# Changing public-private mix in school education and its implications for policy 

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## Motivation

- Enrolment in private schools has grown significantly
- Recent data show that about ten per cent of Indian children between the ages of 6 and 13 were not attending school in 2014 (NSS 71 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ Round)
- Contrasting scenario of increasing enrolment in private schools showing increasing demand for education and parents' willingness to pay for it, while a good number of children are still not in school
- Neglected aspect of the system of organisation of education service delivery.
- By 'system' we mean all kinds of providers and consumers of services who interact as active agents.
- Focus on the demand side without subscribing to the demand wallah view
- Strength of supply wallah view
- A small challenge to the supply wallahs

Trends in select indicators of primary school infrastructure in India

|  | Ratio of <br> primary to <br> upper- <br> primary <br> schools | \% single- <br> teacher <br> schools <br> (primary) | \% of <br> schools <br> with <br> SCR>30 | \% of <br> schools <br> with <br> PTR>30 | Student- <br> class- <br> room <br> ratio | Pupil- <br> teacher <br> ratio | \% of <br> schools <br> having <br> girls' <br> toilet | \% <br> schools <br> having <br> enrol- <br> ment <br> $<50$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2008-09$ | 2.3 | 13.3 | 42.9 | 47.7 | 35.0 | 34.0 | 44.4 | 26.7 |
| $2009-10$ | 2.2 | 12.3 | 40.6 | 45.8 | 32.0 | 33.0 | 51.0 | 27.1 |
| $2010-11$ | 2.1 | 11.8 | 38.7 | 42.4 | 31.0 | 32.0 | 52.2 | 27.8 |
| $2011-12$ | 2.1 | 10.8 | 37.2 | 40.8 | 30.0 | 31.0 | 65.4 | 28.4 |
| $2012-13$ | 2.1 | 11.8 | 33.5 | 37.0 | 27.0 | 28.0 | 85.3 | 29.2 |
| $2013-14$ | 2.0 | 11.5 | 30.4 | 32.0 | 25.0 | 26.0 | 84.2 | 31.3 |
| $2014-15$ | 2.0 | 11.1 | 27.5 | 29.0 | 24.0 | 24.0 | 83.5 | 32.3 |
| $2015-16$ | 2.0 | 10.67 | 25.7 | 26.0 | 23.0 | 23.0 | 97.0 | 33.5 |

Correlation between changes in percentages of schools without girls' toilet between 2003-04 and 2011-12 and female literacy rate in 2001 in districts of Bihar


- Need to take into account the nature of the publicprivate mix as a system while specific forms of supply side interventions are envisaged, and without which, certain interventions may lead to unintended consequences
- Earlier studies focussed differences in quality and outcomes of private vis-a-vis public schooling [Maralidharan \& Kremer (2007), Desai et al (2008)]
- $28 \%$ of the population of rural India has access to fee-charging private schools in the same village.
- Richer states have fewer rural private schools.
- States, districts, and villages with poor public school performance are each more likely to have private schools.
- Nearly $50 \%$ of the rural private schools in the sample were established 5 or fewer years before the survey (2003), and nearly $40 \%$ of private-school enrollment is in these schools.


## Percentage enrolled in private unaided schools

(Source: U-DISE, 2015-16)


Change in percentages enrolled in private schools (age group 6-14)(rural)


## Distribution of students by type of institution attended for various levels of education (NSS 71 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ Round)

|  | Rural |  |  | Urban |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Govt | Private <br> aided | Unaided | Govt | Private <br> aided | Unaided |
| Primary | 72.3 | 5.0 | 22.5 | 30.9 | 17.5 | 51.4 |
| Upper <br> Primary | 75.8 | 7.9 | 16.2 | 38.0 | 20.2 | 41.5 |
| Secondary <br> \& HS | 63.5 | 15.5 | 20.9 | 37.5 | 25.6 | 36.5 |
| Graduation <br> \& above | 47.9 | 22.5 | 29.1 | 38.0 | 28.0 | 33.5 |
| Diploma/ <br> certificate | 35.6 | 24.7 | 39.3 | 28.9 | 29.6 | 40.5 |

Correlation between percentage enrolled in private unaided schools and the poverty rates across major states


Percentage attending educational institutions by age \& sex (India)


Kerala


## Rajasthan



## West Bengal



## Bihar



## Rajasthan



|  | Literacy: <br> single <br> classroom | Literacy: single <br> teacher | Female <br> literacy: girls' <br> toilet | Female <br> literacy: no <br> female teacher |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Andhra Pradesh | $0.72^{*}$ | -0.23 | $0.66^{*}$ | -0.15 |
| Assam | 0.59 | -0.21 | 0.47 | 0.02 |
| Bihar | 0.07 | 0.35 | $0.60^{*}$ | -0.63 |
| Chhattisgarh | $0.48^{*}$ | -0.19 | -0.01 | 0.43 |
| Jharkhand | -0.51 | -0.22 | -0.02 | 0.33 |
| Maharashtra | -0.04 | 0.06 | -0.25 | -0.25 |
| Rajasthan | -0.08 | -0.24 | -0.53 | 0.53 |
| Tamil Nadu | - | 0.01 | -0.42 | -0.3 |
| Orissa | - | 0.12 | $0.54^{*}$ | 0.46 |
| Uttar Pradesh | -0.16 | -0.59 | 0.06 | 0.00 |
| West Bengal | -0.39 | -0.29 | -0.07 | $-0.61^{*}$ |

"The disbursements to the districts was not based on any criteria of educational backwardness \low female literacy or higher percentage of socially disadvantaged groups (tribal areas) but on the number of schools, unspent balances, utilization etc. In Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, districts with more number of educationally backward blocks were disbursed less funds than other districts with less number of backward blocks".
[Source: Evaluation Report on Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Planning commission, Govt. of India]

## Thank you

