

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTIETH MEETING OF THE PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD
FOR SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN HELD ON 3 JANUARY 2003**

The 30th 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 3.1.2003. A list of participants is annexed.

Item No.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 28th and 29th Project Approval Board meetings held on 13.12.2002 & 16.12.2002.

1.1 The Minutes of the 28th and 29th meetings of the PAB held on 13.12.2002 and 16.12.2002 respectively were confirmed.

Item No.2: Action Taken on the Minutes of the 28th & 29th meeting held on 13.12.2002 & 16.12.2002 respectively.

2.1 Actions taken on the decisions of the 28th and 29th meetings were taken on record.

Item No.3: Consideration of Annual Action Plan 2002-2003 in respect of Manipur

3.1 Director (School Education), Government of Manipur and State Project Director, SSA State Mission Authority tabled a Note detailing the profile of the State of Manipur and briefed on the preparation of provisional District Elementary Education Plans for the year 2002-2003. Following were the highlights of their presentation:

- The household survey is about to be completed and the present plans are have been prepared using the census and other available secondary data.
- The State has submitted DEEPs for the first time and did not receive any financial assistance for implementation of SSA in the state from the Central Government in the last financial year i.e. 2001-2002.
- The State has 9 districts, 34 blocks and 2733 villages as per 2001 census.
- The literacy rate in the State is 68.15% for male and 50.97% for female.
- Number of primary and upper primary schools including aided schools are 2459 and 412 respectively. The ratio of Government Primary to Government Upper Primary is 7:1.
- The population for children in the age group 6-14 years is 4.60 lakhs and those enrolled in primary/upper primary schools is 3.58 lakhs. The number of non-enrolled children is 1.02 lakhs.
- The Gross Enrolment Ratio is 84.80% while Net Enrolment Ratio is 77.84%.
- The number of teachers in primary and upper primary schools is 10358. The number of teachers' posts vacant is 2970. The teacher-pupil ratio is 1:27.
- The drop out rate in the State in classes I-V is 28.65% and for I-VIII it is 43.19%

3.2 Secretary (EE & L) observed that the gross as well as net enrolment ratio in the state was low and desired to know the reasons for it. Commissioner & Secretary (Education), Government of Manipur explained that broadly there were two difficult groups for enrolment in schools: (i) the Muslim minority and (ii) certain tribes in the hilly regions of the state. He added that Muslims who are largely settled in valley area in the state do not favour sending their girl children to schools due to religious reasons. The tribal population prefers to send the children to work in the fields for economic reasons. Dr. A.A.C. Lal, leader of the Appraisal Team has informed that 29

dialects and inter-tribal conflicts may also contribute to the low GER and NER. Commissioner & Secretary, Government of Manipur added that the language of the state is Manipuri and its script is Bengali. He further elaborated that Manipuri is a tribal language and has words from Tibetan and Burmese language and does not have any original script of its own but recently some groups have attempted to devise a separate script and make it popular.

3.3 Secretary, EE&L enquired as to the interventions proposed to address the problem of low enrolment and high drop-out. The Commissioner (Education) stated that they were implementing the scheme of mid-day meals, which has had a positive impact. Besides, they are also mobilizing the community to pressurize parents of such children for sending them to school. Slowly, the Muslim community in Manipur is also realizing the importance of giving education to the girl child. Secretary, EE&L suggested that while organizing training of community leaders under the programme, the State should include mothers from the above communities to solve this problem. It was also pointed out that access of schooling at primary stage is no problem in the State. However, there being lesser number of upper primary schools, the State has an adverse primary/upper primary ratio of 7:1 and hence they need to upgrade primary schools to upper primary schools to bring the ratio down.

3.4 Shri Gujaria of the Appraisal Team pointed out that the State has not furnished adequate data to support their proposals, for example, they have not given data on school less/unserved habitations. The State representative stated that they have at present prepared only provisional District Plans (AWP&B 2002-2003) and that the final District Plans are being completed shortly based on household survey, village survey, micro-planning and school mapping. Shri Gujaria further added that the policy of the government for opening of the new schools was not clear. Secretary (EE&L) observed that the State could consider having primary school in every habitation of population of 200 or above. The habitations with population of less than 200 persons should have EGS centres. Secretary has also directed that primary schools may not be sanctioned till the details to ascertain their necessity are available. He directed that the state may submit its requirement of schools in the DEEPs for the next financial year.

3.5 A mention was made about the problems between SCERT Auto and Government of Manipur about implementation of SSA through SSA State Mission Authority, Manipur. Secretary, Manipur stated that the issue has been resolved and the stay order by the Court has been vacated. Secretary (EE&L) directed that the issue may be discussed by the Commissioner & Secretary (Education), Government of Manipur with JS(EE) and furnish the particulars related to the case.

3.6 Based on the recommendations of the Appraisal Team, observations made by the participants and clarifications given by the State representatives, the following decisions were taken by the Board in regard to Annual Plans 2002-2003 in respect of Manipur:

- (i) Contingency, Furniture and TLM Grant of Rs. 39.95 lakhs for 34 BRCs was approved.
- (ii) Salary of 204 teachers to be appointed in schools in place of those teachers, who are to be posted as Block Resource Persons through a formal government order, @ Rs. 4000/- per month was approved subject to the condition that a formal government order for their posting in Blocks is issued.
- (iii) The contingency and furniture grant of Rs. 11.63 lakhs for 93 cluster resource centres was approved.
- (iv) Rs. 34.00 lakhs were approved for construction of 3 Block Resource Centres and 8 Cluster Resource Centres. For Cluster Resource Centres, only additional rooms were to be constructed in the existing schools.

- (v) Rs. 71.60 lakhs were approved for construction of toilet facilities in 358 schools.
- (vi) The Board approved a sum of Rs. 117.50 lakhs for fencing in 10% of the existing schools, i.e. 235 schools, wherever necessary subject to the condition that the details and justification for requirement of fencing are provided.
- (vii) The Board approved the opening of 29 EGS Centres with a capacity of 25 children per centre. The Board directed that these centres be run by Village Education Committees. Village Education Committee would appoint teachers whose minimum qualification would be class XII pass.
- (viii) Financial assistance for Bridge courses for 15000 out of school children was also approved subject to the condition that the funds for these courses would be released only on receipt of the location of the bridge courses and selection of teachers (minimum qualification class XII pass) by Village Education Committee. Village Education Committees may conduct the bridge courses with minimum of 20 children in each course.
- (ix) The Board approved a sum of Rs. 147.22 lakhs for free textbooks to 98147 girls and SC/ST children.
- (x) The proposal for financial assistance for Early Childhood Education and Girl Child Education was withdrawn by Commissioner & Secretary (Education), Government of Manipur stating that they would reconsider and reformulate the proposal on the basis of household survey data and other inputs. However, the Board approved Rs. 15.00 lakh each for Computer Education and Special Education for children of SC/ST communities.
- (xi) The Board approved Rs. 99.10 lakhs for repair and maintenance of 1982 government schools.
- (xii) Rs. 51.50 lakhs and Rs. 40.14 lakhs were approved as management cost and research & evaluation grant respectively.
- (xiii) The Board also approved Rs. 46.64 lakhs as school grant, Rs. 27.90 lakhs as teacher grant and Rs. 71.70 lakhs for training of teachers and Village leaders. Secretary (EE&L) directed that the issue of the training of the teachers as per the IGNOU package and status of DIETs may be discussed by Commissioner & Secretary (Education), Government of Manipur with JS(EE).
- (xiv) The Board approved the up-gradation of 10 primary schools per district to upper primary schools with 3 teachers per school. However, no funds were provided for teachers' salary this year since the recruitment of teachers for these schools was unlikely to be completed by the end of this financial year.
- (xv) 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 938.06 lakhs was approved as per details given in Annex I.
- (xvi) It was also directed that the State should 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) All funds relating to school grant, teacher grant and repair & maintenance grant should be transferred to the VEC account within 15 days of receipt of funds in the Society's account.
- (g) 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.
- (h) 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.
- (i) 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

Item No.4: Consideration of Annual Action Plan 2002-2003 in respect of DPEP districts of Orissa.

4.1 The SPD, Orissa made a brief presentation regarding the plans of DPEP districts of Orissa. The highlights of the presentation are as follows: -

- There are 30 districts in Orissa out of which 16 are covered under DPEP in two Phases - 8 districts covered in 1996 and the other 8 in the year 2001. The Annual Plans being considered by the Board related to DPEP districts for upper primary stage.
- The child population in the age group 11-14 years in these districts is 11.87 lakhs and those enrolled in schools are 10.17 lakhs. The number of out of school children is 1.70 lakhs.
- The number of primary and upper primary school in these districts are 20254 and 4266 respectively.
- The number of upper primary teachers in these 16 districts is 17726.
- The Gross Enrolment Ratio ranges between 100.85 in Gajapati District and 115 in Vargarh District while the Net Enrolment Ratio is between 84.69 in Kalahandi District and 94.09 in Dhenkanal. The enrolment of SC children and girls is 11% and 17% respectively. The gender gap is only 5%.
- The drop out, which was highest at 67.37 in Kalahandi District, has come down to 26.87% after DPEP came in operation. Similarly, in Keonjhar District it was 56.49% before DPEP and has come down to 26.87% after DPEP was launched. The least drop out is 12.58% in Bolangir District, which has come down from a high of 44.18%.
- The progress in the Phase II districts picked up late due to late filling up of posts in these districts.

4.2 While discussing the problem of school less habitations, it was noted that 64 habitations are eligible for primary schools. However, the State has not proposed opening of any new schools this year.

4.3 Regarding the demand of the State for additional teachers, Director (Finance) pointed out that the requirement of additional teachers proposed by the State Government is not supported by the data supplied by the State Government. If one goes by the child population and the number of schools in a particular district, there should be requirement of more teachers in Malkangiri and Nuapada districts, while the State has proposed nil requirement of teachers in these districts.

4.4 The State had proposed opening of EGS centres for upper primary stage. The proposal was, however, not considered viable and the State was advised to have bridge courses in those habitations to cater to the needs of out of school children in such habitations and propose regular upper primary schools in habitations which are eligible for such schools.

4.5 Based on the recommendations of the Appraisal Team, observations made by the participants and clarifications given by the State representatives, the following decisions were taken by the Board in regard to Annual Plans 2002-2003 in respect of Orissa:-

- (i) Contingency, Meeting/TA and TLM Grant of Rs. 17.02 lakhs was approved for upper primary interventions in the existing BRCs.
- (ii) The contingency, Meeting/TA and TLM Grant of Rs. 46.96 were approved for upper primary interventions in the existing CRCs.
- (iii) Civil works amounting to Rs 455.75 lakhs was approved for building-less upper primary schools, 65 new upper primary school buildings, 470 drinking water facilities, 465 toilets and 64 schools for electrification.
- (iv) The Board approved the opening of 800 bridge courses with 25 children per centre for a total value of Rs 800 lakhs.
- (v) The Board approved a sum of Rs. 367.68 lakhs for free textbooks to 308894 girls and SC/ST children in upper primary. Rs 135.05 lakhs for IED assistance to 3659 children was also approved.
- (vi) Rs 199.99 lakhs was approved for innovative activity for SC/ST and girls education in all districts except Malkangiri where no details have been given.
- (vii) The Board approved Rs. 163.80 lakhs for repair and maintenance of 3276 government schools.
- (viii) Rs. 97.36 lakhs and Rs. 50.36 lakhs were approved as management cost and research & evaluation grant respectively.
- (ix) The Board also approved Rs. 71.88 lakhs as school grant, Rs. 58.60 lakhs as teacher grant and Rs. 157.31 lakhs for training of teachers and Village leaders.
- (x) The Board approved the up-gradation of 110 primary schools per district to upper primary schools, including 33 for Malkangiri and 12 for Nuapada. However, no funds were provided for TLE this year and teachers' salary (for 96 teachers) was restricted to 2 months this year.
- (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 2064.63 lakhs was approved as per details given in Annex II.

- (xii) Against the AWP of 2001-02, an amount of Rs 243.40 lakhs was allowed to spill over to the annual plan of 2002-03 as per Annex III, and the balance amount was allowed to lapse since no expenditure had taken place in 2001-02.
- (xiii) It was also directed that the State should 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) All funds relating to school grant, teacher grant and repair & maintenance grant should be transferred to the VEC account within 15 days of receipt of funds in the Society's account.
 - (g) 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.
 - (h) 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.
 - (i) 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
- 5.0 The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

**ATTENDANCE OF THE 30TH MEETING OF THE PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD
HELD ON 3.1.2003 AT 11.00 A.M.**

1. Shri S.C. Tripathi, Secretary(EE&L) In the Chair
2. Shri Sumit Bose, JS(EE), MHRD
3. Shri Jagan Mathews, JS (AE), MHRD
4. Shri S.S. Sharma, Director (F), (Representative of FA, MHRD)
5. Ms. Indu Datta, Director, Plg. Commission (Representing Pr.Ad. (Edu), Plg Commission).
6. Dr. Meena Gautam, Dy. Secretary (NCTE), (Representative of Chairperson, NCTE)
7. Ms. Pramila Menon, SNS Unit, (NIEPA), (Representative of Dir., NIEPA)

In Attendance

1. Shri Birendra Singh, Commissioner/Secretary (School), Govt. of Manipur
2. Shri S. Singh, Director of Education (School), Manipur
3. Shri Bimolchwala , Joint Director, Govt. of Manipur
4. Shri Vijay Arora, State Project Director, Govt. of Orissa
5. Shri R.S. Tyagi, Associate Fellow, NIEPA
6. Dr. Pushpa Mandal, NCERT
7. Shri S.C. Gujaria, Consultant, (TSG), Ed.CIL
8. Dr. A.A.C. Lal, Consultant, (TSG), Ed.CIL
9. Ms. Sarika Mishra, Consultant, (TSG), Ed.CIL
10. Ms. Sobha Panicker, (TSG), Ed.CIL
11. Ms. Purna Gulati, Dy. Secretary, MHRD
12. Dr. D.K. Paliwal, DEA, MHRD
13. Shri S.K. Kapoor, US, MHRD
14. Shri Praveen Kumar, Director, MHRD
15. Shri O.P. Chaturvedi, US, MHRD