

## **Analysis of Education Sector – Study of Kerala and Jammu & Kashmir**

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**Abstract:** Education is always considered fundamental to development and growth. Successful and perfect batch of youth of any country comes from education sector. To have better education system one gives emphasis on core ideas like invest early- a life time of learning, invest smartly-emphasis on quality education for all. Country's progress lies on the literacy and education of its population because education provides power to judge and rationalize the events on natural surroundings as well as in social conditions. When it comes to Indian states Kerala has always shown progress in terms of education but for state like Jammu and Kashmir things were different. This paper will analyze the development pattern of education sector of the Kerala with that of Jammu & Kashmir, this paper will highlight why the state of Jammu and Kashmir is still lacking behind in education sector when compare to state of Kerala.

**Keywords:** Education, India, Kerala, Jammu and Kashmir.

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### **I. Introduction**

Kerala's achievement in education sector can easily be witnessed by its ranking as known amongst the most literate state of India. In the era of British rule in India, education in the state had been promoted mainly by Christian missionaries. When it comes to literacy rate, Kerala always tops the list. In 1961, the literacy rate of the state was 55.08%, in 1971 - 69.75%, 1981-78.85%, 1991-89.81% and in 2001 it was 90.86%. (Census of India) Kerala is known for its literacy rate in the country with low infant mortality rate and highest female to male population ration in the country. Kerala with 34.8 million populations has advanced society in terms of education, literacy and health. Kerala is also comes into top three states in Gender Vulnerability Index (GVI) which analysis the situation of girls and women from the following perspective-poverty, education and health. According to National sample survey report, it is the state Kerala with 12.5% population below poverty line, the lowest of any state in India. Kerala has seen peace through the prism of political history as Travancore and Cochin were not under the direct control of British rule. In 1951, the male-female literacy gap was 22% but has narrowed down to 4.41% in the year 2011. Pathanamthitta district of Kerala highest literacy rate (96%) whereas another district Palakkad witnessed low literacy rate (88%) due to majority percentage of Schedule caste, Schedule tribe in the district.

In every developing country like India, Policy Makers always aims in improving the quality of education as education is always related with growth of a nation but when it comes to other states of the country like Jammu and Kashmir performance in education sector is relatively lower than a strong education base state like Kerala. This paper reflects education system of Kerala and Jammu & Kashmir and tries to identify the difference of education system that makes Kerala a success story and pin points various lessons that J&K may learn to induce growth in their educational structures. Section 2 highlights key features of the state Kerala which makes it different from state like Jammu & Kashmir like Peace or conflict free in the state since independence, infrastructure development and state government role in education sector. Section 3 compares some of the key features of Kerala with the state of Jammu and Kashmir; this section will identify elements because of which education in Jammu and Kashmir hasn't progressed. Lastly section 4 will concluded that where education sector of Jammu and Kashmir is lacking behind and what are the things J&K can learn from the state of Kerala.

### **II. Key Features Of Kerala's Education System**

It is very essential for any educational institute to create an environment that not only encourages learning but also focuses on the mental as well as physical well being of the student hence education infrastructure always facilitates better instruction, improves student outcomes and also reduces drop-out rates among other benefits. Availability of infrastructure facilities in school have eminent impact on the school environment and are considered one of the principal indicators for assessing whether the schools are providing a conducive learning environment for children" (DISE report). In the state of Kerala, all the government schools

are functioning in pucca buildings, local self government institutions and “Programme like ‘Sarva Shiksha Abiyan’ has contributed to overall development and improvement of physical infrastructure in government schools in the state. 99% of the government schools have access to drinking water and” 98% have sanitation facilities (economic survey) it was in 1990s when Kerala became the first ever state in the India to attain universal literacy. United Nation declared the Kerala as only state in the India which lies in very high human development index in the year 2013. The Government both at central as well as state level has played pivotal role in Kerala’s education system thus “to achieve total primary education in the state the Government launched the important scheme ‘Athulyam’ in 2014 so that the people who had not completed their primary education, they have been given Five month training enabling them to attend the fourth equivalency examination” (Indian express report)therefore Kerala with the efforts of Athulyam, Kerala became the first state in the country to achieve primary education in the year 2016. Kerala ranks first as a state which receives majority of international remittance from huge middle eastern region as majority of Keralites are settled in the middle east region. In 2018, remittance accounted 25% of Gross state domestic product of Kerala. Kerala has always tried to use this remittance for productive reasons such as in education, healthcare expenses.

**Table 01 - Total No of Institution by Management-Kerala**

Category of school	Management			
	Government schools	Local Body school	Private aided school	Private unaided school
Primary	2547	58	3928	269
Upper primary	953	18	1858	213
Secondary	999	18	1422	706
Higher secondary	974	11	657	738
Total	5473	105	7865	1444

Source: statistics of school education 2007-08, NCERT

From the above table we can conclude that it is the efforts of all the organization be it the Government schools, local or private aided schools. In Kerala Private as well as Government schools are showing tremendous growth. Government school has total strength of five thousand and seventy three schools in Kerala whereas private sector role has sharply risen which now has a total strength of seventy eight thousand and sixty five schools in the state of Kerala (2007-08). In the year 2015-16, the trend is same as in the year of 2007-08, private aided school contributes to 55% of institutes (7140) after that it is Government schools which contributes to 36% institutions (4619) (economic survey 2016-Kerala)

According to Education Development index of 2014 which uses components such as Accessibility, infrastructure, Teachers and outcomes has ranked Kerala (Primary level) in terms of infrastructure 7th (index of 0.689) has ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in terms of Teachers (index 0.965) and in outcomes Kerala is ranked 29th with index of 0.58 EDI primary rank set for Kerala was 7<sup>th</sup> compare to other states of India. For EDI at upper primary stage Kerala ranked 9<sup>th</sup> (report of workshop on educational development index 2014)

**Table 02 - Enrolment in different categories of school - (2015-16) Kerala**

Category	Boys	Girls	Total	% of girls
School Education	18,69,255	18,32,322	37,01,577	49.50%
Higher Education	182826	200756	383582	52.34%
Graduation	65564	164783	230347	71.54%
Post Graduation	9056	24008	33064	72.61%

Source- Economic Survey, Kerala 2016

In this figure, we can easily find that both male as well as female students are taking part in the school education. Both boys and girls are taking equal part in school education. When it comes to post graduation as well as Graduation it is girls who are leading than boys thus changing the story when boys were leading. According to a Femdex female empowerment index in its report ‘The power of parity’ Kerala stood 3<sup>rd</sup> with the femdex score 0.67 which reflects gender equality in the state is progressing.

**Table 03 - Rural schooling in Kerala**

Category of school	Government school	Local Body school	Private aided schools	Private unaided schools
Primary	2197	55	2918	180
Upper primary	792	17	1455	156
Secondary	215	12	526	336
Higher secondary	646	12	485	376

Source: 8<sup>th</sup> All India School Education Survey, September 2009

**Table 04 - Urban schooling in Kerala**

Category of school	Government school	Local Body school	Private aided schools	Private unaided schools
Primary	413	18	<b>942</b>	85
Upper primary	201	9	<b>387</b>	60
Secondary	55	2	<b>159</b>	131
Higher secondary	<b>280</b>	5	200	302

Source: 8<sup>th</sup> All India School Education Survey, September 2009

Finding: schooling in rural and urban areas are managed and financed by all-Government, Local body schools which are ran by Panchayat Raj or zilaparishad, Municipal Corporation, Private aided schools. Private aided schools have more institutions in both the areas be it rural or urban areas. In Rural area private aided institution are 2910 and in urban area 942. Positive sign of the table is that rural areas have more schools from all the schools. The state Government has provided subsidized transportation fares so that it can facilities an easy access for rural students to higher education institutes in cities and towns. Students have to pay only 15-20% of normal fare.

**Table 05 - Schooling in Kerala**

Category of school	Government school			Local Body school			Private aided schools			Private unaided school		
	2002	2009	%	2002	2009	%	2002	2009	%	2002	2009	%
Primary	<b>2549</b>	<b>2610</b>	<b>2.39</b>	92	73	minus 20.65	3920	3860	minus 1.53	<b>139</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>90.65</b>
Upper primary	<b>971</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>2.27</b>	41	26	minus 36.59	1850	1842	minus 0.43	<b>123</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>75.61</b>
Secondary	423	270	minus 36.17	25	14	minus 44	744	685	minus 7.93	<b>222</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>110</b>
Higher secondary	<b>620</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>49.35</b>	21	17	minus 19.05	<b>637</b>	<b>685</b>	7.54	<b>322</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>111.49</b>

Source: 8<sup>th</sup> All India School Education Survey, September 2009

To compare the changes in schooling of Kerala from the year 2002 to 2009, it is the Government schools and Private unaided schools of Kerala that has shown tremendous positive sign of growth. Government Schools has growth of 2.39% from 2002-2009 in primary schools and at the same time higher secondary schools has shown growth of around 49.35% growth since 2002-2009. In the year **2012**, the annual plan total outlay was set for an amount of 590 crores, the percentage of outlay spend was 98.7%. For the year 2015, outlay was set for an amount of Rs 1044.6 crores and the percentage of outlay was spend was 86.94%.(economic survey-Kerala) From the side of Private unaided schools a growth of about 90.65% can be witnessed in primary schools, upper primary 75.61%, secondary for about 110% and higher secondary 111.4% growth from 2002-09 can be witnessed. Hence the efforts of both Governments as well as from private organizations can be traced for working to provide better facilities in Kerala school education.

**Table 06 - Type of School Building in Kerala**

Category of school	2009						Total school 2002	Schools without building	
	Pucca	Partly pucca	Kuccha	Tent.	Open space.	Total		2002	2009
Primary	6308	477	<b>21</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	6808	6700	7	<b>2</b>
Upper primary	2810	260	7	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	3077	2985	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
Secondary	1349	81	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	1436	1414	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
Higher secondary	2113	189	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	2309	1600	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

Source: 8<sup>th</sup> All India School Education Survey, September 2009

Finding: Kerala has total no of twelve thousand and five eighty (12,580) schools covered with pucca buildings, State was about one thousand and seven (1007) partly pucca buildings and has zero open space

schools in the state. From the above table it can be reflected that in the year 2002 there were Seven schools without buildings and in 2009 only two schools are without building but still has tent facility for primary schools. Upper primary has no schools without building showing good sign whereas secondary and higher secondary has 3 schools without buildings but has tent facilities provided by the government.

**Table 07 - Availability of facilities within school premises–Kerala**

Category of school	Drinking water	Usable urinal	Playground
Primary	6631	6648	4279
Upper primary	3055	3039	2356
Secondary	1422	1424	1320
Higher secondary	2287	2279	2058

Source: 8<sup>th</sup> All India School Education Survey, September 2009

**Table 08 - Rural- availability of facilities within school premises**

Category of school	Drinking water	Usable urinal	Playground
Primary	5226	5239	3419
Upper primary	2404	2392	1887
Secondary	1076	1078	1016
Higher secondary	1506	1499	1370

Source: 8<sup>th</sup> All Indian School Education Survey, September

In the state of Kerala, 99.1% of the Government school has access to drinking water and 98% have sanitation facilities in their schools whether primary, upper primary or higher secondary schools in Kerala (economic survey 2016) every district of the state has drinking as well as sanitation facilities.

**Table 09 - Enrolment in different categories of school-Kerala**

Category of school	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary	4,83,481	483,307	9,66,788
Upper primary	5,94,375	5,51,122	11,45,497
Secondary	4,59,593	4,62,557	9,22,150
Higher secondary	13,7,1911	13,21432	26,93343

Source: 8<sup>th</sup> All India School Education Survey, September 2009

**Table 10 - Availability of teachers in the state of Kerala (2015-16)**

Government aided school			Private aided schools			Unaided schools			Total teachers		
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
16182	35806	51988	26782	71132	97914	2639	12343	14982	45603	119281	164884

Source: Economic survey (Kerala)-2016

**Table 11 – Percentage of Females among teachers**

	Full time teachers		contractual teachers		% of female among teachers
	Total	Female	Total	Female	
Primary	41,115	31,653	760	586	76.99%
Upper Primary	43,512	30,948	1811	1296	71.14%
Secondary	37,798	28493	896	625	75.25%
Higher secondary	100,776	72015	4718	3375	71.46%

Source: 8<sup>th</sup> All India School Education Survey, September 2009

### III. Analysis Of Education Sector Of Kerala With The State Of Jammu And Kashmir

Kerala was formed by merging south Indian provinces-Travancore, Cochin and Malabar. Travancore and Cochin were princely states and were not under the direct control of British regime but the Malabar region was part of British Raj. Travancore and Cochin welcomed Christian missionaries who established schools, colleges who offered liberal western education to the masses. Later on in November 1956, Kerala peacefully merged with union of India comprising the above mentioned princely states. But for Jammu & Kashmir things were different. The Maharaja signed the instrument of accession with the union of India and acceded to India with this trouble starts in Kashmir, war took place between Pakistan and India in the year 1947-48, 2<sup>nd</sup> war took place in 1965 and Kargil war in 1999. Matter was taken by Jawaharlal Nehru to United Nation Security Council they provide the solution but was never implemented hence Jammu & Kashmir has become the conflict ridden zone and the conflict is continuing in the state. In 1990s JK officials stated that an average of 700 school buildings were damaged or burnt down which had negative implications to overall education system due to ongoing conflict in Kashmir (impact of Insurgency on education in J&K) in the year of 2016, Jammu and Kashmir as a state has suffered loss of 16,000 crores due to shutdown and uprisings. A report of 2016 (education and unrest in Kashmir) found that 37.5% children want to leave Kashmir during the unrest and 12.3% migrated in real. In the year 2016 schools were closed for approx 5 months and as many as 31 schools were damaged in the conflict therefore academic session for the year 2016 got badly hit to the extent caused irreversible loss of study.

**Table 12 - Total Number of Schools in Kerala and Jammu & Kashmir.**

State	Government	Local bodies	Private aided	Private unaided
Kerala	5473	105	7865	1444
Jammu & Kashmir	16,648	Nil	326	1652

Source: statistics of school education 2007-08, NCERT

Government higher secondary schools in the state of Jammu and Kashmir are 400 in number and private aided for the same are only 45 in number. When it comes to Government secondary schools they constitute around 802 in number and only 38 as private aided school.

Kerala has 974 higher secondary schools and approx of 657 as private aided schools. Government Secondary schools of Kerala are about 999 in number and 1422 as private aided schools.

**TABLE 13 - Types of Building in the state of Kerala and Jammu & Kashmir**

State	Pucca	Partly pucca	kuccha	Tent	Open space	Schools without building	
						2002	2009
Kerala	6910	1007	35	8	0	11	8
Jammu & Kashmir	16322	5539	2711	183	572	744	755

Source: statistics of school education 2007-08, NCERT

In terms of infrastructure, Kerala has only eight schools that are not covered with building but still have tent facility but Jammu and Kashmir has seven hundred and fifty five schools which do not have proper building facilities. In Jammu and Kashmir 664 primary schools have no access to proper building, 81 upper primary schools and Nine Secondary school still don't have proper school buildings. In other words 92.6% of Kerala schools buildings are pucca on the other side Jammu and Kashmir has only 55.6% school buildings that are pucca.

Schools without buildings in J&K have increased from 744 to 755. In the state of Kerala there are no/nil schools buildings (Primary, upper primary, secondary or higher secondary) which are open space whereas J&K has 3.5% schools that have open space.

**TABLE 14 - Total No of Schools having Science Laborites and computer labs**

State	Category of school	No of Schools	Adequate	
			Science laborites	computer education
Kerala	Secondary	1414	535	360
	Higher secondary	<b>1597</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>618</b>
Jammu & Kashmir	Secondary	1503	771	282
	Higher secondary	<b>385</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>131</b>

Source: statistics of school education 2006-07, NCERT

In the state of Kerala, percentage of schools with computers in primary schools consist of 89.6%, for upper primary schools it is 98.6%, for secondary it is 100% and for higher secondary school Kerala has witnessed 83.64%. 93.77% schools in Kerala with computer were witnessed in the year 2014. But Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed very low percentage of schools with computer facilities. For primary schools in J&K it is only 3.74%, for upper primary it is 11.19%, for secondary it is 41.94% and 50% for higher secondary schools therefore J&K state has very low percentage schools with computers facilities compared to Kerala. Schools of Jammu and Kashmir witness only 17.56% of schools with computer facilities compared to Kerala it is 93.77% (Report of Database of information on school education -2014)

**TABLE 15 - Total No of Schools having Library Facilities**

State	No of schools having Libraries	Total Number of Books in Library			
		501-1000	1001-2000	2001-5000	More than 5000
Kerala	1375	171	359	550	227
Jammu & Kashmir	1308	289	204	99	98

Source: statistics of school education 2006-07, NCERT

In the state of Kerala, percentage of schools with Library Facilities in primary schools consist of about 94.69%, for upper primary schools it is 98.93%, for secondary it is 98.20% and for higher secondary school Kerala has witnessed 96.36%. 96.33% schools in Kerala with Library Facilities were witnessed in the year 2014. But Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed very low percentage of schools with computers. For primary schools in J&K it is only 42.27%, for upper primary it is 54.48%, for secondary it is 61.29% but has achieved 100% for higher secondary schools therefore J&K state still have very low percentage schools with Library Facilities compared to Kerala. Schools of Jammu and Kashmir witness only 58.65% schools with Library Facilities compared to Kerala it is 96.33% (DISE-2014)

Kerala has done very well when it comes to provide electricity to schools, it was found that Kerala in the year 2014 around 97.01% schools have electricity connections. On the other side Jammu and Kashmir has 26.39% schools having electricity connections. 94.85% of Primary schools have electricity connections, secondary schools have 100% electricity connections and Higher Secondary Schools in Kerala has 98.18% schools with electricity connections. When we compare these figures with Jammu and Kashmir they are too high than J&K state. 11.67% Primary schools of J&K shave electricity connections in their schools, 64.5% for secondary schools and 50% for Higher Secondary Schools.

**TABLE 16 - Number of Teachers and Female Teachers Per 100 male Teachers**

State	Category of school	No of teachers			No of female teachers per 100 male teachers
		Men	Women	Total	
Kerala	Primary	9789	30280	40069	309
	Upper primary	13192	30944	44136	235
	Secondary	8100	22902	31002	249
	Higher secondary	27809	69332	<b>97141</b>	283
Jammu & Kashmir	Primary	35890	23278	59148	65
	Upper Primary	25007	20144	45151	81
	Secondary	10757	7732	18489	77
	Higher Secondary	14310	11060	<b>25370</b>	72

Source: statistics of school education (2009-2010)

When it comes to provide quality education, it is very important that the staff should be trained as well as should possess well qualified degrees. In the state of Kerala it was reported in (statistics of school education) that all schools whether primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary schools, 100% of faculty are trained as well as well qualified. But for Jammu and Kashmir only 40% of faculties in primary schools have trained teachers, in upper primary its only 48% , for secondary schools 54% teachers are qualified and 59% in higher secondary schools. In Jammu and Kashmir number of teachers might be higher than Kerala in terms of Primary and upper primary schools but quality of staff is lacking which plays vital role in shaping the future generations.

**TABLE 17 - Dropout Rates of Kerala and Jammu & Kashmir**

State	Class	Boys	Girls	Total
Kerala	I-V	0	0	-
	I-VIII	0	0	-
	I-X	0	0	-
Jammu & Kashmir	I-V	9.8	6.8	8.4
	I-VIII	23.8	8.19	22.0
	I-X	47.2	40.6	44.3

Source: statistics of school education (2009-2010)

Now we will compare the elements like drinking water availability and toilet availability in the state of Kerala and Jammu & Kashmir. When it comes to drinking water facility in 2011, 46.6% schools in J&K have these facilities and Kerala has 93.8% schools which provide drinking facilities in the year of 2011. In the year of 2012, Kitchen shed for cooking mid day meals is also low in J&K compared to Kerala. Kerala has 95.6% kitchen shed for cooking mid day meals but J&K has only 73.8% in the year of 2012.(ASER report-2014) Toilet availability is also low in J&K than Kerala, below mentioned table will show it more clearly.

**TABLE 18 - Percentage availability of toilets in Kerala and J & K**

State	% Toilet availability			% Girls Toilet availability		
	2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013
Kerala	71.6%	75.7%	86.6%	68.6%	73.5%	83.5%
Jammu & Kashmir	36.3%	49%	60.6%	22.4%	30.6%	38.8%

Source: (Annual status of education report -2014)

**TABLE 19 - Percentage availability facilities in Kerala and J & K**

State	% playground facility		% Computer availability	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
Kerala	79.1	66.5%	85.7	92.7
Jammu & Kashmir	52.5	48.2	13	11.5

Source: (Annual status of education report -2014)

#### IV. Conclusion

By victimizing the education sector, we are also victimizing the future generation in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Economic survey of Jammu and Kashmir, 2016 reveals that due to shutdown, schools were shut for around five months caused immense loss of study to the students of J&K, however later on when things pan out well, exams were conducted in the state for class 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Around 99% students appeared in the 10<sup>th</sup> examination and 95% in 12<sup>th</sup> examination in fact when 31 schools were gutted. This report reflects that student in J&K are keen to study but the conflict is not giving given the permission for same. When we compare the Jammu & Kashmir with Kerala we can learn that peace in the state is very important. On the other hand infrastructure also plays an important role in education sector hence J&K Government needs to work to progress the education infrastructure as there are still 572 open space schools in the state. Qualified Teachers is another issue which needs to be addressed by the Government Jammu and Kashmir. As of now a ray of hope for the Jammu & Kashmir is that Government of India has decided to provide Rs 2350 crore to boost education infrastructure under (Prime Minister Development Package) under which IIT and IIM will be setup in the state, Modernization of NIT Srinagar and providing sports infrastructure, facilities of coaches, and better facilities to students.

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