Minutes of the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Group Meeting held on 1ˢᵗ October, 2010 to consider the Computer Education Plans of UT Administrations of NCT of Delhi, Daman & Diu, D&N Haveli, and State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Meghalaya Mizoram, Nagaland, Uttarkhand, Sikkim, Kerala and Tamil Nadu and also proposals of SIET Thiruvanthapuram and Patna under "Information & Communication Technology (ICT) in School" Scheme.

.....

The first meeting of the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Group (PMEG) for the Centrally sponsored scheme of 'ICT in Schools' was held on 1ˢᵗ October, 2010 at 1130 hrs in Conference Room under the Chairmanship of Secretary (SE&L) to consider the Computer Education Plans (CEPs) received from the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu and UT Administrations of NCT of Delhi, Daman & Diu, and also proposals of SIET Kerala, SIET Patna and CIET. A list of the participants is annexed.

2.   At the outset, Director (SE) welcomed all the Members of the PMEG, representatives of the State Governments/UT Administrations/Organizations.

3.   Initiating the discussion, Joint Secretary (SE) briefly explained the vision and perspective of Govt. of India on use of ICT in schools and for skill development. He mentioned that use of ICT in the teaching learning process would give a fillip to the constructivist approach to education. He stated that India has the highest percentage of young people in the world and their competence in ICT would enable them to take their rightful position in the global work force. A summary of his observations is as under:-

- The scheme of ICT in Schools Scheme has been revised and Computer Education Plans (CEPs) of the States/UTs for coverage of schools in the concerned States need to be prepared as per the guidelines of the revised ICT Scheme.

- One of the important requirements is the availability of appropriate enabling infrastructure, particularly, availability of electricity and telephone connection. Rajiv Gandhi Vidyutikaran Yojana of the Ministry of Power should be optimally utilized by the State Governments to get the villages having high schools electrified on priority.

- All Govt. and Government aided secondary and higher secondary schools in the country need to be covered under the scheme in the 11th Five Year Plan. Therefore, the State Govt. should make plans to ensure electricity and telephone connectivity to all high schools. .

- A dedicated post graduate teacher is required in each higher secondary school offering IT-related subjects as electives.

- CBSE has introduced computer science as an additional subject in classes 9 and 10 and curriculum and textbooks have been developed. However, it is not compulsory. CBSE conducts examination, which is optional, and a certificate is issued to students who appear. State Governments can also think of introducing a similar course with the examination being made optional. This will enable students, who do not continue to pursue higher studies to make use of the certificate which will boost their employability.

- NCERT has prepared model course curriculum for Classes IX and X for ICT. State Governments can use these as starting points and adapt those according to needs. NCERT and CBSE will be happy to extend required assistance to the States.

- The scheme needs to be evaluated by independent agencies, such as, IIITs, IITs, IIMs and Engineering Colleges. Also there had to be continuous monitoring by in the short term and impact assessment in the longer run.

- Creation of appropriate and adequate database is vital to the implementation of the programme.

- Under the revised scheme, there is a provision for National Awards to teachers using ICT in teaching. The State Government should initiate action based on the guidelines and should stick to the timelines stipulated.

- There is provision for in service training and induction training for teachers in the revised scheme.

- It is imperative that all the teachers in the Secondary and higher secondary schools should be trained to use ICT in education. The training for all the teachers should be completed well before the installation of the hardware in the schools.

- As internet connectivity exposes students to the world of information, every school needs to have internet connection. Ministry of Telecommunication has assured to provide broadband connection on priority basis to all high schools. States need to take up the matter with D/o Telecom and BSNL units located in the State. Wherever, it is not possible to have broadband, there should be at least dial-up connectivity.

- A nodal officer should be exclusively assigned in each State to implement the scheme. He or she should head a cell to be set up for implementation and monitoring of the scheme

- States must make adequate provision towards both Centre and State shares in their Budget to obviate any difficulty in the fund flow.

- The physical progress under the scheme needs to be reported to MHRD by the State Governments/ UTs on a quarterly basis.

- Most of the States have been preferring BOOT model for its obvious advantages. However, if State Govts. require approvals on outright purchase, suitable justification should be submitted for consideration.
- Smart schools should be proposed generally for large schools, having broadband connectivity and preferably in district headquarters so that these schools can act as a hub and would be a show -case for other schools.
- Every State should set up expert committee for content development. Teachers should invariably be made part of the Committee.

4.   Secretary (SE&L) suggested that there should be an appropriate body in place in each State for checking the e-content being developed, particularly if it is from the private sector. The State Governments should have adequate control over the content being developed and used in schools. The teaching methodology should also not be decided by the private vendors but be determined by the State Governments in accordance with the National Policy on Education and the National Curriculum Framework. JS(SE) suggested that CIET should provide guidelines for developing e-content. Secretary (SE&L) stated that developing broad guidelines for the use of the States in respect of content is one of the responsibilities of CIET and it should be reflected in their annual work plan. Such a framework for Classes VI to XII should be worked out by CIET by the third week of October.

5.   DDG, NIC stated that a Committee has been set up for developing a model tender document and the report would be submitted shortly.

6.   Thereafter the Computer Education Plans of the States were taken up for consideration of PMEG.

7.   NCT of Delhi

7.1   Director (Education) of NCT of Delhi made a presentation which is summarized below:

- There are 1094 schools in Delhi. UT Administration has not taken any financial help so far under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- The present proposal is to cover all 1094 schools under BOOT model.
- Broadband connectivity is available in all the schools.
- There are already 537 labs which are used by 727 schools. Some buildings are used by more than one school in shifts.

7.2   After discussion, the following decisions were taken:

- Keeping in view the availability of funds and the paucity of time, the Committee recommended coverage of 594 schools under BOOT Model over a five year period i.e. from 2010-11 to 2014-15.
- Release of Central share would be phased at the rate of Rs.1.00 lakh per annum for the first four years and Rs.0.80 lakhs in the 5th year.

8.   **Tamil Nadu**

8.1   Secretary (Education), Government of Tamil Nadu made a presentation, highlights of which are as under:

- Use of computers in schools started in 1999.
- Computer Science is an elective subject in the +2 stage.
- 925 schools have already been approved under the ICT Scheme and the scheme has been implemented in all these schools
- Third party evaluation has been entrusted to IIT Madras and the report would be submitted by December end.
- 5 smart schools are proposed to be established.

8.2   After the presentation the following observations were made:

- The Members felt that the State should not be dependent on private sector on content but should make efforts to develop content.
- State Govt. should furnish information about the progress made in coverage of 1880 schools earlier approved.
- Smart schools should be established in schools having adequate enrolment of students.

8.3.1   After discussions, the following decisions were taken:

- PMEG recommended coverage of 461 schools under BOOT model. These along with 1880 schools already approved would cover all 2341` schools. The release will be made over a period of 5 years at the rate of Rs.1.00 lakh per school per year for the first 4 years and Rs.0.80 lakh for the 5th year.
- 'In principle' approval was given for establishment of 5 Smart Schools subject to the condition that the State Govt. would submit details of the location of these 5 Smart schools for prior approval.
- The installation of infrastructure in all the 2341 schools would be completed by February 2011.

9.   **Uttrarakhand.**

9.1   The representative of the Government of Uttrakhand made a presentation, highlights of which are as follows:

- 25 schools were approved for coverage in 2005-06. These have been fully covered.
- 100 schools were approved for coverage in 2007-08. Tendering for these 100 schools is in the final stage and placement of orders would take place shortly.
- IIT, Roorkee has been selected for external evaluation of the scheme and the report is awaited.

- State Govt. has entered into a MoU with Microsoft and Intel for teacher training and so far 30961 teachers (10425 teachers through Microsoft and 20536 teachers through Intel) have been trained.
- State Govt. has entered into a MoU with M/s. Chand & Co for developing curriculum based e-content for Class IX to XII in Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- The present proposal is for coverage of 500 schools (488 higher secondary and 12 secondary) under BOOT model.

9.2   After the presentation, the following observations were made:

- State Govt. had given Utilization Certificate in respect of funds sanctioned for 100 schools in 2007-08 and it was found that funds were released to a State PSU, Hiltron, but not actually utilized. Utilization certificate should have been furnished based on actual utilization and not after release of funds to another agency.
- 500 schools were approved for coverage in 2009-10 and the status of its implementation has not been furnished.
- Content developed by M/s. Chand & Co should be sent to CIET for appraisal.

9.3   After discussion, the following decisions were taken:

- Approval of 500 schools in 2009-10 was cancelled.
- The present proposal of 500 schools was approved under BOOT model with proposed release of Rs.1.00 lakh per year per school for the first four years and the balance of Rs.0.80 lakhs in the 5th year.

10.   Sikkim

10.1. Special Secretary, HRD, Govt. of Sikkim, made a presentation, the summary of which is as follows:

- There are 151 schools in the State. 105 have already been covered and the present proposal is to cover 46 schools including 4 Smart schools.

- Sikkim being a hilly terrain with schools located in far flung and remote areas, additional funds for transportation was sought.

- There should be flexibility in funding pattern keeping in view the difficulties faced by some States.

- The cost of hardware (computers and peripherals) is very high owing to the cost of transportation.

- The cost of operating system, application software and educational software being provided in the revised scheme is less.

- Maintenance cost of computers installed is very high in the State due to difficult access. AMC comes to Rs.4000/- per month whereas in other States it is only Rs.1000/- per month.

10.2. After detailed discussions, the following decisions were taken:

- 46 schools (17 Secondary and 29 Higher Secondary) were approved for coverage under BOOT model for a period of 5 years w.e.f. 2010-11 to 2014-15. 4 out of these would be covered as "Smart" Schools.

- The Central assistance would be phased at the rate of Rs.1.76 lakh per school in the first year and Rs.1.00 lakh for year for the next 4 years.

- The funds would be released after adjusting the unspent balance lying with the State Govt.

11. **SIET Kerala**:

11.1 Director, SIET Kerala made a presentation, the summary of which is as follows:

- Total financial assistance worth Rs 2727 lakh was sought for the following:

(i) 500 video programmes for TV	Rs. 200 lakh
(ii) 500 multi-media learning objects	Rs. 200 lakh
(iii) 500 audio programmes	Rs. 50 lakh
(iv) Children's film festival	Rs. 10 lakh
(v) Workshop(5)	Rs. 10 lakh
(vi) Supply of CD to schools	Rs. 100 lakh
(vii) Office expenses	Rs. 5 lakh
(viii) Library	Rs. 1 lakh
(ix) Construction of building for SIET	Rs. 2170 lakh

11.2 Joint Director, CIET stated that most of the programmes being produced are in a documentary format and not interactive. Secretary (SE&L) stated that CIET should take the initiative of formulating guidelines on the types of programmes to be produced so that there is no over lapping among SIETs and CIET. Further, it will also help in checking if a particular SIET is producing the same programme every year.

11.3 After detailed discussion, following decisions were taken:

(i) 180 Video programmes (39 Physics, 54 Chemistry and 87 Maths) were approved. SIET Kerala would submit a set of programmes being produced to CIET for evaluation. There would be a third party evaluation of the programmes being produced by all SIETs.

(ii) On Interactive Multi Media Learning Objects, it was decided that SIET Kerala would produce programmes for Class XI first, instead of Class XII. It would send a detailed proposal to CIET for its views. Based on the comments, SIET Kerala would submit revised proposal for producing IMMLO.

(iii) On Educational Audio Programme Production, PMEG approved the proposal to produce 200 such programmes. Funds for the same would be released after adjusting the unspent balance of Rs.18,92,800/-

(iv) Kerala State Children's Educational Film Festival: Members appreciated the initiative of SIET Kerala in conducting Film

Festivals for Children. However, there is no provision under the scheme to provide assistance for the film festival. If SIET intends to conduct any workshop at the same venue, then it may send a revised proposal.

(v) The proposal for conducting 5 Workshop was approved in principle. However, the release of funds would depend on actual expenditure incurred subject to guidelines of the scheme.

(vi) The proposal for financial assistance of Rs.100 lakh for supply of CDs to schools was not agreed to as this was outside the purview of the Scheme.

(vii) As financial assistance is now being given to SIETs only on project mode, the proposal of SIET for financial assistance for construction of building for SIET Kerala was not agreed, as this was outside the purview of the Scheme.

(viii) The proposal for financial assistance of Rs.5 lakh for office expenses was agreed to.

(ix) The proposal for financial assistance of Rs.1 lakh for Library was agreed to.

12. **Haryana**

12.1 Principal Secretary, Education, Government of Haryana made a presentation, the highlights of which are as under:

- 1501 schools have already been approved for coverage.
- 1000 schools have been approved in 2009-10. By November, 2010, the bidding process would be completed and the successful bidder would be awarded the contract.
- External evaluation of the schools already covered is being entrusted to IIT Kanpur and Terms of Reference are being finalized. .
- Financial assistance was sought to cover the remaining 1617 schools.
- Financial assistance was sought for establishment of 5 Smart Schools at (i) Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Sarai Khwaja, Old Faridabad; (ii) Govt. Sr.

Sec. School, Raina (Sirsa);   (iii) Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Saketri (Panchkula);   (iv) Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Ganaur (Sonepat);   and   (v) Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Bhiwani Road, Rohtak.

12.2. After discussion, the following decisions were taken :

- 1617 schools (1246 Secondary and 371 Higher Secondary) were recommended for coverage under the scheme through BOOT model. This would exhaust coverage of all schools.
- Central assistance for covering these schools released at the rate of RS.1.00 lakh per school per year for the first 4 years and Rs. 0.80 lakh for the fifth year.
- Central assistance for these 1617 schools would be released only after utilization certificate of earlier releases along with progress report is received.

13..   **Daman & Diu**:

13.1   Secretary, Education, UT Administration of Daman & Diu, made a presentation, the highlights of which are as under:

- Out of 30 schools, 22 schools has already been approved for coverage
- Present proposal is for coverage of the remaining 8 schools on outright purchase basis and for sanction of 2 smart schools.
- Permission for utilization of unspent balance of Rs.41 lakhs for coverage of 22 schools sanctioned in 2008-09 was sought.

13.2   After discussion, the remaining 8 schools were recommended for coverage on outright purchase basis. Funds would be released to them in two installments. Out of these, two would be Smart schools. Detailed proposal including locations was sought from the UT Administration.

14. **Dadar & Nagar Haveli:**

14.1. Secretary, Education, UT Administration of Daman & Diu, made a presentation, the highlights of which are as under:

- Out of 19 schools, 6 have already been covered.
- Implementation of the scheme is being considered on outright purchase as the number of schools is small.
- Qualified subject teachers are available and basic computer training has been imparted to 30 teachers.
- 330 teachers are required to be trained.
- There are 16 dedicated teachers
- The present proposal is to cover the remaining 13 schools on outright purchase basis.

14.2. After discussion, PMEG recommended coverage of 13 schools on outright purchase basis. Out of these, 2 would be smart schools, the details of which need to be furnished by the UT Administration.

15. **Punjab**

15.1 Director General School Education of the State Govt. of Punjab made a presentation, the highlights of which are summarized below:

- ICT Project is managed by Punjab ICT Education Society under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister.
- All students of Class IX to XII are imparted computer education
- 97% of the schools are provided with broadband connectivity
- Infrastructure is insured and the vendor is responsible for replacement of any infrastructure that is stolen.
- All the schools are electrified and generators have also been provided
- Training of all teachers would be completed by Jan. 2011.
- Internet connectivity is provided at a cost of Rs.850 p.m. with broadband width of 512 kbps.

- American Indian Foundation Trust, a NGO, has been entrusted with independent monitoring and quality assessment.
- Development of multimedia educational content is in progress
- Multimedia educational content is also being developed for broadcast through Edusat for Classes IX to XII
- 494 schools (136 Govt. schools and 358 Government aided) are proposed, to be covered under BOOT Model.
- Teachers training was conducted in the month of April and May 2010 and as of now 22317 teachers have been trained for three days. As per the scheme five days training has to be given and the teachers will be provided with the training for another two days.
- 5 Smart Schools are proposed to be established in the districts of Amritsar, Hoshirapur, Kapurthala, Ludhiana and Patiala.
- Financial assistance of Rs.226.85 lakhs was sought for development in Multimedia content.

15.2   After the presentation the following observations were made:

- Recurring expenditure for 3070 schools sanctioned earlier would be released on reimbursement basis subject to submission of details of expenditure incurred by the State Govt. as per the provision of the Scheme.
- Recurring expenditure sought for the schools being proposed for coverage in 2010-11 would be processed only after the infrastructure is installed.
- In CEP, 457 schools were sought to be covered where as the presentation speaks of 494 schools.

15.3   After discussion, the following decisions were taken:

- 494 schools were recommended for coverage under BOOT model subject to the condition that the State Govt. submits the list of 494, as the list available is of 457 only.

- Release of central share would be phased at the rate of Rs.1.00 lakh per year per school for the first four years and Rs.0.80 lakh for the fifth year.
- The installation of hardware and software would be completed by 31.1.2011.
- Financial assistance sought for establishment of 5 Smart Schools was recommended.
- Details of Multimedia content to be developed should first be sent to CIET of NCERT. The proposal would then be considered by PMEG after the report of the CIET Committee is received.

16. **Nagaland**

16.1 Director, SCERT, Government of Nagaland made a presentation, the highlights of which are as under:

- Out of 607 schools, 484 schools have already been covered. 250 of them have internet connectivity.
- Utilisation Certificate of the earlier funds has been sent.
- Evaluation of the schools has been done by NIIT, Dimapur.
- Present proposal is to cover 82 schools (74 secondary schools and 8 Govt. aided secondary schools) under BOOT Model.
- 4 Smart Schools are proposed to be established.
- Financial assistance has been sought for appointment of 150 teachers on contract basis.
- Financial assistance of Rs.15.82 crores has been sought for content development.

16.2. After discussion, the following decisions were taken:

- 82 schools were approved for coverage under BOOT model. Funds will be release over 5 years. The Central assistance would be phased

at the rate of Rs.1.76 lakh per school in the first year and Rs.1.00 lakh per year for the next 4 years.

- State Govt. was expected to get the Evaluation done by a reputed non-profit educational institute. Evaluation should be got done through an IIT or NIT or a reputed engineering college or IIM Shillong or NEHU.

- 4 Smart Schools were recommended for coverage. The details of location with student & teacher strength, the building infrastructure and the enabling infrastructure (electricity and internet) may be furnished.

- For, multi media content development, the State Govt. should submit the detailed proposal to CIET of NCERT.   Based on the report of CIET Committee, the proposal of the State Govt. would be considered by PMEG.

17. **Mizoram.**

17.1   Secretary (Education), Government of Mizoram made a presentation, highlights of which are as under:

- 122 schools have already been covered out of 377 schools.
- 100 schools were approved for coverage during 2008-09 on outright purchase basis. 50% of the funds was released as first installment and hence the State Govt. has covered half of the number of schools approved.
- State Level Advisory Committee for ICT will be formed to look after successful implementation of the whole programme
- Since 2002, 750 teachers have already been given training
- State Govt. has proposed to cover 37 schools in 2010-11 on outright purchase basis.

17.2   The following observations were made:

- The State Government should have covered all 100 schools that were sanctioned for coverage in 2008-09. The first installment is limited to 50% to enable the State to put 100% infrastructure and then claim the

balance 50%. The State was advised to complete the coverage of the balance 50 schools within the next three months.

- Under the Scheme, schools being covered on outright purchase basis, financial assistance is released in two instalments and the State Govt. should cover all schools and immediately after utilization of 75% of the first installment, should submit the expenditure statement and request for financial assistance of the balance 50% due as second installment.

- Second installment for coverage of 100 schools approved in 2008-09 on outright purchase basis has not been released so far due to non conveying the details of budgetary provision. The second installment will be processed for release on reimbursement basis.

- In order to establish smart schools the State Govt. needs to submit the details of the names of the schools.

17.3   After discussions, the following decisions were taken:

- 37 schools were recommended for coverage under outright purchase basis.
- The State must get an independent evaluation of the scheme done within 3 months.

18.   **Meghalaya**

18.1. Director and OSD, Education Government of Meghalaya made a presentation, the highlights of which are summarized below:

- GIS mapping of schools will be completed by Dec.2010.
- 140 schools have already been covered out of 545.
- The present proposal is to cover 241 schools under BOOT model.
- Electricity is available in all the schools. In case of non-availability, generator sets will be provided under the scheme.
- Training of teachers in ICT is proposed to be taken up in collaboration with NERIE and IGNOU.

- IIM,Shillong has been entrusted with the evaluation and the report is awaited.
- 4 smart schools are proposed to be established.

18.2 After discussions the following decisions were taken:

- 241 schools were recommended for coverage under BOOT Model
- The release of funds would be phased at the rate of Rs.1.76 lakh per school in the first year and Rs.1 lakh per school per year in the next four years.
- 4 smart schools were sanctioned "in principle". The State Govt. should furnish a list of 4 schools along with details.

19. **Uttar Pradesh**

19.1 Secretary (Education) Government of U.P. made a presentation, the summary of which is given below:

- There are 5295 schools (1285 Secondary and 4010 Higher Secondary Schools) in the State.
- 2500 schools have already been approved for coverage.
- 1500 schools approved for coverage through BOOT Model are yet to be taken up for implementation.
- A Public Sector Undertaking of the Department of IT, Govt. of U.P. has been entrusted to implement the project.
- The present proposal is for covering the balance 2795 schools (1285 secondary schools and 1510 Higher Secondary Schools) under BOOT model.
- 5 smart schools are proposed to be established in the State.
- U.P. Secondary Board has already included Computer Education as a subject for Class XI and XII.
- IIT, Kanpur has been entrusted with the task of evaluation over a period of 5 years.

19.2   The following were the observations:

- There is undue delay in implementation in 2500 schools which have already been approved.
- The evaluation to be done is a one time affair now. There is need to get the evaluation done either through IIT, Kanpu or NIT Allahabad for a reasonable cost.

19.3.   After discussion, the following decisions were taken:

- PMEG recommended for coverage of 1500 schools during 2010-11 on BOOT model.
- The central share would be released at the rate of Rs.1 lakh per year per school in the first four years and Rs.0.80 lakh in the fifth year.
- 5 smart schools were also recommended.

20.   **Kerala**

20.1   Director, IT, Government of Kerala made a presentation, highlights of which are as under:

- All the secondary and higher secondary schools of the State have already been covered under the scheme.
- 1849421 students have been covered under the ICT Scheme.
- Evaluation of the scheme has been undertaken by T.A. Pai Management Institute, Manipal.
- Recurring expenditure @ Rs. 2.70 lakh per school was sought.
- Financial assistance was sought for setting up of 5 smart schools in the State of Kerala.
- Assistance was sought for content development.
- Broadband connectivity is available in all schools and a sum of Rs.5000/- per annum is being incurred.

- Stringent mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the scheme is in place.
- A robust on line system is in place and transfer of teachers is also done through them
- The schools do not have dedicated computer teacher and all the teachers are trained to use ICT. This is in line with the report of UNESCO.

20.2 Te following observations were made:

- The recurring expenditure for the schools already approved under the erstwhile ICT scheme would be available to the extent of Rs.1.34 lakh per school per year and not Rs.2.50 lakhs as requested.
- The recurring expenditure for the schools already covered would be processed on file on receipt of component wise expenditure details.
- The policy of the State Govt. not to have dedicated Computer teacher to teach the Computer Science needs stricter examination as Computer Science/IT as a subject can be taught effectively only by a component trained professional and not by teachers of another subject.

20.3 After discussion, the following decisions were taken:

- The recurring expenditure for schools already covered would be as per the guidelines of the scheme.
- PMEG recommended 5 smart schools subject to State Govt. intimating the location of these five smart schools along with particulars of student and teacher strength and infrastructure availability for prior approval.
- State Govt. should submit the details of the content to be developed to CIET of NCERT and based on the recommendations of the CIET Committee, PMEG would consider the proposal.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

*****