

Minutes of 1st Meeting of Joint Review Mission held on 5.12.2012 at 12.30 p.m. under the Chairmanship of Dr. Amarjit Singh, Additional Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy.

The first meeting for constituting Joint Review Missions (JRM) under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Teacher Education was held on 5.12.2012 at 12.30 PM under the Chairmanship of Dr. Amarjit Singh, Additional Secretary (EE.1). List of participants is annexed.

2. AS (EE.1) thanked all the participants for their support and gave a brief on the status of Teacher Education Scheme, the constitution of JRM and expectations from the Members of the JRM, details of which are as follows:

- The Government of India has approved the Teacher Education Scheme for the 12th Five Year Plan. There is a 400% increase in the plan allocation.
- Guidelines under the revised Scheme have been formulated and sent to the State Governments. Annual Work Plans (2012-13) of 21 States have been approved by the TEAB and funds have also started flowing to the States.
- Justice Verma Commission has made certain recommendations for reforming teacher education which have been presented before CABE. All the participating Ministers of the State Governments were unanimous in going ahead with the implementation of the recommendations of Commission. The Supreme Court, which is hearing the case, would be informed of the status.
- The NCTE Committee has initiated certain reforms. The General Council would be constituted by January, 2012. Applications for filling up the post of Chairman NCTE would be called shortly.
- The International Conference on Task Force on Teachers was held recently in Nairobi wherein more than 50 countries had participated. Several countries were looking towards India for providing leadership and good modules on teacher education.
- Each of the members selected for the JRM are acknowledged experts in the field and the Ministry would like them to provide leadership in the implementation of the Teacher Education Scheme, particularly in the Eastern and North-Eastern States.
- Each Member would lead a JRM in two States and submit a report before March, 2013, giving in-depth review of the position of teacher education in the particular State. Each team leader would have the choice to select their own team, and they would be the Team Leader for that particular State.
- The Ministry would be assessing the Annual Work Plan of the States for 2013-14 based on the report given by the JRM – whether the State has incorporated the suggestions, rectified the problem areas identified and initiated steps for strengthening the institutions, as advised by the JRM

3. After the presentation, following observations were made by the participants:

3.1. **Prof. Krishna Kumar, Faculty of Education, University of Delhi**, observed that the JRM of SSA had very good institutional support with an effective TSG and the SPD of the State was very effectively involved in providing all the logistic help in the State. Secondly, after the visits, the team was provided with academic support by the TSG for Report writing. He sought clarification as to whether the present JRM be providing the same support. Clarification was also sought as to how many members can each team leader nominate and what is the cap of nomination for others, including Government of India. He also wanted to know as to whether there would be any orientation of the Team before the field visit, as is being done in the case of JRM of SSA. Further, whether the Govt. would be providing any draft framework as well data on teacher education for each State.

3.2. **Prof. Padma Sarangapani, TISS, Mumbai** stated that the present task of JRM should be to analyse the prevalent position of Teacher Education in the State and steps the State Governments should take for quality improvement.

3.3. **Prof. Pranati Panda, NUEPA** stated that JRM should take into consideration that only 20% of the TEIs are in the Government sector, whereas 80% are private owned, where the quality is questionable. The States are saddled with lakhs of these teachers and the capacity of DIETs to prepare teachers is negligible. JRM should have the mandate of ensuring quality in these private institutions.

3.4. **Prof. Poonam Batra, Faculty of Education, University of Delhi**, stated that efforts need to be taken by State Government for strengthening the DIETs. Moreover there is also no separate cadre for teacher educators. Prof. Batra suggested that the JRM should ensure that during its visit, emphasis is given on curriculum reform.

3.5 **Prof. Janaki Rajan, Jamia Millia Islamia**, was of the view that even though JRM would be providing all help to the States to implement the Teacher Education Scheme in the right spirit, it would be better if an institute is identified for hand holding.

3.6. **Ms. Seshu Kumari, former Director, SCERT, Government of Andhra Pradesh**, stated that the staff of SCERT and DIETs is more involved with the preparation of examination papers, evaluation of these papers, preparation of text books. Nearly 90% of their time is spent on this work rather than training of teachers and providing support for teacher improvement. She was also of the opinion that JRM should also look into the quality of teachers prepared by the private institutions as without controlling the quality of these private institutions not much progress can be achieved.

3.7. **Dr. H.K. Dewan, Vidya Bhawan Society, Udaipur**, suggested that the visit of Team should facilitate changes and not be an inspection and fault finding exercise. He stated engagement with the States needs to be on a long term basis for bringing long term benefits.

3.8. **Mr. Alisher Umarav, UNESCO** stated that since JRM in teacher education is being experimented for the first time, comparison with JRM of SSA, which has stabilised over the last several years, need not be made. To start with, the JRM should visit 3-4 States and based on the experience so gained, more States could be visited.

3.9. **Mr. Begur Ramachandra Rao, UNICEF** expressed satisfaction that a new initiative has been taken for reforming teacher education.

4. AS (EE.I) clarified that in the Teacher Education Scheme also, a Technical Support Group (TSG) is being established. Pending establishment of TSG in TE, the Ministry would make available requisite technical support for the JRMs. AS (EE-1) also brought to the notice of the members that the Supreme Court has mandated that all the teachers training institutions, including private institutions, should be inspected. A mechanism needs to be set up by NCTE for getting these Institutions inspected. Based on these Inspection Reports the NCTE can take action for withdrawal of recognition.

5. After detailed discussions, following decisions were taken:

- (i) In the initial stage, the team would visit one State each.
- (ii) The Team Leaders would select their own team members.
- (ii) Secretarial assistance would be provided to the State Missions.
- (iv) A communication would be sent to the State Government to facilitate the visit of the JRMs.
- (v) The Ministry would share the Annual Work Plan of the State proposed to be visited by the Mission.
- (vi) The Report of the State Mission would be submitted by the team before 31st March, 2013.
- (vii) Another meeting of the Committee would be held for finalizing the modalities of the visit of the team and the States which will be visited.

6. The meeting ended with a word of Thanks.

List of Participants

1. Dr Amarjit Singh, Additional Secretary (EE I), D/o SE&L
2. Prof Krishna Kumar, Faculty of Education, University of Delhi
3. Prof Janaki Rajan, Jamia Millia Islamia, University of Delhi
4. Prof Poonam Batra, Faculty of Education, University of Delhi
5. Mr Alisher Umarov, UNESCO
6. Prof Pranati Panda, NUEPA, New Delhi
7. Prof Padma Sarangapani, TISS, Mumbai
8. Dr Hriday Kant Dewan, Vidya Bhawan Society, Udaipur
9. Mr Begur Ramachandra Rao, UNICEF, New Delhi
10. Ms B Sesu Kumari, Additional Director, Model Schools, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
11. Ms Lalita Pradeep, Principal, DIET, Lucknow

MHRD representatives

1. Shri Vikram Sahay, Director, D/o SE&L
2. Shri M Dilip Kumar, Under Secretary (EE 9), D/o SE&L