt				Outcome		
Annua	I Allocati	on		Rs. In Lakh	1			
Funds	(OB+Rele	ase)		Rs. In Lakh	2			
	al Target		1		3			
		,	2		1			
Мо	nth	Fin	Phy	Activitiy Schedule	d		Done (Y) / Not Yet (N)	If, partially done, Qty in No. / %
Apr	Prog	\vdash					+	
2008	Ach	\vdash	\vdash	7				
May	Prog	\vdash	\vdash					
2008	Ach	\vdash	\vdash	\dashv				
Jun	Prog	\vdash						
2008	Ach	$\overline{}$	\vdash	7				
Jul	Prog							
2008	Ach		\vdash	7				
Aug	Prog		\vdash					
2008	Ach		$\overline{}$	7				
Sep	Prog							
2008	Ach			7				
Oct	Prog							
2008	Ach			7				
Nov	Prog							
2008	Ach							
Dec	Prog							
2008	Ach							
Jan	Prog							
2009	Ach							
Feb	Prog							
2009	Ach							
Mar	Prog							
2009	Ach							
Cumu-	Prog			Notes and Issues				
lative	Ach							
	%							

Telephone No.

Signature of Implementing Officer

Commissioner of public instruction						State: Plan/programme		
Monthly	/ Program Imple	ementation Cale	endar 2009-:	10		March.2010		
Program						Vidya Vikasa plan		
Head of allocation 2202-01-109-0-03						1. Increasing the attendance of the	children	
Annual allocation			Rs. 5500.0	0 lakhs		2. Helps for all the children to get e	ngaged in jo	
Funds (OB+release	e)		Rs. 4937.5	0 lakhs		process by not having any kind of c themselves.	iiscriminatio	n amongst
Physical Targets			43.18 lakh	s childre	n	3. Gets reform in quality education		
Мо	nth	Financial	Physical			Planned activities Being undertal undertal ken Qty in no		
April-094/1/	Prog			1		orting the program of distribution 1		
	Ach				pa	air of uniform to all the children of 1st to 10th standard	Yes	
May09	Prog			2	Т	he uniforms are distributed from		
	Ach					Block education offices.	Yes	
June09	Prog	1100	43.18	3		ing instruction to Block education to send the receipt to distributed		
	Ach	1134				uniforms	Yes	
july09	Prog	1650		4		Based on the receipt received, examining the bills.		
	Ach	4			Taking further steps to release the fund		Yes	
August09	Prog	0		5		Tunu	103	
	Ach	0			Getting the bills from the organisation Taking steps to release the fund		Yes	
September09	Prog	0		6				
	Ach	2075.5					Yes	
October09	Prog	1650	43.18	7				
	Ach	6.6			Taking steps to release the fund		Yes	
November09	Prog	0		8				
	Ach	467.29			Re	questing to release the deficit fund	Yes	
December09	Prog	0		9				
	Ach	3.8			Re	questing to release the deficit fund	Yes	
January09	Prog	1100	43.18	10	The	e total expenditure of the program/		
	Ach	1.8			pla	an will be inspected. Taking further steps to release the deficit fund.	Yes	
February09	Prog	0		11	The total expenditure of the program/			
	Ach	2.8				an will be inspected. Taking further steps to release the deficit fund.	Yes	
March09	Prog	0		12	The total expenditure of the program/			
	Ach	1003.18				steps to release the deficit fund.	Yes	
Contengency amount	Prog	5500						
	Ach	4935.46						
	%	89.74		Note/issues:				

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