

MINUTES OF THE 1ST MEETING OF PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD FOR THE SCHEME “VOCATIONALISATION OF HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION” HELD ON 07.02.2012

The 1st meeting of Project Approval Board for the revised scheme “Vocationalisation of Higher Secondary Education” was held on 07.02.2012 under the Chairmanship of Smt. Anshu Vaish, Secretary (SE&L) in the Conference Room of Ministry of Human Resource Development, to discuss the proposal from the States of Haryana , West Bengal , Assam , Bihar, Odisha, Mizoram and Kerala . The list of participants is annexed. As no representative from the Government of Bihar was present, the proposal was not discussed in the meeting.

At the outset Director (VE) welcomed all the members of the Project Approval Board and the representatives from the States. The agenda items were then taken up for discussion with the permission of the Chair.

Item No. 1: Proposal of Haryana for the year 2011-2012 (placed for ex-facto approval of Pilot Project)

Proposal of Haryana for Pilot Project was placed before the PAB for ex-facto approval. Being a Pilot Project for NVEQF an amount of Rs. 4,97,94,000 as part of 1st installment had been released to the Government of Haryana with the approval of the Secretary (SE&L) for implementing the project. Shri Sameer Srow, Director, School Education, Haryana updated the members about the present status of the project in the State. The project is being introduced in 40 schools in 9 districts in partnership with NSDC and Wadhvani Foundation. He outlined the significance of Vocational Education in the State and also informed that parents and students are very enthused about the scheme. The four sectors i.e. ITES, Automobile, Retail and Security were selected based on the requirement of the State and the presence of the SSCs in them. He also informed that the expanded vision through the revamped scheme and NVEQF have brought in an array of new job roles for which skills could be imparted. A State level high powered committee has been set up. Project management committees have been set up at the district level together with a core committee to monitor the progress on a weekly basis. The infrastructure has been assessed in all the schools and linkages established with the local industry. Shri Srow also informed that NSDC will also be carrying out the skill mapping at district level. It was also informed that 600 existing teachers are being trained with the help of Wadhvani Foundation.

It was informed that no further releases are required during the current financial year. Details of amount sanctioned to Haryana is at Annexure-I. PAB approved the sanctions.

Secretary (SE&L) clarified that while the scheme is meant for classes XI-XII, it has been decided to implement a couple of pilots in Class IX. The major constraint for expansion of the scheme was the unavailability of the NOS in all sectors desired by the States as well as the corresponding

curricula, course and instructional material. She cautioned that only a few sectors should be taken up in the beginning for which the teaching learning material as per the NVEQF are available and well prepared. A number of players are to be associated for successful implementation and hence the pilots should be implemented with care. The outcomes may be replicated across the country in the coming years and a special responsibility rested on West Bengal and Haryana, which are implementing the pilots.

JD, PSSCIVE requested that PSSCIVE and NCERT should be associated in teacher training. NITTTR, Chandigarh could be of assistance in teacher training and development of curriculum.

Item No. 2: Proposal of West Bengal for the year 2011-2012 (for approval of Pilot Project)

Shri Pradip Chakraborti , Director , Vocational Education & Training , West Bengal attended the meeting. Director (VE) raised the issue of pending Utilization Certificate of Rs. 24.20 lakhs related to releases in the past. Shri Chakraborti assured that the Utilization Certificate of Rs. 24.20 lakhs will be sent very shortly. The Directorate of Vocational Education has tied up with the School Education Department. The vocational courses would be assessed by the Board of Vocational Education and the general subjects by the WB Secondary Education Board leading to a joint certification. The Board of Secondary Education has redesigned courses for the non vocational subjects to be opted by the vocational students. Shri Chakraborti informed that the existing Vocational Education & Training programme is being implemented mainly to cater to Class VIII+ and Class X+ drop outs. He also informed that the Department of Technical Education of West Bengal has been in constant touch with NSDC for curricula, NOS, etc. One delegation from the Nodal Department had attended a National Seminar organized by NCERT and another delegation visited PSSCIVE, Bhopal to get the guidelines and directives for finalising the curricula. The State Government has made budget provision for the State share, formal communication of which will be sent shortly.

Secretary (SE&L) observed that it appeared that the purely vocational training centres/ schools that are already operating in the State are being proposed for coverage under the scheme and Director WB agreed that the proposal related to purely vocational schools. PMEG objected to the proposal since the scheme was meant for imparting vocational education in general schools, the intention was to destigmatise and mainstream of vocational education. Drawing a corollary with other schemes, Secretary (SE&L) stated that GOI does not fund already running State Govt schemes. She emphasized that it is necessary that the current activities of the vocational schools in the State be brought in sync with the requirements of NVEQF. The CSS would assist vocational education in general schools as per the NVEQF requirements. The syllabus should be common for both the mainstream and vocational students. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme should be implemented as per the scheme guidelines. Since the State Govt is already in dialogue with NSDC, the latter coordinate with the Govt of West Bengal to identify mainstream schools which will also run vocational courses. PAB felt that the proposal of WB to teach only communicative language for vocational students should be revisited, since it is important that

there is a commonality of studies upto Class X. The subjects being offered in Class IX have to be well thought out keeping in view (i) universalisation of secondary education and (ii) proposal to merge the CSS with RMSA in the XII Plan. Therefore it is also important that a meeting of the West Bengal School Board and CBSE is set up for analysis of the subjects and curriculum. The results of the pilot are very important for extending VE to Class IX in the whole country.

It was observed that the proposal has been submitted for a complete financial year, but since only 2 months are left in the current financial year, it was decided in the PAB meeting that the salary component will be adjusted accordingly. It was also decided that the cost of setting up of PTC, MIS and Web Portal would not be released in the current financial year keeping in view the short period remaining for planning and implementation in 2011-12. The PAB approved an amount of Rs. 1990.38 lakhs to be released as 1st installment to the Government of West Bengal, subject to the UC for earlier releases being furnished by the State Govt. The details of amount to be released is at Annexure-II.

Item No. 3: Proposal from Assam for the year 2011-2012

Shri Jayant Narlikar, SPD, RMSA and Shri M.K. Yadav, MD, AMTRON attended the meeting. The highlights of the presentation are as follows :-

- Number of schools – 60
- Target group – Pass outs of Class X
- Sectors – Retail and Hospitality , IT/ITES

AMTRON is the implementing agency for IT courses in the selected schools. As far as teacher training is concerned, Shri Narlikar informed that the necessary logistics will be provided by NERIST & AMTRON. The State Government has made budget provision for the State share which has already been submitted to the Ministry.

The proposal has been submitted for a complete financial year, but since only 2 months are left in the current financial year so it was decided that the salary component will be adjusted accordingly. It was also decided that the cost of setting up of PTC, MIS and Web Portal will not be released in the current financial year due to paucity of time for planning and implementation by the States. The PAB approved an amount of Rs. 1031.59 lakhs to be released as 1st installment to the Government of Assam. The details of amount to be released are at Annexure-III. The State was also advised to restrict to IT and Retail sectors this year since the NOS for the hospitality sector are not available as yet and hence the curriculum and course material has not been made. Use of course material unconnected to NOS would drive the scheme towards its earlier mode of implementation with sub optimal results.

Item No. 4: Proposal from Odisha for the year 2011-2012

Dr. Chandra Sekhar Kumar, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Odisha made a presentation, the highlights of which are as follows :-

- Government of Odisha in the Department of Higher Education has taken a decision to open 400 new and strengthen the existing 231 GVJCs for which an amount of Rs.300.98 crores as Central share has been submitted for approval of PAB.
- Approval for at least 30 new GVJCs to open in the 30 districts of the state from the academic session 2012-13 for which an amount of Rs.19.19 crore has been submitted .
- The important trades are identified on the priority basis which may be opened in the 30 new GVJCs.
- Target group – Pass outs of Class X.

The proposal submitted by the State Government of Odisha was not according to the scheme “Vocationalisation of Higher Secondary Education” since it relates to dedicated vocational junior colleges, not permissible under the scheme. No details of activities envisaged like teacher engagement & training, nature of courses to be imparted, provision of State share, etc could be provided. Hence PAB recommended that the Government of Odisha may rework and resubmit their proposal, with proper planning, for consideration.

Item No. 5: Proposal from Mizoram for the year 2011-2012

Ms. Laldawngliani Chawngthu, Joint Director, SCERT, Mizoram made a presentation, the highlights of which are as follows:

- No. of schools to be strengthened : 16
- No. of courses to be strengthened : 8(24 sections)
- No. of students to be benefited per course : 50 (25 in each class i.e. XI-XII)
- No. of students in each section : 50 x 24=1200

Secretary (SE&L) observed that SCERT, Mizoram seems to be handling a number of schemes of school education. The State Govt needs to involve the Directorate of Education more directly in planning and implementation of the CSS for vocational education.

The Utilization Certificate of Rs.450.21 lakhs is pending with the Government of Mizoram. JD, SCERT informed that the Utilization Certificate has been submitted to the Government of Mizoram and will be sending it shortly to the Ministry.

The proposal submitted by the State Government of Mizoram was not according to the scheme “Vocationalisation of Higher Secondary Education”. No proper planning in terms of teacher engagement, training, course material, etc could be elaborated. The State proposed to continue all the courses being imparted currently, which was not advisable keeping in view the unavailability of NOS, Curriculum and course material in these trades. State Govt was advised to get in touch with NSDC and PSSCIVE for identification of appropriate courses, curriculum and

teacher training. PAB advised the Government of Mizoram to rework and resubmit their proposal .

Item No. 5: Proposal from Kerala for the year 2011-2012

Ms. Geetha, Deputy Director, Department of Vocational Higher Secondary Education, Kerala attended the meeting. Keeping in view the discussion held earlier for other States, she opined that the proposal submitted by the State Government of Kerala was not according to the scheme “Vocationalisation of Higher Secondary Education”. The Government of Kerala would rework and resubmit their proposal.

Presentation by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)

A presentation on the role of NSDC in the implementation of the scheme, especially keeping in view the changed requirements as per NVEQF, was made by Shri Basab Banerjee, Head, Q&A, NSDC. Vocational education at school level corresponds to levels 1-4 i.e Classes IX- XII. Multiple stakeholders need to work in tandem for proper execution and to deviate from the practices of the past which led to sub optimal acceptance and delivery of VE in schools. It is important that a coordination cell is formed in the States. The leads of the core teams for the various sectors, with whom the States may get in touch, were also listed. A copy of the ppt is annexed for the information of all States

Dir (VE) reiterated that the formation of a Core Committee comprising the Depts of Education, Labour and Industry has also been emphasised during the interactions of MHRD with States. This was required for making a holistic TVET strategy for the State. It was important that each school imparting VE should liaison with local industry for practical training.

Preparation of Course Material and Curricula

The course material prepared by PSSCIVE and CBSE for IT and auto sectors was placed before the PAB. Shri Banerjee observed that this was not in the formats developed by NSDC. Secretary (SE&L) stated that the responsibility for development of course material, etc restes with the PSSCIVE and directed JD, PSSCIVE to make available the course material for IT and Automobile (level-1) by the 16th Feb 2012 positively and for Security and Retail by the end of this month positively. This is required by the States urgently.

Technical Support Group for Vocational Education Division

It was mentioned that there is no provision for Technical Support Group in the scheme “Vocationalisation of Higher Secondary Education”. The process followed by MDM may be studied and if necessary, a proposal may be sent to Ministry of Finance for their approval, within the approved norms of the scheme.

General Observations

1. Even though most of the States would be implementing the scheme in Classes XI-XII i.e. level 3 &4, it is important that the course for levels 1&2 are delivered to understand the basics of the subject.
2. The Centre State sharing pattern share for civil works is 75:25 for all States in the scheme “Vocationalisation of Higher Secondary Education”. But this should be 90:10 for North-Eastern States. During the PAB meeting it was decided that this oversight may be referred to Ministry of Finance for necessary correction.
3. States, along with School Boards, should feel free to consult PSSCIVE, CBSE, NITTTRs, NSDC for resolving implementation issues
4. Deputy Director, NIOS gave a brief overview of the role of the open school system in furthering vocational education. It was pointed out that under the scheme, each school imparting VE would function as a centre for the open schools, both NIOS and State open Schools.

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

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

- 1) Smt. Anshu Vaish , Secretary (SE&L) – Chairperson
- 2) Dr Alka Bhargava , Director (VE) – Member Secretary
- 3) Shri Basab Banerjee , Head (Standards and Quality Assurance) , NSDC
- 4) Dr. R.V Shivagunde , Joint Director , PSSCIVE
- 5) Dr. Mamta Srivastava , Deputy Director (VE) , NIOS
- 6) Ms. Rajni Taneja , Assistant Financial Adviser , MHRD
- 7) Shri Sameer Srow , Director , SE , Haryana
- 8) Ms. Rekha Menon , Consultant , NVEQF , Wadhvani Foundation ,Haryana
- 9) Shri Pradip Chakraborti , Director , Vocational Education & Training , West Bengal
- 10) Shri Jayant Narlikar, SPD, RMSA , Assam
- 11) Shri MK Yadav, MD, AMTRON , Assam
- 12) Dr. Chandra Sekhar Kumar, Secretary , Department of Higher Education , Odisha
- 13) Ms. Laldawngliani Chawngthu , Joint Director , SCERT , Mizoram
- 14) Ms. D.Ramdinthangi , Deputy Director , SCERT , Mizoram
- 15) Ms. Geetha, Deputy Director , Department of Vocational Higher Secondary Education ,
Kerala
- 16) Shri Sushil Bhushan , Under Secretary (VE) , MHRD
- 17) Shri Prem Chand, Section Officer (VE) , MHRD
- 18) Shri Darpan Banerjee, Assistant (VE), MHRD