

**Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of School Education and Literacy**

Subject:- Minutes of 56th meeting of the Grants-in-Aid Committee for Innovative & Experimental Projects held on 27.05.2009

The 56th meeting of the Grants-in-Aid Committee (GIAC) for Innovative & Experimental (I&E) Projects was held on 27.05.2009 at 3.30 PM in Conference Room No.112, 'C' Wing, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Anshu Vaish, Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi. Prof. Mrinal Miri, Former, Vice Chancellor, NEHU, Shillong, Shri Shamshad Khan, Secretary CREDA, Mirzapur, UP, Ms. Farida Lambay, Vice Principal, College of Social Work, Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai, Shri Pavnesh Kumar, Additional SPD, SSA, Lucknow and representatives of NCERT and MHRD participated in the meeting. A complete list of participants is at Annexure. Ms. Deepa Das, Rev. Father Thomas Felix and Smt. Madhuri Deshpande could not attend the meeting due to prior engagement.

2. JS (EE.II) welcomed the members of the GIAC especially Secretary (SE&L), who chaired her first meeting of GIAC. This was followed by a round of introduction by the members of the Committee.

3. JS (EE.II) outlined the I&E component of SSA and procedure for considering proposals. She stated that the GIAC considers innovative proposals submitted by NGOs after the proposals are scrutinized by NCERT, a Field Inspection is conducted and the State Govt. furnishes its comments. A representative from the concerned State/UT is invited to attend the meeting of GIAC to give his/her views in the meeting itself. Projects are approved for a maximum of 2 years with the assistance of grants from GOI. After completion of one year, the Projects are evaluated by a Joint Evaluation Team (JET). The JET consists of one member of GIAC, one representative from State concerned and one representative from the MHRD. She also recalled the definition of Innovation decided by the GIAC in its 53rd meeting held on 30.04.2007, which is reproduced below:-

“Educational innovation refers to an idea or practice new to a specific educational context that meets unsatisfied needs. It is the introduction or promotion of new ideas

and methods that are devised in education and or school practices which have a substantial effect on changing the existing patterns of behavior of a group or groups involved. Innovative strategies imply the development of new ideas which are disseminated and utilized; they usually occur in response to particular problems”.

4. Thereafter, Chairperson, GIAC took up the listed agenda items for consideration and the following decisions were taken:-

Item No.1: Confirmation of the minutes of 55th meeting of GIAC for Innovative and Experimental Education Programme, held on 08.05.2008

The minutes of the GIAC meeting held on 08.05.2008 were confirmed.

Item No.2: Action Taken Report on the decisions taken in the meeting of GIAC held on 08.05.2008

The Committee noted the Action Taken Report on each item.

Item No.3: Evaluation Report of Joint Evaluation Team on Door Step School, Mumbai for ongoing I&E project for Mumbai and Pune in the State of Maharashtra

The GIAC noted the findings of the Joint Evaluation Team in respect of Door Step School, Mumbai. Prof. Mrinal Miri sought the details of indigenous and cost-effective teaching learning material suitable to the environment, which was referred to by JET in their report. Shri Arun Sharma, Under Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, who was member of the JET apprised the Committee that the material prepared by NGO was mainly locally available material on cardboard etc. was being used by the children. The GIAC noted the progress achieved and suggested that process for release of further funds be expedited by the MHRD.

Item No. 4: Pratham – Mumbai Education Initiative for I&E Project for Lucknow, Agra and Varanasi cities in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

JS(E.E.II) introduced the proposal, and stated that GIAC had approved a proposal for Pratham to run 282 Basti Shiksha Kendra, summer camps and libraries in Lucknow, Varanasi and Agra. The project was approved for two years w.e.f. 1.4.2006.

An evaluation was conducted by a Joint Evaluation Team (JET) in October, 2007. JET recommended the continuation of the project. However, GIAC in its meeting held on 15.11.2007 suggested that this project be reviewed again. The 2nd

JET report, submitted in February, 2008, did not recommend the proposal. The report of the 2nd JET was sent to Pratham as well as to the Education Secretary, Uttar Pradesh and SPD, SSA, Uttar Pradesh for their comments the comments of Pratham and SPD, SSA, UP were placed before the present GIAC.

Shri Pavnesh Kumar, Additional State Project Director, SSA apprised the GIAC that 49.93% children enrolled by Pratham were actually found on rolls of the schools in July, 2008 and that the comments of Pratham on the second JET report can be accepted as they stand to reason. He added that the State has no objection if the GIAC decides to support the VA. Ms. Farida Lambay endorsed the comments of Pratham in its report that the number of children shown as enrolled were the children who were retained in school. Prof. Mrinal Miri and Shri Shamshad Khan stated that Pratham is a reputed organisation, which has worked well to reach out of school children. The broad consensus of GIAC was that the efforts of Pratham are laudable as they had worked amongst hard to reach OOSC children in different areas and recommended that the claim of VA for reimbursement may be settled.

After a detailed discussion, GIAC decided in principle that the claim of reimbursement of second installment of the Grants-in-Aid for the second year of the project may be settled expeditiously.

Item No. 5: Consideration of new proposals or status of proposals received in the Ministry since last meeting of GIAC held on 8-5-2008.

The GIAC noted that no proposals were pending, as 20 proposals received from various NGOs from 09-05-2008 to 26-05-2009 were forwarded to the concerned State Project Directors of the States/UTs, for consideration by the State level GIAC under EGS/AIE component of SSA.

Ms. Farida Lambay and Shri Shamshad Khan raised the following points for consideration by GIAC:-

- (i) The meetings of State level GIACs are not being held regularly in many States/UTs ;
- (ii) The proposals referred to the State Project Directors by MHRD need follow-up action, as the concerned NGOs generally do not receive due response from the States; and

- (iii) Proposals received by the States/UTs directly from the VAs are not generally processed in a time-bound manner by the States/UTs.

After detailed discussion, GIAC decided that the matter would be taken up with the State Implementing Societies appropriately.

4. Chairperson thanked all members of the GIAC for their contribution and work.

5. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE GRANTS-IN-AID COMMITTEE FOR
INNOVATIVE AND EXPERIMENTAL EDUCATION PROJECTS HELD ON 27-05-
2009**

1. Ms. Anshu Vaish
Secretary (SE&L)
Department of School Education & Literacy
Ministry of Human Resource Development
New Delhi.
2. Ms. Anita Kaul,
Joint Secretary (EE.II)
Department of School Education & Literacy
Ministry of Human Resource Development
New Delhi.
3. Shri S.R. Dhall,
Director (F)
Department of School Education & Literacy
Ministry of Human Resource Development
New Delhi.
4. Shri Shamshad Khan,
Secretary, CREDA,
Mirzapur, UP.
5. Prof. Mrinal Miri,
Former Vice Chancellor,
NEHU, Presently settled at Delhi.
6. Ms. Farida Lambay
Vice Principal,
College of Social Work,
38, New Marine Lines,
Mumbai – 400005.
Maharashtra.
7. Shri Pavnesh Kumar,
Additional State Project Director,
UP Education for All Project,
Lucknow.
8. Prof. Inder Kumar Bansal,
Department of Elementary Education,
NCERT, New Delhi.
9. Shri D.K. Gautam,
Deputy Secretary,
Department of School Education & Literacy,
Ministry of Human Resource Development
New Delhi.

Shri Ravi Chand, Under Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy,
Ministry of Human Resource Development, assisted the Committee.

