

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Mission for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) held on 10th July, 2006 at 11.00 a.m. at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

The second meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Mission for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was held at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi on 10th July, 2006 at 11.00 a.m. under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development. The list of the members of the Executive Committee is at Annexure -I. The list of the participants is at Annexure - II.

Shri Champak Chatterji, Secretary EE&L welcomed the Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development, Hon'ble Minister of State (Elementary Education), the non-official members of the Executive Committee and the representative of the National Institutions working in the area of education. He said the Executive Committee provides an excellent forum for reviewing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme and its effort for universalisation of elementary education as also the Mid-day Meal Scheme. The Executive Committee had been delegated significant powers and responsibilities to not only review SSA, but also approve modifications in the norms as per need.

Thereafter Shri Arjun Singh, the Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development released a publication by NIEPA "Elementary Education in India – Analytical Report 2004-05" and a document on "Home Based Education Practices for Children With Special Needs in SSA". He said that these are important documents for policy planners.

Thereafter the agenda items were taken up for discussion. The discussions and decisions taken on the agenda items are as follows:-

Agenda Item No.1:

Confirmation of the minutes of the first meeting

The minutes of the first meeting held on 21.2.2005 were confirmed.

Agenda Item No.2:

Action taken on the decisions of the first meeting of the Executive Committee

The following discussions took place on the report of the action taken on the decisions of the first meeting of the Executive Committee:-

- (a) Secretary, Education Andhra Pradesh felt that the phrase “education of satisfactory quality” was general in nature and more specific goal(s) could be worked out. Ms. Vrinda Sarup, Joint Secretary informed that super goals would need to be generic. Further elaboration of the quality agenda is being worked out by NCERT.
- (b) Ms. Vrinda Sarup, Joint Secretary informed that the Task Forces for the Sub-Missions would be think-tanks for the specific subjects. Meetings of 3 of the Task Forces have already been held.
- (c) The members were informed that a strong NGO participation was already taking place in the components of alternative schooling (EGS & AIE), inclusive education and girls education. The space for participation of NGOs and civil society at district and sub-district levels needs to be enhanced. This has been taken up with States / UTs.
- (d) Matter relating to contribution of 15% out of the 25% State share for J&K is pending with the Planning Commission and Finance Ministry. The Department has reminded the Planning Commission on this issue.

Agenda Item No.3:

Progress of implementation of SSA and key educational indicators

Ms. Vrinda Sarup, Joint Secretary made a presentation on the progress under SSA and outlined the steps to be taken to fill in the gaps for universalisation of elementary education. A copy of the presentation is at Annexure III.

She highlighted the following major achievements of SSA:

- (a) The allocation for SSA during 2005-06 was 46.6% more than the previous year’s allocation. Similarly the expenditure was 51.3% higher than that in 2004-05. During 2005-06 States / UTs contributed Rs. 2802.73 cr. (37.1% of GOI allocation).
- (b) Number of out of school children was reducing steadily and had declined to 96 lakhs during 2005-06.
- (c) Regular internal and external assessments of students are now being conducted in almost all States / UTs.
- (d) The rate of completion of civil works had improved to 65% during 2005-06 compared with about 40% in 2004-05.

- (e) States / UTs are well on course for providing universal physical access as per norms. The total gap of primary schools (after 2006-07 sanctions) has been projected as 21,626 and for upper primary schools – 20,544.
- (f) Out of the total estimated gap of about 9.98 lakh classrooms, about 5 lakh additional classrooms are being constructed during 2006-07.
- (g) The Department has adopted the strategy of identifying special focus districts based on number of out of school children, concentration of disadvantaged social groups like SC, ST, Minority (Muslim). Targeted allocations have been made to these special focus districts – 61% of total teachers, 59% of new primary schools, 72% of construction of primary school buildings, 78% of additional classrooms, 45% of total EGS centres, 40% of AIE target and **59% of the total financial outlay for SSA during 2006-07.**
- (h) The monitoring of quality improvement initiatives have been strengthened. States / UTs have implemented several programmes of remedial teaching. Union HRD Minister has written to the Chief Ministers drawing attention to issues of quality, assessment of learning, remedial teaching and accountability of the schools and teachers for learning outcomes of students.

A discussion took place on the progress of implementation of SSA:

- (a) Ms. Vrinda Sarup, Joint Secretary informed the members that there has been significant improvement in the appointment of teachers due to the resolution of Court cases in several States. Replying to a query from HRM, JS(EE-II) informed that West Bengal Govt. has not opened formal schools for a considerable period of time and also that West Bengal has one of the highest PTRs at upper primary level, in the country.
- (b) Shri S.K. Ray, Financial Adviser, Ministry of Human Resource Development observed that alongwith the cumulative achievements especially with reference to school building and additional classrooms, year wise achievements should also be given. JS(EE-II) informed that year wise targets and achievements would be indicated.

- (c) FA, MHRD also felt that the Comptroller & Auditor General of India was not regularly auditing SSA in the States / UTs and only audit by Chartered Accountants is being resorted to. The Secretary (EE&L) pointed out that for all institutions receiving grants from the Central Government, examination and audit by C&AG is compulsory. JS(EE-II) clarified that in addition to the statutory audit by the Chartered Accountants (CAs) as per the articles of Memorandum of Association of the State Implementation Societies which is upto date, the State AGs are conducting audit as per their convenience. Further, she said that the C&AG has already conducted a Performance Audit of the SSA programme and a draft Report has been prepared. She agreed that the States could select CAs from a panel of CAs approved by C&AG whenever fresh CAs are appointed every three years. She also informed that the Internal Audit mechanism at State / UT level is being strengthened. FA, HRD expressed satisfaction on the progress of expenditure and informed that the unspent balance for 2005-06 was less than 15% of the available funds.
- (d) Responding to the time lag between conduct of pupil achievement surveys by NCERT and the release of reports, Shrimati D. Purandeswari, the Hon'ble Minister of State (Elementary Education) said that to have any real relevance, the reports ought to be available much earlier. JS(EE-II) clarified that Class III achievement survey was conducted in 2004 and the report was finalized in 2006. Class VIII report would be available in two weeks' time. Thus there has been some reduction in the time for finalizing results. Education Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh agreed that the data is very useful and felt that the data in respect of achievement of pupils in private schools, if available, would provide a comparison with the performance in Government schools.
- (e) Prof. Krishna Kumar, Director, National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT) informed that they are doing their best to reduce the time gap between the achievement surveys and report. He further clarified that their present focus is on rationalisation of syllabi in the country, since a rationally organised syllabus helps in promoting learning. The National Curriculum Framework 2005 is aimed at reducing the rote learning practices at primary and middle school levels. NCERT had provided Rs. 10 lakh to each State / SCERT to discuss and compare the new NCERT syllabus with the existing syllabus. He added that the present surveys of pupil

achievement levels are more indicative of the capabilities and performance of the system in place than the achievements of individual children. He informed that the group for national assessment at NCERT is working on development of a systemic quality index that would also help in interpreting achievement survey results. He said that for improving the learning levels of children, the quality of teacher training and academic support available should be improved by strengthening the SCERT / DIETs.

- (f) Dr. Ilina Sen of RUPANTAR, Raipur, Chhattisgarh wanted to know how these surveys are conducted when the syllabi of States / UTs are so different. Director, NCERT explained that the tests employed in these surveys are designed keeping in view the common features of syllabi followed in different States / UTs and that further improvement in the methodology is being considered.
- (g) On an enquiry by Hon'ble Minister, HRD regarding the efforts being made imparting education in tribal languages, Director, NCERT indicated that a study is being undertaken on the use of tribal languages in schools by the North-Eastern Regional Institute of Education. Several States have introduced initiatives for use of tribal languages at the primary stage. He said that NCERT is in the process of developing a reading programme for Class I & II which could include reading material for children whose mother tongue is different from the school language. Dr. Ilina Sen of RUPANTAR suggested that other non-tribal languages, often called dialects also need to be included in the school curriculum. Dr. B. Vijay Kumar, Director, Centre for Adult Continuing Education and Extension (CACEE), Thiruvananthapuram also suggested that in addition to education in tribal languages, the regional language is also included so that the children can transit easily from tribal languages to the regional language at higher levels.
- (h) Reacting to the fact that out of 17.05 lakh children with special needs only 3.92 lakh children were provided assistive devices, Hon'ble MOS (Elementary Education) wanted to know why the other children are not provided with such devices. JS(EE-II) clarified that not all CWSN need assistive devices, which are provided according to the needs of such children.
- (i) Shri K.L. Dutta, Principal Adviser (Education), Planning Commission said that the funding pattern for SSA at 75% by Central Government and 25% by State Government would continue till the end of the Mission

i.e. upto to 2010 (and not till the end of the 11th Plan). Shri C.K. Mathew, Education Secretary, Government of Rajasthan felt that for bridging the existing gaps and ensuring the other goals of SSA are achieved, the funding pattern would have to be continued beyond 2010.

- (j) Education Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh indicated that 94 hostels under Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schemes were sanctioned and commissioned in the State but he suggested that on completion of elementary education up to Class VIII, girls in the KGBVs have to move out of the hostels for continuing their further education which would bring them back to the situation in which they were prior to their joining the KGBVs. He suggested that the proposed secondary education mission should provide for institutions like KGBVs for girls to continue their education at least till class X.
- (k) Ms. Vrinda Sarup, Joint Secretary informed that about 13% of all primary schools in the country are still single teacher schools. There is a very strong case for rationalization of deployment of teachers. The Department is also undertaking a thorough review of the teacher training programmes across the country.
- (l) Union Minister, HRD enquired if Maktabs / Madarasas are really interested in introducing general subjects. To this Ms. Vrinda Sarup, Joint Secretary responded that these institutions opt for AIE assistance under SSA on a voluntary basis and there has been a considerable demand for this intervention.

Agenda Item No.4:

Approval of revision in some norms of SSA

- i) Additional funds for civil works for closing the infrastructure gaps.

JS(EE-II) drew the attention of the Committee to the fact that as many as 234 districts would need more than 4 years and 70 districts would take more than 10 years to clear the back log of construction of classrooms if the allocation for civil works were not enhanced. To achieve the SSA goal of universal enrolment and retention, it is important that this backlog is completed at the earliest. Therefore the 76th PAB meeting recommended on 22.02.06 to allow additional civil works for identified districts, beyond the SSA framework stipulation of a limit of 40% to upto 50-55% per district in Annual Work Plans for 2-3 years.

The Executive Committee agreed with the proposal to allow the Project Approval Board to sanction additional funds for civil works to districts upto 50-55% per year during 2006-07 and 2007-08 subject to the condition that overall 33% ceiling is maintained over the SSA programme period.

ii) Approval for inclusion of major repairs as an eligible activity under civil works.

Several States / UTs have been requesting for inclusion of major repair as an item the civil works component. Ms. Vrinda Sarup, Joint Secretary presented the proposal as recommended by 76th PAB meeting held on 22.02.06 for allowing major repairs upto Rs. 150 cr. under SSA based on specific conditions.

FA, HRD felt that the term “corpus” can be misleading and therefore it should be changed to an annual work plan and budget provision. He also felt that the repairs must be completed within the financial year.

The Executive Committee approved the following formulation for inclusion of major repairs under SSA within the civil works component of the district AWP&B's:-

- (a) Rs.150 crores will be available per year under SSA to be spent on major repairs. This amount will be proportionately distributed among the States as per the number of schools.
- (b) Major repairs would form part of the district AWP&B and would be appraised and approved by GOI. Consequently, it would be within the prescribed ceiling on civil works.
- (c) Each district can propose upto a maximum of 5% of the existing schools to be covered under major repairs in a particular year. States would need to ensure that the total amount spent by the districts on civil works including major repairs does not exceed the limits provided State wise.
- (d) Schools constructed within the past 10 years will not be considered for major repairs out of the SSA repairs fund. Also the cost of repairs to be undertaken should not be more than 60% of the cost of a new construction.

- (e) It will be mandatory for each district to provide the list of schools to be repaired under the “major repair” category along with the cost estimates as approved by the competent authority, as an Annexure in their AWP&B. This list will also be approved by the PAB of SSA.
- (f) States would first have to put in place a decentralized system of technical and financial assessment and approvals for the major repair tasks. Only cases of higher investment (> Rs.75000) and technical complications (e.g strengthening of foundation) should come up to the SPO for approval. Rest of the proposals should be assessed and approved at the district and sub district levels, appropriately.
- (g) On site technical supervision by professionally qualified engineering personnel is to be ensured during the execution of repairs. Additionally, the State would need to develop a ‘repairs manual’ in which it is explained to the community, how to carry out repair works and the accounts to be maintained.
- (h) A pre repair and a post repair photograph of the building would also need to be maintained for records.

iii) Revision of EGS Centre costs

JS(EE-II) indicated that the honorarium for Educational Volunteers (EVs) who teach in EGS Centres presently is only Rs.1000/- per month which far less than the minimum wage of skilled workers and given the challenging role of EVs in providing education to out of school children of various ages and levels i.e., multilevel teaching, the amount is very meagre. She said that States / UTs have also requested for upward revision of the cost norms of EGS. Therefore the proposal as recommended by the PAB on 22.02.06 is to increase the present cost norm of Rs.845/- per child per annum to Rs.1535/- for primary centre and from Rs.1200/- per child per annum to Rs.2960/- for upper primary centre. States would work out the details of the break-down of item wise cost within the overall revised ceiling indicated above with the honorarium to the EV restricted to Rs.2500/- per month.

JS(EE-II) indicated that the number of EGS centres is gradually decreasing as these centres are only transitory and are being upgraded to regular primary or upper primary schools. The allocation for EGS in 2007-08 and the following years is not likely to be higher than

the allocation for 2006-07. The total requirement for 2007-08 may be around Rs. 270 cr.

FA, HRD felt that the proposed increase in the honorarium for EVs from Rs.1000/- to Rs.2500/- constitutes an increase of 150% which needs proper justification. Further he said that wage rates under the Minimum Wages Act are for full time wages whereas EVs work for about 4-5 hours only. This increase if agreed to would have implication in other areas like *anganwadi* workers under ICDS Scheme who also work part time. FA also raised the issue of approval of norms by CCEA. Ms. Vrinda Sarup, Joint Secretary felt that the qualification of persons engaged as EVs was higher than in ICDS; also EGS centres were transitory in nature. The Cabinet has authorised the National Mission for SSA to make revisions in norms within the approved budget for the programme and the General Council in its first meeting on 21.02.2005 has delegated this power to the Executive Committee. The delegation of powers notification has been issued on 30.9.2005.

The Principal Adviser (Education), Planning Commission said that the remuneration to teachers in regular schools should not be lower than the EVs.

Director, NCERT felt that the proposed increase in honorarium of EGS EVs is modest and should be agreed to since there is a need to introduce professionalism among teachers.

Secretary (EE&L) said that the centres are in difficult locations and quality needs to be better with better workers and that a beginning could be made by pegging the honorarium of EVs at Rs.2500/- per month.

The Committee felt that there was a strong case for revision of norms and therefore approved the proposal for increasing the per child cost to Rs. 1535 per annum in respect of primary classes and Rs. 2960 per annum in respect of upper primary classes subject to the condition that the States/UTs would work out the details of item-wise cost within the overall revised ceilings with the honorarium to EVs restricted to Rs. 2500 per month.

Director, NCERT referred to the declining value and prestige of teachers by citing the decision of the Madhya Pradesh Government that the cadre of regular teachers is a dying cadre. Dr. Ilina Sen agreed that the variety in the categories of teachers was a source of discontent at the field level. Union Minister, HRD agreed that teachers are

losing the place of pride they enjoyed earlier. This is an issue that should be discussed at the all India level.

(iv) Restructuring of Management funds for small districts under SSA

JS(EE-II) explained that in some districts of the North-East and the Union Territories where the district plan size is very small, the 6% ceiling in management cost is not adequate to carry out the district level project management activities. The amount available in many cases is between Rs.10 to Rs.13 lakhs. She added that a minimum of Rs.20.00 lakhs per districts would be required for project management. She indicated that as per the PAB approvals for the year 2006-07, there are about 41 districts that have approved management cost outlays less than Rs. 20.00 lakhs. The additional requirement of funds for this modification would be Rs. 2.87 cr. annually.

FA, HRD said that the proposal could be agreed to if the overall project management ceiling is maintained at State level at 6% for the programme.

The Committee approved the proposal subject to the limit of 6% being maintained for management costs for the State as a whole and for the 41 districts including the UT of Lakshadweep.

(i) Clarification on arrangements for sub-district Academic Supervision in Urban Areas

Joint Secretary (EE-II) explained that under SSA the academic support at sub-district levels is provided by Block Resource Centres (BRC) at block level and Cluster Resource Centres(CRC) at cluster level. The guidelines for establishment for CRCs and BRCs in urban areas were not clearly delineated. Therefore, the PAB on 22.2.2006 recommended the following clarification regarding resource centres in urban areas for consideration of the Executive Committee:

- a) Urban Resource Centre (URC): The District Project Office (DPO) in association with the DIET/DRC in the district would collaborate with all these URCs and CRCs for planning and implementation of activities. The features of the URC are:
 - i) One Cluster Resource Centre (CRC) for 100 - 150 teachers.

- ii) One Urban Resource Centre (URC) on the lines of BRC for 10 -15 CRCs.
 - iii) Norms of persons to man the CRC/URC will be the same as in SSA Guidelines/Financial Norms for BRCs/CRCs.
 - iv) Unit costs will remain the same as in financial norms of BRC/CRC laid down in SSA.
- b) If the municipality or town development authority has academic staff, they may be deployed in the URCs/CRCs.

The Executive Committee approved the above clarifications in SSA norms in relation to setting up of URCs/CRCs in urban areas.

Agenda Item No.5:

The Rajiv Gandhi Project for EDUSAT Supported Elementary Education under the national component of SSA

Joint Secretary (EE-II) informed the members of the Rajiv Gandhi Project for EDUSAT Supported Elementary Education under the national component of SSA programme which is being conducted as a pilot project for improved teacher training of elementary school teachers through EDUSAT mode, in one district each in the four States of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The details of the project were submitted for information to the Executive Committee.

Prof. S.C. Garg, Acting VC, IGNOU said that the project has generated a lot of interest and that the organisations involved like ISRO, NCERT and NCTE are enthusiastic about the success of this project.

Secretary (EE) observed that the progress of this project should be watched for replication in other States. He also requested IGNOU for an evaluation of the project quickly.

The Executive Committee noted the details of the Project.

Agenda Item No.6:

Revision in Guidelines of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan to ensure centrality of Panchayats in Planning and Implementation of SSA

JS(EE-II) indicated that after discussions of the Department with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, the PAB recommended on 26.4.06 that the guidelines of the SSA be amended to provide for supervision & monitoring by PRI institutions over the village / school based bodies through whom SSA is being implemented at grass root level, as per the following provisions to be included in the SSA guidelines:-

- (i) There should be a Standing Coimmittee or a sub-Committee for education under the Gram Panchayat (GP), which would be the nodal body for all matters relating to elementary education.
- (i) That the school wise or village wise Committees responsible for elementary education/SSA should be linked with the Sub-Committee of the GP in-charge of Education, as in (i) above, so that overall supervision of PRIs is there over the elementary education/SSA programmes.
- (iii) That all tiers of the PRIs (village, block, district) should be given roles of supervision over the elementary education programmes/SSA. This can be done by State Governments by defining the roles of Sub-Committee on Education of the GP; the Block Level Education Committee and the Education Sub-Committee of the Zila Parishad.

The Education Secretary, Rajasthan said that effectiveness of PRI's would depend on States making the necessary delegation of power to PRIs. In his State 29 subjects were identified for devolution to PRIs and that elementary education was one of them.

The Executive Committee approved the proposal to include (i) to (iii) above, in the Framework for Implementation of SSA.

Additional Agenda Item: Mid-Day Meal Scheme

Ms. Vandana K. Jena, Joint Secretary and Director General, Literacy Mission and incharge Joint Secretary for MDM, explained the scope of the programme and indicated the modification made in the cost norms for construction of kitchen sheds, cooking costs and nutritional content of the midday meal provided in schools. She indicated that in XI Plan the MDM

Scheme is proposed to be extended to the upper primary schools as well. She indicated that VEC's and Mother Teacher Associations or PTAs are being encouraged to supervise the MDM Programme in the schools.

MOS (EE) observed that she is happy that the Executive Committee is providing policy guidance to the SSA programme. She stated that involvement of community, PRIs, NGOs is essential for achieving the objectives of the SSA programme. There is also a need to emphasise on girls education to remedy the high gender gap in some districts of the country. While providing the infrastructure facilities for elementary education it needs to be ensured that there is a room for every class. Also effort has to be made to make the school environment attractive by providing play grounds, toilets for girls and boundary walls in all schools.

Concluding the meeting of the Executive Committee, the Minister of Human Resource Development said that the Director General of the SSA National Mission had made an informative presentation. The programme seems to be doing well. Increased involvement of the civil society would guarantee success to the programme. He said that an important aspect of the programme is the inclusion of children with special needs and he was happy this work was being undertaken. He said that the manner in which these children are dealt with would reflect the approach of the system towards all children. He felt that while there is an effective system of monitoring in SSA, greater attention to details may be necessary. He felt that the position of teachers has been greatly eroded in the country and the time has come for society and government to make amends. The concerned institutions should deliberate how it is to be done and necessary financial outlays should be made available to improve the situation. He thanked the members and expressed the hope that the Executive Committee would meet again, soon.

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Annexure 1

List of Members of the Executive Committee of the National Mission for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

1. Shri Arjun Singh, Minister, Human Resource Development -Chairman
2. Shrimati D. Purandeswari, Minister of State(Elementary Education), Ministry of Human Resource Development - Sr. Vice-Chairman
3. Shri Champak Chatterji, Secretary, Deptt. of Elementary Education & Literacy -Vice Chairman
4. Prof. Krishna Kumar, Director, National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT), 16-B, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi-110016 (Fax No.26519154, 26868419, Tel. No.26964712, 26516047).
5. Prof. Ved Prakash, Director, National Institute of Educational Planning & Administration (NIEPA), 17-B, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi-110016 (Fax No.26861882, Tel No. 26515472/26853038, E-Mail: pved@niepa.org).
6. Prof. S.K. Thakur, Chairman, National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE), Hans Bhawan, Wing II, 1, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002 (Fax No.23370116/ 23370178).
7. Ms. Vandana K. Jena, Joint Secretary & Director General, National Literacy Mission (NLM), Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001 [Tel. No.(011) 23387648; E-Mail: vkjena@hotmail.com]
8. Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Director General, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Anusandhan Bhawan, 2, Rafi Marg, New Delhi - 110001 (Fax No.23710618, Tel. No.23710472/23717053, E-Mail: dgcsir@csir.res.in , dg@csir.res.in].
9. Shri S.K. Ray, Financial Adviser, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001
10. Shri K.L. Datta, Adviser (Education), Planning Commission, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001 (Tel. No. (011) 23096549; E-Mail: kl.datta@nic.in)
11. Shri John Kurrien, Centre for Learning Resources, 8, Deccan College Road, Yerawada, Pune - 411006 (Fax No.020-26693899, Tel. No.020-26693899, 26692123, E-Mail: clr@vsnl.com)
12. Dr. Ilina Sen, Managing Trustee, RUPANTAR, A-26, Surya Apartments, Katora Talab, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001. (Fax No.0771-2510539, Tel. No.0771-2422875, E-Mail: rupantar_cg@yahoo.com)

13. Ms. Gowri Iswaran, Principal, Sanskriti School, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi – 110021 (Fax No.24105403, Tel.No.26883535/26883536, E-Mail: *sanskriti99@vsnl.com*).
14. Dr. B. Vijay Kumar, Director, Centre for Adult Continuing Education and Extension (CACEE), University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram – 695 033 (Fax No.0471-2305178, Tel. No.0471-2302523, E-Mail: *cacee@rediffmail.com; drbvukumar@rediffmail.com*)
15. Ms. Sehba Hussain, Director, BETI Foundation, C-842, H. Road, Sector C, Mahanagar, Lucknow – 226 006 Uttar Pradesh (Fax No.522-2327355, Tel.No.522-2334878, 2327355, E-Mail: *betifoundationlko@yahoo.co.in*).
16. Prof. N.D. Patil, President, Raiyat Shikshan Sansthan, Satara, Maharashtra (Fax No.02162-231424, Tel No.02162-233867, E-Mail: *rarathead@yahoo.com*).
17. Mr. Javed Abidi, National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled, A-77, South Extension (Pt.II), New Delhi – 110049 (Fax No.26265648, Tel. No.26265647, E-Mail: *javed_abidi@ncpedp.org, education@ncpedp.org*).
18. Dr. P. Krishnaiah, Education Secretary Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, J Block, 3rd Floor, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Hyderabad-500022 (Tel No.040-23452403, Fax No.040-23450563, E-Mail: *secy_se_edn@ap.gov.in, pkrishnaiah@yahoo.com*)
19. Shri D. Chakrabarty, Principal Secretary, School Education Department, Bikash Bhavan, Salt lake City, Calcutta - 700091 West Bengal.(Fax No.033-23376561, Tel No.033-23342228.)Email: *debadityac@hotmail.com*
20. Shri C.K. Mathew, Principal Secretary (School Education), Govt of Rajasthan, Room No.211, Secretariat, Jaipur – 302005.(Tel No.0141-2227389, Fax No.0141-2227570; E-Mail: *ckmathew@hotmail.com*)
21. Shri J.S. Deepak, Secretary (Basic)-cum-SPD, SSA, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, U.P. Education for All Project, State Project Office, Vidya Bhawan, Nishat Ganj, Lucknow – 226004 (Fax No.0522-2237830/ 2781128, Tel. No.0522-2780998 / 2780384, E-Mail: *updpep@lu1vsnl.net.in*).
22. Joint Secretary, Elementary Education & Director General, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan National Mission – Member Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Human Resource Development *Chairman*
2. Shrimati D. Purandeswari, Minister of State(EE), HRD *Sr. Vice-Chairman*
3. Shri Champak Chatterji, Secretary (EE&L), MHRD *Vice Chairman*
4. Ms. Vrinda Sarup, Joint Secretary, (EE&L), MHRD
5. Ms. Vandana.K. Jena, Joint Secretary (AE) & DG (NLM), MHRD
6. Shri S.K. Ray, FA, MHRD
7. Shri K.L. Datta, Adviser (Education), Planning Commission
8. Prof. S.K. Thakur, Chairman, NCTE, New Delhi
9. Prof. Krishna Kumar, Director, NCERT, New Delhi
10. Dr. Ilina Sen, Managing Trustee, RUPANTAR, Raipur, Chhattisgarh
11. Dr. B. Vijay Kumar, Director, CACEE, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
12. Shri Javed Abidi, National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled (NCPED), New Delhi
13. Dr. P. Krishnaiah, Secretary, School Education, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
14. Shri C.K. Mathew, Principal Secretary (School Education), Govt of Rajasthan
15. Prof. H.P. Dikshit, DAE-Prof., Indian Institute of Information Technology, Jabalpur. *- Special Invitee*
16. Prof. S.C. Garg, Vice Chancellor (Actg.) IGNOU, New Delhi *- Special Invitee*
17. Dr. Pramila Menon, Fellow, NIEPA, New Delhi
18. Prof. K.K. Vashishtha, Prof. & Head, NCERT, New Delhi
19. Shri SVS Chaudhary, Project Director, DEP-SSA, IGNOU, New Delhi
20. Ms. Divya Prasad, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, New Delhi
21. Dr. A.C. Mehta, Sr. Fellow, NIEPA, New Delhi
22. Shri Dhir Jhingran, Director, MHRD
23. Shri P.K. Mohanty, Deputy Education Advisor, MHRD
24. Ms. Richa Sharma, Deputy Secretary, MHRD
25. Shri K.R. Meena, Deputy Secretary, MHRD
26. Ms. Anita Chauhan, Deputy Secretary, MHRD
27. Ms. Anupriya Chadha, Consultant, TSG, Ed.CIL, New Delhi