

Taluka wise comparative analysis of educational facilities in thane district

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Abstract

The study aims to investigate the presence of disparity in educational facilities such as availability of educational institutions, teacher- pupil ratio and teacher's availability per institution in fifteen talukas of Thane district, Maharashtra State of India during 2008-09 to 2016-17.

Objectives: To study the growth of primary, secondary, higher secondary schools and colleges in Thane district of Maharashtra between 2008-09 to 2016-17; (2) To analyse taluka wise availability of primary, secondary, higher secondary schools and colleges per ten thousand of population in Thane district of Maharashtra between 2008-09 to 2016-17; (3) To analyse taluka wise teacher pupil ratio in schools and colleges in Thane district of Maharashtra between 2008-09 to 2016-17 and; (4) To analyse taluka wise availability of teachers in primary, secondary, higher secondary schools and colleges in Thane district of Maharashtra between 2008-09 to 2016-17.

Methods/Statistical Analysis: Present study is based on secondary data collected through various official sources/publications on different talukas (Fifteen) of Thane district of Maharashtra. Researcher has studied the presence of disparities in educational facilities in these selected (samples) talukas.

Findings: The study showed that availability of institutions per ten thousand of population was observed maximum for primary schools between Jawhar, Thane and Ulhasnagar Talukas (19.6), between Palghar and Talasari (40.5) for pupil teacher ratio and between Vasai and Mokhada (15.4) for teacher's availability per institution. Disparity problems have existed in remaining Talukas also but were less than specified above.

Application: Result outcome can be useful for the government to understand the causes for low quality of human resources in the region and can also help in framing suitable policies to overcome it.

Keywords: Educational Facilities, Disparity, Pupil teacher Ratio, Teachers Availability, Mean, Range.

1. Introduction

Education plays an important role in human and social development. It converts the obstacles into resource and lays strong foundation for better and strong nation. Lack of development of social infrastructures not only hinders the literacy but economic development also. Social evils like poverty, early marriages, unemployment and deficient infrastructures in the country have been some of the reasons behind country's low literacy percentage [1]. Education is considered to be one of the crucial determinants of personality. It increases capability of human resources and make them employable. Academic achievements work as score card for better citizenship [2]. Education sector in country has gone tremendous transformation to cater the educational needs of children. Increased government's budget, Right to free and compulsory education, withdrawing compulsion from exams, introduction of grading system are the few important steps in this direction [3]. According to 2016-17 Budget Estimates, combined expenditure of central and state government on education increased to 6.68 lakh crs from 1.89 lakh crs in 2008-09 which was 4.38% of country's total GDP. There has been 253% increase in expenditure on education by the government [4]. Talking about expenditure on education incurred by state government of Maharashtra under Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) stood at ₹1.9 thousand crs in 2016-17 [5]. Critiques point out fingers at country's educational qualities due to inability in employability and industrial needs.

Current education stresses more on learning ability ignoring practical application. It is further believed that about one tenth students in country make to their higher education [6]. One of the common difficulties that schools face is with respect teacher student's ratio. More number of children in schools than specified not only affects the quality of teaching but becomes burdensome for teachers to pay individual attention to every child in the class [7]. Government intervention in the field of country's elementary education is universal phenomenon. It not only reduces cost of education and bring the education in the reach of all but adds to capacity especially of economically weaker section. Looking at the education from fundamental right perspective, governmental intervention is said follow the basic paradigms. To meet the country's objectives like high income, high growth and poverty alleviation, country requires handsome expenditure in education sector. Returns of such expenditure can be judged on the basis of wages that worker draws. Higher educational attainment is linked with higher remuneration [8].

2. Data source and Methodology

Present paper investigates disparities present in availability of educational institutions (Primary, Secondary, Higher Secondary and Colleges) per ten thousand of population, pupil teacher ratio, and average teachers available per institution in fifteen Talukas of Thane district between 2008-09 to 2016-17 using descriptive methodology. Researcher has used mean and range statistical tool to compare and compute the results of unfavourable growth in educational institutions, pupil teacher ratio and teachers availability in the different Talukas while Compound Annual growth Rate (CAGR) has been calculated for studying the growth of educational institutions. Data for the study has been collected through various published sources comprising of state and local government publications, research articles, annual reports of various institutions and organisations, etc.

1. Study area

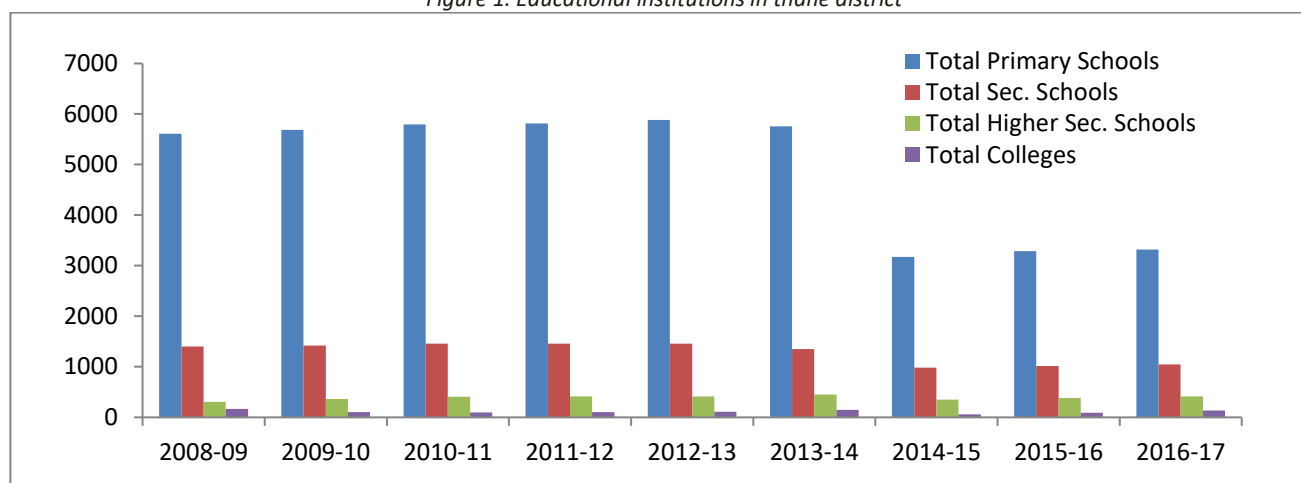
Thane district comes under Konkan region of Maharashtra state, having total geographical area of 4214 square km which is 1.37% of total state's geographical area. Total population of the district according to 2011 census was 80.70 lakhs and contributed 7.18% in total state's population. Growth of population in the district during 2001 to 2011 was 34.6% as against 15.9% in state. Thane district had fifteen Talukas namely Talasari, Dahanu, Vikramghad, Jawhar, Mokhada, Vada, Palghar, Vasai, Thane, Bhiwandi, Shahapur, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, Ambernath and Murbad. But on August 1st 2014, after formation of Palghar as separate district, number of Talukasin Thane district fell down to seven. They are Thane, Bhiwandi, Shahapur, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, Ambernath and Murbad and rest became part of Palghar district. Researcher has analysed the availability of facilities for fifteen talukas up to 2014 but dropped eight talukas after they became part of new district in 2014.

District lacked attention in provisioning of facilities including education in comparison to population growth resulting in low literacy for some Talukas like Mokhada (56.4%), Talasari (57%), Jawhar (57.4%), Dahanu (60%) and Vikramghad (63.7%) according to 2011 resulting in poor quality of labour force. Present study is based on the taluka wise disparity in educational facilities with respect to availability primary, secondary, higher secondary schools and colleges per ten thousand of population, teacher pupil ratio and availability of teachers per institutions in Thane district between 2008-09 to 2016-17.

1.1. Growth of educational institutions in thane district

District had 7486 schools and colleges in total in 2008-09 out of which 5613 (75%) were primary schools, 1400 (19.4%) were secondary schools, 305 (6.1%) were higher secondary schools and 168 (1.6%) were colleges. Number of schools and colleges in 2016-17 changed to 4917, out of which 3317 (68%) were primary, 1047 (21%) were secondary 412 (8%) were higher secondary schools and remaining 138 (3%) were colleges. While the average shares of primary, secondary, higher secondary schools and colleges during the same time period was 72.7%, 19.4%, 6.1% and 1.6% respectively. CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate) in district between 2008-09 to 2016-17 was 38.7% for Primary schools, 6.64 for secondary, -0.88 for higher secondary and 2.96% for college. Primary schools witnessed maximum while higher secondary witnessed minimum growth in district.

Figure 1. Educational institutions in thane district



Source: D.S.E.R., Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Planning Department, Government of Maharashtra

Coming to Taluka wise growth during the study period, CAGR for primary was 3% for Thane, 2% for Vasai, Bhiwandi and Kalyan, 1% Talasari, 0% for Dahanu, Mokhada, Shahapur, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, Ambernath and Murbad and -1 % for remaining Talukas. Secondary schools in district have witnessed CAGR of -4% between 2008-09 to 2016-17. Coming to Taluka wise growth during the study period, CAGR was 5% Vasai and Vikramghad, 3% for Thane, 2% for Jawhar and Amberath, 1% for Palghar and 0% for Talasari. Dahanu and Shahapur to witness -1%, Bhiwandi and Kalyan -2%, Ulhasnagar -4%, Murbad -5%, Mokhada -6% and Vada -7% growth during the study period.

Higher Secondary schools in district have witnessed CAGR of 4% between 2008-09 to 2016-17. Talking about Taluka wise growth during the study period, CAGR was 30% for Talasari, 17% for Ambernath, 16% for Vasai, 12% for Bhiwandi and 10% for Jawhar. Talukas to notice growth in single digit were Thane, Vikramghad, Shahapur, Murbad, Talasari, Mokhada, Vada, Dahanu, Kalyan and Ulhasnagar. Number of colleges in the district has witnessed CAGR of -2% during 2008-09 to 2016-17. CAGR was 32% for Vada, 26% for Shahapur, 20% for Palghar, 6% for Ulhasnagar, 5% for Ambernath and 1% for Kalyan. Remaining Talukas in the district noticed zero or even negative growth during the study period.

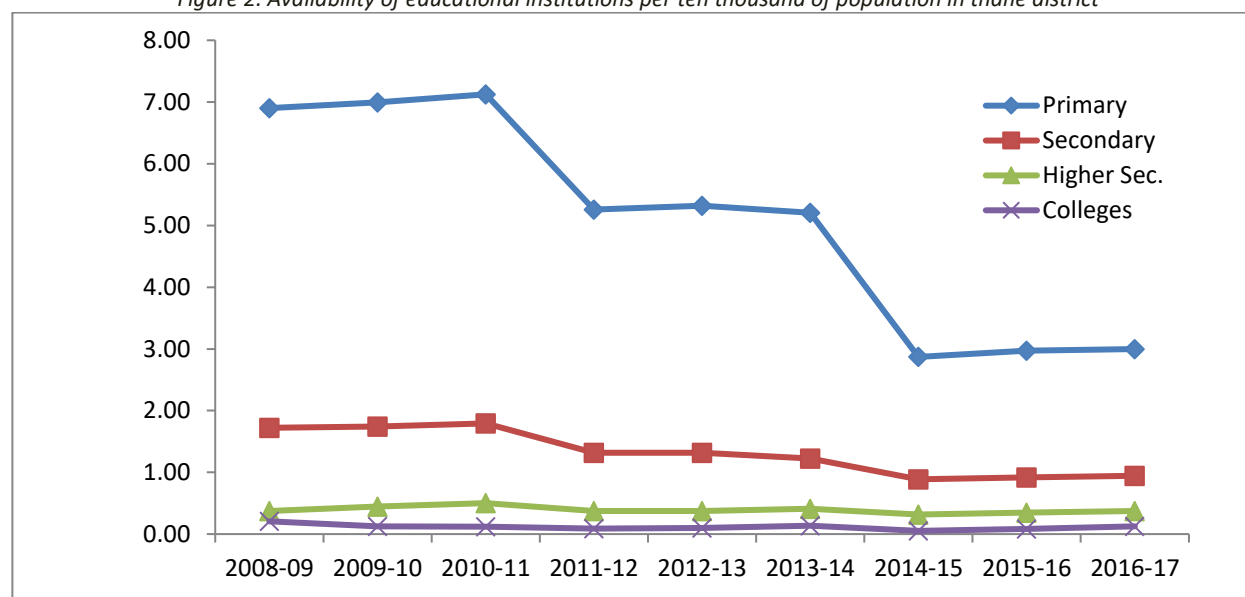
1. Availability of educational institutions in thane district

Computation of availability institutions per ten thousand populations up to 2010-11 has been done according to 2001 population census while computation of availability of institutions thereafter is done considering population census 2011.

2. Taluka wise availability of primary school

There is lack of uniformity in the Talukas as far as primary schools per ten thousand populations are concerned. Average number of primary schools in the District on per ten thousand populations was 6.9 in 2008-09 which increased to 7.1 per ten thousand populations in 2010-11. There was fall in the numbers thereafter to 5.2 in 2011-12 and it remained more or less same till 2013-14. There was further decline in the numbers to 2.87 in 2014-15 and gained marginally in 2015-16 to 2016-17 to 3 schools. Talking to Taluka wise availability of primary schools, there was huge disparity observed. Talukas like Talasari, Dahanu, Vikramghad, Jawhar, Mokhada, Vada, Palghar, Shahapur, and Bhiwandi witnessed double digit availability of primary schools per thousand populations while Talukas like Vasai, Thane, Bhiwandi, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, Ambernath witnessed single digit availability. Palghar noticed double digit availability of schools between 2008-2009 to 2010-11 which later fell close to nine percent thereafter.

Figure 2. Availability of educational institutions per ten thousand of population in thane district



Source: D.S.E.R., Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Planning Department, Government of Maharashtra

3. Taluka wise availability of secondary schools

There is absence of uniformity in the Talukas as far as secondary schools per ten thousand populations are concerned. Average number schools in the District on per ten thousand populations were 1.72 in 2008-09 which increased marginally to 1.79 per ten thousand populations in 2010-11. There was slight fall in the numbers thereafter to 1.32 in 2011-12 then to 1.22 in 2013-14 and further to 0.89 in 2014-15 before it showed marginal recovery to 0.92 and 0.95 between 2015-16 to 2016-17. Talking to Taluka wise availability of secondary schools, there was less disparity observed in the district. Talukas like Mokhada, Vada, Shahapur, Ambarnath and Bhiwandi which had availability of around two or close to two schools per thousand populations in the beginning of the study period, noticed fall in the number with progress in time. Bhiwandi Taluka was at the bottom as the number of schools per ten thousand even fell down to below one with time.

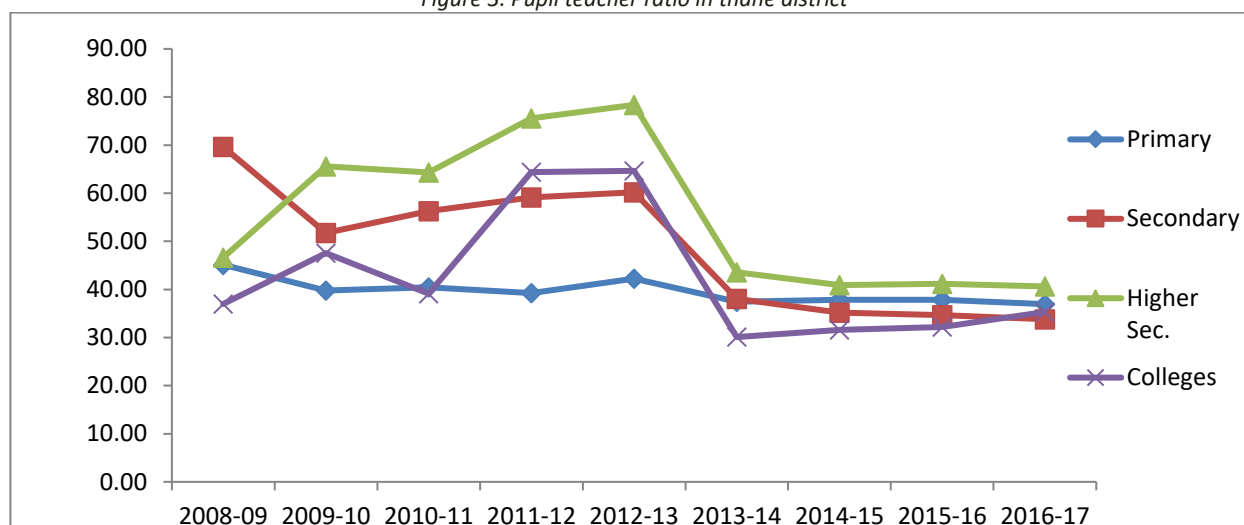
4. Taluka wise availability of higher secondary schools

Average number of schools in the District on per ten thousand populations was 0.38 in 2008-09 which increased marginally to 0.50 per ten thousand populations in 2010-11. There was slight fall in the numbers thereafter to 0.37 in 2011-12 and then picked marginally to 0.41 in 2013-14. Numbers remained more or less stable thereafter. Coming to Taluka wise availability of higher secondary schools, number has been less than even one in all the Talukas during the study period. Talukas like Vikramghad, Jawhar, Mokhada, Vada, Thane, Shahapur, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, and Murbad witnessed presence of schools above the district average while Vasai and Bhiwandi witnessed the presence equal to or less than district average. Rest talukas have shown varying trend i.e. sometimes it is above district average and sometimes its below the district average over the study years.

5. Taluka wise availability of colleges

Mean colleges in the District per ten thousand population was 0.21 in 2008-09 which fell down thereafter till 2011-12 to 0.09 before it showed marginal improvement to 0.10 and 0.13 per ten thousand population in 2012-13 and 2013-14. There was fall in the numbers thereafter to 0.05 in 2014-15 and then picked marginally to 0.08 and 0.12 for remaining years. Coming to Taluka wise availability of colleges, number has been less than even one in all the Talukas during the study period. Talukas like Shahapur, Ulhasnagar and Kalyan (Kalyan except 2010-11) noticed availability above district average and rest talukas have shown varying trend i.e. sometimes it is above district average and sometimes it is below the district average. Talukas like Dahanu, Vikramghad, Jawhar, Mokhada showed zero availability of college in 2013-14.

Figure 3. Pupil teacher ratio in thane district



Source: D.S.E.R., Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Planning Department, Government of Maharashtra

6. Pupil teacher ratio

Teacher pupil ratio is key determinant of quality of education. To impart quality education, ratio is to be kept low [7] Average teacher students ratio in the district between 2008-09 to 2016-17 changed from 45.11 to 36.94 for primary, 69.63 to 33.82 for secondary, 46.63 to 40.62 for higher secondary and 37 to 35.35 for colleges. Improvement with respect to teacher pupil was maximum for secondary schools while minimum in case of colleges.

7. Pupil teacher ratio in primary schools

Average Teacher student's ratio in the district for primary was 45.1 in 2008-09 which fell down and remained close to 40 till 2011-12 before surging again to 42.2 in 2012-13. Teacher pupil ratio saw further fall in later periods and remained close to 37 between 2013-14 to 2016-17. During the study period, Vasai and Thane taluka in the district witnessed teacher pupil ratio above the district average (37 & 45). Taluka like Bhiwandi, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, Ambarnath, Palghar, Dahanu and Talasari had ratio close to or below the district average. Rest talukas had teacher pupil ratio sometimes above district while sometimes below district average.

8. Pupil teacher ratio in ratio in secondary schools

Average student's teacher ratio in the district for secondary schools was highest to around 70 in 2008-09 which fell down to 51.7 in 2009-10 and saw further rise thereafter till 2012-13. There was sharp reduction witnessed in the ratio from 2013-14 onwards. Talukas like Mokhada and Vasai to witness ratio above district average while others showed higher ratio in the beginning but improvement in it along with time. Talukas lacked uniformity in student's teacher ratio.

9. Pupil teacher ratio in higher secondary schools

Average student's teacher ratio in the district for higher secondary schools was quite higher and unfavourable as it lied between 64 to 78 during 2009-10 to 2012-13 before falling close to 43.5 in 2013-14. Ratio in later periods fell further and remained close to 40. Coming to about Taluka wise variation, average teacher pupil ratio varied between 41.5 (Mokhada) to 82 (Vada) between the study period 2008-09 to 2016-17.

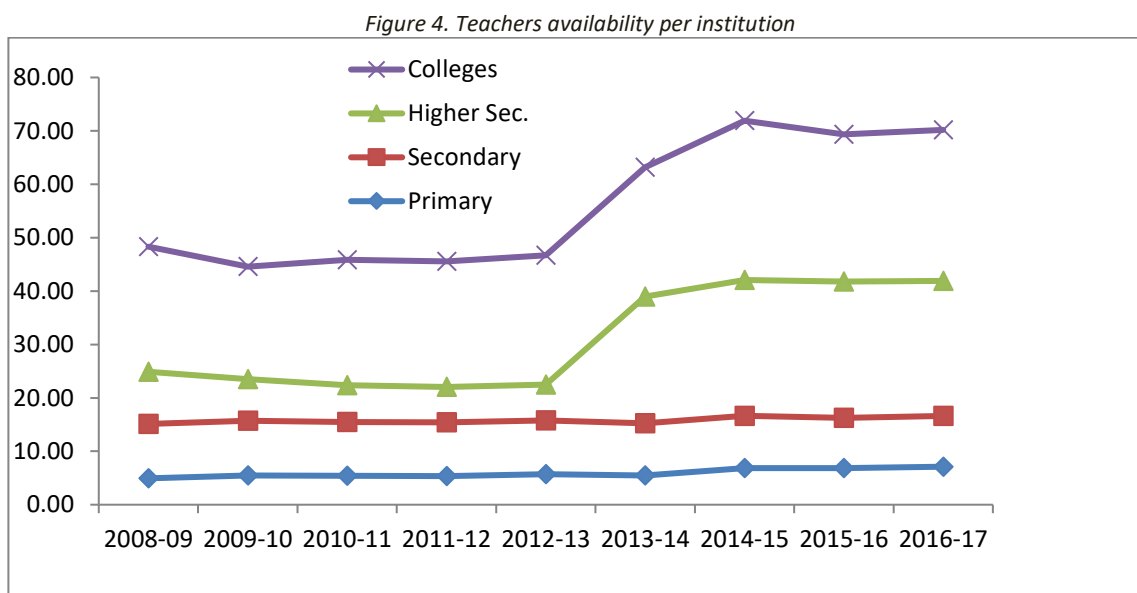
10. Pupil teacher ratio in colleges

Pupil teacherratiofor the college in the district is quite satisfactory when compared from secondary and higher secondary schools. Average teacher pupil ratio in the district was below 48 except for the years 2011-12 and 2012-13. Due to absence and unavailability of college data for Talukas like Talasari, Dahanu, Vikramghad, Jawhar and Mokhada, pupil's teacher ratio was found to be less.

But among the rest Talukas, only Palghar average was above 58 but for others it was below 43. Bhiwandi noticed teacher pupil ratio above district ratio but for others it was moderate throughout the years. There is unexceptional teacher student’s ratio in 2011-12 in palghar taluka which is due to extreme shortage of teachers.

11. Availability of teachers in educational institutions in thane district

Teacher availability per institutions has shown wide variations in the district. Availability of teachers per institution was maximum in case of colleges and minimum in case primary schools. Mean teachers availability per institutions in the district changed from 4.94 to 7.12 for primary, 10.19 to 9.52 for secondary, 9.77 to 25.30 for higher secondary schools and 23.42 to 28.26 for colleges between 2008-09 to 2016-17.



Source: D.S.E.R., Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Planning Department, Government of Maharashtra.

12. Teachers availability in primary schools

The ratio of teachers per school noticed wide variations both in the district and Talukas. Some talukas having availability in double digit while some taluka having availability in single with five or even less than five. Mean availability of teachers per school in the district changed from 4.94 per schools to 7.12 between 2008-09 to 2016-17. Vasai, Thane, Kalyan and Ulhasnagar witnessed availability above the district average. Ambernath and Bhiwandi taluka witnessed the availability bit higher or close to district average and rest witnessed much lesser than district average.

13. Teachers availability in secondary schools

The number of teachers in the district per secondary school has been considered to be satisfactory seeing the numbers. Mean availability of teachers in the district varied from 9.44 per school to 10.54 between 2008-09 to 2016-17. Number showed sign of stagnancy till almost 2012-13 and bit deterioration thereafter to nine and above. Only Dahanu witnessed availability above the district average throughout the years and rest witnessed the variability sometimes above and sometimes below district average.

14. Teachers availability in higher secondary schools

Mean availability of teachers per school changed from 9.77 per schools to 25.30 between 2008-09 to 2016-17. The availability of teachers first showed sign of deterioration from 9.77 in 2008-09 to 6.61 till 2011-12 and then improvement thereafter till almost 2016-17. Talukas like, Dahanu, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar witnessed availability above the district average while Shahapur, Vikramghad to witness below the district average.

15. Teachers availability in college

Mean availability of teachers per college in the district changed from 23.42 per schools to 28.26 between 2008-09 to 2016-17. Average number of teacher per college has been above 20, which is highest among all the educational institutions. Vikramghad, Jawhar, Mokhada, Vasai and Murbad Talukas in the district witnessed availability below the district average and rest had availability near to or above district average.

3. Result Analysis and Discussions

Availability of primary schools per ten thousand populations during the study period varied both by talukas and by years. Average primary schools available per ten thousand populations in Talukas varied between 2.5 to 22.16. Talukas like Vikramghad, jawhar, Mokhada, Vada, Palghar had more than 20 schools available per ten thousand populations. Talukas like Shahapur, Palghar, Dahanu and Talasari noticed availability between 10 to 20 per ten thousand. Rest Talukas. eAmbernath, Ulhasnagar, Kalyan, Bhiwandi, Thane and Vasai had less than 10 schools available. Average availability of schools were maximum in Jawhar (22.1) while Thane and Ulhasnagar (2.5) to notice lowest. Variation was of 19.6.

Average secondary schools available per ten thousand populations in Talukas varied between 0.97 to 2.14. Talukas like Talasari, Dahanu, Vikramghad, Jawhar, Vada, Palghar, Vasai, Thane, Shahapur, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, Ambernath and Murbad had numbers in between 1 to 2. Average number of schools present in Mokhada was maximum (2.1) and minimum for Bhiwandi (0.97). Disparity of 1.17 was observed between the two talukas. Availability of higher secondary schools per ten thousand populations has been just more than colleges. Mean variation is in between 0.32 to 0.77. Talukas like Talasari, Vikramghad, Mokhada, Vada, Ulhasnagar, and Murbad had numbers above 0.5. Talukas like Dahanu, Jawhar, Bhiwandi Kalyan, Ambernath had number less than 0.5. Mokhada had maximum availability (Average availability 0.78) while Dahanu to have minimum (0.32) having variation 0.46 during the study period.

Availability of colleges per ten thousand populations have been least in number in the Talukas and varied between 0.05 to 0.28. Talukas like Ulhasnagar and Shahapur had numbers above 0.20. Talukas like Talasari, Vikramghad, Mokhada, Vada, Murbad Dahanu, Jawhar, Bhiwandi Kalyan, Ambernath had number less than 0.20. Shahapur had maximum availability (Average availability 0.28) while Talasari, Vikramghad, Mokhada to have minimum (0.05) having variation 0.23 during the study period. For teacher pupil ratio in primary schools, mean variation has been between 22.85 to 45.71 during the study period. Talukas like Talasari, Vasai, Thane, Bhiwandi, Kalyan and Ulhasnagar had more than 40 students per teacher while Talukas like Vikramghad, Mokhada, Vada, Murbad Dahanu, Jawhar, Shahapur, Murbad, Ambernath had less than 40 students per teacher.

Vasai Taluka in the district had maximum (45.71) teacher pupil ratio while Murbad had minimum (22.85) with difference of 22.86 between the two talukas. Mean Teacher pupil ratio for secondary schools in talukas, have been between 39.12 to 64.86. During the study period excluding Talasari, teacher pupil ratio has been more than forty for rest while for Talasari it was 39.12 in case of Talasari. In case of few Talukas like Mokhada, Vasai, Dahanu, number even exceeded 60 students per teacher. Vikramghad Taluka in the district had maximum (64.86) teacher pupil ratio while Talasari had minimum (39.12) with difference of 25.14 between the two talukas.

Mean Teacher pupil ratio for higher secondary schools in talukas, varied between 41.50 to 82 during the study period. Teacher pupil ratio has been more than forty for all the Talukas. In case of few talukas like Palghar and Vasai, number even exceeded 70 students per teacher affecting quality of teaching. Palghar Taluka in the district had maximum (82.05) teacher pupil ratio while Talasari had minimum (41.50) with difference of 40.55 between the two talukas. Due to unavailability of systematic data of little college of Talukas like Vikramghad, Jawhar, Mokhada, Talasari and Dahanu there has been difficulty in calculating the ratio. But for remaining, mean number varied between 22.76 to 58.70 during the study period. Except Palghar, rest Talukas in the district noted ratio lesser than even 50. Palghar Taluka in the district had maximum (58) teacher pupil ratio while Talasari had minimum (22.76) with difference of 35.24 between the two talukas. Mean Teachers for primary schools in talukas varied between 2.74 to 11.60 during the study period. The average availability of teachers between 2008-09 to 2016-17 in Thane and Ulhasnagar was 10.2 and 11.6 respectively while average teachers per school in Vasai, Bhiwandi and Kalyan numbers were 7.5, 6 and 7.7. For rest talukas, number has been less than 5.

Ulhasnagar Taluka in the district had maximum (11.6) teachers while Talasari had minimum (2.74) with difference of 8.86 between the two talukas. Average teachers for secondary schools in talukas varied between 8.46 to 12.48 during the study period. Average availability of teachers between 2008-09 to 2016-17 was 12.4 for Talasari, 11.3 for Dahanu, 10.1 for Vikramghad, 10.8 for Vada, 11.2 for Palghar, 11.2 for Kalyan and 10.5 for Ulhasnagar. Rest had less than 10 teachers. Talasari Taluka in the district had maximum (12.48) teachers while Mokhada had minimum (8.46) with difference of 4.02 between the two talukas.

Average teachers for higher secondary schools in talukas varied between 6.29 to 16.73 during the study period. Average availability of teachers between 2008-09 to 2016-17 was 12 for Dahanu, 16.7 for Thane, 14.6 for Bhiwandi, 15 for Kalyan, 14.5 for Ulhasnagar, 14.4 for Amberath and 10.7 for Murbad. Thane Taluka in the district had maximum (16.73) teachers while Mokhada had minimum (5.87) with difference of 10.86 between the two talukas.

Average teachers in talukas for colleges varied between 3.67 to 33.2 during the study period. Average availability of teachers between 2008-09 to 2016-17 was 25.1 for Palghar, 33.2 for Vasai, 24.6 for Thane, 26.19 for Sahapur, 22.3 for Kalyan, 28.2 for Ulhasnagar. Average teachers availability was 17 for Dahanu, 10.7 for Vada, 19.8 for Ambernath and 19.1 for Murbad. Vasai Taluka in the district had maximum (33.23) teachers while Mokhada had minimum (3.67) with difference of 15.43 between the two taluka [9-17].

4. Conclusion

The study revealed about presence disparities in terms of schools availability, teacher pupil ratio and teachers availability per schools both by district and Talukas. Availability of educational institutions noted wide variations both district wise and Talukas wise. Jawhar Thane and Ulhasnagar Taluka of Thane district noticed maximum average variation (19.6) in availability of primary schools per ten thousand of population, Mokhada and Bhiwandi (1.17) in secondary schools, Mokhada and Dahanu in (0.46) higher secondary schools and Shahapur, Talasari, Vikramghad and Mokhada (0.23) in college.

Vasai and Murbad noted maximum average variation (22.86) in teacher pupil ratio for primary, Vikramghad and Talasari noted maximum variation (25.14) for secondary, Palghar and Talasari noted maximum variation (40.55) for higher secondary schools and Palghar and Talasari again noted maximum variation (35.24) for colleges.

Coming to teacher's availability per school, Ulhasnagar and Talasari noted maximum average variation of 8.86 for primary, Talasari Mokhada noted 4.0 of variation for secondary, Thane and Mokhada noted variation of 10.26 for higher secondary and Vasai and Mokhada noted variation of 15.43 of colleges. Variations in educational facilities happened on account of account of low expenditure by the government and district on general education and recruitment policy of the government. The average district expenditure on general education between 2008-09 to 2016-17 was only 6.88 crs. For period 2008-09 to 2013-14, district expenditure was below district's average and even became more worst during 2009-10 and 2010-11 when it fell down to around 51 and 42 lakhs. If one calculates the district total expenditure on education to total state's income at current price, one finds that average expenditure between 2008-09 to 2016-17 was 0.000 % means nothing.

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