



RESEARCH PAPER

Trends of Admission Achievement of Public and Private Sector Institutions in Gujranwala Division: A Quantitative Analytic Report

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ABSTRACT

The problem to be investigated in this study was to identify the trends of admission achievement of public and private sector institutions in Gujranwala division. The study was quantitative analytic report. The source of data for this study was an official document obtained by the researchers from the office of the Secretary, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Gujranwala. The data to be analyzed were regarding the students of public and private sector institutions who appeared in the annual intermediate examinations of the years 2011 to 2015. Descriptive statistics were used for data analysis and interpretation. Data analysis indicates that public sector institutions performed better in terms of admission achievement not only against their own performance over the period of five years (2011-2015) but also against the private sector institutions in Gujranwala division. At the end, certain recommendations were made for stake holders.

Keywords: Admission Achievement, Institutions, Private Sector, Public Sector, Trends

Introduction

Education is considered as the most effective instrument for cultural and socio-economic development of the society. This is why, the developed nations pay due consideration to the education of their citizens and are reaping it's all possible benefits (Mirza, 2011).

The functions of education are preservation, promotion, and transmission of cultural heritage; fulfillment of basic needs of individuals for their successful life; and reconstruction of the society for its betterment and future success (Rather, 2004).

Although, other modes of education have their own merits and may be preferred in certain conditions yet education of individuals is normally carried out in formal manner in educational institutions. The formal education model is systematic, well-planned and organized (Hewitt, 2017; National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), 2014) and is considered an effective instrument in achieving national goals as well as behavioural objectives (NCERT, 2014).

There are two streams of educational institutions that impart education in formal manner i.e. public and private. Public sector institutions are managed by the government and expenditures are met by tax revenues while private sector institutions generate their revenues from fee and other private contributions and donations (Murthy, 2008). Mostly, the private sector institutions are run by individual owners, madrasahs, missionaries, business entrepreneurs, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and educational trusts, etc. (Institute of Social and Policy Sciences (I-SAPS), 2010).

In Pakistan, since its inception in 1947, private sector institutions actively participated in educating people till the nationalization of the privately managed educational institutions by the government in accordance with the recommendation of National Education Policy 1972. However in 1980s, it was realized that government alone cannot meet the educational needs of society and again private provision of education was appreciated by inviting extra state actors (Khan, 2007). An ordinance to provide for the promotion and regulation of private institutions titled "The Punjab Private Educational Institutions (Promotion and Regulation) Ordinance 1984" was implemented in Punjab Province in this regard. Until the late 1990s, research indicates that private educational institutions served only to elite segments of population. However, after denationalization the private sector participated and started spreading in rural areas of the country as well (I-SAPS, 2010).

At present, private and public sector institutions are simultaneously performing their substantial role in providing education in Pakistan. It is hypothesized by the supporters of private sector that private sector educational institutions are performing better, quantitatively as well as qualitatively, than public sector institutions. Also, on the other side, public sector higher educational management and other stakeholders do not seem to be satisfied by the efficiency and performance of public sector institutions (Awan and Zia, 2015). The evidence is that the Government of the Punjab is trying to put government colleges under the jurisdiction of Board of Governors (BOGs) for their better management and performance. Some government colleges have been given under the jurisdiction of BOGs in Punjab. The public sector management of education claims that "basic reason behind giving these colleges under board of governors was to improve the education standard" (El Edroos, 2010). Also, Government of the Punjab, through different programs in the province, is trying to enhance admissions as well as quality of education in government schools and colleges. Admission achievement of at least 10% per annum is desired by the higher authorities from the heads of institutions in addition to produce above board results. This concern (i.e., at least 10% admission achievement and above board results) of the higher authorities was observed by the researcher himself in an interview, taken by the selection committee/ board headed by the then worthy minister of higher education Barrister Raza Ali Ghilani, for the selection against a vacant post of Principal, Government College Chawinda, District Sialkot. This indicates that public sector higher authorities and educational management show great concern and are trying to improve the situation in public sector educational institutions.

In the above context, the researchers were interested to analyze five year data (2011-2015) pertaining to admissions of students, at intermediate level, of public and private sector institutions of Gujranwala division so that the trends of admission

achievement of public and private sector institutions may be understood to make certain suggestions and recommendations for stake holders and concerned.

Government of the Punjab is taking measures to improve the enrolment of students in public sector educational institutions in the Punjab province. Several reports and studies indicate that enrolment in private sector schools and colleges is increasing. This situation is challenging for the management of government's school education and higher education departments.

Keeping in view the above scenario, the present study was devised. The problem to be investigated in this study was to identify the trends of admission achievement of public and private sector institutions in Gujranwala division of the Punjab province.

Definition of Terms

For clarity, important terms used in this study are defined as under:

- *Trend*: The change in direction (increase or decrease) of admissions of public and private sector institutions.
- *Admissions*: The number of students of public and private sector institutions appeared in annual intermediate examinations.
- *Public Sector Institutions*: Educational institutions funded by Government and working under the jurisdiction of education department, Punjab.
- *Private Sector Institutions*: Educational institutions not funded by Government but registered with education department, Punjab.

Materials and Methods

The study was quantitative analytic report. The source of data for this study was an official document obtained by the researchers from the office of the Secretary, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Gujranwala. The data to be analyzed were regarding the candidates of public and private sector institutions who appeared in the annual intermediate examinations of the years 2011 to 2015.

Data Analysis

Data were analyzed using an online free chart maker service i.e., www.chartgo.com. Descriptive statistics (i.e., percentage and graphs) were used for interpretation of data and are presented as under:

Research Question No. 1: *What is the trend of admission achievement, at intermediate level, of public sector institutions over the period of five years (2011-2015)?*

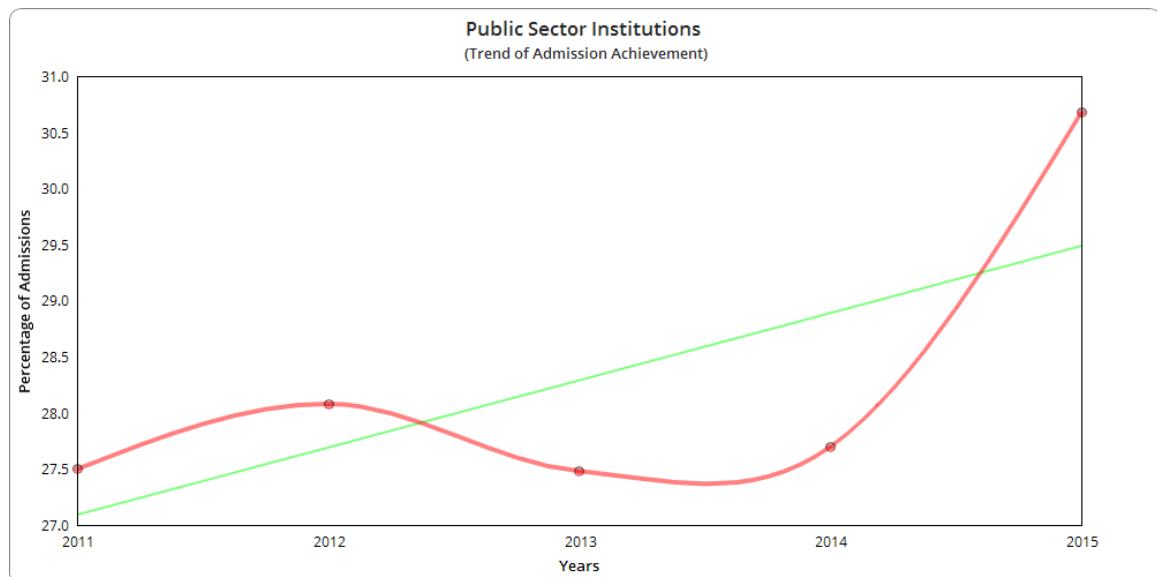
Data analysis and interpretation regarding above mentioned research question is as under:

Table 1
Admission achievement in percentage, at intermediate level, of public sector institutions over the period of five years (2011-2015).

Year Admissions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Public Sector Institutions	201611	210599	203619	213504	259347
Total (Public & Private)	732946	749929	740757	770753	845065
Percentage	27.50 %	28.08 %	27.48 %	27.70 %	30.68 %

The above table indicates that in annual examination 2011, the percentage of candidates who appeared from public sector institutions was 27.50 of the total appeared candidates. Similarly, the percentage of the candidates who appeared from public sector institutions in the annual examination 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 was 28.08, 27.48, 27.70 and 30.68 respectively, of the total candidates who appeared in the respective annual examinations.

The graph below gives a clear picture of the trend of admissions from public sector institutions in the annual examinations 2011 to 2015. In Graph-I below, green line is trend line while red line indicates actual admission.



Graph-I: Trend of Admission Achievement in Public Sector Institutions

Research Question No. 2: *What is the trend of admission achievement, at intermediate level, of private sector institutions over the period of five years (2011-2015)?*

Data analysis and interpretation regarding above mentioned research question is as under:

Table 2
Admission achievement in percentage, at intermediate level, of private sector institutions over the period of five years (2011-2015)

Year Admissions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Private Sector Institutions	149768	171322	200403	212287	236742
Total (Public & Private)	732946	749929	740757	770753	845065
Percentage	20.43 %	22.84 %	27.05 %	27.54 %	28.01 %

The above table indicates that in annual examination 2011, the percentage of candidates who appeared from private sector institutions was 20.43 of the total appeared candidates. Similarly, the percentage of the candidates who appeared from private sector institutions in the annual examination 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 was 22.84, 27.05, 27.54 and 28.01 respectively, of the total candidates who appeared in the respective annual examinations.

The graph below gives a clear picture of the trend of admissions from private sector institutions in the annual examinations 2011 to 2015. In Graph-II, green line is trend line while red line indicates actual admission achievement.



Graph-II: Trend of Admission Achievement in Private Sector Institutions

Research Question No. 3 What is the difference in trends of admission achievement between public and private sector institutions over the period of five years (2011-2015)?

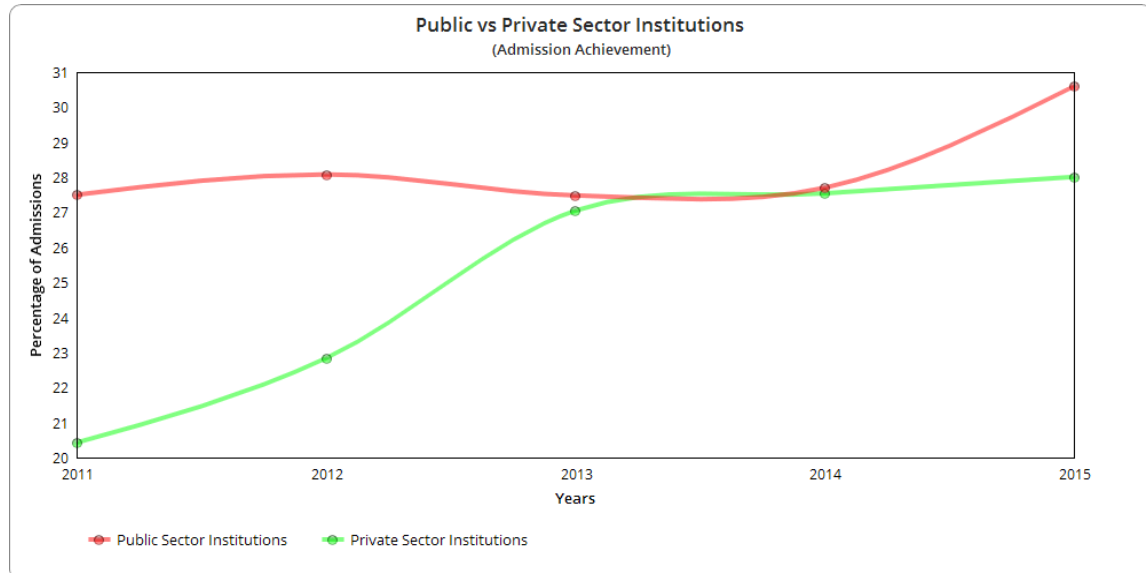
Data analysis and interpretation regarding above mentioned research question is as under:

Table 3
Difference in admission achievement in percentage, at intermediate level, of public and private sector institutions over the period of five years (2011-2015)

Year Admissions	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Public Sector Institutions	201611	210599	203619	213504	259347
Private Sector Institutions	149768	171322	200403	212287	236742
Difference (Public – Private)	51843	39277	3216	1217	22605
Difference in Percentage	25.71 %	18.65 %	01.58 %	00.57 %	08.72 %

The above table indicates that in annual examination 2011, the difference in terms of the percentage between the admissions of public and private sector institutions was 25.71. Similarly, the difference in terms of the percentage between the public and private sector institutions in the annual examination 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 was 18.65, 01.58, 00.57 and 08.72 respectively.

The graphs below give a clear picture of the difference in admission achievement, at intermediate level, of public and private sector institutions over the period of five years (2011-2015). In Graph-III, red line represents admission achievement of public sector institutions while green line indicates admission achievement of private sector institutions.



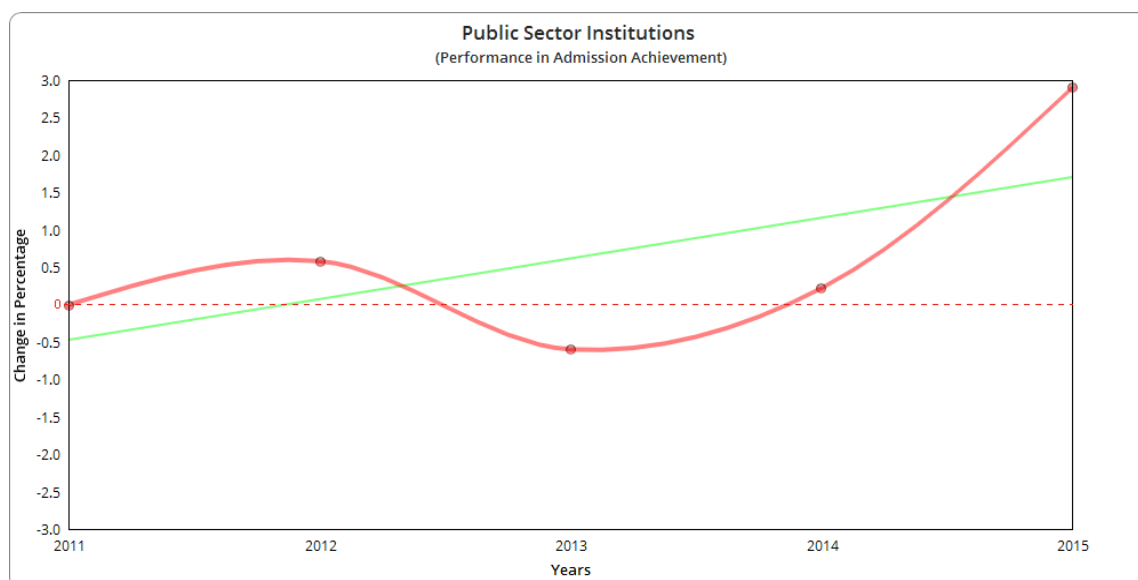
Graph-III: Comparison of Admission Achievement (Public & Private)

Findings and Conclusions

The percentage of the candidates who appeared from public sector institutions, at intermediate level, in the annual examination 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 was 27.50, 28.08, 27.48, 27.70 and 30.68 respectively, of the total candidates who appeared in the respective annual examinations.

The above findings indicate that the admissions of the public sector institutions increased by .58 % in the year 2012 in comparison with 2011. In the year 2013 a decrease by .62 % is observed. Again, an increase by .22% is observed in the year 2014. However, the admissions of the public sector institutions increased by 2.98 % in the year 2015 taking 2014 as benchmark.

With reference to the performance of admission achievement of public sector institutions over the period of five years, the increase in 2015 was the biggest. The overall trend of the performance of admission achievement of public sector institutions, with reference to their own performance over the period of five years (2011-2015), is upward (See, Graph IV).



Graph IV: Green line is trend line while red line indicates actual performance in admission achievement.

This indicates that Punjab government's measures to enhance admissions in public sector schools and colleges remained effective. It is a good sign for management of public sector school education and higher education departments.

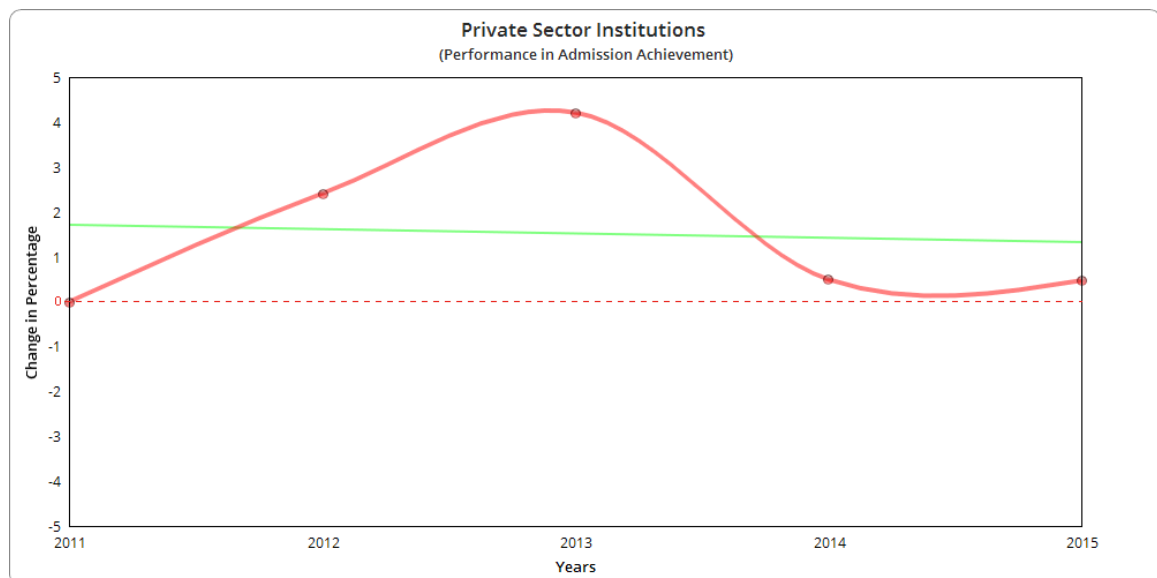
The percentage of the candidates who appeared from private sector institutions in the annual examination 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 was 20.43, 22.84, 27.05, 27.54

and 28.01 respectively, of the total candidates who appeared in the respective annual examinations.

The above findings indicate that the admissions of the private sector institutions increased by 2.41 % in the year 2012 in comparison with 2011. In the year 2013 an increase by 4.21 % is observed. However, a decrease by .49 % is observed in the year 2014. In comparison with 2014, the admissions of the private sector institutions increased by .47 % in the year 2015.

The above findings reveal that performance of admission achievement of private sector institutions increased in 2013 but decreased in the following years. This indicates that private sector institutions could not perform better after 2013, in terms of admission achievement.

The overall trend of performance of admission achievement of private sector institutions, with reference to their own performance over the period of five years (2011-2015), is downward (See, Graph-V).



Graph IV: Graph IV: Green line is trend line while red line indicates actual performance in admission achievement.

The findings indicate that in annual examination 2011, the difference in terms of the percentage between the admissions of public and private sector institutions was 25.71. Similarly, the difference in terms of the percentage between the public and private sector institutions in the annual examination 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 was 18.65, 01.58, 00.57 and 08.72 respectively.

The above findings indicate that, in Gujranwala division, public sector institutions performed better than private sector institutions in all the years over the period of five years

(2011-2015). This means, the measures that were taken by the public sector institutions to enhance admissions were effective.

Conclusively, over the period of five years (2011-2015), public sector institutions performed better, in terms of admission achievement, than private sector institutions in Gujranwala division. However, the conclusion is based on descriptive statistics and not on inferential statistics.

Recommendations

Following recommendations are made based on the findings of the study:

- The Management of public sector institutions of Gujranwala division needs to keep on taking the measures for admission achievement that it took over the period of five years (2011-2015).
- The Director of Colleges, Gujranwala division, should appreciate the endeavors of Deputy Directors of Colleges appointed in different districts of Gujranwala division and principals of public sector institutions because the public sector institutions performed better in terms of admission achievement not only against their own performance over the period of five years (2011-2015) but also against private sector institutions in Gujranwala division.
- The management/ administrators of private sector institutions in Gujranwala division should reconsider their strategies pertaining to admissions, at intermediate level, if they want to increase admissions in their institutions.
- To increase admissions at intermediate level, both public and private sector institutions have the opportunity to attract the private candidates who share the biggest proportion of the candidates that appear in the annual examinations of Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Gujranwala.

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