

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE PROJECT APPROVAL
BOARD FOR SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN HELD ON 28 FEBRUARY 2003**

The 31st 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 28.2.2003. A list of participants is annexed.

Item No.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 30th Project Approval Board meeting held on 3.1.2003

1.1 The Minutes of the 30th meeting of the PAB held on 3.1.2003 were confirmed.

Item No.2: Action Taken on the Minutes of the 30th meeting held on 3.1.2003.

2.1 Action taken on the decisions of the 30th meeting was taken on record.

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

3.1 The Principal Secretary, Government of Meghalaya made a brief presentation giving a profile of the State of Meghalaya and the progress made regarding the plan approved in 2001-02. Following were the highlights of their presentation:

- The population of the State is 23 lakhs with the STs forming 66% of the total population.
- The literacy rate of the State is 63% with the female literacy being 60%. Female literacy of two districts - South Garo and West Garo is below 50%.
- Out of the 6.03 lakh children in the 6-14 age-group, 4.44 lakh children are enrolled and 1.67 lakh are out of school.
- For the year 2001-02, the project outlay approved was Rs 18.76 crores, of which the first instalment of GOI share of Rs 7.95 crores and State share of Rs 1.40 crores. Against this release, the total expenditure is Rs 6.29 crores. Since full amount was not there, civil works fund could not be released.

3.2 Secretary (EE & L) observed that the expenditure for the last year is low as compared to the outlay approved. And the plans for 2002-03 are being examined only at the fag end of the year and it would be the end of the year before any release would take place, leaving hardly any time for implementation. He added that it would be better if the State concentrates on completing the previous year's plan and the plan for 2002-03 be considered as that for 2003-04. This would ensure that the implementation schedule would become in line with the financial year and further delay would be avoided. However, Principal Secretary, Meghalaya, stated that the State would prefer to recast the plans for 2003-04 instead of taking the existing plans as it is.

3.3 Accordingly, it was decided that for the year 2002-03, only the spill-over plan would be approved and no fresh proposals would be considered. In case of any recurring grant, where the requirement for the year 2002-03 was more than that approved in 2001-02, then the additional requirement would be given as Plan for 2002-03. In addition, salaries of teachers appointed as per previous year's plan would also be included in this year's plan. Accordingly an amount of Rs 451.04 lakhs was approved as Plan of 2002-03 as per details in Annex I and an amount of Rs 1811.17 lakhs was approved as the spill-over component of 2001-02 to be implemented in 2002-03 as per details given in Annex II. 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 Delhi

4.1 The Director, SCERT made a brief presentation regarding the plans of Delhi. She stated that the plans have been prepared based on the secondary data, since the household data is still to be completed. She further stated that the funds allotted for household survey was very less and additional funds may be required to enable the State to carry out the survey. Further, the per household rate approved for the first batch of three districts (East Delhi, North Delhi and North West Delhi) was only Rs 0.74 per household against Rs 1.8432 per household for the second batch of six districts. She wanted that an amount equivalent to Rs 3/- per household should be provided to all districts. She further stated that exemption from EGS guidelines may be given for the remuneration to the EGS volunteers and the State may be permitted to pay more than Rs 1000/- to the volunteer permitted presently. No NGO was willing to come and work at the existing rate.

4.2 Director (Finance) Ministry of HRD stated that Rs 3/- was the upper limit which was applicable only for remote areas. For a densely packed city like Delhi the amount would have to be less. Secretary (EE&L) stated that additional funds may be given to the three districts in the first batch at the same proportion as that given for the second batch. Balance amount required the State could take resource to private contribution or some other agency like UNICEF, etc. Further, he clarified that there was no scope for giving exemption from EGS guidelines on payment of remuneration to the EGS volunteer, but the State could, if it wants, give an additional amount from outside the SSA funds.

4.3 Secretary (EE&L) further stated that the State would not be in a position to spend any amount being approved this year. So it would be better if the plan is approved for the next year,

so that the State could start implementation in sync with the financial year. Director, SCERT stated that while the proposal was agreeable to them, they should be permitted to revise their plans once the household survey is complete. Further, for some items like community training and learning centres for out of school children, they would like to start this year itself.

4.4 Accordingly, the following decisions were taken by the Board in respect of Delhi:-

- (i) Additional amount for household survey amounting to Rs 13.34 lakhs would be given to the districts of East Delhi, North East Delhi and North West Delhi as per details in Annex III.
- (ii) For the year 2002-03, only the amount for community training and learning centres, with the proportionate management cost would be given to the State. The total outlay approved was Rs 14.92 lakhs as per details given in Annex IV. For learning centres, the funds would be released in 2003-04 budget after receipt of actual details from the State.
- (iii) For the year 2003-04 funds for repairs & maintenance, school grant, Teachers grant, Teacher Training, Training for community leaders, and the interventions for out-of-school children approved in 2002-03, along with proportionate management cost was approved. The total amount approved was Rs 5225.65 lakhs as per details given in Annex V. This approval could be modified as and when the State brings a detailed plan based on household survey.
- (iv) 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) 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.
 - (d) 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.
 - (e) 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.
 - (f) 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.
 - (g) 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.5: Approval of monitoring framework under SSA involving professional institutions

5.1 The PAB took note of the concept note for the monitoring framework involving professional institutions and wanted it to be grounded as early as possible. The Regional Workshops should be held at the earliest so that the institutions and the States get to know their exact role in this.

6.0 The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

**ATTENDANCE OF THE 31ST MEETING OF THE PROJECT APPROVAL
BOARD HELD ON 28.02.2003 AT 2.30 A.M.**

1. Shri S.C. Tripathi, Secretary(EE&L) In the Chair
2. Shri Sumit Bose, JS(EE), MHRD
3. Shri S.S. Sharma, Director (F), (Representative of FA, MHRD)
4. Dr. A.K. Ambasht, DS (P), MHRD (Representing JS, Planning)
5. Shri S.M.I.A. Zaidi, NIEPA, New Delhi (representing Director NIEPA)
6. Shri Madan Mohan, SPO (Edu.), Plg. Comm. (representing Pr Ad, Plg Comm)

In Attendance

1. Shri G.P. Wahlang, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya
2. Shri L. Lyngdoh, Dy. DEME, Govt of Meghalaya
3. Dr. Janaki Rajan, Director, SCERT, Delhi
4. Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Programmer Manager (SSA Delhi)
5. Shri S.S. Sharma, A.D.E. (UEEM), Delhi
6. Shri S.C. Gujaria, Consultant, (TSG), Ed.CIL
7. Ms. Amita Singla, Consultant, (TSG), Ed.CIL
8. Shri K.Gopalan, Consultant, (TSG), Ed.CIL
9. Ms. Shalini Prasad, Director (MHRD)
10. Shri Chandrasekharan, DEA (MHRD)
11. Shri Praveen Kumar, Director (MHRD)

Annex III

Additional amount toward household survey for three Delhi districts

	District	No. of households	Amount already allocated for survey (Rs lakhs)	Amount eligible @ Rs 1.8432 per household (Rs lakhs)	Net additional amount available (Rs lakhs)
1	East	289754	3.00	5.34	2.34
2	North East	352742	3.00	6.50	3.50
3	North West	569479	3.00	10.50	7.50
		1211975	9.00	22.34	13.34