

F.No.10-1/2024-IS.1
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of School Education & Literacy

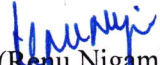
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 5th March, 2024

Subject: Samagra Shiksha – Minutes of the meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) held on 31st January, 2024 - Circulation of Minutes in respect of State of Maharashtra.

The meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of STARS Project was held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (SE&L) on 31.01.2024 to consider the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B), 2024-25 in respect of State of **Maharashtra**.

2. A copy of the PAB minutes approving the AWP&B, 2024-25 for State of **Maharashtra** under Samagra Shiksha is enclosed.

Encl.: *As above.*


(Renu Nigam)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel No. 23384153

To,

1. Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development
2. Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment
3. Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
4. Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
5. Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation
6. Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs.
7. Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities in the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
8. Shri Rajib Kumar Sen, Sr. Adviser (Education), Niti Aayog.
9. Prof. Dinesh Saklani, Director, NCERT.
10. Prof. Sudhanshu Bhushan, Vice Chancellor. NIEPA.
11. Prof. Yogesh Singh, Chairperson, NCTE, Hans Bhawan, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi
12. Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi
13. Ms. Rupali Banerjee Singh, Member Secretary, NCPCR, Chanderlok Building, Janpath, New Delhi – 110001
14. Shri Vipin Kumar, Additional Secretary (SS-II), DoSEL, Ministry of Education

(रेनु निगम/RENU NIGAM)
अवर सचिव/Under Secretary
भारत सरकार/Govt. of India
शिक्षा मंत्रालय/Ministry of Education
स्कूल शिक्षा एवं साक्षरता विभाग/D/o School Education & Literacy
शास्त्री भवन, नई दिल्ली/Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

15. Shri Anandrao Vishnu Patil, Additional Secretary (PMPY& Digital) DoSEL, Ministry of Education
16. Ms. Archana Sharma Awasthi, JS (SS-1&AE), DoSEL, Ministry of Education
17. Ms. Prachi Pandey, JS (EE.1), DoSEL, Ministry of Education
18. Dr. Amarpreet Duggal, JS(Cord & Media), Ministry of Education
19. Shri Sanjog Kapoor, JS & FA, Ministry of Education
20. Smt. A. Srija, EA, DoSEL, Ministry of Education
21. Shri V. Hegde, DDG (Statistics), Ministry of Education
22. Shri Rahul Pachori, Deputy Secretary, Samagra Shiksha, MoE
23. The Secretary (Education), Govt. of Maharashtra
24. The State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Maharashtra
25. TSG Consultants, EdCIL, Govt. of India

Copy to:

1. All Divisional Heads of DoSEL, Ministry of Education
2. All Under Secretaries of DoSEL, Ministry of Education
3. NIC- with a request to upload minutes on the Shagun portal/Samagra Shiksha Portal.

Copy for information to:-

1. PPS to Secy(SE&L).
2. PPS to AS(SS.II).


(Renu Nigam)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel No. 23384153

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सत्यमेव जयते

Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of School Education and Literacy

SAMAGRA SHIKSHA
(An Integrated Scheme for School Education)

Minutes of the meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 31st January, 2024 to consider the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) 2024-25 of Samagra Shiksha for the State of Maharashtra.

1. Introduction:

The meeting of the Project Approval Board for considering the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2024-25 for SAMAGRA SHIKSHA for the State of Maharashtra was held on 31st January, 2024 at New Delhi. The list of participants who attended the meeting is at **Annexure-I**.

Section I General Discussion on Educational Indicators and Overall Progress of States/UTs

Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary (SE&L) welcomed the participants and asked Additional Secretary, Shri Vipin Kumar to share a presentation on the implementation of Samagra Shiksha Scheme and the status of School Education in the nine states/UTs i.e., Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Bihar, Dadra Nagra Haveli and Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep. The following are the major action points from the discussion and deliberations during the presentation:

1) Pending non-recurring expenditure

With respect to previous non-recurring approvals, for which no action has been taken up by the state/UT over the years, it was reiterated that as per the Samagra Shiksha framework these are committed liabilities which would become the sole responsibility of the state after a point of time i.e., 5 years after the approval. States and UTs were urged to come up with a concrete plan of action for completing pending works which have not been started within a time frame.

If the State/UT is of the opinion that these works cannot be started because of certain reasons, then they may consider for surrendering these works so that they may get more space to consider fresh proposals. The States and UTs were instructed to update the status of non-recurring works on the PRABANDH portal on a regular basis to prevent any discrepancies in the reported data.

2) Importance of water conservation: During the 3rd Chief Secretaries Conference Hon'ble Prime Minister emphasized the importance of water conservation and developing a tradition of Jal Utsav to spread awareness about the same.

Further the Hon'ble Prime Minister suggested that students in groups may visit houses in a village/locality to sensitize the people on the importance of water conservation. They may collect water samples from these houses during visits and the quality of water can be tested in the schools by these students using testing kits, which may be made available. It may also be ensured that water conservation is a part of school curriculum.

3) Saturation of basic schooling facilities: Various facilities have been provided to schools to ensure universal access to schooling. As deliberated in the 3rd Chief Secretaries Conference, the focus should be on saturation of these facilities i.e., portable drinking water, electricity, girls' and boys' toilets, sports facility, sports ground, etc. For access to sports ground, it was suggested that a mapping can be done on access of students to sports grounds and accordingly provision may be considered at the cluster level, wherein children can be grouped in batches to utilize the facilities.

Sanjay

In addition to improve these facilities, it was further suggested that the funds from MNREGA and Panchayati Raj institutions may also be dovetailed. In this regard, suitable guidelines have been issued by joint signatures of CEO (NITI Aayog), Secretary (School Education and Literacy), Secretary (Panchayati Raj), and Secretary (Rural Development).

- 4) **Ensuring use of ICT in the classrooms:** Secretary SE&L shared his concerns about the high pendency in establishment of ICT labs and Smart Classrooms across the Nine States and UTs. He said that the benefits of digital education can be leveraged only when these pending ICT labs and smart classrooms are made functional. He added that DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for School Education) is an important resource, and this needs to become part of the pedagogy in the classroom, wherein the resources available can be used by teachers in classroom transaction.

Priority must be given to completing the ICT labs and smart classrooms. To further augment this effort, he suggested that the focus should also be on saturating internet connectivity especially in secondary and senior secondary schools. For this purpose, a drive may be initiated by the concerned States and UTs and major service providers of internet may be brought on board.

- 5) **Skill Education:** Secretary SE&L mentioned that there is substantial pendency in the setting up of Skill Education laboratories in some States and UTs from the pre-Samagra Shiksha years. The National Education Policy 2020 states that all students, particularly those in secondary stage of schooling, need to undergo skill education. He urged the States and UTs to re-evaluate the existing job roles in light of the changing needs of the job market and also to align them as per 21st century skills.
- 6) **Support through NIOS for OoSC of the age group 16 to 19 years:** With respect to support through NIOS for out of school children, it was informed that special centres have been provided by NIOS across the country for students in government schools and the registration fee in these special centres have been subsidised @ Rs. 2000 per student. This is a special provision made by NIOS for out of school children and examination fees are also exempted for first timers. Many States are undertaking enrolment drives for identification and mainstreaming out of school children.
- 7) **Establishment of Vidya Samiksha Kendras (VSK):** Vidya Samiksha Kendra, a tool to monitor educational outcomes has already been set up at national level at NCERT and other States/UTs are also setting up the same for improved monitoring of activities and learning outcomes.

For a more comprehensive perspective, Secretary DoSE&L suggested that the States and UTs that are still in the process of establishing the VSK, should visit the VSK in Gujarat and CBSE. Additional Secretary, Shri Anandrao Vishnu Patil requested the States and UTs to make the VSK functional as soon as possible and preferably by 31st March, 2024. The necessity of onboarding state education boards in a manner akin to that of the CBSE was also emphasized.

- 8) **Strengthening of DIETs and SCERT:** Secretary DoSE&L informed that the Department is upgrading all functioning 613 DIETs in the country in a phased manner through infrastructure and technology resource support as vibrant Centres of Excellence.

The scheme has started with approximately 125 DIETs in FY 2023-24. For this purpose, all existing vacancies in DIETs of Excellence should be filled on priority by 30th June 2024 and release of funds for a particular DIET of Excellence will be contingent upon filling of these existing vacancies for academic positions. With a similar objective, it was further apprised that the department is in the process of strengthening the SCERTs and if required, a supplementary Project Approval Board may be conducted for this purpose.

- 9) **Display of photographs of teachers:** This is one of the priority areas of the 3rd Chief Secretaries Conference for addressing the issue of proxy teachers and teacher absenteeism. To address this issue, photographs of teachers should be displayed in a common area in the school premises. Most of the States and UTs have completed this exercise but this is a continuous process. For this purpose, there should be a provision in schools where the display of teachers' photographs is updated in case of transfer or retirement of a teacher.
- 10) **Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV):** Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) offer a significant opportunity to empower girls. As per NEP 2020, instead of the existing four types of KGBVs, it was observed that the focus should subsequently be on one type of KGBV i.e., the Class 6 to 12 type. Ideally, a KGBV should only be a hostel tied up with a K-12 school.

Accordingly, States and UTs were advised to prioritize the strengthening of KGBVs on similar lines. It was further informed that NCERT has conducted a study for evaluation of the existing KGBVs and to come up with a suggestive model for a KGBV. The report will be shared with all States and UTs shortly and States were requested to adhere to this guideline.

- 11) **UDISE+ 2022-23:** The UDISE for 2022-23 is in the process of being released and in the meantime the Department is trying to correlate and triangulate the data to assess the reason for any increase or decrease in the educational indicators. However, Secretary SE&L highlighted that there seems to be a decrease in the availability of enrolment capacity as a student goes up to a higher grade due to which seamless transfer is affected.

Moreover, retention rate for schools with grades from 1 to 12 is very high whereas there is a drop in the other schools due to presence of multiple school structures. To address many such issues, it was informed that a State/UT specific analysis based on the latest UDISE+ will be shared shortly by DDG Statistics. States and UTs were advised to share these data with senior officials of their respective States and UTs to draw their attention towards this important issue of multiplicity of schools. It will facilitate in making pertinent policy level decisions as per requirement.

- 12) **Repeaters in grade 10 & 12:** As per the data available, across the country, around 27.5 lakh students are failing in class 10 while around 18.6 lakh students are failing in class 12. States and UTs were informed that the State of Andhra Pradesh has issued an official government order, with effect from the academic session 2023-24, making it mandatory for students who fail in classes 10 and 12 to repeat the class as a regular student, with a focus to improve the Gross Enrolment Ratio.

Furthermore, there are also students who are not appearing in these exams, and they could be the potential candidates for skill-based training and open schooling. Other

States and UTs were also requested to look into this issue and take necessary steps to address the issues of failures of students in 10th and 12th.

- 13) Addressing the issue of PTR for children with Special Needs:** Economic Advisor, Ms. A. Srijia informed about the recent amendment to the RTE Act, which prescribes appointment of 01 special education teacher for every 10 CwDs for classes 1 to 5, and 1 special education teacher for every 15 CwDs for classes 6 to 8. In this context, as per the recent directive of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, States and UTs are required to file an affidavit by giving a list of details which includes the number of students with special needs and the number of teachers required, within a period of six weeks.

As per information in UDISE+, around 20% schools have CwSN and the percentage of CwSN at national level is 0.85%. Hence, it was suggested a mapping exercise may be conducted to assess the requirements of special educators.

- 14) Strengthening convergence between stakeholders:** It was observed that at present there is not much interaction taking place between the schools and higher education institutions. Under the PM SHRI scheme, an innovative intervention has been initiated wherein STEM teachers and head teachers can go for trainings in IITs and IIMs.

Also, innovative concepts being implemented by other stakeholders such as integration of environmental awareness and sustainability programme into school education through green school audits, zero tolerance to water wastage, initiatives through school students for water purity measurement, are unique initiatives that can be adapted by States and UTs.

- 15) Re-analysis of Budget under the three components (EE, SE & TE):** Secretary SE&L observed that the budget and expenditure under the Elementary Education, Secondary Education and Teacher Education head needs to be analysed for all States and UTs. The purpose is to work out avenues for spending more, especially under the SE and TE component. Towards this end, it was decided to hold a mid-term review under Samagra Shiksha for all States and UTs in batches to assess not only the intervention wise progress but also the requirement of supplementary funds, if any.

- 16) Social Audit:** It was clarified that "The expenditure on conducting Social Audit will be met from the Media, Monitoring, Management, Evaluation and Research (MMMER) funds of Samagra Shiksha, up to 0.5% of State Annual Budget Allocation." In case flexibility is required in the budget limit proposed, States and UTs may write to the Department for any possible amendment. Further, due to challenges faced by the States and UTs in identifying and selecting SAUs, it was informed that the option of educational institutes based on NAAC rating for conducting Social Audit in schools may be explored, in case there is no feasibility of signing MoU with SAUs.

The Department will also be reviewing the progress of Social Audit on a half yearly basis, in which representatives of States/UTs and SAU, institute(s) etc., may participate.

- 17) Vidyanjali:** The Vidyanjali portal helps volunteers interact and connect directly with schools of their choice to share their knowledge and skills as well as contribute in the form of assets, etc. States were urged to onboard their schools and avail the facilities provided under this initiative. It was noted that a few States have their own portals; and the same ought to be connected with the Vidyanjali portal. In addition, the Department will also conduct an exercise for mapping of States which have their own portal.

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**Section II:
State Specific Issues - Maharashtra**

- 1) **School size and single teacher schools:** As per the presentation shared, out of the total 65639 schools in the state, 30 schools are with zero enrolment, 35511 schools are with less than 50 enrolment, and 5544 single teacher schools. In addition, the number of schools with adverse PTR at the elementary level is 11.96%. Secretary SE&L suggested that the state needs to ensure rationalization of schools and ensure sufficient number of teachers in all school, especially at the elementary level.

Pendency in Infrastructure facilities: As per PRABANDH portal, there is pendency in completion of infrastructure facilities (since inception) in the state ,i.e., Additional classrooms (2.87%); Boys toilet (2.64%); Girls' toilet (2.33%); CwSN toilet (5.03%); Integrated Science Labs (33.53%); ICT (0.1%); Smart Classrooms (50.3%) and Skill Education Labs (12%). With respect to previous non-recurring approvals, for which no action has been taken up by the state/UT over the years, it was reiterated that as per the Samagra Shiksha framework these are committed liabilities which would become the sole responsibility of the state after a point of time i.e., 5 years after the approval. States and UTs were urged to come up with a concrete plan of action for completing pending works which have not been started within a time frame.

If the State/UT is of the opinion that these works cannot be started because of certain reasons, then they may consider for surrendering these works so that they may get more space to consider fresh proposals. The States and UTs were instructed to update the status of non-recurring works on the PRABANDH portal on a regular basis to prevent any discrepancies in the reported data.

- 2) **Vacancies in TEIs:** There is a high vacancy of academic positions as per state sanctioned posts in the SCERT (50%) and DIETs (31.02%). Considering the important role of these institutions in empowering of teachers, the vacant positions of the SCERT and DIETs may be filled on priority to strengthen these institutions. In addition, it was informed that the release of funds under the DIETs of Excellence scheme will be contingent upon the filling up of existing vacancies latest by 30th June 2024.
- 3) **SARTHAQ- NEP 2020 Implementation:** State has updated that status of all 202 tasks on the Google NEP 2020 tracker, however the last update was done in October, 2023. State was also asked to prioritize the tasks under SARTHAQ in terms of importance and ensure its effective implementation and timely update on the Google tracker <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10ZXip4QUZK9nHMhbPRSJWPTkq4ag0rviG1VA05-vHLg/edit?usp=sharing>.
- 4) **Implementation of Vidya Pravesh:** State has been implementing Vidya Pravesh in all government and government aided schools from the FY 2023-24. It was pointed out that as the 3rd CS Conference prioritizes the implementation of Vidya Pravesh, it is crucial to ensure that all private schools are also implementing this three-month School Preparedness Module from their own resources.
- 5) **Display of photographs of teachers in schools:** State has reported display of photographs of teachers in 57,902 government schools i.e., 88.21%. As per the 3rd CS Conference to the address the issue of proxy teachers and teacher absenteeism, the

state was urged to ensure that photographs of all the teachers are displayed and updated in all schools.

- 6) **Status on Social Audit:** The state is yet to sign the MoU for conduct of Social Audit and was urged to expedite the process. In this regard, it was clarified that state may explore educational institutes based on NAAC rating for conducting Social Audit in schools, in case there is no feasibility of signing MoU with SAUs.

**Section III:
Financial Section - Maharashtra**

Total Estimated Budget (2024-25)

The approved estimates for the AWP&B for 2024-25 under Elementary, Teacher Education and Secondary are as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Head	Spill over	Non-Recurring (Fresh)	Recurring * (Fresh)	Total Fresh (3+4)	Grand Total (Including Spill-Over) (2+5)
1	2	3	4	5	5
Elementary	27300.00	20994.63	184236.85	205231.48	232531.48
Secondary	6895.00	4839.49	22380.90	27220.40	34115.40
Teacher Education	183.00	105.00	4640.98	4745.98	4928.98
Total	34378.00	25939.12	211258.73	237197.86	271575.86

*Includes Programme Management (MMMER)

2. Actual Releases by GOI during 2024-25

Against the above approvals, as per the letter dated 28.11.2023 regarding tentative proposed releases for 2024-25 **Central Government will provide to the State Government, Rs. 132189.99 lakh as its share (Rs. 115602.56 lakh for elementary, Rs. 14026.04 lakh for secondary & senior secondary and Rs. 2561.39 lakh for Teacher Education). The State would contribute Rs. 88126.66 lakh as its matching State share.** The above Central share as per the existing fund sharing pattern of Samagra Shiksha State will also be able to utilise their unspent balances as on 31st March, 2024 for the activities approved in 2023-24 including spill over.

Based on the demand of funds projected for 2024-25, the tentative share of recurring and non-recurring grants is given below:

(Rs. In lakh)

Kaunsi

Component	Elementary Education	Secondary Education	Teacher Education	Total
Recurring	104510.53	11920.54	2498.39	118929.46
Non-recurring	11092.03	2105.50	63.00	13260.53
Total	115602.56	14026.04	2561.39	132189.99

The Balance of the outlay (i.e., Rs. 34378.00 lakh) approved under Non-recurring components in previous years which is not spent fully, is the outlay saved/spill over for the subsequent year (i.e. 2023-24). Against the above Spill over, the committed liability of Department of SE&L is Rs. 30140.71 lakh (Rs. 26497.23 lakh for Elementary, Rs. 3643.48 lakh for Secondary and Rs. 0.00 lakh under Teacher Education) keeping in view the total approvals and grants already released.

Non-recurring grant will be released against the committed liabilities and the fresh approvals subject to the production of required documents by State/UTs and physical and financial progress of these interventions under the non-recurring head.

As per Section 7(5) of the RTE Act, 2009, the State Government shall, after taking into consideration the sum provided by the Central Government above and the mandatory matching State share, provide the balance funds necessary to fulfil the estimate for the implementation of the Act. The interventions under the Samagra Shiksha comprise of activities pertaining to Elementary, Secondary and Teacher Education respectively and there is a single Budget for Samagra Shiksha in the Demand for Grants (BE) 2024-25. The release of funds would be from a single Budget Head only. However, for purposes of ascertaining the quantum of funds going to each component, the Sub-Heads for Elementary (including Teacher Education) and Secondary Education has been classified separately.

The States and UTs have been repeatedly informed about the compliance of the guidelines of Ministry of Finance for release of funds under CSS. The States/UTs are to strictly adhere to the implementation of the new financial architecture where CSS funds are being released in 4 instalments, while ensuring 75% expenditure at each stage. Submission of proposals should be well within time, to ensure maximum disbursement of funds from GOI. In case of delay in compliance of the necessary guidelines the States/UTs may not be able to receive the earmarked funds for the FY.

Kanungo

The State should invariably provide Single Budget Head during 2024-25 and the nomenclature should be Samagra Shiksha. Since Samagra Shiksha would be catering to various activities relating to RTE entitlements and all other Elementary interventions as well as Teacher Training and activities for BRCs and CRCs which forms the portion of Teacher Education activities as well as for Secondary Education, the States shall also provide a suitable Nomenclature with Sub-Heads to identify the disbursement of funds separately under all components of Samagra Shiksha. Fund flow to SCERTs, DIETs etc. will be through State Nodal Account of State Implementing Society only.

3. Spill Over

An outlay of **Rs. 34378.00 lakh** as Spill over under various activities falling under Elementary Education, Secondary Education and Teacher Education was estimated with the condition that all pending activities should be completed during this year 2024-25. The detail is enclosed at **Annexure II**.

4. Surrender of activity: Rs. 2902.00 lakhs surrender by State (Elementary Education Rs. 1452.00 lakhs, Secondary Education Rs. 859.00 lakhs and Teacher Education Rs. 591.00 lakhs. The detail is enclosed at **Annexure III**

5. Costing Sheet

The consolidated item-wise estimate for 2024-25 is at **Annexure IV**. The State must bifurcate the annexed costing sheet among all the districts according to their proposals/approvals and capture the district wise expenditure against the budget allotted, on the PRABANDH portal on a monthly basis for the real time monitoring of each activity/component approved under Samagra Shiksha. Also, State needs to ensure that timely implementation of the various interventions as per the annual calendar of activities submitted.

The PAB has approved the above activities for the State during F.Y. 2024-25 subject to the following conditions:

1. It is reiterated that although PAB has approved the said interventions based on the proposals submitted by the state, but it will be the responsibility and liability of the respective State to ensure that the expenditures are in line with Govt of India guideline.
2. There should not be any duplication of activities and beneficiaries between Samagra Shiksha and other schemes.
3. Components which fall under the purview of the Department of WCD, or other ministries/departments must be carried out in convergence and accordance with respective ministries/departments.

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



LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, DoSEL, Ministry of Education
2. Shri Vipin Kumar, Additional Secretary (SS-II), DoSEL, Ministry of Education
3. Shri Anandrao Vishnu Patil, Additional Secretary (PMPY& Digital) DoSEL, Ministry of Education
4. Ms. Archana Sharma Awasthi, JS (SS-1&AE), DoSEL, Ministry of Education
5. Ms. Prachi Pandey, JS (EE.1), DoSEL, Ministry of Education
6. Dr. Amarpreet Duggal, JS(Cord & Media), Ministry of Education
7. Shri Sanjog Kapoor, JS & FA, Ministry of Education
8. Smt. A. Srija, EA, DoSEL, Ministry of Education
9. Shri V. Hegde, DDG (Statistics), Ministry of Education
10. Shri Ranjit Singh Deol, Principal Secretary, School Education, Govt. of Maharashtra
11. Shri Pradipkumar Dange, State Project Director, MPSP, Maharashtra
12. Shri Rahul Pachori, Director, Samagra Shiksha, MoE
13. Shri Shobhit Gupta, Director, (SE&L), Ministry of Education
14. Appraisal Team – TSG Consultants, Samagra Shiksha, MoE

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