

MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana, Mumbai

Educational Journey Report – January 2026

With the objective of resolving the issues faced by educational institutions in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, preserving the dignity of the educational profession, and enhancing academic quality, the *MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana, Mumbai* was established in 1985 under the leadership of the late revered Shri P. M. Raut Sir, with the collective support of affiliated educational institutions and managing members. At present, approximately 151 educational institutions are members of the Sanghatana.

The principal objective of the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana, Mumbai, is to represent private educational institutions by maintaining constructive dialogue with the Municipal Education Department, the State Government's Education Department, and private educational bodies, and to pursue educational objectives through various initiatives undertaken by its constituent institutions, as well as through independent efforts.

The Sanghatana's activities commenced in 1985 with the issue of two years' pending grants for primary schools. Through the initiative of the then Executive Committee, representations were made to the Education Authorities of the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai, and after discussions, the matter was successfully resolved. Thereafter, the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana has consistently taken up issues concerning private educational institutions in the Mumbai region and across the State before the Government and society at large, and has remained committed to resolving them.

The Sanghatana continues to function as the Mumbai Divisional Affiliated Body of the Maharashtra Rajya Shikshansanstha Mahamandal. At present, some office-bearers of the Sanghatana are actively serving on the Executive Committee of the Mahamandal and regularly participate in various state-level meetings, agitations, protest assemblies, and official consultations organised by the Mahamandal to address issues in the education sector.

Further, for the resolution of numerous challenges faced by educational institutions across the State, the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana extends full lawful and procedural support to the Mahamandal in judicial matters, assisting it through appropriate legal channels.

Key Educational issues addressed by the Sanghatana

In the course of its journey so far, the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana has successfully addressed and advanced the following significant educational issues:

1. In 1985, the Sanghatana successfully organised a grand Mumbai-level educational convention at Raja Shivaji Vidyalaya, Dadar, where academic guidance was provided. A large number of schools and institutions participated in this convention.
2. In 1995, the Sanghatana actively supported the strike undertaken by teachers to demand:
 - Direct payment of salaries to teachers and non-teaching staff of private aided primary schools in Mumbai through banks by the Municipal Corporation; and
 - Grant of pensionary benefits to teaching and non-teaching staff.

As a result of this sustained support, these demands were accepted. Additionally, the education grant provided by the Government for Mumbai was enhanced from 20% to 50%.

3. In 1995, the Sanghatana consistently represented the concerns of school managements before the Government regarding legislation related to admissions in pre-primary schools, which was likely to cause hardship to educational institutions. Through persistent efforts, the implementation of the said legislation was stayed.
4. The Municipal Corporation had prepared a Grant Code for private primary schools in Mumbai without seeking the opinions of school managements. The Sanghatana formally objected to this and pursued the matter with the Government. As a result:
 - Four members of the Sanghatana were included in the process of drafting a revised Grant Code.
 - Suggestions from school managements and other stakeholders were duly considered.
 - The revised Grant Code received approval from both the Municipal Corporation and the Government.

However, despite this approval, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation has not yet implemented the revised Grant Code.

5. Under the guidance and initiative of the former President of the Sanghatana, the late Revered Shri Raut Sir, the “Brihanmumbai Private Recognised Primary Schools Employees’ Cooperative Credit Society Ltd.” was established with the objective of providing financial support to teachers and non-teaching staff working in primary schools.
6. To secure the non-salary grants that had been discontinued for private secondary and higher secondary schools since 2001, a determined struggle was undertaken under the leadership and guidance of Freedom Fighter Late Shri Govindbhai Shroff, the then President of the Maharashtra Rajya Shikshansanstha Mahamandal. As a result of this sustained effort, success was achieved in obtaining payment of the pending non-salary grants due up to the year 2004 for all aided educational institutions.
7. The Sanghatana has consistently raised its voice at the Government level on various issues, including approval of teachers’ appointments, absorption of surplus teachers, partial release of non-salary grants since 2012, and the onerous provisions imposed under the Right to Education (RTE) Act, among other concerns.
8. The Sanghatana has continuously and proactively maintained dialogue with the School Education Department and Higher Education Department of the Government of Maharashtra, as well as with the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, while firmly presenting the concerns and perspectives of school managements. Providing support to educational institutions during times of difficulty remains a core objective of the Sanghatana. Through regular meetings and discussions, sustained efforts are made to foster coordination and mutual understanding between educational institutions and the education authorities.
9. Office-bearers of the Sanghatana regularly attend meetings convened by the Mahamandal. The Sanghatana also frequently organises divisional-level meetings to provide guidance to teachers and school managements, and undertakes initiatives aimed at enhancing the academic quality of educational institutions.
10. On behalf of the Sanghatana, the memorable 16th State-Level Convention of the Maharashtra Rajya Shikshansanstha Mahamandal was organised with great success on 3rd and 4th May 2001 at the premises of Vikas High School, Vikhroli, Mumbai.
11. As a result of the sustained follow-up by the Sanghatana, the compulsory practice imposed by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) Education Department requiring aided primary schools to deposit 1/12th of the total school fee collected from students into the BMC treasury has been withdrawn. Consequently, approval has been granted to discontinue

the practice of collecting fees from students of Standards I to IV with effect from the year 2022, and the implementation of this decision is presently underway.

12. The policy of charging advance rent with an annual increase of 10% for classrooms used by private aided Marathi and regional-medium schools housed in BMC school buildings has been stayed for a period of five years with effect from October 2023. This stay has been granted by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra and the Hon'ble Municipal Commissioner, Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, Mumbai. The Sanghatana expresses its sincere gratitude to them for this decision.
13. The Sanghatana has successfully secured the release of long-pending non-salary grants from the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation for private aided primary schools within the BMC limits, which had remained pending for the period from 2001 to 2022.
14. The sustained efforts and representations made to the Municipal Corporation and the State Government regarding the implementation of the Seventh Pay Commission for employees working in primary schools have borne fruit, and the Seventh Pay Commission has now been implemented. Efforts are currently underway to secure payment of the arrears arising therefrom.

Some Major Issues:

1. Grant of stage-wise salary subsidy to teachers teaching classes brought under the grant-in-aid system in recognised junior colleges from the year 2000–2001 and earlier.
2. Obtaining “No Objection Certificates” for staffing pattern approval and filling vacant posts of teaching and non-teaching staff, and contesting the rules of the PAVITRA Portal for government teacher recruitment, by pursuing the matter along with the Mahamandal at the Nagpur Bench of the Hon'ble High Court.
3. Ensuring the availability of teachers as per the Right to Education Act by providing surplus teachers for teaching on posts that have fallen vacant due to retirement in Marathi-medium private aided primary schools, secondary schools, and aided higher secondary schools.
4. Pursuing with the Government issues related to colleges under the Higher Education Department, especially night colleges, including regular disbursement of salary and non-salary grants, delays in recruitment, post approvals and No Objection Certificates, shortcomings in the admission process, issues related to seating capacity at admission centres, pending fees and scholarship dues with the Social Welfare Department, discrepancies in approvals between universities and the Higher Education

Department, Mumbai, and difficulties faced in implementing the National Education Policy 2020.

5. Cancellation of the policy of levying property tax at commercial rates on the buildings of aided schools and colleges.
6. By pursuing the matter with the Municipal Corporation and the State Government, including follow-up with the Hon'ble Municipal Commissioner, the issue of salaries of employees of 94 primary schools was successfully resolved.
7. Reduction of electricity tariff rates charged at commercial rates to aided schools and colleges.
8. Abolition of stringent re-recognition conditions imposed by the Municipal Corporation on private primary schools.
9. Excessive issuance of Government circulars.
10. Lack of coordination between the State Government and school managements.
11. Follow-up with the Higher Education Department for obtaining No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for the appointment of college lecturers and non-teaching staff.
12. Engagement of teachers in non-educational duties.
13. Representing to the Government the problems and difficulties faced by English-medium schools affiliated to the SSC Board, National Boards, and International Boards, and including English-medium institution managements as members of the association.
14. Follow-up in progress for reimbursement of fees of students studying in schools covered under the RTE Act.
15. Verification of 'A' and 'B' forms of private aided schools for the purpose of granting non-salary grants and rent reimbursement.
16. Implementation of the revised Code for Private Aided Primary Schools.
17. Enhancement of the development fund for senior colleges.
18. Formulation of a separate set of rules for minority and self-financed English-medium schools.
19. Making time-appropriate amendments to the Maharashtra Employees of Private Schools (Conditions of Service) Regulation Act.
20. Filing a writ petition in the High Court in respect of the Government Resolution relating to staffing pattern approval.

A State-level convention was organised on 1 March 2025 under the joint auspices of the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana and the Maharashtra Rajya Shikshansanstha Mahamandal, hosted by the Mumbai and Thane divisions of the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana. During the said convention, discussions were held on the following key issues, decisions were taken thereon, and it was resolved to pursue the same in the future.

A large number of office-bearers of educational institutions, teachers, and non-teaching staff from across the State participated in the convention. The convention provided an effective platform for direct discussions on the educational policies of the State, and there was a unanimous demand that future conventions be organised over a duration of two days.

- The convention emerged as a focal platform for the demands, problems, and developmental opportunities of educational institutions in Maharashtra. In-depth discussions were held on technical and policy-related issues concerning school and higher education. The convention emphasised that, in the future, educational institutions should have an enhanced role as partners in the formulation and implementation of government policies.
- Member of Parliament Ms. Supriya Sule: Emphasised the need for quality and inclusive education. Called for greater autonomy for schools and reduced government interference. Highlighted the positive use of Artificial Intelligence in education along with the need for caution. Stressed the importance of the safety of teachers and students.
- Hon'ble Minister Shri Uday Samant: Highlighted the need to celebrate Marathi Language Day in all educational institutions. Appreciated the cooperation and contribution of educational institutions during the COVID period.
- Member of Legislative Council Hon'ble Dr. Manisha Kayande: Reviewed the SQAAF and CM Shri schemes. Recommended raising starred questions in the Legislature to present and address issues related to education.
- Members of Legislative Council and Teachers' Representatives for Mumbai and Konkan Division, Hon'ble Shri J. M. Abhyankar and Hon'ble Shri Dnyaneshwar Mhatre: Assured follow-up of various issues faced by educational institutions at the government level.

Important Resolutions and Action Proposals

- On behalf of the Maharashtra Rajya Shikshansanstha Mahamandal, the following resolutions were proposed.

Key Resolutions:

1. Illegal appointments made through the Pavitra Portal should be cancelled.
2. A demand for a fund of ₹2,500 crore towards non-salary grants.
3. Granting property tax concessions to educational institutions.
4. Permanent sanctioning of clerical and peon posts in schools.
5. Preparation of a separate school code for English-medium schools.
6. Approval of point rosters through district-level committees.

7. Simplification of the recruitment process for teachers and non-teaching staff.
8. Organisation of sessions and seminars on various subjects for teachers.
9. Issues related to staffing pattern approval, RTE fee reimbursement, and adjustment of teachers.
10. Property tax and water–electricity charges levied on schools.
11. School safety measures and appointment of female staff.
12. Changes in education due to Artificial Intelligence and technology.

Submissions made by MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana to Senior Authorities, Local Public Representatives, Members of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, and Hon'ble Ministers –

1. A representation was submitted to the Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Government of Maharashtra, and the Hon'ble Commissioner, School Education Department, requesting a reconsideration of the conduct of the Periodic Assessment Test (PAT) examinations for Classes I to IX. It was pointed out that under Section 19(a) (Chapter IV) of the RTE Act, 2009, the minimum working days and teaching hours for teachers are already prescribed, and therefore the PAT examinations should be aligned with the existing periodic examination schedules followed by schools across the State.
2. A representation was submitted to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra and the Hon'ble Minister for School Education and Sports, requesting the implementation of the stay on rent escalation for classrooms taken on lease by private Marathi-medium schools and attached junior colleges operating in Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation school buildings. It was further requested that the Hon'ble Municipal Commissioner, Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, take immediate action to levy only nominal rent.
3. A representation was submitted to the Hon'ble Minister for School Education and Sports, Government of Maharashtra, seeking the convening of a meeting to discuss the major pending demands of educational institutions. These include issues relating to property tax, electricity tariffs and charging electricity at residential rates, provision of solar energy facilities, permanent school recognition, pending RTE fee reimbursement arrears, filling of vacant posts, amendments to the MEPS Rules in line with present requirements, implementation of the stay on rent escalation in BMC school buildings, grants to private primary schools, and immediate disbursement of pending salary grants to all aided schools.
4. A representation was submitted to the Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra requesting the immediate filling of vacant posts of teaching and non-teaching staff in private colleges across the State. In addition, a

representation was submitted to the Hon'ble Deputy Director of Education, Mumbai Region, regarding the non-completion of the teacher recruitment process due to the withdrawal of advertisements during Phase II of recruitment through the Pavitra System, and the pendency of staffing pattern approvals for certain junior colleges for the academic year 2024–25.

5. A representation was submitted to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Hon'ble MLA Shri Pravin Darekar, and Hon'ble Shri Dnyaneshwarji Mhatre, MLA of the Konkan Division Teachers' Constituency, requesting the organisation of a meeting with the Hon'ble Minister for School Education to discuss pending educational demands and issues pertaining to the Mumbai and Thane regions.
6. In the context of the Government Resolution dated 09.06.2015 issued by the School Education Department and the directions of the Hon'ble Education Minister regarding welcoming students on the first day of school, a representation was submitted, in accordance with a resolution passed by the Mahamandal, stating that public representatives should not visit schools on the first day and expressing opposition to any decision to keep schools closed on that day.
7. On behalf of the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana, continuous follow-up has been carried out by submitting representations to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra, the Hon'ble Minister for School Education and Sports, and the Hon'ble Chief Electoral Officer, Maharashtra State, requesting the cancellation of orders issued for requisitioning the services of teachers for duties as Booth Level Officers (BLOs) for Lok Sabha, Legislative Assembly, local authority, and municipal corporation elections.
8. On behalf of the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana, continuous follow-up has been undertaken with the Hon'ble Municipal Commissioner, Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, the Hon'ble Minister for School Education Shri Dadaji Bhuse, and the Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Devendraji Fadnavis to ensure the implementation of the stay on rent escalation, granted on two occasions by the then Hon'ble Chief Minister, in respect of rent charged for classrooms taken on lease for private Marathi-medium schools and attached junior colleges functioning during daytime in Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation school buildings.
9. On behalf of the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana, a representation has been submitted to the Hon'ble Member of the Legislative Council Shri Niranjan Davkhare and the Hon'ble Minister for School Education Shri Dadaji Bhuse to address and resolve the ambiguity and difficulties that have arisen in respect of management quota admissions under the online admission process for Class XI implemented from the academic year 2025–26.

10. On behalf of the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana, a proposed Vision Document in connection with Viksit Maharashtra 2047 has been submitted to the Hon'ble Commissioner, School Education Department. The document primarily highlights the following points:

- The need to shift focus from rote learning to critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and creativity.
- Lack of availability of digital tools, internet connectivity, and electricity for students from slum areas, tribal regions, and remote areas.
- Financial constraints of many parents making it difficult to support AI-based and personalised learning.
- Limitations related to teacher training and workload, particularly in unaided and private schools.
- Requirement of strong infrastructure and adequate funding for smart classrooms, sanitation, electricity, water, etc.
- Difficulties in the implementation of Foundational Literacy & Numeracy (FLN), tablets, and bagless schools.
- The gap between holistic education under the Gurukul system and the modern timetable-based education system.
- Inclusion and equity: specific challenges faced by SC/ST/OBC, minority, and differently abled students.
- Delay in new teacher recruitment after 2013 and the limited effectiveness of the “PAVITRA Portal.”
- Major challenges relating to funding, transparency, community participation, and lifelong learning systems.

11. Judicial proceedings are proposed against the Pavitra Portal.

12. On behalf of the managements, a joint meeting was organised on 21st December 2025 to discuss various educational issues. During the said meeting, it was unanimously decided to organise a comprehensive meeting of school trustees from Mumbai and the suburban areas. The principal objective of the proposed meeting was to build broad and inclusive consensus among school trustees regarding the proposal to convene a joint meeting.

Representatives of all school management associations, the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana, the Archdiocese of Bombay Group, as well as other school trustees' associations operating within the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), participated in the meeting.

During the meeting, a proposal was put forward to organise an important joint meeting at CST, Mumbai, in February 2026. Accordingly, as a

preparatory step for the said joint meeting, a preliminary meeting was held on 10th January 2026 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Children Welfare Centre School, Yari Road, Versova, Andheri (West), Mumbai – 400 061.

Further, with a view to ensuring effective follow-up of the various issues faced by school trustees on appropriate platforms, it was also decided in the meeting to involve key and decision-making authorities from the education sector. This was to include the Hon'ble Education Minister, Teachers' Members of the Legislative Council, the Principal Secretary of Education, and other concerned competent authorities.

Through the MahaMumbai Shikshan Sanstha Sanghatana, continuous efforts have been made to draw attention to the serious problems faced by schools of various mediums across the state and to seek appropriate remedial measures. Detailed representations have been submitted through correspondence and personal meetings with concerned government officials, public representatives, as well as the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the Hon'ble Education Minister. These issues have also been raised in the Legislative Assembly, the Legislative Council, and municipal bodies, and sustained, organised efforts are ongoing to resolve the challenges faced by the education sector. Further, with the objective of strengthening the education sector and enhancing the quality of education in the context of changing global and social challenges, continuous, alert, and collective efforts are being undertaken by organising educational institutions.