

**Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Project Approval Board of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
held under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Elementary Education & Literacy at 11.30 a.m.
on 15.1.2002**

The Eight meeting of the Project Approval Board of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was held under the Chairmanship of Shri S.K. Tripathi, Secretary, Elementary Education & Literacy at 11.30 a.m. on 15.1.02. A list of participants is enclosed.

Item No. 1: Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 The Minutes of the Sixth & Seventh meeting of the Project approval Board held on 13-14 December 2001 and 19th December 2001 were confirmed.

Item No.2: Action Taken Report

2.1 Action Taken on the decisions of the Sixth and Seventh meeting of the Project Approval Board was noted.

Item No.3: Consideration of Plans from Gujarat

3.1 The Board considered the District Elementary Education Work Plans for 2001-2002 in respect of 14 districts of Gujarat on the understanding that the Perspective Plans would be prepared within the next 3-4 months.. A brief presentation was made by the Education Secretary Gujarat. The highlights of the presentation are as follows:

- The Literacy rate in the State is 69.97% with male literacy rate of 80.50% and female literacy rate of 58.60%. Of the 14 revenue districts to be covered, highest female literacy is in Ahmedabad (71.12%) and lowest female literacy rate is in Patan district (46.36%).
- There is a wide variation in the teacher –pupil ratio in these districts resulting in higher demand for additional teachers to make up the teacher-pupil ratio at 1:40.
- The drop-out rate is lower as compared to other States.
- The number of out of school children in all these districts is around 3.33 lakhs and the annual plans for these districts have been prepared based on this data.
- The State Government is implementing a scheme of the Vidyasahayak under which paid teachers are recruited at the rate of Rs.2500 p.m. These teachers are regularized on completion of five years of service.

3.2 Secretary, EE&L desired to know as to who is the appointing authority for such teachers. The Education Secretary, Gujarat stated that the District Primary Education Officer is the appointing authority for them. As they are recruited at the district level, DPO is the appointing authority for them. However, they propose to decentralize the recruitment to the block level so that Block Education Officers could be designated as appointing authority for them. He further stated that the State does not compromise on qualifications in appointment to ensure quality education to the children.

3.3 The Education Secretary, Gujarat also stated that, though they have constituted Village Education Committees, at present they have no authority over the teachers for effective functioning of the schools. He was of the view that the VEC/Community should be given a role in appointment/transfer of Vidyasahayak and the teacher should be made accountable to them. Even the Headmaster could be designated as appointing authority for Vidyasahayak. Secretary

(EE & L) suggested that guidelines be made by the State to streamline the appointments, transfers and fixing of accountability of the teachers including Vidyasahayaks. FA suggested that they could make school specific appointments to avoid problem of transfer of teachers particularly in the rural areas.

3.4 The Education Secretary, Gujarat also indicated that they are providing free text books to all children from Class I to VII and are also implementing Mid-day Meal Scheme for classes I to VII – from class I to V from GOI funds and for Classes VI-VII from State Government funds.

3.5 It was mentioned by Secretary, Education, Gujarat that the State Govt. had begun giving recognition to Pre-Primary Schools. JS (EE) requested the State Education Secretary to supply a copy of the instructions on recognition of pre-primary schools in the State. Education Secretary, Gujarat promised to send a copy of the Government order on this subject.

3.6 The State Education Secretary also expressed his thanks for GOI sanctioning the special grant for repair and reconstruction of schools damaged in recent earthquake in the State. JS (EE) briefed the Secretary, EE&L on the grants made available by GOI and the Government of Netherlands in non-DPEP and DPEP districts for reconstruction and repair programme in the State.

3.7 On problems of municipal areas, JS (EE) suggested that the State Government may hold a Workshop to discuss the matter.

3.8 After discussion on the proposals made by the State Government on the basis of annual surveys conducted by teachers and other available data and the recommendations of the Appraisal Team thereon, the following decisions were taken by the Board:

- i) No new schools or new teachers be sanctioned this year.
- ii) School grant for 14800 schools and teachers grant for 79192 teachers be sanctioned as per the norms of SSA.
- iii) Teacher training may be sanctioned for 10 days only for 79192 teachers
- iv) Research , evaluation, supervision & monitoring grant may be sanctioned for 14800 schools at the rate of Rs 1400/- per school.
- v) Regarding BRCs and CRCs, the State would appoint senior teachers by transferring them to these centres from the schools where there are already serving. The resultant vacancy in these schools would be filled up by Vidyasahayaks who would be paid at the rate of Rs 2500/- per month. Thus, the total requirement of funds under SSA for provision of Resource Centre Personnel would be not at the rate of the salary of the personnel but at the rate of Rs 2500/- per month for two months at which the Vidyasahayaks would be appointed. Accordingly, the requirement of funds would reduce from that projected in the appraisal note. The civil works and management cost would also need reduction to ensure that the ceiling limits are not violated.
- vi) Furniture grant for 65 BRCs and 614 CRCs and contingency grant for 116 BRCs and 1570 CRCs were approved as per norms.
- vii) Training of 110832 community leaders was approved for 2 days as per SSA norms.
- viii) Assistance for 20676 physically and mentally challenged children was approved as per norms.
- ix) Innovative projects were approved for girls education, SC/ST education, ECCE and computer education at the rate of Rs 15.00 lakh, Rs. 10.00 lakh, Rs. 10.00 lakh and Rs.15.00 lakh per Distt. respectively.

- x) As far as civil works is concerned sanction was given for 26 additional classrooms, 100 drinking water facilities and repairs of 14798 schools. A reduction of 9 classrooms and maintenance of two school buildings from that suggested in the appraisal note was necessary to satisfy the 33% civil works limit.
- xi) Management cost was reduced to Rs 179.31 lakhs from Rs 183.31 lakhs to meet the 6% limit in some districts.
- xii) Based on the above decisions, the total outlay approved by the Board was as follows:

(Rs lakhs)

| | District | Total outlay | Civil Works | % of civil works to Total Cost | Management cost | % of management cost to total cost |
|----|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Ahmedabad | 267.84 | 43.8 | 16.3530 | 15.07 | 5.6265 |
| 2 | Amreli | 319.3 | 52.95 | 16.5832 | 13.73 | 4.3000 |
| 3 | Anand | 269.96 | 51.1 | 18.9287 | 13.18 | 4.8822 |
| 4 | Bharuch | 243.54 | 46 | 18.8881 | 11.68 | 4.7959 |
| 5 | Gandhinagar | 184.2 | 30.25 | 16.4224 | 11.05 | 5.9989 |
| 6 | Kheda | 381.9 | 126 | 32.9929 | 13.53 | 3.5428 |
| 7 | Mehsana | 259.08 | 46.35 | 17.8902 | 13.53 | 5.2223 |
| 8 | Narmada | 172.26 | 33.75 | 19.5925 | 10.33 | 5.9967 |
| 9 | Navsari | 207.18 | 36.85 | 17.7865 | 12.43 | 5.9996 |
| 10 | Patan | 181.48 | 27.95 | 15.4011 | 10.88 | 5.9952 |
| 11 | Rajkot | 305.34 | 62 | 20.3052 | 14.58 | 4.7750 |
| 12 | Surat | 382.58 | 89.3 | 23.3415 | 14.05 | 3.6724 |
| 13 | Vadodara | 396.89 | 107.95 | 27.1990 | 12.39 | 3.1218 |
| 14 | Valsad | 226.48 | 47.45 | 20.9511 | 12.88 | 5.6870 |
| | Total | 3798.03 | 801.7 | 21.1083 | 179.31 | 4.7211 |

xiii) State Government should satisfy the following as far as spending the money under SSA is concerned:

- The State government should give a written commitment for meeting its share of the SSA outlay.
- The State Government should release the above money to the state implementation society within one month of the receipt of money in its account.
- 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.
- At least 50% of the teachers recruited should be female.

- (e) VECs or equivalent bodies should be constituted and accounts opened to incur expenditure under teachers grant, civil works, maintenance grants, school grants and other such expenditure which has to be incurred only through these bodies as per SSA norms.
- (f) The State government will maintain their level of investment in elementary education as in 1999-2000 and give the details of this to GOI before the release of second instalment. The contribution as State share for SSA will be over and above this investment.
- (g) The second instalment would only be released after the previous instalment of Central government and 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) Since, Rs.1.49 crore of the amount sanctioned for pre-project activities are yet to be released by the State Govt. to the implementing Society, the Sanction order for release of the first instalment for the Annual Work Plan would be issued only after it is confirmed that the pre-project funds have been transferred to the implementing Society in full. The State Implementing Society will ensure that all necessary pre-project activities, including household surveys are completed on the basis of which the Perspective Plans can be prepared.

List of participants of the Eight meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 15.1.2002

S.No. Name & Designation

1. Shri S. K. Tripathi, Secretary (EE & L), MHRD - In Chair.
2. Shri Sumit Bose, Joint Secretary, EE, MHRD
3. Shri V.K.Pipersenia, JS&FA, MHRD
4. Shri Jagan Mathews, Joint Secretary, Adult Education, MHRD
5. Shri C. Balakrishnan Joint Secretary, (Plg.) MHRD
6. Shri J.C. Sharma, Director, (Edu.), Planning Commission (Representing Pr. Adv., PC)
7. Ms. Vasudha Gupta, Deputy Secretary, DWCD, (representing Secy, WCD)
8. Dr. (Mrs)Meena Gautam, Deputy Secretary, NCTE (representing Chairman NCTE)
9. Dr. K.K. Vashistha, Prof. & Head, EE, NCERT, New Delhi (rep. Dir NCERT)
10. Shri S.M.I.A. Zaidi, Fellow NIEPA, New Delhi (rep. Dir NIEPA)

In Attendance

1. Shri V. Sinha, Secretary, Education, Gujarat.
2. Shri Avinash Joshi, SPD, Gujarat.
3. Shri R.K. Chaudhari, Director, Primary Education, Gujarat
4. Shri Praveen Kumar, Director (EE), MHRD
5. Shri O.P. Chaturvedi, Under Secretary, MHRD
6. Shri S.K.Kapoor, Under Secretary, MHRD