

**Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of School Education & Literacy**

Subject: Minutes of the 52nd Meeting of the Grants-in-Aid Committee for Innovative and Experimental Programme held on 10th October, 2006.

The 52nd meeting of the Grants-in-Aid Committee (GIAC) for Innovative and Experimental (I&E) Projects was held on 10th October, 2006 in the Conference Room No. 112 'C' Wing, Shastri Bhawan, under the Chairmanship of Shri K.M. Acharya, Additional Secretary (HE), Ministry of Human Resource Development. who was nominated to chair it by the Secretary, HE/SE&L, on his behalf. The list of participants is enclosed. Shri Lalit Pande, Prof. Mirnal Miri and Ms. Farida Lambay member GIAC could not attend the meeting.

2. At the outset, JS(EE-II) welcomed the members of the GIAC and the Additional Secretary, which was followed by a round of introduction of the participants.

3. The GIAC then took up the agenda items for consideration and the following decisions were taken:-

Item No: 1: Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting of GIAC held on 2nd March, 2006.

JS(EE-II) informed the members that the minutes of the meeting of GIAC held on 2nd March, 2006 were circulated on March 28, 2006 to all the participants and no comments have been received from any member. The Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March, 2006.

Item No: 2: Action Taken Report on the decisions taken in the meeting of GIAC held on 2nd March, 2006

JS(EE-II) apprised the Committee about the Action Taken Report on the minutes of the GIAC meeting held on 2nd March 2006, wherein of the 6 grants approved, funds have been released in 4, whereas 2 cases were pending for want of information/coordination with UP & Orissa SSA. The VA's have been informed in the 2 cases rejected by the GIAC

The following additional information was given to the Committee in respect of the pending sanction of funds to NGO "CREDA" in Uttar Pradesh namely that a response has been received on 09.10.2006 from Uttar Pradesh Sabhi Ke Liye Shiksha Parishad Pariyojana that they have instructed the District Basic Shiksha Adhikari of Mirzapur and Sonbhadra, under intimation to CREDA, to share the data of household survey on out of school children to facilitate CREDA to revise the proposal and submit the same to SPD, U.P. The SPD, U.P. and the VA will thereafter, work out the number of centres, number of children to be covered and the cost per child and intimate the same to GOI, for issuing sanction and release of funds.

The Committee noted the action taken.

Item No. 3(i): Bhabendra Nath Saikia Children Welfare Trust, Guwahati, Assam

It was found that the proposal has not been submitted in the prescribed format for I&E scheme and that the State Project Director, SSA Assam vide his letter on 09.10.2006, has intimated that the project cannot be accepted in its present form. The Field Inspection Team (FIT) has also recommended that the VA should rework the proposal and budget. Therefore, the Committee recommended that the Voluntary Agency be requested to submit a revised proposal in the prescribed format in which inter-alia, details of children to be covered under the project be worked out by VA in consultation with the State Project Director, Assam. There must also be a clear commitment by the VA as to which specific level of learning (class) the children will be brought to by the end of the project.

Item No. 3(ii): The Society for DOOR STEP School, Mumbai

The Committee noted that the proposal is to cover the 'hard To reach' group of children in urban areas. NCERT clarified that the project has innovative aspects in its curriculum and methodology to raise the self-confidence and self-esteem as well as to provide some skill building to extremely deprived urban children. The Committee approved the proposal for 75 centres covering 1000 children in Mumbai and 25 centres in Pune covering 500 children, for a period of two years. The Committee felt that the VA be asked to rework the budget so as to minimize funds on the salary component. The revised budget not exceeding Rs. 3000/- per child, be worked out in consultation with the VA and IFD by the Department. Thereafter, the revised budget and date of commencement of the project may be approved by the Chairman GIAC. The evaluation of the project be done after one year. However, SPD, Maharashtra will keep a watch on implementation of the project from the beginning.

Item No.3(iii): JANARATH, Aurangabad, Maharashtra for JANARATH Sakharsala for migrant children

Item No. 3 (iv): SANTULAN, Pune for Pathan Shala Centre

JS(EE-II) pointed out that from the Field Inspection Team (FIT) reports in both these cases, it was apparent that SSA, Maharashtra was already funding these Voluntary Agencies under the EGS scheme. The proposals are perhaps for enhancing the per child costs above the Rs. 845/- per child being given by the State SSA programme under the EGS component of SSA. The Committee felt that both are reputed organizations reaching out to groups of children which are hard to reach, mainly children of migrant labour in the sugar industry and children of stone quarry workers.

The GIAC deferred a decision on the matter and sought clarification from the SPD SSA, Maharashtra on the following:-

- (a) whether the centres proposed by the VAs are the same as being supported by the State SSA programme? In case they are, why the State SSA programme cannot consider funding them under the AIE component of SSA, with enhanced per child cost if there is justification for the same?
- (b) If the centres are new ones, can the State SSA programme extend support to the additional centres under the AIE component of SSA?

Item No. 3(v): Indian Institute of Social Development (IISD), New Delhi for Assam

The Committee noted that NCERT has opined that the proposal needs to be resubmitted with comprehensive details and that the FIT as well as SPD, SSA, Assam have not recommended the proposal. The SPD, SSA, Assam has observed that around 60% of the children reported to be out of school in the proposal are found to be in school. Therefore, the GIAC rejected the proposal.

Item No.3(vi): Society for People Acknowledgement and Community Employment (SPACE), Lucknow.

The GIAC noted that neither the FIT nor SPD, SSA, UP has recommended the proposal. The proposal was therefore rejected by the GIAC. The Committee however, felt that the SPD, SSA, U.P. should address the vulnerable age group of children near Charbagh Railway Station, Lucknow under the EGS/AIE component of SSA, U.P. either through this NGO or any other they consider appropriate to ensure that elementary education of satisfactory, quality is provided to such children.

Item No. 3(vii): The Indigenous Lepcha Tribal Association, Kalimpong, Darjeeling, West Bengal.

The comments received on 9.10.2006 from the West Bengal, SSA programme, that the Darjeeling Hill Council has not specifically recommended the proposal as the VA intends to propagate the Lepcha language, was brought to the notice of the GIAC. The NCERT too, has not recommended the proposal. The GIAC felt that SSA is not a programme for development of minor languages. It could certainly encourage facilitating primary education of Lepcha children including their learning of the Lepcha language, in either existing schools or centres under EGS/AIE wherever justified. The VA may be advised to therefore recast the proposal in consultation with SPD, SSA West Bengal. The VA may also be informed that running a separate night school only for Lepcha language, with provision of evening meal and uniform, is not covered under the I&E scheme.

Item No.4: National Youth Project Trust (NYPT), Delhi

This was a deferred matter of the last GIAC meeting. SPD, SSA, Orissa has now intimated that out of the 10 NGOs proposed under the project in Orissa, reports in respect of six have been received from the district authorities. Based on these reports, only two NGOs out of the six could be recommended. The GIAC decided that consistent with decision taken in the last GIAC meeting wherein similar proposals in respect of Maharashtra and Karnataka were recommended to the respective State GIAC to fund, the OPEPA, Orissa may be asked to process this proposal in the State level GIAC to support these two NGOs.

Item No.5: Position of fresh proposals which are not ripe for consideration by the GIAC.

The Committee noted that four cases are being processed by the Department. The Chairman, GIAC desired that the Department encourage more NGOs of good repute for participation in the I&E scheme.

Item No 6: Definition of "Innovation" and period for which innovative projects should be supported under I&E scheme

The GIAC considered the recommendations of NCERT in this regard and decided that the comments of all members of GIAC be sought in the matter and thereafter, the matter be placed in the next meeting of GIAC for consideration.

Item No. 7: Consideration of reports of Joint Evaluation Teams (JET) in respect of ongoing I&E projects

Copies of the JET reports on the projects run by the following VAs and the comments of the VAs on the JET reports were placed before the GIAC:

- (i) Bharat Seva Parishad, Puri, Orissa
- (ii) Navjyoti Delhi Police Foundation, Delhi
- (iii) Badlao Foundation, Jharkhand
- (iv) Bhagvatula Charitable Trust, Andhra Pradesh
- (v) SMART, Delhi
- (vi) Indian Mime Theatre, Kolkatta

After considering the contents of the JET report as well the VAs responses, the following decisions were taken by the GIAC:

(1) Bharat Seva Parishad, Puri, Orissa

The adverse recommendation of the JET that (i) no further grant be released for 2006-07 and that (ii) MHRD may initiate appropriate action as regards the improper utilization of grants released for 2005-06, was accepted by the GIAC. The project will be treated as closed and the VA informed about the decision through a 'speaking' letter.

(2) *Navjyoti Delhi Police Foundation, New Delhi*

The GIAC noted that the JET report shows that the project is not being run as per parameters laid down in the I&E scheme. The project is being run for pre-school children by the VA and substantial MHRD funds are being utilized only for the salary component. The GIAC decided that the project be closed and the VA informed through a 'speaking' letter. No further funds including the 2nd instalment for 2005-06 be released to the VA due to the adverse findings of the JET.

(3) *Badlao Foundation, Jharkhand*

The JET has given adverse comments on the running of the project and nevertheless recommended continuing the project for one year with certain conditions. GIAC felt that the JET report is confusing.

The VA in their reply has indicated that conditions like free textbooks, uniforms and free education go against the very foundation of their concept. Since free education is the *raison de etre* of SSA, the GIAC decided that the project be closed after the first year and grants for the second year of the project, not be released.

(1) *Bhagvatula Charitable Trust, Andhra Pradesh*

GIAC accepted the JET recommendation to support the project for the second year. The request of the VA to support the project for 2 to 3 years more was not accepted. The GIAC reiterated that funding should be for a maximum of two years only. The VA may approach SPD, Andhra Pradesh for continuation thereafter.

(2) *Indian Mime Theatre, Kolkata*

The GIAC accepted the JET recommendation for continuing the project for the second year.

(3) *Seeking Modern Applications for Real Transformation (SMART), New Delhi*

GIAC agreed to fund the project for the 2nd year based on the favourable JET report. Dr. Deepa Das, GIAC member and JET member felt that the SSA, Haryana be requested to provide necessary support to the VA's project for improving the training of teachers in the centres and for the enrolment of girls with the NIOS.

The Committee noted that the evaluation in respect of Deccan Development Society, Hyderabad has not been completed by JET. The GIAC directed that the evaluation of this VA should be completed by JET members at the earliest.

Item No. 8(i): Ratification of decision on libraries in Basti Shiksha Kendras run by PRATHAM in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

Item No. 8(ii): Ratification of decision on libraries in Basti Shiksha Kendras run by PRATHAM in the state of Bihar.

The Committee ratified the decision taken by the Chairman, GIAC.

Item No. 8(iii): Ratification of the decision on the proposal of DISHA, New Delhi for a second year.

GIAC ratified this item.

Item No. 8(iv): JET report of I&E Project of the voluntary agency, AWAZ, Orissa.

GIAC was informed that while considering the content of the JET report on Bharat Seva Parishad (BSP), reference to the BSP purchased Teaching Learning Material worth Rs. 62,150 from AWAZ, Orissa caused the Chairman of GIAC to appoint a team for the evaluation of the project with AWAZ also. The report of the JET on AWAZ was considered by GIAC and its findings were accepted. The JET has commended the project run by the VA and recommended the release of the 2nd and final instalment of funds to the VA under I&E scheme.

Item No. 8(v): Evaluation Report on I&E project of Voluntary Agency, Chatra Vikas Parishad, Orissa

The Committee accepted the recommendation of the evaluation conducted by Shri A.K. Behra, Joint Director, OPEPA, Orissa. The VA has wound up the project in advance w.e.f. 31.10.2005, as most children have joined formal schools. Based on the above evaluation report, the GIAC agreed that the funds due to the VA for the period 01.04.2005 to 31.10.2005 may be released.

Tabled Item No.1: Proposal of UTHAN, Bhopal for the districts of Khandwa and Khargone

The GIAC noted that there is no substantive difference between the earlier proposal considered in a previous GIAC meeting and the new proposal submitted by UTHAN, except the location of the project. In view of this fact, the GIAC felt that the outcome of the first project sanctioned by the Committee on 2.3.2006 may be seen first. The Committee also recommended that the present proposal of the VA be referred to SPD, SSA, Madhya Pradesh for consideration under the EGS and AIE component of SSA, through the state level GIAC.

Tabled Item No.2: Honorarium to be paid to the non-official members of the Joint Evaluation Team.

JS(EE.II) informed the Committee that as per the approved pattern, members of the Field Inspection Team (FIT) receive an honorarium of Rs. 2000 per project per person, under the I&E Scheme. In view of this, the GIAC approved that Rs. 2000 per person per project may be paid to non-official members of the Joint Evaluation Team also, as their evaluative role in the field is similar.

Other Important Matters:

JS(EE-II) highlighted the following urgent matters for information of the GIAC:

1. In respect of ongoing projects under I&E scheme, the Department will constitute Joint Evaluation Teams for other projects completing one year.
2. The Department will also devise a format for the evaluation to be done by the Joint Evaluation Teams.

The term of the non-official members on the Grants-in-Aid Committee under the I&E scheme is expiring on 12.10.2006. JS(EE-II) placed on record the appreciation of the Department for the valuable suggestions and contributions made by the non-official members of the GIAC in the implementation of I&E scheme.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

ANNEXURE I

**LIST OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE MEETING OF GIAC ON I&E PROJECT HELD
ON 10.10.2006**

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| 1. | Shri K.M.Acharya
Additional Secretary,
Ministry of Human Resource Development
New Delhi. | CHAIRMAN |
| 2. | Ms. Vrinda Sarup
Joint Secretary (EE.II)
Ministry of Human Resource Development
New Delhi | Member |
| 3. | Shri Shamshad Khan
CREDA, 490, Awas Vikas Colony
Mirzapur, U.P. | Member |
| 4. | Father Thomas Felix
Director,
Central Institute on Mental Retardation
Medical College,
Trivendrum
Kerala. | Member |
| 5. | Dr. Deepa Das,
R-13/113, Rajnagar
Gaziabad, U.P. | Member |
| 6. | Dr. Kiran Devendra
Professor,
Department of Elementary Education
NCERT, New Delhi. | Member |
| 7. | Shri Y.B. Patel,
Deputy Director,
Maharashtra Prathamik Shiksha Parishad,
Mumbai | Representative of SPD
Maharashtra |
| 8. | Shri R.L. Raichandani
Assistant Financial Advisor (IFD)
Ministry of Human Resource Development
New Delhi. | Representative of FA(HRD) |
| 9. | Shri P. Sukumar
Deputy Secretary
Ministry of Human Resource Development
New Delhi. | Member Secretary |