

**INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PROMOTE EDUCATION FOR ALL****Zainab H. Pardawala***Tilak College of Education, Pune***Abstract**

*There are many people in the world who are not able to receive basic education (3 R's) such as Reading, Writing and Arithmetic (Literacy) skills. Education is the pond of knowledge and it makes people superior to other forms of living things. Its aim is to give everyone a chance to learn and benefit from basic education – not as an accident of circumstance, or as a privilege. The Education for All movement is a global commitment to provide quality basic education for all children, youth and adults. Education is the key to the new global economy, from primary school on up to life-long learning and it is central to development, social progress and human freedom. Infact, education makes people educated, acquaints them with some need based skills.*

**Keywords:** *education, innovative, approaches.*



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**Introduction:**

*'Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory.'*

**Article 26, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948**

Over sixty years ago education was declared a basic human right for every person, and enshrined in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in 1948. Since then, it has been reaffirmed in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966), the Conventional on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (1979) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), among many other international human rights instruments. In 1990, over 150 governments adopted the World Declaration on Education for All at Jomtien, Thailand to boost efforts towards delivering the right to education

**Education For All (EFA)** is a global movement led by UNESCO (United Nation Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), aiming to meet the learning needs of all children, youth and adults by 2015. UNESCO has been mandated to lead the movement and coordinate the international efforts to reach Education for All. Governments, development agencies, civil society, non-government organizations and the media are but some of the

partners working toward reaching these goals. The Fast Track Initiative was set up to implement the EFA movement, aiming at "accelerating progress towards quality universal primary education".

Ten years later, the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal reaffirmed this commitment and adopted the six Education For All (EFA) goals that run to 2015:

**Goal 1:** Expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable children.

**Goal 2:** All children, particularly girls, children in difficult circumstances and those belonging to ethnic minorities have access to free, quality and compulsory primary education by 2015.

**Goal 3:** Ensuring that the learning needs of all young people and adults are met through equitable access to appropriate learning and life skills programmes

**Goal 4:** Achieving a 50% improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015, especially for women, and equitable access to basic and continuing education for all adults

**Goal 5:** Eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and achieving gender equality in education by 2015, with a focus on ensuring girls' full and equal access to and achievement in basic education of good quality

**Goal 6:** Improving every aspect of the quality of education, and ensuring their excellence so that recognised and measurable learning outcomes are achieved by all, especially in literacy, numeracy and essential life skills

180 countries signed up to make these goals happen, committing to putting legal frameworks, policies and finance in place so that everyone, no matter what their circumstances, could have an education - one that is available, accessible, acceptable and adaptable. The richest countries pledged to help make Education for All a reality by committing to principles of international cooperation towards those countries with fewer financial resources. Commitment towards the right to education was also reflected in the UN Millennium Development Goals, set in 2000 with a deadline for achievement by 2015. There are eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), of which two focus on education: Ensure that all boys and girls complete primary schooling by 2015

#### **Innovative approaches to promote education for all:**

The Strategies for improving the quality of education is a recurrent theme of EFA plans.

1. The SSA (SarvaShikshaAbhiyan/Education for All Movement), responsible for the implementation of the programme to universalize elementary education, and the NLM (National Literacy Mission) in charge of the eradication of illiteracy should be geared up

their speed for achieving goals of EFA in India.

2. Increasing the number and quality of teachers, improving school and education system Management, reaching disadvantaged and marginalized groups– all this will require more intensive and innovative ways of delivering learning opportunities. Therefore appointment of more qualified teachers should be done for achieving EFA goals.

3. More funds should be invested in basic education to increase the quality of education such as the curricular reform, the pedagogical supports (school manuals, audiovisual and computer material) and the pedagogical practices.

4. The teachers' competency has a positive effect to prepare an effective plan which would help to improve the overall quality of teaching-learning inputs for achieving EFA goals.

5. The use of teaching-learning material play a crucial role in actual curriculum transaction both at the primary and upper primary stage, and consequently on the quality of education. Hence various teaching-learning materials like blackboard, textbooks, workbooks, teaching-learning aids, teachers' guides should be used to facilitate the planning of EFA.

6. More effective classroom process provides better opportunity to the child for exploration, experimentation and communication outcomes. Hence classroom transactions, classroom environment and various teaching-learning strategies should be improved to attract to the children.

7. The EFA goals can be achieved through the efforts of public authorities. It is well recognized that the NGO sector has tremendous potential to contribute towards the goal of EFA. It is envisaged that involvement of NGOs will enlarge the network of agencies and individuals for implementation of basic education programmes. Namely

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8. Several strategies such as school mapping and micro planning should be adopted to ensure participation by all members of the community in basic education in bringing all children to school and to articulate their demand for improved school services. Any plan for increasing learning achievement should focus on improving the quality of education which requires the knowledge about the factors affecting the child's learning.

9. The resources should also tempt the wider use of non-traditional methods particularly the alternative delivery modes in formal basic education and informal systems for getting target of EFA.

10. Adequate incentives should be given to the children of SC, ST and other backward sections in the form of scholarships, uniforms, textbooks, stationery and midday meals.

SSA focuses on bringing the hardest-to-reach children into school – especially girls, SC, ST, minorities, the urban poor and children of migrant workers. The SSA should increase its focus on teacher accountability and envisage an expanded role for communities to monitor quality and minimum learning levels.

11. An important constraining factor for female education is the lack of women teachers in rural areas. Therefore, special efforts should be made to recruit women teachers and to augment teacher training facilities for women so that adequate numbers of qualified women teachers can be available.

### **Conclusion:**

Education is an important agency of social control and social transformation. India has keenly pursued the six EFA goals that are defined in the area of early childhood care and education, primary education, gender, youth and adolescents, adult education and quality of education. The SSA is the Government of India's flagship programme for the achievement of Education for All (EFA) in a time bound manner. The 86th amendment to the Constitution of India declared making education to the children between the age group of 6-14 years a fundamental right. We are committed to ensuring that all children, irrespective of gender and social category, have access to education that enables them to acquire the skills, knowledge, values and attitudes necessary to become responsible and active citizens of India. In conclusion, EFA and the Fundamental Right to education for all children as declared by the 86th Constitutional amendment in 2002 may be fulfilled in the long-term through the improved implementation of inclusive education.

### **References**

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