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# Private Vs public school in the present scenario of secondary education-a case study of Barasat municipality, North 24 Parganas

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### Abstract

This paper tries to reveal the comparison between the private and public schools at the secondary stage in Barasat (M), N 24 Parganas, and West Bengal, India. 20 private and public, secondary schools have been selected out of 32 school from the whole Municipality and the comparison is made on the basis of the three main parameters, those are infrastructure, quality of education and quality of teaching status. After the survey it is finding that infrastructure and education in public schools is not up to the mark and there is need of a big step towards the improvement of education and infrastructure. Infrastructural condition is much well than the education condition in public schools than the private schools. Incase of education mainly the syllabus and the teacher student ratio are the two main problems of the public secondary schools. The main problems in private secondary school are related with teaching.

Keywords: syllabus, teacher-student ratio, teacher-status, comparison.

#### Introduction

Education is an aid which has an immense effect on human life. Education makes people sensible and helps people in any condition to overcome the situation. Education helps people by keeping people in right way of life..Secondary education is a vital stage of education in which the students come in front of many situations, it is the stage in which students concrete their foundation, finalize their main goal of life and after the basic education it is the stage where a student gets the last chance to improve his base.

This stage makes a student's much sensible, organized, decision maker, practical and all of these the student get from their respective schools and their education and to know the condition of schools. We compare between private and public schools the two basic sectors of education on the basis of infrastructure, education and teacher status.

**Study area:** Barasat Municipality which is located at North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, India, is selected as a study area. Barasat Municipality is situated within the  $22^{0}41'$ to  $22^{0}43'$  North and  $88^{0}30'$  to  $88^{0}32'$  east latitudinal and longitudinal extension. All the ward (30) of the Barasat Municipality selected as a study area. Barasat Municipality comprising the area of 34.50 sq. Km. and containing the 278435 person according to the 2011 census with the 3.5% of population growth.



SOURCE: BARASAT MUNICIPALITY

Objective: The basic objectives of our study area are-

To identify the different educational condition in both private and public secondary schools.

To find the infrastructural condition in both private and public secondary schools.

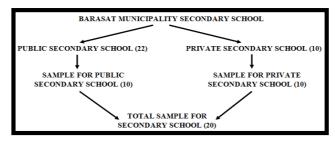
To know the teacher status of public and private secondary schools.

To find out the main reason behind the qualitative decline of public school students.

### Methodology

Multistage random sampling is being used for collecting the primary data.

# Fig 1: METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

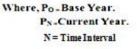


Collected primary data are tabulated and processed in the form of master table. Then different cartographic technique and statistical technique are being used to represent the collected primary data. After that the interpretation work is being done on the basis of calculation and diagram. Then findings, suggestions and conclusion of the work are done in report writing stage. 21<sup>st</sup> century GIS software, Microsoft paint, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Word are used to prepare the maps and diagrams.

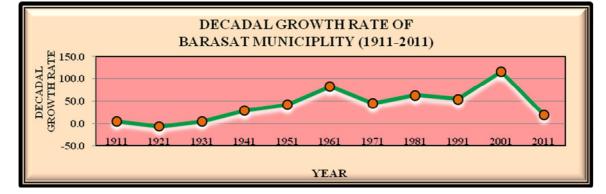
**Back ground of the study area:** This paper discusses the educational features of the Barasat Municipality and we know that education depends on population growth, sex ratio, religion, caste, income and educational facilities and that is why the conditions of these phenomena are discussed below to understand the base of the study area.

**Decadal growth rate of Barasat municiplity (1911-2011):** we can say that the decadal growth rate of India and Barasat (M) is followed the same way by observing the above diagram and that is why the year 1921 shows the negative growth rate of population. 1921 is the only year in the history of India which experiences negative growth rate and with the improvement of food supply and health service the growth rate became increased in high rate from 1961. The illegal influx from Bangladesh in 2001 is the main reason of population growth (fig: 2).

DECDAL GROWTH RATE = 
$$\frac{P_N - P_0 / N}{P_0} \times 100$$



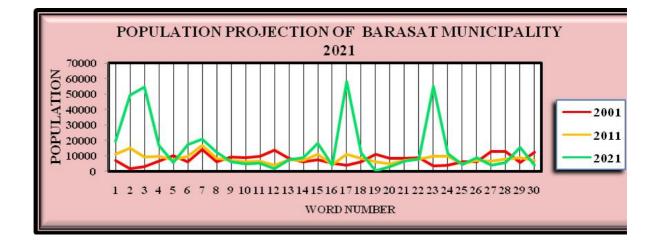




Population projection of Barasat municipality 2021: Population projection is very vital statistic for politician, economist, planner etc., with the help of population projection we can predict the population of an estimated year and here the estimated year is 2021. From the above diagram we can say that the population of the Barasat (M) will be very high and this is 3 to 4 times double than the 2011 census year (fig:3).

POPULATION PROJECTION = 
$$P_0 \left(1 + \frac{X}{100}\right)^n$$
  
Where,  
 $P_{0=}$  BASE YEAR  
X= VALUE OF ANNUAL GROWTH RATE.  
 $n =$  TIME INTERVAL

# Fig 3: POPULATION PROJECTION OF BARASAT MUNICIPALITY 2021



## **SOURCE: CENSUS OF INDIA 2011**

**Locational quotient showing the level of inequality of literacy rate of Barasat municipaliy (2011):** Location quotient method is being used to identify the level of inequality in literacy at Barasat Municipality. According to our calculation it was found that 15 wards have more than 1 location quotient value and 5 wards have <0.9 value and 10 other wards have 0.9 to 1.0 value. So, it is clear that inequality is quite high (Table: 1).





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SOURCE: CENSUS OF INDIA 2011
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**Caste wise literacy rate of barasat municipality (2011):** From the below diagram we can find the General caste literacy rate is higher than the SC and ST population and the gap between the male and female literacy rate

is also very small in General population than the SC, ST population. The gap is high between the male (80.69%) and female (67.75%) literacy among the ST population and as a result the total literacy rate became low (Table: 2).

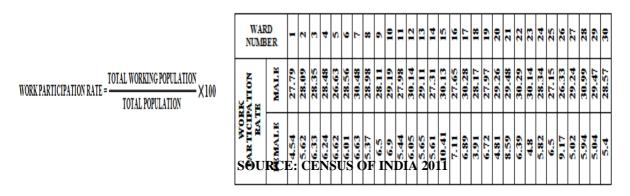
GENERAL			SC			ST		
PERSONS	MALES	FEMALES	PERSONS	MALES	FEMALES	PERSONS	MALES	FEMALES
89.62	92.22	86.96	83.74	88.18	79.11	74.11	80.69	67.75

## Table 2: CASTE WISE LITERACY RATE OF BARASAT (M) (2011)

**SOURCE: CENSUS OF INDIA 2011** 

**Work participation rate of male and female population of Barasat municipality (2011):** In all the 30 wards we found that the male the work participation was almost two to three times double than that of the female population. Highest mail work participation rate is 30.99 and lowest are 26.33 and incase of female highest value is 10.41 and lowest value is 4.54(Table: 3).

# Table 3: WORK PARTICIPATION RATE (2011)



**Distribution of workers by sex in four categories of economic activity in Barasat municipality (2011):** The below table shows the worker distribution of whole, male and female population in different economic activities. From the table we can said that total population, male and female population are engaged in other works and which are basically include of different types of tertiary work and this tertiary worker are almost comprise 90% population of worker incase of the total population, male and female. Workers those are engaged in cultivation are very low in percentage (Table: 4).

# Table 4: DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY INBARASAT MUNICIPALITY (2011)

	CULTIVATORS	AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS	HOUSEHOLD INDUSTRY WORKERS	OTHER WORKERS
PERSONS	0.51	0.95	3.65	94.89
MALES	0.48	1.03	2.75	95.74
FEMALES	0.64	0.59	7.79	90.98

## SOURCE: CENSUS OF INDIA 2011

**Type of educational institution per ten thousand populations in Barasat municipality (2011):** Per 10000 population a region need one educational institution according to the national norms and from the 2011census data we find that, the primary schools have 2 per 10000 population and 1 per 10000 population has a senior

secondary school but this national norms is not found incase of the middle, secondary and college in our study area (fig: 4).

#### Present status of public secondary school and private secondary school:

A public school means an educational institution which is affiliated by the Govt. and Private school means an institution in which the Govt. does not take any initiative for that school. The present study tries to compare the condition of private and public school from the perspective of infrastructure, education and teaching condition. For this purpose the data were being collected from the school authority or management by primary survey for establishing the study work.

- **A. Infrastructure:** Infrastructure is very important for an educational institution. Along with teacher and education quality infrastructure is much needed. The method of education, the circumstances of school, other facilities depend on the infrastructure. To identify the infrastructural condition of both type of schools we selected few parameters those are discussed bellow-
- **a.** Number of class room: Number of class rooms is a very common infrastructure of a school. 10% school have less than 20 class rooms but it also true that more than 20% schools have more than 30 class room, which is 14.29% for the private school but the overall scenario, is much better in the private school.
- **b.** Type of bench: In 42.86% private schools (Table: 5) have desk system bench whereas there is not any public school (Table: 6).which have these facilities and in 80% cases the 5ft bench in public school is overcrowded by more than five students, which is really pathetic.



	~ [	<3	3-5	>5	
BENCH	3 ft.	0%	100%	0%	
LENGTH	5 ft.	0%	20%	80%	
	>5ft	0%	50%	50%	

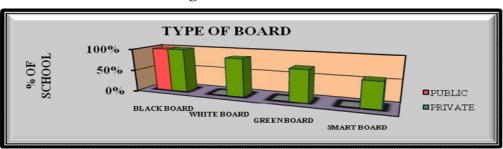
<b>Table 6: PRIVATE SCHOOL</b>									
····		NO. OF STUDENT							
	~ī	<3	3-5	>5					
BENCH	3 ft.	0%	100%	0%					
		0.01	0.04/	2.04					

	~	<3	3-5	>5
BENCH	3 ft.	0%	100%	0%
LENGTH	LENGTH 5 ft.		80%	20%
	>5ft	0%	60%	40%

#### **SOURCE: PRIMARY SURVEY**

SOURCE: PRIMARY SURVEY

**c. Type of board:** The type of board does not only improve the education method but also gives a fresh mind from the boring black board. But from our field observation we find that no one public schools have any other kind of board except the traditional black board. Whereas in every private school there present all kind of board (fig: 4).



## Fig 4: TYPE OF BOARD

### SOURCE: PRIMARY SURVEY

**d.** Teaching method: The type of teaching method is a very vital bearing in education; the way of method can highly influence the students to take a subject. Anything that may create difficulty for a student to understand in

traditional chalk and talk method but may be the same things become easier to the same student when it is presented in advanced method like the audio visual. All the public and private schools has the facilities of traditional teaching method but only 40% public school (Table: 7) has the audio-visual facilities in spite of 100% of private school (Table: 8).

	TEACHING METHOD								
TRADITIONAL ADVANCED									
CHALK AND TALK	ONLY TALK	ICT	AUDIO AND VISUAL	HANDS AND WORK					
100%	0%	20%	40%	0%					
<b>SOURCE: PRIM</b>	SOURCE: PRIMARY SURVEY								

## Table 7: TEACHING METHOD (PUBLIC SCHOOL)

## Table 8: TEACHING METHOD (PRIVATE SCHOOL)

TEACHING METHOD								
TRADITIONAL			ADVANCED					
CHALK AND TALK	ONLY TALK	ICT	AUDIO AND VISUAL	HANDS AND WORK				
100%	0%	100%	100%	57.14%				

## SOURCE: PRIMARY SURVEY

- **e. Status of electricity:** Electricity in a school is another important factor, proper numbers of fans, proper electricity service, electricity back up etc are very much important whereas 100% of private schools have electricity back up facilities the 90% public schools have electricity back up. The number of fans per class also low in public school. In private school both 100-150sq ft and more than 150sq ft class is room has more than two fans where as steel 20% public schools there is only two fans even when the class room is more than 150sq ft.
- **f.** Status of toilet: It is a very important thing which highly influences to attend in school, mainly the toilet status is very much important in case of girl student. One of the main reasons of the girl students' drop outs is lack of proper facilities of toilet. In private schools there do not have any problem related to the toilet facilities but incase of public Schools it was a big problem (fig: 5) and still today 30% school just have only two toilet, which is very small according the students strength.

The type of floor material in toilet put the picture of true facilities and aristocracy of private schools where major portion of the schools use marble (58%) and tiles (40%) as a floor material.



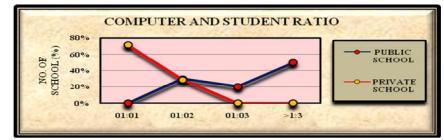
## Fig 5: POOR TOILET CONDITION IN PUBLIC SCHOOL

**g.** Status of drinking water: Water mainly purified portable drinking water is very much essential for all. Students spent their maximum time in schools, where water facilities should have to proper and free from any kind of pollution.

The source of drinking water of public schools coming from tube well (50%) and from running water (50%), whereas incase of private schools 100% water coming from running water. 100% source of water of private schools are purified whereas only 60% source of water of public schools are purified. Number of water point is also high in private schools, whereas all the schools have more than 2 water points whereas 30% public schools have only 2 water points.

- **h. PLAY GROUND STATUS:** Play ground is a big part of an educational institution but in case of both the public and private schools only 60% schools have play ground. 83.33% play ground of public schools and 75 % private schools play ground are their own authority.
- **i.** Availability of dustbin: Dustbin is very essential for a school to keep clean the school. Proper number of the dustbins according to the school size and cleaning of dustbin is very much needs to keep school free from dirty. Number of dustbins is much higher in case private schools than the public schools. Incase of 50% private schools have more than 11 dustbins whereas it is only 20% in public schools.
- **j.** Availavility of computer for student: The importance of computer education is very much important in present day; nothing is being possible without computer. So, there is the need to take all the schools an initiative to teach students computer lesion from the very first day of the schooling. Private schools' hundred percent secure these but public schools is need more than 20% to full fill the target.

With the availability of computer it is also important that the ratio between computer and student. If the ratio is 1:1 then it is very good but if it more than that than effect the learning of a students, in case of 71.43% private schools the ratio between computer and student is 1:1 but 50% of public schools has the ratio of >1:3 (fig: 6).



# Fig 6: COMPUTER AND STUDENT RATIO



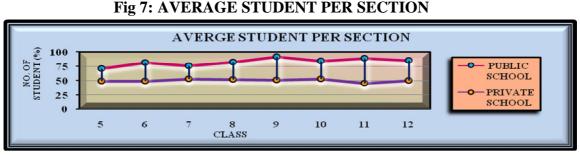
**B.** Quality of education: Each and every lack of an educational institution will be faded out if the education of an institution is being proper. Education depend on a institution number of teachers, number of students, student teacher ratio, number of students in class, number of sections in a school, extracurricular activities etc. in our study we try to revealed the education condition of the public and private secondary schools.

- **a. Number of teacher:** We all know that the teachers' strength is very vital for an educational institution. Incase of our study the number of teachers collected on the basis of the three types Permanent, Para and Contractual teacher. After collecting data we found that all the teachers of private schools are contractual, but incase of public schools 90% of the teachers are permanent, 8% Para and only 2% contractual.
- **b.** Teacher and student ratio: Education of an institution is highly depending on the teacher student ratio. The national level standard value of teacher student ratio is 1:40 but in our study area we find that incase of the public schools it cross the limit and it is 1:44 on an average but some public schools the ratio is so bad and those are 1:71, 1:51, 1:50 etc.

But incase of private schools this ratio is on an average **1:39** and except a single school all the schools have lower than the standard limit.

**c.** Average student per section: In this diagram (Fig: 7) we have tried to show the number of students gap between public and private school according to per section. From this diagram we can said that there have huge gap. In public schools 6 classes out of 8 classes have more than 80 students in each section. It is showing the

bad educational condition of public schools. But incase of private schools all the section of each class have less than 45 students. Incase of public schools on an average all the schools have only 2 sections but private schools have on an average 3 section and most of the private schools have 4 sections in each class. That is why number of student per section become increase in public schools.



#### SOURCE: PRIMARY SURVEY

- **d.** Number of subject: It is very controversial issues many people thinks that the less weight of the bag with book is better for students but there have also some people they think that number of book if high then it increase the involvement of a students in education. In public schools all the students have within 5-10 books, where as private schools except XI and XII student all have more than 10 books.
- **e.** Extra curricular activities in school: It is another aid to keep students in school and involve in school even when they are facing problem with basic education. On that time these activities make them happy and secure them that if they are not well in basic education but well in other activities then they can improve their condition in feature.

All the public and private schools have different activity. But the variation of activities are high in private schools and it is also showing in diagram that all the public schools do not have different type of activities, few have song facilities to few do not have this facilities.

- **f.** Teacher student interaction: In educational institution it is very much important, with the increasing of this, educational level is gradually increasing. Incase of public schools 30% are high, 60% are moderate and 10% are poor, where as it is 78% high in private schools. So, it is clear that teacher student interaction is high in private schools. The main reason behind this small class room and less student in a class.
- **g.** Library facilities: A well equipped library is important for education, library help students not only by provide the books but also be a friend at the free time. Library with good study situation is help students to make their lesion well within the schools.

With the passage of time library little bit change itself and now it is become a technology oriented and we can see the increasing demand among the student for e-book.

42.86% private schools have these e-book facilities but these same facilities are not available in any public schools.

**h. Practical and lab facilities:** For any practical based subject number of practical classes and lab facilities is much needed. We know that practical based subject without practical class is incomplete. A subject matter may create difficulty for students when they doing these theoretically but these same things became easier when they learn the same things practically.

In public schools every science based subjects' practical class taken 2 day per week whereas in private schools it is 3 day per week.

**i.** Fees structure of school: The fees structure of school effects directly on education. Many students are intelligent but only because of the economic problem they are unable to get admitted in a good school. The fees structure of public schools is reasonable but in private school it is very high (Table: 9) and it is become too hard

for people of India where more than 28% of people live below the poverty line. The fees structure of private schools that we provide which is free from many hidden cost, donation is important among them, now a days this donation is compulsory for every private schools and this amount some time cross over the 2 lakh rupees, which is really too high and most of the middle class and lower class people could not afford it.

#### Table 9 : Fee structure of Pvt. School

PARTICULARS	ANNUAL	TUITION	TOTAL	
	FEES	FEES	FEES	
LN, UN, KG	33000	9600	42600	
CLASS I TO IV	33000	10590	43590	
CLASS V TO VII	33000	12150	45150	
CLASS VIII	33000	14150	47150	
CLASS IX	43000	15300	58300	
CLASS X	43000	15800	58800	
CLASS XI	60000	17500	77500	
CLASS XII	43000	20500	63500	

#### 10:Transport fee of Pvt. School

TRANSPORT (2016-17)								
DISTANCE	AMOUNT	PAYABLE						
	(PER MONTH)	(PER QUARTER)						
UP TO 3 KM	1200	3600						
UP TO 5 KM	1540	4640						
UP TO 7 KM	1650	4950						
UP TO 10 KM	1760	5280						
UP TO 15 KM	2200	6600						
UP TO 20 KM	2310	6930						

#### **Source : Primary Survey**

- **j. Parent involvement in school:** Parent should be involved in school for understanding the condition of the students and the decision of school, if parent is involve in school then they can go through all of which the school doing and it help those parent to take the decisions related to school and student. We found that there is not any private school which has low parent involvement, where 80% is high and 20% is medium parent involvement. But the scenario is totally opposite in public school.
- **k.** Present scenario of student dropout: It is a very big problem of India where 50 to 60% children do not go beyond their primary schooling and more than 50 millions become drop-outs and this dropout rate is mainly present in public school (Table: 11), there are many reasons behind it but the main reason for boys is less involvement of parent and less economic support from elder and child labour. Incase of girls the main reason is early marriage.

# **Table 11: PRESENT SCENARIO OF STUDENT DROPOUT**

CL.	ASS	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
NO. OF DROP	BOYS	00	00	00	08	05	04	00	00
OUT	GIRLS	02	02	02	20	08	00	00	00

**C.** Quality of teaching staff: Teachers are those from whom we are gather knowledge, who teach us not only the lesions of the books but also the lesion of life. So, it is very much clear to us the importance of teacher in our life. We can found few differences among the public and private school teacher and those are comparable. The comparison are done on the basis of few parameters those are discusses bellow-

**a.** Number of teacher according to the teaching experience years: Teaching experience of a teacher is very help full for the teachers, because it help the teachers to understand the problem that students face in lesion and it also help the teachers to understand that how to teach students and how to match up with them. In private schools most of the teachers are contractual and they leave the schools in many cases within one month, it is create problem for both teacher and student. Before adjust with the teaching method of a teacher, student saw that their teacher is being changed and new teacher already coming in replacement of previous teacher. This creates a huge problem for a student, which are not available in public school. In private school 77.41% teachers have less than 10 years of experience (Table: 12).

# Table 12: NUMBER OF TEACHER ACCORDING TOTHE TEACHING EXPERIENCE YEARS

## SOURCE: PRIMARY SURVEY

		TEACHING EXPERIENCE (YEAR)			
		<10	10 TO 20	>20	
HER	PUBLIC SCHOOL	31.77 %	45.31 %	22.92 %	
TEACHER	PRIVATE SCHOOL	77.41 %	18.78 %	3.81%	

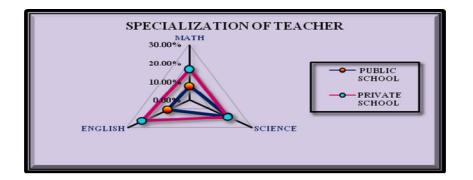
- **b.** Educational qualification: Educational qualification of teachers indicates the quality of teachers. Educational qualification increase the sphere of knowledge of a teacher which help them at the time when they taken classes. Educational qualification is high among the public schools teachers than the private schools teachers. Whereas in public schools 60.94% are post graduate teachers, but this percentage incase of the private schools is 28.83%. In public schools 1.30% teachers have PHD degree.
- **c. Salary of teacher:** Salary of teacher indicate the economic condition of a teacher and it is true that those teacher who has higher income they have secured life and they do not have to think about the economical problem and do not have to engage in other economic activities and they can fully engage themselves with full attention in the task of teaching.

There is huge salary gap in the public and private schools teachers, incase of public schools 87% teachers are get monthly salary between 25000 to more than 30000 thousand whereas salary of all the teachers of private schools end up with in <3000 to 15000 rupees (Table: 13).

NUMBER OF TEACHER FALLING BETWEEN THIS GROUP ACCORDING TO SALARY OF TEACHER									
SALARY	<3000	3000- 5000	5001- 10000	10001- 15000	15001- 20000	20001- 25000	25001- 30000	>30000	
PUBLIC SCHOOL	0%	0%	2.08%	11.98%	0%	0%	36.46%	49.48%	
PRIVATE SCHOOL	1.35%	36.84%	41.79%	20.72%	0%	0%	0%	0%	

## SOURCE: PRIMARY SURVEY

- **d.** Number of average class taken by each teacher every day: Number of class taken by the teacher affects the quality of teaching. In private school, in one hand teacher got less salary on the other hand they have to take more class than the public school teacher which directly affect the teaching quality. 7% private school teachers have to take more than 6 classes per day.
- **e. Specialization of teacher:** Specialization of teachers increases the quality of teaching, specialized teacher have more knowledge in the field of their special subject. So there is need of specialized to improve the quality of teaching. In private schools specialization of teachers is higher than the public schools (Fig: 8).



# **Fig 8: SPECIALIZATION OF TEACHER**

### **Findings:**

The findings are-

The infrastructures of public secondary schools are not up to the mark and specially the syllabus which are very low qualitatively than the private secondary schools.

Another problem is the teacher student ratio which is high in every public secondary school and some time it became more than 1:75.

Till today 20% public secondary schools do not have the facilities of computer education and if any school have these facilities than these not up to the mark and student computer ratio are also more than 3 students per 1 computer.

In private schools' infrastructure and education system is well but the problem faced by those private schools in the form of teaching, most of the teacher are not permanent and they are not stay in a school for long time and that is why it is creating problem for student to understand the different teaching method of different teachers incase of single subject.

Private school teachers also got very low salary and that is why they are not wanted to give their hundred percent potentiality and which they give incase their side profession as a tuition teacher.

According to **The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act of 2009:** 25 percent of seats in every private school must be allocated for children from disadvantaged groups and physically challenged children. But according to our field work any private schools do not maintained this rules.

The fees structure of private school is too high and people also have to paid huge amount of donation.

## Suggestion

After the field survey, few suggestion can be provided, those are-

There have vital need of infrastructural and educational development in Public secondary schools, because till today huge amount of people depend on public school for their education.

Govt. should have to be secure that all the expenses carried out by Govt. are use properly for the improvement of public school.

Govt. educational administrative sector should find the gap and problem of every school.

Secondary public schools' syllabus, type of teaching should be move towards the practical base and modernised and job oriented, otherwise the number of educational unemployment will be increasing day by day, according to the 2011 census unemployment is 17.02% among the graduate candidate where the overall unemployment rate is 10.2% which denote the fault of education system.

Private schools should have to follow the law of **"The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education** Act of 2009".

Private schools have to change their view about education and that's why they have to reduce the fees of education.

Govt. should have to more cautious to band the tradition of donation in private schools.

**Conclusion:** Children are the future of our country and education make the future of the children. So, we can say that the developing country like India education is very vital for the future development of the country. So, we should have to be so careful about the importance of the education.

Education is a basic right of human being that means every people have the equal right of education but the opposite picture is being found in our country and that is why huge amount of people still today are uneducated.

According to our study, here have huge gap between private and public schools in every sector. So, here have need to be make a huge impact on public school to improve the present condition of school otherwise the gap between rich and poor are remaining and increasing with the passage of time.

To make India bright and to complete the competition with the other country, India needs a huge improvement in the public education.

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