

MINUTES OF 50TH MEETING OF THE PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD FOR SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN HELD ON MAY 19, 2004 AT NEW DELHI

The 50th meeting of the Project Approval Board for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)/District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) was held under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Kumud Bansal, Secretary, Department of Elementary Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India on May 19, 2004. The list of the participants is given in **Annexure-I.**

2. At the onset of the meeting, Joint Secretary (Elementary Education-II) welcomed the members and other participants and introduced new Chairperson of the Board. This followed by a round of self-introduction by members/participants. Thereafter, with the permission of Chairperson, the Agenda Items were taken up for consideration.

ITEM NO. 1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 49TH MEETING OF PAB

The Board confirmed the minutes of its 49th meeting held on February 11 2003, at New Delhi.

ITEM NO. 2 CONSIDERATION OF THE DISTRICT ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PLANS OF 23 DISTRICTS OF ASSAM

Mission Director, Axom Sarba Shiksha Abhijan Mission, made a presentation on the achievements made against the approvals/targets fixed by PAB for the year 2003-04. Particularly noteworthy was Assams' successful implementation of the Computer Aided Learning Programme under the Innovative Activities head, through Public Private Partnership (PPP). The Private Partner has provided hardware to 500 schools, trained two teachers per school and developed e-learning material in 3 different local languages. SSA Assam has also done a maintenance contract with the private partner.

The Mission Director admitted a short fall in meeting the targets for teacher training, because of an inconclusive dialogue with IGNOU for Distance Mode teacher training programme for untrained teachers. In EGS the shortfall was due the verification of venture schools in respect of eligibility for EGS/AIE programme.

Mission Director, while presenting the proposals for the current financial year assured that all efforts would be made to ensure the achievement of Universal Enrolment; providing access to Elementary Education to the children in unserved habitations; especially children belonging to Special Focus Groups like tribals, children of people living in tea gardens and char areas.

In the comments of the Appraisal Team, it was brought out that despite new designs being available, the construction of school buildings was still going on as per old designs and secondly flooring of schools needed more attention to quality. It was suggested that ramps be constructed to make the school buildings disabled friendly. Shri Chandra Mohan, representative of Planning Commission draw attention to the different sets of figures on out-of-school children and high repetition rates in the State. The representative of IFD pointed out to the shortfall in the size of AWP & B of Assam from 2003-04 when it was Rs. 411 crore to 2004-05 to this year at Rs. 313 crore.

Joint Secretary (EE-II) pointed out to the over 60,000 untrained teachers, in the State and the need to draw up a focussed programme through IGNOU for covering this backlog in the shortest time. She suggested that BRCs in the

States could also be used as learning centre for the IGNOU's programme. Joint Secretary (EE-II) also raised the point about an adverse ratio of primary to upper primary schools (4:1) in the State and the need for the State to upgrade primary schools to upper primary schools quickly. Not taking any additional schools this year under SSA, went against the need for more upper primary schools in Assam.

Chairperson of the Board emphasized the need for the State to ensure enrollment of all the out of school children by September 2004, and the need for training of all the untrained teacher through IGNOU's programme. Chairperson asked the Mission Director to consider the observations of the members of the Appraisal Team, and also to formulate an additional plan for upgradation of lower primary schools to upper primary schools.

The Board emphasized that the remaining State share for 2003-2004 must be immediately made available by the State Government of Assam. Secondly, it clearly advised the Mission Director to submit a supplementary plan within one month incorporating the training of untrained teachers and the necessary upper primary schools upgradation.

The Board after considering the presentation of the State and comments of the Appraisal Team, approved the following for implementation of SSA in Assam during financial year 2004-2005:-

- (i) Rs. 4528.18 lakh towards teacher grant (132994 teachers), school grant (40836 schools), TLE grant for 1066 uncovered upper primary schools, not covered under OBB salary of 2559 teachers and 2851 OBB teachers appointed in earlier years.
- (ii) The Board approved Rs. 2041.80 lakh towards maintenance grant for 40836 schools and Rs. 3964.09 lakh for free text books to 3049311 children from SC/ST communities and girls.
- (iii) Rs. 1053.96 lakh was approved for Block Resource Centres to meet out the expenditure on salary, contingencies, TLM grant, meeting and travel expenses.
- (iv) For Cluster Resource Centres, the Board approved Rs. 2780.48 lakh.
- (v) A sum of Rs. 1309.47 lakh was approved for the teachers training programme.
- (vi) The Board accorded its approval to opening of EGS centres for primary schooling of 215131 children, back to school camps, bridge courses and residential bridge courses for 79583, 201246 and 5340 children respectively. The Board also approved a provision of Rs. 532.01 lakh for remedial teaching to 212801 children. The Board approved a total of Rs. 4036.47 lakhs for interventions related to EGS & AIE.
- (vii) The Board also approved Rs. 214.06 lakh for special interventions with respect to integrating physically challenged children into regular schools. A sum of Rs. 907.74 lakh was approved under Innovation head for Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), support to education of children from SC/ST communities, girl child education and computer aided learning.
- (viii) The Board also approved construction of 472 school buildings for building less schools, 1696 new school building with salvage of some material and reconstruction of dilapidated school buildings, 76 BRCs and 119 Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs) 5697 additional classrooms, 409 toilets and 461 drinking water facility at the cost of Rs. 8499.44 lakh.

The Board considered the request of the Mission Director and the facts furnished by the Division dealing with Assam and noted that the contention of the Mission Director that only 75% of the admissible amount towards salary of teachers appointed under OBB scheme was budgeted in the AWP & B for the year 2003-04. Therefore, **the Board allowed the excess**

expenditure incurred by Axom Sarba Shiksha Abhijan Mission on the salary of OBB teachers which was to the tune of remaining 25%.

The Board noted that Axom Sarba Shiksha Abhijan Mission has expended Rs. 242.26 lakh in addition to the approved amount in the AWP & B for 2003-04 towards Computer Education under Innovation Functional Head and directed that this excess expenditure be adjusted against the approvals for the same activities for the current financial year i.e. 2004-05.

The Board approved a sum of Rs. 22244.48 lakh towards fresh proposals for the year 2004-2005 and Rs. 9138.37 lakh as spill over for the unfinished activities approved for the year 2003-04 as per the details given in **Annexure – 2 (I)**. Thus, the Board approved an outlay of Rs. 31382.85 lakh for implementation of SSA in the State of Assam for the financial year 2004-05.

ITEM NO. 3

CONSIDERATION OF THE DISTRICT ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PLANS OF 61 DISTRICTS OF UTTAR PRADESH FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SSA AND 33 DISTRICTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF DISTRICT PRIMARY EDUCATION PROGRAMME AND NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF EDUCATION FOR GIRLS AT ELEMENTARY LEVEL

SPD, Uttar Pradesh Sabhi Ke Liye Shiksha Pariyojana Parishad, Ms. Kalpana Awasthi presented before the Board, the progress made by the State vis-à-vis SSA targets for the year 2003-04 as also the proposals for the year 2004-05. The highlights of the presentation were as under:

- 100% targets in respect of expenditure on activities pertaining to BRCs and CRCs, release of school grant, maintenance grant and teacher grant were met.
- There was a small short fall in achievement of the targets for distribution of free textbooks apparently on account of computation problem.
- The targets on recruitment of the teachers and EGS/AIE component could not be met because of the ban on the recruitment reimposed by Government of Uttar Pradesh initially and thereafter due to the enforcement of the model code of conduct during the general elections.
- The State has initiated steps for making use of Computer Aided Learning by providing one computer each to 1050 upper primary schools.
- Extensive efforts were undertaken for the education of the girl child in form of various interventions through Meena Manch, Mahila Samakhya as also activities under newly approved scheme of NPEGEL.

SPD, presented the proposals for the financial year 2004-05 under SSA, DPEP and NPEGEL. It was notable that the UP SSA has planned carefully for the transition of Janshala programme in Lucknow district which is closing this year and also intensified activities for enrolment of out-of-school children in the 5 INDUS project districts prone to child labour.

The Appraisal Team briefed the Board that the State SSA plans have reported 2.7 lakh out of school children and also spelt out a strategy to enroll them in to regular schools, EGS/AIE centres and mainstreaming through back to school camps, however, there was a need to verify the data again. 70% of the budget for SSA was targetted towards civil works and teacher salaries. It was pointed out that 25000 regular teachers and 26000 Shiksha Mitras have been appointed while 42000 Shiksha Mitras are under process of appointments after the elections. The Board directed that remaining 42,000 Shiksha Mitras be put in place of 1st July 2004 positively. It was further suggested by the Appraisal team that an appropriate mechanism/technical unit at State project office level as well as district level for monitoring and execution of the civil work be set up to improve quality completion of civil works. The SPD explained about legal complications with contact engineers, thereafter the Board asked the SPD to engage third party engineering firms to supervise and check quality of civil works.

In respect of the DPEP-III proposals, the Appraisal team while finding the plans in order, pointed out that the proposed outlay upto September 2005, exceeded the EFC cost by approximately Rs. 54 crore. JS (EE-II) pointed out that the Department was in the process of diverting savings amounting to Rs. 30 crore from the Bihar DPEP to UP DPEP and the matter was under consideration of DEA/World Bank. Representative of the IFD, suggested that while according approval to the DPEP component upto September 2005, the PAB review the progress of UP DPEP implementation during 2004-2005, before releasing funds in financial year 2005-2006.

Dr. Swarna Gupta, member Appraisal Team from NCERT mentioned that the teacher training component has been well addressed by State in plans. She advised the State focus on development of the teaching learning materials.

On a query from JS (EE-II), SPD, UP clarified that fresh proposals for 2576 new primary schools and 2413 upper primary schools would saturate the needs of the State. JS (EE-II) advised that a physical verification of the requirement of new primary schools vis-a-vis State norms be taken up by the SPD through an independent agency to ascertain that scarce resources are being utilized as per norms. JS (EE-II) further urged the SSA, UP to consider a more composite model for implementation of Computer Aided Learning Programme, in which a solution is possible including hardware, relevant software and teacher training. She also advised the State to have a look at work done by SSA Assam, Orissa and Tamilnadu in this direction.

Chairperson of the Board urged the SPD to ensure correct reporting from recognized and aided schools on enrolments and to ensure that all out of school children are enrolled this year. She asked the SPD to ensure filling up of all the approved SSA teaching positions as also the vacant post of teachers under the Directorate of Basic Education, before commencement of the new academic session in July.

The Board after considering the presentation of the State and comments of the Appraisal Team, approved the following for implementation of SSA in the State during the financial year 2004-2005:

- (i) The Board approved opening of 2576 new primary schools **subject to cent percent physical verification of the need of opening these school vis-à-vis State Government norms by an independent agency to be conducted by SPD before release of funds to the concerned district.** The Board also desired a check on sample basis of the same be conducted by the Department of Elementary Education & Literacy. The Board also approved the upgradation of 2413 primary schools to upper primary schools.
- (ii) Rs. 72943.31 lakh towards teacher grant (420310 teachers), school grant (116121 schools), TLE grant for 14091 primary and upper primary schools, salary of 100298 teachers, para-teachers appointed in yester years under SSA and 31458 teachers, para teachers approved for appointment in the present year.
- (iii) The Board approved Rs. 5300.68 lakh towards maintenance grant for 108240 schools and Rs. 9786.08 lakh for free text books to 14399636 children from SC/ST communities and girls.
- (iv) Rs. 418.90 lakh was approved for Block Resource Centres to meet the expenditure on salary contingencies, TLM grant, meeting and travel expenses.
- (v) For Cluster Resource Centres, and Urban Resource centres the Board approved Rs. 596.84 lakh and Rs. 179.32 lakh respectively.
- (vi) A sum of Rs. 7163.64 lakh was approved for the teachers training programme.
- (vii) The Board accorded its approval to opening of EGS centres for primary schooling of 161240 at Primary & Upper Primary level, non-residential and residential bridge courses for 161320, and 7320 children respectively. The Board advised activation of the State GIAC for engaging of NGOs. The Board also approved a provision of Rs. 243.04 lakh for AIE. The Board approved a total of Rs. 3454.27 lakh for interventions related to EGS & AIE.
- (viii) The Board also approved Rs. 2936.29 lakh for special interventions with respect to education of Children With Special Needs (CWSN).
- (ix) The Board also approved construction of 4989 new school buildings for primary and upper primary schools building-less schools, subject to physical verification

by SPO, 2689 reconstruction of dilapidated primary and upper primary school buildings, 1050 boundary walls (only for schools where computer have been set up under the SSA Computer Aided Learning programme) electrification in 5876 schools, 18552 additional classrooms, as fresh activities for the year 2004-05 at the cost of Rs. 33357.31 lakh subject to approved unit costs of State Government.

The Board approved a sum of Rs. 142404.34 lakh towards fresh proposals for the year 2004-2005 and Rs. 4263.41 lakh as spill over for the unfinished activities approved for the year 2003-04 as per the details given in **Annexure – 3 (I)**. Thus, the Board approved an outlay of Rs. 146667.75 lakh for implementation of SSA in the State of U.P. for the financial year 2004-05.

The Board considered the plans of the State for implementation of NPEGEL in the financial year 2004-05, the recommendations of appraisal team and approved a sum of Rs. 13778.69 lakh as AWP & B 2004-05 for NPEGEL as per the details given in **Annexure- 3 (II)**.

The Board also considered the plans of the State for implementation of District Primary Education Programme in 33 districts in the year 2004-05 and for the period April 2005 to September 2005, recommendations of the appraisal team and approved the following as per the details given in **Annexure – 3 (III)**.

(a)	Spillover for the unfinished activities approved for the year 2003-04	= Rs. 427.66 lakh
(b)	Fresh activities for year 2004-05	= Rs. 15185.78 lakh
	Total	= Rs. 15613.401lakh
(c)	For activities during the period April 2005 to September 2005	= Rs. 7016.69 lakh
	Grand Total	= Rs. 22630.13 lakh

Thus the total approvals for Uttar Pradesh are as follows:-

(Rs. in lakh)

Project	Spill Over	Fresh	Total
SSA	4263.41	142404.34	146667.75
NPEGEL	980.00	12798.69	13778.69
DPEP*	427.66	15185.78(+) + 7016.69@	22630.13*
Grand Total			183076.57

*Upto September 2005

(+) for the period from April 2004 to 31st March 2005.

@ for the period from April 2005 to 30th September 2005.

ITEM NO. 4 **CONSIDERATION OF THE DISTRICT ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PLANS OF 13 DISTRICTS OF UTTARANCHAL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SSA AND 6 DISTRICTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF DISTRICT PRIMARY EDUCATION PROGRAMME AND NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF EDUCATION FOR GIRLS AT ELEMENTARY LEVEL**

Shri Sudhanshu, SPD, Uttaranchal presented the progress made by the State in achieving the targets set by approvals of PAB for the year 2004-05. It was noticed that the State has not met the targets set for civil work, where progress was extremely slow. The position of recruitment of teachers, strengthening of administrative structure for SSA, implementation of EGS/AIE was also not very encouraging. SPD explained that delay in preparation of earthquake resistance designs and their approval was responsible for delay in start of civil works and since the designs are now approved, the civil activities will be geared up. As regards, non-recruitment of teachers, it was explained that a court case and stay order on recruitment of special BTC hampered the process. Now the stay has been vacated and the process of recruitment has started and would be completed soon. The Programme Committee of SSA, Uttaranchal in its last meeting on April 15, 2004 has approved setting up of a civil works unit, an MIS unit as also coordinators for various functional areas. It was also informed that EGS/AIE programme could not be taken up fully because sparse population areas had less than the stipulated 15 children.

SPD, briefed the Board that the State has initiated its Computer Aided Education at Elementary Level programme in collaboration with Azim Premji Foundation and has converged the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) with Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS). SPD, also presented highlights of their programme for education of Children With Special Needs (CWSN).

The highlights of the AWP & B for 2004-05 were presented which include the opening of 109 new primary schools, 81 new upper primary schools, recruitment of 426 teachers, EGS/AIE interventions for 27,682 children and expansion of Computer Aided Education at Elementary level under the innovative head.

JS (EE-II) advised the officials of Uttaranchal to take help from Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) for the programmes for education to CWSN. She also advised that English text books be bilingual so that primary school teachers can handle English teaching. She advised that bilingual text books and teaching methodologies of UP and Maharashtra be studied by SSA.

Shri Talukdar of the Appraisal team pointed out that while the proposals for DPEP are in order their project budget is exceeding by about Rs. 13 crore from the approved EFC limit. JS (EE-II) pointed out that diversion of savings from DPEP Bihar to the extent of Rs. 10 crore for Uttaranchal DPEP is under consideration. Representative of IFD pointed out that though the plans for DPEP Uttaranchal are being approved upto September 2005 release of funds for year 2005-2006 would be subject to performance review by the PAB.

Chairperson desired that State should ensure that all children of the age group 6-14 years be in school by the end of September 2004 and all approved post of teachers under SSA and the backlog of 4000 teachers borne on the State budget, must be filled and they should be in position by the start of academic year.

The Board after considering the presentation of the State and comments of the Appraisal Team, approved the following for implementation of SSA in 13 districts of Uttaranchal for the financial year 2004-2005:

- (a) The Board approved opening of 109 new primary schools **subject to cent percent physical verification of the need of opening these school vis-à-vis State Government norms, by**

an independent agency engaged by the SPD for districts of Pauri Garhwal, Udham Singh Nagar and Haridwar before, release of funds to these districts. The Board also desired that a random check on sample basis in these districts also be conducted by the Department of Elementary Education & Literacy. The Board also approved the upgradation of 81 primary schools to upper primary schools.

- (b) The Board approved Rs. 3750.95 lakh towards teacher grant (31,311 teachers), school grant (10,997 schools), TLE grant for 393 new/uncovered primary and upper primary schools and salary of 2734 teachers.
- (c) The Board approved Rs. 356.15 lakh towards maintenance grant for 7,123 schools and Rs. 911.64 lakh for free text books to 6.83 lakh children from SC/ST communities and girls.
- (d) Rs. 199.12 lakh was approved for Block Resource Centres to meet the expenditure on salary contingencies, TLM grant, meeting and travel expenses.
- (e) For Cluster Resource Centres, the Board approved Rs. 608.76 lakhs.
- (f) A sum of Rs. 390.29 lakh was approved for the teacher training programme.
- (g) The Board accorded its approval to opening of EGS centres for schooling of 27,682 children at primary and upper primary level, short term/long term bridge courses, residential bridge courses for 1750 and 360 children respectively. The Board also approved a provision of Rs. 12.20 lakh for back to school camps for 1444 children and Rs. 41.81 lakh AIE strategies. The Board approved a total of Rs. 345.68 lakh for interventions related to EGS & AIE.
- (h) The Board also approved Rs. 88.98 lakh for special interventions with respect to integrating the physically challenged children into regular schools.
- (i) The Board also approved construction of 190 school buildings for new primary and upper primary schools, 180 reconstruction of dilapidated school buildings, 1148 boundary walls, electrification in 122 schools, 327 additional classrooms, 3 BRCs and 73 Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs) at the cost of Rs. 3435.68 lakh as fresh proposals, subject to the condition that a certificate with respect to unit cost, as approved, be obtained by appropriate authority/agency of State Government.
- (j) Rs. 150.00 lakh were approved for SIEMAT in addition to the spillover of Rs. 150.00 lakh.

The Board approved a sum of Rs. 11294.01 lakh towards fresh proposals for the year 2004-2005 and Rs. 1055.86 lakh as spill over for the unfinished activities approved for the year 2003-04 as per the details given in **Annexure – 4 (I)**. Thus, the Board has approved an outlay of Rs. 12349.86 lakh for implementation of SSA in the State of Uttaranchal for the financial year 2004-05.

The Board considered the plans of the State for implementation of NPEGEL in the financial year 2004-05, the recommendations of appraisal team and approved a sum of Rs. 683.80 lakh as AWP & B 2004-05 for NPEGEL as per the details given in **Annexure- 4 (II)**.

The Board considered the plans for implementation of District Primary Education Programme in 33 districts of Uttaranchal for the year 2004-05 and for the period April 2005 to September 2005, recommendations of the appraisal team and approved the following as per the details given in **Annexure – 4 (III)**.

- (a) Spillover for the unfinished activities approved for the year 2003-04 = Rs. 69.31 lakh
- (b) Fresh activities for year 2004-05 = Rs.2207.02 lakh

Total	= Rs. 2276.33 lakh
(c) For activities during the period April 2005 to September 2005	= Rs. 969.42 lakh
Grand Total	= Rs. 3245.75 lakh

It was resolved that the grant for the period April 2005 to September 2005 would be released after review of programme in the year 2004-05.

Thus the total approvals for Uttaranchal are as follows:-

(Rs. in lakh)

Project	Spill Over	Fresh	Total
SSA	1055.86	11294.01	12349.86
NPEGEL	33.50	656.22	689.72
DPEP*	69.31	2207.02 (+) + 969.42@	3245.75*
Grand Total			16285.33

*Upto September 2005

(+) for the period from April 2004 to 31st March 2005.

@ for the period from April 2005 to 30th September 2005.

The Board also directed that the States of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh, whose plans were considered in this meeting, should satisfy the following conditions:

- The State Government should give a written commitment for meeting its share of the SSA only.
- 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.
- At least 50% of the teachers recruited should be female.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Minutes of the meeting of the 50th Project Approval Board of SSA held
On 19th May, 2004

Consideration of Annual Action 2004-05 in respect of Himachal Pradesh

The State Project director, Himachal Pradesh made a brief presentation on the education profile of the state and the achievements during the past three years of implementation of SSA. Himachal has made rapid strides in Literacy since 1981. Enrolment in the elementary stage is nearly universal and less than 1% of the children are out of school. Dropout rate is also very low at about 3%. The figures with respect to various equity indicators are also very impressive – the gap with respect to gender and various social groups is negligible. Availability of basic infrastructure (teachers and schools), adequate investment in education and a strong political will have been the main contributory factors in the improvement in elementary education sector in Himachal Pradesh.

2. The Appraisal Team, represented by Sri R.K. Mishra, Sri Sourav Banerjee and Dr. Tyagi made the following observations:

- The state still has two separate Directorate looking after Primary and Upper Primary education. This creates problem in co-ordination and is a hurdle in the implementation of the Programme.
- A very small percentage of children in the state remain out of school. However, these are also the hardest to reach groups and special strategies are required to bring them back to school. Presently the plans only mention that the children would be covered through EGS and AIE interventions. There is a need to devise special strategies to bring these children in school.
- A large number of schools in the state are without toilet and drinking water facilities. The plans make a mention about utilizing convergent sources of funding to provide these basic facilities but no data has been provided in its support. The State and the districts need to work out a plan of action whereby all schools are provided with water supply and toilet facilities by the end of the Xth Plan.
- Under teacher training the districts have not proposed induction training for the newly recruited upper primary teachers. The state felt that the teachers are pre service trained and there is no requirement for an induction training.
- The districts have not proposed any intervention on innovative scheme for girls or SC/ST education under SSA. The state felt that there were no substantial issues with respect of equity.
- There are about 5000 existing teacher vacancies that need to be filled up.
- Data and research indicates that the percentage of repeaters is still quite high in the State and the state should now concentrate on this area.

3. JS (EE II) observed that issues on girls education and education of SC/ST are important and should not be neglected. Even if enrolment and retention is not a major issue for these groups in Himachal, achievement level remains poor for girls, SCs and STs. She suggested that the state should budget for the available funds of Rs. 15 lakhs per district, which can be used for carrying out remedial teaching for the special focus groups for improving their learning levels.

4. She also explained that the 30 days induction training of freshly appointed upper primary teachers is important to orient them on SSA objectives and new pedagogical practices. A budget provision for the same should therefore also be kept.

5. The SPD explained that the issue of two separate Directorates would be resolved soon. A unified Directorate of Elementary Education is expected by August 2004. He also assured the Board that existing teacher vacancies would be filled up by the year-end.

6. The Planning commission representative pointed out that boundary walls may not be an urgent necessity in Himachal Pradesh. The Appraisal Team argued that since most of the schools are in hilly terrain, retaining and bracing walls are extremely necessary. It was decided that retaining and bracing walls will be supported by the programme.

7. The Appraisal team also pointed out that in three tribal districts, the unit cost of construction is 25% higher. These districts have therefore requested for an escalation against the additional rooms sanctioned in the previous year. The Project Director A.P. clarified that there is a differential State norm for these districts and the proposal is based on that. The Board subject to State norms, approved this.

8. A Total of Rs. 12156.45 lakhs was sanctioned for the 12 districts of Himachal Pradesh including fresh proposals (Rs. 10168.37 lakhs) and spillovers (Rs.1988.08 lakhs). This includes sanctions towards SSA and NPEGEL. The details are provided in the following tables. Further following decisions were taken by the Board in regard to Annual Plan 2004-05.

- i) 264 Upper Primary School approved with the condition that these would be on upgradation of primary schools.
 - ii) Salary was approved for teachers approved under the programme in the previous years.
 - iii) School grant, maintenance grants and teacher grant was approved for the existing schools.
 - iv) Grant for opening EGS/AIE Centres (P) approved for 6601 childrens and grant for opening EGS/AIE centers (U.P) approved for 525 children for getting all out-of school children to school.
 - v) BRC & CRC personnel was sanctioned at the rate of 10 persons for CD blocks having schools less than 100 schools and 20 persons for blocks having more than 100 schools. Approval was also given for teacher training, innovation, management cost, civil work (restricted to 33%) R&E, community training, IED, etc. as per the recommendations of the Appraisal Team.
 - vi) Based on the proposal of the State Govt. and the recommendation of the Appraisal Team thereon, a total annual plan 2004-05 for a amount of Rs. 10095.07 lakhs was approved for SSA. Details are given in annexure-II.
 - vii) Rs.11982.78 lakhs was approved as Spill over for sanctions given in the previous year. Details are given in annexure-III.
 - viii) Rs. 77.70 lakhs were approved for carrying out activities under NPEGEL, which include Rs. 5.30 lakhs as Spill over. Details are given in annexure-IV.
9. It was directed that the State should also satisfy the following conditions:-
- a) State government should give a written commitment for meeting its share of the SSA outlay.
 - b) First installment of the State share should also be released to the Society within one month of the release of Central share to the State.
 - 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, schools 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 given the details of this to GOI before the release of second installment. The contribution as State share for SSA will be over and above this investment.
- g) The second installment would only be released after the previous installment of state share has been transferred to the State Implementation Society had 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.

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

Flag-'A'

Provision in Draft TOR	Modification Suggested in the meeting held on 29-4-2004.	Position in Draft Final TOR submitted by DFID on 17-5-2004.	Remarks
(A) QUALITY OF ACCESS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides basic learning conditions in terms of effective teacher presence, school facilities, teaching learning materials; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides basic learning conditions in terms of effective teacher availability, school facilities, teaching learning materials; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporated. 	May be accepted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> respects equity by accepting the need for equivalence across the diverse approaches and forms of schooling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be re-written while focussing on equity in access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess equivalence of quality in formal and alternate systems. 	May be accepted.
(B) QUALITY OF LEARNING			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does class room practice meet diversity of learning needs and abilities; Is additional/remedial support provided for slow/ first generation learners; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at classroom practices and ascertain how diversity of learning needs have been taken care of. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at classroom to assess how diverse learning needs are being met. 	May be accepted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are SCERT/ DIET/ State and District level Academic Resource Groups, effective in providing academic support to BRC/CRC, schools and teachers? Is there a shared vision and responsibility for quality? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a clear vision of the state on the academic support system? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a clear-shared vision and responsibility for quality in the academic support system (CRC/BRC/DIET/SCERT). 	To be incorporated as suggested in Col. 2.
(C) QUALITY OF IMPLEMENTATION			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarity of role regarding CRC/BRC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process of evolution of BRC/CRC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess processes to institutionalize academic support; 	<p>May be accepted.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System of data collection, validation and use; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System of DISE Data collection, Validation and use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System of data collection, validation and use; 	<p>To be incorporated as suggested in Col. 2.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of implementation with respect to its impact on service provision and level of community ownership; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of evolution of VEC. 		<p>To be incorporated as suggested in Col. 2.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timeliness of resource utilization against the AWP&B; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of funds at State/District level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timeliness of fund availability against the AWP&B at State and district levels; 	<p>To be incorporated as suggested in Col. 2.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness of institutional support for timely implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness of institutional support systems as envisaged in AWP&B. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness of institutional support for timely implementation of AWP&B; 	<p>To be incorporated as suggested in Col. 2.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of system wide reforms on account of DPEP implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of DPEP on the elementary education system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution of DPEP to system wide reforms in primary education. 	<p>To be incorporated as suggested in Col. 2.</p>
<p>• PREPARATION</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background materials will be provided by the EE Bureau to the Team Leader at least ten days prior to the start of the JRM. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background materials will be provided by the EE Bureau to the Team Leader prior to the start of the JRM. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background materials will be provided by the EE Bureau to the Team Leader at least ten days prior to the start of the JRM. 	<p>May be accepted.</p>

TOR for MTR OF Rajasthan			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project expenditure status and expenditure plans and disbursement forecast for the balance period of the project; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project expenditure status and expenditure estimates for the balance period of the project; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporated. 	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of financial management arrangements (including auditing), FMR and the PMIS Pending audit issues and actions taken to resolve these issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of audit arrangements and Pending audit issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine audit arrangements and pending audit issues. (For Rajasthan DPEP II). 	May be accepted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mission will review the procurement status and procurement plans for the remaining period of the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mission will review the procurement status and the procurement plans for the year 2004-05. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporated. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mission will prepare its report on the basis of reports of research agreed to be undertaken for the MTR on the following themes: (i) Retention rate; (ii) Achievement; (iii) Utilization of Teachers Grant; and (iv) Classroom Observation in Formal, Non-formal, and Alternative Schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mission will prepare its report on the basis of ...the reports of research agreed to be undertaken for the MTR on the following themes: (i) Early Childhood Education Centre (ECCE) (ii) Alternative schools (iii) Change in classroom teaching practice (iv) Function of CRCs/BRCs/SMCs (v) Quality of civil works (Rajasthan). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (For Rajasthan DPEP II, the studies and surveys are to cover early childhood education centres, alternative schools, changes in classroom proactive, functioning of BRCs, CRCs, and SMCs and quality of civil works, <i>and achievements in mathematics and language of children in primary education, all with separate categories for females, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes.</i> For UPDEEP UPDPEP III, research themes are (i) para-teachers, (ii) alternative schooling, (iii) early childhood education, (iv) impact of teacher training, (v) support systems for VEC school management; (vi) mid-term assessments of learning achievement in all project districts.) 	For Rajasthan to be incorporated as suggested in col. 2. For UP DEPE may be accepted as it is as per DCA.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Report Part – IV specific to questions emerging out of the ToR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be deleted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deleted. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State/ District Elementary Education Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State report cards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Elementary Education Reports. 	May be accepted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Report on Evaluation of civil works under DPEP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be deleted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deleted. 	

'Moreover it was decided that one each procurement and financial management specialist of the World Bank will be allowed to visit the project alongwith the JRM, on order to review the financial and procurement matters and their report should form part of the state report of JRM.' This particular suggestion has not been incorporated in Draft TOR.