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Minutes of the 151st meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 5th October, 2010 to consider the supplementary AWP&B 2010-11 for RTE-SSA and KGBV for the State of Himachal Pradesh

1. The 151st meeting of the Project Approval Board for considering the supplementary Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2010-11 for RTE-SSA and KGBV for the State of Himachal Pradesh was held on 5th October, 2010 under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Anshu Vaish, Secretary (SE&L).
2. A list of participants who attended the meeting is attached at **Annexure-I**.
3. Secretary, SE&L welcomed the participants, and invited the State representatives to make their presentation on the supplementary AWP&B for 2010-11. Shri Rajesh Kumar, State Project Director, SSA, Himachal Pradesh made a comprehensive presentation on the programme status, the State's preparedness for RTE, and the proposals for the supplementary plan for 2010-11. A copy of his presentation is attached at **Annexure-II**, and a gist of the presentation is given below:
 - ⇒ The infrastructure gaps identified on the basis of DISE are being addressed, and the state has proposed 1,104 civil works in its supplementary AWPB, mostly related to construction of Headmaster's room and store room as per the norms in the Schedule to the RTE Act.
 - ⇒ The State has initiated the construction of Rainwater Harvesting structures in all schools through the State Budget.
 - ⇒ For the construction of toilets and their proper usage, convergence with the Rural Development Department, which is implementing the Total Sanitation Campaign, is being ensured. Instructions have been issued to make the toilets disabled friendly, and also to have separate toilets for girls. In the girls' toilets, especially in upper-primary schools, incinerators are being installed for promoting proper menstrual hygiene..
 - ⇒ The draft State RTE Rules have been prepared and are likely to be finalized in Oct 2010.

- ⇒ Guidelines on minimum number of working days / instructional hours are being issued shortly. However, the State already has 236 academic days, which is more than the number of working days prescribed in the schedule to the RTE Act. The daily learning hours at the primary level are around five and at the Upper-primary level they are six.
- ⇒ For the teachers the working hours will be changed in conformity with the RTE Act, and keeping in view the need for preparation time for TLM, lesson plans etc. and also the time required to conduct evaluation and assessment, and maintain school records.
- ⇒ SMCs have been constituted in all schools, and in these committees most of the members are parents.

Teacher requirement in RTE plan year 2010-11

- ⇒ In Himachal Pradesh, most upper-primary schools are part of the Secondary or Senior Secondary schools.
- ⇒ The TGTs who teach Science, Maths, Language or Arts handle classes 6th to 8th.
- ⇒ In order to be RTE compliant, the State needs to recruit teachers for English Language, Health and Physical Education, Work experience and Arts/Crafts Education.
- ⇒ There are 1,049 Upper-Primary Schools in the state where the number of students exceeds 100; the State has therefore proposed recruitment of , $1049 \times 3=3147$ teachers of the above category, to be appointed on regular, not on part time basis in accordance with the existing State policy.
- ⇒
- ⇒ The Policy in the State has been providing one teacher in primary schools with less than 15 students enrolled.
- ⇒ However, as per the RTE norms the State must provide minimum two teachers in all schools; accordingly, additional teachers need to be appointed in 915 single teacher schools .
- ⇒ Although 4000 teachers are shown as surplus under DISE calculations, these teachers are not actually surplus; they are working as Head teachers in primary

schools. It was clarified that as per the policy of the State Government, Head Teachers are provided in primary schools with a student strength of 50 or more. Similarly the posts of Centre Head Teachers (CHTs) are provided for a cluster of 3-5 primary schools which do not have a Head Teacher. This arrangement has been existing for the last 26 years, and has facilitated career progression for JBT teachers. It is not feasible to either shift these posts to other schools, nor to do away with the existing arrangement as it has been made according to the R&P rules.

- ⇒ In keeping with the policy described above, the State has carried out rational re-deployment of teachers, and posted excess teachers to schools where they were required as per RTE norms. Around 90% of the re-deployment process is complete.
- ⇒ Teachers are being trained on activity based methods while using the CCE as a tool for encouraging the students to participate actively.
- ⇒ GOI had approved an outlay of Rs. 24,464.87 lakh for AWP&B-2010-11. There was an unspent balance of Rs. 2,460.56 lakh as on 1st April, 2010. An amount of Rs. 6,557.11 lakh was received from GOI as the 1st instalment, and Rs.750 lakhs from the State Government, and this made a total of 9,767.67 lakhs. Rs. 6,385.58 lakh has been utilized till 31st August, 2010, which represents 65% of the funds available, and 26% of the approved AWP&B.
- ⇒ Under REMS the state has sought Rs 200 per school for REPA which is being established under the Social Justice and Empowerment Department shortly. State has used most of the existing REMS funds for activities like the COHORT study, for developing the Child Progress Tracking System based on CCE, for developing the material related to CCE, for developing the Resource material for teacher training, and also for curricular development.
- ⇒ The State has sought support for BRCC and CRCC strengthening based on the latest norms received from the Government of India and the same has been recommended by the appraisal team also.
- ⇒ The state is not proposing any additional resource persons at the CRC level as it already has a good time-tested structure in place.

4. The Appraisal Team also made a presentation on the supplementary AWP&B 2010-11 of the State. A copy of the same is attached at **Annexure-III**. The Appraisal Team also informed the PAB on the progress made till 31st August, 2010 against the AWP&B sanctioned by PAB for 2010-11 besides the Action Taken Report submitted by the State on preparedness of RTE. Gist of the observations made by Appraisal Team is given below:

(a) **Progress**

Sl. No.	Items	Spill Over	Unit Cost	Target 2010-11		Achievement			
				Phy	Fin	Phy	% Phy	Fin	% Fin
1	Upgradation of PS to UPS			7					
2	New Teachers Salary								
2.01	Upper Primary (Regular)		1.80	21	37.80				
	Teachers Salary (Recurring)								
2.02	Primary Teachers (Para)		0.48	80	38.40				
2.03	Upper Primary Teachers (Regular)		1.80	4098	7376.40	3006	73.35	1595.70	21.63
	Sub Total			4199	7452.60	3006	71.58	1595.70	21.41
3	Teachers Grant			49346	246.73		0	211.39	85.67
4	Block Resource Centre				1234.82			340.44	27.57
5	Cluster Resource Centre			2102	787.10			481.64	22.91
6	Teachers Training			101030	541.51	40786	40.37	71.65	13.23
7	Interventions for OoSC			4251	65.25		0	0.18	0.27
8	Free Text Book			335904	550.57	738	0.2	10.63	1.93
9	Interventions for CWSN			19242	577.26			53.25	9.22
10	Civil Works								
10.1	BRC (Spill Over)				4.80			2.80	58.33
10.2	Primary School (New) (Spill Over)				211.25			32.50	15.38
10.3	ACR	221.13	2.65	226	820.03	51	22.56	267.18	32.58
10.4	Separate Girls Toilet	151.51	0.750	3431	2724.76	411	11.97	312.96	11.48
10.5	Drinking Water Facility		0.20	105	21.00	1	0.95	17.23	82.04
10.6	Boundary Wall	56.79	0.011	50144	608.38	112	0.22	95.15	15.63
10.7	Separation Wall (Spill Over)				0.38			0.20	52.63
10.8	Head Master's Room	469.59	2.65	744	2441.19		0	596.60	24.43
10.9	Major Repairs (Primary)	2.81		417	260.80	34	8.15	13.73	5.26
10.10	Major Repairs (Upper Primary)	3.43		130	73.93	2	1.53	3.24	4.38
	Sub Total			55197	7166.50			1363.45	19.02
11	Furniture		0.005	46439	232.20			67.82	29.20
11a	School Library			12251	612.25			13.72	2.24
12	TLE	23.50		7	32.80				0

Sl. No.	Items	Spill Over	Unit Cost	Target 2010-11		Achievement			
				Phy	Fin	Phy	% Phy	Fin	% Fin
13	Maintenance Grant			14840	973.05			908.39	93.35
14	School Grant			15086	841.46			789.59	93.83
15	REMS			15086	150.86			27.14	17.99
16	Management & Quality				807.57			169.08	20.93
17	Innovative Activity				1159.15			58.04	5.00
18	Community Training			164340	402.50			97.77	24.29
	Total SSA				22680.49			6259.89	27.60
19	State Component								
19.1	Management				406.52			80.24	19.73
19.2	REMS				35.14			0.00	0
	Sub Total				441.66			80.24	18.16
	State SSA Total				23307.17			6259.89	26.85
20	NPEGEL				41.82			16.87	40.33
21	KGBV	4.00		10	147.20			28.58	19.41
	Grand Total				24464.86			6385.58	26.10

(b) Action Taken Report (ATR) on preparedness for RTE

1. The Action Taken Report (ATR) on the preparedness is enclosed at **Annexure-IV**
Observation of the Appraisal Team on the ATR are presented below:
 - a. **State RTE Rules:** The State RTE Rules have been formulated and submitted to Government for approval and notification.
 - b. **Academic Authority:** Notification of prescribed authority is under process.
 - c. **Protection of Child's Educational Rights:** Constitution of Body for protection of Child's Educational Rights is under process.
 - d. **Rights based policies:**
 - i) **Eight year Elementary Education cycle:** The State already has Elementary Education Cycle of eight years. There is almost universal enrolment in the age group of 6-14 years, as there were only 2,543 out of school children during February-March 2010. These children belong to migratory families and are hard to reach. The State is trying its best to cover all the out of school children. There is almost 100% transition from Primary to Upper Primary stage.
2. **No Detention:** The State has a no detention policy across the entire elementary cycle.
3. **No Board Examination till completion of Elementary Education:** There will be no board examination till the completion of elementary cycle and CCE will be implemented from class 1st to 8th.

4. **No corporal punishment, expulsion:** The State Education Code has totally banned corporal punishment. As per the State Education Code there will be no expulsion, rustication and suspension to the children up to class 8th.
 5. **Guidelines on private tuition, screening procedure and capitation fee:** As per the State Education Code teachers in Government Schools cannot undertake any private tuition. There is no screening procedure for admission and capitation fee for admission is not being charged.
 6. **Guidelines on minimum number of working days/instructional hours in an academic year:** The State already adheres to minimum number of working days prescribed in the Act which is around 238 days.
 7. **Guidelines on minimum number of working hours per week for the teacher:** The guidelines on minimum number of working hours per week for the teachers, is under process at the Government level.
 8. **SMCs :** There is a two tier body of SMCs – All parents and teachers are primary members of GB. EC is elected at school level. While GB meets thrice in a year, EC meeting is held on 1st Saturday of every month. EC is vested of all powers u/s 21 of the RTE Act which also includes teacher's transfers, renewal of their contract etc. The VECs have been merged with SMCs.
5. **Comments/observations made by the State on the Appraisal Report are given below:**
- i) **Schools:** The State informed that as per the existing norms there is almost universalization of schools at elementary level. The process of notifying RTE rules is under progress. More schools as per the revised neighbourhood norms will be planned next year, if required. Hence, the State has no proposal for new schools in their supplementary plan.
 - ii) **Residential Schools:** No proposals for residential schools.
 - iii) **KGBV:** No proposal for KGBV.
 - iv) **Transportation Facility:** The appraisal team has not recommended the proposal because the State has not finalised its 'neighbourhood norms' under the RTE Rules. The Appraisal Team suggested that the State may carry out a detailed mapping exercise of children eligible for transportation facility based on the condition prescribed in the norms and include the proposal in the next financial year of 2011-12.
 - v) Out of 33,804 cumulative works sanctioned under SSA up to 30.06.2010, 19,454 works have been completed, while 3,732 are at different stages of

construction. 5,565 works are yet to be taken up. The completion percentage is 57.55%. Out of the total budget of Rs. 30,012.35 lakh sanctioned, an expenditure of Rs. 20,482.49 lakh (68.24%) have been incurred till August, 2010.

- vi) Out of 5,053 works approved for 2010-11, up to 30.06.2010, 953 works are at different stages of construction and the remaining 4,100 works are not taken up. A sum of Rs.6,889.28 lakh was approved and a sum of Rs.1,303.09 lakh (18.91%) has been incurred up to June 2010. The progress of works sanctioned for the year 2010-11 is not satisfactory as per the past performance of the State.
- vii) The State Government has proposed 303 ACRs, 801 Head Teachers room (451 Primary and 350 Upper Primary) at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,925.60 lakh.
- viii) It was proposed to get the Third Party Evaluation done through three engineering institutes in the State viz. National Institute of Technology (NIT), Hamirpur, Govt. Polytechnic, Hamirpur and Govt. Polytechnic, Sundernagar. NIT, Hamirpur has quoted exorbitant rates. Negotiations are under way. If it materializes, then the work will be entrusted to NIT, Hamirpur otherwise fresh tenders will be invited. Govt. Polytechnic, Hamirpur and Govt. Polytechnic, Sundernagar have not responded to the proposals.
- ix) The State informed that it has already carried out rationalization of teachers deployment as per RTE 2009 norms and based on this the requirement of additional teachers has been proposed.
- x) The State has proposed 1,038 Science and Maths Teachers, 706 Social Studies and 1,826 Language teachers for upper primary schools.
- xi) There are 4,497 surplus teachers at primary level. The DISE data for 2009-10 also shows surplus teachers of 2,963 at primary level. Hence, the appraisal team has not recommended 1,630 additional primary teachers proposed by the State.
- xii) There are 11,037 surplus upper primary teachers. The DISE data for 2009-10 also shows surplus teachers of 6,776 at upper primary level. Since the State has surplus upper primary teachers, the proposal for 3,570 additional teachers has not been recommended.
- xiii) The State has proposed an amount of Rs. 30.17 lakh @ Rs.200 per school for 15,086 schools in their supplementary plan.

xiv) In order to be eligible for the 13th Finance Commissions Award of ` 24068 crore, the State needs to maintain a growth of at least 8% annually during 2010-15. Expenditure booked under major head 2202-01 in the Finance Accounts, net of grant releases in that year will determine the State's eligibility for the award made by the 13th FC. Payment of arrears on account of award of the VIth Pay Commission will be deducted from the expenditure on elementary education to determine 8% annual growth. The State should ensure that:

- For 2011-12 : 2011-12 (BE) should be at least 8% more than 2010-11 (RE)
- For 2012-13: 2012-13 (BE) should be at least 8% more than 2010-11 (RE), and 2010-11 (Actual) should be at least 8% more than 2009-10 (Actual)
- For 2013-14: 2013-14 (BE) should be at least 8% more than the 2013-14 (RE), and 2011-12 (Actual) should be at least 8% more than 2010-11 (Actual)
- For 2014-15" 2014-15 (BE) should be at least 8% more than 2013-14 (RE) and 2012-13 (Actual) should be at least 8% more than 2011-12 (Actual)

6. The following issues were discussed during the course of the presentation:

- i) On the question of provision of an incinerator in all upper primary schools, SPD, Himachal Pradesh clarified that M/o Health & Family Welfare has identified a few Districts for provision of incinerators. The cost involved is approx. Rs. 2,000/- per school, and there is no space constraint. The incinerators would be built after imparting preliminary training to the masons.
- ii) PAB observed that the State should use the opportunity of notifying the prescribed academic authority, to strengthen the SCERT and enhancing its capacity to develop curriculum, syllabus, textbooks and the evaluation procedure.
- iii) PAB also stated that REPA should be constituted by the State Education Department, if the Department of Women & Child Development has not constituted the SCPCR. The PAB stated that ideally the Department of Women and Child Development should constitute the SCPCR, and that REPA should be set up only as an interim measure till such time as the SCPCR is constituted
- iv) PAB suggested that copies of all notifications prohibiting corporal punishment, detention, expulsion, screening, capitation fees and private tuition by teachers, be made available to the Deptt. of SE&L.

- v) PAB emphasised the need for training to teachers on CCE as evaluation becomes integrated part of learning. Unless teachers are trained, it is difficult to do assessment differently. CCE should be viewed as part of the learning process, and non-threatening. NCERT Source Books on Assessment may be used to devise a system on children's learning progress.. In the presentation given during the just concluded Education Secretaries Conference, few ideas on CCE/curriculum reforms were shared by a Karnataka based organisation - Kalikayatna, and the State should make best use of such ideas.
- vi) . The State Government informed that it has taken up curriculum revision for making learning, age appropriate and also to reduce curriculum load. The state informed that it proposes to adapt the NCERT books by contextualising it to the local requirements.
- vii) PAB observed that in order to make CCE a part of learning, the three components viz. material, training and assessment may be integrated.

7. Commitment given by the State are furnished below:

- ⇒ The State will rationalise the deployment of teachers within the district as the cadre of primary teachers is district based.
- ⇒ The State will provide district-wise data on deployment of upper primary teachers.
- ⇒ The State will fill up the vacancies of teachers on priority basis.
- ⇒ The State will take steps to integrate RMSA plan with SSA plan.
- ⇒ The State will initiate the process of third party evaluation of civil works and also take steps to complete all pending civil works.
- ⇒ The State will provide data justifying the issue of transport allowance on project basis.

8. Approvals

Based on the detailed appraisal and discussion, the PAB approved the following supplementary AWP&B intervention-wise outlay for SSA:

(Rs. in lakh)

SNo.	Activity	Proposal for the year 2010-11			Recommended for the year 2010-11		
		Fresh outlay			Fresh Outlay		
		Unit Cost	Phy.	Fin.	Unit Cost	Phy.	Fin.
1	New Teacher's Salary						
1.1	Primary Teachers (Contract)	0.2400	80	19.20	0.2400	80	19.20

2	Block Resource Centre/ URC						
2.1	1 MIS Coordinator		0	0.00	0.1550	77	35.81
2.2	1 Data Entry Operator		154	43.00	0.0933	77	21.56
2.3	1 Accountant-cum-support staff for every 50 schools	0.1578	303	143.47	0.1578	303	143.47
2.4	Replacement of furniture, computer, TLE etc (5 years old)	1.0000	33	33.00	1.0000	33	33.00
2.5	Maintenance Grant	0.1000	77	7.70	0.1000	77	7.70
	Sub Total			227.17			241.53
3	Cluster Resource Centre						
3.1	1 Cluster Resource Person per 18 schools	0.2400	545	130.80	0.2400	545	130.80
3.2	Replacement of furniture, computer, TLE etc once in 5 years	0.1000	574	57.40	0.1000	574	57.40
3.3	Maintenance Grant	0.0200	2102	42.04	0.0200	2102	42.04
	Sub Total			230.24		3221	230.24
4	Civil Works						
4.1	Additional Class Room		303	802.95	2.6500	138	365.70
4.2	Office- cum- store- cum-Head Teacher's room (Primary)		451	1195.15	2.6500	28	74.20
4.3	Office- cum- store- cum-Head Teacher's room (Upper Primary)		350	927.50	2.6500	21	55.65
	Sub Total		0	2925.60		187	495.55
5	Research & Evaluation						
5.1	Difference of REMS for 2010-11	0.00200	15086	30.17	0.0020	15086	30.17
	Grand Total			5789.18			1016.69

9. Special Focus Districts

- (i) PAB discussed the targeted interventions for 8 Special Focus Districts (SFD) in Himachal Pradesh. The total outlay for SFDs is Rs. 599.59 lakh, which works out to 58.97% of the State's total outlay.
- (ii) The physical target approved on some of the key interventions and its percentage to the State approval is given below:

District	SFD A	SFD B	SFD C		SFD D				Physical Items approved
	PS:UPS Ratio >3:1	ACR Gap > 3000 & above	OoSC > 20,000 SFD C	Gender Gap > 10% at Pri & 20% at UP	ST	SC	PMO's Minority	Border	Civil Works ACR Gap
Bilaspur						1			6
Kinnaur					1		1	1	0
Kullu	1					1			10
L&S	1				1		1	1	1
Mandi						1			20

Shimla						1			15
Sirmour						1			20
Una						1			11
								Total	83
								Total State	138
								% w.r.t approval for the State	60.14%
								SFD A	
								PS : UPS Ratio	11
								% of State	7.97%
								SFD D	
								SC Districts	82
								% of State	59.42%
								ST Districts	1
								% of State	0.72%
								Minority districts	1
								% of State	0.72%
								Border area districts	1
								% of State	0.72%

10. The consolidated PAB approval of AWP&B and supplementary plan for 2010-11 of Himachal Pradesh is as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Outlay approved earlier				Supplementary Outlay	Total Outlay
Programme	Spill over	Fresh	Total		
SSA	1153.69	23122.14	24275.84	1016.69	25292.53
NPEGEL	0.00	41.82	41.82	0.00	41.82
KGBV	4.00	143.20	147.20	0.00	147.2
Total	1157.69	23307.16	24464.86	1016.69	25481.55

* Rs 20 crore have been provided by the 13th Finance Commission to Himachal Pradesh as Grant-in-aid for elementary education against the total outlay of ` 254.81 crore (original + supplementary). Rs 20 crore will be from the 13th Finance Commission and shall be provided by the State Government to State Implementation Society (SIS) for implementation of RTE.

10. The consolidated State summary & intervention-wise outlays approved under the supplementary plan for 2010-11 are given at **Annexure-V** and **Annexure-VI** respectively.

11. The release of funds to SSA, Himachal Pradesh will be further guided by the following conditions.

- (i) The State Government should give a written commitment for meeting its share of the SSA of the budget approved according to 65:35 Centres – State sharing pattern.
- (ii) The State share should also be released to the State Society within one month of the releases of Central share to the State Society.
- (iii) At least 50% of the teachers recruited should be female.
- (iv) Teachers appointed against posts created through SSA funds should be made accountable to the VEC for at least the salary payment. The latter would monitor the attendance before releasing the salary.
- (v) SMCs or equivalent bodies should be constituted and accounts opened to incur expenditure under teachers grant, civil works, maintenance grants, school grants and other such expenditures, which have to be incurred only through these bodies as per SSA norms.
- (vi) The State Government will maintain their level of investment in elementary education as in 2008-09 and give the details of this to GOI before the release of second installment. The contribution as State share for SSA will be over and above this investment.
- (vii) The second installment would only be released after the previous installment 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.
- (viii) 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 word of thanks to the Chair.