

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING
SRI AUROBINDO MARG, NEW DELHI

MINUTES OF THE 54th MEETING OF GENERAL COUNCIL

The 54rd meeting of the General Council of NCERT was held on 27th June, 2017 at 3.45 pm in Hall No. A & B, First Floor, NDMC Convention Centre, New Delhi - 110001. The list of participants who attended the meeting is enclosed at Annexure 'I'.

Shri Prakash Javdekar, Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development, Government of India and President, NCERT, chaired the meeting.

Prof. Hrushikesh Senapati, Director, NCERT welcomed the Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development and the members of the Committee. He elaborated on the mandate of NCERT, which is to improve the quality of school education through research, development, training and extension. He said that, every year, the needs of States/UTs are assessed and activities are planned accordingly. Initiatives such as Yoga Olympiad and Kala Utsav are regularly held by NCERT. He also informed that NCERT collaborates with National and International agencies. This year NCERT has signed an MOU with Academy of Korean Studies, South Korea. He requested the suggestions from the members.


HRM welcomed the seven Minister and Education Secretaries from various States/UTs.. He focused on the fact that NCF-2005 was now more than a decade old, and it may be made more modern and relevant. He said that discussion on textbooks developed by NCERT as well as States may be held. E-content is also another area that can be discussed. He requested the ministers and the General Council to discuss these and related issues.

Shri Manish Sisodia Deputy Chief Minister, Delhi stressed that textbooks should be free from ideology.. He added that he has received feedback from several children and teachers about NCERT textbooks, based on which the State has prepared a detailed report already submitted to the ministry. He stated that some major issues need to be addressed immediately, while others may be addressed in the long term. The Hindi textbook contained difficult words which can be avoided. During translation, if NCERT is legally bound to use certain words in Hindi, the legal hurdles may be overcome.

HRM added that there has been no change in the textbooks in past three years, and that the errors existed in the textbooks developed earlier, would be removed. He informed that the NCERT had already invited suggestions from students, teachers and other stakeholders, and so far, more than 600 suggestions have been received.

The Minister of Education, Arunachal Pradesh called for context based learning, and requested for support in capacity building of teachers, particularly in Science and Maths. He requested NCERT to take up initiative in research studies on school education and identify areas of intervention in the State. Such collaborative research would help in designing of curriculum.

HRM stated that contextualizing learning is the work of the SCERT. Since the SCERT has only been recently established in the state, academic support would be provided for capacity building. However, NCERT would provide requisite support. The state may also make use of digital format and material provided through e-pathshala. Collaborative research can be taken up.



The Minister of Education, Gujarat, shared the initiatives to improve school education. The programme *Vanche Bharat* has been appreciated by the country. He said that NCERT textbooks would be used for classes V to XII in the state from the next academic session. A fee-control committee has been established which has got good response. Students in Gujarat get 25X 7 help in different subjects for Classes V to XII through DTH. He said that corruption was found in the two areas of teacher recruitment and transfers; the processes are now made merit-based, transparent and online. The *Shaala Parvesh Mahotsav* has been initiated. There was 75% enrollment in 2003; in 15 years time, it is now 99% enrollment. Evaluation programme *Gunotsav* is conducted. This has also received a favourable response.

He added that 2400 classrooms in 1200 schools have been digitized, and it is hoped that by next year, all schools in Gujarat would be digitized. Further, online training is being provided to teachers for updation and improvement.

The Minister of Education, Rajasthan, spoke about the consolidation of schools in terms of student population and teacher posts. He also shared about *Shaala Darshan* and *Shaala Darpan*, and the appointment of Panchayat Education Officials. Parent Teacher Meetings are held four times a year; mothers are expected to attend at least once. An *Adarsh* school in every gram panchayat is being established. Regarding change in the curriculum, he suggested that issues such as cleanliness and skills should be focused on. He added that a judicious proportion of local knowledge and knowledge about the nation should be maintained in the textbooks. He stated that residential training for six days has been provided to all teachers in the state. Leadership Programme has been conducted for Principals. He looked to NCERT for academic support in this regard. He stated that the internship of B.Ed trainees should be done in government schools.

The Minister of Education, Madhya Pradesh, said that there should be strict regulation regarding qualification of teachers appointed in private schools. Some schools, through manipulation, avoid giving admission to students as per RTE Act. He suggested that SSA should be extended up to Class XII.

He reiterated that by 2019, all untrained teachers will have to be trained. All B. Ed colleges have been asked to submit affidavits about their status; 75,000 have complied, and the remaining is awaited. An integrated B.Ed programme would be of benefit to improve the quality of education. Teacher training internship programmes should be conducted in government schools only, and the Ministry is working in this direction. No further extension will be granted. Untrained teachers, if any, should immediately register themselves with NIOS. The evaluation of such trainees would be done by the teacher in the concerned government school; student feedback would also be taken into consideration. Good schools would mentor 10-12 schools in the vicinity. He added that we are working towards removing factual errors in our textbooks. Government schools will have pre-primary classes, and NCERT will provide training to teachers of that stage.

The Minister of Education, Chhattisgarh, said that textbooks for Classes IX and X have been developed with the support of NCERT. The State has already prepared a document on Learning Outcomes based on that of NCERT.

Deputy Chief Minister, Telangana, stated that 6000 anganwadis have been located within the premises of primary schools, so that the transition would be easier for children. He requested the support of NCERT in providing special training to teachers of pre-primary stage. He added that the state has developed its own curriculum in 2011 on the basis of NCF-2005, and

