

**ASSESSMENT OF SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE AT PRIMARY LEVEL IN NAINITAL
: A DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS**



Ravi Kant

**Assistant Professor in Education, Maulana Azad National Urdu University,
College of Teacher Education, Darbhanga, Bihar, India.**

Introduction

“Destiny of India is being shaped in its classrooms.”

Kothari Commission (1964-66)

*E*ducation is decisive determinant of Economic and Social expansion. Investment in education amplifies the productivity in all sectors of the economy. Development of education depends on large numbers of factor including the human and physical resources. There is a general notion that condition of school's learning environment has an important impact on academic aspect of student. Schools play major role in the society for Education, Economy, Environment, Formation of culture and Manpower to nation. It is very important for a school to be equipped with basic facilities or amenities for healthy and harmonious development of student. The facilities that are needed to facilitate effective education development and learning environment in an educational institution includes the separate toilets for girls, library, boundary wall, computers, play ground etc. In developing country like India some schools are equipped with latest facilities and amenities and on other hand many schools are looking for basic facilities. When there school infrastructure including human resources at grass root level is responsible for growth of primary education, how we can expect good and fruitful outcome from the schools without having basic facilities. According to Goel (2014) in 2011-2012 the public expenditure of elementary education was 56.26% of total educational expenditure. In his study, Ayeni and Adelobu (2012) mentioned that the classrooms in schools were inadequate in term of basic facility and these constituted a major gap in quality to learning environment. Ramachandran (2003) noted that many Indian schools do not have basic amenities like blackboards, drinking water facility and separate toilet for girls etc. Poor quality of education in government schools is considered as major reason for the rapid

growth in the number of private schools and this is happening when we are spending a huge amount of money on public primary schools. Thus the government-private dichotomy in primary education is a question of open debate especially in large Indian population. Central idea of the project was to explore highly unequal distribution of resources among primary schools in Nainital.

Objective of the Study-

This project is intestinally design to identify the differences between government and private primary schools in terms of human and non-human/physical resources.

Research questions-

- Whether government and private primary schools in Nainital are different on the basis on Human resources?
- Whether government and private primary schools in Nainital are different on the basis on Physical resources?

Methodology-

The primary goal of this project was to investigate the availability of human and physical resources in different kinds of primary schools of Nainital. By using self made tool (Checklist) investigator collected information form different primary schools. For reducing sampling error, there were three schools of private sector and three schools from government sector. Descriptive analysis technique was used for derivation meaningful findings.

Analysis and Interpretation-

Following are the analysis and interpretations of data-

Table-1 Student enrollment and Student-teacher ration in schools

Type of school	School	Total No. of Students	No. of Teachers	Student-teacher ratio
Government	G1	12	02	06:01
	G2	93	04	23:01
	G3	52	02	26:01
Private	P1	250	11	22:01
	P2	195	06	15:01
	P3	225	13	22:01

By taking a glance on Table 1 it is very clear that total enrolment of student in government schools is very low but in private schools it is very good. Availability of teachers in both types of schools is sufficient according to student’s enrollment. But this table shows, in all schools student-teacher ratio is very good according to recommended student-teacher ratio at national level (30:01), but this is not due to availability of teachers it is due to less enrollment of students in these schools. Government schools are suffering very much form less student’s enrollment. Reasons for under enrollment are explored in further in this research.

Table 2 Human resources in primary schools

Type of school	School	Total No. of Teachers	No. of Trained Teachers	Administrative staff
Government	G1	02	02	-
	G2	04	04	-

	G3	02	02	-
Private	P1	11	04	03
	P2	13	06	03
	P3	10	04	04

It is quite clear by Table 2 that in government schools entire teaching staff is trained and it is due to certain rules and regulation of recruitment process but in private school <50% teachers are trained, it is because in private sector manager or principals are not interested to recruit trained teachers because of their demand of high salary. On the concern of administrative staff conditions of primary school is just opposite. There is not a single staff appointed in government school but in private schools they are having adequate staff according to their need. In absence of administrative staff teachers are performing official duties at their own and this is affecting their teaching. It is the main reason why students and also parents are attracting towards private school.

Table 3 Physical resources in primary schools

S.No.	Facility	G1	G2	G3	P1	P2	P3
1	Building	Own	Own	Own	Own	Own	Own
2	Classrooms	02	05	02	08	08	08
3	Blackboards	04	05	02	08	08	08
4	Furniture	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	Transport	No	No	No	No	No	No
6	Library	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7	Science Kit	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
8	Compound Wall	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
9	Toilet for girls	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
10	Toilets for teachers	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
11	Play ground	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
12	Adequate Funds	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

Glimpses of Table 3 shows, that all primary schools have their own school building. In matter of classrooms private schools are in good positions but availability of blackboards in classrooms is enough according to rooms available. Furniture is available in all schools and it is good for educational environment in school. There is no transport facility in any school it is because students studying in these schools are belonging to nearby locality. Library and Compound wall is available in all school. Science kits are also available in almost all schools. In case of separate toilet for girls only one government school is on negative side, but others schools are having separate toilets for girls and it is appreciable. Only three schools (one government and two private) are having separate toilets for teachers. In the case of play ground private schools are not showing good only one private school has play ground. When we discuss on the harmonious development of student than it is quite essential for schools having playground so that students could developed in all aspects. In case of fund

for maintenance government schools are very much suffering, they are not capable to maintain school property properly and this is why government school buildings are very old and are in dangerous condition. In some government schools building and playground of school is being used by local persons for marriages etc, so it become a problem for teaching staff to stop unwanted approach of unwanted peoples in schools. It is also a major reason for under enrollment of students in government school. Private schools are quite sufficient and capable for maintaining their buildings.

Table 4 Other information regarding school

S.No.	Facility	G1	G2	G3	P1	P2	P3
1	Scholarship	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	Echo-Club	No	No	No	No	No	No
3	PTA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
4	Physical Activities/Sports	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	Yoga/ Meditation Classes	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
6	Guest Lectures/Local Celebrations	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7	Govt. Duties	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
8	Evaluation of Teachers	No	No	No	No	Yes	No

By observing Table 4 it is clear that in all primary schools students are getting scholarship but Echo-Club is not working in any school. It is very necessary to running a Echo-club in school because Nainital district is a well known tourist place, So if there are Echo-club in schools that student can be aware about the environment of their locality at their beginning level. Parent-Teacher Associations are dully constituted in all schools, this is due because of government order but in private schools these PTA are working properly but in government they are only for formality. Only two private schools are involved in arranging Yoga and Meditation class. Private schools having ample resources and funds for these types of activity and of course this is also a part of their advertisement and popularity among locals. All schools whether it was government or private were organizing guest lecture and also celebrating local celebrations. A very amazing fact came to know that almost half teachers of each government school were engaged in government duties like electoral work, polio vaccination, census etc. It is a major reason for lack of healthy environment in schools. On other hand privates schools were not facing this problem. Only one private school was aware about the evaluation of their teachers. It would be very good to evaluate teachers continuously for the better outcome.

Findings-

This investigation found following findings-

- Government and private both types of schools having their own building. In case of classrooms and administrative staff private schools have more numbers but in the concern of trained teachers government schools have more trained teachers.

- Both types of schools having own building, furniture, library, boundary wall, separate toilets for girls. But some schools are not having playground. Transport facility did not require by any schools because students are from nearby locality. Private schools are having adequate funds for maintenance but government schools are thirsty for it.
- Scholarship, guest lectures, local celebration and PTA are organizing in every school. But dramatically there is no provision of Echo-club in a single school. Private school teachers are free from government duties but government teachers are spending most of their time in these duties. Only one private schools believing in the evaluation of teachers.

Conclusions-

This investigation presents a distinct picture of government and private primary schools in Nainital district in terms of human resources and physical infrastructure. In all the three selected indicators, private primary schools remained a forerunner. However, private schools also need some reforms. If government takes some initiatives for teachers and schools than government schools can be also a forerunner.

Suggestions for further study-

Due to time and resources constraints this study was limited to some certain aspects. Suggestions for further study are as follow-

- ✓ Some more wide aspects like student performance, teacher's performance could be taken.
- ✓ Number of schools could be increased at entire district level.
- ✓ Some other factor like parent's view, local leadership etc. could be included.
- ✓ Some more intense comparative study could be made between different types of schools on the basis of affiliation, medium of instruction etc.

References-

1. Ayeni, A.J. and Adelebu, M.A. (2012). Improving learning infrastructure and environment for sustainable quality assurance practice in secondary schools in Onto state south-west Nigeria. *International Journal of Research Studies in Education*, 1(1):61-68
2. Goel, Veena (2014). Status of Women Education in India, lecture delivered on 06-03-2014 at Academic Staff College, Kumaun University, Nainital.
3. Ramachandran, V (2001). Gender equality in Education (India)-Progress in the last decade. Backgroud paper for the EFA Monitory Report, 2003-04. Paris:UNESCO

Appendixes-

- G1- Government Primary School, Kapoor lodge, Tallital, Nainital.
- G2- Government Primary School, Mallital, Nainital
- G3- Rajkiya Prathmik Pathshala, Aryasamaj, Mallital Nainital
- P1- Saraswati Shishu Mandir, Nainital Club Chauraha, Mallital, Nainital
- P2- Rama Montessori School, Near egg market, Mallital, Nainital.
- P3- Basant Valley School, Near Stanley Compound, Tallital, Nainital.

Pictures-



Picture showing equipped classroom and teaching in Private School (P1)



Picture showing poor conditions of Government Private School (G3)