Push-out, not drop-out; youth and secondary schooling in India

Manabi Majumdar (CSSSC)

and

Sangram Mukherjee (Pratichi Institute)
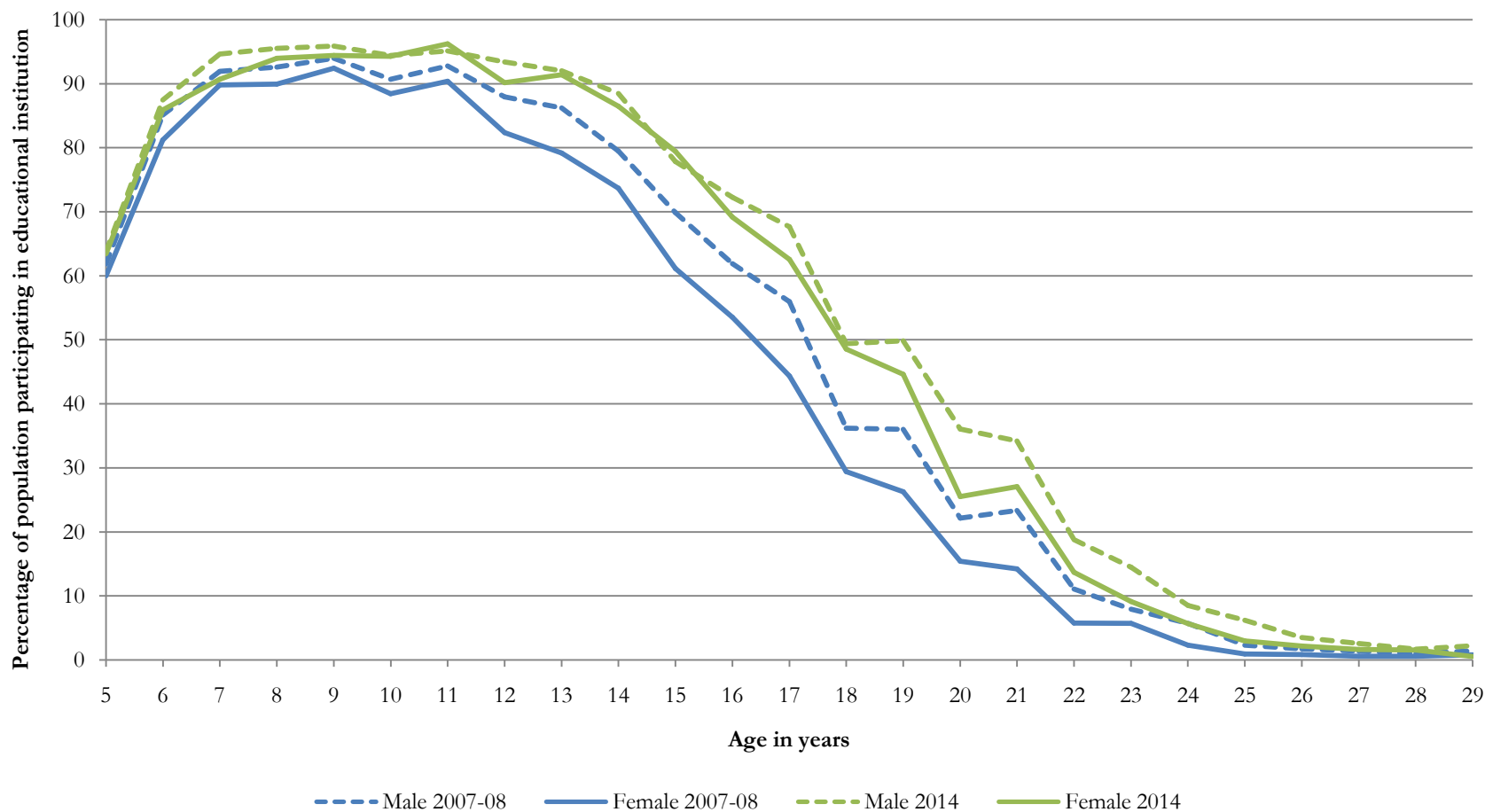
National Seminar on Universalisation of Secondary Education
Organised by Council for Social Development, 14-15, July 2018

Motivating Questions

- Widening Participation at the post-elementary level?

- Yet, premature exit?

- Is the "lack of interest" thesis ripe for abandonment?

- Social determinant and/or systemic imbalance?

- Market as a push-out mechanism?

Widening participation at Secondary Level

Gender-wise participation rate in educational institutions in India by single year age, 2007-08 and 2014 (NSSO)

Similar entry, but dissimilar exit: Entirely a class phenomenon?

Mean age at first enrolment and discontinuation for persons aged 5 to 29 years who are currently not attending any educational institution in India (NSSO-2014)

Quintile class of MPCE	Mean age at first enrolment	Mean age at discontinuation
1	5.6	13.8
2	5.6	14.5
3	5.5	14.9
4	5.5	15.8
5	5.4	18.0

The "lack of interest": Does it reveal much?

Percentage of persons who are currently not attending any education institution citing reason for discontinuation as lack of interest in further study by year, sector and gender

Year	Round and age group	Rural			Urban		
		Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person
1986-87	42nd (age 5 and above)	26.57	33.25	26.26	23.62	28.47	25.6
1995-96	52nd (age 5-24)	28.5	21	25.3	23.9	19.4	22
2007-08	64th (age 5-29)	24	17	20.7	20.3	15	17.9
2014	71st (age 5-29)	25.1	16.2	20.9	20.8	14.3	17.7

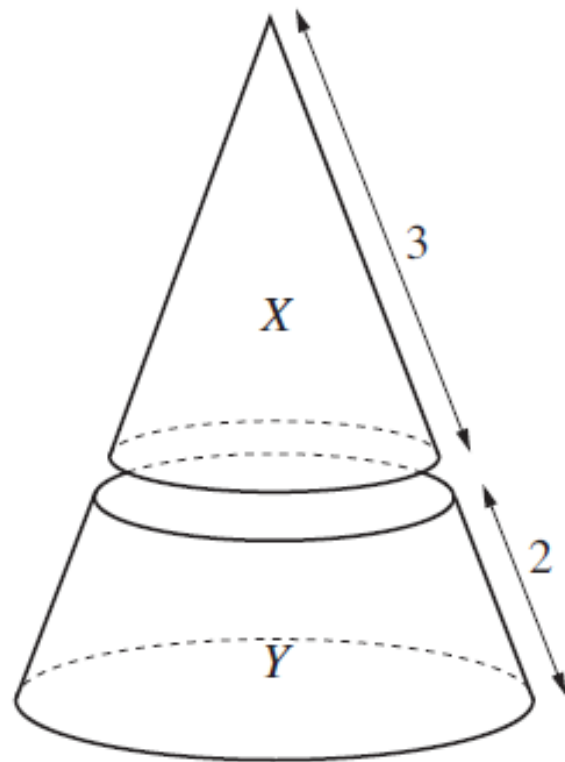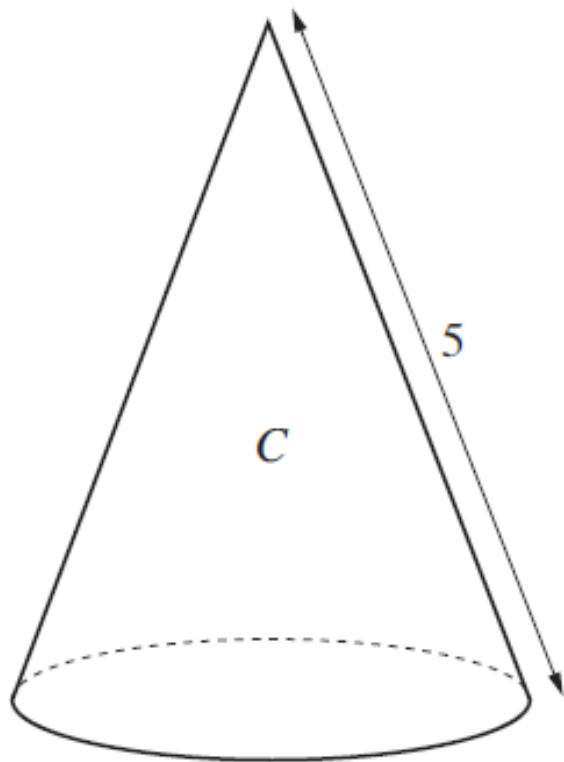# Systemic imbalance: There is a need to fail pupils

Total Schools with lower secondary section	249089
Total Schools with higher secondary section	116125
All	365214
Total Enrolment in lower secondary section	38823854
Total Enrolment in higher secondary section	22625448
All	61449302

- Present average enrolment per higher secondary school in the country is 195, will increase to 334 if all lower secondary students make a successful transition to higher secondary level

- Geography of inequality: Secondary schools in under-developed blocks bursting at their seams. For example, Sitai block in West Bengal already having PTR -99 and SCR-157

"Eliminative", not "Evaluative" examination:
A push-out question paper

एक शंकु के छिन्नक की तिर्यक् ऊँचाई 4 सेमी है तथा इसके वृत्तीय सिरों के परिमाप 18 सेमी और 6 सेमी हैं । इस छिन्नक का वक्र पृष्ठीय क्षेत्रफल ज्ञात कीजिए ।

The slant height of a frustum of a cone is 4 cm and the perimeters of its circular ends are 18 cm and 6 cm. Find the curved surface area of the frustum.

A solid cone, C, is cut into two parts, X and Y, by a plane parallel to the base.
The lengths of the sloping edges of the two parts are 3 cm and 2 cm.
Find the ratio of

(a) the diameters of the bases of X and C,

(b) the areas of the bases of X and C,

(c) the volumes of X and Y.

Financial stress as a push-out factor

Total private expenditure on education by age and quintile class (NSSO-2014)

Age	1	2	3	4	5	All
Thirteen	1790	2839	3994	6368	17198	6088
Fourteen	2266	3483	4556	7363	18034	6822
Fifteen	2876	4090	5290	7316	19032	7569
Sixteen	3988	5670	6251	9082	24795	10736
Seventeen	5386	6504	8774	12285	28322	14331
Eighteen	5551	7740	10485	14559	35990	17632
All	3138	4602	6067	9196	24095	9826

Shadow of secondary education

Expenditure on private coaching by quintile class and level of education (NSSO-2014)

Quintile classes	Level of education	
	Secondary	H. Secondary
1	1075.8	1773.2
2	1331.5	1871.7
3	1394.8	2232.3
4	1838.7	2799.9
5	3420.1	5515.8