

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) as a supervisory authority in the state of Assam

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Abstract

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) is a centrally sponsored scheme, launched in 2009 for providing quality and meaningful Secondary education. It mainly aims at enhancing access to Secondary education and to improve its quality. As supervision is an indispensable instrument in ensuring quality education at any level, therefore RMSA, Assam under its special initiative called "Dristi", focussed on supervision of Secondary schools. The purpose of this paper is to study the present administrative structure of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) for supervision of Secondary schools as well as to find out the different school services supervised by Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA). In this regard, the researcher has opted for Descriptive Method of research based on primary sources of data. A sample of twelve (12) schools is taken from Kamrup (Metropolitan) district of Assam. Self-constructed interview schedules are used to collect the data. Qualitative method of analysis is used for analyzing the data. At the end of the study, the researcher found the prevailing administrative structure of RMSA for supervision of Secondary schools as well as different school services supervised by RMSA.

Keywords: RMSA, supervision, services, structure

1. Introduction

Supervision is a compound term, where 'Super' connotes 'Above' or 'Over' and 'Vision' implies 'To See'. Thus, supervision implies overseeing and directing the works of others. Similarly, educational supervision may be defined as the efforts to stimulate, co-ordinate and guide the continuous development of teachers as well as other educational workers in an educational institution, both individually and collectively for improvement of all the functions of the institution. Thus, it involves human elements, material elements as well as curriculum, methods of teaching, techniques of teaching etc.

Again, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) is a centrally sponsored scheme for providing quality and meaningful Secondary education to all children in the age group of 14 – 18, studying in Secondary and Higher Secondary schools. In accordance of the recommendations of National Policy of Education, 1986, the Government of India had launched Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) in 2009 in partnership with the State Governments and Local Self Governments. The main objective of this scheme is to enhance access to Secondary education and to improve its quality. For achieving these objectives, RMSA, Assam had launched a special initiative called "Dristi". One of the main objectives of this initiative is to supervise or monitor various activities of Secondary schools. The purpose of this study is to deal with these supervisory functions of Secondary schools under RMSA, Assam.

2. Materials and Methods

Objectives of the Study

1. To study the present administrative structure of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) for supervision of Secondary schools.

2. To find out the different school services supervised by Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA).

Design of the Study

Considering the objectives and the nature of data required for the study, the researcher has considered Descriptive method as the most appropriate method for the present study.

Population of the Study

There are a total of ninety seven (97) High schools and twenty four (24) Higher Secondary schools under Kamrup Metropolitan District. The population of the present study consists of all the Heads of the schools and Head of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Assam.

Sample of the Study

For selecting the sample of Secondary schools, the researcher adopted Dis-proportionate Stratified Random Sampling technique. Using Lottery Method, the researcher selected six (6) schools each from both High and Higher Secondary schools. All the Heads of the sampled schools constitutes the sample of the Heads of the Secondary schools. The Head of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Assam also constitutes the sample of the present study.

Tools Used in the Study

The following tools are constructed by the researcher for collecting data for the present study-

- Interview Schedule for Heads of the Secondary schools.
- Interview schedule for Head of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Assam.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

For analysis and interpretation, the data collected through the tools were arranged in Flow- Chart. Qualitative analysis of data has been made.

Delimitations of the Study

- The present is delimited to the Government and Provincialised High schools and Higher Secondary schools under Board of Secondary Education, Assam (SEBA) in the Kamrup (Metropolitan) district, Assam.
- This present study is delimited to the educational supervision practices by Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) in the year 2016 in the sampled Secondary schools.

3. Results and Discussion

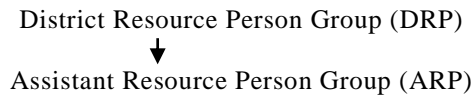
i) The Administrative Structure under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) for Supervision of Secondary Schools

From the information collected from the Head of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) through the interview schedule, the administrative structure for supervision under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) is found as below:

RMSA has launched a programme called, ‘DRISTI’ for monitoring Government and Provincialised Secondary schools. Under this programme, there is one District Resource Person Group (DRP) in every district, which is constituted by 10 teaching fraternity of DIET/ CTE / B. Ed. Colleges/BTC and two renowned academics or Principals (State or National Awardees) headed by Inspector of schools.

Again, under the District Resource Person Group (DRP), there is one Assistant Resource Person Group (ARP) per district, constituted of retired/ local academicians or teachers of DIET/CTE. The group is to visit the assigned 10 schools, each school 5 times in a year and thereby, records and reports the school wise data to the DRP.

The above discussed administrative hierarchy of supervision under DRISTI’ is as follows:



ii) School Services Supervised by RMSA

Under the RMSA, School services supervised by Assistant Resource Person Group (ARP) are presented as follows:

Table 1: School services supervised by RMSA

S. No.	School Services
1	Classroom teaching.
2	Use of teaching- aids by the teachers.
3	Co- curricular activities.
4	Adequacy of classroom accommodation for existing needs.
5	Adequacy of furniture and other classroom Equipments/ apparatus.
6	Drinking water facility.
7	Electricity supply facility of the school.
8	Library facilities of the school.
9	Laboratory facilities of the school.
10	Construction work of the school.
11	Cleanliness of the school.
12	Punctuality of teaching staff.
13	The adequacy of fund for existing needs.
14	The enrolment rate of the school.

Apart from the above services, Secondary school supervision by RMSA also encompasses in- service training programmes of teachers, curriculum reforms as well as institutional planning or annual planning of the Secondary schools.

4. Conclusion

The findings of the study clearly show a decentralized system of administrative structure under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) for supervision of Secondary school. School services supervised by Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) also found to be manifold covering both academic and administrative activities of the schools.

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