
CHAPTER - IV

EFFORTS OF PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IN EDUCATION SECTOR

Many efforts have been made in India in field of Private Partnership in Education sector so far. This Chapter contains the details of efforts done in Country by Govt and private sector as well. Special emphasis is given on Rajasthan.

Governments worldwide are increasingly encouraging public private partnerships (PPPs), as a modality of private participation, to provide infrastructure services that were once exclusively delivered by the public sector. Availability of additional resources, increased efficiencies, access to advanced technologies and sustainable development of infrastructure facilities/services are some primary reasons for encouraging PPPs.

4.1 EFFORT OF PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IN RAJASTHAN

The Government of Rajasthan intends to engage private sector participants to design, finance, establish, operate, manage and maintain 165 secondary schools (from 6th to 12th) for a period of 30 year 5 schools per districts are proposed to be built under the project. Phase-I of this project aims at procuring 50 schools in the Ajmer (4 districts) and Udaipur (6 districts) Divisions⁴⁰. The land for these PPP schools will be provided on a 30 year lease basis to the private sector partner after expiry

of the concession period of 30 years, the assets of these schools will be transferred to the Government.

These PPP schools will be run by the private sector autonomously. The private partner(s) will bear the entire capital cost. Government will provide capital assistance at the rate of Rs 500 per sq ft of constructed area subject to maximum of Rs 5.0 million to be paid depending upon the progress of construction and use of own funds by the private developer. The private partner will have full independence in operational matters such as teacher recruitment and running of schools. PPP schools will have to attain a high performance benchmark apart from seeking an affiliation with either the State Board or the CBSE.

There will be a mix of voucher students and private fee paying students in these schools. Voucher students would at least 50% of the students' strength in classes IX to XII and 25% of students' strength in classes VI to VIII. The Government will issue Education Vouchers to eligible recipients for payment of fee at the rate of Rs 8000 per annum which may be utilized against contracted "Government Seats", over the entire concession period. Total investment in the Phase – I comprising 50 schools is estimated to be Rs 1500 million⁴¹.(Rajasthan Education Initiative chapter-4)

To enhance and coordinate the PPP models in education sector, Govt of Rajasthan set up a organisation that is 'Rajasthan Education Initiative'. This initiative is the charter of PPP projects in education in Rajasthan.

According to Ms Shubra Singh IAS and then Commissioner, Rajasthan Council of Elementary Education the REI was founded in September 2005 to play the role of facilitator for PPPs to improve the delivery of educational services and fulfill the goal of Universal Elementary Education (UEE) in Rajasthan. The initiative was driven by four core partners – GeSCI, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the GoR and the World Economic Forum (WEF).

According to REI-

The Rajasthan Education Initiative (REI), launched in year 2005, has evolved as a showcase of the public-private partnership in the field of education. The REI has supported and complimented the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) actions and strategies in improving the delivery of educational services in the State. It aims at supporting the State efforts in achieving equitable access, enrolment and retention of children in schools, reducing gender disparities, addressing geographical and physical imbalances, promoting skill development and enhancing learning levels through ICT and non-ICT interventions in collaboration with REI partners.

The REI has engaged with global and national partners from the private sector, foundations and NGOs to support public education in the State of Rajasthan. 26 MoUs have been signed since the launch of REI. The partners from private sector have brought resources, including technologies, training, knowledge and expertise to meet specific needs of the students, teachers and schools. These efforts need to be up-scaled at a

large scale in the State to transform the educational scenario. At the same time, REI has engaged with NGOs and foundations to mobilize, sensitize and involve the communities in the educational processes, strategies and outcomes.

The REI, driven by the State Government and supported by the activities of the core partners, namely the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), the Global e- Schools and Communities Initiative (GeSCI) and the World Economic Forum (WEF), focuses on girls, rural children, urban under-privileged children, and children with special needs, through various ICT and non-ICT track interventions.

4.2 EFFORTS OF PPP IN SCHOOL EDUCATION

Research reveals that there are good efforts have been made in private partnership in School Education. Govt. of Rajasthan has established an organization named Rajasthan Education Initiative to enhance the work of private partnership in School Education. The details are as Under-

4.2 .1 Rajasthan Education Initiative⁴² :

The Rajasthan Education Initiative is an umbrella under which innovative multi-stakeholder partnerships are catalyzed by engaging the global and local private sector, foundations and charitable organizations and other grass roots level NGOs in support of Rajasthan's education objectives. The REI focuses on improving the delivery of educational services, and in particular on promoting equitable access, enrolment and retention of children in schools, reducing gender disparities, promoting

skill development and enhancing learning levels. 34 MoUs have been signed so far with co-partners. Presently Bharati Foundation is running 49 schools in Rajasthan, in which 24 is Amer Block of Jaipur District and 25 is in Alwar district.

4.2.2 Mid -Day-Meal Scheme

For private sector participation, a PPP policy is under operation. Presently, 9.12 lac children in 8017 schools are being supplied hot cooked meals prepared under hygienic conditions in 25 mechanised centralized kitchens set up by Charitable Trusts and NGOs like Akshaya Patra Foundation, Naandi Foundation, QRG Foundation, Adanya Chetna Trust, ISKCON etc. For providing hot cooked meals to another 1 lac children in 900 schools, 3 projects are underway.

4.3. EFFORTS IN COLLEGE EDUCATION

The Project of Private partnership in College Education is not as success as it should be. This is due to the bearuocratic system, fast speed of privatizations.

4.3.1 Colleges - Two women degree colleges at Dholpur and Rajsamand and one college at Asind have been opened in PPP mode. Besides these, permission has been accorded for opening of 3 colleges in college-less Tehsils from the year 2009-10.

4.3.2 Women Hostels – Sanction is being issued for constructing 25 hostels in government women colleges through private participation. Land and building cost will be provided by State Government and all recurring and non-recurring expenditure will be borne by private sector.

4.3.3 Knowledge Centres – 20 knowledge centres have been established in colleges.

4.3.4 ICICI Bank has established 20 e-learning centres in colleges.

4.4 TECHNICAL EDUCATION:

4.4.1 Polytechnic Colleges

For the identified 13 lagging districts which do not have any women polytechnic college, private investors have been selected and land has been allotted. Out of these, 11 have been functional in rented buildings. Building construction is underway in all the 11 districts. AICTE approval for 11 polytechnics has been received.

Now it has been decided to establish polytechnic colleges at each sub division headquarters. For all the identified 23 lagging sub divisions, private investors have been selected and land allotment is under process. All investors have received AICTE approval. At 17 polytechnic colleges admissions have been given during 2008-09.

4.4.2 ENGINEERING COLLEGES

For all the 19 lagging districts which do not have any Engineering College, private investors have been selected. Land has been allotted in 11 districts and for remaining 8 districts land allotment is under process.

4.4.3 ITIs

Out of 113 identified lagging blocks, private investors have been selected for establishment of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in 109 blocks. 65 investors have established / started the ITC. Land allotment is

under process. 17 ITIs have been selected under PPP mode for up-gradation into 'Centre of Excellence' with World Bank assistance. Establishment of Mahila ITI wing – 13 government ITIs at district headquarters have been selected to establish Mahila ITI wings.

4.5 PPP SCHOOLS IN RAJASTHAN⁴³

The Government of Rajasthan is setting up five schools in each of the 33 districts under PPP. These schools will be set up in the rural areas at the block level. The private partner will bear the entire capital cost upfront. The state government would provide a capital incentive in instalments. The State government would also reimburse a part of the recurring cost for the sponsored students through vouchers. 50% of the strength in each school would be reserved for students sponsored by the state government.

References

40. Rajasthan Education Initiative (SSA)
41. Rajasthan Education Initiative-Chapter 4
42. Private partnership in Rajasthan Chapter-4
43. Paper on School Education by Govt of Raj.