

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE PROJECT
APPROVAL BOARD FOR SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN HELD ON 12.11.02**

The 25th meeting of the Project Approval Board for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was held under the Chairmanship of Shri S.C. Tripathi, Secretary, Elementary Education & Literacy on 12.11.02. A list of participants is annexed.

Item No.1: Consideration of Annual Plans 2002-2003 of Karnataka

1.1 Secretary (EE&L) desired to know the reasons for delay in submission of plans. The Principal Secretary Education, Karnataka stated that due to revision of plans based on advice of the appraisal team and change in the Commissioner Public Instruction there was a slight delay. Shri Mohanty, DEA informed that the appraisal team has appraised the annual plan only because there were data gaps and discrepancies in some of the district plans. This was followed by a presentation by the Commissioner Public Instruction Karnataka highlighting the educational scenario in the State and the steps being proposed in the plans. Some of the important points made were:

- The State Policy on Education aims to get all children in school by June 2003, to provide all teachers with competencies to teach, to ensure that all children attain minimum levels of learning with life related skills and to make education a people's movement. To make it a people's movement the State is following a three pronged strategy: programme of 'Samudayadatta Shale', school adoption programme and strengthening of School Development and Monitoring Committee (SDMC). Almost Rs 30 crores have been collected under the school adoption scheme. Secretary (EE&L) requested that a note on this may be sent by the State which may be circulated to other States for adoption.
- The State has 27 revenue and 32 educational districts. The total number of panchayats is 5673, villages 29483 and habitations 48816.
- While the State has been traditionally following the pattern of Class I-IV for primary and Class V-VII for upper primary, they have added Class V to primary from the year 2001-02. From 2003-04, Class VIII would be added to upper primary where they are not already attached to high schools. The State is also having a Public Examination System at Class VII which would be later changed to Class VIII.
- The educational administration has been decentralized upto the Taluk level with the teacher recruitment being decentralized to the block level. The recruitment is done block-wise, but the appointing authority is the BEO. All teachers are Government employees and their salaries are given through the Taluk Panchayat.
- The literacy rate in the State is 67.04% with the female literacy being 57.45%.
- The total 6-14 age-group population is 90,22,862 of which 83,56,546 are enrolled in either Govt or private schools. The NER is 92.62%. The total number of children out-of-school is 6.6 lakhs.
- The drop-out rate was 10.75 for Class I-IV and 32.93 for Class I to VII. However, the recent changes have not been captured in the figure of drop-out rate, because these figures are based on enrolment seven years ago.
- There were totally 27940 upper primary schools (including primary sections), 22533 primary schools and 40301 anganvadies. The State has the primary access ratio of 98%. In the primary schools, Government schools are 93%, aided 1% and

unaided 6%. In the upper primary Government schools are 76%, aided 8% and unaided 16%. The percentage of unaided schools in the High School is 41% and such schools are mostly in urban areas. The Government has stopped aiding of new schools from 1987 onwards.

- The SDMCs have been constituted through an executive order with the Chairman being elected by the parents. Now the Government has amended the rules authorizing the local MLA to appoint the Chairman, but this has been stayed in some of the districts. The Head Master is the Member-Secretary. SDMCs have been empowered to check teacher absenteeism and sanction leave to the Head Master.
- The State has carried out extensive redeployment of teachers and around 12000 Government teachers and 474 aided school teachers have been redeployed. Generally the Southern Kannada has excess teachers who have been redeployed in North-east Karnataka.
- The State is relying on Chinnara Angala and special enrolment drives to get the out of school children to school. The back to school drive being conducted in November is expected to get around 2 lakh children into school, while the Chinnara Angala was expected to cover another 2 lakh children.
- The State has asked for leave reserve teachers, since with appointment of female teachers in a major way, it was essential to have a reserve for cases when teachers go on maternity leave. Secretary (EE&L) informed that it was a policy issue, which would be examined separately.

1.2 Dr. Pramila Menon of NCERT on behalf of the appraisal team made the following points:

- There does not appear to be a concrete plan to address the issue of access for at least 50% of the out-of-school children. The Commissioner Public Instructions of Karnataka stated that the enrolment camps would help to get the children into school and the problem area would be only the higher age-group children. Secretary (EE&L) stated that the State could think of MSK type interventions for this group.
- It is not clear whether formal school was capable of absorbing so many out-of-school children. The State Principal Secretary replied that the State has tied up with the RIDF scheme of NABARD to construct around 5000 classrooms. Secretary (EE&L) asked why was the State going for loan when funds were coming under SSA for this work. The Principal Secretary replied that the decision was taken last year and the construction is already on the way. Secretary (EE &L) advised the Secretary to take up the matter with the State Finance Secretary to negotiate with NABARD for the funding of the State component only.
- A policy needs to be taken regarding the BRCs in urban areas. Secretary (EE&L) clarified that CRCs could be set up in urban areas, which could be directly monitored by DIETs. However, the urban areas could also have BRCs to the extent there are CD Blocks in the urban areas and the total cost on BRCs and CRCs does not exceed the cost of setting up BRCs at the rate of one BRC per CD Block and CRCs

1.3 Secretary (EE&L) wanted to know about the madarsas in the State. The State Principal Secretary stated that while the State is now setting up a Madarsa Board, their

surveys have indicated that most of the children in madarsa are also enrolled in regular schools. The theological teaching in the madarsas is only for an hour, and so any modernization would be duplication of the strategies. Secretary (EE&L) stated that the attempt should be to provide all children relevant quality education and the State should evolve strategies for those children of madarsa who are not going to regular schools.

1.4 Dr. P.K.Mohanty, DEA wanted to know why the PTR in NE is still bad inspite of redeployment. The Principal Secretary replied that the surplus is mostly in aided schools and there are no vacancies in the aided schools in NE making the redeployment difficult

1.5 JS (EE) wanted to know why the State was persisting with two different societies for SSA and DPEP. The DPEP programme has to function under the SSA framework and having two different societies would lead to fragmentation. Secretary (EE&L) asked the State to take action in merging the two societies since there did not appear to be any advantage in having two different societies. He mentioned that he had raised this issue with the Chief Secretary during his visit to Bangalore and this needed to be sorted out quickly.

1.6 Based on the plans prepared, remarks of the appraisal team and discussions thereon, following decisions were taken regarding the Annual Plans of both DPEP and non-DPEP districts of 2002-03:

- i) As suggested by the Appraisal team, funds for interventions approved last year which had not been implemented, were deducted from this year's sanction
- ii) No new primary or upper primary schools were sanctioned this year In the non-DPEP districts, the teachers sanctioned last year are being appointed now only, and taking into account the amount already available, only two months salary was sanctioned this year for the teachers whose appointments were approved in 2001-02.
- iii) TLE grant for 1027 uncovered upper primary school was approved with the condition that the State should certify that these schools were not covered under Operation Blackboard.
- iv) School grant and teacher grants in the non-DPEP districts were reduced to the extent, the same had been sanctioned in 2001-02. In the DPEP districts, the school grants and teacher grants were restricted to upper primary schools.
- v) EGS centres were allowed for 474 habitations. Similarly, other EGS & AIE interventions such as Chinnara Angala and preparatory activities of next year's Chinnara Angala were approved as per the recommendation of the appraisal team. Release against these items would be only on the receipt of list of habitations and detailed plan for implementing the same. Release of funds of Chinnara Angala already conducted would be based on the receipt of expenditure statement by the State.
- vi) Innovative activity was not allowed in the non-DPEP districts since the last year's funds were already available unspent. In the DPEP districts, the amount was reduced for nine districts to Rs 10 lakhs per district where details had not been furnished.
- vii) It was decided that maintenance grants in the DPEP districts be given to all schools since the same had not been claimed under the DPEP programme.

- viii) No BRC or CRC grants were approved. The State shall reconcile the grants already given to the education blocks with the CD blocks and come forward with a separate proposal which would be examined on file.
 - ix) Under civil works, additional classrooms were approved over and above the proposal of the appraisal team, wherever 33% limit had not reached.
 - x) The proposals regarding R&E grant, free text books (for Class VIII only), Management cost (subject to 6% ceiling) and civil works (subject to 33% ceiling), teacher training, community training, IED, etc were approved as per recommendations of the appraisal team.
 - xi) Based on the proposal of the State Government and the recommendations of the Appraisal Team thereon, a total Annual Plan 2002-03 for an amount of Rs 10465.58 lakhs was approved as per details given in Annex I.
 - xii) The entire second instalment of 2001-02 was allowed as spill over, since the unspent amount had already been factored in while approving the plans of 2002-03.
 - xiii) It was directed that the State should also satisfy the following conditions:
 - (a) The State Government should give a written commitment for meeting its share of the SSA outlay.
 - (b) First instalment of the State share should also be released to the Society within one month of the release of Central share to the State Government.
 - (c) At least 50% of the teachers recruited should be female.
 - (d) Teachers appointed against posts created through SSA funds should be made accountable to the VEC for at least salary payment. The latter would monitor the attendance before releasing the salary.
 - (e) VECs or equivalent bodies should be constituted and accounts opened to incur expenditure under teachers grant, civil works, maintenance grants, school grants and other such expenditure which has to be incurred only through these bodies as per SSA norms.
 - (f) The State Government will maintain their level of investment in elementary education as in 1999-2000 and give the details of this to GOI before the release of second instalment. The contribution as State share for SSA will be over and above this investment.
 - (g) The second instalment would only be released after the previous instalment of State share has been transferred to the State Implementation Society and substantial progress has been made in expenditure as far as money already released is concerned.
 - (h) All appointments under the head of management cost should either be on deputation or on contract basis, with all persons being recruited having functional computer literacy
- 2.0 The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks for the Chair.

**ATTENDANCE OF THE 25TH MEETING OF THE PROJECT
APPROVAL BOARD HELD ON 12.11.2002 AT 10.30 A.M.**

1. Shri S.C. Tripathi, Secretary(EE&L) In the Chair
2. Shri Sumit Bose, JS(EE), MHRD
3. Shri C. Balakrishana, JS (Plg), MHRD
4. Shri Jagan Mathews, JS (AE), MHRD
5. Ms. Indu Datta, Director, Plg. Commission (Rep. of Pr. Ad.(Edu.), Planning Commission)
6. Dr. Meena Gautam, Dy. Secretary (NCTE), (Representative of Chairperson, NCTE)
7. Shri R.L. Raichandani, AFA, MHRD, (Representative of FA MHRD)

In Attendance

1. Ms. Meera Saksena, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka, Primary & Secondary Education
2. Shri V.P. Baligar, CPI, Govt. of Karnataka
3. Shri M.V.P. Raju, Jr. Director, DPEP, Karnataka
4. Shri H.V. Venkateshappa, Asst. Director (SSA), C/o CPI, Bangalore
5. Shri K. Ramaiah, DPI (Pry) 1/c, CPI'S Office, Bangalore
6. Dr. Sandhya Paranjpe, DEE, (NCERT),
7. Dr. Pramila Menon, SNS Unit, (NIEPA)
8. Shri Sourav Banerjee (TSG), Ed.CIL.
9. Shri P.K. Mohanty, DEA , MHRD
10. Shri Praveen Kumar, Director , MHRD