

Rashtriya Madhyamamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)

While India celebrates a near 100% enrollment in primary schools, secondary schools are yet to cross 50%. To bridge the access, equity and quality gaps in secondary education in India, the central government launched Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhiyan (RMSA) in 2009. Secondary education is especially important in a country with large unorganized sector.

Extent of the problem

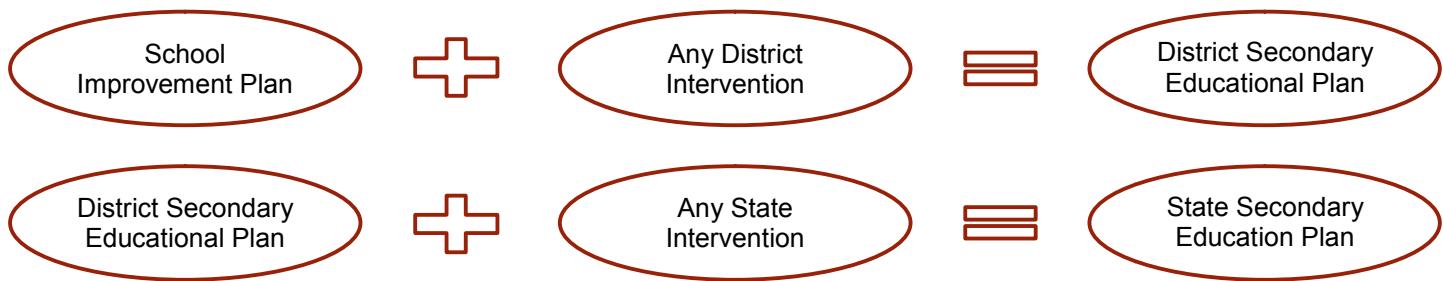
- Current Gross Enrollment Ratio for the combined secondary and senior secondary school is 49.3%(HRD)
- According to the National Planning Commission only 5% of the population in the age group of 19-24 has some form of vocational education, while the corresponding number for South Korea is 96%

Objective

RMSA aims to universalize secondary education by 2017 and focus on quality education in **STEM (Science, Technology, English, and Math)**. The scheme plans to achieve its objective by bringing down the **Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR)** to 30:1. RMSA envisions making education more equitable by bringing down disparities in gender, caste and income levels.

Program features

Decentralized planning is an important aspect of RMSA. The state and district level are two important levels of planning which would be appraised and funded. The revenue district, is the lowest level, which would create the medium-term and operational plans. While, the **District Secondary Educational Plan (DSEP)** would be an aggregation of **School Improvement Plan (SIP)** and any district level intervention. The **State Secondary Education Plan (SSEP)** would be an amalgamation of **District Secondary Educational Plan (DSEP)** and any state level intervention.



The **State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC)** for Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan will forward these proposals to the National Mission for release of funds after appraisal by the **State level Executive Committee** with the assistance of **Technical Support Group (TSG)**

Sub-Schemes under RMSA

| Sub-Scheme | Objective |
|---|---|
| Information and Computer Technology @ School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To set up of smart schools at the district level to act as a model among the ICT enabled technology schools. A school having 160 computers i.e. 40 computers in each standard from 9th to 12th classes maybe called a smart school. A grant of not more than Rs. 25 lakhs would be given per smart school, and Rs.2.5 lakhs for incurring recurring costs which include maintenance, internet usage and additional expense for recruiting full time teachers for thisetc. An amount of Rs.1.40 crore would be kept aside for instituting National Award for the Teachers using ICT for innovations in education. For developing e-content private sector can be involved in a transparent manner. |
| Girls' Hostel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve retention of girl child, the aim is to set up 100 bedded girls' hostel in each of the 3479 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) in the country. Eligible for the girl students in the age group of 14-18 studying in the classes 9th-12th belonging to SC, ST, OBC, minority communities and BPL families studying in the schools in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs), run by any authority, state, NGO or district. Preference would also be given to students passing out of <u>Kasturba Gandhi BalikaVidyalayas (KGBV)</u> while admission in the hostels. (However 50% of the girls admitted will be from SC, ST, OBC, minority communities). The Government of India will release its share to the State government, who will in turn release it to the <u>State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC)</u> (society implementing the scheme) along with its share |
| Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enable completion of secondary education for students with disability in an inclusive environment Apart from direct payment to beneficiaries of the schemes, money to be allocated for creation of model schools, training of special teachers, learning materials, making the existing schools disability friendly |
| Vocational Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide an alternative for higher education and impart skills to students Courses in collaboration with various ministries, private initiatives and vocational education institutions, would be implemented from class IX onwards Courses will be based on national occupation standard brought out by the <u>Sector Skill Councils (SSCs)</u> that determine the minimum levels of competencies for various vocations |

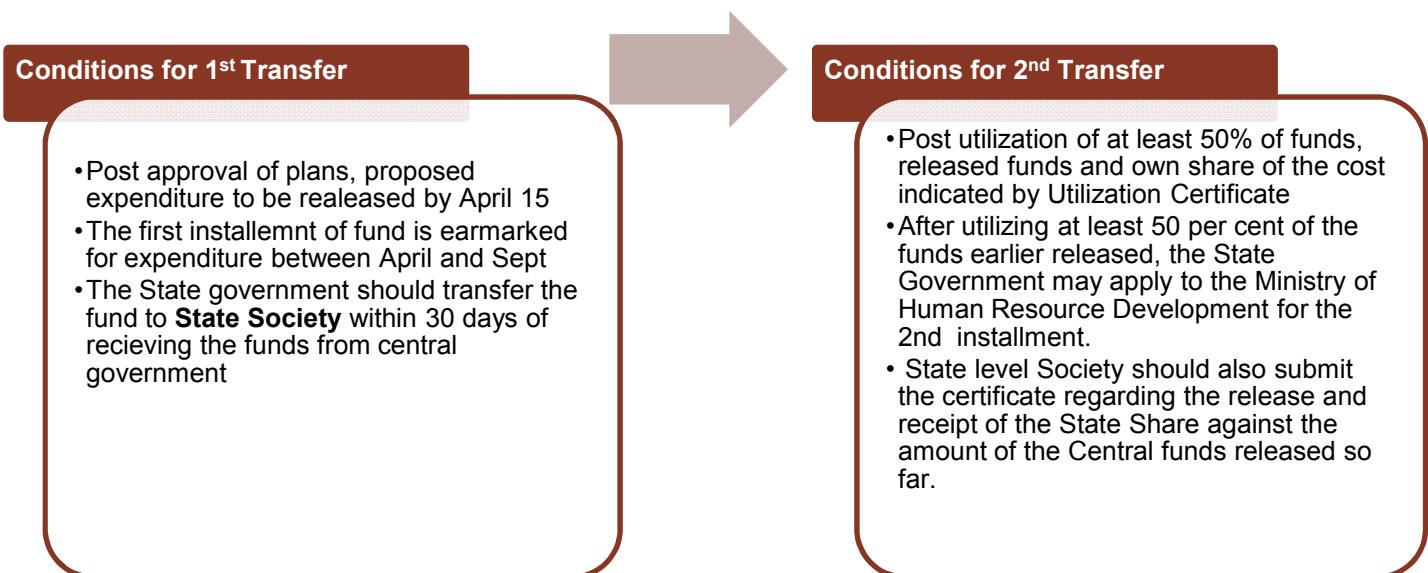
Funding Mechanism

The project cost is shared between the Center and State in the ratio of 75:25, except for the North Eastern states including Sikkim where it is 90:10. Various allocations have been earmarked for different components of scheme ranging from infrastructure; teacher training to developing content. **Project Approval Board (PAB)** of National Mission transfers the money on the following criteria:

- Basis of appraisal report conducted by **Technical Support Group**
- Recommendation of **State Implementation Society**

- Availability of Central funds
- Written commitments from state government on release of funds specifically for RMSA purposes
- Integrated plan which includes all 4 components of the sub-schemes

The Central Government and State Government will release the funds directly to the State Implementation Society



Build, Own and Operate (BOOT) - PPP in Secondary education

Among the various models of PPP in education – the most common one is where the management of school is being done by private parties, but their construction is partly funded by government. The scheme to create model 6000 schools is one such example of the above.

But, BOOT offers an innovative method of public private partnership. In this kind of partnership the private partner would essentially manage the end-to-end cycle of delivering a certain service. Especially in sectors such as ICT where the gap for quality teachers is higher. The long term nature of the contract ensures that companies have a definite incentive in providing high quality services. An example of such a model is Everonn Education Limited (EEL) which operates around 6628 schools in 16 states in field of providing e-literacy to students for a contractual period of 20 years.