

Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
(Department of School Education and Literacy)

Minutes of the 149th meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 10.05.2010 to consider the AWP&B 2010-11 for Technical Support Group, SSA, Ed.CIL, New Delhi.

The 149th meeting of the Project Approval Board for considering the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2010-11 for Technical Support Group (TSG), SSA, Ed.CIL India Limited was held on 10.05.2010 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. At the outset, Shri S.K. Sharma, Project Manager(PM), SSA, TSG, Ed.CIL apprised PAB that Ms. Anju Banerjee, CMD, Ed.CIL was unwell and Dr. Dilip R. Pangvhane, Director (Tech), Ed.CIL India Limited is representing her in PAB meeting. Shri Sharma made a brief presentation in PAB meeting, a copy of the presentation is at **Annexure II**. In brief, he highlighted the following achievements during 2009-10:-
 - (a) Highest ever workshops, seminars, meetings and JRMs conducted during 2009-10. On an average, one workshop per week was held achieving 75% of the target. Planning and MIS Units of TSG conducted the largest number of workshops;
 - (b) In the light of the recommendations of Sixth Central Pay Commission, though not applicable in the project mode areas, the fee and salary of Consultants and TSG personnel have been revised and implemented, as per Ed.CIL Rules, on the basis of the recommendations of a Committee, set up by Ed.CIL;
 - (c) Ten meetings of the Committee to suggest follow-up action on SSA vis-à-vis RTE Act 2009 were conducted within six months and the Right to Education Unit in TSG was set-up;
 - (d) Against the approved outlay of Rs. 16.97 crore, Ed.CIL received from MHRD Rs. 16.70 crore, and utilized Rs. 12.08 crore. The closing balance as on 31.03.2010 was Rs. 4.62 crore, as per un-audited accounts. A summary statement for the expenditure incurred during 2009-10 is at **Annexure III**. PM requested PAB to permit re-appropriation from the Head of consultancy fees to salaries and allowances of staff, as against the approved outlay of Rs. 1,50,00,000 and Rs. 85,29,600, the expenditure was Rs. 1,25,10,896 and Rs. 1,18,10,797 for consultancy fees and salaries and allowances of staff respectively. Further, against the approved outlay of Rs. 1,60,00,000, the expenditure for workshops, seminars and meetings was Rs. 1,98,29,663 and the funds were re-appropriated from the Head of field visits, monitoring and facilitation etc. in which the expenditure was Rs. 74,49,976 against the allocated fund of Rs. 1,21,00,000. The requirement of additionality to the tune of Rs. 7.92 lakhs for meeting the salary in respect of support staff will be met against the savings under Contingency Head.
 - (e) During 2010-11, seven Chief Consultant Advisor/Experts are proposed to be engaged under Quality, Infrastructure, Access, Equity, Community Mobilization, Gender and Procurement and Financial Management Units, in the light of the implementation of RTE 2009, w.e.f. 01.04.2010;
 - (f) Against the total strength of 50 Consultants, 37 are in position in all the Units of TSG including RTE Unit. The process to fill up the vacant posts will be started shortly by Ed.CIL;

- (g) Two posts of Consultants are proposed to be upgraded to Senior Consultant – one each in Gender Unit and Procurement Disbursement and Financial Management;
- (h) Against the total strength of 73 Support Staff 63 are in position. The change in nomenclature of designation from Support Staff I and II to Senior Assistant and Assistant respectively is under active consideration in Ed.CIL;
- (i) During 2010-11, 146 workshops are proposed by all the Units of TSG which includes 56 national level workshops, 53 regional and 25 review workshops. 413 total field visits are proposed by TSG Consultants;
- (j) Two ongoing research studies are to be completed and 7 studies approved by CARP are proposed to be undertaken;
- (k) Enrichment of Media and Documentation Unit (Library), high speed server for MIS Unit, purchase of laptop, desktops and other peripherals to each Consultant/Unit, purchase of Kiosk, temporary fabricated structure to meet the demand for sitting space at TSG, and renovation of floors, meeting rooms, roof, courtyard, water logging, furniture and fixture etc. are proposed;
- (l) Total outlay sought is Rs. 28.52 crore for 2010-11, as per **Annexure IV**.

4. PAB discussed various issues during the presentation made by the Project Manager, SSA, TSG, and also considered the annual plan in respect of each Unit, presented by the Unit In charge for 2010-11 and made the under-mentioned observations for compliance by all concerned:-

- 4.1 AS made following observations:-
 - (i) Consultants to demonstrate a more participatory approach during appraisal of the AWP&B of the States/UTs. There is a need to review the Planning and Appraisal System and also to revise the current Framework of SSA implementation to provide for holistic and comprehensive planning in accordance with the RTE Act.
 - (ii) There is need for greater convergence and coordination between different Units in TSG, specially Units handling issues of Equity, OoSC, Gender and Community Mobilisation.
 - (iii) Civil Work unit should develop a ToR for developing designs of child friendly school buildings. The States/UTs can use these TORs to ensure that their school building designs incorporate the elements using school spaces from the pedagogic perspective.
- 4.2 Dir(PKT) suggested that zonal quarterly meetings with SPDs will prove to be more effective for review and monitoring.
- 4.3 Dir(NR) stated that we have effectively only seven months to organize the workshop as two months will be busy with JRMs and there is a need to rationalize the number of workshops.
- 4.4 PAB noted that Ed.CIL India Limited has revised the consultancy fee to all categories of Consultants and salary to Support Staff. PAB also noted that the change in nomenclature in the designation from Support Staff I and Support Staff II to Senior Assistant and Assistant respectively is under consideration with Ed.CIL.

5. After detailed discussion, PAB approved the following proposals:-

- (a) The TSG outlay for 2010-11 would be Rs.20.55 crore, as per details in **Annexure V** and funds would be released during 2010-11 after adjustment of the unspent balance of 2009-10;
- (b) Re-appropriation of funds was approved for 2009-10 as detailed below:-
 - (i) Re-appropriation from the Head of consultancy fees to salaries and allowances of staff, since against the approved outlay of

- Rs.1,50,00,000 and Rs.85,29,600, the expenditure was Rs.1,25,10,896 and Rs.1,18,10,797 for consultancy fees and salaries and allowances of staff respectively. PAB also approved re-appropriation of Rs.7.92 lakhs from Contingency Head to the Salary Head for support staff.
- (ii) Further, against the approved outlay of Rs. 1,60,00,000, the expenditure for workshops, seminars and meetings was Rs. 1,98,29,663 and the funds were re-appropriated from the Head of field visits, monitoring and facilitation etc. in which the expenditure was Rs. 74,49,976 against the allocated fund of Rs. 1,21,00,000;
- (c) Two posts of Consultants are upgraded to Senior Consultant – one each in Gender Unit and Procurement Disbursement & Financial Management Unit. PAB advised Ed.CIL to take action to fill up the posts as per Ed.CIL Rules and Procedure. The up-gradation of the posts is in lieu of the existing posts which will cease to exist once the new Consultants are selected and put in place.
- (d) PAB urged the Ed.CIL to fill up 13 vacant posts of various categories of Consultants in TSG, SSA, including the newly created RTE Unit, as also ten posts of Support Staff, on priority basis as per Ed.CIL Rules and Procedure.
- (e) In view of the expanded work requirement, including the RTE Unit, PAB approved the creation of posts of various categories of Advisors, Consultants and Support Staff, as proposed by the Ed.CIL for 2010-11. PAB urged Ed. CIL to fill-up all posts on priority basis.
- (f) Enrichment of Media and Documentation Unit (Library), high speed server for MIS Unit, purchase of laptops, desktops and other peripherals to each Consultant/Unit, purchase of Kiosk, temporary fabricated structure to meet the demand for sitting space at TSG, and renovation of floors, meeting rooms, roof, courtyard, water logging, furniture and fixture etc. were approved by PAB within the approved outlay. PAB directed the Project Manager to ensure completion of these tasks by 30.08.2010.
- (g) A proposal was placed before PAB for hiring of three AC vehicles through TSG(SSA) to meet the requirement of five Divisional Heads and five Under Secretaries of EE-II Bureau in connection with their official visits from Office to IGNOU, NCERT, NUEPA, Ed.CIL, Parliament, Planning Commission etc., as the two vehicles already provided by S&S Section, Department of School Education and Literacy are not fulfilling the requirement of the Bureau. PAB approved a proposal for hiring of three AC vehicles through TSG (SSA) to meet the requirement EE-II Bureau in connection with their official visits from Office to IGNOU, NCERT, NUEPA, Ed.CIL in addition to two vehicles already provided by S&S Section, Department of School Education and Literacy for the requirement of EE-II Bureau.
- (h) The two year term of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Terms of References (TOR), entered into between MHRD and 42 MIs to monitor implementation of SSA and Mid Day Meal schemes in all the States/UTs is coming to end on 31.07.2010. PAB was apprised that a proposal to re-engage all MIs for a further period of two years is under active consideration and the relevant issues would be shared with the representatives of MIs in a National meeting to be held on 17th and 18th May, 2010 at Delhi. The procedure for streamlining the procedure for releasing funds to MIs through Ed.CIL is under consideration in consultation with MIs. All work regarding financial matters both for SSA and MDM, including release of funds, obtaining UCs and accounts, settlement of their accounts, settlement of all old cases of grants with MIs including coordination with the MIs in

financial matters will henceforth be handled by PM(SSA &MDM). MI Unit in TSG will concentrate on academic work like evaluation of reports received from MIs. PM, SSA, was in agreement with the proposal but requested PAB to enhance the Ed. CIL service charges of the Ed. CIL from existing 5% to 16%, as in the case of SSA project on the outlay for MIs work.

- (i) PAB advised Ed.CIL to take all economy measures and strictly monitor unit-wise expenditure on quarterly basis.
- (j) Summary statement of PAB approved AWP&B for Technical Support Group, Ed.CIL (India) Limited for 2010-11 is at **Annexure VI**; and
- (k) PAB agreed in principle to enhance the Ed.CIL service charges of the Ed.CIL from existing 5% to 16%, as in the case of SSA project on the outlay, likely to be approved for MIs work from the date of re-engagement of MIs to monitor SSA and MDM schemes.

The Meeting ended with a Vote of thanks to the Chair.