

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN SSA, ORISSA AN OVERVIEW

Background

The key objective of SSA is Universalisation of Elementary Education (UEE). Three important aspects of UEE are access, enrolment and retention of all children in 6-14 years of age. This goal of UEE, has further been facilitated by the Constitutional (86th Amendment) Act, making free and compulsory elementary education a Fundamental Right, for all the children in the age group of 6-14 years. This Amendment has given a new thrust to the education of Children With Special Needs (CWSN), as without their inclusion, the objective of UEE cannot be achieved. In fact inclusion of one of the groups, which is extremely crucial for UEE, is perhaps that of the CWSN. Hence, education of CWSN is an important component of SSA. The RTE, Act, 2009, in section 3(1) entitle all children in the 6-14 years age group has right to free and compulsory elementary education in a neighbors hood school.

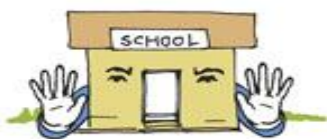
Provisions for CWSN under SSA

SSA provides upto Rs.1200/- per child for the inclusion of disabled children, as per specific proposal, per year. District plan for children with special needs is formulated within the Rs.1200/- per child norm. the interventions under SSA for inclusive education are identification, functional and formal assessment, appropriate educational placement, preparation of Individualized Educational Plan, provision of aids and appliances, teacher training, resource support, removal of architectural barriers, research, monitoring and evaluation and a special focus on girls with special needs. The norm of Rs.1200/- per child has been enhanced to Rs.3000/- per child from 2010-11.

Rejection, Integration and now Inclusive Education!

Three types of school

1. Don't come to me, I am not for you.



2. Come, but you change, I won't.



3. Welcome! I change to respond to you all



SSA's Policy on Inclusion- Policy Interventions

SSA ensure that every child with special needs, irrespective of the kind, category and degree of disability, is provided meaningful and quality education. Hence, SSA has adopted a **zero rejection policy**. This means that no child having special needs should be deprived of the right to education and taught in an environment, which is best, suited to his/ her learning needs. These include special schools EGS, AIE or even home-based education.

The major thrust of SSA is on inclusion or mainstreaming CWSN into the fabric of formal elementary schooling. Experiences of programmes like DPEP and various research findings have shown that inclusion is best determined by the individual needs of the child. Most children with special needs can be enrolled and retained in regular schools if adequate resource support is provided to them, whereas there are others who might have to be provided some kind of pre-integration programmes, before they can be mainstreamed in a classroom. There might also be still some CWSN with severe profound disabilities, who would require an educational programme and intensive specialized support completely beyond the purview and scope of a formal school in the current situation.

Thus, SSA has adopted a more expansive and a broad-based understanding of the concept of inclusion, wherein a multi-option model of educating CWSN with severe profound disabilities, who would require an educational programme and intensive specialized support completely beyond the purview and scope of a formal school in the current situation.

Thus, SSA has adopted a more expansive and a broad-based understanding of the concept of inclusion, wherein a multi-option model of educating CWSN is being implemented. The dual objective of embracing this model is to bring more CWSN under the umbrella of SSA and to provide to CWSN appropriate need based skills, be it vocational, functional literacy or simply activities of daily living. Further, an attempt is being made to provide these skills in the most appropriate learning environment.

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN INCLUSIVE EDUCATION INTERVENTION (At District & Block level)

- **Survey & Identification of CWSN.**
- **Medical Assessment Camp**
- **Distribution of Aids & Appliances**
- **Provision of resource support to CWSN.**
- **RCI Foundation Course**
- **Speech therapy Camp**
- **Parents Training**
- **Physiotherapy Camp**
- **Construction of Ramps/ Toilet Modification**
- **Sports & Cultural Meet for CWSN**
- **Theme based Camp**
- **Braille books for V.I**
- **Workshop/Meeting/Orientation to Dist/Block level staff on I.E**
- **Surgical Correction**
- **Teachers Training**
- **Escort allowance**
- **Exposure trip for CWSN**
- **Celebration of World Disabled Day.**
- **Vocational Training camp**
- **Training of BRT & IEV.**