

Urgent/By Speed Post

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Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education
(PN.I Section)

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110115
Dated the 28th November, 2013

To

All the Members of CABE
(As per list attached)

Subject: **Summary Record of Discussion of the 62nd Meeting of Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) held on 10th October, 2013 - regarding**

Sir/Madam,

I write this to thank all the Hon'ble Ministers and distinguished members of CABE, Secretaries to the Government of India, senior officials of Central and State Governments and eminent academics for participating in the 62nd Meeting of Central Advisory Board of Education held on 10th October, 2013 under the chairmanship of Shri Jitin Prasada, Hon'ble Minister of State for Human Resource Development.

2. The Summary Record of Discussion of the CABE meeting is enclosed for kind perusal.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



(AMIT KHARE)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India
Tel. No. 23071486

Encl: As above

Copy alongwith enclosure for information and further necessary action to:-

1. PS to Representatives of Govt. of India [Union Ministers / Member (Education), Planning Commission]
2. PS to Education Ministers of all States/UT Administrations
3. Principal Secretaries/Secretaries (Education) of all States/UTs.
4. Webmaster, CMIS (for uploading on the Ministry's website) 143699
5. 62nd Meeting CABE Guard file.

Summary Record of the 62nd CABE Meeting held on 10th October, 2013 at

New Delhi

The 62nd Meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble MOS (HRD) Shri Jitin Prasada on 10th October, 2013 at New Delhi. The meeting was attended by Shri K. Rehman Khan, Hon'ble Minister of Minority Affairs, Shri P.B. Naik, Hon'ble MOS, Social Justice and Empowerment, Lt. Governor of Andaman & Nicobar, 13 State Education Ministers, representatives of States and Union Territories, CABE Members, Heads of Autonomous Organization, Vice Chancellors and Senior Academics. Shri Ashok Thakur, Secretary (HE), cum Member Secretary, CABE, Shri. R. Bhattacharya, Secretary Department of School Education and Literacy, Shri Rajeev Gupta, Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Chairman, UGC and AICTE were also present in the meeting along with other senior officials of the Central and State governments.

2. As a mark of respect to the late CABE Member Sh. Vinod Raina, condolence was held and rich tributes made for his remarkable contributions to the education sector. A minute of silence was observed as a tribute to the departed soul.

3. Hon'ble MOS (HRD) Shri Jitin Prasada, in his opening address (Annexure 1) 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 four E's of Expansion, Equity, Excellence and Employability. He highlighted the achievements made in many of the ongoing schemes and shared the broad roadmap for education sector and postulated on the strategies that will be employed to achieve the identified goals.

4. Hon'ble Minister of Minority Affairs, Sh. K. Rehman Khan highlighted the development deficit among Muslims, which is the largest minority community comprising 14% of the population amounting to 22.2 crore of the population. He urged CABE to look at the issue not as a religious one but as a social demand as no development can take place without an inclusive approach. He desired that all efforts must be made to implement Article 30 of the Constitution safeguarding the educational rights of the minorities. He also desired that RTE be implemented in right earnest so that children from socio-economic backward classes are admitted under the 25% reservation as per neighbourhood criteria.

5. During the meeting, following presentations were made pertaining to the main agenda items of CABE meeting:

(a) RTE – SSA by Ms Vrinda Sarup, AS (SE) **(Annexure 2)**

(b) Mid-Day Meal by Sh Gaya Prasad, Director **(Annexure 3)**

(c) Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) by Sh R. S. Sisodia, JS(HE)
(Annexure 4)

(d) National Mission on Teachers and Teachings by Prof R. Govinda, VC, NUEPA
(Annexure 5)

6. Based on the discussions and deliberations on the agenda items, the following resolutions were taken:

RTE Act:

CABE noted the progress of the last three years under RTE in improving access, promoting social inclusion, reduction in gender gaps and in provision for children with special needs. The CABE members also noted the road that still needs to be travelled in fully meeting the objectives of the RTE Act and in ensuring school standards enunciated therein. The Committee resolved therefore, that completion of school infrastructure and recruitment of teachers and their deployment should be expedited. The need for paying greater attention to improvement of learning outcomes and the quality of teachers was further highlighted by the CABE.

Regarding the issues raised on teacher recruitment, teacher salaries and teacher training, most of these would be covered under the proposed National Mission on Teachers and Teaching. However, the Central Government would not like to enter into a domain directly relating to State and local administration, such as salary and appointment of teachers.

Mid-Day Meal Scheme:

(a) Safety, Quality and Hygiene under Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

(b) Setting up of Empowered Committee for Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

CABE noted the proposed changes for ensuring the quality of Mid Day Meal and putting in place an effective monitoring and supervision mechanism and emphasised “**A zero tolerance policy for maintaining the standard and quality of food**”.

RUSA

In higher Education, the Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) has been approved by the Cabinet. A detailed presentation on the Mission giving the various components under this Mission and the roll out in the coming years was presented before CABE. **This is for the first time since independence that Higher Education is being expanded in a mission mode which will particularly benefit State Universities and Colleges. All State Governments were requested to take steps to form their State Higher Education Council and prepare the State Higher Education Plan.**

National Mission on Teachers and Teaching

The CABE Committee Report on National Mission on Teachers and Teaching was presented before CABE. The major recommendations made in the Committee Report were noted by CABE. Based on these recommendations, a new scheme of National Mission on Teachers and Teaching is being launched.

Introduction of NSS

Making NSS a credit based elective course in higher education was taken up for consideration. This was an agenda item of the Department of Youth Affairs. It was decided that UGC and AICTE would explore to implement it from the next academic session.

Community Colleges

An updated status on the implementation of Pilot Community Colleges Scheme was also noted by CABE.

MHRD

Department of Higher Education

**Opening Remarks for Hon'ble MOS (HRD) Shri Jitin Prasada for the 62nd
Meeting of CAGE to be held on 10th October 2013 at New Delhi**

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I have immense pleasure in welcoming each one of you to the 62nd Meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CAGE). Let us express our deep condolence and pay our collective tribute to our esteemed and senior CAGE Member Late Dr. Vinod Raina who passed away on 12th September after a prolonged battle with cancer. We owe the landmark Right to Education Act to his unstinted commitment to ensure every child the right to free and compulsory education. Let us all stand to observe a moment of silence in the memory of his departed soul.

We are into the second year of the Twelfth Five year Plan and we thought that CAGE as the highest advisory body on education must meet to keep track of some of the new initiatives and take stock of the development in the States which are actively implementing major schemes. Hence, the meeting today is a re-affirmation of our commitment to continue the tradition of regular consultations through CAGE and State Education Ministers conference. In a country as diverse and as large as ours, the task of developing national policies while at the same time respecting and incorporating regional aspirations and an inclusive agenda of growth is indeed really challenging. The need is for a participatory approach in which all of us, be it Central Government of State Governments, academics, autonomous institutions,

private sector and all other stakeholders, work together towards a common goal which is empowering the children and youth of India through education.

In the 61st Meeting of CAGE held on held on 2nd April, 2013 wide ranging issues covering the school and higher education sector were discussed. To reiterate Hon'ble HRM had 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. The Ministry will continue to focus on the three E's of Expansion, Equity and Excellence. To recapitulate, a CAGE Committee was to 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. The completion of All India Survey on Higher Education with the active support of the State Governments was appreciated. On the use of ICT In Higher Education it was 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. Further, the need for capacity building of teachers for usage of ICT in improving the quality of learning also needs consideration. The proposed introduction of NCC as an elective subject in select autonomous colleges was approved and the proposal of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for introduction of NSS as an elective also noted and desired that similar other activities may also be considered for inclusion as elective subjects. The proposal regarding constitution of a new Education Commission was appreciated. Regarding the proposal for a National Testing Agency, it was desired that the proposal needs to be deliberated and worked in detail in consultation with all stakeholders.

Further, the progress and implementation of RTE Act was reviewed in detail along with an assessment of the ground situation in different States.

In the last twenty years, the education scenario has seen a monumental change with the emergence of several new paradigms. Rights based approach to elementary education, the endeavour to extend universalization to secondary education, reshape the higher education scenario and its impact on the innovation environment, growth and well-being of people and providing an impetus to skill development through vocational education all in the context of the emergence of new technologies in a rapidly expanding economy placed in a globalised environment are dominating the discourse. Our vision is of providing quality education for all with special focus on marginalised and disadvantaged groups. The underpinnings of these focus themes would be based on a rights based and learner centric approach.

Quality is a critical priority area for ensuring sustainability and several initiatives are lined up to achieve excellence in higher education. Several initiatives are lined up for increasing both the capacity and quality of our higher education system. An umbrella scheme of Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan(RUSA) is being launched to address the needs of State institutions so as to strengthen them and enhance their quality. RUSA will also address a major challenge on regional imbalances in higher education.

A National Mission on Teachers and Teaching will be launched to address, current and urgent issues such as supply of qualified teachers, attracting talent into teaching profession and raising the quality of teaching in schools and colleges. It is also envisaged that the Teacher Mission would pursue long term goal of building a strong professional cadre of teachers by

setting performance standards and creating top class institutional facilities for innovative teaching and professional development of teachers. The Mission would focus in a holistic manner dealing with the whole sector of education without fragmenting the programmes based on levels and sectors as school, higher, technical etc. It is considered that programmes dealing with teachers in all sectors and levels of education should grow and function in a mutually supportive manner.

To ensure equity in higher education, regional and social imbalances will be reduced through National initiatives for greater inclusion of disadvantaged sections of SCs, STs, Minorities, backward classes, girls and persons with disabilities. Similarly, Indian languages will be strengthened to ensure balanced linguistic growth. National Initiative to foster social responsibility and community engagement in higher education is also on the agenda. Enhanced student financial assistance through scholarships and interest subsidy schemes will ensure a means blind merit based approach.

Technology enabled learning should be taken to all the institutions across the country and institutions, faculty and students must be empowered them to harness technology for improving the quality of education. Setting up of new Inter-University Centers, encouraging inter-institutional collaborations, strengthening open and distance education, focus on research & innovation, strengthening education in intellectual property rights and social science research, student mobility and internationalisation are also strategies towards quality improvement. Another major thrust is development of skills in Higher Education through community colleges and polytechnics.

In today's meeting, under school education, we will be taking an update on the three years of progress of RTE Act in the State/UTs. We would also deliberate on Safety, Quality and Hygiene under Mid-Day Meal Scheme and explore the Setting up of an Empowered Committee for Mid-Day Meal Scheme. Under Higher Education, I am happy to inform you that a National Higher Education Mission called Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) has been launched. Another Mission in the offing is the National Mission on Teachers and Teaching. The Report of the CAGE Committee on NMTT will be placed for approval of CAGE.

I would urge the Members to consider the tabled agenda items. We would like meaningful discussions on all the agenda items and I would each one of you to be brief because I want to ensure that each one of you gets an opportunity to express your valuable views and share your inputs. Let us discuss in the spirit of cooperation and keep the paramount importance of our children in mind and how decisions can shape their future in a better manner. With these words, I wish the proceedings all success and eagerly look forward to having a very fruitful deliberation.