

**MINUTES OF THE STATE EDUCATION MINISTERS CONFERENCE HELD
ON 18TH JUNE, 2010**

The State Education Ministers' Conference was held on 18th June, 2010 under the Chairmanship of Shri Kapil Sibal, Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development, Government of India. List of the participants is at **Annexure-I.**

At the outset, Shri Amit Khare, Joint Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Government of India extended hearty welcome to Shri Kapil Sibal, Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development, Smt. D. Purandeshwari, Hon'ble Minister of State for HRD, Dr. Narender Jadav, Member Planning Commission, Hon'ble Education Ministers of the State Government and Union Territories, Smt. Anshu Vaish, Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Smt. Vibha Puri Das, Secretary, Higher Education and senior officials of the Centre and State Governments who were present. Shri Khare requested Shri Kapil Sibal, Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development, Government of India to kindly set the tone of the meeting by giving his opening remarks.

Shri Kapil Sibal, Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development while initiating the discussions extended hearty welcome to all the distinguished participants and stated that after the last Conference held on 18th June, 2009, he has held separate meetings with Ministers of different States on various issues and that there is a feeling that as a nation, we are ready to collectively take some historic steps to empower our children. He said that when the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill was passed, there was general euphoria and acknowledgement that after 62 long years a legislation to enforce the right has been enacted. There was a sense of realisation when the Parliament passed the Right to Education Bill. However, he was of the view that while it is comparatively easy to pass a legislation of that magnitude, it is very difficult to implement it on the ground. He stated that without the collaborative effort of all stakeholders, Central and State Governments, Panchayati Raj Institutions, parents, teachers, civil

society, it is not possible to realise our dream. He mentioned that this meeting was a timely event for taking stock of the policy options and the position of education in the country. HRM also stated that empowering of children is empowering the nation. He hoped that free dialogue in the proposed meeting will definitely give some conclusion. Hon'ble HRM stated that when he introduced RTE Act as also introduced, Comprehensive Continuous Evaluation system, while making 10th Board optional there were a lot of misgiving about their workability. This has, however subsequently been disappeared. HRM dwelt upon various issues pertaining to educational reforms like priorities of stakeholders, level playing fields, vocational training, concerns of the child etc. He also stated that there is imbalance in the society and some time talented students never reach the stage, where they can compete with others on equal footing. HRM also shared with State Education Ministers that Ministry of HRD is trying to evolve a mechanism under which children shall not be forced to appear in multiple examinations to get admission in higher educational institutions, whether it is State university or Central University or private institution. He emphasised that there should be a core curriculum particularly in science, mathematics and commerce (not a common syllabus) on the basis of which all children in India should be taught. He stated that world is growing fast in the field of education, nature of education is changing, disciplines are changing, therefore, the need of the hour is to keep up with the global standards. Inaugural Speech of HRM is given at **Annexure II**

After the address of HRM, the first Agenda Item on Saakshar Bharat was taken up.

1. AGENDA ITEM NO.1: IMPLEMENTATION OF CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME OF SAAKSHAR BHARAT.

Initiating the discussion on agenda item, Hon'ble HRM requested Shri Jagmohan Singh Raju, Joint Secretary MHRD to make a brief presentation on the subject:

Presentation made by Shri Jagmohan Singh Raju, Joint Secretary (AE) on Saakshar Bharat

Shri Jagmohan Singh Raju in his presentation stated that 'Saakshar Bharat' was launched on 8th September 2009 and since then it has been rolled out in 167 districts in 19 States. 43 additional districts will be covered during 2010-11 thereby covering 19 States under this Programme. He discussed delivery framework, major milestone, adult education centres, etc.

(Annexure III)

After presentation made by Shri Raju, Hon'ble HRM invited suggestions from the Hon'ble State Education Ministers.

1.1 **Shri. M.A. Baby**, Hon'ble Education Minister of Kerala, mentioned the problems being faced by the States. He said that the State of Kerala is being punished for the success in the field of literacy. According to the present yardstick central assistance would be provided only to those States where literacy levels are less than national average. He stated that not a single district in Kerala, will get assistance as per this yardstick. While the focus of the Central Government naturally goes to the States which are far behind, yet states which have achieved good results should be appreciated and they should be supported for taking the programme forward. Shri Baby suggested that the State of Kerala should be adopted as the laboratory for the country in literacy and for continuing education as well as equivalency programme. Kerala is the only State where the tenth standard equivalency programme is being implemented as those who participate and pass through the programme are entitled to continue their education. He suggested that the yardsticks of 'Saakshar Bharat' need to be changed so that state which has done splendid work in the field of education & literacy can be appreciated and supported their continuing activities.

HRM acknowledged that Kerala has made great achievements in education. As regards financial assistance to different States, HRM said that he has been meeting Hon'ble State Ministers on one to one basis to discuss various issues.

HRM requested all the participants to respond on Saakshar Bharat. In response to Smt. Archana Chitnis, Hon'ble Education Minister of Madhya Pradesh stated that MP Government wrote a letter to Central Government to close the earlier literacy scheme of continuing education. She stated that she had submitted a proposal in February 2010 for 10 districts. However, their sanction is still awaited. Mrs. Anshu Vaish, Secretary (SE&L) responded that the proposal had come in this Department in the month of March 2010 and also stated that she has had a discussion on this issue with the Education Minister of MP when she visited Bhopal. She stated that 167 districts that were targeted to be covered in 2009-10 had already been covered. Therefore, the sanction of the districts proposed by MP could not be issued in the last year. She further stated that the proposal received from MP Govt. is under consideration and if they are in a position to take up all the remaining districts in the current financial year, this proposal will definitely be included. She further clarified about the coverage of districts in the XI Five Year Plan.

1.2 **Shri Bosiram Sriman**, Hon'ble Education Minister of Arunachal Pradesh appreciated the steps taken by the Central Government in the field of education. He stated that 3 districts of Arunachal Pradesh were not created when the Saakshar Bharat Project was initiated and therefore these 3 districts are presently not covered under this project of Central Government. He, therefore, urged the Hon'ble HRM to include these districts under Saakshar Bharat. He also stated that they have already constituted State Literacy Mission Authority and training has already started in some of the districts. He also stated that there are many rural villages where there is a concentration of adult population that needs to be taken additionally.

1.3 **Shri Anjani Kumar Singh**, Principal Secretary, Government of Bihar pointed out that under the Saakshar Bharat the target year is 2012 and districts were being sanctioned in a phased manner. As the State has a sizeable illiterate population, it would be very difficult to achieve the target by the year 2012. He, therefore, requested that the sanction for the remaining districts to be accorded in 2010 and 2011. He also said that huge campaign

is required for the success of the scheme. For this reason also, other district should be sanctioned. He also stated that Bihar Government has introduced “Akshar Aanchal Yojana” to literate women. He also stated that the task of providing training under the scheme has been given to interested NIRD/SIRD. He, however, stated that Saakshar Bharat is not getting priority in their scheme of things as other departments have also assigned works relating to Panchayati Raj Institutions to NIRD/SIRD. This needs to be addressed.

While appreciating the work being done by the Bihar Government about “Akshar Aanchal Programme” for 50 lakh women, **MOS(HRD)** pointed out that due to resource constraints, initially programme was rolled out in 167 districts of the country. With regard to 168 remaining district, she apprised they will be covered in the year 2010-11 provided budget is available.

1.4 **Dr. Upinderjit Kaur**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Punjab appreciated HRM for holding this conference for bringing improvement in the overall education sector in the country. She stated that empowering our children is empowering of nation. She mentioned that state government is taking all steps to implement ‘Saakshar Bharat’. She stated that data collection has already been completed except for one district. She also apprised that the Government of India has selected states during phase one where female literacy rate was below 50%. There were six districts which need to be covered. No district in the State has been taken during the year 2010-11, and she requested that these districts be taken up during the current year itself.

1.5 **Shri. Nyeiwang Konyak**, Hon'ble Minister of School Education, Nagaland pointed out that State is not being invited for various meetings and workshops such as orientation workshop, orientation of panchayati raj institutions etc. and requested that his State officials should be invited to various workshops. He stated that only two districts viz. Mon and Tuensang have been shown where female literacy is below 50%. However, Tuensang has been divided into three districts. Now all together four districts should be considered under ‘Saakshar Bharat’.

HRM informed that there was no question of Nagaland not being invited. He further stated that the remaining districts will be considered in the next stage.

1.6 **Shri Rakesh Dhar Tripathi**, Hon'ble Education Minister, U.P appreciated HRM for holding the Education Minister's Conference and pointed out that population wise Uttar Pradesh is the largest State in the country. He stated that there are seventy one districts in the state, out of which, only 26 districts have been taken up under 'Saakshar Bharat' and requested that remaining 45 districts should be taken up during the current year. He also pointed out that UP is a backward state as far as literacy is concerned. He urged that budget allocation for Saakshar Bharat should be enhanced as amount of Rs.1000 crore is inadequate. It is not possible to implement the Saakshar Bharat with this budget allocation.

Secretary (SE&L), while intervening in the discussion clarified that as per their records 66 districts are to be covered under Saakshar Bharat in UP. Out of that, 26 districts have already been covered during 2009-2010 and 40 districts, will be covered in the subsequent years. It was clarified that as per the Saakshar Bharat criteria, this can be implemented only in those districts where female literacy is below 50%. She also assured that remaining districts will be covered subject to availability of funds in the current financial year.

1.7 **Shri. Partha De**, Hon'ble Minister of School Education, West Bengal stated that Saakshar Bharat is being implemented in West Bengal earnestly. However, he raised the issue relating to para-teachers in West Bengal. He stated that these para teachers are being given some remuneration. However, actual instructors of adult education who are not being paid any remuneration should also be compensated as they have no other means of livelihood and are expected to educate our adults. He suggested some sort of compensation for them. He also suggested that we should bring NREGA type of programme for them.

HRM informed that the Department has had a meeting with corporate sector and we are requesting them to provide the incentives for the volunteers/instructors engaged in 'Saakshar Bharat' programme.

1.8 **Shri Wilfred Lakra**, Advisor to Governor, Jharkhand mentioned that Jharkhand has made some progress and there will be good progress by September 2010. He also supported the suggestion made by Education Minister of West Bengal that some incentive should be given to the instructor of adult education as they are the kingpin of the whole system.

HRM while agreeing with the suggestions made by the representatives of the Jharkhand, informed that Ministry of Finance has, however, not agreed with this proposal. He also stated that some other ways will have to be explored for incentivising the volunteers/instructors.

1.9 **Shri Brij Mohan Agrawal**, Hon'ble Minister, Chhattisgarh conveyed his thanks to HRM and stated that four districts of Chhattisgarh have been included under Saakshar Bharat. He also urged HRM to sanction four more districts HRM informed that this will be considered later.

Shri Jagmohan Singh Raju, Joint Secretary MHRD clarified that any district which was in existence in 2001 and has now been bifurcated or trifurcated, has been asked to go ahead under the 'Saakshar Bharat' programme.

1.10 **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education, Rajasthan stated that, Lok Siksha Kendra is being set up in the Panchayat Kendra under Shaaskar Bharat and temporary learning centres will be opened with one volunteer covering 10 persons in other villages. He further stated remuneration will have to be paid for two Prerak, one male and one female for two panchayat centres. Since Rajasthan is a big State having large panchayats covering 20 sq. kms. or more, no volunteer will come forward without monetary benefits. He sought clarification as to whether we should

consider village as an entity or population above 500, 1000 and 2000 for opening Lok Shiksha Kendra.

HRM stated that his suggestion of remuneration to Preraks is taken on record and assured to look into the matter.

1.11 **Smt. Geeta Bhukkal**, Hon'ble Minister of Education, Haryana congratulated HRM for taking historical steps to improve literacy rate and level of education as also to reduce the drop out rate of children in the country. She pointed out that under 'Saakshar Bharat', 10 districts of the state have been selected out of which only one district Karnal has been given sanction so far. She urged that at least 50% of the district of the state should be covered under this scheme.

1.12 **Shri B.B. Sharma**, Commissioner, Adult Education, Manipur has informed that Manipur is doing well in implementing Saakshar Bharat. He informed that there is high degree of population explosion in Senapati district and keeping this in view, he requested for 64 additional EEC's in Senapati district.

Summing up the discussion on this agenda item, HRM stated that the first phase is going to be over by September 2010 and therefore, we will be able to go to second phase. He requested all State Governments to take all necessary steps to forward this programme.

2. AGENDA ITEM 2: ISSUES RELATING TO TEACHERS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION ACT, 2009

Moving to agenda item 2, relating to teachers under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, HRM informed that he has been having meetings with individual Ministers throughout and has had detailed discussions on these issues. HRM stated that the real problem is with regard to recruitment of teachers as there is a shortfall of 13 lakhs teachers throughout the country. Nearly five lakhs new teachers have to be

inducted into the system and there is already a shortfall of around eight lakhs teachers throughout the country. He also said that there is a great sense of responsibility on all of us who are engaged in implementation of RTE Act.

2.1 **Shri Partha De**, Hon'ble Minister of West Bengal expressed concern over the decision of the Central Government to authorise NCTE as the academic authority under Section 23(1) of the RTE Act for laying down the minimum qualification for teachers. While discussing about prescribed minimum qualification of teachers, he pointed out that in the past, certain organisation have whimsically prescribed the qualification for training of teachers. He suggested that these norms should be finalised with adequate consultation and consensus.

HRM clarified that almost all the State Governments are abiding by the NCTE regulations and he would like it to continue. HRM, however, agreed for a separate discussion on this issue if there are State specific problems.

2.2 **Shri Arvinder Singh Lovely**, Hon'ble Minister (Education), Delhi while appreciating the efforts of HRM for bringing wide ranging reforms in education sector stated that recruitment of teachers as well as their training are important component which needs to be addressed. He said that Delhi government is already on the job and Delhi govt has already made it mandatory that who are attending courses in DIET will be given mandatory one year internship in Govt. schools. He stated that apart from the recruitment, SCERT and DIET play a pivotal role in training of teachers, which is a very crucial element in the whole process of the quality education. He urged for more funds for strengthening DIETs.

HRM while highlighting the importance of teachers in the context of the RTE Act, stated that it was necessary for creation of cadre of teacher educators in each State which would serve in the various Teacher Education Institutions. He said that Central Govt. would like to improve the resources of the DIET by sending people from the University system on deputation to the

teacher educator cadre/DIET to strengthen them. He requested all the states to consider setting up of teacher education cadre within the state.

2.3 **Dr. Upinderjeet Singh Kaur**, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Punjab stated that in respect of teacher training, face-to-face programmes would require to be supplemented with distance education programmes. She also requested that under the ICT Scheme, more computer teachers are required.

HRM clarified that IGNOU is already taking up this programme with other states. He assured for help in this regard.

2.4 **Shri. M.A. Baby**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Kerala congratulated the Central govt for taking the initiatives in the education sector. He requested central govt for more financial assistance for quality education. The State has many projects to improve the quality of general education for which funds are presently being earmarked from the state budget which is insufficient. He urged for financial assistance from the Centre. He informed that restructuring of elementary schools in the State in accordance with the provisions of RTE Act would require more time and additional funding.

2.5 **Shri Wilfred Lakra**, Adviser, Government of Jharkhand stated that Jharkhand has vacancy of more than two lakh teachers at the elementary level and would accordingly require more time to fill up these vacancies.

2.6 **Shri Bosiram Siram**, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Arunachal Pradesh informed that the State has a large number of untrained teachers and would require substantial financial support from the Central Government for training of these teachers. He also pointed out that to implement the Right to Education Act, the State needs about 2 lakh teachers. He also stated that Arunachal Pradesh has only seven DIETs and requested for more DIETs.

HRM said that we have had a discussion in the matter and will help the State Government.

2.7 **Ms. Archana Chitnis**, Hon'ble Minister of School Education, Madhya Pradesh stated that MP Government is waiting for new teacher education scheme. She requested that new scheme may be finalised at the earliest.

2.8 **Shri Rakesh Dhar Tripathi**, Hon'ble Education Minister, U.P pointed out that NCTE had earlier given permission to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to recruit persons with B.Ed. qualification as primary school teachers after they underwent a special BTC Course of six months duration. He requested that NCTE may allow recruitment of primary school teachers for persons with these qualifications in future as well.

2.9 HRM expressed satisfaction over the level of commitment which the State Governments have shown with regard to various teacher related issues and expressed hope that the States would take all necessary steps for implementation of the RTE Act.

3. AGENDA ITEM 3: ISSUES RELATING TO RASHTRIYA MADHYAMIK SHIKSHA ABHIYAN, MODEL SCHOOL AND GIRL'S HOSTEL

3.1 Shri. S.C. Khuntia, Joint Secretary made a presentation and stated that realising the importance of secondary education the plan allocation to this sector has been enhanced to `53,500 crore in the XIth Plan against the allocation of `4,325 crore during the 10th five year plan for secondary sector. He stated that over the last few years, secondary education was not getting the importance it required. He further stated that in the knowledge economy, lot of skill and competence is required before children move to the higher education. He stated that Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan is the most important scheme to universalise access to secondary education and also to improve its quality. The scheme was launched in March, 2009 and the scheme has been operation for one year. He also informed that the scheme has already been appraised from 31 states and UTs during the last year. He said that the objective of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan is to universalise secondary education by 2017. He also stated that since

Elementary Education has now become compulsory therefore the need of the hour is to take this vision forward to secondary level and mentioned that many developed countries have made education compulsory up to the age of sixteen years and in some cases it is up to the age of eighteen years. He also stated that the enrolment ratio at secondary level in 2006-07 was 53% which has gone up to 58% in 2007-08 and the target is to reach 75%. He also informed that all the States were requested to send their annual plans under RMSA along with the prospective plan by 31st May 2010 to enable this department to appraise the plan immediately and states have enough time to implement it as a massive allocation of `20,000 crore has been made under RMSA during the 11th Five Year Plan. He briefly listed out the components of the plan which includes opening new schools in areas where there are no schools so that every habitation should have a high school within five kilometres distance; improving existing schools to enable them to attain minimum norms and standards at par with the Kendriya Vidyalayas. He further clarified that the norms have to be fixed by the concerned state not only in terms of infrastructure, but also in terms of pupil-teacher ratio, and learning achievement. He elaborated that adding of new class rooms, laboratories, library, drinking water, toilet, telephone and electricity connection will come under infrastructure. New teachers can be appointed to ensure that the pupil-teacher ratio improves to at least 30:1 during 11th plan and thereafter improves to 25:1. He also stated that secondary teachers need to be provided one-week in-service training at least once every year and this is applicable not only for government schools but also for government-aided schools. He also informed that there is a provision of providing up to `4.00 lakh for major repair of old schools, which are in dilapidated condition. He also informed that there is a provision of grant to the tune of ` 50,000/- to each school annually for purchase of newspapers, library books, for electricity and water charges, for small repairs and maintenance. He emphasised that states are required to look at curriculum reforms as also school governance to improve the quality of education.

HRM mentioned that secondary education is one of the most important links and without its success the country is not going to get the critical mass of people into the university system. HRM requested all the State Government to go ahead in this direction as there is no fund constraint under the programme.

3.2 **Shri Brij Mohan Agarwal**, Hon'ble Education Minister Chhattisgarh stated that the State has sought sanction of 1100 schools in the current year, but the state government has got sanction for only 280 schools. He also stated that at least two years time would be required for construction of new school buildings. He, therefore, urged HRM to sanction all schools in one go to enable them to continue the work in a phase-wise manner.

HRM requested the State that they may begin the construction of buildings as per approved norms and funds released to them.

Shri Brij Mohan Agarwal, Hon'ble Education Minister however insisted that construction work can start only after sanction letter is issued .He also apprised that Chattisgarh is a naxalite belt and state govt is facing difficulties in carrying out the construction works. Moreover planning requires a lot of time.

Shri S.C. Khuntia, JS intervened and said that new schools need to be proposed after a school mapping exercise is undertaken otherwise there will be proliferation of schools in such areas where schools are already available.

Secretary(S&L) stated that by the time PABs were completed, lot of time had already elapsed. She further stated that this time, States were persuaded to finalise and send Annual Work Plan by 31st May 2010 so that the same could be considered in the PAB. Now proposals have been received and the same shall be considered.

3.3 **Shri Govind Singh Bisht**, Hon'ble Minister Education, Uttarakhand mentioned that Uttarkhand falls under Earthquake Zone 4 & 5 and the

construction cost of schools buildings, therefore, are much higher in Uttarakhand. The actual cost comes to ` 11,188/- per sqm whereas the amount being received is ` 7000/- per sqm only. With this amount, no agency is ready to undertake construction work. He stated that under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan only 2.2% has been earmarked under management head whereas it should be 0.7% in the national level and 1.5% in the state level.

3.4 **Dr. Upinderjit Kaur**, Hon'ble Minister of Education Punjab requested that the second instalment with regard to RMSA has not been released so far and she requested that the same be released immediately. She also requested for release of 80% in the first instalment and 20% in second instalment under RMSA. She pointed out that Govt. of India has not considered to strengthen the existing high school by creating additional classrooms, providing furniture and additional teachers. She urged HRM to address these issues. She also pointed out that the amount being given for repairing of schools is not sufficient. Many schools are in need for major repairs. She also stated that the State has given an estimate for Rs.266 crores for the major repairs of school buildings. She also requested for upgradation of high schools to senior secondary school.

Shri S. C. Khuntia, JS informed that the proposal of the state government for release of second instalment is being processed. He also apprised that from the current financial year, the first installment would be 60% instead of 50% and this will help State Governments to meet their requirements.

3.5 **Shri Rakesh Dhar Tripathi**, Hon'ble Education Minister, UP congratulated the HRM for launching RSMA which is an ambitious scheme. He stated that only 561 govt schools of UP were covered under the RMSA scheme whereas there are approximately 4500 aided Inter-colleges in the State. The Minister urged HRM to cover all the aided schools under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan during the next year (2011-12).

HRM clarified that aided colleges are not covered under the scheme

3.6 **Shri M.A. Baby**, Hon'ble Education Minister of Kerala requested for financial assistance for innovative programmes. He also suggested that all the State Governments should be given a minimum level of assistance when central assistance is apportioned to the each States. He has requested that this may be considered as part of the policy.

3.7 **Shri Partha De**, Hon'ble Minister for School Education of West Bengal pointed out that Aided-Secondary Schools in West Bengal are in reality controlled by the Government and are fully funded by the State Government but they are being kept out of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyaan leading to majority of schools of West Bengal being kept out of this scheme. He requested inclusion of these aided-schools under this scheme.

Hon'ble HRM said that the problem is of funding and the Ministry would like to include the aided schools in future during review, subject to funds being made available by Ministry of Finance.

3.8 **Shri Peerzada Mohd. Syed**, Hon'ble Minister, School Education, J&K stated that the State is socially and economically backward. In view of the prevailing situation, he urged HRM to make Jammu& Kashmir the status at par with NER states as far as funding pattern is concerned.

The Hon'ble HRM while appreciating the suggestions of the Minister of J&K, stated that this was not agreed to by the Cabinet. However, it will again be looked into.

3.9 Hon'ble Minister of Goa has pointed out that there are 365 secondary schools in the State, out of these almost 300 schools are aided schools. 90% of the students are studying in Government aided schools. He also urged the Centre to cover these aided schools under RSMA.

HRM informed that no special dispensation is possible in this regard.

3.10 **Smt. Archana Chitnis**, Hon'ble Education Minister, M.P pointed out that the uniform cost of construction of model schools and girls hostels is not practical and urged for its review. HRM agreed to review the issue. She also stated that rates of the Public Works Department should be agreed. She also urged to increase in management cost of RMSA which is essential for learning enhancement programme under it.

3.11 **Shri Gautam Bora**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Assam stated that they have delinked higher secondary schools from the degree college. State government has decided to increase the capacity of the higher secondary schools. He, therefore, urged for financial assistance for increasing the capacity of higher secondary schools in the States. He suggested to include this in other prospective plans.

3.12 Principal Secretary Education of Gujarat pointed out that the RMSAs unintended outcome is that there is completely uneven distribution of funds. He referred to agenda notes in support of facts and figures given by him. He stated that out of 6000 secondary schools in Gujarat, only 500 are Government schools and the rest are grant-in-aid schools. He was of the view that leaving chunk of the schools from RMSA is not a wise decision. He urged the HRM to do something about this.

HRM informed that this is a matter of principle which has been applied across the board. He also stated that it is fair to some States because some States have lot of Government schools; it is unfair to some others because they have more grants-in-aid schools. HRM said that at present only government schools are covered under RMSA.

3.13 **Shri. L. Jayantakumar Singh**, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Manipur stated that they are facing the problem in construction works. He, therefore, urged HRM for some flexibility in the RMSA guidelines with regard to construction of school infrastructure.

It was clarified that PWD rates will be applicable for construction of school buildings.

3.14 **Shri Ishwar Das Dhiman**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Himachal Pradesh requested that there should not be a uniform norm for all States with regard to RMSA. While appreciating the Rashtriya Madhyamik Abhiyan, he also stated that States like Kerala, Himachal Pradesh who have already ensured 90% enrolment, should also be given an opportunity for further development. He urged that central govt should provide funds for opening new universities to enable the state govt to provide more avenues for vocational education and technical education.

HRM stated that there is a provision for providing funds for improving existing schools and, therefore, States like HP and Kerala can avail this for improving existing schools.

Shri Ishwar Das Dhiman, Hon'ble Education Minister, Himachal Pradesh, however clarified that his request for opening of new schools and not for existing schools. He said that HP wants to open more senior secondary schools which are so far not covered under RMSA.

HRM further clarified that school education and secondary education is part of the concurrent list and the primary responsibility lies with the state government. HRM also urged the participants to restrict the discussion with regard to existing scheme.

3.15 **Dr. Upinderjit Kaur**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Punjab expressed her gratitude to Government of India for sanctioning model schools and girls hostels in the educationally backward districts. She, however, pointed out that money allocated for construction of girls hostel is not enough. She urged to raise construction cost from 42.00 lakhs to Rs.1.00 crore. She also pointed out that at present there is no provision of hostels in the model schools and requested for making arrangements of residential facilities in model school.

HRM clarified that there is no provision in the existing guidelines for residential facilities. HRM reiterated that model schools, which may ever be better than the Kendriya Vidyalayas, should be available in every block. He requested all States to send proposal for all educationally backward blocks of their states during the current year without waiting for next year because it requires almost two years to complete the construction of buildings. He also suggested that model schools could be started in temporary building pending construction. HRM also stated that if there are many EBBs in the States, they should form a society like Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangthan to manage the model schools in a professional manner. HRM also requested all the State Govt to send the proposals for girls' hostels as only 426 have been sanctioned out of 3500. HRM also apprised that one of the reasons that the Ministry is not able to consider the proposals which come from State Governments, is that the land details are not clear or they are not made available to the Ministry. Ministry can not accord sanction where land details are not given; because if states have not actually identified the land, then the funds just get parked with the State Government.

3.16 **Shri Govind Singh Bisht**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Uttarakhand informed that there is scarcity of land in the State of Uttarakhand. He stated that as per the norms prescribed by the Govt. of India five acre of land is necessary for setting up of Model School. He, therefore, requested to change the criteria of land as it is very difficult to get five acres of land in hilly areas.

3.17 **Shri Brij Mohan Agrawal**, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Chattisgarh informed that they have submitted 78 proposals for model schools, out of which 20 has been sanctioned and the remaining are pending. He also stated that they have also submitted similar proposals for hostel. He has also desired that at least 10-12 extra hostels are urgently required in naxalite affected belt.

HRM informed that a proposal for establishing 107 more Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country is under consideration. HRM also explained about

ICT scheme. He stated that under ICT, every high school/Higher Secondary School can be given at least 10PCs along with internet connectivity to enable them to impart computer education in all subject. HRM clarified that Government would like to cover all Government and government aided schools which are about one lakh eighty thousand. He further apprised that as many as 59,000 institutions have already been sanctioned and remaining will be sanctioned during the current year. He requested all State Ministers to take note of this and take advantage of it. HRM also pointed that the Ministry has been implementing the scheme "Inclusive education for disabled at secondary stage". Both normal children and disabled children should study together and for this the Government provides special teachers, assistive devices, transport allowance etc. He urged the state Governments to submit their proposals. He also brought to the notice of the State Governments the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship scheme in which every year one lakh scholarships are given. HRM also mentioned the out about "National Scheme of incentive to girls for secondary education". The purpose of the scheme is to give incentive to girls for secondary education to ensure that enrolment of girls should continue in the secondary stage.

HRM further stated that all eligible girls belonging to SC/ST communities who pass VIII and all girls who pass class VIII examination from Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, irrespective of whether they belong to SC/ST and enrol in class IX in Government. Government-aided and local body schools are given a fixed deposit of Rs.3000/-which they can encash after they attain the age of 18 years.

Shri Brij Mohan Agrawal, Hon'ble Education Minister, Chhattisgarh mentioned that the fixed deposits of Rs.3000/ meant for girls from SC/ST community for 2009-10 is still pending. He stated that the said amount was deposited with SBI Delhi account but the state has still not received the funds. He also apprised that students are not getting the scholarship amount during the last three years. He suggested that if the Ministry could deposit the fixed deposits in local State Bank so that they may get funds in time.

With regard to sanitation scheme, Shri S.C. Khuntia, JS mentioned that it is necessary to create awareness among the younger generation so that when they become adults, the idea of the sanitation will prevail in the entire community. He stated that, in this background, government has started school sanitation programme initially for all CBSE affiliated schools in collaboration with the Ministry of Urban Development. He further stated that though, it was started as Urban School Sanitation Scheme, the same principle can apply to all schools through out the country. He also informed that a school sanitation manual has been developed every school should look at their sanitation facility.

HRM expressed confidence that there is a general consensus among the States and the scheme may be implemented.

4. AGENDA ITEM 4: NATIONAL EDUCATION FINANCE CORPORATION

4.1 **Ms. Anju Banerjee**, Chairperson, Ed-Cil gave a brief presentation about setting up of National Education Finance Corporation. In her presentation she spelt the purpose of the proposed corporation, its functioning, its benefits and operation. In brief, she mentioned that National Education Finance Corporation has been planned as a special purpose vehicle to boost expansion in the Higher Education Sector by increased access in infrastructure through an institutional lending mechanism. A copy of the presentation is at **Annexure IV**.

HRM also referred to the discussion that he had with Shri Nandan Nilekani, Chairman UID Authority. HRM mentioned that each student will have an identification number so that when he passes out of school it will be part of the dematted award/certificate/degree which he will receive. The details of education loan can also be imprinted on the dematted certificate so that the employer would know it that there is an outstanding loan against a

student. We may ever consider making the employer liable to cut the loan from his/her salary on a long term basis

4.2 **Shri. M.A. Baby**, Hon'ble Education Minister Kerala said that as of now UGC is extending financial assistance to Universities and individual colleges. He desired to know as to whether the present system will continue after the proposed mechanism comes into operation. He further stated that in Kerala there are institutions with autonomous stature within the control of the State Government, functioning in different parts of State as registered societies and mostly on self financing mode. The Minister desired to know whether the National Education Finance Corporation would be extending assistance to such State controlled self-financing educational institutions or not?

HRM said that it is a useful suggestion which may also be considered.

4.3 **Shri Sunil Kumar**, Additional Secretary, clarified that the UGC Act provides for grants whereas the proposed discussion is about education loan and, therefore, the proposal is in addition to the current funding mechanism for higher education. He further stated that if the loan size is Rs.150 crore or more, it will be directly funded to the institution and if it is less, it will be refinanced through banking system. He referred to the national education policy stating that education is not for profit, which has been backed by several Supreme Court judgements. He further stated that banks lend to educational institutions at the same rate of interest as for profit activities. The present proposal is to overcome this situation through the institutional mechanism of National Education Finance Corporation (NEFC). He also apprised that this issue is being discussed with Planning Commission. Further, NEFC would lend low rates of interest to meet the requirement of the students of economically weaker sections of the society. He also clarified that there will be no discrimination between State-aided and non-aided institutions.

4.4 **Representative of Goa** Govt mentioned that they already have a Goa Education Development Corporation which is providing interest free loans to children to the tune of Rs.7-8 crore per year. He also stated that Goa Govt is not in a position to avail the benefit of good schemes of the Government of India.

4.5 **Shri Sudarshan Raychaudhary**, Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education, West Bengal stated that the proposed scheme would increase access. He stated that guardian of many students come from un-organised sectors where the parental income could be very low. He suggested differential rates of interest for different income groups.

Shri Sunil Kumar, AS (MHRD) clarified that under the new interest subsidy scheme announced by the Govt of India under IBA student loan, students where parental income is less than Rs.4.5 lakh, will have full interest subsidy for moratorium period.

4.6 **Shri Arvind Limbavali**, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, Karnataka congratulated HRM for setting up National Education Finance Corporation and several other reforms. He stated that Karnataka govt has taken some of the steps in this regard. He stated that State Government has a scheme for reimbursing interest to the students of professional courses up to Rs.5.00 lakh. He wanted to know the criteria or benchmark, for allocation of funds under National Education Finance Corporation and whether it was gross enrolment ratio or state-wise allocation.

HRM clarified that it is a refinancing scheme and no state-wise quota could be fixed. He further clarified that it will be a demand driven scheme and whoever wants refinance, can get it. He also clarified that this proposal has nothing to do with the grants being released by UGC or any other organisation. The loan is to be guaranteed by the Government of India. HRM requested for an endorsement of State Education Ministers so that the scheme could be implemented.

4.7 **Shri Lakshmikant Sharma**, Hon'ble Minister from Madhya Pradesh informed that they have already implemented a similar scheme in the State named as Saraswati Akshar Kosh Yojna. He, however, said that banks are not extending their cooperation. He urged HRM to request Ministry of Finance to issue directions in this regard. HRM clarified that no such direction could be issued to banks. He also requested that students from below poverty line should be given loan on zero percent interest. He also sought clarification as to whether universities have to mortgage their property for getting loan. He also sought to know as to whether any state quota is fixed.

HRM clarified that no such guarantee is required and clarified that Govt. of India would like equity participation from the States in the proposed National Education Finance Corporation.

4.8 **Shri Tope Rajesh**, Hon'ble Minister for Higher & Technical Education, Maharashtra welcomed the scheme. He informed that Maharashtra Government has been implementing such type of schemes like reimbursement of fees, in professional education. He also said that the present scheme is directly linked to employment. He desired to know the fate of the loan if the student does not get employment even after expiry of moratorium period of five years.

Shri Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary (MHRD) clarified that in the proposed scheme moratorium period has been proposed for 6-12 years. He also clarified that even under IBA loan scheme, there is moratorium of five years plus one year or till employment, which ever is earlier. He also stated that the Ministry is working on the possibility of avoiding the frontloading of interest, so that during the initial period the repayment interest rate could be lower. He also stated that this would be major departure from the existing loan schemes.

HRM said that anywhere in the world, there is some percentage of students who can not pay back their loans. He also clarified that the loan will only be for perusing professional courses where job opportunities are much

better. Therefore the scheme will automatically work and it will also allow to state governments to be flexible about the fee structure.

Shri Sunil Kumar AS MHRD also clarified that at present most of the investments in higher education (appx 80%) is made by States and only 15-20% by the Centre. He further stated that at present, most of the expenditure in education is towards the salary requirements and very little expenditure is on development needs or infrastructure. Thus, National Education Finance Corporation would be a major instrument in meeting the financial requirements for development and infrastructure.

Some of the State representatives requested that this scheme should be extended to all the states and the structure should be three tier viz national level, state level and district level. HRM however did not agree with this suggestion as it will increase overhead costs. HRM also suggested that all the State Government can participate in the equity of the proposed Corporation and this will give state participation. He also stated that this initiative (NEFC) will address the problem of the access and affordability in a major way.

Regarding the capital structure, HRM clarified that the professionals who will manage this Corporation will obviously look into this.

Shri Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary, explained that the debt-equity ratio is about 7:1, which is the industry norm. With regard to three tier structure, Shri Sunil Kumar explained that the lowest transaction cost is in the present model as commercial banks have branches near educational institutions. With regard to coverage of the guarantee Shri Sunil Kumar explained that, on guarantee there are three categories, one for economically weaker sections where NEFC will guarantee 75% of the defaulters. On loan above Rs.4.5lakh and below Rs.12.00 lakh, the guarantee would be 50% of the defaults and for loans above Rs.12 lakh there will be no guarantee. He clarified that the demand for the student loan today according to IBA figures outstanding is Rs.32000 crore and is likely to go up to Rs.1,20,000 crore by 2017 and Rs.1,69,000 crore of education loans by 2020.

Shri Anjani Kumar Singh, HRD Secretary of Bihar appreciated the initiative for establishing NEFC as it will be a loan for poor students. He wanted to know whether the National Finance Corporation will have branches in all States so that it could benefit all students.

AS(HE) clarified that there is no need for branches in all states as the Corporation (Head Office) will primarily refinance the Banks which gives loans. In some cases, the Corporation will give guarantees. Those institutions and Universities who take loan amount of Rs.150 crore and above, will have to directly finance/ deal with or through banks. Therefore, there is no need for branches.

4.9 **Shri Lalwata**, Hon'ble Minister School & Higher Education, Mizoram cited an example that some 40 students availed loans from nationalised banks for pursuing the diploma courses in Singapore. On completion of one year, banks refused to give further amount and they could not pursue their studies further and `came back

HRM clarified that this NEFC will not give loans for students going abroad, it is only for students studying in India.

4.10 **Shri M.A. Baby**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Kerala mentioned that setting up of Educational Finance Corporation should not be constituted as justification for uncontrolled enhancement of fee structure.

HRM clarified that this will not happen. He said that National Education Finance Corporation will give flexibility to the system. He further said that it will bring down capitation fee and it will change the functioning of the educational institutions because there will be easy access to capital and re-finance.

5. **AGENDA ITEM 5: REVISION OF PAY SCALES OF TEACHERS IN UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGES**

5.1 Shri Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary MHRD stated that to address the problem of shortage of faculty in higher education institutions, Central Government has thought of incentives to attract the best possible talent in to teaching. He referred to Radhakrishnan Commission 1949 stating that teaching was not the first career option for talented young persons and the commission recommended for better salaries for teachers. Consequent to the Sixth Pay Commission, Government decided that in order to attract best possible talent in higher education institutions at the entry level teachers' salaries must be substantially higher than that of the premier civil services. He stated while 24-28% vacancies exists in IITs, about one-third posts are lying vacant in state universities. Therefore, it was also decided to enhance the superannuation age of teachers. While concluding he said that Central govt would be happy to reimburse 80% of the salary arrears as adequate budgetary provisions is available with this Ministry, provided State makes the payment and claims reimbursement and also certifies that they are willing to accept the central package.

5.2 **Shri Laxmikant Sharma**, Hon'ble Minister for Technical Education, Madhya Pradesh stated that Madhya Pradesh is the first State to implement the Scheme. He further stated that the State has also increased age of superannuation of teachers to 65 years but so far it has not received the funds. He urged for early release of funds.

Shri Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary assured early release of funds provided MP Govt. issues a certificate that payments have been made and it is the case of reimbursement.

However, Madhya Pradesh Minister pointed out that the financial situation of most of the State Govts. Is not good and putting such condition will create problem. Shri Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary also informed that even in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th Pay Commissions the Central share was reimbursed after the State Governments had made their payments.

Education Secretary of Rajasthan expressed concern over raising superannuation age to 65 years of university teachers as this will affect the employment opportunities of youngsters in the state.

HRM, however, did not agree with the argument put forward by the Education Secretaries of Rajasthan and stated that if eligible youngsters are already available, then there should not be 30% vacancies of teachers in Institutions. Shri Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary clarified that today with enormous opportunities available and new disciplines that are emerging, there is a growth in the number of institutions. Therefore opportunities available to the youth will not be affected by increase in age of superannuation, rather we will be able to get the services of experienced teachers for further period.

5.3 **Shri Anil Sarkar**, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, Tripura stated that Government of Tripura implemented the Scheme for revising the pay scales of college teachers of Tripura w.e.f from 1.1.2006. He further stated that 70% of the arrear amounting to Rs.23.90 crore on account of revision has not been provided by MHRD on the ground that the revision has not been implemented as a composite package. He requested for the release of additional requirement of funds amounting to Rs.23.90 crores as it is not feasible for the State Government to implement revision due to financial constraints. HRM appreciated the concerns.

5.4 **Shri Iswar Das Dhiman**, Hon'ble Minister of Education, Himachal Pradesh stated that based on the recommendation of UGC and MHRD, HP has revised the pay scales of university teachers and govt colleges w.e.f. 1-1-2006. With regard to enhancement of superannuation age to 65 years, he pointed out that the State has to deal with employees of other Departments also, where the age of retirement is 58 years. He pointed out that enhancement of age of retirement of teachers in colleges and Universities to 65 years, in isolation, will create problem from other Departments within the State Government. He, however, clarified that there is no dearth of qualified teachers and lecturers in the State.

HRM explained that similar issue exists in the Central Government where the retirement age of other Central Government employees has not been enhanced to 65 years. He explained that Government intends to make teaching as an attractive profession so that talented persons should join teaching profession. which will help in empowering our children.

Shri Iswar Das Dhiman, H.P Minister pointed out that due to the enhancement of age of retirement of 65 years for university teachers, the educated youths will not get chance for employment. HRM clarified that there is no question of unemployment as so many State Universities have been announced in HP where a larger number of vacancies still exists.

5.5 Smt. Geeta, Bukkal Hon'ble Education Minister, Haryana informed that though the Scheme – revision of pay scales for the colleges and university teachers as notified by the Ministry of HRD has been adopted by the State, there are some issues and limitations in this regard. The age of superannuation upto 65 years cannot be considered keeping in view the prevailing unemployment in the State. She also stated that in Haryana they are having the state eligibility test and many persons who have passed the test, are still unemployed. She also pointed out that through new Universities are being established in the State, but raising the age of superannuation is a very sensitive issue pertaining to the future of the youths and other Departments will also raise similar demands.

HRM observed that matter should be further discussed and debated dispassionately with the States. He felt that academically, a brilliant teacher should never retire.

5.6 Shri M.A. Baby, Hon'ble Education Minister, Kerala stated that it was a sensitive issue which has been raised by all the states. Further, he stated that an army of educated an employed youth are waiting for employment in different Universities and institutions. He stated that in Kerala, the vacancies falling in Universities and colleges are filled up immediately. He suggested

that education being a subject in the concurrent list, the superannuation issue should be considered by the State Govts. who should be given liberty to take a position in consultation with the political system of the State. He strongly felt that reimbursement of expenditure on account of new pay-scales should not be linked with the age of superannuation.

5.7 Shri Rakesh Dhar Tripathi, Hon'ble Education Minister of UP stated that UP Government has implemented recommendation of 6th Pay Commission from 2008. He urged the central government to restrict the retirement age up to 65 years of teachers only in central universities. He further stated that enhancement of retirement age of state universities and colleges will have wide repercussions as other departments will come forward with similar demands. He urged the Central Government not to raise the issue for the time being. He also stated that lakhs of talented youths of the state are unemployed. He suggested that this issue should be left to the State concerned for implementation.

5.8 Shri Sudarshan Raychaudhary, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, West Bengal shared the concern of the central govt for filling up vacancies in the colleges and universities and also to attract more and more young people in the teaching profession. He referred to the recommendations of Chadda Committee suggesting several useful recommendations. He said that as per Chadha Committee recommendations, implementation of pay scales throughout the country, on the same date from the same year and 100% financial liability, should be met by the Central Govt. for first five years and the Central Govt. should provide 50% of extra expenditure for the next five years. He was of the view that the Central Govt. has failed to accept these recommendations. He urged Govt. of India to accept the recommendations of Chadha Committee. He also referred two letters, written in April 2006 by MHRD and UGC suggesting measures to overcome the problem of acute shortage of staff in universities and colleges. While concluding, he urged HRM not to link the issue of enhancement of retirement age with reimbursement of 80% of pay arrears. He appealed to HRM to implement the recommendations of the Chadda Committee.

HRM mentioned that as a Union Minister he is bound by the decision of the Cabinet, it is a decision taken by the Cabinet and he can not over rule it. He, however, mentioned that he will convey the feelings of the States in this regard.

5.9 **Shri Laxmikant Sharma**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Madhya Pradesh appreciated the central govt for implementing 6th Pay Commission recommendations and accordingly, MP govt has implemented the CPC. He stated that MP Govt has not received reimbursement of the amount which has already been paid to universities professors and lecturers despite sending proposal to HHRD on 29-9-2009.

In response to that, HRM requested for furnishing certificate of payment. HRM further clarified that the order will not be applicable for polytechnics. A question was also raised as to whether benefit of revised scale would also be available in respect of retired and/or dead parsons. Shri Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary said that the scheme will be applicable for 1.1.2006 to 31st March, 2010 in respect of posts which were sanctioned and duly filled as on 1.1.2006.

6. AGENDA ITEM 6: SCHEME OF SETTING UP OF MODEL COLLEGES IN 374 EDUCATIONALLY BACKWARDS

6.1 **Shri Sunil Kumar**, Additional Secretary briefly explained the scheme of setting up of model colleges in 374 educationally backward districts .He stated that these colleges will be opened in a district where at the beginning of this plan period Gross Enrolment Ratio for higher education was less than the national gross enrolment ratio. He also apprised that state govt have already been requested for generating suitable proposals. As regards, financial pattern of the scheme, he explained that 1/3rd of the capital investment (or 1/2 in respect of special category States) will be met by the Central Government and the remaining 2/3rd (or 1/2 for SCS) would be met along with recurring expenditure either by the State Government on its own or

by involving philanthropic organisations or public-private partnership and land was to be given free of cost by State Government. He also informed that 13 proposals have been received from Punjab and in principle approval has already been given. He requested States to send more proposals.

6.2 Shri Sudarshan Raychoudhary, Hon'ble Higher Education Minister, West Bengal stated that the proposed scheme was being considered since 2007 and the first meeting was held in Tirupati and all participants raised a demand for central contribution of 100%. He mentioned that, in West Bengal, a decision had already been taken for setting up of colleges in educationally backward districts, before the announcement of the proposed scheme. He also said that several colleges have already been set up during 11th plan period. He desired to know how to choose one model college from the newly established colleges. He requested to extend the scheme to all schools already set up before formally launching of this Scheme in the EB district. He also requested to increase the share of Centre to 75%.

HRM informed that this scheme was approved by National Development Council as such this cannot be revised at the Ministry level, unless NDC itself chooses to revise. It was further clarified that the scheme was announced late and NDC approval was of December, 2007. The Central Govt. had clarified to all States that any college established subject to the ceiling of one college per EBD, after 1.1.2008 would be admissible under the scheme for reimbursement of 1/3rd of the cost. This has already been done.

Hon'ble West Bengal Minister also pointed out that the new colleges which are being set up would come up under new regulations of UGC and raised a doubt whether 2 acres of land would be required for establishing colleges in Metropolitan cities.

Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat, Chairman, UGC clarified that the existing colleges which are set up during the plan period could also be considered for the scheme and many States are availing this facility. Regarding the issue of

availability of land, he felt that in big cities, availability of land is a problem and the matter will be considered in consultation with the MHRD.

6.3 **Shri L. Jayanta Kumar Singh**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Manipur stated that GER of Manipur state has been wrongly shown on the higher side. He also stated that in Manipur, only one district – Imphal West is having GER more than National Average and other districts are below national average. He desired to know whether Manipur is entitled for the benefit of setting up of model colleges in other districts.

HRM agreed to look into this.

6.4 **Shri Bosiram Siram**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Arunachal Pradesh mentioned that Arunachal Pradesh is the largest State in the entire NE region, but the State has only one Central University and not a single state university. He appreciated that recently one NIT has been sanctioned. He further stated that now 10 model colleges have been earmarked in the educationally backward districts of the State. Considering the geographical situation of Arunachal Pradesh and bottleneck of connectivity, he requested that provisions should be made with Rajiv Gandhi University for establishing University Campuses at Tawang, Pasighat, Teju etc. and also requested that provision should be created for establishing constituent colleges in the University.

HRM invited the Minister to meet him separately as the State has not been able to take advantage of the Scheme of Model Colleges.

6.5 **Shri Tope Rajesh**, Hon'ble Minister of Higher and Technical Education, Maharashtra pointed out that since 2001 they have stopped sanctioning colleges on grant basis and all the colleges which have been sanctioned were 100% non-aided colleges. He however, referred to the guidelines (3.4) stipulating that the colleges to be funded under this scheme should be in receipt of non-plan assistance. He requested that necessary

amendment be made in the Scheme else Colleges from Maharashtra will not be able to benefit from the scheme.

Shri Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary clarified that there are two types of colleges one constituent colleges of State Universities where the sponsor can be the University providing two thirds of funds. The others are affiliated colleges where the State Government can send the proposal for taking one-thirds expenditure from Central Government and the remaining two-thirds to be shared between the State Government or any private promoter. So such 100% non-grant colleges can also be accommodated in this scheme.

6.6 **Shri Laxmikant Sharma**, Hon'ble Minister Technical Education, MP stated that state govt has taken a pledge to enhance GER, from 12.5% to 15% over a period of three years. He further stated that 20% of population of the state belongs to SC community and urged that more Central funds should be given for establishing colleges in backward areas.

HRM informed that as already pointed out it is a decision of the NDC which includes the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. He said that during XIth Plan, the present scheme will continue but in the XIIth Plan, if this issue arises, then the same could reconsidered.

6.7 **Education Minister Karnataka** informed that the State has already sent proposal long back for established about 20 colleges. Shri Sunil Kumar, AS informed that proposal for only one College has been received.

Chairman, UGC clarified that he had held a meeting with Education Secretary of Karnataka a week back who had assured that he will send 21 applications with necessary formalities very soon. Though the last date has passed, Karnataka has agreed to submit all applications within the extended period and the UGC has agreed to process them within 1½ months time.

6.8 **Dr. Upinderjit Kaur**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Punjab in her remarks, stated that Punjab Government is going to set up 13 new colleges

but they want 15 for which sites have been identified. She apprised that the State Government has already released its contribution and requested that the Central share be released urgently.

6.9 **Shri Debi Prasad Mishra**, Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education, Orissa referred to the Thyagarajan Committee Report put up by UGC and requested that the same be looked into. He stated that model colleges now proposed to be set up are in difficult areas/naxal affected areas/hilly terrain, where there is concentration of tribal population. He requested the Ministry to consider adding some component such as residential/hostel facilities and infrastructural support in the Scheme.

Shri Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary informed that norm of Rs.1 crore for hostel was already a part of the scheme and apart from this UGC had another scheme for women's hostel. He requested States to take advantage of the schemes and send their proposals quickly.

6.10 **Smt. Geeta Bukkal**, Hon'ble Education Minister of Haryana appreciated the decision of the government for opening of 374 colleges in backward districts of the country. She pointed that seven educationally backward districts of the state have been considered and Gurgaon is one of them. She further stated that Mewat, which was earlier, part of Gurgaon has since become a separate district, which is educationally most backward where a model degree college is required. She also requested for setting up of two model colleges at Panipat & Elanabad being backward districts.

7. AGENDA ITEM 7: CONNECTIVITY, E-CONTENT AND RELATED ISSUES UNDER THE NATIONAL MISSION ON EDUCATION THROUGH ICT

7.1 **Shri N.K. Sinha**, Joint Secretary MHRD briefly described about the launching of the National Mission for Education through ICT (NMEICT). He apprised that three components of the mission for providing connectivity, for

providing e-content and low cost computing devices, are being funded by the central govt He informed states that the connectivity is being provided through National Knowledge Network and the universities and colleges are required to pay 25% or 10% based on where the colleges are situated. He requested State Govt to provide funds to the universities so that the connectivity is reached to university. With regard to E-content, he stated that Central Govt is looking to State institutions to broaden the scope of partnering with them in the Mission so that large number of colleges, universities avail this facility with regard to good teaching material and also to over come the problem of shortage of faculty.

7.2 Shri. M.A. Baby, Hon'ble Education Minister, Kerala applauded the scheme and requested that the internet band should be augmented.

HRM intervened and said that the e-content being developed is mainly for the technology courses and IITs have developed the e-content. He said that efforts are being made to spread it to humanities and social sciences. HRM also informed that there is a need of collaboration to develop e-content that can be disseminated through NMEICT.

While briefly discussing about the need for raising the 10 Mbps to 30 Mbps, Shri N.K. Sinha, Joint Secretary pointed out that(1) this scheme does not distinguish between publicly funded or privately funded colleges or universities (2) In this scheme 25% contribution is needed for connectivity as well as LAN. Two crore is the cost of connectivity for ten years for one Gbps. About 40 lakhs is the average cost of LAN for 400 nodes which will suffice for a college. He requested States not only to come forward under this Mission but also do the e-content generation which is 100% funded by the Central Government and the projects could be uploaded on 'Shakshat'.

Underlining the importance of ICT in Education, HRM requested the support of the State Governments in translating the e-content into different languages so that it reaches all the students.

7.3 **Shri L. Jayantha Kumar Singh**, Hon'ble Education Minister indicated that this scheme remains non- functional in North East. He requested to organise some workshops in NE Region to familiarise the States. HRM acceded to the request.

8. **AGENDA ITEM 8: OPERATIONALISING NEW NITs – ISSUES OF ARRANGEMENT OF TEMPORARY CAMPUS AND LAND FORN PERMANENT SITE**

8.1 Initiating to discussion on this agenda, Shri N.K. Sinha, Joint Secretary informed that 10 new NITs were sanctioned so that most of the States have one NIT each. He also informed that all new NITs are going to admit students from the coming academic year, temporary campus are available at nine places and the Ministry has tied up with the State Governments. He further stated that in new NITs, B.Tech.programmes in computer science, electronics and communication and electrical engineering courses will be started. However, there is no progress in Delhi as the State could not identify land or temporary campus.

HRM mentioned that he has already spoken to Lt. Governor and Chief Minister Delhi and shall again try and do something. HRM appealed to all the States to finalise the permanent location so that construction activities could start in right earnest.

8.2 **Shri. M.A. Baby**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Kerala pointed out that there was discussion about Indian Institute of Engineering Science & Technology being developed in the State. He further stated that while engineering institute of BHU is being transformed into an IIT, Kerala is being deprived. He stated that Kerala have no IEST, no IIT and no NIT except Calicut Regional Engineering college that was transformed into an NIT.

8.3 **Dr. Upinderjit Kaur** Hon'ble Education Minister of Punjab stated that the State Govt. had introduced educational satellite programme and are covering about 600 institutes. She wanted that it should be integrated with the ICT project so that it is streamlined. HRM has agreed to that.

8.4 **Shri Bosiram Siram**, Hon'ble Minister for Arunachal Pradesh mentioned that classes of NIT will be commenced from 1st July in a temporary campus in the capital complex.

9. AGENDA ITEM 9: MAKING INTERVENTIONS FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE SCHEME OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH POLYTECHNICS UNDER SUBMISSION ON POLYTECHNICS

9.1 Shri N.K.Sinha, Joint Secretary informed that 300 Polytechnics could be established with the central funding of Rs.12.3 crores to each of the different state, He further stated that these polytechnics have been identified and first instalment has been released for 228. In some cases, the second instalment has also been released but certain states are yet to identify the land. He has requested the remaining states to expedite the allotment of land.

9.2 **Shri M.A. Baby**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Kerala mentioned that his State is being left out along with Karnataka in Polytechnics also. He said that the State can qualify under the 3rd criteria i.e. where there are no polytechnics at the distinct headquarters, Kerala has 6-7 districts where are no polytechnics at the district headquarters. He urged the MHRD to consider the claim of Kerala along with Karnataka out of the 72 Polytechnics which are yet to be allotted.

9.3 **Shri R.S. Chib**, Hon'ble Minister for Medical and Technical Education, J&K was appreciative of the commitment of HRM for very innovative approach for empowering the youth and requested more funds under the Scheme. Regarding the private polytechnics he felt that there should be proper monitoring. With regard to construction of women hostels he requested to enhance the amount from Rs.1.00 crore to Rs.1.5 crore. With regard to the establishment of new polytechnics he informed that land has been identified for all the 18 polytechnics and 3-4 crores have been spent for acquisitions of land. He felt that the amount of Rs.8.00 crores is not enough

for construction of building and requested that the amount for construction should be enhanced,

9.4 **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, Rajasthan, Government of Rajasthan *while expressing happiness in the polytechnic scheme*, mentioned that for all the 15 polytechnics sanctioned in the State, land has been allotted and work has been started. He informed that there is lot of demand for polytechnics in the State and if some States are not sending their proposals, then more polytechnics may be sanctioned for Rajasthan.

10. AGENDA ITEM 10: CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME OF SCHOLARSHIP FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

10.1 While initiating the discussion on the subjects, HRM informed that the scheme will be merged with Education Finance Corporation, when it is established. Shri N.K.Sinha, Joint Secretary apprised that 82,000 scholarships are available which are allocated state-wise in proportion to population in 18-25 years age groups of the state. He mentioned that many students could not get above 80% marks because in some states boards are very stringent. Therefore, the criteria has now been revised from 80% of marks in absolute terms to 80th percentile and above.

10.2 While concluding the meeting HRM stated that discussions were frank and open and extended thanks to all. HRM also stated that there is general agreement on all the issues barring one issue relating to retirement age of university teachers, which he will try to resolve. He urged the State Governments to join hands with Central Government to bring out radical restructuring of the education system. HRM once again thanked all present for the valuable suggestions made and for the cooperation of State Governments and hoped that it would enable MHRD and State Governments to do more than what had been done in the field of education in the country.

The consensus points emerging from the Meeting were read out by Hon'ble HRM which is at **Annexure-V**.

List of Participants of the State Education Ministers' Conference
held on 18th June, 2010 at , Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi.

S.No.	Name & Address	Designation
1	Shri Kapil Sibal, Minister of Human Resource Development, MHRD, New Delhi	
2	Smt. D. Purandeswari, Minister of State for Higher Education, MHRD, New Delhi.	
3	Shri V. Vaithilingam, Chief Minister, Ponducherry.	
4	Shri Dr. Jitendra Seth, Minister, Higher Education, Rajasthan	
5	Shri Arvind Limbavali, Minister for Higher Education, Karnataka, Bangalore.	
6	Er R.S. Chib, Minister for Medical/Technical Education ,J&K.	
8	Shri Abdul Gani Malik, Minister for Higher Education, J&K.	
9	Shri Peerzada Mohd Syed, Minister for School Education, J&K.	
10	Smt. Archana Chitnis, Minister, for School Education, Bhopal, M.P.	
11	Shri Lakshmikant Sharma, Minister for Technical Education, M.P .	
12	Shri Tope Rajesh, Minister for Higher & Technical Education, Maharashtra, Mumbai.	
13	Ms. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh, Minister for Education, Meghalaya, Shillong.	
14	Shri Nyeiwang Konyak, Minister for School Education, Nagaland.	
15	Shri Lalsawta, Minister for Education, (all sectors) , Mizoram.	
16	Shri Pratap Jena, Minister for School & Main Education, Sachivalaya ,Orissa.	
17	Shri Debi Prasad Mishra, Minister for Higher Education, Tourism & Culture, Orissa.	
18	Shri Bhanwar Lal Meghwal, Minister , Rajasthan, Jaipur.	
19	Shri N.K. Pradhan, Minister for HRD, Tashiling Secretariat, Gangtok, Sikkim.	
20	Shri Anil Sarkar, Minister for Higher Education, Tripura, Agartala.	
21	Shri Govind Singh Bisht, Education Minister, Uttrakhand.	
22	Shri Rakesh Dhar Tripathi, Education Minister, 9 Kailash Marg, Lucknow, U.P.	
23	Mr. Bosiram Siram, Minister for Education, Arunachal Pradesh.	
24	Shri Brijmohan Agrawal, Ministe for PWD, School Education , Chattisgarh.	
25	Shri Arvinder Singh Lovely, Education Minister, NCT Delhi.	
26	Shri Gautam Bora, Education Minister, Secretariat, D-Block, Dispur, Assam.	
27	Shri M.A. Baby, Minister for Education(All Sectors) Kerala.	
28	Shri L. Jayantakumar Singh, Minister for Education, Secretariat Office, Manipur.	
29	Shri Partha De, Minister for School Education, West Bengal, Kolkatta-19	
30	Shri. Sudarshan Raychoudhary, Minister for Higher Education, West Bengal.	
31	Mrs. Geeta Bhukkal, Education Minister , Chandigarh, Haryana.	
32	Dr. Upinderjit Kaur, Minister, Civil Aviation, Vigilence & Justic, Punjab	
33	Shri Ishwar Dass Dhiman, Education Minister, Secretariat , Shimla, H.P.	
34	Shri. Wilfred Lakra, Advisor to Governor, Jharkhand.	
	State Officers	
35	Shri Madhu Sudan Padhi, Commissioner cum Secretary, (HE)Govt. of Orissa.	
36	Shri Hage Khoda, Commissioner Education, Arunachal Pradesh.	

37	Shri B.B. Sharma, Commissioner Adult Education, Govt. of Manipur, Imphal
38	Shri K. Moses Chalai, Commissioner Higher Education, Old Secretariat, Imphal, Manipur
39	Shri Sigmi Choden, Additional Resident Commissioner, Arunachal Bhavan, New Delhi.
40	Shri R.K. Vaish, Principal Resident Commissioner, Tripura Bhawan, New Delhi.
41	Shri M. Sinha, Secretary, HRD, Project Bhavan, HEC, Ranchi, Jharkhand.
42	Shri F.R. Kharkongor, Secretary, IAS, Govt. of Meghalaya, Shillong.
43	Dr. Shakil Ahammed, Education Secretary, Shillong, Meghalaya.
44	Shri R. Telang, Secretary, HRD, Tashiling Secretariat, Govt of Sikkim. Gangtok
45	Shri Sunil Kujur, Secretary, School Education, Govt. of Chattisgarh.
46	Shri Ashism Upadhyaya, Secretary, Higher Education, Govt. of M.P, Bhopal.
47	Shri Sanjay Kumar Saxena, Secretary & Director, Directorate of Education, A & N Island
48	Shri Kant Baldi, Principal Secretary, Education, H.P. Govt. Secretariat, Education, Shimla.
49	Shri M. Mdan Goral, Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Karnataka, Bangalore.
50	Shri M.S. Sandhu, Principal Secretary Education, Punjab Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh.
51	Mrs. Vawdawa Kumari Jena, Principal Secretary, SME, Sachivalaya, Orissa
52	Shri Ashok Sampatram, Principal Secretary, School & Sanskrit Education, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
53	Shri Vipin C. Sharma, Principal Secretary, Technical Education, Secretariat, Jaipur.
54	Shri Ram Niwas, Home-cum Education Secretary, Office, Chandigarh.
55	Shri Rakesh Mohan, Prin. Secretary, Deptt. of Education, Vidhan Sabha, Delhi-110057.
56	Shri Hasmukh Adwa, Principal Secretary, Gandhinagar (Gujrat).
57	Shri S.S. Prasad, Principal Secretary (Education) Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh.
58	Shri M. Madan Gopal, Principal Secretary Higher Education, Govt. of Karnataka, Bangalore.
59	Shri M.S. Sanchu IAS, Principal Secretary Education, Chandigarh, Punjab.
60	Shri ASPS Ravi Prakash, Addl. Secy, (Higher & Tec. Edn) Govt. of M.P. Bhopal
61	Mrs. Angav Lihog, Addl. Secy. (SC), SSA, RMSA, Nagaland.
62	Shri Anjani Kumar Singh, Prin. Secretary, New Secretariat, Patna, Bihar.
63	Shri Ram Ganesh, Special Secretary, Technical Education, Secretariat, Lucknow.
64	Shri Anita Mishra, Special Secretary, Secretariat, Lucknow
65	Shri M. Shayin, PS to Minister, Department of School Education, Haryana
66	Dr. S.D. Singh, OSD to Minister (Higher Education), M.P.
67	Dr. Abhay Wagh, Dy. Secretary (Higher & Technical Education), Maharashtra
68	Shri Surendra Dwivedi, Addl. Director, B-8, M.P. Information Centre, New Delhi.
69	Shri Anita Mishra, Special Secretary, Govt. of U.P Secretariat, Lucknow
70	Shri Vipin Sharma, Private Secretary, Technical Education, Rajasthan
71	Shri K.G. Bhat, Director College Education Department, Government of Kerala.
72	Shri S. Sundaravivelu, Director School Education, Pondicherry
73	Dr. Tejum Padu, Joint Director Higher Education, Arunachal Pradesh.
74	Dr. O.P. Sharma, Director, Deptt. of Higher Education, Govt. of H.P, Shimla
75	Shri Bhalchandra Dasle, Director Secondary & Higher Education, Maharashtra.
76	Dr. Kuncheria P. Issac, Director Technical Education, Govt. of Kerala, Trivandrum.
77	Shri K.R. Pinda, Director, Directorate of Public Instruction, Raipur
78	Shri ASPS Ravi Prakash, Director (Higher & Tech Edn) Govt. of Pondicherry
79	Shri Bhaskar G. Nayak, Director, Deptt. of Higher Education, Panaji, Goa.
80	Dr. Shamlal Gupta, Director Colleges, Jammu & Kashmir
81	Shri Anil Powar, Deputy Director, Deptt. of Education, Panaji-Goa-403001
82	Shri Sayeed Rashid, Special Officer, Kerala Open University, Thruvanthapuram.
83	Shri Sat Paul Sharma, Adv (Education SSA,
84	Shri P.N. Thoagow, SPD, SSA, Arunachal Pradesh,

85	Shri D.K. Chaturvedi, OSD, Directorate of School Education, Arunachal Pradesh.
86	Shri Lalhmachhuana, SDEO(W), Treasury Square, Mzoram.
87	Mrs. Jasmit Kaur, ASR, DPI Colleges, Govot. Of Punjab.
88	Hri Krishan Kumar, Director General ,School Education, Govt. of Punjab, Chandigarh.
89	Shri R.M. Kakati, State Prog. Officer, Govt. of Assam, Hawhati-19
90	Shri D.K. Modani, OSD, Higher Education Deppt. of Rajasthan
91	Shri R.K. Gupta, OSD, Govt. of Rajasthan(Jaipur)
92	Shri Manoj Jhalani, Secretary, School Education, Madhya Pradesh(Bhopal)
93	Shri Dr. R.B. Subramanian, Principal Govt. of Chattisgarh College, Raipur
94	Shri Ashish Dongre, Director Technical Education, M.P.
95	Shri Shameemudhin, Addl. Secretary, Technical Education, Madhya Pradesh
96	Shri Anita Mishra, Special Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
97	Mrs. Madhu K. Garg, Special Secretary ,Technical Education, Delhi.
98	Shri P. Krishnamurthy, Director Education, Govt. of NCT, Delhi
99	Dr. Shamlal Gupta, Director Colleges, Jammu & Kashmir
100	Shri Surina Rajan, PS School Education ,Govt. of Haryana
101	Shri T.K. Bhat, Technical Education, Spl. Asstt. to Hon'ble Minister J & K
102	Shri J.R. Mehrah, OSD to Education, Chandigarh, Punjab.
	Central Government Officers
103	Smt. Vibha Puri Das, Secretary (HE), Department of Higher Education, New Delhi.
104	Smt. Anshu Vaish, Secretary (SE&L), MHRD, New Delhi
105	Shri Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary (HE)D/o HE, MHRD, New Delhi.
106	Mrs. Anita Kaul, Additional Secretary MHRD, New Delhi.
107	Shri. Amit Khare, Joint Secretary, MHRD, New Delhi.
108	Shri. Jagmohan Singh Raju, Joint Secretary, MHRD, New Delhi
109	Shri. S.C. Khuntia, Joint Secretary, MHRD, New Delhi.
110	Prof. S. S. Mantha, Acting Chairman, AICTE, ,Chanderlok Building, Delhi.
111	Prof. S.K. Throat, Chairman UGC, Bahadur Saha Jafar Marg, New Delhi.
112	Prof. R. Govinda, Vice Chancellor , NUEPA, New Delhi.
113	Prof. Mohd Akhtar Siddiqui, Chairperson, NCTE, Delhi.
114	Shri Prof. G. Ravindra, Director ,NCERT, Delhi
115	Prof. Ved Prakash, Vice Chairman, UGC Bahadur Saha Jafar Marg, New Delhi.
116	Mrs. Anju Banerjee, Chairperson, Ed-Cil, Noida.
117	Shri A.N. Bakshi, CCA ,MHRD, Shastri Bhawan
118	Shri Madan Mohan. Advisor, Planning Commission , New Delhi.
119	Smt. Shakila Shamsu, Joint Advisor, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
120	Shri Vikram Sahay, Director (HE), MHRD ,New Delhi.
121	Shri Harvinder Singh, Director, MHRD, New Delhi.
122	Shri R.C. Meena, Deputy Secretary, Deptt. of Higher Education, MHRD, New Delhi.
