

Minutes of Quarterly Review Meeting

cum

Workshop of AS Coordinators

(28th-30th May 2007)

Bhopal

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY REVIEW MEETING CUM WORKSHOP HELD ON 28TH-30TH MAY 2007 AT BHOPAL

1. Quarterly Review Meeting cum Workshop of AS Coordinators was held on 28th-30th May 2007 at Hotel Lake View Ashok, Bhopal.
2. The List of Participants is at Annexure – 1
3. The Agenda of the meeting is at Annexure – 2
4. The meeting began with welcome address by **Shri Indraneel Dani, Department of Education, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh**. He emphasized that schooling system needs to be strengthened as the ultimate goal of alternative systems is mainstreaming of children into regular school. He also mentioned that the out of school children now belong to hard to reach category and they need various flexible strategies to cater to their educational needs.
5. **Shri M.K. Singh, Commissioner Rajya Siksha Kendra and State Project Director, Madhya Pradesh** in his address highlighted the issue of hard to reach children and gave an overview of interventions like Human Development Centre and Shiksha Ghar meant for hard to reach children that are taken up in Madhya Pradesh.
6. While welcoming the participants from the States and UTs **Smt. Neelam Rao, Director MHRD, New Delhi** highlighted following issues to the participants:
 - Low achievements against the target of 2006-07
 - Need for proper planning for coverage of OOSC as there are gaps in 2007-08 plan
 - Need for good systems of monitoring and supervision to reach and bring OOSC to the school systems

She requested the States to come forward with specific micro planning to address various needs of out of school children. She focused on lower rate of mainstreaming and tracking of mainstreamed children. She suggested the States to develop flexible bridging, mainstreaming and child tracking plan keeping in view requirements of hard to reach children.

Identification of pockets of OOSC concentration

7. **Mr. Adil Rasheed, Consultant, TSG** presented analysis of available out of school children data at district, block level helps in identification of gaps in planning and implementation. He presented block level analysis of 20 districts of Bihar having more than 50000 out of school children. He highlighted the following points in his presentation:

- There are 20 blocks in these 20 districts where percentage of OOSC is 15%.
- There are 47 blocks in these districts where percentage of OOSC is 32.65%.
- This means that the problem of OOSC is concentrated in certain blocks and not evenly distributed in the whole district.

All the States were advised to immediately undertake similar all block analysis for the districts and particularly where concentration of OOSC is high. Through this they will be able to identify blocks with high OOSC concentration. Once problematic blocks are identified all the States are advised to map whether access and AIE interventions are sufficiently provided in AWP&B or not.

8. The States were divided into three groups to assess the following:

1. Distribution of OOSC
2. Geographical and social category distribution
3. AIE interventions planned in 2007-08
4. Gaps
5. Areas of Focus

Three groups made the presentations and the points that emerged from the group discussion are as given below:

- Identification of districts and sub districts where concentration of OOSC is high
- Household survey, Rapid survey and Validation of data
- Identification and orientation of the core team for planning
- Addressing the problem of small and scattered habitations by providing flexible strategies.
- Community mobilization and involvement of PRIs
- Strengthening of formal schools
- Convergence with different department
- Continuous monitoring and academic support

The following were main strategies that were highlighted by the States:

- Work sites schools for children at brick kilns and sugar cane industry
- Sankalp a bridging programme for OOSC in 7 districts of Bihar
- Utkarsh a bridging programme for Older Children in Bihar
- Capacity building of PRIs and VECs regularly on the issue of OOSC
- Seasonal Hostels and onsite support for children belonging to migrating families
- Strengthening of nodal school where bridging takes place
- Convergence with various department

Overview of OOSC:

9. On second day **Mr. R.K. Mishra, Consultant, TSG** presented an overview of OOSC and interventions in different States. In his presentation he expressed concern over 29 districts identified in 2006-07, having more than 50000 children out of school. Now the number of such district is 24 (Both the list of districts is at annexure 3). He also expressed his concern over low achievement under AIE and advised the States to prepare need based child wise plans. State wise progress at annexure 4. Though Reducing number of EGS reflects progress towards universalization of access. There are gaps in strategies to address the access in small and scattered habitations, delay in payment of honorarium and various academic issues both in EGS and AIE. He highlighted following points:

- 70.18 lakh children are OOS in 2007-08
- Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Orissa constitute 60% of OOSC
- 5 districts have (all in West Bengal) have more than 1 lakh OOSC
- 19 districts have more than 50000 and less than 1 lakh OOSC
- State wise number of districts having more than 50000 children is as given below:
 - Assam – 1, Bihar – 11, Chhattisgarh – 1, Haryana – 1, Orissa – 1, West Bengal - 9
- 58.5% OOSC are in the age group of 6-11 years
- 47.3% OOSC are in the age group of 11-14 years
- There are 49.9% girls OOS among OOSC

Out of School Children

10. The data on OOSC for the year 2007-08 was shared with the States. The States were informed that the number of OOSC nationally has not reduced. Though there has been reduction in States like (i) A&N Island (302 to 133), (ii) Andhra Pradesh (359829 to 264013), (iii) Arunachal Pradesh (38079 to 30565), (iv) Bihar (2315362 to 2114470), (v) Chhattisgarh (168435 to 123632), (vi) Delhi (85402 to 30001), (vii) Jammu & Kashmir (112396 to 108560), (viii) Jharkhand (366498 to 209662), (ix) Tamil Nadu (108227 to 103261) and the number of OOSC have increased in the States of (i) Dadra & Nagar Haveli (from 0 to 1614), (ii) Daman & Diu (147 to 210), (iii) Goa (from 0 to 7699), (iv) Haryana (1.86 lakh to 2.39 lakh), (v) Himachal Pradesh (4967 to 5624), (vi) Karnataka (1.6 lakh to 1.74 lakh), (vii) Punjab (0.980 lakh to 2.27 lakh), (viii) Rajasthan (1.34 lakh to 1.64 lakh), (ix) Uttar Pradesh (10.04 lakh to 7.85 lakh), (x) Uttarakhand (5612 to 22230), (xi) West Bengal (6.64 lakh to 13.56 lakh).

11. Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa together constitute 60% of the OSOC, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh constitute another 15% OOSC. In all 75% OOSC are in these 8 States altogether. It will be important for these 8 States to deploy proper manpower and make concerted efforts towards bringing the 'hard to reach' children into mainstream education.

12. Apart, from this the States though where absolute number may look small the percentage of OOSC to the age cohort of 6-14 years is very high. In particular Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Nagaland, Jammu &

Kashmir Punjab, Goa have more than 5% children in OOS category. These States will also need effective implementation of AIE interventions and more importantly to see if the Access need is saturated or not.

13. The AWP&B has been finalized by PAB including AIE component. However, there are gaps that emerged from the total number of OOSC planned through various interventions (inclusive of mainstreaming), problems are mainly in the following States :

S.No.	Name of the State	Total No. of OOSC	No. of children not planned for AIE interventions
1.	Andhra Pradesh	264013	28913
2.	Bihar	2114470	244012
3.	Chhattisgarh	123632	51685
4.	Delhi	20000	20000
5.	Haryana	238847	62918
6.	Karnataka	106860	1359
7.	Lakshadweep	168	168
8.	Meghalaya	77231	39997
9.	Punjab	129000	91399
10.	Uttarakhand	22229	3938
11.	West Bengal	1357601	217217

Interventions for child labour

14. This was followed by presentation of **Mr. Adil Rasheed, Consultant, TSG** on status of child labour in which he shared that 1.26 crore children are engaged in different kind of works. He also mentioned various programmes to curb the problem of child labour. The percentage of child labour in different States as given in the table below:

S. No.	State	No. of child labour	%age of Child labour
1.	Uttar Pradesh	1927997	15.31
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1363339	10.83
3.	Rajasthan	1262570	10.03
4.	Bihar	1117500	8.87
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1065259	8.46
6.	West Bengal	857087	6.81
7.	Karnataka	822615	6.53
8.	Maharashtra	764075	6.07
9.	Gujarat	485530	3.85
10.	Tamil Nadu	418801	3.33

Source: Census 2001

Concerning the incidence of girl child labour in the major States in India, Mr. Rasheed presented the analysis of the available data and mentioned that in all the States, the incidence of female child labour is high vis-a vis male child labour. This highlights the gender discrimination prevalent in the society. As per the data available incidence of girl child labour is 5.32%.

15. **Dr. Helen R. Sekar of VVGNI** in her presentation focused that poverty, economic deprivation, illiteracy and exploitative socio economic structure gives birth to child labour and informed about Child Labour (prohibition and regulation) Act 1986, National Child Labour Policy 1987 etc. and discussed in detail about various provisions under this Act. She mentioned that NCLP schools are meant for rehabilitation of children working in hazardous occupation and processes in the age group of 9 to 14 years where formal/non formal education and vocational training is imparted. There is provision of supplementary nutrition, stipend and health care services. Schools are opened in areas which are easily accessible to the target group. The duration of school hour is 5 hours a day and 6 days in a week. The timing of the schools are flexible. 8818 NCLP schools have been sanctioned for 4.56 lakhs children out of which 5469 schools are running in which 2.67 lakhs children are enrolled. She also shared the evaluation report of NCLP schools; the highlights of the report are given below:

- Enrolment is satisfactorily high as 95%.
- Stipend and nutrition at schools shown to be important determinants.
- Information gap on mainstreaming children
- There is urgent need of convergence between health services, mid day meal, SSA, total sanitation campaign and other development schemes.

The States were advised to converge with NCLP programme. The Director, MHRD referred to the letter of Joint Secretary in this regard.

Urban Deprived Children and Seasonal Migration :

16. **Mr. Ritwik Patra**, made presentation on urban deprived children and seasonal migration and highlighted the following points:

- Deprived urban children are – street children, railway platform children, children living in slums, children in shops/establishments, children of migrant families, children of nomads, children of sex workers etc.
- They are deprived because they don't have access to education, in adequate food, absence of secured shelter, lack of love and care, harassment by police, exploitation by employers etc.
- Strategies to cover the children should be – creating an enabling environment, creating a supportive environment and creating a sustainable environment.

The States were advised to map the magnitude of urban deprived children and devise suitable strategies for them. The Director, MHRD requested Maharashtra to conduct a survey in Mumbai and share the information with GOI.

State Interventions:

17. **Bihar** made a presentation on Sankalp, a programme to bring out of school children into schooling system. This programme will be started in a phased manner, initially in 7 districts of Bihar.

The Bihar representative was advised to include Madhubani district in the first phase of Sankalp as this district has highest number of OOSC in the country. The state was also advised to plan for 2.44 lakhs children who are not planned in AWP&B and submit a supplementary plan.

Bihar was advised to start interventions in all the districts as all districts have high number of OOSC.

18. **Madhya Pradesh** made a presentation on Interventions in Urban Areas and focused on following points:

- 26% population lives in urban area in the state and majority of these are in 4 cities – Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior and Jabalpur
- Door to door service, updation of WER, identification of deprived urban children and working children, age wise strategies for enrolment of never enrolled and dropped out, involvement of NGOs have been done under School Chale Hum.
- The intervention began with health check ups and health sanitation campaign.
- City plan has been developed for 4 metro cities and NGOs and state resource centres have been involved to address the children
- 4 platforms schools have been opened in Itarsi, Bhopal, Indore and Jabalpur
- Human development centres have been opened for urban deprived children

The state also made a presentation on Migratory children and their education in which highlighted the following points:

- There is inter state and intra state migration and period, pattern and trend of migration varies from place to place.
- Shiksha Ghar (seasonal hostels) has been opened in sending areas to hold back migrating children
- Work sites schools have been opened in receiving areas
- Migrating children have preference of enrolment in Ashram Shalas

19. **Uttar Pradesh** made a presentation on intervention in Madarsa/Maktab in which the state representative informed that there is a state urbi, farsi, madarsa board. The state provides support to recognized and unrecognized madarsas as per the SSA norms. The state representative also informed that teachers guide has been translated into Urdu and workbooks have been developed for class I and II. MDM is provided to these madarsas.

20. The representative of **SSA Gujarat** made a presentation. The highlights of the presentation are:

- A migration card along with progress card is given to the parents who migrate. This card is signed by the Head Master. This facilitates in re-enrolment of child at the sending end.
- The state has started residential camp (seasonal hostels) for migrating children. This is an endeavour of state govt.

21. The representative of **Jharkhand** mentioned following points in his presentation:

- Involvement and capacity building of NGO officials
- Migrating children, child labour and deprived urban children are being addressed by involving NGOs
- Mother NGOs have been identified for monitoring purposes also
- Child labourers have been identified through PRA technique with the help of 80 NGOs in 10 districts
- Dhanbad, Pakur, Ranchi, Kodarma and Jhamear are the districts where sizeable numbers of child labourers have been reported.
- Mapping of magnitude of migration has been done in 5 districts and survey has been conducted in 5 cities to identify deprived urban children.

22. On third day **Tamil Nadu** representative in his presentation on urban deprived children focused on following points:

- 4.3% of children live in urban areas and street children are higher a number
- Urban deprived children are mainly in cities like Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem and Trichy
- In convergence with slum clearance board, municipal authorities, NGO, UNICEF, ILO, urban deprived children are being rehabilitated
- ABL (Activity Based Learning) Methodology is conducted in the classroom and self learning material kit has been provided to the children
- There is provision of remedial teaching for mainstreamed children as a continuous follow up mechanism

Planning & Monitoring:

23. **Ms. Papari Baruah**, made a presentation on Planning and Monitoring in which she highlighted following points:

- Bridging the gap between children and strategy
- Community participation
- Micro planning and village mapping
- Preparation of child profile and suitable strategies for them
- Preparation of academic activity
- Orientation of education volunteer
- Identification of regular school for mainstreaming and time frame for it
- Academic calendar with monthly and periodic break up
- Areas of observation as per the periodicity of monitoring

- Time schedule of monitoring – field visit, report preparation, sharing of observation, report compilations follow up etc.

Review of the Progress of Implementation

24. The **Director MHRD** reviewed the progress of the States under EGS & AIE (in terms of number of children covered against the target) and expressed her concern over low achievement of following States :

EGS

- Arunachal Pradesh – 56%
- Andhra Pradesh – 58%

AIE

- Bihar – 37%
- Delhi – 26%
- Himachal Pradesh – 39%
- J&K – 10%
- Jharkhand – 30%
- Maharashtra – 43%
- Orissa – 4.83%
- Punjab 43%
- Uttarakhand – 43%
- West Bengal – 8.3%

She expressed her satisfaction over the performance of following States:

EGS

- Assam-110%
- A & N Island – 100%
- Jharkhand-100%
- Manipur-100%
- Meghalaya-100%
- Mizoram – 100%
- Tamil Nadu – 100%

AIE

- Haryana – 112%
- Chandigarh UT – 101%
- Mizoram – 100%
- Tripura – 100%
- Tamil Nadu – 99%
- Karnataka – 97%
- Meghalaya – 95%
- Arunachal Pradesh – 90%

She requested the low performing States to look into planning and proper implementation by deploying adequate man power and their regular capacity building.

25. She expressed her concern over absence of following States in the workshop and regretted :

1. A&N Island
2. Andhra Pradesh
3. Dadra & Nagar Haveli
4. Daman & Diu
5. Delhi
6. Goa
7. Haryana
8. Himachal Pradesh
9. Jammu & Kashmir
10. Karnataka
11. Lakshadweep
12. Meghalaya
13. Mizoram
14. Nagaland
15. Pondicherry
16. Rajasthan
17. Sikkim
18. Tripura
19. Uttarakhand

Field Visit:

26. The participants went on an exposure visit in three groups to following places to have an exposure of RBC for boys, girls and madarsa:

- RBC for boys Vidisha
- RBC for girls at Bhopal and
- Madarsa supported under AIE at Sehore.

Concluding session

27. The concluding session the **Director, MHRD** advised these States to:

- Map OOSC and check whether school is available or not
- Understand the social dynamics by analyzing age, gender and social category
- Work in a team approach and constitute state and district core teams
- Give specific responsibilities at each level
- Connect communities and stake holders

- Analyze specific interventions and prepare a supplementary plan (if not a part of AWP&B 2007-08)
- Build capacity of NGO, Management, Teacher, Community etc.
- Ensure man power material resources in place before the intervention takes off.

28. It was decided that all States should document good practices and send it to TSG by 31st August 2007.

29. The workshop came to an end with vote of thanks to the chair.