

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE 61ST CABE MEETING
HELD ON 2ND APRIL, 2013 AT NEW DELHI

The 61st Meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble HRM Dr. M.M. Pallam Raju on 2nd April, 2013 at New Delhi. The meeting was attended by the Vice Chairmen, Hon'ble Ministers of State for Human Resources Development Shri Jitin Prasada and Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Education Ministers and representatives of 16 States and Union Territories, Members of CABE, heads of various autonomous organizations, Vice Chancellors of Universities and senior academics. Smt. Shanta Sinha, Chairperson, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights(NCPCR), Shri Ashok Thakur, Secretary(HE) cum Member Secretary, CABE, Shri R. Bhattacharya, Secretary Department of School Education and Literacy, Dr. T. Ramasami, Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Ms. Nita Chowdhury, Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports were also present in the meeting along with other senior officials of the Central and State Governments.

2. Before commencing the meeting, Hon'ble HRM, Dr. M.M. Pallam Raju unveiled the logo and slogan of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA). The present logo has been selected on the basis of a national level competition and has been designed by Shri Surender Kumar, resident of Paschim Vihar, New Delhi. The logo symbolizes and affirms the commitment of the Programme to provide equitable access to quality secondary education. The slogan "Padhe Chalo – Badhe Chalo" has been drafted by Shri Ashish Dhar Dwivedi, resident of Kidwai Nagar, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. The slogan "Padhe Chalo Badhe Chalo" calls upon the students to continue their education at secondary stage after completing the elementary education.

3. Hon'ble HRM Dr. M.M. Pallam Raju in his inaugural address highlighted the thrust and focus of the Ministry of HRD in the XII Five Year Plan in keeping with the vision of a Faster, More Inclusive and Sustainable Growth. He said that the Ministry will continue to focus on the three E's of Expansion, Equity and Excellence. He highlighted the monitorable targets for education sector as postulated in the XII Five Year Plan document and emphasized on the strategies that will be employed to achieve the goals.

4. Thereafter, the agenda items were discussed and based on the deliberations, the following resolutions were taken:

- i. CABE appreciated the proposal to develop a National Higher Education Qualification Framework which would facilitate the mobility of students in higher education. It was resolved that a CABE Committee will be constituted to examine the formulation of a National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF) which will submit its recommendations within a period of six months.
- ii. CABE appreciated the completion of All India Survey on Higher Education and thanked all the State Governments for their efforts in compilation of data which has revealed that the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education of the country has now reached 18.8 per cent.
- iii. The agenda item on use of ICT In Higher Education was deliberated in detail and CABE noted that while there have been substantial achievements in providing connectivity and development of e-content, there is a need to develop an integrated approach in usage of both connectivity and content developed under the National Mission in Education through ICT. The need for capacity building of teachers for

usage of ICT in improving the quality of learning is also a matter of serious consideration. Developing a hierarchy of ICT learning along with providing 'end to end' solutions is significant if the desired impact of ICT in education is to be achieved.

- iv. CABE approved the proposed introduction of NCC as an elective subject in select autonomous colleges and also noted the proposal of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for introduction of NSS as an elective and desired that similar other activities may also be considered for inclusion as elective subjects.
- v. CABE appreciated the proposal regarding constitution of a new Education Commission.
- vi. CABE noted the proposal for a National Testing Agency and desired that the proposal be taken forward in consultation with all stakeholders.
- vii. The CABE reviewed the progress and implementation of RTE Act in detail and an assessment of the ground situation in different States was noted. Along with this agenda item, the related matters pertaining to Best Practices in implementation of School Sanitation and Hygiene Education, as also Elimination of Gender and Social Gaps in School Enrolment and Retention were discussed.
- viii. The other agenda items on Best Practices adopted in Mid- Day Meal Scheme, "Regulatory Mechanism for the Textbooks and Parallel Textbooks Taught in School outside the Government System" – Draft National Textbook Council Bill and National Testing Scheme were noted by the CABE.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.
