

**MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
HIGHLIGHTS OF LAST ONE YEAR**

New Delhi: November 23,2005

The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) has been reconstituted in July 2004.

❖ Seven Committees of CABE have been set up on the following subjects:

- Free and Compulsory Education Bill and other issues related to Elementary Education
- Girls Education and the Common School System
- Universalisation of Secondary Education
- Autonomy of Higher Education Institutions
- Integration of Culture Education in the School Curriculum
- Regulatory Mechanism for the Text Books and parallel text books taught in schools outside the Government system
- Financing of Higher and Technical Education

❖ **Sarva Siksha Abhiyan**

□ Achievements:-

- 66,147 Elementary Schools opened.
- 33,777 additional classrooms constructed.
- 3.10 lakhs additional Teachers appointed.

- <![endif]>About 6.5 crore girls and children belonging to SCs and STs studying in Elementary Schools, given free textbooks.
  - 134% step up in SSA fund outlay for 2005-06 over 2004-05.
- National Mission of SSA under Prime Minister set up in December, 2004. General Council and Executive Council meetings were held in Feb-March, 2005.
- ❖ **Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV)** Scheme, for establishment of girl's residential Upper Primary Schools, launched in August, 2004, to promote education of disadvantaged girls in Educationally Backward Blocks of the country. 717 KGBVs sanctioned during 2004-05.
  - ❖ **Mid-Day Meal** Scheme was revised in September, 2004, to provide cooked meal to all Primary School children. About 11 crore children being benefited.
  - ❖ Education Cess @ 2% levied on all Central taxes to fulfill Government's commitment to provide and finance universalized quality basic education.
  - ❖ Outlay for Elementary Education in 2005-06 is more than double compared to that in 2004-05.
    - ❖ National Commission for Minority Education Institutions has been set up.
    - ❖ The NCERT has taken up the revision of the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE).
    - ❖ The transfer policy of teachers/staff in the Kendriya Vidyalayas has been reviewed.
    - ❖ All the Autonomous Bodies under the Department have been asked to give their considered suggestions for strengthening the autonomy of all academic institutions.
    - ❖ The power to decide on the fee structure has been restored to the Indian Institutes of Management.

- ❖ Participation in the All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) from 2005-06 onwards will be optional for Central and deemed to be universities.
- ❖ The draft 'Model Universities Act' which was circulated by the University Grants Commission has been withdrawn.
- ❖ It has been decided that all the proposals seeking "Deemed University status" should be put up on the UGC website.
- ❖ Selection procedures, which were stalled for the last few years because of non-appointment of visitor's nominee, have now been started.
- ❖ The Government had decided to restore the Central University status of the University of Allahabad and conversion of Manipur University into a Central University.
- ❖ The earlier orders requiring all the institutions / autonomous bodies / public sector undertakings under the Department of Secondary and Higher Education and the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy to get the donations / grants routed through the Bharat Shiksha Kosh, have been withdrawn.
- ❖ The assistance given to Non-Government Organizations along with instances of denial of assistance to secular institutions like the Gandhian Institute of Studies are being reviewed.
- ❖ A comprehensive review of the Indian Council of Historical Research was ordered for strengthening the institution to enable it to realize its full autonomous potential.
- ❖ It has been decided that all students admitted to IIMs, whose annual gross family income is Rs.2 lakhs and below, will be eligible for receiving financial assistance amounting up to full tuition fee waiver.

- ❖ A comprehensive review of the existing schemes of scholarships/free ships and educational loans is being undertaken.
- ❖ A Bill for regulating the fee structures in professional institutions has been drafted for consultation with the stakeholders.
- ❖ A Committee of experts has been constituted under the chairmanship of Prof. C. N. R. Rao, to examine all relevant issues pertaining to the entry of foreign universities in India.
- ❖ It has been decided to set up a new IIM at an appropriate location in the North Eastern Region.
- ❖ It has also been decided that one Central University in each State will be assisted to set up either an Engineering or a Management faculty wherever these are not presently available.
- ❖ In view of the importance being attached to investment in education which involves recruitment of personnel, the restrictions placed on filling up of posts in the education sector have been relaxed for the NE States and Jammu & Kashmir.
- ❖ In pursuance of the Reconstruction Plan announced by the Prime Minister on 17-18 Nov. 2004: -
  - The Government of J&K has accorded sanction for the setting up of 13 new colleges including two women's colleges. Sanction for the 14<sup>th</sup> college is being issued separately.
  - Total Literacy Campaign proposals for Kargil and Doda have been approved.
- ❖ In pursuance of packages announced on earlier occasions: -
  - The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has opened 11 Kendriya Vidyalayas in J&K during 2003-04 and one in 2004-05. The Government of J&K has allotted land in respect of eight out of these 11 schools.

- Two Polytechnics have also been sanctioned at Leh and Kargil.
- ❖ 244 Special Focus Districts have been identified, comprising minority concentration blocks/tehsils, ITDP blocks, Schedule V and Schedule VI areas and districts with SC female literacy of less than 10%.
- ❖ Action has been initiated for opening of 50 Kendriya Vidyalayas and 28 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in Special Focus Districts, during the remaining period of the Tenth Five Year Plan, subject to availability of resources.
- ❖ Some new courses proposed to be started by the Indian Institute of Technologies from the academic session 2005-06 are at various stages of finalisation.
- ❖ The Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) have proposed to introduce new Courses/Programmes from the Academic Year 2005-2006.
- ❖ Government is concerned about the problem of reports of examination stress and has initiated exercise to bring about examination reforms to mitigate the examination stress.
- ❖ The Central Board of Secondary Education has initiated steps to improve the examination system.
- ❖ Central assistance of Rs.3.25 crores was provided to the State Governments during 2004-05, for appointment of Urdu teachers on a normative basis in blocks/districts where there is a concentration of educationally backward minorities as identified by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
- ❖ A new scheme called “Central Scheme for Development of Tamil Language” is proposed to be launched in the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan period.

- ❖ Against the additionality of Rs.153 crore received during the previous financial year for higher education sector under the NCMP, a sum of Rs.130.36 crore has been released to Aligarh Muslim University, Jamia Milia Islamia, Universities located in North-East and Metro Universities mainly for the development of infrastructure.
- ❖ Steps being taken to bring about transparency in the functioning of the accrediting and affiliating bodies including AICTE, UGC, CBSE, NCTE etc.
- ❖ A proposal for setting up an Education Call Centre is under consideration.

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