



सत्यमेव जयते

**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**  
**RAJYA SABHA**

**DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING  
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

**HUNDRED TWENTIETH REPORT**

**ON  
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 2002-2003 (DEMAND NO. 51) OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF SECONDARY EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION  
(MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT)**

*(PRESENTED TO THE RAJYA SABHA ON 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2002)*

*(LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA ON 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2002)*

RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
APRIL, 2002/VAISAKHA, 1924 (SAKA)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE (upto 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2002)  
(2002-2003)**

- |                     |     |          |
|---------------------|-----|----------|
| 1. Shri S.B. Chavan | ¾¾¾ | Chairman |
|---------------------|-----|----------|

**MEMBERS**

**RAJYA SABHA**

2. Shri Eduardo Faleiro
3. Shri Karnendu Bhattacharjee
4. Shri Akhilesh Das
5. Shri Bachani Lekhraj
6. Shri B.P. Apte
7. Prof. R.B.S. Varma
8. Shri Bratin Sengupta
9. Smt. Vanga Geetha

10. Shri R. Sarath Kumar
11. Shri Rama Shanker Kaushik
12. Dr. Ramendra Kumar Yadav “Ravi”
13. Shri Mrinal Sen
14. Dr. Akhtar Hasan Rizvi
15. Shri M.P. Abdussamad Samadani

## **LOK SABHA**

16. Shri S.B.P.B.K. Satyanarayana Rao
17. Shri Kirti Jha Azad
18. Shri Baliram Kashyap
19. Shri Ramakant Angle
20. Shrimati Jaskaur Meena
21. Shri Shankar Prasad Jaiswal
22. Dr. N. Venkataswamy
23. Shri G. S. Baswaraj
24. Shri Sunil Dutt
25. Shri R.L. Jalappa
26. Shri Ambareesha
27. Shri Kantilal Bhuriya
28. Shri A.F. Golam Osmani
29. Shri Samik Lahiri
30. Dr. Ram Chandra Dome
31. Dr. M. Jagannath
32. Shri Davendra Singh Yadav
33. Shri Ram Rati Bind
34. Kumari Bhavana Pundlikrao Gawali
35. Shri Ashok Kumar Singh Chandel
36. Smt. Renu Kumari
37. Smt. Kumudini Patnaik
38. Dr. Ranjit Kumar Panja
39. Shri Shrinivas Patil
40. Shri Ramesh C. Jigajinagi
41. Shri Ramesheth Thakur

## **COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

1. Shri Arjun Singh                      ¾¾                      Chairman

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20. Dr. N. Venkataswamy
21. Shri G.J. Javiya
22. Shri Punnu Lal Mohale
23. Shri Dalpat Singh Parste
24. Shri G. S. Baswaraj
25. Shri Sunil Dutt
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40. Shri Shriniwas Patil
41. Shri Ramesh C. Jigajinagi
42. Shri Ramesheth Thakur

### **SECRETARIAT**

Shri Satish Kumar, Additional Secretary  
Smt. Vandana Garg, Director  
Shri C.B. Rai, Under Secretary  
Shri Ratan Kumar Sahoo, Research Officer  
Shri P. Narayanan, Committee Officer

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### **PREFACE**

I, the Chairman of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development, having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on its behalf, do hereby present this Hundred–twentieth Report of the Committee on the Demands for Grants (Demand No.51) of the Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development for the year 2002-2003.

2. The Committee considered the various documents and relevant papers received from the Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development and also heard the Secretary and other Officials of that Department on the said Demands for Grants in its meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2002.

3. The Committee considered the Draft Report and adopted the same in its meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2002.

NEW DELHI  
April 24, 2002  
Vaisakha 4, 1924 (Saka)

ARJUN SINGH  
Chairman,  
Department-related Parliamentary  
Standing Committee on  
Human Resource Development

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## REPORT

### I INTRODUCTION

1.1 If elementary education is essential for making an individual literate, secondary and higher education are basic requirements for developing a society. It has been observed over the years that new initiatives are being taken to strengthen school education. Programmes like National Open School are being strengthened to reach out more and more children in distant areas. National Council of Educational Research and Training is playing an active role in providing resource support in the areas of educational research and training at school level. The Navodaya Vidyalayas are set up with the objective of providing a progressive and forward looking school system in the rural areas. However, the Special Subject Group appointed by the Prime Minister's Office in its Report on Policy Framework for Reforms in Education of April 2000 has estimated that as per the enrolment figures of 1997-98 two-third of the eligible population remains out of the school system and only 270 lakhs are attending schools at the secondary level. With the emphasis on universalisation of elementary education, the enrolment is bound to increase and we may require, as per the Report more than 2 lakhs institutions against the 1998-99 strength of 1.10 lakhs institutions. The Special Group, while stressing the need for government's responsibility to funding and ensuring that secondary education is compulsory, has also underlined the need for modernization and removal of obsolescence in higher and professional education.

1.2 Higher education is the apex of learning. It helps in promoting a society, which is more conscious of the social, economic and cultural issues. UGC provides financial assistance to universities to promote relevant education. Enrolment of women students in higher education has been encouraging. However, what is still needed is concerted effort in the expansion of access and quality in secondary and higher education. The Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007), Planning Commission, Government of India, September, 2001 has expressed "serious concern that the expansion in quantity" of the University and Higher Education Sector, "has been accompanied by a fall in quality" and attributed the same to the "inadequate provision of budgetary resources from the government". Currently, only 6% of students have access to university education. When compared with some developing and developed countries of the world, figures of enrolment for 1 lakh inhabitants in India is only 613 whereas in Indonesia it is 1167, Mangolia 1416, UK-3135, USA 5359. (World Bank Report, February, 2000). Similarly, number of Doctorate degrees awarded in all disciplines in 1998-99 was 11,107 and in 1999-2000 it was 11,067. If compared with other nations of the World, the number of our R&D Scientists seems precarious. It shows India has only 0.3% R&D scientists whereas China has 0.6, Korea-2.9, Germany and USA-4.0, Isreal-5.9, Japan-7.1 and Brazil-0.2. India's position as regards Scientists and Technicians per 1000 population is still poor. It is only 3.5 in India, China 8.1, Brazil 29.5, Germany-86, USA 55 and Japan 110. This shows that the country has only a wide base of working population whereas a country's economic progress depends on its indigenous R&D. The more a nation has R&D support, the greater is its development. In the case of Japan it has been proved beyond doubt. Therefore, there is an urgent need for concrete steps to be taken to develop our R&D manpower in general and technical manpower in particular.

### II BUDGETARY ALLOCATION

2.1 During the Ninth Plan, the projected outlay for Secondary & Higher Education was Rs. 15,589.77 crore against which Rs. 7908.40 crore was approved. The Planning Commission, while making the annual plan allocations for the year 2001-2002 (i.e. Rs. 1920 crore) had assured to give due priority to the Education Sector as soon as the funds were available through disinvestment. However, instead of additional funds being provided to the Department, the BE

allocation of 2001-2002 was reduced to Rs. 1820 crore at RE stage. Similarly, the projected outlay for 2002-2003 has been Rs. 4223.37 crore, whereas approved Plan allocation is only Rs. 2125.00 crore. Non-Plan allocation for 2002-2003 is Rs. 2762.61 crore. This shows 10.7% growth in Plan/Non allocations as compared to last year's.

2.2 The Committee was informed that the Department had projected the requirement keeping in view various initiatives, including the expansion of Navodaya Vidyalayas, introduction of Information and Computer Technologies in Schools, Vocationalisation of Education, expansion of coverage under Distance Education, Development and Quality Upgradation of General, Higher and Technical Education etc. It was clarified that the allocation was much less than the projected requirements and was inadequate to achieve the proposed targets for educational development.

2.3 The Secretary emphasized that as compared to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in the Elementary Education Sector, no such corresponding project has come up in the Secondary Education Sector. Out of estimated two crore children entering the primary school system, only about 75 to 80 lakh children are able to appear in the high school and only twenty per cent of which are able to reach the intermediary stage. Similarly, in the University Education Sector, funding for UGC was not in accordance with the financial requirements of various universities.

2.4 The Committee has observed over the years that for various schemes under Secondary and Higher Education, BE is quite high which is drastically reduced at the RE stage due to either financial constraints or non-utilisation of funds owing to one reason or the other. However, what is more distressing to note is that even this reduced RE allocation is not fully utilised. Committee is perturbed to note that during 2000-01, BE allocation of Rs.600.00 crore for Secondary Education had to be reduced to Rs.574.44 crore at the RE stage and actual expenditure was Rs.554.03 crore. Situation seems to have worsened in 2001-02. BE allocation of Rs.653.00 crore was reduced to Rs.615.70 crores at RE stage and expenditure reported upto 28.2.02 is Rs.559.72 crore. Similarly, under University and Higher Education, during 2001-02 BE provision of Rs.575.00 crore was reduced to Rs.545.00 crore and expenditure reported upto 28.2.2002 is only Rs.425.60 crore.

2.5 The Committee, therefore, finds no convincing reason to support the requirement of more funds by the Department. The Committee must be satisfied with the Department's potential to make full and proper utilization of allocated funds. In most of the schemes/projects it has come across that substantial funds are lying with State Governments/NGOs and no UCs are forthcoming from them for years together. The Committee does not know whether these funds have been utilized at all. The Department has to do a serious thinking on this and take necessary remedial measures at the earliest for proper implementation of the schemes.

2.6 Attention of the Committee has been drawn to the heading, 'Convergence of Schemes in Secondary Education Bureau', which, interalia, states:

"At present there are ten Centrally sponsored schemes in Secondary Education Bureau. Most of these schemes are running since the formation of National Policy on Education in 1986. Experience of implementation/reviews/evaluation of these schemes indicate that they need modifications and strengthening. Some of the schemes have more or less similar objectives and could be grouped together or converged into a modified scheme."

The Committee wonders as to why these aspects could not be taken into consideration while starting new schemes. Instead of launching a new scheme, care should have been taken to modify the existing scheme by adding the new components in the light of experiences/evaluation/reviews etc. It is better to have limited number of schemes and properly monitor them rather than having too many overlapping or similar schemes under different names without proper monitoring or accountability.

2.7 The Committee, however, feels satisfied to some extent that the Department has now amalgamated some of its identical/overlapping schemes under the new schemes of 'Quality Improvements in Schools', 'Information, Communication Technologies in Schools' etc. The Committee desires that similar exercise may be undertaken in respect of other identical schemes, if any.

### III SECONDARY EDUCATION

#### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING (NCERT)

3.1 NCERT is an apex resource organisation to assist and advise the Central and the State Governments on academic matters related to school education. In order to provide appropriate responses to educational challenges in school education and national concerns, the implementation of National Curriculum Framework for School Education, Sarva

Shiksha Abhiyan, Value Education, alternative schooling, use of information technology and teacher education received special attention during 2001-2002.

3.2 Plan allocation for NCERT in 2002-03 is Rs.12.60 crore. The Committee notes that in NCERT non-utilisation rate of plan fund had been 25%, 28.57%, 25.62% and 48.48% in 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (till February end) respectively. The Committee fails to understand the inherent constraints being faced by NCERT in making optimum utilisation of plan funds. The Committee would like to be apprised of the position in this regard.

3.3 The Committee is given to understand that NCERT has completed review of 10 year old National Curriculum Framework and has brought out the National Curriculum Framework during November, 2000 which was also circulated to all the State governments/UTs and Boards etc., for their consideration. However, the Committee is constrained to note that before finalising the National Curriculum Framework, Central Advisory Board on Education (CABE) was not consulted. What is more surprising is that CABE which is an apex body on Education, has not so far been reconstituted after its term expired in March, 1994. The Committee does not find any valid reason for not reconstituting such an important body after March, 1994. The Committee, therefore, once again reiterates its earlier recommendation that CABE should be reconstituted at the earliest.

#### IV KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGTHAN

4.1 KVS was set-up in 1965 as a registered body wholly financed by Govt. to establish, control and manage Kendriya Vidyalayas, the main objectives of which are to meet the educational needs of the children of transferable Central Govt. employees. The Sangathan administers 849 Kendriya Vidyalayas located in different parts of the country, out of which 706 Vidyalayas are in the Defence/Civil Sector and the remaining are under the project sector.

4.2 The Committee has been informed that out of 706 Vidyalayas in Defence/Civil Sector, 457 Vidyalayas are operating from permanent buildings and construction work is in progress in respect of 106 Vidyalayas. Besides that, there are still 92 Kendriya Vidyalayas in respect of which land is yet to be transferred which are in Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, UP, Uttranchal and W. Bengal.

4.3 The Committee is not happy to learn that land in respect of 92 KVs has not been transferred to the KVS by the State Govts./UTs. The Department has not responded to a query by the Committee that since when the issue of transfer of land has been pending with the State Govts/UTs. The Committee also feels that the Department has failed to pursue effectively with the concerned State Govts/UTs for transfer of land for KVs as per the terms and conditions of their opening. The matter needs to be pursued more vigorously, even at higher level, if need be. The Committee would also urge upon the concerned States/UTs to expedite the transfer of land in the interest of education of children.

4.4 The Committee understands that there has been great demand for opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas both under Civil and Defence Sector. At present, 31 proposals are pending from various sponsoring agencies. The Committee is, however, perturbed to find that there has not been any increase in the number of Vidyalayas during the Ninth Plan. Rather the total number of Vidyalayas has come down during this period. At the beginning of Ninth Plan (1997-98), the number of Vidyalayas was 874 and during the last year of the Plan (2001-02), the number of Vidyalayas stands at 849.

4.5 Fund-constraint has been cited as the major reason for new Vidyalayas not being opened. However, the Committee observes that during 2001-02, non-plan allocation of Rs.515.00 crore was reduced to Rs.481.14 crore at the RE stage as unspent balance of Rs.33.86 crore from 2000-01 was adjusted. Similarly, under Plan during 2001-02, unspent amount of Rs.11.27 crore of 2000-01 was adjusted. The Committee views this with serious concern and recommends that concerted efforts should be made to make optimum utilization of funds during the year itself.

4.6 The Committee understands that some Project-Sector Vidyalayas are facing financial crisis. The Committee apprehends that poor financial condition of Public Sector Undertakings might have led to the closing down of some Project-Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas. The Committee would like to be apprised about the number of Vidyalayas closed during the Ninth Plan. The Committee strongly feels that this issue should be sorted out at the earliest. Either the administrative Ministries of the defaulting sponsoring agencies or the Department should provide funds for such Vidyalayas.

#### V NAVODAYA VIDYALAYA SAMITI (NVS)

5.1 Basic aim of Navodaya Vidyalayas is to provide good quality education to the talented children particularly from the rural areas. At present, there are 468 sanctioned and 432 functional JNVs covering as many districts in 33 States/UTs. During Tenth Plan, the Samiti proposes to acquire built up accommodation or construct permanent office buildings for its Headquarters Office, ten Regional Offices and 10 training centres. The Samiti also proposes to expand sports activities, computer education programme, vocational courses etc. during Tenth Plan. It is also proposed to start ten schools for gifted children.

5.2 The Committee is constrained to note that during the entire Ninth Plan, out of proposed sanction of 94 JNVs fixed, only 74 JNVs were sanctioned. Similarly, out of the physical target of 108 JNVs to be made functional, only 58 could be achieved. Moreover, the targets of admission of children in JNVs, building works to be completed etc remained far behind the set targets.

5.3 The Department has informed that the target of opening of 94 JNVs during the Ninth Plan could not be achieved due to non-submission of suitable proposals by the concerned State Governments. The Committee is of the view that the target could have been easily achieved if a decision to relax the requirement of land from 30 acres to 10 acres was taken earlier and efforts were made to achieve the target from the very beginning than making last minute efforts. The Committee is of the considered view that necessary action should be taken to open at least one NV in each district of the country (except the states of Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, which have not so far accepted the scheme).

5.4 The Committee also observes that out of 128 JNVs, construction work of 33 JNVs were completed and the remaining 95 JNVs could not be completed due to disturbances and other problems in hard areas like Manipur, J&K etc. 26 JNVs are to be completed by the end of March 2002. The Committee has been informed that construction work is being monitored by Executive Engineers posted in eight Regional Offices all over the country. The Committee, in this respect, suggests that targets should be fixed after due consultation with the implementing agencies and there should be proper monitoring so that JNVs work more effectively.

5.5 The Committee has also been informed that there are 118 JNVs where admission of 80 students in every class has not been maintained due to shortage of accommodation. Out of this, there are 105 schools where admission is restricted to 40 students and in remaining 13 schools there is no admission in Class VI. In the view of the Committee, it is not a healthy situation because even the very limited seats, i.e., total 80 in each class that too not in all districts are not being filled up due to shortage of accommodation. The Committee desires that the Department need to take the matter seriously and come out with a suitable proposal in this regard.

5.6 The Committee understands that most of the NVs are located in secluded places far from the main city/town and some of them are not connected by proper roads. This causes a lot of inconvenience to students and parents of such schools, particularly in rainy season. The Committee recommends that such schools be identified and urgent steps be taken to connect them with the main road.

## VI VOCATIONALISATION OF EDUCATION

6.1 The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education is being implemented since 1988 and the revised programme is in operation since 1993. The Vocationalisation of Secondary Education provides for individual employability, reduce the mismatch between demand and supply of skilled manpower and provides an alternative for those pursuing higher education. The scheme is implemented by State/UT Governments. The scheme also provides financial assistance to NGOs and voluntary organisations for implementation of specific innovative projects. The scheme so far has created a massive infrastructure of 19455 sections in 6728 schools, thus providing for diversion of about 10 lakh students at the +2 level.

6.2 The Committee has been given to understand that originally the aim of vocational education was to divert 25% of the students after 10+2 towards it. However, till now it has remained a distant dream. The Committee also notes that even though there are 169 NGOs for whom grants were released yet in Andhra Pradesh, J&K, Haryana, Meghalaya, Sikkim & Andaman and Nicobar Islands, no NGO has been given any grants since 1999-2000. In reply to a query as to why proposals are received late from the State Governments/UTs and processing of those proposals towards the end of the financial year resulting in last minute rush of spending, the Department stated that although a mechanism exists for submission of suitable proposals, yet in most cases the delay occurs mainly because of lack of complete information from the State Govts.

6.3 The Committee is of the view that the present mechanism is not effective and needs to be suitably modified in the light of the present difficulties so that proposals are received and processed by the Department well in time and the

scheme is properly implemented.

6.4 The Committee also feels that the scheme has not been able to achieve its objective of popularizing vocational courses and lighten the burden on formal education. Vocational education has still not become popular amongst prospective candidates. Most of them are not aware of various courses offered by the Institutes due to lack of sufficient publicity. Even those who are pursuing these courses are not sure about their future. The Committee would like to have the percentage of placements/self-employed candidates through vocational courses during the last three years.

## VII ASSISTANCE FOR STRENGTHENING CULTURE AND VALUES IN EDUCATION

7.1 The Committee has been informed that BE 2001-2002 for this Scheme was Rs. 930.00 lakhs which was reduced to Rs. 200.00 lakhs at RE stage. However, the utilization was Rs. 193.00 lakhs which works out to less than 25% of the BE 2001-2002. It has also been informed that there is a proposal to revise this scheme in the Tenth Plan. The revision is for enhancement of scope and coverage. The existing scheme covers the formal and non-formal system of education at school level and covers a limited number of activities. The new scheme proposes to cover all aspects of education from pre-primary to higher level including technical, management and distance education in tune with the changing scenario. The assistance is sanctioned within a ceiling of Rs. 5 lakhs which is also proposed to be raised.

7.2 From the list of organisations/agencies provided with assistance during the Ninth Plan, the Committee has observed that in many cases allocation of funds has been very unsteady. Several NGOs such as Ram Krishna Mission, Udayalay, Agartala, Islamic Educational Development Organisation, Manipur, Gurukirpa Education Society, Bangalore, Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, New Delhi, Shri Rama Krishna Ashram, Kalahandi etc have not received any grants since 1999-2000. The Committee expresses its concern over such erratic fundings. The Committee is given to understand that a Committee was set up by the Government of India (Department of Education) to Operationalise the Suggestions to Teach Fundamental Duties to the Citizens of the Country, which was headed by Justice J.S. Verma, Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission and Former Chief Justice of India on documentation of work done by individuals, institutions including NGOs on Value Education. It may be noted that the Committee in its report submitted on October 31<sup>st</sup> 1999 has remarked that the work of 4 NGOs, namely Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Auroville of Aurobindo Ashram, Sankalp and Interfaith have done very good work on preparing material on Value Education. The Committee, therefore, recommends that NGOs who are doing good work in certain areas and whose track records for last several years have been proved should be encouraged. The Committee also finds that some of the NGOs like SNEH, Bhubaneshwar, Sankalp, Puri, RIMSE, Mysore, SPIC-MACAY, Delhi Institute of Peace Research and Action, Delhi and some other institutes have been sanctioned grants-in-aid much more than the prescribed ceiling of Rs.5 lakh in certain years. In case of SPIC-MACAY, Delhi, it is as high as Rs.15 lakh in 1999-2000, Rs.20 lakh in 2000-2001 and Rs. 52 lakh in 2001-2002. The Committee would like to know the reasons for excess grants in each case.

## VIII INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN SCHOOLS (ICT)

8.1 The Scheme of Information and Communication Technologies in schools marks a merger of two existing schemes of the Department such as Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) and Education Technology Programme (INSAT CELL). Under the ICT programme, financial assistance will be provided to State Institutes of Education Technology for production of education programmes.

8.2 The Committee has been given to understand that CLASS project which was introduced in the year 1984-85 was to be phased out as it was basically 'supply driven' and there was little involvement of teachers and students with the Scheme. As a result, progress of the Scheme has remained slow. The Committee feels that merger of schemes and starting a new scheme would be of little help unless there is a sense of commitment and proper monitoring. It, however, hopes that the new Scheme would be properly implemented.

## IX INTEGRATED EDUCATION FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

9.1 This Centrally-sponsored scheme aims at providing educational opportunities to disabled children in schools to facilitate their retention and ultimate integration in the general school system. Under the scheme, 100% financial assistance is provided to States/UTs/NGOs for educating this target group with the specially trained teachers. The Committee has been informed that as against the Ninth Plan projection of coverage of 90,000 children, a total of 1,35,088 children have already been covered till date and is expected to go further by the end of 2001-2002. However, what is disturbing for the Committee is that during the entire Ninth Plan, against a plan outlay of Rs. 100 crores, actual allocation was only Rs. 75.10 crore and out of it, only Rs. 66.34 crore has been spent till 21.02.2002. This shows under-



utilisation of funds.

9.2 The Committee also finds that the implementation of the Scheme is not uniform in every State. While some States like Kerala, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa have been implementing the Scheme successfully, others are lagging. Lack of awareness and lack of sensitisation towards the needs of children with disabilities and old mindsets have been cited as the two main reasons for lack of involvement on the part of some States. There is no release of funds to the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Manipur and Punjab during 2001-2002. The amount of funds released to big States like Bihar (Rs.12.54 lakh), Maharashtra (Rs.3.68 lakh), U.P. (Rs.37.86 lakh) and West Bengal (Rs.31.26 lakh) during 2001-2002 gives an impression that the scheme is not being properly implemented.

9.3 The Committee, however, notes that as a result of persistent efforts made by the Department, increasing demand has been noticed both from the States as well as NGOs during 2001-2002. Proposals worth Rs.6.00 crores are pending with the Department and will be considered during 2002-03. Besides that, implementation of IEDC through DPEP has been initiated in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Orissa and West Bengal.

9.4 The Committee has been informed that the Scheme was last revised in 1992. It is now proposed to revise the Scheme once again to strengthen the training and monitoring components, enhance financial norms for facilities to children with disability and making the Scheme more comprehensive by adding more components. The Committee notes that NCERT was expected to submit the State-wise evaluation and impact report on the IEDC by March, 2002. The Committee suggests that at the time of revision, all inputs received so far during the implementation of the Scheme, including the one as to why the Scheme is not doing well in certain States need to be given due consideration. If necessary, the States could also be taken into confidence because it is ultimately the States who have to implement the Scheme.

## X IMPROVEMENT OF SCIENCE EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

10.1 Under the scheme of 'Improvement of Science Education in Schools', 100% assistance is provided to the States/UTs for provision of science kits to upper primary schools, upgradation of science labs and library facilities in secondary/senior secondary schools and training of science and mathematics teachers.

10.2 Last year, the Committee had pointed out that there was a need for having an effective in-built monitoring mechanism. The Committee has been informed that monitoring of the Scheme is done through quarterly statements furnished by State Govts., indicating details of the schools covered with Central assistance. However, in practice it has been observed that quarterly reports have not been coming from most of the States/UTs except UT of Pondicherry which is sending such reports regularly. The Committee views this as very serious because in the absence of quarterly reports from State Govts., it is not possible to assess whether the Scheme is being implemented properly. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Department must find a solution to this so that quarterly reports are regularly received from the States.

10.3 The Committee has also been informed that no financial assistance was provided to Chattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and A&N Islands during 2000-2001. In 2001-2002, no financial grant has been given to the States of Andhra Pradesh, J&K, Orissa, Punjab and Tripura. Only 14 NGOs of, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, UP, W. Bengal and NCT of Delhi have been allocated funds. The Committee is not satisfied with the implementation of the Scheme and recommends that necessary remedial measures should be taken.

10.4 The Committee understands that a composite scheme of 'Quality Improvement in Schools' will be launched during 2002-2003 in which support to science education will be one of the components. The Committee would like to emphasise that all the inherent flaws noticed in the Scheme of Improvement of Science Education in Schools' and the other schemes to be brought under the Scheme of Quality Improvement in Schools should be taken care of from the initial year only.

## XI UNIVERSITY AND HIGHER EDUCATION

11.1 At present, there are 17 Central Universities, 52 deemed Universities, 176 State Universities and 12,342 colleges. There were 80.00 lakh students and 3.95 lakh teachers in Universities and Colleges during 2000-2001.

### UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

11.2 The Committee has been informed that BE 2001-2002 allocation for UGC was Rs. 1490.76 crore which got reduced to Rs. 1456.46 crore at RE stage. This was reduced by Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission, keeping in view the economy instructions issued in this regard and constraints of funds.

11.3 The Committee notes that against the projected demand of Rs. 600.61 crore under Plan for 2001-02, UGC was allocated an amount of Rs. 460.08 crore. Against RE allocation of Rs. 435.78 crore, expenditure reported upto 28.2.02 is only Rs. 345.06 crore. The Committee observes that in 2000-01 also the position was the same. However, by the end of the financial year, funds were fully utilized. The Committee feels that like in 2000-01, allocated funds will be fully utilized in 2001-02 also. The Committee would, however, like to be apprised about the reasons for major amount of allocated funds being spent in the last month of the financial year.

11.4 The Committee has also been informed that there are large number of vacancies in teaching as well as non-teaching posts in Central and Deemed Universities. Situation is worst in case of Banaras Hindu University where 660 teaching posts and 1292 non-teaching posts were vacant till September 2001. Situation in other Universities was no better. The Department has stated that the Vice-Chancellors of all the Central Universities were advised by the UGC on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2001 to take immediate steps for filling up the vacant teaching posts. It has also been stated that the process of permanent appointment in Central Universities is quite time consuming as it involves a large number of formalities. As regards vacant non-teaching posts, there is a ban on filling up of these posts. The Committee feels the urgency of filling the teaching posts at the earliest. It is also not convinced that there are vacancies because of time-consuming process. In case it is so, necessary remedial measures should have been taken in this regard. The Committee, therefore, recommends that necessary steps be taken, without further delay, to fill up the vacant posts so that teaching is not adversely affected for want of sufficient teachers.

11.5 The Committee had earlier noted that payment of arrears to University College Teachers has been pending for quite some time and asked the Department to look into the matter. In reply, the Department has informed the Committee that vide its letter dated the 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2001, all the State Govts. were requested to confirm as to whether the Central share of assistance released to them was actually utilized for revision of pay scales of teachers in the State. It has been further stated that the State Govts. of Orissa, Goa, Tamil Nadu and Mizoram have so far confirmed that arrears have been paid to the teachers. The rest of the State Govts have not yet responded. They have been reminded in the matter.

11.6 The Committee is not happy with this situation. It regrets that it is almost a year now and the Department has not been able to obtain the information regarding utilization of its funds by the State Govts. Everything is going on mechanically. The Committee, while expressing its displeasure with this sorry state of affairs, wishes that the issue may be taken up with the State Govts. (who have yet to submit the requisite information to the Department) in a time-bound manner. If they fail to respond even then, they may be asked to return the released funds. The Committee may be apprised of the position from time to time.

## XII RURAL UNIVERSITIES/NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RURAL INSTITUTES (NCRI)

12.1 NCRI was set up by the Central Govt. in October, 1995 at Hyderabad to promote rural higher education on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi's revolutionary ideas on education and to consolidate, network and develop institutions engaged in programmes of Gandhian Basic Education and Nai Talim.

12.2 The Committee is perturbed to note that even though the Council was set up in 1995, it is still in formative stage. Plan allocation in BE 2001-2002 was Rs. 90.00 lakhs but at RE stage there was no allocation. The Department has stated that this happened due to availability of unspent balance to the tune of Rs. 5.00 crore approximately at the closing of the financial year 2001-2002. As a result, plan allocation in BE 2002-03 has been kept at only Rs. 81.00 lakhs. This shows that funds remained unutilized. The Committee has also been given to understand that the Council could not become fully operationalised due to non-availability of regular staff. Presently, there is only one regular post of Stenographer in the Council and its activities are being carried out by engaging few consultants.

12.3 The Committee has been informed that the Department has prepared Tenth Plan document for phased development of the Council. A Cabinet note for the creation of a post of full time Chairman has been sent to Ministry of Finance. EFC proposal for making the Council fully operational by creation of posts, expansion of its activities and acquisition of land and building is under process. The Council will become fully functional after regular staff is put in position with the approval of EFC and Tenth Five Year Plan document.

12.4 The Committee expresses its deep concern that till now land and building for NCRI has not been acquired and it is still under process with the Ministry. It is not having regular staff. Because of all these funds have not been released to the Council during the last 4-5 years. It seems whatever expenditure is being incurred by the Council is being adjusted against the unspent balances available with it. The Committee recommends that all procedural formalities in this regard should be expedited and the Council may be fully operationalised without further loss of time.

### XIII TECHNICAL EDUCATION

13.1 Over the years, the Committee has observed that under utilization of funds allocated for Technical Education has become a regular practice under some of the Organisations/Schemes.

13.2 The Committee has been informed that out of 516 Community Polytechnics in the country as on 31.3.2000, the amount of unspent balances with them till 1.3.2001 was Rs. 1435.25 lakh. Unspent balance was Rs. 193.43 lakh in UP alone. Situation in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu was also no better. What is furthermore surprising is the fact that upto the year 1998-99, 379 utilisation certificates were pending with various States/UTs. The Department has informed the Committee that it is making all efforts to liquidate all the pending UCs by 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2002. The Committee takes note of this and hopes that the Department would take suitable remedial steps in this regard to avoid too many pending UCs with the States/UTs in future.

13.3 The Committee also observes that BE allocation of Rs. 108.42 crore in 2001-02 for the All India Council of Technical Education was drastically reduced to Rs. 81.75 crore at RE stage and the expenditure reported upto 28.2.02 is only Rs. 18.07 crores. The Committee fails to understand the rationale behind such drastic reduction in the funds allocated to AICTE and that too remaining grossly underutilized. There must be valid reasons for the same. The Committee would like to be enlightened in this regard.

13.4 The Committee has been given to understand that a large number of fake technical institutions continue to function in the country. Of them, only 41 cases have been so far brought to the notice of Malpractices Cell set up by AICTE. The Committee is of the view that presently, AICTE does not have sufficient powers to deal with fake institutions. The reply of the Department in this regard is self-speaking which, interalia, states as under :

“Since the AICTE Act, 1987 does not have any punitive provision to deal with such fake institutions, the Council (AICTE) could not take any direct action against such institutions operating in the country.”

The Committee, therefore, feels that it will be difficult for the AICTE to deal effectively with the fake institutions, whose number is increasing day by day, if it is not provided sufficient powers under the relevant statute. The Committee, therefore, recommends that necessary action may be initiated in this regard as early as possible.

### XIV DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGES

#### KENDRIYA HINDI SHIKSHAN MANDAL

14.1 KHSM, Agra, an autonomous organisation fully financed by the Government of India under the control of Ministry of HRD was established in 1960. It has been observed that Plan allocation at BE 2001-2002 for it was Rs. 4.25 crore which was increased to Rs. 5.70 crore at RE stage keeping in view the proposed construction of boys and girls Hostels for foreign students at KHSM, Agra. However, it has now been stated that due to late receipt of the estimates and plan documents for the purpose, Rs. 1.45 crore allocated at the RE stage is not likely to be utilised during 2001-2002. The Committee is disturbed to note that due to late completion of formalities, funds could not be released. The Committee feels that procedural formalities should have been completed before making budgetary provisions.

14.2 The Committee is further informed that in the year 1999-2000 in the Central Hindi Directorate, New Delhi, as per CAG report, there is infructuous expenditure of printing of books for sale to the tune of Rs. 69,74,735. It is now seen that Internal Audit Wing, Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry is settling the para in consultation with the concerned Bureau. The Committee hopes that it would be settled at the earliest.

### XV DEVELOPMENT OF SANSKRIT EDUCATION IN STATES/UTS

100% financial assistance is given through State Govts. for eminent Sanskrit Scholars in indigent circumstances, scholarships to students, modernization of Sanskrit Pathshalas etc. Plan allocation of Rs. 11.71 crore has been proposed for this Scheme in 2002-03. The Committee observes that BE allocation of Rs. 10.50 crore in 2001-02 was

increased to Rs. 14.00 crore at RE stage. The Committee is, however, constrained to note that against the enhanced RE provision, expenditure reported upto 28.2.02 is only Rs. 8.62 crore. During 2000-01 also, allocated funds remained underutilized, it was almost one-third of the RE allocation. In view of the trend of underutilization noticed during the Ninth Plan, the Committee is inclined to believe that somehow majority of States have not come forward to take benefit of this Scheme. The Committee would like to be enlightened in this regard.

## XVI GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS

16.1 National Scholarship Scheme and the Scheme of Scholarship at the Secondary stage for Talented children from Rural areas are the two schemes under which grants are sanctioned to States/UTs based on projection/actual expenditure incurred.

16.2 The Committee observes that during the first four years of the Ninth Plan against an allocation of Rs. 5.25 crore, expenditure was only Rs. 3.17 crore. During the last year of the Plan, i.e. 2001-02, Plan allocation of Rs. 3.00 crore was reduced to Rs. 80.00 lakhs at the RE stage and expenditure reported upto 28.2.02 is only Rs. 5.54 lakhs. Very low scholarship amount, procedural bottlenecks and several scholarships of other Departments/State Govts. carrying higher scholarship amounts have been cited as the main reasons for this dismal performance of the Schemes.

16.3 The Committee understands that expenditure incurred by a State Govt. under these Schemes upto the end of the previous Plan period is the State liability limit and the Centre finances only the excess expenditure over and above this limit. The Committee strongly feels that this provision may be the main reason for non-popularity of the Scholarship Schemes amongst the States/UTs. The Committee notes that after a review of these Schemes, a decision has been taken to revise the Schemes, increasing Scholarship amount, number of scholarships, making the rates uniform, simplifying procedures, making it 100% centrally assisted. Revised schemes are proposed to be implemented from Tenth Plan. Welcoming the revision, the Committee would like to point out that concerted efforts should be made to give maximum publicity to these Scholarship Schemes in States/UTs so that the really needy students can be benefited.

## XVII GENERAL OBSERVATION WITH REGARD TO DELAY IN FURNISHING PAPERS.

All papers pertaining to the Action Taken Note, should be furnished to the Committee within the stipulated time. Every effort should be made to adhere to the deadline. In case, it is not feasible for the Department to furnish the papers within the deadline due to some genuine reason/unavoidable circumstances, specific permission of the Chairman/Committee should invariably be obtained in advance. The Committee has taken a serious note of the fact that the Action Taken Note from the Department, which should have been furnished within three months of the presentation of the relevant Report, was received by it after 7-8 months and that too after repeated verbal reminders from the Secretariat. The Committee hopes that the Department will be guided by the above procedure in future.

## OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS AT A GLANCE

### II BUDGETARY ALLOCATION

The Committee has observed over the years that for various schemes under Secondary and Higher Education, BE is quite high which is drastically reduced at the RE stage due to either financial constraints or non-utilisation of funds owing to one reason or the other. However, what is more distressing to note is that even this reduced RE allocation is not fully utilised. Committee is perturbed to note that during 2000-01, BE allocation of Rs.600.00 crore for Secondary Education had to be reduced to Rs.574.44 crore at the RE stage and actual expenditure was Rs.554.03 crore. Situation seems to have worsened in 2001-02. BE allocation of Rs.653.00 crore was reduced to Rs.615.70 crores at RE stage and expenditure reported upto 28.2.02 is Rs.559.72 crore. Similarly, under University and Higher Education, during 2001-02 BE provision of Rs.575.00 crore was reduced to Rs.545.00 crore and expenditure reported upto 28.2.2002 is only Rs.425.60 crore. (Para 2.4)

The Committee, therefore, finds no convincing reason to support the requirement of more funds by the Department. The Committee must be satisfied with the Department's potential to make full and proper utilization of allocated funds. In most of the schemes/projects it has come across that substantial funds are lying with State Governments/NGOs and no UCs are forthcoming from them for years together. The Committee does not know whether these funds have been utilized at all. The Department has to do a serious thinking on this and take necessary remedial measures at the earliest for proper implementation of the schemes. (Para 2.4)

The Committee wonders as to why these aspects could not be taken into consideration while starting new schemes. Instead of launching a new scheme, care should have been taken to modify the existing scheme by adding the new components in the light of experiences/evaluation/reviews etc. It is better to have limited number of schemes and properly monitor them rather than having too many overlapping or similar schemes under different names without proper monitoring or accountability. (Para 2.4)

The Committee, however, feels satisfied to some extent that the Department has now amalgamated some of its identical/overlapping schemes under the new schemes of 'Quality Improvements in Schools', 'Information, Communication Technologies in Schools' etc. The Committee desires that similar exercise may be undertaken in respect of other identical schemes, if any. (Para 2.4)

### III SECONDARY EDUCATION

#### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING (NCERT)

The Committee fails to understand the inherent constraints being faced by NCERT in making optimum utilisation of plan funds. The Committee would like to be apprised of the position in this regard. (Para 3.2)

However, the Committee is constrained to note that before finalising the National Curriculum Framework, Central Advisory Board on Education (CABE) was not consulted. What is more surprising is that CABE which is an apex body on Education, has not so far been reconstituted after its term expired in March, 1994. The Committee does not find any valid reason for not reconstituting such an important body after March, 1994. The Committee, therefore, once again reiterates its earlier recommendation that CABE should be reconstituted at the earliest. (Para 3.3)

### IV KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGTHAN

The Committee is not happy to learn that land in respect of 92 KVs has not been transferred to the KVS by the State Govts./UTs. The Department has not responded to a query by the Committee that since when the issue of transfer of land has been pending with the State Govts/UTs. The Committee also feels that the Department has failed to pursue effectively with the concerned State Govts/UTs for transfer of land for KVs as per the terms and conditions of their opening. The matter needs to be pursued more vigorously, even at higher level, if need be. The Committee would also urge upon the concerned States/UTs to expedite the transfer of land in the interest of education of children. (Para 4.3)

The Committee understands that there has been great demand for opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas both under Civil and Defence Sector. At present, 31 proposals are pending from various sponsoring agencies. The Committee is, however, perturbed to find that there has not been any increase in the number of Vidyalayas during the Ninth Plan. Rather the total number of Vidyalayas has come down during this period. At the beginning of Ninth Plan (1997-98), the number of Vidyalayas was 874 and during the last year of the Plan (2001-02), the number of Vidyalayas stands at 849. (Para 4.3)

Fund-constraint has been cited as the major reason for new Vidyalayas not being opened. However, the Committee observes that during 2001-02, non-plan allocation of Rs.515.00 crore was reduced to Rs.481.14 crore at the RE stage as unspent balance of Rs.33.86 crore from 2000-01 was adjusted. Similarly, under Plan during 2001-02, unspent amount of Rs.11.27 crore of 2000-01 was adjusted. The Committee views this with serious concern and recommends that concerted efforts should be made to make optimum utilization of funds during the year itself. (Para 4.5)

The Committee understands that some Project-Sector Vidyalayas are facing financial crisis. The Committee apprehends that poor financial condition of Public Sector Undertakings might have led to the closing down of some Project-Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas. The Committee would like to be apprised about the number of Vidyalayas closed during the Ninth Plan. The Committee strongly feels that this issue should be sorted out at the earliest. Either the administrative Ministries of the defaulting sponsoring agencies or the Department should provide funds for such Vidyalayas. (Para 4.6)

### V NAVODAYA VIDYALAYA SAMITI (NVS)

The Department has informed that the target of opening of 94 JNVs during the Ninth Plan could not be achieved due to non-submission of suitable proposals by the concerned State Governments. The Committee is of the view that the target could have been easily achieved if a decision to relax the requirement of land from 30 acres to 10 acres was taken earlier and efforts were made to achieve the target from the very beginning than making last minute efforts. The

Committee is of the considered view that necessary action should be taken to open at least one NV in each district of the country (except the states of Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, which have not so far accepted the scheme). (Para 5.3)

The Committee also observes that out of 128 JNVs, construction work of 33 JNVs were completed and the remaining 95 JNVs could not be completed due to disturbances and other problems in hard areas like Manipur, J&K etc. 26 JNVs are to be completed by the end of March 2002. The Committee has been informed that construction work is being monitored by Executive Engineers posted in eight Regional Offices all over the country. The Committee, in this respect, suggests that targets should be fixed after due consultation with the implementing agencies and there should be proper monitoring so that JNVs work more effectively. (Para 5.4)

In the view of the Committee, it is not a healthy situation because even the very limited seats, i.e., total 80 in each class that too not in all districts are not being filled up due to shortage of accommodation. The Committee desires that the Department need to take the matter seriously and come out with a suitable proposal in this regard. (Para 5.5)

The Committee understands that most of the NVs are located in secluded places far from the main city/town and some of them are not connected by proper roads. This causes a lot of inconvenience to students and parents of such schools, particularly in rainy season. The Committee recommends that such schools be identified and urgent steps be taken to connect them with the main road. (Para 5.6)

## VI VOCATIONALISATION OF EDUCATION

The Committee is of the view that the present mechanism is not effective and needs to be suitably modified in the light of the present difficulties so that proposals are received and processed by the Department well in time and the scheme is properly implemented. (Para 6.3)

The Committee also feels that the scheme has not been able to achieve its objective of popularizing vocational courses and lighten the burden on formal education. Vocational education has still not become popular amongst prospective candidates. Most of them are not aware of various courses offered by the Institutes due to lack of sufficient publicity. Even those who are pursuing these courses are not sure about their future. The Committee would like to have the percentage of placements/self-employed candidates through vocational courses during the last three years. (Para 6.4)

## VII ASSISTANCE FOR STRENGTHENING CULTURE AND VALUES IN EDUCATION

The Committee expresses its concern over such erratic fundings. The Committee is given to understand that a Committee was set up by the Government of India (Department of Education) to Operationalise the Suggestions to Teach Fundamental Duties to the Citizens of the Country, which was headed by Justice J.S. Verma, Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission and Former Chief Justice of India on documentation of work done by individuals, institutions including NGOs on Value Education. It may be noted that the Committee in its report submitted on October 31<sup>st</sup> 1999 has remarked that the work of 4 NGOs, namely Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Auroville of Aurobindo Ashram, Sankalp and Interfaith have done very good work on preparing material on Value Education. The Committee, therefore, recommends that NGOs who are doing good work in certain areas and whose track records for last several years have been proved should be encouraged. The Committee also finds that some of the NGOs like SNEH, Bhubaneswar, Sankalp, Puri, RIMSE, Mysore, SPIC-MACAY, Delhi Institute of Peace Research and Action, Delhi and some other institutes have been sanctioned grants-in-aid much more than the prescribed ceiling of Rs.5 lakh in certain years. In case of SPIC-MACAY, Delhi, it is as high as Rs.15 lakh in 1999-2000, Rs.20 lakh in 2000-2001 and Rs. 52 lakh in 2001-2002. The Committee would like to know the reasons for excess grants in each case. (Para 7.2)

## VIII INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN SCHOOLS (ICT)

The Committee feels that merger of schemes and starting a new scheme would be of little help unless there is a sense of commitment and proper monitoring. It, however, hopes that the new Scheme would be properly implemented. (Para 8.2)

## IX INTEGRATED EDUCATION FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

The Committee also finds that the implementation of the Scheme is not uniform in every State. While some States like Kerala, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa have been implementing the Scheme successfully, others are lagging. Lack of awareness and lack of sensitisation towards the needs of children with disabilities and old mindsets have been cited as the two main reasons for lack of involvement on the part of some

States. There is no release of funds to the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Manipur and Punjab during 2001-2002. The amount of funds released to big States like Bihar (Rs.12.54 lakh), Maharashtra (Rs.3.68 lakh), U.P. (Rs.37.86 lakh) and West Bengal (Rs.31.26 lakh) during 2001-2002 gives an impression that the scheme is not being properly implemented. (Para 9.2)

The Committee, however, notes that as a result of persistent efforts made by the Department, increasing demand has been noticed both from the States as well as NGOs during 2001-2002. Proposals worth Rs.6.00 crores are pending with the Department and will be considered during 2002-03. Besides that, implementation of IEDC through DPEP has been initiated in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Orissa and West Bengal. (Para 9.3)

The Committee notes that NCERT was expected to submit the State-wise evaluation and impact report on the IEDC by March, 2002. The Committee suggests that at the time of revision, all inputs received so far during the implementation of the Scheme, including the one as to why the Scheme is not doing well in certain States need to be given due consideration. If necessary, the States could also be taken into confidence because it is ultimately the States who have to implement the Scheme. (Para 9.4)

## X IMPROVEMENT OF SCIENCE EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

The Committee views this as very serious because in the absence of quarterly reports from State Govts., it is not possible to assess whether the Scheme is being implemented properly. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Department must find a solution to this so that quarterly reports are regularly received from the States. (Para 10.2)

The Committee is not satisfied with the implementation of the Scheme and recommends that necessary remedial measures should be taken. (Para 10.3)

The Committee understands that a composite scheme of 'Quality Improvement in Schools' will be launched during 2002-2003 in which support to science education will be one of the components. The Committee would like to emphasise that all the inherent flaws noticed in the Scheme of Improvement of Science Education in Schools' and the other schemes to be brought under the Scheme of Quality Improvement in Schools should be taken care of from the initial year only. (Para 10.4)

## XI UNIVERSITY AND HIGHER EDUCATION

The Committee notes that against the projected demand of Rs. 600.61 crore under Plan for 2001-02, UGC was allocated an amount of Rs. 460.08 crore. Against RE allocation of Rs. 435.78 crore, expenditure reported upto 28.2.02 is only Rs. 345.06 crore. The Committee observes that in 2000-01 also the position was the same. However, by the end of the financial year, funds were fully utilized. The Committee feels that like in 2000-01, allocated funds will be fully utilized in 2001-02 also. The Committee would, however, like to be apprised about the reasons for major amount of allocated funds being spent in the last month of the financial year. (Para 11.3)

The Committee feels the urgency of filling the teaching posts at the earliest. It is also not convinced that there are vacancies because of time-consuming process. In case it is so, necessary remedial measures should have been taken in this regard. The Committee, therefore, recommends that necessary steps be taken, without further delay, to fill up the vacant posts so that teaching is not adversely affected for want of sufficient teachers. (Para 11.5)

The Committee is not happy with this situation. It regrets that it is almost a year now and the Department has not been able to obtain the information regarding utilization of its funds by the State Govts. Everything is going on mechanically. The Committee, while expressing its displeasure with this sorry state of affairs, wishes that the issue may be taken up with the State Govts. (who have yet to submit the requisite information to the Department) in a time-bound manner. If they fail to respond even then, they may be asked to return the released funds. The Committee may be apprised of the position from time to time. (Para 11.6)

## XII RURAL UNIVERSITIES/NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RURAL INSTITUTES (NCRI)

The Committee recommends that all procedural formalities in this regard should be expedited and the Council may be fully operationalised without further loss of time. (Para 12.4)

## XIII TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Committee takes note of this and hopes that the Department would take suitable remedial steps in this regard to avoid too many pending UCs with the States/UTs in future. (Para 13.2)

The Committee also observes that BE allocation of Rs. 108.42 crore in 2001-02 for the All India Council of Technical Education was drastically reduced to Rs. 81.75 crore at RE stage and the expenditure reported upto 28.2.02 is only Rs. 18.07 crores. The Committee fails to understand the rationale behind such drastic reduction in the funds allocated to AICTE and that too remaining grossly underutilized. There must be valid reasons for the same. The Committee would like to be enlightened in this regard. (Para 13.2)

The Committee is of the view that presently, AICTE does not have sufficient powers to deal with fake institutions. The reply of the Department in this regard is self-speaking which, inter alia, states as under :

“Since the AICTE Act, 1987 does not have any punitive provision to deal with such fake institutions, the Council (AICTE) could not take any direct action against such institutions operating in the country.”

The Committee, therefore, feels that it will be difficult for the AICTE to deal effectively with the fake institutions, whose number is increasing day by day, if it is not provided sufficient powers under the relevant statute. The Committee, therefore, recommends that necessary action may be initiated in this regard as early as possible. (Para 13.4)

#### XIV DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGES

The Committee is disturbed to note that due to late completion of formalities, funds could not be released. The Committee feels that procedural formalities should have been completed before making budgetary provisions. (Para 14.1)

The Committee hopes that it would be settled at the earliest. (Para 14.2)

#### XV DEVELOPMENT OF SANSKRIT EDUCATION IN STATES/UTS

The Committee observes that BE allocation of Rs. 10.50 crore in 2001-02 was increased to Rs. 14.00 crore at RE stage. The Committee is, however, constrained to note that against the enhanced RE provision, expenditure reported upto 28.2.02 is only Rs. 8.62 crore. During 2000-01 also, allocated funds remained underutilized, it was almost one-third of the RE allocation. In view of the trend of underutilization noticed during the Ninth Plan, the Committee is inclined to believe that somehow majority of States have not come forward to take benefit of this Scheme. The Committee would like to be enlightened in this regard.

#### XVI GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Committee observes that during the first four years of the Ninth Plan against an allocation of Rs. 5.25 crore, expenditure was only Rs. 3.17 crore. During the last year of the Plan, i.e. 2001-02, Plan allocation of Rs. 3.00 crore was reduced to Rs. 80.00 lakhs at the RE stage and expenditure reported upto 28.2.02 is only Rs. 5.54 lakhs. Very low scholarship amount, procedural bottlenecks and several scholarships of other Departments/State Govts. carrying higher scholarship amounts have been cited as the main reasons for this dismal performance of the Schemes. (Para 16.2)

The Committee understands that expenditure incurred by a State Govt. under these Schemes upto the end of the previous Plan period is the State liability limit and the Centre finances only the excess expenditure over and above this limit. The Committee strongly feels that this provision may be the main reason for non-popularity of the Scholarship Schemes amongst the States/UTs. The Committee notes that after a review of these Schemes, a decision has been taken to revise the Schemes, increasing Scholarship amount, number of scholarships, making the rates uniform, simplifying procedures, making it 100% centrally assisted. Revised schemes are proposed to be implemented from Tenth Plan. Welcoming the revision, the Committee would like to point out that concerted efforts should be made to give maximum publicity to these Scholarship Schemes in States/UTs so that the really needy students can be benefited. (Para 16.3)

#### XVII GENERAL OBSERVATION WITH REGARD TO DELAY IN FURNISHING PAPERS.

The Committee has taken a serious note of the fact that the Action Taken Note from the Department, which should have been furnished within three months of the presentation of the relevant Report, was received by it after 7-8 months and that too after repeated verbal reminders from the Secretariat. The Committee hopes that the Department will be guided by the above procedure in future.

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### MINUTES



**\* VII****SEVENTH MEETING**

The Committee met at 10.00 A.M. on Tuesday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2002 in Committee Room 139, First Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

1. Shri S.B. Chavan            ¾¾            Chairman

**RAJYA SABHA**

2. Shri Eduardo Faleiro
3. Shri Karnendu Bhattacharjee
4. Shri Bachani Lekhraj
5. Shri B.P. Apte
6. Prof. R.B.S. Varma
7. Smt. Vanga Geetha

**LOK SABHA**

8. Shri S.B.P.B.K. Satyanarayana Rao
9. Shri Kirti Jha Azad
10. Shri Baliram Kashyap
11. Shrimati Jaskaur Meena
12. Shri Shankar Prasad Jaiswal
13. Dr. N. Venkataswamy
14. Shri G. S. Baswaraj
15. Shri Samik Lahiri
16. Dr. M. Jagannath
17. Shri Davendra Singh Yadav
18. Shri Ram Rati Bind
19. Shri Shriniwas Patil
20. Shri Ramesheth Thakur

**REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION (MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT)**

1. Shri B.K. Chaturvedi, Secretary
2. Prof. Ashok Chandra , Special Secretary
3. Smt. Kumud Bansal, Additional Secretary
4. Shri S.P. Gaur, Joint Secretary
5. Shri V.S. Pandey, Joint Secretary
6. Shri M.M. Jha, Joint Secretary
7. Shri C. Balarishnan, Joint Secretary
8. Smt. Bela Banerji, Joint Secretary
9. Shri V.K.Pipersenia, JS&FA
10. Mrs. Archana Nigam, CCA
11. Dr. Hari Gautam, Chairman, UGC
12. Dr. R. Natrajan, Chairman, AICTE
13. Prof. J.S. Rajput, Director NCERT

**SECRETARIAT**

Shrimati. Vandana Garg, Director  
Shri C. B. Rai, Under Secretary  
Shri Ratan Kumar Sahoo, Research Officer  
Shri P. Narayanan, Committee Officer

2. At the outset, the members of the Committee thanked the Chairman for his able stewardship and guidance during his term of Chairmanship and wished him well after his retirement from Rajya Sabha. The Chairman then expressed his gratitude to the members of the Committee for their cooperation and also thanked the Secretariat for helping him in discharging his functions effectively.

3. The Committee, thereafter, heard the oral evidence of the Secretary of the Department of Secondary and Higher Education in connection with the examination of Demands-for- Grants for the year 2002-2003. Members put queries which the representatives replied.

3A. A verbatim record of the proceedings was kept.

4. The Committee, then, adjourned at 1.00 P.M. for lunch to meet again at 10.00 A.M. on Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2002.

## X TENTH MEETING

The Committee met at 3.30 P.M. on Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2002 in Committee Room No. 63, First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

### MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Shri Arjun Singh  $\frac{3}{4}$  Chairman

### **RAJYA SABHA**

2. Shri Eduardo Faleiro  
3. Shri Bachani Lekhraj  
4. Dr. Akhtar Hasan Rizvi  
5. Shri M.P. Abdussamad Samadani

### **LOK SABHA**

6. Shri Baliram Kashyap  
7. Shri G.J. Javiya  
8. Shri Punnu Lal Mohale  
9. Shri A.F. Golam Osmani  
10. Dr. M. Jagannath  
11. Shri Ram Rati Bind  
12. Kumari Bhavana Pundlikrao Gawali  
13. Dr. Ranjit Kumar Panja  
14. Shri Shriniwas Patil  
15. Shri Ramesheth Thakur

### SECRETARIAT

Shri Satish Kumar, Additional Secretary  
Shrimati. Vandana Garg, Director  
Shri C. B. Rai, Under Secretary  
Shri Ratan Kumar Sahoo, Research Officer

Shri P. Narayanan, Committee Officer

2. At the outset the Chairman welcomed the new members Shri G.J. Javiya and Shri Punnu Lal nominated recently to the Committee. The Committee then considered the Draft Reports on the Demands for Grants for 2002-2003 of Departments of Elementary Education and Literacy, Secondary Education and Higher Education, Family Welfare and Women and Child Development and adopted the same after some modifications.
3. The Committee decided that the Reports may be presented to Rajya Sabha and /laid in Lok Sabha on Tuesday, the 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2002. The Committee, in this connection, authorized the Chairman and in his absence Dr. Akhtar Hasan Rizvi and Shri M.P. Abdussamad Samadani to present the Reports in the Rajya Sabha and Shri Baliram Kashyap and Shri A.F. Golam Osmani to lay the Reports in the Lok Sabha.
4. The Members of the Committee also discussed the need for making the recommendations of the Committee mandatory on the Government and urged the Chairman to take up this matter with the Hon`ble Speaker Lok-Sabha/Chairman Rajya Sabha.
5. The Committee also directed the Secretariat to obtain a Status Note on the Model National Policy on Curriculum from the Department for its consideration.
6. The Committee, then, adjourned at 4.30 P.M.