

MINUTES OF THE 34th MEETING OF PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD (PAB) FOR CONSIDERATION OF DISTRICT ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PLANS (DEEPs) FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN (SSA) AND ANNUAL WORK PLAN & BUDGET (AWP & B) FOR DISTRICT PRIMARY EDUCATION PROGRAMME (DPEP) THE YEAR 2003-2004

The 34th meeting of Project Approval Board (PAB) for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and District Primary Education Plan (DPEP) was held under the chairmanship of Shri S.C. Tripathi, Secretary (Department of Elementary Education & Literacy) on 27.5.2003 in the Conference Room of the Office of U.P. Education for All Project Board, Vidya Bhawan, Nishat Ganj, Lucknow. The list of participants is at Annexure-I.

2. Chairman of the Board, while welcoming the members highlighted the importance of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), has stated that after enactment of 86th Amendment to the Constitution, education from I -VIII class has become the Fundamental Right of every child in the age group 6-14 years and it is the responsibility of the State to ensure that each and every child gets education up to VIII standard.

3. The meeting started with a brief presentation on the status of implementation of ongoing SSA, its component District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) and the plan and budget proposals for the year 2003-04.

4. State Project Director, U.P. explained the status of civil construction work under DPEP programme. He assured that the remaining civil work under DPEP-II, which is scheduled to close by June 30, 2003, will be completed before closure of the programme.

5. Chairman desired that the concerned officers may be advised to take at least two photographs of the completed school building along with a completion certificate. Chairman stated that the question of involvement of some teachers in the construction of several schools has been raised by the Parliamentary Standing

Committee on Demand for Grants for Ministry of Human Resource Development and suggested that the SPD may look into this issue.

6. SPD explained that the construction of BRCs(NPRC) is undertaken by U.P. Jal Nigam and there is no involvement of teachers in the construction work. As regards, construction of schools under SSA and DPEP, it is with the active involvement of Village Education Committee (VEC). Headmasters get involved in construction of their school only as the sentry of the VEC. There may be few instances, where expertise to handle civil work is not available with VECs and Head Master. In such cases one Head Master may get involved in construction of 3-4 other schools in vicinity. SPD, assured that he would see to it that a Headmaster remains involved in the construction of only his school.

7. Chairman, desired to know the process of selection and appointment of Shiksha Mitras and Acharyas. SPD explained that qualification for appointment of Acharya is High School whereas qualification for appointment of Shiksha Mitra is Intermediate. Shiksha Mitras are appointed on contract basis for 10 months and undergo a training of one month. Chairman suggested that State Government may evolve a policy for induction of Shiksha Mitras as teachers. He added that those Shiksha Mitras who have completed two years in service may be given training through distance education to obtain BTC either by IGNOU or Purshotam Das Tandon Open University of State. State Government may approach NCTE for approval of the above said BTC programme. He also mentioned that only such Shiksha Mitras who have acquired qualification prescribed by NCTE may be considered for regular teachers. Prof. Khandelwal, Director, NIEPA added that while recommending Shiksha Mitras for BTC training, their performance during that period should also been assessed alongwith the length of service.

8. Chairman noted that there is delay in utilization of school grant, maintenance grant and teacher grants. He stressed that these grants should reach the school teachers within one month of its release by the Central Government.

9. As regards Scheme of EGS & AIE, Chairman observed that their implementation is not satisfactory. SPD, informed that EGS is not being implemented through the Society, the Directorate of Basic Education is the agency for implementation of EGS out of the funds provided by Uttar Pradesh Sabhi Ke Liye Shiksha Parishad. Chairman desired that the suitable staff of the Directorate earlier dealing with NFE may be oriented for implementation of EGS & AIE schemes. Chairman felt that an assessment of needs of Sanskrit schools and Madarsas to provide Elementary Education be made and an appropriate provision may be made in plans for this purpose. SPD submitted to the Chairman that UP Sabi Ke Liye Shiksha Parishad may be allowed to open EGS centres at village level. Chairman observed that the state first execute the approved proposals in respect of EGS/AIE scheme and thereafter it could move the Government of India with supplementary proposal. Chairman also stressed for effective monitoring of implementation of EGS by monitoring institutes and supervision by Department of Elementary Education & Literacy. Chairman desired that a meeting of the Secretary Basic Education, Director Basic Education & SPD may be convened to sort out the issue of implementation of EGS/AIE scheme. Chairman also desired that the State should develop and action plan, time schedule and strategies for implementation of EGS/AIE scheme with the objective to advise universal enrolment and mainstreaming all out-of-school children within current year.

10. Chairman of the Board advised SPD to strengthen and streamline management information system using I.T.

11. Regarding distribution of textbook, Chairman, observed that textbooks should be distributed free of cost to not only children, enrolled in Government schools but also children in aided schools, provided that they fulfill SSA norms such as the school should not charge fee, should have open admission policy, etc. He also desired that all other benefits like school grant, teacher grant etc. available under SSA should be provided to the above said aided schools. Chairman made it clear that aim of SSA is to extend the benefits to all eligible children enrolled in schools fulfilling the basic conditions as laid down in SSA norms.

12. In respect of IED, Chairman observed the percentage of differentially abled children identified as per data of the State Government, is around 1.2% of the children in age group 6-14 years whereas as per estimate of agencies working in this field, around 3-4 % of the child population is differently abled, which means that a large section of disabled children have not been identified. Chairman emphasized the need to adopt a liberal and proper assessment of disability and to consider even slow learners under the category of differentially abled children. He has suggested that the number of medical assessment camps may be increased to identify the disabled children and efforts made to bring them to schools.

13. Chairman expressed his displeasure over non completion of house-hold survey, which should be the basis for planning at micro-level. SPD explained that the survey is in its final phase and its data would be available in next fortnight. The perspective plan would be re-casted in light of this data and submitted to Government of India for consideration soon.

14. JS(EE) expressed his concern at the increase in gender gap between the 1991 census and the 2001 census in some districts and advised the State to take effective steps to bridge the gap and put extra efforts in place for education of girl child.

15. As regards Teacher vacancies, Chairman observed that in 2002-03 around 16,000 posts of Teachers & Shiksha Mitras were sanctioned by PAB but appointments on these positions have not yet been made.

16. SPD informed that they could not fill-up the vacancies because the State Government has not yet given approval for filling up the vacant posts. Chairman expressed his displeasure by stating that if even after sanction of the posts by the PAB, vacancies are not filled for want of approval from State Government, there is no sanctity of the approval by PAB. He suggested that under such circumstances the State should first seek the approval from the State Government for sanction of posts and thereafter put the proposal for approval, in DEEPs, before PAB. Chairman also suggested that authorities may consider appointment of Shiksha

Mitras in place of regular teacher if there is problem in appointment of regular teachers.

17. Chairman also noted that even in DIETs 50% of the posts of Principals 25% of the posts of Vice-Principal & 84% of the posts of Senior Lecturer are lying vacant, which needs to be filled on priority for the success of SSA.

18. Director, SCERT informed the Board that there are a huge number of B.Ed. Candidates who could be appointed on contract basis as trainees and thereafter could undergo training for three months or so for obtaining BTC. Vice-Chairman, NCTE said that SCERT should take No objection Certificate for launching the stated BTC course and should approach NCTE for its recognition.

19. Chairman asked Director, NIEPA to conduct a study on position of teachers in the State of Uttar Pradesh on priority.

20. Chairman has desired that SPD may submit a note to JS(EE) on issue related to procurement of computers, requirement of hardware/software and training of teachers etc.

21. Chairman emphasised the need for training of untrained/underqualified teachers and indicated that if state has additional training need, supplementary proposals may be moved for the same.

22. Based on the plans prepared by the State Government, remarks of the appraisal team and discussions thereon, following decisions were taken in respect of the proposals of U.P. Sabhi Ke Liye Shiksha Parishad for the year 2003-04.

- (i) Rs. 48.086 crore have been approved in respect of 22 DPEP-II districts, as per Annexure-II, for meeting out expenses on salary and for completing the remaining activities for the period April 1, 2003 to June 30, 2003.

- (ii) The Board also approved that the balance of EFC approved cost in respect of 22 DPEP districts i.e. **Rs. 28.68 crore** be transferred to DPEP-III for the four expansion districts of DPEP-II i.e. Rampur, Barabanki, Bahraich and Shrawasti, wherein the programme would continue till December 2005. This amount would meet expenditure in the above said districts during the period July 1, 2003 to December 31, 2005.
- (iii) The Board has approved the annual plan for 36 districts under DPEP-III for Rs. 169.56 crore including spillover amount of Rs. 12.62 crore as per Annexure-III.
- (iv) Keeping in view the large number of unserved habitations and the high pupil teacher ratio, Board decided to approve 3111 new primary school, 6222 new teachers (one regular teacher and one Shiksha Mitra - para teacher) in new primary schools subject to the condition that if regular teacher is not available, Shiksha Mitra - para teachers may be appointed.
- (v) Board also approved upgradation of 5353 existing primary schools to upper primary schools and of 16059 new teachers for the said upper primary schools, including Head Masters subject to the limit of three teachers per school upgraded to upper primary school.
- (vi) Considering alarming level of existing PTR, Board approved appointment of 64, 000 additional Shiksha Mitras to improve PTR, subject to the condition that the State would also recruit a similar number of teachers/para teachers on the vacant posts. Thus, recruitment under SSA and by the State Government on its vacant teaching posts would be on 1:1 basis.
- (vii) 6020 EGS centres were approved for 36 districts (non-DPEP) and 3634 AIE centres for 70 districts, subject to the condition that funds

would be released only after identification of the habitations for running these centers as also the agencies for conducting the course are spotted by the State.

- (viii) The Board approved 8432 Bridge Courses for mainstreaming of the children into formal schooling system. The board also approved that the funds for this activity would be released to the State only after locations for these bridge courses are known and fixed and the agencies for their functioning identified.
- (ix) Free textbooks for 5684382 children in Primary Schools and 3160406 children in Upper Primary Schools @ Rs. 50 per child and R. 150 per child respectively, amounting to Rs. 75.82 crores.
- (x) Board approved training for 255511 teachers.
- (xi) Training for 26253 VEC was approved by the Board.
- (xii) Integration of 111837 differently abled children in regular schools @ Rs. 1200 per child for requisite interventions as per guidelines prescribed by Department of Elementary Education & Literacy was approved.
- (xiii) Board also approved construction of 3111 primary school buildings, 5353 for upgradation of primary school building to upper primary school buildings, 2413 additional classrooms for primary schools, 1869 additional classrooms for upper primary schools, 2448 toilets for primary schools, 1820 toilets for upper primary schools, 642 drinking water facility for primary school and 572 drinking water facility for upper primary schools.

- (xiv) The Board has approved an outlay of Rs. 35 crore under innovation head @ Rs. 50 lakh per district for computer education ECCE, girls education and SC/ST interventions.

The Board has approved an outlay of Rs. 1004.298 crore including spillover of Rs. 213.080 crore for implementation of SSA in Uttar Pradesh as per details given in Annexure-IV.

It was also decided 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 and should be utilised within one month of its release.
- (f) The State Government will maintain their level of investment in elementary education as in 1999-2000 and give the details of this to Government of India 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.
 - (i) The budget for salary of Joint Director, Secretary/Stenographer, Accountant, Helper (at state level), Assistant Education Officer, Assistant, Secretary/Stenographer, Helper @ district level in respect of districts of Aligarh, Moradabad, Ferozabad, Kanpur city and Allahabad would be treated as share of Government of India towards INDO US DOL project. Expenditure on travel allowance at district level and equipment i.e. hiring of vehicles, computers with printers, photocopiers, fax machines telephones, office supplies and contingencies at district level and school grant for technical support, teaching and learning material, teacher training text books, training of community leaders, Bridge Courses would also be treated as share of Government of India towards INDO US DOL project.
 - (j) All procurements of items approved by the board shall be made as per the rules of U.P. Sabhi Ke Liye Shiksha Parishad, duly approved by its Executive Council.
23. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to chair.

