

MINUTES OF THE 45TH MEETING OF THE PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD FOR SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN AND DISTRICT PRIMARY EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The 45th meeting of the Project Approval Board was held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (EE&L) on 13.8.2003 to consider the Perspective and Annual Plans of States which also included Rajasthan and Sikkim.

Consideration of Annual Plans 2003-04 of Rajasthan

Item No. 1 Confirmation of the minutes on Rajasthan pertaining to the 28th meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 13.12.2002.

1.1 The minutes of the above meeting were confirmed.

Item No. 2 Consideration of the Annual Work Plan for 2003-04 of Rajasthan.

2.1 The discussion on Rajasthan for approval of the AWP for 2003-04 for SSA and DPEP was initiated on the basis of the Appraisal Note submitted by the Appraisal Team.

2.2 JS(EE-II) informed Secretary (EE&L) that the proposals placed before the PAB for consideration included Annual Work Plan for SSA for all the 32 districts in Rajasthan and Annual Plans of the DPEP for 19 districts under both Phase I&II.

2.3 Secretary (EE&L) while mentioning about the large number of schemes running in Rajasthan inquired why the AWPs of Lok Jumbish Project (LJP) and Shiksha Karmi Project (SKP) were not being placed before the PAB. He was apprised that the AWPs for LJP and SKP were approved by the respective Executive Committee of these projects.

2.4 Secretary (EE&L) while examining the progress of the implementation of SSA and DPEP in the State observed that the expenditure levels under both SSA and DPEP were very low.

2.5 On behalf of the Appraisal Team, Shri Gopalan, Consultant, TSG explained the item-wise recommendations made by the Appraisal Team under SSA. He also gave an overview of the recommendations under DPEP and further informed the PAB that

since Phase I of the DPEP project in Rajasthan was to close on December 2004, a proposal for 18 months was being placed before the PAB, for consideration.

- 2.6 While examining the recommendations of the Appraisal Team Secretary (EE&L) sought clarification on some of the items. The first issue pertained to the textbooks being shown as a spillover item and the second was related to the higher number of textbooks being recommended as compared to the last year.
- 2.7 SPD, Rajasthan explained that textbooks were being shown as a spillover item due to the reason that although textbooks had been distributed to the children but payment liability was yet to be cleared by the State. As regarding increase in the number of textbooks being proposed in the current year as compared to the last year, it was explained by the State officials that in the previous year the children in the upper primary sections of the Secondary and Higher Secondary schools had not been included.
- 2.8 Another issue raised in the PAB meeting was the coverage of 10.51 lakhs children under the EGS & AIE interventions and whether it was possible to cover these children under the ongoing projects like LJP, DPEP etc.
- 2.9 The State officials clarified that the 10.51 children being covered were those enrolled in Rajiv Gandhi Pathshalas for which sanction had been accorded by the PAB in the previous year also. Since this meant only a continuation of the existing centers, the PAB approved the same for the current year also.
- 2.10 Based on the proposal of the State Government and the recommendations of the Appraisal Team, the PAB approved Rs. 37559.44 lakhs as the Annual Plan for SSA for the year 2003-04. The item-wise and district-wise details are given in Annexure-I.
- 2.11 In addition to the above an amount of Rs. 5476.41 lakhs was approved as spillovers for SSA sanctions given in the year 2002-03 as per details given in Annexure-II.
- 2.12 The PAB approved a total outlay of Rs. 43035.85 lakhs as fresh proposals and spillovers for SSA for the current year.
- 2.13 Under DPEP Phase I, the PAB approved Rs. 13599.85 lakhs as fresh proposals and Rs. 1088.321 lakhs as spillovers bringing the total

outlay to 14359.97 lakhs for 2003-04. In addition an outlay of Rs. 8234.73 lakhs was approved for April to December, 2004. The details are annexed at Annex-III.

- 2.14 Regarding DPEP Phase II, the PAB approved Rs. 9838.26 lakhs as fresh outlay and Rs. 1607.92 lakhs as spillovers for 2003-04.
- 2.15 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 Work, 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 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.

Consideration of Perspective Plans and Annual Plans of 2003-04 of Sikkim

Item No. 3 Confirmation of the minutes of the 23rd meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 28.10.2002.

3.1 The minutes of the above meeting were confirmed.

Item No. 4 Consideration of the Perspective Plans and Annual Work Plan for 2003-04.

4.1 The PAB approved the Perspective Plans in principle and Annual Work Plan for Sikkim on the basis of the proposal of the State Government and recommendations of the Appraisal Team.

4.2 The PAB also accorded post facto approval to the State proposal for re-appropriation of funds allocated in 2002-03 for Girls Education under 'Innovative' head to Computer Education under the same head subject to a ceiling limit of Rs. 15 lakhs per district.

4.3 No additional language teachers were sanctioned as the PTR was low and on the request of Joint Director, Sikkim to reconsider the proposal, Secretary (EE&L) informed that Government of India was examining the feasibility for formulation of a scheme for providing language teacher for North Eastern States.

4.4 Regarding the additional funds required for Community Mobilisation activities by the State in addition to funds for training of Community leaders, it was decided by the PAB that the same may be funded from the 'Innovative' head and remedial teaching for enrolled children earlier recommended under the Innovative head by the Appraisal Team should be funded from the EGS and AIE component of SSA.

4.5 Based on the proposal of the State Government and the recommendations of the Appraisal Team, the PAB approved Rs. 1096.60 lakhs as the Annual Plan for 2003-04 as per the item-wise and district-wise details given in Annexure-IV.

4.6 In addition to the above an amount of Rs. ____ was approved as spillovers for sanctions given in the year 2002-03 as per details given in Annexure-II.

- 4.7 The PAB approved a total outlay of Rs. ____ as fresh proposals and spillover for the current year.
- 4.8 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 Work, 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 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.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

