

Delhi State Budget 2013—2014 disappoints children once again



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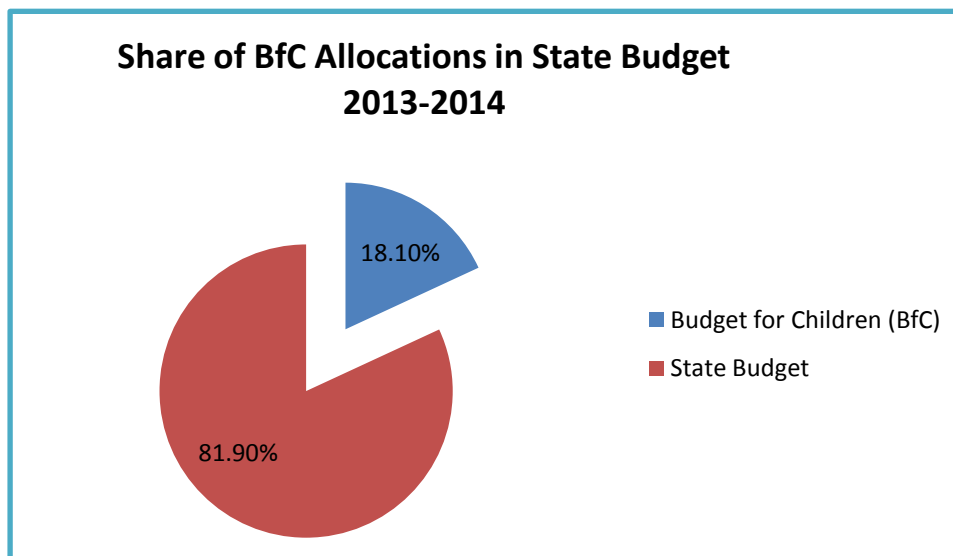
On the 20th of March 2013, the Honorable Chief Minister of Delhi presented her budget to the Legislative Assembly. What did she have in it for children? The budget has to be analysed in the light of the situation of children in the National Capital Territory.

Delhi's Children- A Glimpse

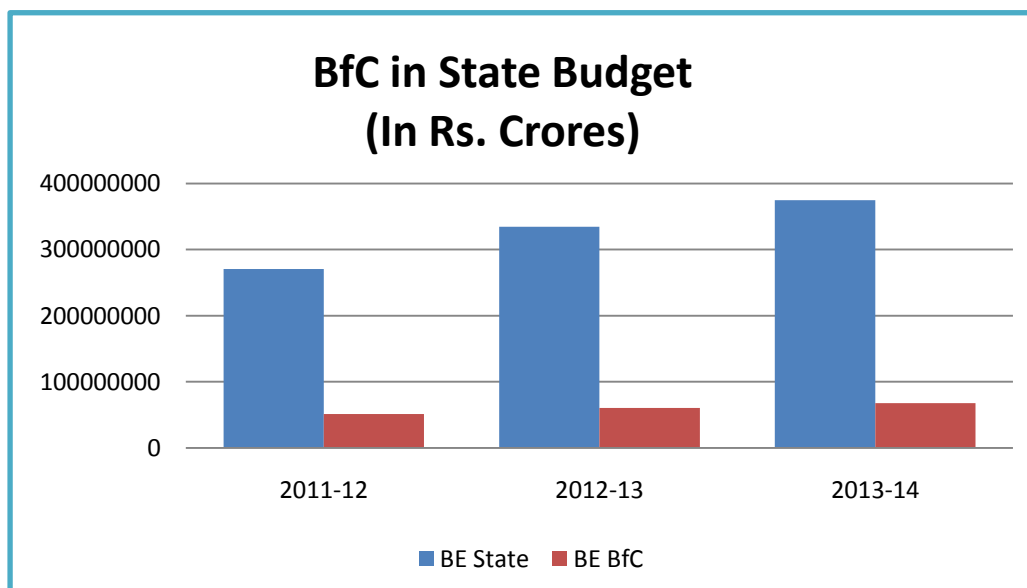
- 1 in 25 children die within the first year of life, and 1 in 21 die before reaching age five.
- 41 per cent children are still born at home.
- Despite immunization drives are on, the percentage of fully-vaccinated children aged 12-23 months has actually gone down from 70 per cent in the NFHS II survey to 63 per cent in NFHS III
- One-fifth of children (21 per cent) in Delhi still have not received three doses of polio vaccine.
- 57 per cent of children in Delhi (between 6 months to 5yrs) are anaemic.
- The sex ratio is 866 and is part of the five states with the lowest sex ratio. Affluent South district accounts for the lowest of all districts.
- Of the total child population in Delhi, 48.9 per cent of the girls and 28.37 per cent boys marry before 18 years of age.
- According to police, nearly 15 children go missing from the city on an average per day. Records also suggest that over 3,700 children that went missing from Delhi homes in the last five years, many of whom are girls, are still untraceable.
- In 2011, according to the National Crime Records Bureau, the rate of crime against children was highest in Delhi (25.4 per cent).
- 16 December 2012 gang rape is not the only blot on the city. The next day there were reports of a three year old sexually abused in a play school only to discover that children will continue to be at risk in the play schools as they are not required to be registered under any law and hence no regulation.

... And yet "children" did not figure anywhere in the Chief Minister's budget speech 2013-14.

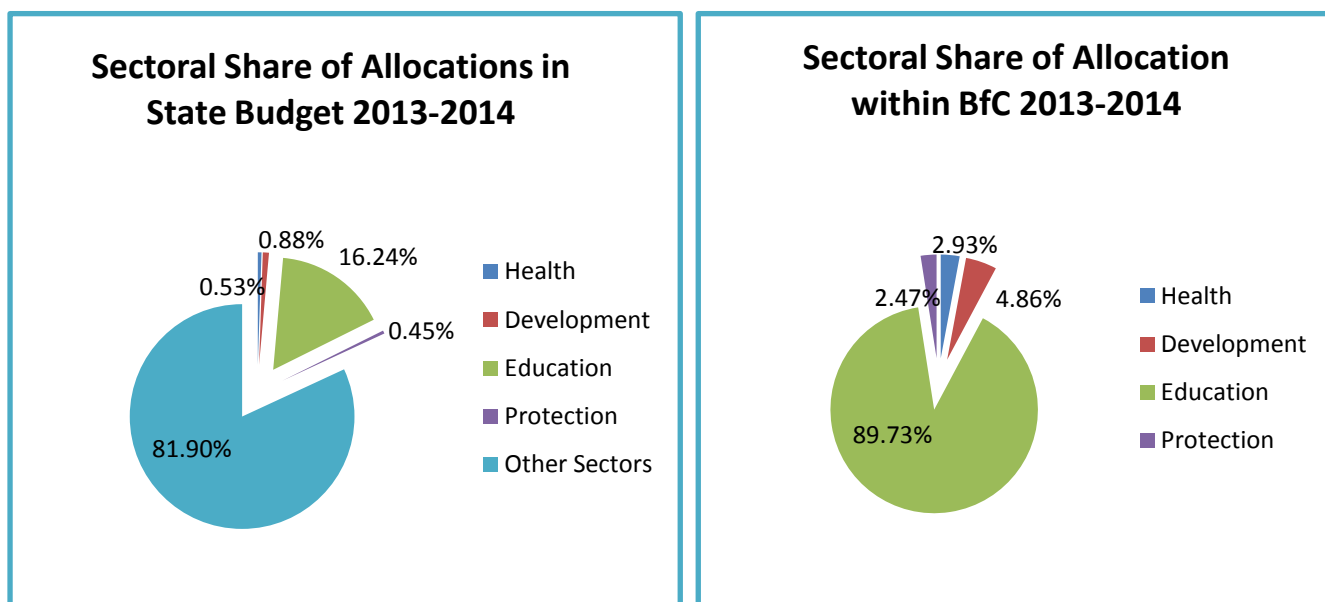
Major Highlights



- *The share for children in the total Delhi State Budget 2013-2014, is 18.10 per cent.*
- *While the State budget has increased by 12.01 per cent, the share of budget for children (BfC) has increased by only 0.07 per cent over 2012-2013.*
- *As a whole, BfC allocations increased by 12.41 per cent with the allocations rising from Rs. 6029.01 Crore in 2012-2013 to Rs. 6777.09 Crore in 2013-2014.*
- *Several major programmes and schemes have seen reduced allocations.*
- *The reduced allocation for health and low allocations for protection are a matter of concern.*



Sectoral Share within the Budget for Children (BfC)



- Despite the alarming concerns of child protection issues, allocations for child protection sector observed the minimal share of 0.45 per cent in the current state budget.
- What is also alarming is that there is a decline in the share of child health in the state budget as well as within BfC in 2013-2014 as against 2012-2013.
- As always education received the maximum share of allocations in both the state budget and within BfC.
- Share of the Central Government's scheme for education for the disabled has however declined in the case of Delhi.
- The budget for Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights has been reduced by Rs. 50 lakhs.

Out of every 100 rupees in the State Budget, protection of children has received only forty five paisa...this when Delhi accounts for more than one fourth of the total crimes against children in India and has seen an increase of 5.6 per cent in 2011 over 2010.

Source: Crimes in India: 2011

SECTORAL SHARE IN BfC (In Per Cent)				
Year	Health	Education	Protection	Development
2011-2012	3.95	88.84	2.76	4.45
2012-2013	4.02	89.60	2.38	3.99
2013-2014	2.93	89.73	2.47	4.86

SECTORAL SHARE IN STATE BUDGET (In Per Cent)				
Year	Health	Education	Protection	Development
2011-2012	0.75	16.91	0.52	0.85
2012-2013	0.73	16.16	0.43	0.72
2013-2014	0.53	16.24	0.45	0.88

Under-spending in programmes and schemes

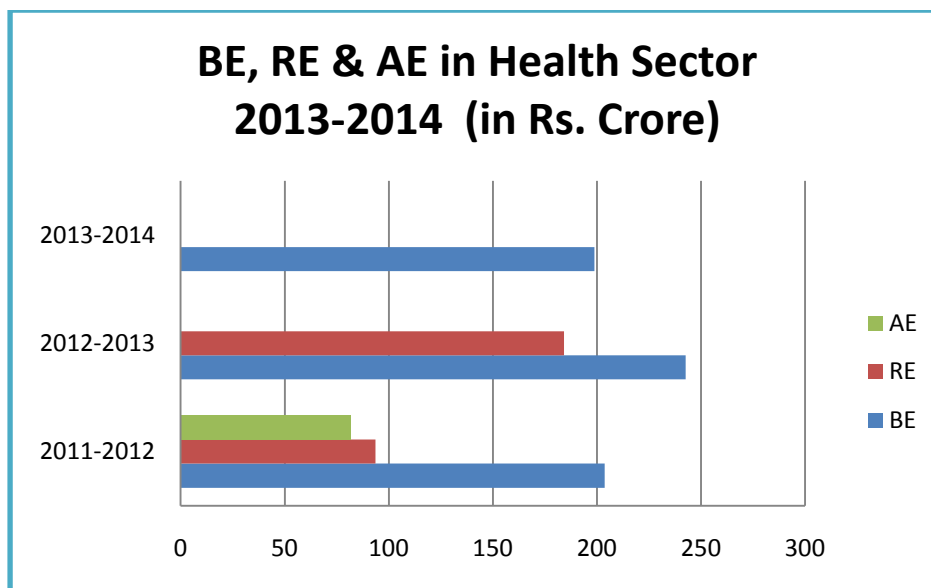
Utilisation of financial resources is as important as adequate and appropriate allocation. Unspent budgets reflect on planning and implementation of initiatives. The following table shows that there is non-utilisation of budgets in a number of very important interventions of the government, which in turn is bound to impact on the status of children. This is also the reason for lower allocations in some of them in the current year.

Under spending in various child related schemes in the financial year 2012-2013 (in Rs. Lakh)

Programmes/Schemes	RE 2012-13	Modified RE 2012-13	Expenditure up to February 2013	Expenditure during March 2013	Total Expenditure up to March 2013
Staff in Children and Women Institutions	57.00	52.30	42.45	1.81	44.26
Honorarium to Anganwadi workers and Helpers	3146.00	3146.00	2145.15	841.98	2987.13
GIA to DSWB for Honorarium to AWWs and Helpers	17.00	17.00	11.93	4.94	16.37
GIA to State Child Protection Society (State Share) Shelter Homes	70.00	70.00	9.54	55.91	65.45
Expansion of Foster Care	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Implementation of JJ Act 2000 (Revenue)	250.00	250.00	125.00	85.00	210.00
Implementation of JJ Act 2000 (PWD)	100.00	100.00	47.19	50.50	97.69
Child Rights Commission	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	90.00
Ladli Yojana	9550.00	9550.00	5231.47	4314.51	9545.98
Ladli Yojana-SCSP	1000.00	1000.00	182.05	572.25	754.30
State Share for ICDS	8.00	8.00	0.00	8.00	8.00
ICDS Gen. (State Share)	598.30	499.00	400.11	89.48	489.59
GIA to DSWB ICDS	1.70	1.70	1.23	0.23	1.45
Kishori Shakti Yojna	73.00	73.00	72.10	-3.02	69.08
Supplementary Nutrition Programme	7193.60	7193.60	6838.05	41.30	6879.35
Supplementary Nutrition Programme SCSP	1620.00	1620.00	1216.95	138.85	1355.81
GIA to DSWB for SNP	110.00	110.00	81.50	26.23	107.73
RGSEAG for SNP	874.30	874.30	870.96	3.04	874.00
RGSEAG for SNP (SCSP)	325.70	325.70	307.51	17.91	325.42

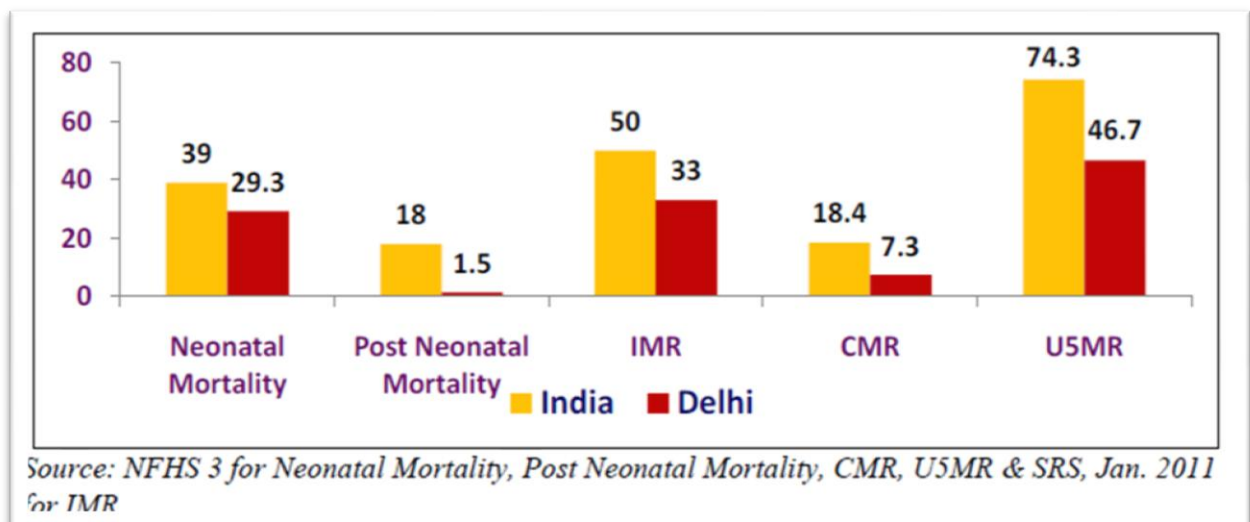
Source: Expenditure Report for the month ending March 2013 (unreconciled);
<http://wcdde.in/pdf/ExPenMarch2013Report.pdf>

CHILD HEALTH



Despite poor health parameters and inadequate health facilities, share of child health sector within state budget has declined over last year's budget. It is only 0.53 per cent of the state budget and 2.93 per cent within BfC. Health was the only sector that had seen an increase last year.

How can we explain the fall in budget for health when there is a long way to go for improving the health status of children in Delhi?



Programmes that have seen reduced allocations:

- 'Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana-CSS' was introduced in the previous financial year with a promising allocation of Rs. 10 Crore. The particular scheme has declined by 36.6 per cent with the allocations going down from Rs. 10 Crore in 2012-2013 to Rs. 6.34 Crore in 2013-2014.

- The Budget Estimate (BE) for School Health Scheme has declined from Rs. 108.87 Crore in 2012-2013 to Rs. 60.09 Crore in 2013-2014.

School Health Scheme currently caters to approximately 14 Lakh school children across Delhi and SHS is planning to expand the coverage and improve the effectiveness of the service by adding various innovative activities like 'Computerization of SHS', 'Procurement of Smart Cards', 'video spots and documentary films to create awareness', 'release of newsletter' etc. etc¹.

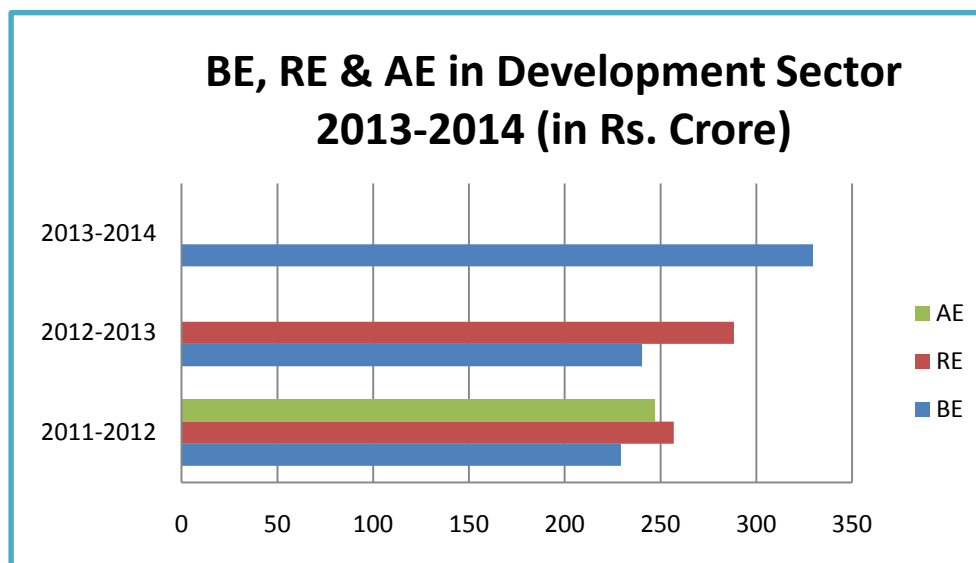
Major programmes/schemes with reduced allocation in 2013-2014

(In Rs. Thousand)

Programmes/Schemes	BE	RE	AE	BE	RE	BE
	2011-12	2011-12	2011-12	2012-13	2012-13	2013-14
Special Immunisation Programme MMR	19400	19400	16686	23400	64500	149400
School Health Scheme	1140840	194198	133490	1088738	600974	600875
Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahayog Yojna - CSS	0	12350	12260	100000	63400	63400
Shri Dadadev Matri Avum Shishu Chikitsalaya	150000	160000	162051	339400	190000	250000
Grant in aid to Delhi Health Mission for SC Pregnant Women under Matri Sishu Suraksha Yojna-SCSP	0	0	0	100000	60300	10000
Grant in aid to Delhi Health Mission for providing ante-natal care for institutional delivery for SC women -SCSP	0	0	0	70000	53900	10000

¹<http://www.delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/doi+health/Health/Home/Directorate+of+Health+Services/School+Health+Scheme> accessed on 21.04.2013

CHILD DEVELOPMENT



The share of Child development in State budget is 0.88 per cent and 4.86 per cent in BfC. It has increased in 2013-14 after having seen a decline last year

Inadequate finance, poor infrastructure and low quality of services in ICDS

According to the findings of a NCPCR report, most of the AWCs in Delhi have poor infrastructural facilities like shortage of space, cramped unhygienic places, no play area, suffocating rooms, non-availability of functional electric fans during scorching summer etc. etc. This can be attributed to the very low allocation of Rs 750 for rents, which is very low for city like Delhi. Needless to say, as field visits have shown, the Anganwadis are run in small spaces, corridors and verandahs, most often rented in the house of the helper. Given the lack of space, these were seldom anything more than just a supplementary nutrition distribution centre from where mothers or children themselves came and collected the food and took it home to eat.

"Delhi Visit Report: National Commission for Protection of Child Rights"; submitted by Dr. Dinesh Laroia, U.C. Bajpai and Shaifali Avasthi; http://www.ncpcr.gov.in/Reports/Delhi_Visit_Report%2008.07.2011.pdf; accessed on 21-04-2013

- The increase in Development sector is because **ICDS has received a significant 58.33 per cent increase in allocations** against 2012-2013 with a total of Rs. 95 Crore in 2013-2014 budget.
- The total allocations for crèches have noticed an increase of 15 per cent with a total allocation of Rs. 0.65 Crore in 2013-2014. The allocations for Crèches are made under 'child welfare' and 'women welfare' heads in Delhi budget.
- There is welcome increase of **76.58 per cent for Honorariums to Anganwadi Workers and Helpers** with a total allocation of Rs. 45.91 Crores.

Programmes that have seen reduced allocations:

- Supplementary Nutrition Programme noticed a decline of 2.48 per cent in the current budget with allocations going down from Rs. 73.80 Crore in 2012-2013 to Rs. 71.97 Crore in 2013-2014.

Major programmes/schemes with reduced allocation in 2013-2014

(In Rs. Thousand)

Programmes/Schemes	BE	RE	AE	BE	RE	BE
	2011-12	2011-12	2011-12	2012-13	2012-13	2013-14
Balika Samridhhi Yojana	1000	100	26	200	0	0
Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) for SNP-state share	27000	112500	104179	132000	87430	87430
GIA to MCD (slum) for Sishu Vatika/common spaces in JJ clusters	20000	50000	50000	20000	0	3750
Supplementary Nutrition programme	782000	678140	641223	738000	719700	719700
RGSEAG for SNP-state share	27000	112500	104179	132000	87430	87430

Currently only 30 per cent of the children in the 0-6 age group are benefitting from ICDS. There is clearly a need to increase the coverage of children. What is more, there are several issues that relate to inadequacy of infrastructure and quality of services provided.

A survey of 1380 households in 28 resettlement and

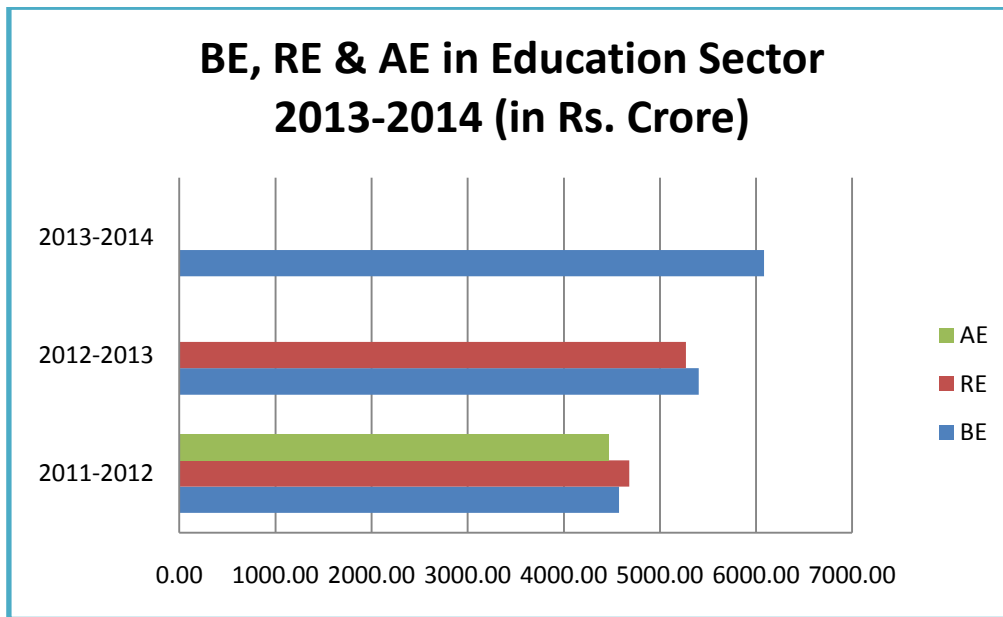
unauthorised colonies done by Delhi- FORCES, in 2010 showed that 75 per cent of women in these households are occupied in unorganized labour sector, 20 per cent children in 0-6 age group are looked after by older siblings, 18 per cent are watched over by neighbours and only 6 per cent of the children could take advantage of the Anganwadi centres / day care centres under the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) of Ministry of Women and Child Development. In a survey conducted by the Mission Convergence, Government of Delhi NCT, it was found out that about 2.5 Lakh children in a population of 25 Lakh people from marginalized background are out of schools.²

Total population of Delhi	1,67,53,235
Total 0-6 yrs population of Delhi	19,70,510
Total no. of Operational AWCs	6,606
Total no. of AW beneficiaries (0-6 yrs)	6,07,957 (approx. 30% of the total)
Total no. of children left out	1,362,553

Source: Census of India- 2011 for total population of Delhi and 0-6 yrs population & Ministry of WCD for total no. of Operational AWCs and total no. of AW beneficiaries.

² Endeavour: DCPCR, an Overview; published in 2010

CHILD EDUCATION



In 2013-2014, education witnessed an increase of 12.57 per cent against 2012-2013. Its share is 16.24 percent within State budget and 89.73 per cent within BfC.

Secondary education bags the maximum share of 70.09 per cent followed by elementary education with the share of 27.05 per cent.

There are however several programmes that have reduced allocations this year.

- The major flagship programme **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)** did not observe much change in allocation against previous year as it rose from Rs. 60 Crore in 2012-2013 to Rs. 60.40 Crore in 2013-2014.
 - **Allocation for Mid-Day Meal Programme (including all its components) has increased by 9.43 per cent** i.e. from Rs. 132.5 Crore in 2012-2013 to Rs. 145.00 Crore in 2013-2014.
 - Despite the attention received by **Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha** in the Union Budget 2013-2014, its allocation in the Delhi State budget has not changed at all from 2012-2013. In the current financial year, RMSA has been allotted a total sum Rs. 1.00 Crore.
- The teacher-pupil ratio in all government schools in Delhi was recorded 1:40 in 2010-11 as against 1:32 in the year 2009-10.
 - Percentage of enrollment in Class I-V in all government management schools in 2010-11 was noted to be 60.74 per cent.
 - According to DISE Flash statistics, Delhi's Gross Completion Rate at Primary level was 109.25 and Net Enrollment Ratio at Primary level was found to be 96.29 in 2010-11.
 - There is 100 per cent achievement as far as **Schools having Drinking Water Facility is concerned in Delhi in 2010-11.**

DISE 2010-11: Flash Statistics, Published in 2012 by National University of Educational Planning and Administration & Department of School Education and Literacy

- 'Nursery Primary Education for Deaf' has seen a positive increase in allocation by 25.24 per cent with allocations rising from Rs. 1.92 Crore in 2012-2013 to Rs. 2.40 Crore in 2013-2014.

Programmes that have seen reduced allocations:

- **The scheme for Right to Education (RTE) has witnessed a major decrease of 30.40 per cent in 2013-2014.** RTE was allocated a total sum of Rs. 50 Crore in 2012-2013, whereas, in 2013-2014, allocations have been brought down to Rs. 34.80 Crore.
- **Integrated Education for Disabled Children at secondary level has reduced by 59.52 per cent** with allocation of Rs. 1.02 Crore in the current budget against Rs. 2.52 Crore in 2012-2013.

Major programmes/schemes with reduced allocation in 2013-2014

(In Rs. Thousand)

Programmes/Schemes	BE	RE	AE	BE	RE	BE
	2011-12	2011-12	2011-12	2012-13	2012-13	2013-14
Construction of School Buildings through VKS, Outsourcing of School building Works, Development of Playgrounds, Swimming Pools, Sports complexes etc.	1987500	2280000	1869722	2820000	649000	1090000
Integrated Education for Disabled Children at Secondary Stage (IEDSS-CSS) (Central Share)	0	30000	13043	20000	5000	5000
Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (CSS)	5500	11600	11600	10000	0	0
Grant-in-Aid to aided schools for free supply of text books to students	80000	72000	65869	89000	100000	87000
Assistance to Government Aided Schools for Other Expenditure	25000	12004	3579	12000	6500	7000
Construction of Hostel for SC/ST Student for Studying in Middle/Secondary College/University Stages of Education	20000	24654	0	15000	27300	5000

Despite improvements in the status of education services for children in Delhi there remain areas that need attention

- According to DCPCR, over 10,000 children were victims of various discrimination by Delhi city schools, which allegedly violated provisions of the Right to Education Act.
- By May 2011 the Delhi Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) had received 11,725 complaints on the violation of the RTE Act including 68 complaints relating to corporal punishment and 9,789 complaints around issues of denial of admission.
- According to DISE 2010-11, 80.26 per cent of the schools had girls' toilet in 2010-11, whereas it was 87.87 per cent in 2008-09.
- According to DISE 2010-11, 63.39 per cent of schools in Delhi had ramps in 2010-11. These infrastructural facilities observed a decline against the previous year when 70.52 per cent schools had ramps.

The Sunday Standard

CAG damns Delhi for midday meal mismanagement

Tarun Nangia - NEW DELHI, 24th Jun 2012 09:15:11 AM

In its audit of the Delhi government, the CAG has slammed the state education department on various counts of financial and other mismanagement.

The CAG, in its audit of the Delhi government vis-a-vis financial and HR management, implementation of schemes, development of infrastructure and internal control, has slammed the state education department for delay in supply of free text books, oversight in implementing midday meals, and poor budgeting.

The report says the education department (ED) implements, supervises, co-ordinates and monitors policy programs and plans for education in Class 1-12 for 942 government schools, 216 aided schools, 1,200 unaided-but-recognized private schools. It faults the department on the following counts:

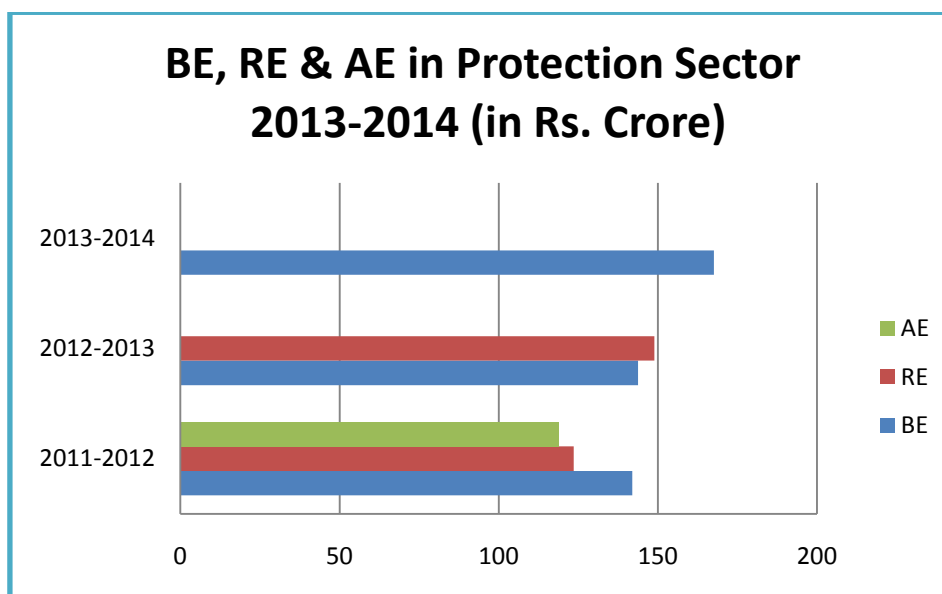
Mid day meal scheme

Under this scheme, nutritional support is provided to students of Class 1-8 in state and aided schools, to prevent nutrition deficiency and intake of unhygienic food, and reduce absenteeism. An examination of records at 12 district offices for aided-, as well as 143 government schools, revealed that bills for supply for meals were not always accompanied by test certificates by authorized labs. A check of 415 bills aggregating Rs. 112.53 lakh revealed that only 66 were supported by certificates, of which, 42, involving Rs. 15.16 lakh indicated substandard meals. However, no recovery or deduction was affected from any of these bills.

The report also states that out of 143 schools covered, 33 did not have weighing machines to ensure the quantity supplied was as per norms. In fact, most schools had bathroom scales instead. Clause 14 of the agreement between ED and mid day meal contractors states that if a contractor fails to supply cooked food on a particular day, or replace supply of defective food in time, Rs 4 per meal (for primary), and `5 per meal (for upper primary) students would be deducted as penalty. Scrutiny of vouchers and bills of aided schools in West A and West B districts however revealed that the contractors failed to supply meals on 14 occasions in different schools. However, no penalty was levied by the district offices.

Meanwhile, ED made payments without scrutinising bills, which led to missing out Rs. 1.40 lakh in penalties. In March 2012, ED stated that all heads of schools have been issued notices to ensure that test certificates are attached to bills, and to keep weighing machines in all schools. It also stated that recovery had been affected from two suppliers, Indicare and Utsav Care, and that a process of black-listing Utsav Care would be initiated.

CHILD PROTECTION



With an increase of 0.02 per cent in the State budget, protection still remains the most under financed sector. In 2012-13 it had seen a reduction in allocation.

In 2013-2014, Protection sector received 0.45 per cent share in total Delhi State Budget and 2.47 per cent in total BfC.

- Allocation for **Ladli Yojana** has gone up by 10 per cent in 2013-2014 with a total allocation of Rs. 11 Crore against Rs. 10 Crore in 2012-2013.
- Allocation for **'Implementation of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2000'** has been increased from Rs. 1.7 Crore to Rs. 3.5 Crore.
- **Integrated Child Protection Schemes (ICPS)** has seen a phenomenal increase of **538.88 per cent increase** due to the increase in the Government of India's contribution to it of Rs. 11 Crore (Grant-in-Aid to State Child Protection Society (SCPS)). The State share is only Rs. 0.5 Crore.

Should it not be a matter of concern that the salaries prescribed under the programme for professionals responsible for implementation of the scheme is very low and in some cases even below the minimum wages?

- 1 District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) @ Rs. 19,000/- per month
- 1 Protection Officers, Institutional Care @ Rs. 12,000/- per month
- 1 Protection Officer, Non-Institutional Care @ Rs. 12,000/- per month
- 1 Legal cum Probation Officer @ Rs. 12,000/- per month
- 1 Counsellors @ Rs. 8,000/- per month
- 2 Social Worker @ Rs. 8,000/- per month
- 1 Accountant @ Rs. 8,000/- per month
- 1 Data Analyst @ Rs. 8000/- per month
- 1 Assistant cum Data Entry Operator @ Rs. 5000/- per month

PAB-ICPS Minutes of Meeting in September 2012-2013

- The Delhi Govt. has requested recurring grant for full financial year for 18 Govt. run and 7 NGO run Homes. PAB noted that some of the Homes are underutilised and some are overcrowded. PAB also noted that 4 NGO run Homes have more than 100 children; however the state govt. has requested for staff salaries for unit of 50 children only. PAB advised the state to ensure that staff is available in these Homes as per the requirement in JJ Rules and ICPS. PAB approved recurring grant for entire financial year for all these 25 Homes.
- The PAB was informed that the State Government is not submitting monitoring data regularly. State government was advised to submit monitoring reports for the first quarter of 2012-13 online without any delay.
- Member, NCPCR felt that the State Government should appoint a full time Officer to look after the implementation of JJ Act and ICPS, instead of giving additional charge to officers dealing with ICDS.
- It was informed that though training has been held for both ICPS/JJ Act and police personnel, data entry has not started in earnest.
- As per the Statement of Expenditure submitted by GNCTD, Rs. 68.65 Lakhs is unspent as on 01-04-2012, out of amount released as first installment during 2011-12.
- PAB approved recurring grant for 6 CWCs and 2 JJBs as requested by the GNCTD as per ICPS norms, including salary for data entry operators (w.e.f their date of appointment), for full financial year 2012-13

Programmes that have seen reduced allocations:

- **The Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) has observed a reduced allocation of Rs. 1 Crore** in 2013-2014 budget, which was Rs. 1.5 Crore in the previous year.
- Surprisingly, **allocation for 'Rehabilitation of Child Labour' programmes has gone down against 2012-2013 by 75 per cent in 2013-2014.** In 2012-2013, this particular scheme was allocated a total sum of Rs. 6.00 Crore, whereas, in the current financial year, this scheme has received only Rs. 1.5 Crore.

Major programmes/schemes with reduced allocation in 2013-2014

(In Rs. Thousand)

Programmes/Schemes	BE	RE	AE	BE	RE	BE
	2011-12	2011-12	2011-12	2012-13	2012-13	2013-14
Kasturba Niketan	6950	9040	7333	10501	7771	8900
Children's Home/Observation Home for Boys	62950	70613	68289	78816	75616	75380
Sanskar Ashrams for Denotified Tribes and SC Girls and Boys	5140	5514	5167	8770	5717	6380
Protective Home at Nari Niketan, Tihar	15	0	0	15	0	0
Village Cottage Homes	11115	10411	9230	11526	9848	13170
DCPCR	15000	8768	7500	15000	9000	10000
Financial assistance to Non-Displaced Destitute Men, Women and Children	1700	1350	881	2250	1076	1850
Rehabilitation of Child Labour	15000	0	0	55000	5000	10000

The protection of children indicators in Delhi have always been a matter of concern. Under the circumstances low allocation for protection sector only exacerbates the situation.

- As per the 2011 National Crime Record Bureau report, a total of 4250 cases were registered as crimes against children in Delhi. Further, in 2011, there were 6674 cases (including previous year's data) of crime against children were pending with the Police, out of which, 2733 cases were pending at the end of year³.
- Delhi has accounted for 27.9 per cent or 2,982 cases of the total reported in the country. At 16.3 per cent rate of crime was highest in the capital as compared other states.
- As per Census 2011, child sex ratio in Delhi has reduced by two points from 868 in Census 2001 to 866 this time. Delhi ranks third in having low sex ratio after Haryana and Punjab.
- Of the total child population in Delhi, 48.9 per cent of the girls and 28.37 per cent boys marry before 18 years of age.
- As per the NCRB data, there was a total of 5111 missing children in Delhi during 2011, out of which, 1359 children were untraced by the police⁴. Also, by April 2012, there were 1146 cases of missing children reported with the Police.

Conclusion

Given that there is a rise in the population of Delhi both from within the city as well as due to influx of migrants every day, it is bewildering to see a fall in allocations for some of the schemes.

Lack of convergence of services has been a serious drawback in reaching out to the most needy and deserving.

Despite allocations, there are no answers to gross under utilisation of funds at the end of the year.

³ "Crime in India:2011 Statistics": National Crime Records Bureau

⁴ Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2236; answered on 25.04.2012