

# An Analytical Study of The Development of Education Sector in The Uttarakhand State

Bharti<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Padam. S. Bisht<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research Scholar Dept. Of Economics, Kumaun University, Nainital

<sup>2</sup>Professor in Economics Dept. Kumaun University, Nainital

## ABSTRACT:

The development of any country depends on its quality of education; education is considered the most important component of development. Education is important for reasoning, facilitating knowledge, and preparing for a better life. There has been remarkable growth in the field of education in the state of Uttarakhand since November 2000. This research paper throws light on the development of Uttarakhand state in the field of education which shows both positive and negative aspects. The study shows the current status of the education sector in schools. The study shows that the number of schools is increasing gradually. There has been a drastic drop in the enrollment level of students in government schools. The paper reviews the factors and possible steps that can be taken to improve the situation at the school level. The study looks at the solutions to the problems faced and existing in the field of higher education.

**Keywords:** Development, Education, School Enrolment, Growth

## INTRODUCTION

Uttarakhand officially came into existence on 9 November 2000. It is the 27th state of the Republic of India. People believed that the demands of Uttarakhand were being ignored and being a part of the largest state of India, it could not be fulfilled, so people agitated for the demand for a separate state. After coming into existence as a separate state, there has been an increase in the growth rate in various sectors including the education sector. Education is considered to be the most important component for the development of a state. It is important to facilitate reasoning, knowledge, judgment, etc. for a better life. Education plays a central role in the upbringing of an individual. However, education was not available to women, religious minorities, and different castes in ancient India.

There is a grand total of 14,89,115 schools in India. The number of rural schools amounts to around 12.34 lakhs. The number of teachers that are actively working at present at honing the future citizens is 95, 07,123. Out of these, 48.76 lakhs are female teachers, while 46.30 lakhs are male teachers. The number of students currently enrolled in schools across India stands at 26, 52, 35,830. A whopping 12.73 crore school students in India are female while 13.79 crores are male. Enrollment of primary school students in India currently stands at 100.13%. The gross enrollment ratio of secondary schools currently stands at 79.56%. Total enrolment in schools (Class 1 to 12) has increased by 0.76 % in 2021-22 as compared to 2020-21.

After independence, there has been a lot of improvement in the literacy level; the literacy rate of India is now 74.04%. As per Census 2011 the literacy rate of the Uttarakhand state was 78.82%. The most

important step regarding education was the introduction of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. To ensure the fundamental right of children (6 to 14 years) to equitable quality and satisfactory education, free and compulsory education of children was included in Article 21-A of the Constitution of India with this act. The basic objective of the Act was to provide education to the girl child, minorities, and children from weaker sections that were not able to get an education due to various reasons.

Uttarakhand has come a long way in the educational development of its citizens. According to Census 2011, the total population of Uttarakhand is 10116755 crore, in which the urban population is 30, 91169 lakhs and the rural population is 70, 25583 lakhs respectively. According to the 2011 census, the sex ratio in the state of Uttarakhand is 963 females per 1000 males. It was found that there are 864 females per 1000 male children in urban areas and 894 females per 1000 male children in rural areas. The population in the 0-6 age group was 13, 28844 lakhs. The literacy rate in Uttarakhand state in 2011 was 79.63%. 70.70 percent of the women were literate. The literacy rate was 85.20 percent in urban areas and 77.11 percent in rural areas.

The situation in primary education in the state of Uttarakhand is very worrying as there is a steady decline in enrollment in government primary schools. Deep concern has been expressed in various newspapers about the government primary schools of Uttarakhand. There are 2044 primary schools in Uttarakhand where enrollment is very low, due to which these schools are going to be closed. There are over 60 government primary schools with zero enrollments. Enrollment in private schools showed an increase from 2000 to 2011 while there was a declining trend in enrollment in government schools.

As per DISE data, the growth in enrollment during the session 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 was found to be 5.52% and 6.38% respectively. The growth of enrollment from the session 2007-2008 to 2010-2011 showed a steady decline in the form of -3.45%, -11.25, 4.92%, and -5.45% respectively. This is a matter of great concern. According to the AISHE Report 2016-2017, 33815947 students were enrolled in higher education in India, out of which 380654 students were from the state of Uttarakhand. Out of the total number of students enrolled in higher education, 1, 82,527 are female students and 1, 98,127 are male students. In hilly areas, the enrollment of female students is more than that of male students. Human resources will be most needed in the agriculture and manufacturing, tourism, hospitality, allied services, retail, education, construction, and transportation sectors, according to a study. So educational institutions should focus on these areas to help in overcoming the problems of unemployment.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

**Kumar & Raj (2015)** in their study has highlighted the development of primary education in the Dehradun district, Uttarakhand. It was found that the population in Dehradun is increasing, but enrollment in private schools is decreasing along with enrollment in government schools.

**Chauhan & Sati (2016)** in their study describe the prospects, challenges, and achievements of the Right to Education in Uttarakhand, India, and emphasizes the alarming state of the quality of education at the primary level in Uttarakhand. The study found that at present the RTE is not at a satisfactory level even after a long period of implementation. The study emphasizes the creation of a serious monitoring system for the progress and implementation of any program.

**Ruella (2017)** was in her research the dropout level of primary students in the Uttarakhand region. The paper states that a lot should be done by the government along with various programs to retain the students in the school. The paper found that various schemes and programs such as alternative schooling

facilities, the opening of primary schools, the appointment of additional teachers, and the construction of school buildings, training distribution of textbooks, enrollment, community participation, and the up-gradation of teaching-learning tools have been very successful. And there is still much to be done on these plans.

**Pandey & Pathak (2017)** has described the state of higher education in Uttarakhand in their paper. The study found that only 1.59% of the total population is enrolled in higher education, and with most of the colleges located in remote areas, the lack of availability of quality higher education is also a major problem in the state. And advanced technology in teaching is also not popular; lack of quality research output is also one of the many problems which result in poor higher education infrastructure in the state.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Applied research examines ways of using scientific knowledge to solve practical problems. The purpose of the research is to discuss the current level and development of education in the state of Uttarakhand and to find the solutions of prevailing problems in the field of education. In the present study, secondary data has been used for the analysis.

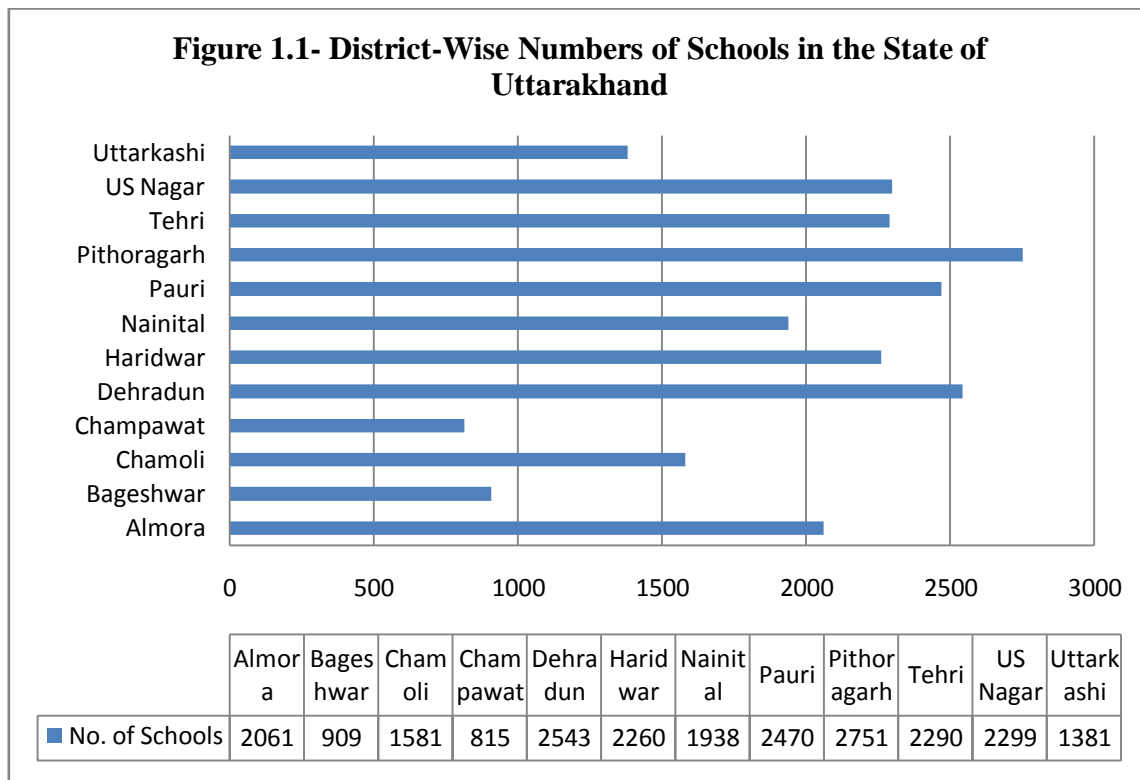
### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the enrollment of students in government schools and higher education of Uttarakhand.
2. To study the development and importance of the education sector in Uttarakhand.

### Data Interpretation and Analysis

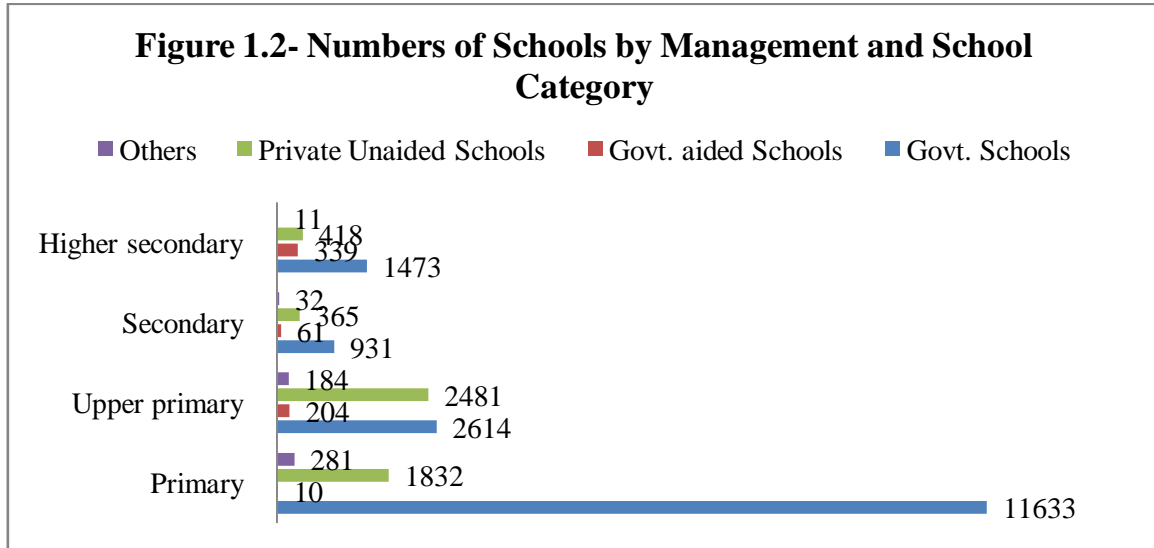
In today’s world, education means providing students with relevant educational experiences that nurture their passion, high-level thinking skills, and problem-solving abilities. The best solutions involve students, teachers, the school, and the entire community. Data from the UDISE report shows that there has been an increase in the number of schools in Uttarakhand during 2019-20.

### Enrolment of School education



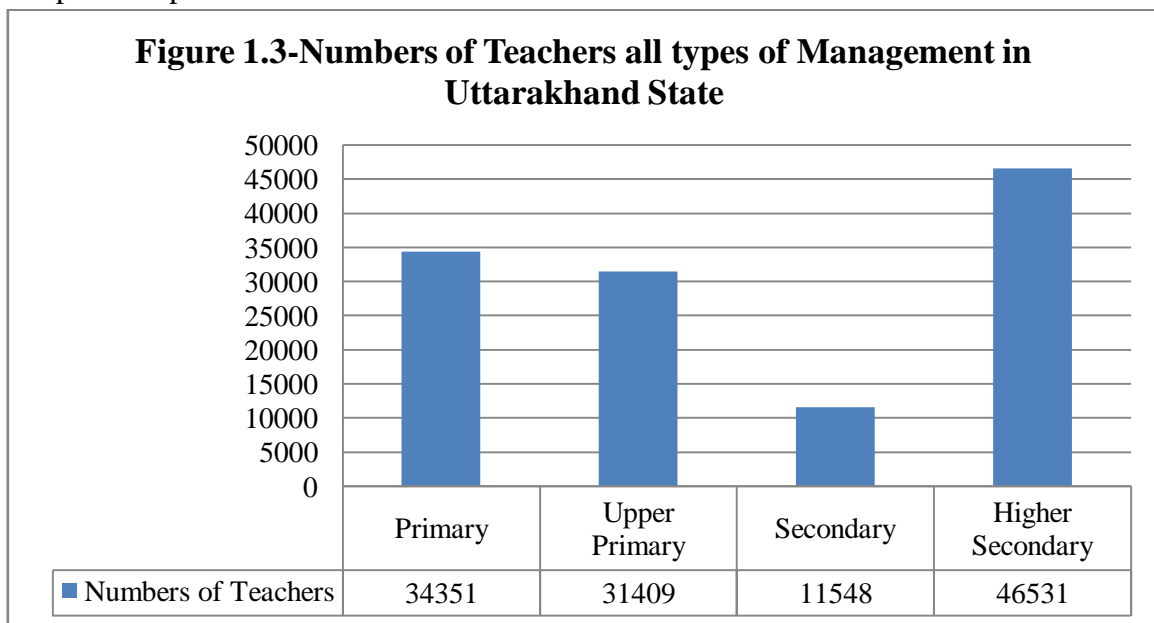
Source: UDISE data (2019-20)

Figure 1.1 shows the number of schools in rural and urban areas in 13 districts of the state of Uttarakhand. Pithoragarh and Dehradun have the highest number of schools while Champawat and Bageshwar have very few. Through this table, an attempt has been made to show the district-wise number of schools only.



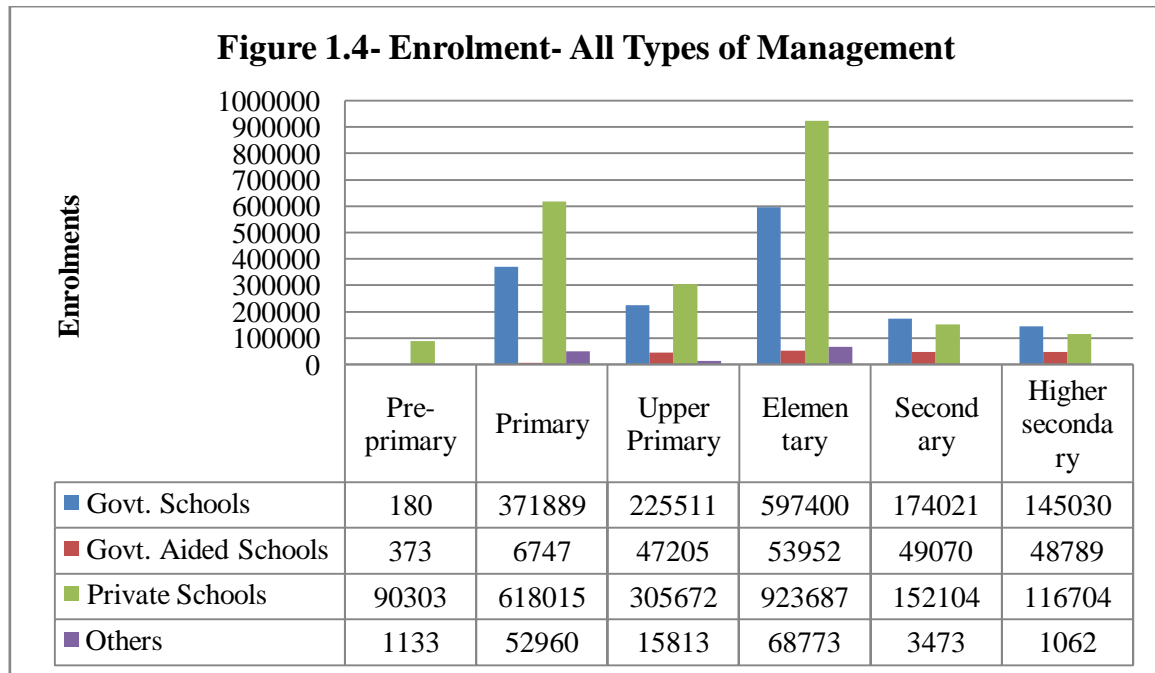
Source: UDISE+2020-21

Figure 1.2 shows the number of government and non-government schools in the state of Uttarakhand. This shows that the number of government schools is more but still the enrollment in these schools is less as compared to private schools.



Source: UDISE+2020-21

Figure 1.3 shows the number of teachers in all types of management in the state of Uttarakhand. The highest number of teachers is in Higher Secondary (46531) while the lowest is in Secondary (11548). This shows that there has been an increase in the number of teachers in 2020-21 which was less in 2017-18.



Source: UDISE+2020-21

Figure 1.4 shows that the highest enrollment is in elementary education (1643812) while the lowest enrollment is in the pre-primary level (91989). The table shows that enrollment in private schools is more than in government schools. This shows the pathetic condition of government schools. The reason for this is that there is a shortage of teachers in government schools, and there is no better infrastructure. Due to all these reasons, enrollment in government schools is decreasing. Keeping in view the future of their children, parents prefer to teach them in private schools.

➤ **Enrolment of Higher Education**

In the recently released ranking of NITI Aayog on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) marked by the United Nations, Uttarakhand ranks third in the country among higher education institutions on the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) of students in the age group of 18 to 23 years. The state has secured the fourth position in the country by securing 70 marks in the field of education. Education comes in fourth place on the UN SDG 16 parameters. In the Higher Education Report, Sikkim ranks first in the country with 53.9 marks, Himachal Pradesh second with 39.6 marks, and Uttarakhand with 39.1 marks. Among the target number four for education, Kerala tops the country with 80 points, followed by Himachal Pradesh (74), Goa (71), and Uttarakhand (70).

**Table 1.5 Enrolment in Government and Private Colleges in Uttarakhand State**

Institute	Enrolment No.
Government	1282236
Private Aided	46759
Private Unaided	78278
Total Private	125037
Source: AISHE (2018-19)	

**Table 1.6 Enrolments at Various Levels of Higher Education in Uttarakhand State**

Course	Male	Female	Total
Diploma	23572	8585	32157
PG. Diploma	1174	1105	2279
Under Graduate	177767	174137	351904
Post Graduate	32342	39584	71926
M. phil	18	9	27
Ph.D.	2903	1759	4662
Source : AISHE (2018-19)			

According to the All India Survey of Higher Education (AISHE) report for 2018-19, the total number of students enrolled in higher education in Uttarakhand is 2,53,273, of which 1,28,236 are enrolled in government institutions and 1,25,037 in private institutions. Out of a total enrollment of 76,615, 462 are enrolled in Ph.D., 27 in M.Phil, and 71926 at postgraduate level which is encouraging in higher education. 19,612 students are enrolled in postgraduate programs through distance mode. There are a total of 36 universities in the state of Uttarakhand.

### Development and importance of the education sector in Uttarakhand state

Uttarakhand has emerged as a hub of universities and is mostly known for the schooling offered by public schools. But the quality of education has been questioned by activists and experts. Uttarakhand school education is divided into government and private schools. These include primary schools, high schools; inter colleges, degree colleges, and technical institutions, etc. The schools are mainly affiliated with the government curriculum recommended by CBSE, and the Education Department, Government of Uttarakhand. The literacy rate of Uttarakhand state is higher than the national literacy rate. Right from the inception of the state, the education department has made a lot of efforts to increase the reach of education in far-flung areas. Various schemes have been prepared according to the need of the state to strengthen the existing infrastructure. Mid-day meals for primary schools and computer education schemes for secondary schools are some of the schemes run by the Uttarakhand School Education Department.

- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
- Computer Education
- E-Class Project
- Rajiv Gandhi Navodaya Vidyalaya
- Engineering colleges
- Technical Institutes

### Conclusion & suggestions

The state of Uttarakhand sees substantial growth in the higher and technical education sector with a steady increase in the number of institutions and enrollments. However, new challenges include low employability, quality of teaching, educational planning at the local level, and strategic reforms in this area. There is a need for a new strategic action plan that addresses the capacity gap of institutions with respect to students, administration, and faculty to lead the state towards a global level in competitive education. To increase employable graduates. Enrollment and seats available, Placement. And the gaps

in graduation indicate that the time is already overdue for such an overhauling exercise. There is a need to increase enrollment at the school level. For this, better infrastructure should be provided and such programs should be run by the government so that children, as well as their parents, are aware. All those facilities should be provided which are given in private schools so that students can get more enrolled in government schools.

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