

The Odisha Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 960, CUTTACK, MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2015/ ASADHA 1, 1937

[No. 12300/XII-SME(Trg.)33/2015/S&ME.]

SCHOOL & MASS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION

The 19th June, 2015

Sub: Constitution of Think tank- Teacher Education.

With the adoption of the National Policy on Education (1986 / 1992), Teacher Education System came to receive the primacy and priority it deserved since long. In response to the stipulation of NPE, a set of new generation Teacher Education Institutions such as DIETs, CTEs and IASEs, with their vision and mission redefined, was established under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Teacher Education. Despite more than 25 years of their existing, these institutions continue to function in their traditional mould. In other words, they have remained remarkably stable and unchanged, though dramatic developments have taken place in the Education Sector. This stagnation has been pointed out in various studies, most importantly by the Joint Review Mission on Teacher Education Odisha, which visited the Teacher Education Institutions of the State during March 10-16, 2013.

The JRM-TE (2013) brought the following issues and challenges-systemic, institutional and academic process and practice related to the fore:

- Despite significant developments in Education and Teacher Education, the Teacher Education System of the State has remained relatively stable and unchanged.
- The new generation TEIs, such as DIETs, CTEs and IASEs, including SCERT, are found to function in their traditional mould resulting in identity crisis.
- Absence of decentralization and devolution of power and authority to TEIs for decision-making.
- Nonexistence of a mechanism for regular comprehensive review, feedback and mentoring for TEIs.
- Dearth of quality leadership across TEIs . institutions are being managed but not effectively led.
- SCERT, the regulator for TEIs, does not have a well articulated vision and perspective for future development of TEIs.
- SCERT and TEIs tend to function in isolation, and are delinked from institutions of Higher Learning and Research at one end and from schools at the other.

- Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) is still an unexplored area and its potentialities are scarcely being used for instructional and management purposes.
- Almost all Teacher Educators and institution leaders have an unmet capacity development needs in academic and management areas. Opportunities for continued professional development of Teacher Educators are limited.
- Teacher Educators' understanding of recent developments in education, pedagogy, curriculum frameworks, research and innovation, etc is limited and superficial. More particularly, the problem is intolerably acute in case of younger faculty in TEIs.
- Research and innovation is the weakest area in SCERT as well as in TEIs which continues to be a concern.

Based on these issues and concerns, the JRM-TE (2013) had made several recommendations for strengthening the Teacher Education System of the State. As an immediate measure, the JRM-TE recommended strengthening of SCERT and its network of TEIs through a Core Team. The Think Tank-TE was conceived and structured as an interim mechanism to play an advisory role for reforming the Teacher Education System of the State. For operational convenience, the Think Tank-TE has been functioning in the Directorate of Teacher Education and SCERT.

1. Think Tank-TE

The Think Tank-TE has been initiated and supported by UNICEF in the State to provide strategic and technical support in successfully strengthening the Teacher Education reform initiative in the last 15 months.

2.1 Objectives:

- To make a comprehensive and an in-depth analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the existing Teacher Education System of the State.
- To make the DTE and SCERT and its network of Teacher Education Institutions to work effectively.
- To accelerate smooth implementation of planned programmes of DTE and SCERT.
- To help establish and strengthen the link between TEIs and institutions of Higher learning and research at one end and between TEIs and schools at the other end.
- To strengthen the research and innovation component in Teacher Education.
- To aid and advise DTE and SCERT and School & Mass Education Department in matters of policy formulation in education and education related issues.
- To consolidate e-governance initiatives of the S & ME Department for strengthening Teacher Education and quality schooling.

2.2 Composition

The Think Tank-TE consisted of very distinguished specialists in Teacher Education, from within the State and outside the State, with specialization in different dimensions such as:

- Teacher Education: curriculum, content and inclusive strategies
- ICT in Teacher Education
- Administration and Education Management
- Performance Tracking and Grievance Redressal
- Institutional Planning and Convergence

One of the members of the Think Tank-TE is designated as Lead Coordinator to coordinate and lead the Think Tank-TE at the State level. The members are drawn from prestigious National Level Institutions and recognized academics from the State.

National Level Members:

1. Prof. Shyam B. Menon, Vice Chancellor, Ambedkar University, New Delhi
2. Prof. M.A. Khader, Formerly Head, Curriculum Division, NCERT, New Delhi
3. Prof. Santosh Panda, Chairperson, NCTE, New Delhi
4. Prof. R.S. Khan, Formerly Vice-Chairperson, NCTE, New Delhi
5. Prof. (Ms.) Janaki Rajan, Jamia Milia, New Delhi
6. Prof. Rajaram Shrama, Joint Director, CIET, NCERT, New Delhi
7. Prof. (Ms.) Padma Saranga Pani, Indian Institute of Economic and Social Change, Bangalore
8. Prof. Sashi Nair, Policy Planning Unit, Ajim Premji Foundation, Bangalore
9. Prof. (Ms.) Vimla Ramchandran, Director, Education Resource Unit, New Delhi
10. Prof. (Ms.) Sharada Jain, Director, Sandhan, Jeypore
11. Dr. (Ms.) Latika Gupta, Central Institute of Education, University of Delhi
12. Prof. Sitanshu S. Jena, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi
13. Prof. Thomas Vadeya, Formerly Professor, Faculty of Psychology and Education, MS University of Baroda.

State Level Members:

14. P.C. Mohapatra, Chairperson, ERC NCTE, Bhubaneswar
15. Prof. S.L. Jena, Formerly Director, TE and SCERT, Odisha
16. Prof. B.N. Panda, Prof. and Dean, RIE, Bhubaneswar
17. Dr. M.M. Mohanty, Formerly Director, SIEMAT, Odisha
18. Dr. D.C. Rana, Formerly Reader in Education
19. Dr. M.K. Pathy, Formerly Principal, Dr. PMIASE, Sambalpur
20. Ms. Lalita Pattnaik, Education Specialist, UNICEF
21. Dr. Shailabala Devi, Formerly Professor, Department of Economics, Utkal University.
22. Shir Pramathesh Dash, Formerly Deputy Director, DTE and SCERT

2.3. Broad Areas of Interventions

- Institution Strengthening
- Curriculum Renewal
- Strengthening Planning, Management and Linkages

2.4. Expected Deliverables

- Quarterly plans / progress-*cum*-analytical reports
- Perspective plan for Teacher Education
- Policy briefs / documents
- Situation analysis and capacity building plan and reports
- Improved institutional linkages : State-district-sub-district
- Creation of a data-base on Teacher Education
- Documentation of best / positive practices and development of research proposals.
- Framing curriculum for School Education and Teacher Education

2.5. Key Responsibilities

- Overall direction, guidance and review rest with the Commissioner-cum-Secretary, School & Mass Education Department. Quarterly review of Think Tank-TE progress shall be taken by the Commissioner-cum-Secretary.
- SCERT will continue to be the Nodal Directorate for operationalising the Think Tank-TE and the space for its office.
- In view of the non-availability of some key members for Think Tank-TE meetings, the Think Tank-TE may be expanded with inclusion of noted academics- National as well as in-State . with domain specialization.
- The Think Tank-TE meetings shall be held once every two months to discuss various matters . to review progress, suggest ideas for implementation and visit TEIs in the field.
- The in-State members shall devote at least two days a month or more as and when required.
- The Lead Coordinator shall devote at least 21 days a month for attending to academic work.
- The Annual Workplan of the Think Tank-TE, further split up into quarterly plans, shall be developed in consultation with members of the Think Tank-TE, and shall have the approval of the Commissioner-cum-Secretary.
- TEIs shall be monitored and mentored by the members of the Think Tank-TE on a regular basis and the reports thereon shall be shared with appropriate bodies for follow up and action.
- Travel to districts / outside by the members of the Think Tank-TE shall be governed by UNICEF norms.
- The whole range of activities of Think Tank-TE shall be closely coordinated by the Lead Coordinator who shall be placed in the Directorate of TE and SCERT.
- A constructed mechanism shall be in place in SCERT and its network of TEIs for institutionalization of Think Tank-TE initiatives in the Teacher Education System of the State.

2.6 Support Staff

In consideration of the enormity of work, there shall be a small support system consisting of the following:

- **Auditor-cum-Accountant** who shall be responsible for looking after the accounts matters in respect of Unicef supported projects and programmes. He/she shall be engaged on contract basis.
- **Computer Assistant-cum-Designer** of documents and materials who shall be responsible for typing, designing and producing materials for the Think Tank-TE. The person who is working for Think Tank-TE shall be engaged, on contract basis, for the next lease of life of the Think Tank-TE.
- **Academic Coordinator** who shall assist the Lead Coordinator in whole range of academic activities on day-to-day basis. He/She shall be brought on deployment basis or be transferred to SCERT and placed with the Think Tank-TE Unit in consultation with Director, TE and SCERT.

2.7. Timeframe

The tenure of the Think Tank-TE shall be extended from March, 2015 to December, 2017.

2.8. Qualifications or Specialized Knowledge and Experience of Think Tank-TE Members

While expanding the Think Tank-TE with inclusion of new members, the following criteria shall be kept in view:

- The Think Tank-TE shall consist of members drawn from disciplines closely related to Education.
- The Lead Coordinator should possess Ph.D. in Education or Psychology
- The members of Think Tank-TE should have 10-15 years of experience, holding positions of senior professionals in the field of education, qualifications supported by publications and other works of renown.
- The members of Think Tank-TE are familiar with RTE, RMSA, Teacher Education initiatives.
- Members of Think Tank-TE are also expected to possess good negotiation and communication skills (both written and oral) as well as analytical skills.
- Fluency in English is essential. Knowledge of State context will be advantageous.
- Proficiency in using computer applications such as Microsoft Office would be an added asset.

3. Finances The financial support for resource person fees for the experts and support staff will be borne by UNICEF for the period March 2015 to December 2017.

- Professional fees for Lead Coordinator @ Rs 120000 per month inclusive of local travel.
- Professional fees for national level Think Tank-TE members Rs 5000 per day
- Professional fees for in-State members Rs 3000 per day
- Travel to districts / outside As per actual
- Accommodation for outstation members As per actual
- Consolidated remuneration to support staff
 - Accountant-*cum*-Auditor- Rs 15000 per month
 - Computer Assistant-*cum*-Designer Rs 15000 per month

By Order of the Governor

USHA PADHEE

Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary to Government