

MINUTES OF THE 56<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD FOR SSA HELD ON  
30.6.2004 FOR SIKKIM

The 56<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Project Approval Board(PAB) for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was held under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Kumud Bansal, Secretary, Department of Elementary Education and Literacy on 30.6.2004. Among other States, Annual Plans for the year 2004-05 of Sikkim were also taken up for approval. A list of participants in the meeting, is annexed.

Item No. 1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> meeting of PAB held for Sikkim on 13.8.2003.

1.1 The minutes were confirmed.

Item No. 2. Consideration of Annual Plans of Sikkim for 2004-05.

2.1. Before commencement of discussion the proposals for 2004-05 and their consideration by PAB, Shri D.P.S. Rana, Additional Director, Sikkim briefly explained the status of implementation of SSA in the State. The following points were made by him :-

- As against AWP&B of Rs.1233.11 lakhs approved in 2003-04, the State has incurred an expenditure of Rs.657.30 lakhs.
- There are 8998 out of school children in the State.
- The State has taken up a House Hold Survey for updating the earlier House Hold data based on survey conducted in 2000-01, which is likely to be completed by August 2004. This survey will also bring out the number of children who have dropped out of school since 2002.
- The State has decided to open 87 alternative schools in 2003-04 with the help of NGOs. Proposals for the same have been invited by the State.
- Out of a total 5427 teachers to be trained, 1438 number of teachers have been trained through the Certificate in Primary Education(CPE) course started by IGNOU and recognized by NCTE.
- Pre-primary sections are attached with all schools in the State.
- The Monastic schools have been strengthened with the appointment of 106 additional teachers appointed by the State under SSA (Innovative Head) for imparting EVS and Maths teaching in the schools.
- Computer education has been started in 10 schools in each district of the State as an additional subject. Computer labs have been provided in these schools consisting of 10 computers with TV, printer and web-cameras.

2.2 The brief overview by the Additional Director was followed by a discussion on the Implementation of the programme in the State as well as fresh proposals for 2004-05 made by the State, in their Annual Plans for the current financial year.

2.3 Secretary(EE&L) initiated the discussion by inviting the members of the Appraisal Team for their comments.

2.4 Shri Girotra , Consultant(Civil Works) and member of the Appraisal Team appreciated the following steps taken by the State for Universalisation of Elementary Education:-

- attachment of pre-primary classes with primary schools .
- incentives given by the State to primary school children including free text-books, free uniforms, free exercise books and merit scholarships.
- support rendered by the State to SSA by providing adequate man-power at State, district and block levels.
- Rationalization of education being imparted in Monastic schools through introduction of subjects like Maths, Environment Science and English.

However, he also raised the major issues which were required to be urgently addressed by the State. These included the need for involving SMCs in the planning process, capacity building for pre-service training in the State so that the new teachers to be appointed by the State in future would be qualified, operationalisation of the MIS Unit as it was still not functional, execution of civil works through cost effective local technologies rather than conventional technologies and regular updating of the Village Education Register to monitor the progress of enrolment of out of school children every year. Further he also apprised the PAB that there was a need for the State to effectively utilise the mainstream administrative structure especially at State level, for implementation of SSA.

- 2.5** In this context, JS(E.E.I) inquired as to whether all posts earmarked for implementation of SSA in the State, were filled.
- 2.6** Additional Director confirmed that all posts were filled up.
- 2.7** JS(E.E.II) commenting on the establishment of the computers in schools, reminded the State that the idea of computer education under SSA was not to create computer literacy but to establish computer-aided learning. Therefore, there was a need for the State to re-look into the content of their computer programme.
- 2.8** Secretary(E.E&L) taking note of the issue regarding non-involvement of the SMCs in the planning process, raised by the Appraisal Team, desired that a capacity building workshop should be organized in the State with the help of NIEPA.
- 2.9** Secretary(E.E&L) also asked the State representative whether qualified and trained teachers were being recruited against the post sanctioned under SSA and if not, how was the State proposing to appoint trained teachers as well as clear the backlog of untrained teachers.
- 2.10** Additional SPD informed Secretary that initially professional qualifications were not being made mandatory for recruitment of teachers as the State had only one operational DIET with an intake capacity of 50 students and one private college with an intake of 90 students, for pre-service training. However, the State was now reviewing its policy. Regarding the in-service training of untrained teachers, he apprised Secretary(E.E&L) that presently IGNOU was running 10 centres for providing in-service training through the distance mode. However, according to him, was still a backlog of 1300 untrained teachers in addition to the newly recruited teachers.
- 2.11** Secretary(E.E&L) desired that the number of centres should be increased and some BRCs should also be identified to enable IGNOU to run more than 10 centres.
- 2.12** Dr. Rana, Additional Director apprised Secretary(E.E&L) that out of the present 10 centres being run, 5 were already located in BRCs.
- 2.13** JS(E.E.I) inquired whether there was any provision in the recruitment rules of the State whereby some weightage was being given to trained teachers. He also requested the State representative to send a copy of the recruitment rules.
- 2.14** On his side, Additional Director, raised two issues for consideration of the PAB. These included (i) admissibility of providing furniture in all schools from SSA funds and (ii) provision of Black-Boards for 2000 schools which were still without Black-Board.
- 2.15** JS(E.E.II) informed the State representative that it was possible to provide for furniture in new primary schools/upgraded Upper Primary Schools by using TLE grant. However, no separate funds could be provided under SSA for providing furniture to schools. Rs. 2000/- annual school grant could be used for furniture amongst other items.
- 2.16** Regarding provision of Black-Boards, she apprised the State that funds out of the school grant and maintenance grant, could be used for providing the same, on priority to these schools without Black-Boards.

2.17. Based on presentation, discussion of State proposals and comments of the Appraisal Team, a total outlay of Rs.1600.684 lakhs (including fresh proposals of Rs.1198.214 lakhs and spill overs of Rs.402.470 lakhs) was approved for SSA, details of which are provided in Annexure II. Further, following decisions were also taken up by the Board:-

- i) 5032 out of school children to be covered under Alternative schools, remedial coaching for 2840 students and Non-residential Bridge courses for 316 children.
- ii) No new primary and UPS sanctioned for 2004-05.
- iii) 4 additional posts of teachers sanctioned for the 4 upgraded UPS sanctioned in 2003-04 (as only 2 additional posts of teachers per school sanctioned last year).
- iv) Free text-books sanctioned for 20544 SC,ST & girls (class VI-VIII) @ 50% of the total cost(as 50% of the cost being borne by the State).
- v) Civil works within 33% ceiling limit sanctioned which include 123 additional classrooms, 111 toilets, 80 boundary walls, Electricity connections for 150 schools and drinking water facilities for 74 schools.
- vi) DISE data to be submitted to GOI positively by August 2004 by the State.
- vii) Unit cost per school to be raised to 4 lakhs on the request of the State as approx.Rs.50,000/- required for land cutting.

2.18. The Board also directed that the State should satisfy the following conditions:

- a) The State Government should give a written commitment for meeting its share.
- b) First instalment of the State share should be released to the Society within one month of the release of Central share of 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 grants, civil works, 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 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 thank to the Chair.

**MINUTES OF FIFTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD FOR SARVA  
SHIKSHA ABHIYAN HELD ON JUNE 30, 2004**

The 56<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Project Approval Board for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was held under the Chairmanship of Smt. Kumud Bansal, Secretary, Elementary Education & Literacy on 30.6.2004. A list of participants is annexed.

**Item No. 1: Consideration of Annual Action Plan 2004-05 in respect of Pondicherry**

1.1 The meeting began with a brief explanation by the Secretary (Education), Govt. of Pondicherry on the activities being undertaken in the UT during the year 2003-04. He made the following points:

- An expenditure of Rs.139.22 lakhs was incurred against the approved outlay of Rs. 730.82 lakhs in the year. Thus, the expenditure worked out to 19.02% only. He assured that during the current year 2004-05 the rate of expenditure would be speeded up. The management structure was now in place at the UT and district level and the village committees had been constituted in the villages.
- Regarding the activities, he explained that all new schools are being provided with ramps and toilets. Teacher training was being institutionalised by involving DIET. DIET was working well in the UT and would be used for SSA. He assured that the teacher training would be given special focus and the UT will conduct a workshop on these issues.
- He stated that NER was low in some districts, the reasons for which would be diagnosed and remedial steps taken. Household survey has been done and the out of school children have been identified. There are totally 2074 out-of-school children who would be brought to school this year. The UT had even gone beyond the goals of SSA and is planning universalization of secondary education.

1.2 JS (EE-II) wanted to know the way the funds for computer education are being used by the UT. The Secretary (Education), Pondicherry explained that the funds are utilised for making the children aware of computers etc. JS (EE-II) explained that there appeared to be a misunderstanding that the computer aided learning involves awareness of computer applications like Power Point presentation, etc. and web browsing. She explained that computer aided learning should be designed to assist augmenting learning skills of pupils in mathematics, science, etc and explain the hard spots. The Secretary (Edn), Pondicherry informed the Board that they are working closely with Azim Premji Foundation in developing various software programmes. Secretary (EE&L) asked the UT Government to develop software in all the languages on various subjects as the districts fall in different linguistic areas. She also asked the NCERT to advertise the needs of various states such approved providers for various subjects in different languages so that the states can draw up on their expertise. UT Secretary requested that since Pondicherry and Karaikal districts are much bigger than Mahe and Yanam, the UT may be permitted to use the innovative funds meant for computer education taking the UT as a unit in whole, implying that surplus of the smaller districts could be used in the larger districts

1.3 Secretary (EE&L) also advised that vocational education should be given attention to and tied up with various schemes being implemented by the Dept. of Secondary Education and Higher Education to enable vocationalisation of education at upper primary level.

1.4 JS (EE-II) added that EMIS was not functional at all in the UT. DISE data as on September 2003 has not yet been received and that the UT is about a year behind in this matter. The SPD explained that the DISE forms have been filled up, but not yet keyed in the computers. JS asked him to expedite the task.

1.5 JS (EE-I) noted the number of children with special needs as a percentage of total number of children in the UT was less than 1% against a norm of 2-3%. The UT was asked to verify their figures and intimate the exact number of handicapped children along with break up of number by disability category.

1.6 Secretary (EE&L) stated the since the UT had a high GER, universalization could be achieved easily. However, she wanted the UT to take the following actions this year:

- i) While the NER for the UT was nearly 90%, it was non-uniform over the UT. So the UT should focus on districts with low NER.

- ii) All vacancies in the BRCs/CRCs should be filled up without any further loss of time. Then these institutions should be utilized to provide teacher training (20 days) to all teachers. Evaluation of students should be done by CRC every three months. All these steps would lead to improvement in quality of education. Secretary (Edn), Govt of Pondicherry assured that the vacancies would be filled up within three months (i.e. upto September, 2004).
- iii) In regard to IED, Secretary (EE&L) directed the UT Government to identify the children with disability and also to devise a plan of remedy for each category of children through assistance of NGOs who need to be identified. It can also hold a workshop on this in August in which the TSG Consultant on IED may be sent to attend and advise.
- iv) Computer Education should be in step with the educational needs of the children and the necessary software should be identified either through the market or developed in consultation with NCERT.
- v) Following minimum specific goals were set for the UT:
  - a) The NER in Mahe and Yenam should go up by 10% this year.
  - b) All out of school children should be brought to school.
  - c) Twenty days teacher training to be given to all teachers.
  - d) BRC & CRC's to be put in place by Sept., 2004.
- vi) The performance of the UT would be reviewed every three months especially with reference to improvement in quality of education and the first review will take place during the month of September, 2004.

1.7 Based on the recommendations of the Appraisal Team, observations made by the participants and clarifications given by the UT representatives, following decisions were taken by the Board in regard to Annual Plans 2004-2005:

- i) 15 new primary schools were approved along with two teachers each and TLE. UT's representation for additional teachers in light of the four languages in the UT was not agreed to.
- ii) School grant, maintenance grant and teacher grant was approved as proposed by the appraisal team.
- iii) Back to School Camps and bridge courses were approved for enrolling 2074 out-of-school children.
- iv) PAB agreed to UT's request for allowing use of funds for innovation in computer education by treating the UT as a unit to cover 165 Upper Primary Schools, allowing transfer of funds under this head from one district to another depending on actual requirement.
- v) Approval was also given for teacher training, innovation, management cost, civil works (restricted to 33%), RE, BRC, CRC, community training, IED, etc as per the recommendations of the appraisal team
- vi) Based on the proposal of the UT Government and the recommendations of the Appraisal Team thereon, fresh Annual Plan 2004-05 for an amount of Rs 797.80 lakhs and spill-over of Rs 261.90 lakhs for a total of Rs 1059.70 lakhs was approved as per details given in Annex 1.1.
- vii) It was directed that the UT should also satisfy the following conditions:
  - (a) The UT should satisfy the conditions mentioned in Para 1.6 above.
  - (b) The UT Government should give a written commitment for meeting its share of the SSA outlay.
  - (c) First instalment of the UT share should also be released to the Society within one month of the release of Central share to the UT society.
  - (d) At least 50% of the teachers recruited should be female.

- (e) 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.
- (f) 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.
- (g) The UT 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 UT share for SSA will be over and above this investment.
- (h) The second instalment would only be released after the previous instalment of UT share has been transferred to the UT 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. 6      Vote of Thanks**

The meeting concluded with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

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**Minutes of the meeting of the Project Approval Board for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2004**

The meeting of the PAB for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for the State of **Nagaland** was held on 30.06.04 under the Chairpersonship of Smt Kumud Bansal, Secretary (EE&L).

2. At the outset Commissioner cum Secretary (School Education), Government of Nagaland made a brief presentation on the State's proposal. The highlights of the presentation are as follows:-
- > The State of Nagaland has a population of 19.89 lakhs. The majority of the population is Scheduled Tribe.
  - > Gross literacy rate of the State is 67.11% with female literacy rate at 54.16 %
  - > According to the house hold survey, the total number of habitation is 1346 of which 168 are access less habitations.
  - > The PTR at primary level is 1:17 and that at Upper primary level is 1:19
  - > GER at elementary, Primary and Upper Primary level is 105.7% and 60.26% respectively.
  - > Total enrolment in Primary and Upper Primary is 3.35 lakhs.

**PROGRESS ACHIEVED**

- > During the year no progress was made in enrolling the 0.46 lakhs out of school children into the schooling system.
- > Nagaland College of Teacher Training is providing in service B.Ed training to 100 graduate teachers annually. More than 65% teachers are still untrained. Modalities were being worked out for teacher training through distance education programme of IGNOU.
- > Textbooks to all classes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> have been provided free of cost.
- > An agreement has been signed by the State with the Teledata Informatics Ltd, Chairman for Computer education in Government middle schools in July 2004. JS(EE-II), pointed out that emphasis be on computer aided learning, in science, maths and language areas specially hard spots of learning.

⊙The PAB also discussed the following issues:

- ⊙Secretary(EE&L) asked the State to explore the possibility of increasing intake capacity of DIET's from 50 to 100, so as to increase availability of trained teachers.
- ⊙JS(EE-II) stated that state should clarify its rules and norms for engagement of trained teachers and untrained teachers respectively.
- ⊙Untrained teachers must be provided an opportunity for professional training through IGNOU's distance education programmes.
- ⊙JS(EE-I) wanted to know why CRCs were not proposed in the AWP & B 2004-05. The Education Secretary, Nagaland, said that the State did not feel the need for CRC. They were asked to reconsider this and come up with a proposal in 4 months. Similarly, Nagaland needs to draw up a teacher training policy and plan.
- ⊙No progress had been made in IED. The State was asked to take this up also in a time bound manner.
- ⊙As per Household survey conducted in 2002, the number of never enrolled children was 46,000. However, as per district level projections the number of out of school children is 82,000 and the EGS/AIE strategies proposed to cover only about 19,000 children. This data discrepancy needs to be corrected by Nagaland, and additional strategies to cover all out of school children, submitted to Government of India within 4 months.
- ⊙Commissioner -cum- Secretary (Edu), Nagaland informed that a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed in June, 2004 between the state SSA Mission and the "**Nagaland Baptist Churches Council**", **Nagaland (NBCC)** for Alternative schooling in the state. NBCC is an NGO that will make efforts to enroll about 19000 never enrolled children in Alternative/ Innovative schooling, Secretary (EE & L) asked Secretary (Edu), Nagaland to check and confirm if the NGO was a registered body. She further said that the NBCC's involvement in SSA & giving them funds should be subject to the condition that :

- i) it does not and will not engage in any anti national activities:
- ii) it will not discriminate amongst children on grounds of religion or creed.

⊙The State does not have SIEMAT and have proposed to set up one this year. The PAB felt that setting up of a SIEMAT in Nagaland was not justifiable. JS(EE-II ) suggested that Nagaland representatives should visit the SIEMAT at Allahabad to see how it functions and also reconsider starting an Educational Planning & Management wing in the State SCERT. Till further views are available from Nagaland, this item was not approved by PAB.

4. Based on the proposal of the State Govt. and the recommendation of the Appraisal Team an amount of Rs. 2517.96 lakhs was accepted as fresh proposals for Annual Plan for 2004-2005 for SSA Nagaland. Proposal for SIEMAT was not approved. Besides, a spill over of Rs. 921.74 lakhs was also included. As such, the total amount recommended for SSA Nagaland 2004-05 was as follows:-

**(Rupees in lakhs)**

AWP&B 2004-05	2517.96
Spill over 2003-04	921.74
<b>Total 2004 -05</b>	<b>3439.70</b>

⊙It was directed that the State should also satisfy the following conditions:

- (a) Give a written commitment for meeting its share of the SSA outlay.
- (b) First instalment of the State share should be released to the Society within one month of the release of Central share .
- (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 . The latter should monitor the attendance before releasing salary.
- (e) VECs or equivalent bodies should be constituted and accounts opened to incur expenditure under teacher 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) The State Government will maintain their level of investment in elementary education as in 1999-2000 and give details of this to GOI before the release of second installment. Contribution as State share for SSA will be over and above this investment.
- (g) Second instalment of Central assistance would only be released after previous instalment of State share has been transferred to the State Implementation Society and at least 50 % of the total has been spent.
- (h) All appointments against the head of "management cost" should either be on deputation or on contract basis, with all persons recruited having functional computer literacy.

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