F.No.1-22/2011-RMSA-1

Government of India Ministry of Human Resource Development Department of School Education & Literacy RMSA -1 Section

> Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi, Dated: 17th May, 2012

To, Shri Dhritiman Ray, Regional Manager, SENES Consultant India Pvt. Ltd., MBL House, DD-18/8, Fifth Floor, Sector–1, Salt Lake, Kolkata – 700064 Telefax-033-23598072

Subject: Minutes of 1st meeting of Consultancy Monitoring Committee held on 09.05.2012 to consider the Environmental Assessment Report for RMSA for the State of Orissa.-reg.

I am directed to forward herewith the minutes of 1st meeting of Consultancy Monitoring Committee held on 09.05.12 to consider the Environmental Assessment Report for RMSA for the State of Orissa for kind information and necessary action.

(Sanjay Gupta) Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:

- (i) JS(SE-I)
- (ii) Director (RMSA.I)
- (iii) Director (Finance), D/o School Education & Literacy
- (iv) Sh.S.C.Girotra, Chief Consultant (Civil), TSG-SSA
- (v) Sh. Sushil Kumar, Sr. Consultant (Civil), TSG-RMSA

Minutes of the 1st meeting of Consultancy Monitoring Committee (CMC) for Environmental Assessment (EA) for RMSA held on 9th May, 2012.

The 1st meeting of the Consultancy Monitoring Committee (CMC) for Environmental Assessment (EA) for Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) was held on 9th May, 2012 under the Chairpersonship of JS (SE-1) in her Chamber. The list of participants is enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

2. The CMC for EA was constituted vide order no. 1-23/2011-Sch.1 dated 24.04.2012 with the following mandate:

- To oversee the assignment as per TOR and contractual conditions.
- (ii) To assess the quality of deliverables,
- (iii) To suggest the Consultants for improvement of the assignment,
- (iv) To suggest appropriate liquidated damages or penalty, if the assignment is not carried out as per the contract and quality of the services is found inferior,
- (v) To accept/reject any part of the assignment.

3. The meeting started with a brief introduction of all the participants. Thereafter Dr. Avijit Ghosh, Manager, SENES Consultant India Pvt. Ltd. made a power-point presentation recapitulating the salient points of the EA report submitted by SENES vide letter dated 1st February, 2012 in respect of secondary schools in State of Orissa. The presentation covers various stages of the EA including the methodology adopted for selection of States, Districts and Schools, review of existing documents, policies and legislations on Environment and the framework of assessing Environmental impact under the study including school environmental use of conservation of resources, reinforcing the learning environment, resilience of the schools from various aspects including location of the schools, building design, nature light and ventilation, artificial lighting and air circulation, seating and display arrangement in the classrooms, library design, laboratory design, kitchen design, availability or otherwise of drinking water and sanitation facilities, drainage system available in the schools, drainage and waste water management, disposal of solid waste, conservation of water and energy resources. The environmental aspects were also examined in the study with reference to the school curriculum and activities relating to environment, awareness campaign and programme relating to environment. Further the availability of various safety measures including laboratory, kitchen, fire electrical and transport safety was examined. During the study, the school were studied with respect to five different key elements in school including school environment, potential environmental impact, conservation of resources, reinforcing the learning environmental and resilience of the schools. Some of the key concerned highlighted in the study are as under:

- Schools adjacent to highway or arterial road within the town are prone to witness accidents.
- (ii) Lack of maintenance of assets created results in deterioration of building environment.
- (iii) Semi pucca nature and poor building conditions.
- (iv) Absence of provision of physical challenged students in the classrooms.
- (vi) Several schools were found to have desks and benches not suited for students of different height.
- (vii) About 50% of schools visited did not have a dedicated library and a science / maths laboratory was absent in 100% of the schools.

- (viii) Majority of the schools were without separate kitchen and firewood was being used as fuel.
- Safe drinking water was broadly neglected and drinking water facilities were found to be poorly maintained.
- Toilets in most schools were found to be void of water connection resulting in poor hygienic conditions in the toilets.
- (xi) The study has revealed some positive developments like awareness of water conservation, energy conservation and use of renewable energy.
- (xii) About 80% of schools were found to have eco clubs.
- 4. A copy of the presentation is enclosed at Annexure-II.

5. During the course of presentation, several participating members raised issues about findings on availability and conditions of libraries and laboratories. It was also suggested that the study could have been broad based by inclusion of parameters like profiling of the classrooms materials use for roofs, the condition of issue and use of books in the library, the requirement of store-cum-teacher's space, nature of drinking water resource including availability of well or other water sources, development of different buildings in the campus of the schools and plantation and painting aspects. During the course of discussion it was suggested that good practices identified during the study should have been highlighted and suggestion for scaling up and measures of improvement in these schools with the activities having no financial implication should have been highlighted. A suggestion to include the environmental profile of the schools the year it was built/opened/constructed whether urban and rural, the location of the place, the physical features of the area (hilly, riverine, forest, etc.) accessibility by the students and parents, availability of transport, etc. building material used, decision in the location of the place/area,

availability of play ground, etc. The consulting firm expressed its willingness to incorporate them to strengthen further studies to be conducted under the programme.

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

List of participants

Ms. Radha S. Chauhan, Joint Secretary (Secondary Education), Ministry of HRD Chairperson

Ms. Caralyn Khongwar Deshmukh, Director (SE), Ministry of HRD

Sh. Sanjay Gupta, Under Secretary(SE), Ministry of HRD

Sh. K. Madhivanan, Director (IFD), Ministry of HRD

Dr. A.K. Ghosh, SENES Consultant India Pvt. Ltd.

Sh. Avijit Ghosh, SENES Consultant India Pvt. Ltd.

Sh. S C Girotra, Chief Consultant (Civil Works), SSA, Ed CIL (I) Ltd.

Sh. Sushil Kumar, Sr. Consultant (Civil), RMSA, Ed.CIL (I) Ltd.