

NCERT

NEWS

JANUARY-APRIL 2011

Forty-eighth Meeting of the PAC

The 48th meeting of the Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) of NCERT was held from 8-9 March 2011. The committee makes recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding the lines on which research, training, extension and other programmes of the Council should be conducted and the channels into which they should be guided in order best to serve the object of promoting the improvement of school education in the country, keeping in view the role of the Council. It is the responsibility of the Programme Advisory Committee to consider all plans, programmes, research proposals, etc., and to examine the academic aspects of the work of the Council and to ensure a coordinated approach to the development of their programme.

The 48th meeting was chaired by Professor G. Ravindra, Director, NCERT. In his address, Professor Ravindra informed about some of the new initiatives taken up in the Council such as constitution of a standing committee for institutional research, establishment of Lab in Box, work related to the launch of 24x7 channel, etc. The meeting considered over 450 programmes of all the constituents of NCERT for the year 2011-12.

In order to ensure smooth conduct of the programmes, the PAC gave the following suggestions:

- All the training manuals and packages developed by the department/constituents should be uploaded in the NCERT website to avoid duplication;
- The component of 'follow-up' should be in-built in the training programme proposal;
- A group may be constituted to prepare the guidelines for conducting programmes exclusively for SCs and STs. The guidelines will help the departments/constituents in developing programmes to incur expenditure of 20 per cent of SC Plan component and 10.75 per cent for Tribal Sub-Plan component;
- It is to be ensured that the programmes are to be completed as per details given in the Results Framework Document (RFD);
- Optimise the air travel and as far as possible travel in economic class;
- All the completed programmes should be followed by a report;
- All the departments/constituents should prepare a booklet containing abstracts of all the completed



LIFE ETERNAL THROUGH LEARNING

विद्यया ऽ मृतमश्नुते



एन सी ई आर टी
NCERT

The intertwined Hansas symbolise the integration of three aspects of the work of the

National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT):

- (i) Research and Development,
(ii) Training, and (iii) Extension.

The design has been adapted from an Ashokan period relic of the third century B.C. found in excavations near Maske in the Raichur district of Karnataka.

The motto has been taken from the *Isavasya Upanishad* and means life eternal through learning.

programmes at the end of the year which could be uploaded in the NCERT website and also disseminated to DIETs, Libraries, etc.; and

- One representative of Demonstration Multi-Purpose Schools (DMS) may be included in the PAC.

Capacity Building Programmes

VISIT OF FACULTY MEMBERS TO TEACHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN NORTH EASTERN REGION

The Department of Teacher Education and Extension (DTEE), NCERT, has taken a research project entitled 'Comparative Study of Pre-service Teacher Education Curriculum in Different States of North Eastern Region'. The study is being carried out using survey method and field visits. The quantitative data for the study has been collected with the help of questionnaires prepared by the investigators. All the 78 secondary teacher education institutions of North Eastern Region of the country have been mailed questionnaires to collect information on various dimensions of teacher education such as the admission criteria, course structure and duration, transactional approaches, school experience programme, evaluation procedure, professional preparedness of faculty members, research and innovations undertaken by these institutions, infrastructural facilities, and financial and academic constraint, etc. Data has been received from 60 institutions and 417 teacher educators from all the states of North-Eastern Region.

The quantitative data is being corroborated and strengthened through qualitative data obtained through field visits to sample institutions in each state by the investigating team and holding focused group discussions, and interviews with various functionaries. In this context the coordinators of the project Dr Saroj Pandey and Dr Madhulika S. Patel, Associate Professors in DTEE recently visited Mizoram, Manipur and Sikkim and interacted with principals, faculty members, and student teachers of teacher education institutions on various aspects of teacher education syllabus being followed by them. They also visited the Department of Education in the Universities of respective institutions and interacted with Heads of the Department and faculty members.

ORIENTATION OF MADARSA KEY FUNCTIONARIES OF MADHYA PRADESH TO IMPLEMENT VET

An orientation programme of Madarsa Key Functionaries of Madhya Pradesh to implement VET was organised from 18-20 January, 2011 at PSSCIVE, Bhopal. The participants were acquainted with the importance of VET for Madarsa students. Various presentations and lectures of different aspects of VET were delivered by PSSCIVE faculty. They were taken to visit of two organisations offering vocational courses. Participants also presented their views to offer VET programme in Madarsa. Various schemes of the government were also discussed by M.P. Madarsa Board officials. Resource persons were also invited to deliver lecture on VET and motivation. Each participant developed action plan for their Madarsa to run VET programme. E-mail accounts of participants were also opened besides awareness for the use of internet. Dr Asfa M. Yasin, Associate Professor, coordinated the programme.

NATIONAL MEETING ON PROVIDING VERTICAL LINKAGE TO +2 HOME SCIENCE VOCATIONAL PASSOUTS

A National Meeting on Providing Vertical Linkage to +2 Home Science Vocational Passouts was organised from 11-12 January 2011 at PSSCIVE, Bhopal. The national meeting was attended by 19 home science experts from Maharashtra, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. PSSCIVE Home Science faculty also attended the meeting. The Vice Chancellor of Barkatullah University inaugurated the meeting. A session was held on vocational education at +2 level. The other session was held to discuss the vocational courses offered at +2 level and the scheme of examination at national level. Discussions were held with the experts and it was discussed that +2 vocational home science students can be

provided vertical mobility at tertiary levelling pass course and in institutions where students from art side are eligible for admissions. Dr Suniti Sanwal, Associate Professor was the Programme Coordinator.

PROGRAMME FOR KEY FUNCTIONARIES WORKING FOR VET OF ST COMMUNITY

A Capacity Building Programme of Key Functionaries working for VET of ST Community was conducted from 14-16 February 2011 at PSSCIVE, Bhopal. The programme was attended by 28 vocational teachers/principals of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand states. Lectures were given on importance of vocational education, role of guidance and counselling in vocational education, school-industry linkage, Production-cum-Training Centre, on-the-job training, role of banks and financial schemes for vocational passouts, empowerment of ST community through vocational education, etc. Field visit was also organised to provide exposure about running of different vocational trades.

ONE DAY CAREER ORIENTATION CAMP ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR SENIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS (PROGRAMME I)

One-day Career Orientation Camp on Entrepreneurship for Senior Secondary Students was organised at Pune, Maharashtra on 23 December 2010. During the programme various topics related to entrepreneurship and career were discussed with the participants. The programme coordinator, Dr V.K. Jain, discussed on "Discover the successful entrepreneur within you" by using multimedia presentation. Dr Kiran Mathur, Associate Professor, PSSCIVE, Bhopal provided information regarding career planning. Shri Vikas B. Takawane, Managing Director, Siddeshwar Group of Industry, Pune and Smt. Anita S. Apte, Founder President, Asian Academy of Education and Research, Pune narrated their success stories. Three vocational passouts and successful entrepreneurs Shri Amir, Shri Praveen D. Manav and Shri Naamdev Apte shared their success stories with the students. Shri Raghuraj N. Deshpande, Junior Project Officer, Maharashtra Centre for entrepreneurship and Development provided information related to career

opportunities in different vocations and their supporting agencies. Expert from Bank of Maharashtra Shri G.H.Y Tavantai provided detailed information regarding different schemes for self employment promotion and preparation of loan proposal. The programme was highly appreciated by the participants and they promised to conduct such activities to promote entrepreneurial culture amongst vocational students. More than 20 students were given their feedback in the valedictory session so that they could make their career as an entrepreneur. Shri C.A. Ninale, DVEO, acted as Honorary Director of the programme.

PROGRAMME II

The Second One-day Career Orientation Camp on Entrepreneurship for Senior Secondary Students was organised on 15 March 2011 at Mumbai. The programme was inaugurated by Chairman, Pathuk Technical High School and College, Mumbai. Dr V.K. Jain discussed on "Discover the successful entrepreneur within you" by using multimedia presentation. Dr Kiran Mathur, Associate Professor, PSSCIVE, Bhopal provided information regarding Career planning. Mohd. Ilyas Khan, vocational passout and First Generation Entrepreneur, Kurla, Mumbai and Shri A.S. Ranbre vocational passout and First Generation Entrepreneur, Tilak Nagar, Mumbai narrated their success stories for motivating the participants of the programme. Shri V.D. Sethiya, Industry Inspector, Directorate of Industries, Mumbai, provided information related to career opportunities in different vocations and about supporting agencies for entrepreneurship development. Expert from Board of Apprenticeship Shri N.N. Badode provided detailed information regarding apprenticeship scheme and placement. Shri S.P. Pathak, Deck Officer, Directorate of Vocational Education and Training, Mumbai acted as Hon. Programme Director. Dr V.K. Jain, Associate Professor, coordinated the programme.

PROGRAMME FOR HARYANA STATE BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION ON QUESTION PAPER SETTING

A capacity building programme for key resource persons of Haryana State Board of School

Education on Question Paper Setting was organised from 22 to 26 November 2010 at Bhiwani by DEME. In this programme, theoretical deliberations were made on various themes for question paper setting followed by practicum. During the practicum, designs, blue prints, exemplar question papers and marking scheme were developed in different subjects such as Mathematics, Science, Social Science, English and Hindi. About 35 teachers, paper setters and evaluators participated in this programme.

CONDUCTING ACHIEVEMENT SURVEYS

The first phase (of two weeks duration) of Capacity Building Programme in Conducting Achievement Surveys was organised by DEME, the faculty of SCERT and SIE from 18-29 October 2010 at NCERT New Delhi. The programme was attended by 39 participants. Major concepts shared were:

- Concept of assessment and large scale assessment;
- National (BAS, MAS and TAS) and international surveys (PISA, NAEP, TIMSS and PIRLS);
- Development of assessment framework;
- Test and tools and their development procedure;
- Sampling techniques and sample selection;
- Issues related to field operators and monitoring field work;
- Data management and data cleaning;
- Classical and modern test theory and use of computer software in test development.

NATIONAL ROLE PLAY COMPETITION

The Department of Education in Social Science and Humanities organised a two-day National Role Play Competition from 6-7 December 2010 at NIE auditorium, NCERT, New Delhi. The themes identified were Healthy Relationship among Adolescents, Charms and Challenges of Adolescents, HIV and AIDS stigmatisation, Causes and Impact of Drug Abuse. The participants were mainly from secondary stage and represented 344 districts of 26 states/UTs. The team from Assam won the competition followed by Himachal Pradesh and Odisha.

As part of capacity building of state, DESSH also conducted a six-day training programme in Geographical Information System for the Geography PGTs from Goa and Kerala. The objectives of the programme were to enable geography teachers to acquire competencies in handling GIS and also conduct similar kind of programmes in their respective states.

FOLLOW UP OF TRAINING PROGRAMME ALREADY CONDUCTED FOR SC DOMINATED AREAS WITH LOW LITERACY AND LOW EDUCATION LEVEL OF CHILDREN FROM SCHEDULED CASTES

Under this project, a four-day training programme from 6-9 January 2011 for the Primary School Teachers was conducted in DSERT, Bengaluru. The programme was inaugurated by Shri D.S. Rajanna, Director, DSERT who expressed the need to bring the children belonging to Scheduled Castes to the mainstream. Dr Neerja Shukla, Professor and Head, DEGSN, NCERT briefed about the need of the training programme. Dr S.C. Chauhan, programme coordinator, gave the introductory note. Since this programme was a follow up of the training programme already conducted, the observations during the field visit to Kolar and Chamaraja Nagar Districts were shared. He also briefed about the status of education level among Scheduled Castes children in Karnataka State. Forty-six teachers from Kolar, Chamarja nagar, Gulbarga, Chikkaballapur, Chitradurga, Bangalore rural, Chikkamagalore and Gadag districts participated in the programme. There were 18 sessions in various subject areas like English, Social Sciences, Sciences, Maths and contemporary issues related to education of children at the upper primary schools in SC dominated areas of Karnataka. Altogether 20 resource persons from universities, colleges, Regional Institute of Education, Karnataka Vigyan Parishad, DSERT and NCERT were involved in taking different sessions. Professor G. Ravindra, Director, NCERT chaired the concluding session along with Professor Neerja Shukla. At the end Dr S.C. Chauhan, NCERT and Ms Shanthala, R. Sr. Asst. Director, DSERT, Bengaluru jointly gave the vote of thanks.

PROGRAMME FOR SCERT AND SIE FACULTY IN CONDUCTING ACHIEVEMENT SURVEYS

The second phase of the capacity building programme organised by the DEME from 21 February to 4 March 2011 was attended by 22 participants from eleven States and one Union Territory. Out of these 22 participants, 21 had attended first phase of the programme held at NIE during October, 2010.

During the second phase, continuing from the issues deliberated in the first phase, revision

of few important concepts was done. In this phase participants were introduced with various softwares used for Large Scale Achievement Surveys like MS-Excel, SPSS, BILOG, LERTAP with intensive hands-on practices using actual survey data by resource faculty. Data analysis, interpretation of results and report writing, especially client specific reporting, were also shared. Review of the programme and feedback from participants were also done at the end.



Programme participants with DEME staff

Briefs

TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR TEACHERS OF AGRICULTURE-BASED VOCATIONAL COURSES

A Competency-based Skill Training Programme for Teachers of Agriculture-based Vocational Courses was organised from 1-4 February 2011 at Hissar, Haryana to bring awareness about the need and importance of VET in the state. The programme was attended by the agriculture-based vocational teachers of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Bihar states. Lectures were held on competency-based training, SIL and establishment of PTC in schools. During the programme, discussions were made with teachers about the difficulties concerning implementation of VET in the states. Field visits were arranged to provide exposure about different agriculture-based vocational activities.

TEACHER TRAINING ON AUTOMOBILE TECHNOLOGY

A teacher training programme was conducted for the teachers of Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh states with M/s Hero Honda Area Office Learning centre for three days from 21-23 March 2011. Important topics covered in the period were repair and maintenance of two wheelers and four wheelers, engine and its component, CDI technology, carburetor setting, MF Battery, F1 ignition, brake, etc. Practical exercise was also conducted by the firm. Ten teachers from Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh states participated in the programme. Shri Saurabh Prakash, Associate Professor, coordinated the programme.

WORKSHOP ON EVALUATION TECHNIQUES FOR THE TEACHERS OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

A three-day Workshop on Evaluation Techniques for the Teachers of Engineering and Technology-based Vocational Courses of Kerala was conducted at Kerala Institute of Local Administrator (KILA), Thrissur from 28-30 March 2011. Twenty-four teachers from Kerala state participated in this programme. Important topics of evaluation such as need and copy, evaluation technique, development of question bank, process of evaluation, grading system were discussed. Group work on development of question preparation was also done. Dr Leena Ravidas, Assistant Director, VHSE, Thrissur chaired the inaugural and valedictory sessions. Shri Saurabh Prakash, Associate Professor, coordinated the programme.

BOOK EXHIBITION

- A book exhibition was organised by DLDI on 23 November 2010 at PHD Chambers, New Delhi during the conference of state secretaries on 'Higher Education: Reform and Development Initiatives'.
- DLDI also organised a lecture programme on 'Developing Education Curriculum using Aggregated Resource' by EBSCO Publishing on 26 November, 2010 at CIET.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FOR GOA

An Orientation Programme on Performance Evaluation for the State of Goa was organised at Goa Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education, Goa from 10 to 12 November 2010.

The programme was attended by 36 teachers from different vocational areas. The orientation programme was conducted as a three-day workshop, sessions were held on 'Need of Vocational Education and Training in India' and 'Different Dimensions of VEP', 'Blooms Taxonomy of Educational Objectives', 'Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE)', and 'Tools and Techniques of Evaluation'.

PROGRAMME ON VOCATIONAL EDUCATION FOR THE KEY FUNCTIONARIES OF PUDUCHERRY

A Capacity Building Programme on Vocational Education for Key Functionaries of Puducherry UT was held from 23-27 November 2010 held at Directorate of School Education, Puducherry. There were 23 participants including Vice-Principals, Head Masters, Lecturers and Teachers. During the period the participants learned about VEP in India, Vocational Education at different stages of Education, School Industry Linkage, On-the-job Training, Self Employment Scheme for Vocational Passouts, Implementation of VEP at School level, Guidance and Counselling and Student Support System, Implementation of VEP at district level – Important issues. Field visits were organised to Kannagi Government Higher Secondary school, Kalitheerta Kuppam and Kanban Government Higher Secondary School, Nettapakkam to observe the participants how the schools were implementing the VEP in their respective schools. Group discussions were also arranged to identify strategies and prepare the action plan for introduction of vocational courses at Yanam and Mahe regions.

FOREIGN VISITS

A two-member delegation, Dr Michael A. Diamond, Executive Director and Mr Mark Power Robinson, Associate Professor, Director, APRISE (Asia Pacific Rim International Study Experience) from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles visited NCERT on 31 January 2011. Professor G. Ravindra, Director I/c, NCERT, Professor Vasudha Kamat, JD



Foreign delegates interact with Professor G. Ravindra

(CIET) and Professor D.K. Vaid Dean (A) and (C) and Head IRD participated in the interaction regarding prospects for cooperation between the University of Southern California and NCERT.

CURRICULUM-BASED SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS KITS

Workshop Department, NCERT has designed and developed curriculum-based following Science and Mathematics Kits:

- Upper Primary Science Kit
- Secondary Science Kit
- Secondary Microscale Chemistry Laboratory Kit
- Senior Secondary Microscale Chemistry Laboratory Kit
- Solid State Model Kit
- Molecular Model Kit
- Upper Primary Mathematics Kit

There was a huge demand of these kits which the Workshop Department could not meet. In order to make these kits available on mass scale at the lowest cost and conforming to the NCERT specifications, NCERT had floated Expression of Interest (EOI) for empanelment of manufacturers/suppliers.

Consequent upon the finalisation of EOI, NCERT has now empanelled the firms for each of the above Science and Mathematics Kits for one year from March 2011 to February 2012, extendable upto two years, For detailed information regarding price list of the suppliers and terms and conditions, specifications, please log on to www.ncert.nic.in.

Paper Presentations/Publications

- Dr Saroj Pandey published a chapter on 'Teacher Education in India' in *International*

Handbook on Teacher Training. K Karras (Ed), Athens-Atrapos, 2010.

- Dr Saroj Pandey visited Cyprus from 1-8 January 2011 to attend the 24th International Congress on School Effectiveness and Improvement. She presented a paper entitled 'Professionalisation of Teacher in India: A Critique of Teacher Education Curriculum Reforms and its Effectiveness'.
- Dr Vinay Kumar Singh, Associate Professor, DEGSN, published 'Does IQ Determine Disability in Mental Retardation?' in *Global Education, Society and Development (GESD)*—an International Journal of Academicians, Vol.2, No.2, July-September, 2010.
- 'Inclusive Education for Children with Intellectual Disability: Challenges and Issues' authored jointly by Dr Neerja Shukla, Professor and Head, DEGSN and Dr Vinay Kumar Singh, Associate Professor, DEGSN. The paper was presented by the first author in the National Seminar on Mental Retardation organised by Ramakrishna Mission Vivekanand University, Coimbatore, 25-27 February 2011.

Orientation Programmes

TEACHER TRAINING ON INSURANCE VOCATIONAL COURSE

A teacher training programme in the area of Insurance Vocational Course was held in Mumbai from 8-17 March 2011. In this programme 26 vocational teachers and instructors from six regions of Maharashtra State participated. During the ten-day period the participant teachers and instructors learned by lecture-cum-discussions the core aspects for Implementation of VEP in the subject area of Insurance Vocational Course. Visits were made to Max New York Life Insurance Corporation, Birla Sun Life Insurance Corporation, Life Insurance Corporation of India and General Insurance Training Centre in Mumbai local. Dr P. Veeraiah, Assistant Professor, coordinated the programme.

ORIENTATION FOR VOCATIONAL SC TEACHERS

An orientation programme for vocational teachers of Scheduled Caste communities was organised from 22-25 February 2011 at PSSCIVE, Bhopal. The programme was attended by vocational teachers/instructors from different states. Lectures were taken on different aspects of vocational education. During the programme discussions were held with the teachers. Visits were arranged to Bhagwan Kala Kendra, RUDSE Institute and Munshi Husain Khan Institute, Bhopal. Dr Uadal Singh, Assistant Professor, coordinated the programme.

ORIENTATION FOR COMMERCE-BASED VOCATIONAL TEACHERS OF AP

An orientation programme for the commerce-

based vocational teachers of Andhra Pradesh was held in Hyderabad from 27-31 January, 2011. In this programme 34 commerce-based vocational Junior Lecturers from three regions of Andhra Pradesh were participated. Through this programme the vocational Junior Lecturers were oriented by status of VEP in Andhra Pradesh, VEP in India, stages in vocational education, development of vocational curricula and instructional material, school industry linkages and online job training, opportunities in commerce-based courses, role of industry sector for implementation of vocational education, production-cum-training centres and apprenticeship training, Entrepreneurship development programme, distribution system in APSEB and developments in accounting. Field visits were arranged to IDBI, Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Bank, National Council of Rural Institution and Probel Vocational Junior College, Hyderabad. Dr P. Veeraiah, Assistant Professor, coordinated the programme.

ORIENTATION OF MASTER TRAINERS IN MATHEMATICS SECONDARY STAGE

Thirty master trainers participated in the orientation programme from 21-25 February 2011 representing different organisations — Navoday Vidyalaya Samiti, KVS, Directorate of Education Schools in Delhi Punjab and DAV Public Schools. Orientation was conducted on various topics including CCE at secondary stage.

ORIENTATION OF MASTER TRAINERS IN PHYSICS HIGHER SECONDARY STAGE

The programme was attended by fifteen teachers

from the states of Haryana, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Delhi and Railway Schools in Jharkhand from 17-21 January 2011. Two outside experts and four DESM experts interacted with participants. Laboratory sessions were held every afternoon.

NATIONAL MEET OF YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALISTS

A four-day National Meet of Young Environmentalists was held from 15-18 February 2011. On day one the children presented their reports and had elaborate discussion. On day two there were lectures by experts on how to select a project and work on it, its presentation, protection of wildlife and putting the waste material on use, etc. On day three there was an educational trip to Western Ghat forests and milk production units. Day four had a lecture on biodiversity of India – an interactive session, after the quiz programme.

MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH HON'BLE SUPREME COURT'S ORDER

- Twenty-three States/UTs represented this programme from 27-28 January 2011 and had presented their respective Environmental Education implementation reports.
- Activity books of Environmental Education for Classes VI to X were provided for actions at their end in the following year.

NCERT Awards

NCERT AWARDS-2009 FOR EXCELLENCE IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

The NCERT awards 2009 presentation function was organised at the auditorium of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Bhopal on 21 December 2010. Professor G. Ravindra, Director (I/c), NCERT was the chief guest and Professor Vijay Kumar Aggarwal, Director NITTTR, Bhopal was the guest of honour. Professor K.B. Subramaniam, Joint Director (I/c) presided over the function. Dr V.S. Mehrotra coordinated the awards function.

The awards were presented for four categories

- (i) Best Student Achiever Award
- (ii) Best Vocational Teacher Award
- (iii) Best Vocational Institution Award
- (iv) Best School Industry Linkage Award

A total of 73 awardees from 15 states, UTs, viz, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Daman and Diu, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Orissa, Puducherry were selected for the awards. In the category of Best Student Achiever Award, the awards were presented to the meritorious students of each state/UT in the area of Agriculture, Business and Commerce, Engineering and Technology, Health and Para- medical, Home Science and Humanities. A booklet on the profile of the awardees of NCERT Award-2009 was released on the occasion.

Seminars and Workshops

TRAINING IN VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE FOR THE MINORITY VOCATIONAL TEACHERS

A training programme in vocational guidance for the vocational teachers from minority groups was organised during 11-15 January 2011 at PSSCIVE, Bhopal. The programme was inaugurated by Professor Nisha Dubey, Vice Chancellor, Barkatullah Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal. The participants were from the states of Goa (7), Kerala (12), Punjab (3) and Odisha (1). The programme coordinator spoke about the background and the objectives of the training programme. The chief guest in her address

emphasised the need of career guidance services, particularly at school level to help students in planning their career and praised PSSCIVE, for conducting such programmes in vocational guidance.

In the academic sessions, resource persons discussed the topics related to vocational education and training, the need and importance of guidance and counselling, career information service, placement service and self employment opportunities for vocational pass-outs, etc. The participants were given individual and group assignments such as preparation of career

talks, charts, posters and school-wise action plan. Each participant presented a career talk. Field visits to RUDSET institute and Regional Institute of Education, Bhopal were organised.

In the valedictory session, Professor S.Z. Haider, former Joint Director, distributed certificates to the participants. In his address Professor Haider motivated the participants to help children of minority group to develop some skill to make them employable. Dr Kiran Mathur was the Programme Coordinator.

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT LECTURE SERIES

An Academic Enrichment Lecture Series was organised on 17 January, 2011 at PSSCIVE, Bhopal. Professor A.K. Sacheti, former I/c Joint Director of PSSCIVE, presently working as a Project Advisor, UNDP, was invited as a chief guest to deliver a lecture. About 70 participants including faculty and staff members of PSSCIVE, RIE and vocational lecturers of Bhopal attended the programme and benefited from the lecture-cum-discussion session on 'A Non-formal Model of Skill Training for Unemployed Youth as Practised in Rajasthan' which focussed on the Rajasthan Mission on Skill and Livelihood and its vocational programme for the non-formal youth. The speaker shared his views, work and modalities for executing the project successfully at RMoL, UNDP. Sh. Deepak Shudhalwar, Assistant Professor coordinated the programme.

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON STATUS AND PROSPECTS OF HOME SCIENCE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

A national seminar on status and prospects of Home Science vocational education was organised from 14 to 16 December 2010 at Hotel Nisarga, Bhopal. The programme was inaugurated by Professor Shashi Rai, Director, Sant Hirdaram College, Bhopal. Professor Prabhu Verma, former Dean, Home Science, M.P. was the special guest and Professor K.B. Subramaniam, Joint Director, PSSCIVE presided over the function. Professor Mridula, Head, Home Science, highlighted the functions PSSCIVE. Dr Pinki Khanna, Programme Coordinator, gave an introduction to the programme. In the technical session status reports were presented by the representatives of the State Directorates of Education. Papers

on identified themes were presented by the academicians. Thirty persons from NGOs and other organisations attended the programme and also made presentations on the last day. Group discussion was held and recommendations were given. Certificates were distributed to the participants.

EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF RMSA TO ACHIEVE USE

Government of India has launched *Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyaan* (RMSA) to achieve the Universalisation of Secondary Education (USE). RMSA framework envisages NCERT as a nodal agency to implement quality concerns of RMSA in achieving the goal of universalisation of quality secondary education.

The newly set up Department of Secondary Education (DSE) w.e.f. 26 November 2010 with the approval of the MHRD has been assigned the supporting role in the quest of universalisation of secondary education by the ministry. The department's main function includes coordination with different constituent units of the NCERT, i.e., NIE, RIEs, PSSCIVE and CIET and outside agencies to support the implementation of RMSA in the country with special reference to academic and quality aspects. The areas of interest will include curriculum development and dissemination, learning achievement surveys, teachers' professional development and life-long learning, development of co-scholastic curriculum and pedagogy, particularly in fine art and performing art, sports, adolescence education, counselling, vocational guidance, use of ICT and also equity aspects.

Moving towards effective implementation of RMSA to achieve the goals of USE, the department has recently developed a document entitled 'Vision and Multi-layer Strategic Guidelines for Improving Quality of Secondary Education' in consultation with various stakeholders such as MHRD, NUEPA, World Bank, DFID, TSG-Ed. CIL, Universities, KVS, NIOS, etc. through various workshops. Presenting vision of USE, the document provides detailed guidelines for major quality interventions such as curriculum reform, enabling school environment, in-service teacher professional development, assessment and

examination reform, etc. to be undertaken by the states/UTs in secondary education.

For further sharing of this document with States/UTs for their feedback a workshop was organised by the DSE at Chennai on 26 February 2011 in collaboration with MHRD, Technical Resource Group and Governments of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Maharashtra, Odisha and Puducherry alongwith the officials from Department of School Education, MHRD, Technical Source Group, Ed.CIL and Head and faculty member, DSE, NCERT were participated.

States/UTs appreciated the document for presenting detailed vision for each major quality component along with strategies and action plan and also for initiating a dialogue among various stakeholders on various issues such as widening the perspectives on quality, effective classroom processes, reforming laboratory practices in science and mathematics, continuous in-service professional development, reforming assessment and examination practices at the secondary stage of school education.

DLDI WORKSHOP

- Dr (Mrs) Moortimatee Samantaray, Deputy Librarian and I/c Head, DLDI coordinated a three-day workshop for development of training manual as a part of the PAC programme 'Orientation Programme for Key Resource Personnels from Libraries of SCERTs, SIEs, DIETs' organised during 7-9 March 2011.
- She also attended and delivered a talk on 'Children's Literature of North-East: The Changing Scenario of Reading Habit' jointly organised by National Book Trust, New Delhi and Department of Library and Information Science, Mizoram University, Aizawl, held from 29-30 March 2011.
- The following groups of students and teachers from different educational institutes visited DLDI as part of their educational tour:
 - 160 B.Ed. students of College of Education, Ghaziabad on 9 February 2011.
 - 17 M.Phil. students from Lovely Professional University, Jalandhar, Punjab on 10 February 2011.
 - 150 B.Ed. students from Institute of

Vocational Studies, New Delhi on 23 February 2011.

- 25 M.Ed. students from Faculty of Education, Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribag on 28 February 2011.
- 10 teachers from Katha, New Delhi on 28 March 2011.

DEAA WORKSHOPS

DEAA organised several workshops for different programmes from January-March 2011.

Theatre workshops were conducted for finalising the theatre manual being developed for upper primary stage. Eminent theatre educators were part of this workshop. A feedback of the draft manuscript was taken from the government and public school teachers which were of immense importance. The feedback helped to incorporate some practically feasible elements of theatre.

Two major workshops were held under the resource centre programme series which were part of the year-long Golden Jubilee Celebrations of NCERT: (i) Puppetry, theatre, and mask making and (ii) National Festival of Arts 'Vasant Utsav'. They were organised for teachers and teacher educators from RIEs, SCERTs, SIEs who came to NCERT from all over India. These workshops for Arts and Crafts (RCAC) aimed at capacity building, practical experience and exposure for teachers, teacher educators in arts and crafts.

The first event was held from 12-14 January 2011. This event had special focus on puppetry, theatre, and mask making. The resource persons for these sessions were international puppeteer, Dadi Padamjee, theatre educator, Subhash Rawat along with their team members, and paper mask experts, Sulekha and Vijit. Dadi Padamjee presented a slide show on traditional puppets from different parts of the country and a presentation 'Kalpa Taru' on environmental awareness by his team members. Among the other honoured speakers and presenters for this three-day occasion for celebration of arts were theatre personality Sushma Seth who spoke on multiple intelligence among children, psychiatrist Dr Jitendra Nagpal who showed some short films made by children on different aspects of life entwining the spirit of the NCF-2005 and Mrs Madhu Mishra, Principal, Dhanbad Public

School (Hirak Branch) who presented a case study of her school where the whole environment integrates different facets of arts.

The second event 'Vasant Utsav' was celebrated by DEAA from 14-18 March 2011 in NCERT, New Delhi. It was a festival of celebration of different art forms and heritage crafts. DEAA was fortunate to have two national awardee crafts persons— Prakash Joshi belonging to the community of *Pabuji Ki Phad* from Bikaner and Neiki Nakharo specialising in loom weaving from Nagaland— who were the resource persons for this magnificent workshop. A creative dance workshop was also organised for all participants. This dance workshop conducted by Ravi Chauhan, an international choreographer, helped the participants to understand various types of creative movement. A dance choreography named 'Panchtatava' was presented by all participants.

WORKSHOP ON DEVELOPMENT OF TOOLS FOR NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

The Department of Educational Measurement and Evaluation has conducted two workshops for development of tools for National Achievement Survey at the end of Class VIII from 17-19 January, 2011 and 7-11 February 2011. In the first workshop, subject experts were invited to review the items and generate more items wherever gaps were identified by them in their respective subjects, viz. languages—English and Hindi, Mathematics, Science and Social Science. Further, these items were spelled out in terms of descriptors and classified under three categories, viz. basic, proficient and advanced. Finally, three parallel tests in each subject were developed. During the second workshop, tests developed in different school subjects were again reviewed by experts and translated in Hindi language. Now, these tests will be tried out in the field for standardisation.

IRD JOINT CURRICULUM WORKSHOP

The International Relations Division organised a three-day Joint Curriculum Workshop of Iranian Curriculum Studies Association (ICSA), Iran and NCERT, on National Curriculum of India and Iran from 2-4 February 2011.

The workshop was initially proposed by

ICSA to know about National School Curriculum of India and to exchange views and experiences with respect to development, implementation, evaluation of different areas of learning.

In his inaugural speech, Professor G. Ravindra, Director, gave a brief description of the functioning of NCERT and its role in preparing curriculum framework by keeping in view the contextual needs of the states for curricula and textbooks.

He further added that NCERT will be happy to collaborate with Government of Iran in developing school curriculum to work in the area of education.

Thereafter, Professor Mahmoud, the leader of Iranian delegation, appreciated the initiative of NCERT in organising this workshop. He said that their academic body is in the process of finalising the first draft of the curriculum and NCERT may help them in doing the same.

After that, a panel discussion took place with regard to Curriculum Reforms in India and Iran. Iranian delegation was informed about the whole process of preparation of NCF-2005 and the main concern of the Curriculum Framework that every child should become a good citizen.

The two-day programme of the Joint Workshop included panel discussion on curriculum reforms in India and Iran and seven technical areas titled Curricular Issues in Science and Mathematics in India and Iran; Enhancing Interest of Students in Science and Maths: Science Kits and Mathematics Laboratory; Use of ICT in Teaching Learning in Schools; Challenges and Reforms in Vocational Education; Process and Strategies of Curriculum Implementation. It also included visit to Workshop Department for demonstration of Science Kits and Mathematics Laboratory in NCERT, Visit to NUEPA, NCTE and SCERT Delhi.

TOOLS REVIEW WORKSHOP

A two-day tools review workshop of the project on 'Assessment of Teachers' Essential Competencies of Upper Primary School Teachers Teaching Children from Scheduled Castes' was conducted from 23-24 March 2011 in NIE campus, New Delhi. The workshop was started with a welcome address by Dr Neerja Shukla, Professor and Head, DEGSN, followed by

presentation on the research project by Dr S.C. Chauhan, Assistant Professor and the Principal Investigator of the project. Nine experts from different departments of sociology, education, teacher education, psychology, inclusive education and research, etc. of several universities and institutions, participated and contributed in construction and review of the tools. There were five tools drafted by the Principal Investigator and co-investigator Shri Vijay Kumar Singh. These tools of the study were presented during different sessions of the workshop. Item-wise discussions were held in view of appropriateness, language, sequence and statistical analysis of items. After thorough discussion and analysis, tool-items were modified, deleted, added and retained as per the suggestions and recommendations of the experts keeping in view of the objectives of the study. At the end of the workshop, the activities of the workshop were summarised. Dr S.C. Chauhan was the coordinator of the workshop.

Staff News

APPOINTMENTS

- Shri R.M. Madhwal as AHM, RIE, Bhubaneswar on 07.03.2011

PROMOTED

- Mrs Kamlesh Markam, PGT, RIE, Bhopal on 17.01.2011
- Shri Rakesh Kumar, LDC, Publication Department
- Shri Pawan Kumar Giri to UDC, w.e.f. 28.01.2011
- Shri Virendra Prasad, Assistant

SUPERANNUATION

- Dr. B.S. Raghavendra, Professor, RIE, Mysore on 31.01.2011
- Shri V.K. Agarwal, PGT, RIE, Ajmer on 31.03.2011
- Dr V.G. Jadhao, Principal, Regional Institute of Education, Ajmer on 31.10.2010
- Rashai Chandolkar, P.G.T. Regional Institute of Education, Bhopal on 30.11.2010
- Dr B. Phalachandra, Professor, Regional Institute of Education, Mysore on 31.10.2010
- Sadhya Mohanty, P.G.T., Regional Institute of Education, Bhubaneswar, voluntary retirement on 31.01.2011
- Professor B.S. Raghavendra, RIE Mysore, on 31.12.2011
- T.R. Bansal, Professor and Head, w.e.f. 31.01.2011
- Dr D.D. Yadav, Professor, DERPP, voluntary retirement, w.e.f. 01.02.2011
- K.L. Satija, PA, DEE on 30.11.2010
- Gopal Krishnan, APC, DEAA on 30.11.2010

NCERT PUBLICATIONS

The following new titles were brought out during the month of October-December 2010.

- *Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar: His Life and Work*
- *The Primary Teacher*, October 2010 issue
- *Bhartiya Adhunik Shikshan*, April 2010
- *Rastriya Pathyacharya Charcha Ki Rooprekha-2005 Prarambhik Balyavastha-Shiksha Aadhar Patra 3.6*
- *Rashtriya Pathyacharya Ki Rooprekha-2005 Shanti Ke Liye Shiksha: Aadhar Patra 3.4*
- *Rashtriya Pathyacharya Ki Rooprekha-2005 Anusuchi Jaati Aur Janjati Ke Bachchon Ki Samsyayen: Aadhar Patra 3.1*
- *Solar System for Everybody*
- *Samajh Ka Madhyam: Rashtriya Parisambad 2008-2010 Par Aadharit*
- *Varshik Report 2009-10*
- *Annual Report 2009-10*
- *NCF-2005: National Focus Group Ka*

Position Paper for Hindustan Zabano Ki Tadrees 1.3 (Urdu)

- *Door Pass for Class IX, 3rd Language (Urdu)*
- *Masoobati Kitab: Mahauliyati Taleem, for Class VIII*
- *Masoobati Kitab: Mahauliyati Taleem, for Class IX*
- *Masoobati Kitab: Mahauliyati Taleem, for Class X*
- *KGBV Bridge Course for Upper Primary Stage Mathematics*

Publication Team

Neerja Shukla Varada M. Nikalje Shveta Uppal
Arun Chitkara Mathew John

E-mail: publica@nda.vsnl.net.in

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