

Minutes of the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Group (PMEG) meeting held on 7th June, 2012 to consider the Computer Education Plans of State Governments of Punjab, Nagaland, Odisha, Karnataka. Proposals from SIETs- Kerala, Pune, CIET and NIC.

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1. The meeting of the PMEG for the Centrally sponsored scheme of 'ICT in Schools' was held on 7th June, 2012 at 1200 hrs in Conference Room under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (SE&L) to consider the Computer Education Plans (CEPs) received from the State Governments of Punjab, Nagaland, Odisha and Karnataka. Proposals from SIETs- Kerala and Pune, CIET and NIC were also considered by the PMEG. The Secretary, Education, Karnataka, had requested the department for another date for presentation of its CEP. The list of participants is **annexed**.

2. At the outset, Director (SE) welcomed all the Members of the PMEG, representatives of the State Governments/UT Administrations/ Organizations. Thereafter, the Computer Education Plans of the States/ Organizations were taken for consideration of PMEG.

3. Nagaland

3.1 The Commissioner & Secretary, Govt. of Nagaland made a presentation (Annexure –I). Salient points of presentation are as under:

- A total of 566 schools were covered under ICT in School Scheme benefiting 3,88,000 students and 5,660 teachers being trained. Training to Teachers is imparted by Infotech, which is partnered by NIIT and the syllabus has been framed by Nagaland Board of School Education.
- The state proposes for 121 schools on Outright Purchase Model with 69 schools in Backward areas benefiting 1,44,330 students in 2012-13.
- Erratic power supply and lack of internet connectivity are a challenge to the State and the State is exploring possibility of electric power from non-conventional sources and use of generators for implementation of the programme in the schools.

3.2 The following observations were made:

- ICT training for teachers should be aimed at enhancing their capacity to use ICT as a tool to enrich the overall quality of teaching learning process in classrooms.
- Need for adequate provision for dedicated teachers, teacher training, and maintenance of equipment in case of opting for Outright Purchase Model. DDG, NIC suggested the State Govt. may procure equipment with five year warranty and also suggested that the government should look at the details of the Annual Maintenance Contract, which should be done separately, since the proposal is for outright purchase.
- With regard to setting up of a Monitoring Cell, State Govt. clarified that the project is monitored by the State Level Committee on ICT and the Project Assistant under the scheme has been appointed for supervision and monitoring of the scheme.

3.3 Following decisions were taken:

- Approval for coverage of 121 schools under Outright Purchase Model for the year 2012-13. The central share of Rs. 5.76 lakh per school (Non-recurring) would be released in two installments @ Rs. 2.88 lakh per school for 2012-13 and 2013-14.
- The central share upto Rs. 2.43 lakh per school per year would be released towards recurring cost after one year of commencement of project and on actual expenditure on items indicated as per the guidelines.
- The release of funds is subject to the State Govt. providing the Utilization Certificates and Progress Report for earlier releases.
- State may explore options for sourcing of electricity from non-conventional resources. However, Government of India liabilities will be restricted to the limit / items indicated in the guidelines of the scheme.

4. Punjab

4.1. Govt. of Punjab made a presentation (Annexure II), highlights of which are as under:

- The subject of Computer Science has been made compulsory in Schools from Class 6 onwards by the Punjab Board of School Education and the curriculum is designed based on NCERT guidelines.
- Hardware is purchased through open tender on BOOT model for 5 years.
- Proposed number of schools to be covered in 2012-13 is 139 with coverage of 19,161 students
- The Department of School Education and Literacy should provide for renewal of hardware after 7-8 years under the Scheme since the old hardware procured under Phase I and Phase II of the Scheme has become obsolete.

4.2. Following observations were made by the members:

- Director DSEL informed that so far as providing more than 10 computers under the Scheme, the guidelines are only indicative and there is inbuilt flexibility to States to procure as per requirements.
- Regarding second time coverage of schools approved under the Old Scheme, Director informed that the Ministry is still to cover more than 90000 schools and there is shortage of funds. Secretary (SE&L) observed that currently there is no scope for coverage of schools for a second time under the Scheme.
- With regard to the proposal for setting up of Smart Schools / classes in the schools already covered under the ICT in School Scheme, it was informed that so far proposals have been approved for setting up of Smart Schools in uncovered schools only. Secretary (SE&L) suggested that if the Smart Schools have so far not been set up, then the State should identify schools that so far have not been covered under the Scheme.
- Secretary (SE&L) also informed that since the 59th Central Advisory Board of Education has approved the National Policy on ICT in its meeting held on 6th June 2012, the Scheme will need to be revised to align with the National Policy in ICT which may include review of norms in respect of allocating Smart Schools to States.

4.3 **Following decisions were taken:**

- Approval for coverage of 134 schools under BOOT model for a period of 5 years w.e.f. 2012-13.
- The Central assistance of Rs. 4.8 lakh per school (non-recurring) would be phased at the rate of Rs.1 lakh per school per year for the first four years and Rs.0.80 lakh per school for the fifth year.
- The release of funds is subject to the State Govt. providing the Utilisation Certificates and Progress Report for earlier releases.

5. **Odisha**

5.1. The representative of the State of Odisha made a presentation (Annexure III), the salient features of which are as under:

- “Digital Equalizer programme” for effective integration of technology in teaching learning process was conducted by American Indian Foundation Trust (AIFT) covering 52 schools with 373 teachers.
- Edusat programmes for Secondary stage students started in the State w.e.f. 31.8.2008 with weekly five day transmission in Maths, English and Science classes covering 216 secondary schools with 27 Resource teachers to conduct the classes.
- Total No. of Schools covered under the scheme so far is 4000 and the State of Odisha proposes to cover 2000 (Govt. 1367 and Govt. aided 633) Schools in 2012-13. The State is yet to start implementation of the scheme and is at the stage of finalizing bids.
- Requested for release of Rs. 36 crore which is due for 4000 schools

5.2 Following observations were made by the Members:

- The State was advised to restrict the Vendor under BOOT Model to hardware procurement only and content to be developed involving teachers coupled with their capacity building. Since the State has not yet started the process for 4000 schools also, it was suggested that the State may adopt this policy in respect of all the schools. It was also suggested that the State may study the Kerala model of implementation for adoption.
- Secretary (SE&L) sought clarification whether State can implement the scheme in all the 6000 schools in one go, if approved. The Principal Secy, (Odisha) assured that it will be implemented by engaging multiple agencies and requested for approving 2000 schools in 2012-13.
- Secretary (SE&L) referring to the National Policy approved by CABE on 6th June 2012 mentioned that in order to align the Scheme to the recently approved Policy, the Scheme will be revised and during revision, attention needs to be given to development of e- content. A mention was also made about national repository of e-content.

5.3 **Following decisions were taken:**

- Approval for coverage of 2000 schools on a BOOT model for a period of 5 years w.e.f. 2012-13.

- The Central assistance of Rs. 4.8 lakh per school (non -recurring) would be phased at the rate of Rs.1 lakh per school per year for the first four years and Rs.0.80 lakh per school for the fifth year.
- The central share upto Rs. 2.025 lakh per school per year would be released towards recurring cost after one year of commencement of project and on actual incurrence on items indicated in the guidelines
- The release of funds is subject to the State Govt. providing the Utilisation Certificates and Progress Report for earlier releases

6. SIET, PUNE

6.1 Reimbursement of programmes produced in 2011-12

SIET, Pune placed their proposal for reimbursement of programmes produced in 2011-12 before the PMEG for approval. CIET agreed to the proposal after evaluation of programmes produced by SIET, Pune. So far as approving the items of Purchase of split AC for sound Studio is concerned, Secretary (SE&L) mentioned that this may be allowed and this item may be reduced while considering the proposal for supply of equipment to SIET, Pune.

6.2 PMEG approved the following items for reimbursement to SIET, Pune:

- 150 Educational Video programmes (84 Indoor three camera studio production @ Rs. 60,000/- per programme and 66 outdoor single camera documentary programmes @ Rs. 40,000 per programme)
- 100 Audio Programmes (36 Simple talk show @10,000 per show and 64 full fledged drama @ Rs. 25,000/- per show)
- Development of 200 Learning Objects (Interactive with 2 animations) @Rs. 50,000/- per programme
- Office contingencies Rs. 5 lakh
- Library Books Rs. 1 lakh
- Purchase of split AC for sound studio Rs. 1.67 lakh

6.3 Proposal of SIET, Pune for 2012-13

The request of SIET, Pune to accord in principle approval for production of Audio/ Video and Learning Objects in 2012-13 was agreed subject to Executive Committee approving the proposal and also finalizing the subjects in consultation with CIET.

6.4 Supply of Equipment to SIET, Pune

SIET, Pune raised the issue of supply of Equipment mentioning that this issue was being delayed for long and requested the Ministry to help them in providing the same as the position of available equipment is pathetic and they may have to stop production due to unavailability of equipment.

Secretary (SE&L) directed that CIET may expedite a decision in the matter and a separate meeting can be held to discuss and finalize the supply of equipments to SIETs.

7. SIET, Kerala

7.1 Reimbursement of expenditure for Workshop / Seminar conducted on Film Making in November 2011

SIET, Kerala came with a proposal for reimbursement of the expenditure incurred in connection with conduct of Workshop Seminar on Film making held at Kozhikode from 14.11.2011 to 17.11.2011.

SIET clarified that the students from govt. and Govt. aided schools of the District in which such Workshop/Seminar is conducted will be given priority for participation.

This was discussed as to how such activity can benefit other States also. Secy(SE&L) directed that the material may be obtained by the Ministry and then it can be disseminated to other States/ UTs who in turn may replicate in their States subject to feasibility.

PMEG approved conduct of such Workshop/ Seminar at the national level to be conducted by CIET.

As this is an ongoing programme, PMEG approved the proposal of SIET, Kerala for reimbursement of the expenditure incurred by them in connection with conduct of Workshop/ Seminar on Film making held at Kozhikode from 14.11.2011 to 17.11.2011 to the tune of Rs. 9,85,790/- (Rupees Nine lakh eighty five thousand and seven hundred ninety only).

7.2 Demo on Dynamic Text Book

(A) The Director, SIET, Kerala made a presentation on the concept of Dynamic Text Book which includes printed text book, graphics, images and other features to replace hard copies/ books which can be used in computers and other electronic devices. Secretary (SE&L) has mentioned that there is no scope under the Scheme for this purpose.

8. CIET

8.1 National Repository

CIET moved their proposal for Development and Management of National Repository. JD, CIET explained that substantial digital content is available in CIET, SIETs and they would like to develop content through open source and procure available content with source code after evaluation of the digital content by third party. PMEG accorded **in principle approval** to the proposal. Secretary (SE&L) said that the content developed must be in line with NCF and curriculum after the same has been vetted.

So far as cost for web posting is concerned, DDG-NIC informed that it is free for the national project. However, if it is an NCERT project, it will be charged. JD, CIET suggested that since the National Repository is for M/o HRD, the same can be treated as central initiative and CIET can be the Managers/ administrators of the programmes. PMEG accorded **in principle approval subject to details being worked out.**

8.2 Development of ICT Curriculum and instructional material for students and teachers

JD, CIET mooted the proposal for Development of ICT Curriculum and instructional material for students and teachers. JD, CIET mentioned that a Committee was set up in NCERT for this purpose and this issue was also discussed with Dir(Sch.5) and CIET will come up with Module for ICT in School Curriculum in a month's time. The proper curriculum after aligning with the National Policy will be developed by the NCERT which will act as a model for States. This will also have online course portal in which the Teachers can undergo the course and get certificate.

Secretary (SE&L) observed that the need for development of Curriculum for ICT is beyond doubt but it is part of NCERT 's mandate. Hence NCERT needs to do this work on the same lines as they have done for other subjects.

8.3 Management of Information Services

JD, CIET mooted the proposal for "Supporting the Development of ICT – MIS". JD, CIET mentioned that a comprehensive MIS is planned for activities of RMSA including ICT and they would like to undertake parallel exercise on framing Data Capture Format (DCF) and compiling the information available in this area so that by the time MIS is ready, the same can be made operational.

It was mentioned by NIC representative that DCF cannot be devised independently but in alignment with Specific Requirement Software (SRS) proposed for RMSA including ICT.

Secretary (SE&L) noted that this proposal can be considered while considering the proposal of NIC by PAB under RMSA. Thus the proposal, in principle, was approved to be taken up along with the proposal of NIC for Web Based MIS for RMSA including ICT in the next PAB of RMSA.

8.4 ICT Based training outreach infrastructure to connect to the wider school system

NCERT mooted the proposal for "ICT Based training outreach infrastructure to connect to the wider school system" for consideration of PMEG.

Secretary (SE&L) felt that though a need does exist for this, the proposal needs detailed examination. It was therefore deferred.

Miscellaneous Issues:

9. National Awards for Teachers in Innovative use of ICT

Secretary (SE&L) advised that the results of winners of the ICT National Award may be declared after obtaining requisite approvals. This issue may be delinked from the National Awards to Teachers, which are conferred by the President on 5th September every year.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

Annexed

Meeting of the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Group (PM & EG) to consider the Computer Education Plans on 7th June 2012 at 1100 hrs under the Chairmanship of Secretary (SE&L) in Conference Room, "C" Wing, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

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