



Samagra Shikshana Karnataka

Proceedings of the 5th Executive Committee Meeting of Samagra Shikshana Karnataka

Venue: O/o The Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner, Bengaluru

Date: 10-10-2022

Time: 04.30p.m.

The 5th Executive Committee Meeting was chaired by Shri. I.S.N Prasad, Additional Chief Secretary & Development Commissioner, Government of Karnataka. The list of Members who attended the meeting is annexed. Ms. B.B Cauvery, State Project Director welcomed the Chairperson and all the Members of the Executive Committee.

Agenda 1: Seeking approval on the Action taken on the decisions of the 4th Executive Committee meeting

Ms. B.B. Cauvery, State Project Director (SPD), SSK briefed the Committee regarding the discussions and decisions of the 4th Executive Committee (EC) meeting.

Decisions: EC took note on the Action and decisions taken in the 4th EC meeting.

Subsequently, the following agenda items were discussed:

Agenda 2: Details of Expenditure for 2021-22

SPD briefed the details regarding the amount which was committed for various approved activities of 2021-22 and the status of expenditure as of March 2022 was placed before the EC. It was placed before the EC that out of the total agreed releases of Rs.117935.18Lakhs, an amount of Rs.47451.63Lakhs was released by GoI and matching State Share of Rs.31634.42Lakhs was released by GoK. However, an amount of Rs.189434.64Lakhs was released over and above matching State Share by GoK towards salaries and RTE Fee reimbursement.

For the year 2021-22, out of the total budget estimate of Rs.153787.33Lakhs, an expenditure of Rs. 118097.72Lakhs has been incurred for implementation of PAB approved activities (recurring and non-recurring) of 2021-22.

Decision: The details of allocation, releases and activity wise expenditure (recurring and non-recurring) for the year 2021-22 was noted by the EC.

Agenda 3: PAB approval for FY 2022-23 / Activities as approved for the year 2022-23

The details of the activities to be implemented as approved by the Project Appraisal Board (PAB) for 2022-23 was noted by the Committee. The total budget estimate of Rs.179833.61Lakhs and an additional budget approved for Karmayogi Shikshak training amounting to Rs.2226.88Lakhs were placed before the Committee. The agreed release of Rs.87487.79Lakhs by GoI and matching share of Rs.58325.19Lakhs was informed. SPD presented to the Committee that an additional budget of Rs.21208.68Lakhs is required for implementation of the PAB approved activities as per the agreed releases by GoI. The release of funds and progress till September 2022 was also placed before the Committee for approval.

Decision: EC accorded approval for the Action Plan presented for the year 2022-23. Chairperson, EC indicated that the allocation of budget as per agreed releases is being considered in the Supplementary Budget Estimate. Chairperson EC directed SPD SSK, if there is shortage of funds for activities even after allocation of funds a separate proposal with the required budgetary allocation to be sent to Finance Department following due procedure.

Agenda 4: GoK Releases, Expenditure and Progress for the year 2022-23 (till September 2022)

SPD explained that an amount of Rs.263487.70Lakhs has been allocated under various Heads of Accounts by GoK and an amount of Rs.169374.38Lakhs has been released and Rs.116077.28Lakhs has been spent. Expenditure has been incurred on salaries, RTE Fee reimbursement and State Sector programme. Also, an amount of Rs.45561.85Lakhs as reported in PRABANDH was placed before EC. SPD presented that release of funds for implementation of PAB approved activities is awaited from GoI and GoK. SPD informed the EC that 70% would be released by GoI shortly.

Decision: EC accorded approval on the expenditure and progress achieved as on 30th September, 2022.

Agenda 5: Seeking approval for the Committed Expenditure for the year 2022-23

The details of Committed expenditure of Rs.17223.72Lakhs carried forward from 2021-22 to 2022-23 and expenditure incurred was presented by SPD. The Committed expenditure of the PAB approved activities of 2021-22, implemented during 2022-23 was submitted to the EC seeking approval for entering Rs.16746.13Lakhs in the Statutory Audit Report FY 2021-22.

Agenda 5 Decision: The Committed Expenditure of 2021-22 was noted by EC and accorded approval for entering the Committed Expenditure of Rs.16746.13Lakhs in the Statutory Audit Report for FY 2021-22.

Agenda 6: Regarding approval for Air travel of outsourced staff in connection with the appraisals of Annual Work Plan and Budget and other official work of Samagra Shikshana Karnataka

SPD explained the agenda to EC that in view of the urgency to attend to appraisals related to Annual Work Plan and Budget of 2022-23, a six member team comprising of officers including outsourced personnel who are not entitled for air travel had to travel by Air. Post-facto approval of the EC was sought on this matter.

Decision: EC accorded approval for the air travel of six officers / officials (who are not entitled for air travel) who attended official work of Samagra Shikshana Karnataka.

Agenda 7: Regarding sanction of advance grant for uniforms to drivers and D group employees working on contract

SPD briefed the agenda to the Committee regarding seeking of post-facto approval for sanction of advances during the years 2020-21, 2021-22 and sanction of advances for the year 2022-23 towards purchase of uniforms to contract employees.

Decision: EC accorded approval for the sanctioned advances of contract employees towards the purchase of uniforms during the years 2020-21 (07 employees), 2021-22 (06 employees) and 2022-23 (04 employees).

Agenda 8: Kalika Chetharike – Learning Recovery Plan

SPD explained Kalika Chetharike programme and the status achieved so far.

Decision: EC noted the status of Kalika Chetharike programme implemented in the State.

Agenda 9: Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) – Activities taken up for the year 2022-23

SPD explained the agenda to EC in detail regarding organizing of workshops for designing / modifying activity sheets and revising of TLMs for Classes I to IX. Approval from the EC was sought for organizing workshops, providing remuneration to Experts, Subject Experts and Resource Teachers, DTP work of the designed materials and assigning printing and distribution to Karnataka Textbook Society (KTBS).

Agenda 9 Decisions: EC noted the status of implementation achieved so far and accorded approvals for the following:

1. Conduct of State level workshops for designing / modifying activity sheets and revising of TLM for Classes I to V.
2. Payment of remuneration to the Experts and Resource personnel as per admissible norms involved in the preparation and designing of TLM, Activity books and Teacher Activity Bank in the State Level workshops as and when needed:
 - a. Experts – Rs.5000/- per person
 - b. Subject Expert – Rs.1500/- per person
 - c. Resource Teachers – Rs.500/- per person
 - d. In case if a single title needs a longer duration for designing TLM and activities and requires multiple sittings, then the remuneration to be fixed per person limiting to 75% of the total eligible amount.
3. Conduct of State Level Workshops for revision of activity sheets and teacher activity bank for Class VI to IX.
4. DTP work of the designed materials as per the approved rates issued by KTBS for Classes I to V under Foundational Literacy and Numeracy and VI to IX under Learning Enhancement Programme.
5. Assign the task of printing and distribution process to KTBS.
6. Expenditure to be booked under Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Activity for Classes I to V and Learning Enhancement Programme for Classes VI to IX as approved by PAB during 2022-23.

Agenda 10: NIPUN Bharat Mission / Foundational Literacy and Numeracy

SPD explained the measures taken by SSK towards NIPUN Karnataka under FLN Mission and the status achieved.

Decision: EC noted the status of NIPUN Bharat Mission implemented in the State.

Agenda 11: Early Childhood Care Education (ECCE)

SPD explained the measures taken up by SSK under ECCE and the status achieved.

Decision: EC noted the status of ECCE implemented in the State.

Agenda 12: New Education Policy 2020

SPD briefed the status so far achieved in the implementation of NEP 2020 in Karnataka.

Decision: EC noted the status of implementation of NEP 2020 implemented in the State.

Agenda 13: Seeking approval for payment of admissible TA and DA to outsourced consultant working on deputation in the personal section of the Hon'ble Minister, Department of School Education and Literacy

SPD explained the agenda to the Committee. Sh. Manjunath Nagalikar, Outsourced Consultant is not eligible for any medical, leave pay and other benefits from the State Project Office, SSK. As directed by the Government, the proposal for payment of Rs.123295/- towards the expenses incurred on TA/DA is placed before the EC for approval.

Decision: The Committee directed SPD SSK to amend the Terms and Conditions of the Contract pertaining to said outsourced consultant, to include provisions of TA and DA and accorded approval for the payment of Rs. 123295/- from the available MMMER funds.

Agenda 14: Invitation for calling tender to select Internal Auditors for the financial year of 2022-23

The need for engaging Internal Auditors was briefed by SPD to the Committee. Approval was sought for calling tender to select qualified Internal Auditors for a period of one year as mandated by MoE for FY 2022-23. The agenda was discussed in detail.

Decision: EC accorded approval for calling tender to hire Internal Auditors for the year 2022-23.

Agenda 15: Extension of the service of legal advisors appointed in relation with the case in various courts/authorities within the jurisdiction of the office of the State Project Director, SSK Bengaluru

SPD briefed the agenda and explained the process of hiring legal advisors to the Committee. The agenda was discussed in detail and SPD SSK informed that it would be helpful if SSK retains one among the three existing legal advisors and hire one Legal Consultant whose services at the State Project Office, SSK may be made full time.

Decision: EC accorded approval for hiring the service of legal advisors to handle cases in various courts/authorities within the jurisdiction of the State Project Office, SSK. It was decided to retain one among the three existing legal advisors and also to hire a full time legal consultant to be working at State Project Office with a remuneration / financial support of Rs.50,000/- per month and the expenditure incurred to be booked under available MMMER/Programme Management Funds.

Agenda 16: Regarding the enhancement of remuneration / financial support to Ms. Latha Patil, Consultant, Girls Education at Samagra Shikshana Karnataka

SPD explained the agenda in detail. Ms. Latha V Patil is currently working as Consultant on contract basis for Girls Education. Since there is an increase in the scope of work, proposal was placed before the EC to enhance the financial support by 20% from April, 2022 from Rs.35,539/- to Rs.42,647/-.

Decision: EC accorded approval for enhancing the financial support from the existing honorarium of Rs.35,539/- to Rs.42,647/- from April 2022 to Ms. Latha V Patil, Consultant Girls Education working at the State Project Office, SSK. The expenditure to be booked under MMRER / Programme Management funds.

Agenda 17: Appointment of SSK Fellow (Consultants) for the State Project Office, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka, Bengaluru

SPD explained the agenda to the Committee. The profile of SSK Fellows, requisite qualification and the details of the selection process was explained to the Committee.

Decision: EC accorded approval of two SSK Fellows (Consultants) at a monthly consolidated remuneration of Rs.70,000/- per month for a period of one year extendable to one more year based on his / her performance. The expenditure to be booked under MMRER / Programme Management funds.

Agenda 18: Appointment of Consultant for monitoring Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for the State Project Office, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka

SPD explained the need for having a PFMS Consultant at the State Project Office, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka. The agenda was discussed in detail

Decision: It was decided that there is no requirement for hiring an exclusive PFMS Consultant. Instead, Chairperson EC suggested that capacity building and the required support towards implementation of PFMS and onboarding to Khajane-2 to the personnel at SSK to be arranged from the Department of Treasuries.

Agenda 19: Appointment of one Computer Programmer at the State Project Office, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka Bengaluru

SPD explained the agenda to the Committee. SPD briefed about the enhanced scope of SSK and shortage of personnel working at SSK after shifting of SATS to CPI's office. The proposal to source one Senior Computer Programmer from the available vacant post against Consultant was discussed with a remuneration of Rs.35,000/- per month.

Agenda 19 Decision: Taking note of the varied ICT initiatives in the anvil and setting up of Vidya Samiksha Kendra in SPO, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka, approval was accorded by the EC to source the services of one Senior and qualified Computer Programmer against the post of Consultant on the basis of direct contract and to be working at the State Project Office with a monthly remuneration of Rs.50,000/- per month for a period of two years and extendable up to one year based on the performance. The expenditure to be booked under MMMER / Programme Management funds.

Agenda 20: Seeking permission for sourcing the services of a Communication Expert

SPD briefed that there is a need for Communication Expert. The Chairperson of the Committee directed SPD SSK that the qualification, scope of work, roles and responsibilities of hiring/procuring a Communication Expert may be examined and submitted on file as skilled expert would be required given the varied nature of the job profile.

Decision: EC deferred the subject.

Agenda 21: Seeking approval for opening of District Project Office, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka in the newly constituted Vijayanagara District

SPD briefed the agenda to the EC and informed that the proposal for creation of 14 posts for the District Project Office, Vijayanagar has been submitted to Government. Approval was sought for filling up of five posts namely, one District Computer Programmer, one Accounts Assistant, two Data Entry Operators and one Group D through outsource and to meet the expenditure from MMMER / Programme Management Funds.

Decision: Approval was accorded by the EC to fill up five posts through outsourcing namely, one District Computer Programmer, one Accounts Assistant, two Data Entry Operators and one Group D and directed SSK to follow similar procedure as is being done in other districts. The expenditure to be booked under MMMER / Programme Management funds.

Agenda 22: Setting up Vidya Samiksha Kendra (VSK) at the office of the State Project Director, SSK

SPD briefed the agenda to the Committee. It was brought to the notice of the Committee that an estimated amount of Rs.50000.00Lakhs is earmarked towards setting up of Vidya Samiksha Kendra at the office of SPD, SSK.

Decision: EC accorded approval for setting up Vidya Samiksha Kendra (VSK) at the office of SPD, SSK based on the NDEAR framework and as per directive given by MoE letter dated: 30-09-2022.

Other agenda with permission of the Chair:

Agenda 23: Approval of appointment of three retired audit officers to strengthen the Audit wing at Samagra Shikshana Karnataka.

SPD briefed the agenda to the EC. The subject was discussed in detail and the Committee observed that staff already working in the district under Education Department can be utilized.

Decision: EC Chairperson directed SSK that a meeting chaired by the Principal Secretary, School Education and Literacy along with Commissioner for Public Instruction and the State Project Director to be held to discuss and explore possibilities of strengthening Audit wing both at district level and at the State level utilising effectively the existing personnel.

Agenda 24: Approval of engaging Senior Counsel for Arbitration Cases

A. The EC was briefed about following Arbitration cases pertaining to ICT Phase III:

1. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme was approved by the then Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), now Ministry of Education (MoE) Government of India, New Delhi for a sum of Rs.426Crores. The purpose of this project was to provide computer literacy to students of 1763 Government and 2633 Aided Secondary Schools all over the State over a period of 60 months (5 years). The Department of Primary and Secondary Education assigned the project to KEONICS on 05-02-2010 to implement the project. KEONICS identified Everonn Education Ltd., as the prime bidder which formed a new Consortium with M/s Richo and M/s Siddharth Infotech Ltd. The implementation of the project was delayed for various reasons and the project did not take off even after 60 months of signing the agreement and hence the project was terminated on 11-08-2016.

After termination of the project, **M/s Siddharth Infotech Ltd.,** has filed Arbitration case against the State of Karnataka (A.C No. 204/2021). The Arbitral Award was passed on 18-05-2022 amounting to Rs.178.98Crores. The Government has decided to file an appeal in the Commercial Court against the said Arbitral Award. In view of the complexity and enormity of the case Sh. Udaya Holla, Senior Advocate, M/s Holla and Holla Advocates has been engaged by SSK on the directions of the Government to represent the Department in the appeal case to be filed in the Commercial Court, Bengaluru against the Arbitral

Award with the professional fee of Rs.4.00Lakh per date for hearing and in addition a one time reading charge of Rs.4.00Lakh. The matter was discussed in detail and the following decision was taken.

Decision: The decision to appoint Shri. Udaya Holla, Senior Advocate, M/s Holla and Holla Advocates and payment of professional fee of Rs.4.00Lakh per date for hearing and in addition a one time reading charge of Rs.4.00Lakh was ratified and payment to be booked from the available MMMER / Programme Management funds.

2. Arbitration Proceedings filed by **M/s Puthur Infotech Pvt. Ltd A.C No. 04/2022 (I & C No.69/2018)** is presently underway in the Arbitrator Court against Government for recovery of Rs.11.59Crore as part of AMC services rendered for equipments purchased under ICT – Phase 3 project. Since, the Department has counter claim of Rs.7.07Crore and it is part of ICT Phase 3 project, it is necessary that a Senior Counsel is very much required to represent the Department effectively. The matter was discussed in detail and the following decision was taken.

Decision: It was decided to hire a Senior Counsel from SSK to represent Education Department and pay the professional fee out of available MMMER funds.

3. Arbitration Proceedings has been filed by **M/s KEONICS A.C No. 331/2022 (CMP No. 52/2020)** for recovery of Rs.426.68Crore losses suffered due to the termination of ICT Phase 3 project. Arbitration is yet to begin. In view of the huge amount and implications involved a Senior Counsel is very much required to represent the Department effectively. The matter was discussed in detail and the following decision was taken.

Decision: It was decided to hire a Senior Counsel from SSK to represent Education Department and pay the professional fee out of available MMMER funds.

4. Arbitration Proceedings has been filed by **M/s EVERONN EDUCATION Ltd A.C No. 298/2022 (CMP No. 340/2022)** for recovery of Rs.732.824Crore losses suffered under various heads such as special and exemplary damages, consequential damages etc under ICT Phase 3 project. Matter is referred to Arbitration Court and is yet to begin. In view of the huge amount and implications involved a Senior Counsel is very much required to represent the Department effectively. The matter was discussed in detail and the following decision was taken.

Agenda 24 (4) Decision: It was decided to hire a Senior Counsel from SSK to represent Education Department and pay the professional fee out of available MMMER funds.

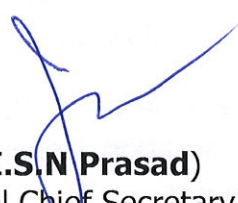
B. The EC was briefed about Arbitration Cases of RMSA Civil Works: Four Contractors have filed 25 Arbitration Cases for adjudication of their claims pertaining to construction of RMSA School Buildings implemented through various agencies during the year 2013-14, totally 2024 works under 77 packages. Shri.G.B Sharath Gowda has been appointed as Private Advocate with the approval of Government and 15 cases are presently ongoing in the Arbitration Court. The total claim amount by the four agencies on various grounds such as price escalation, additional Bank Guarantee charges beyond original agreement period, refund of excess royalty charges, payment of additional overhead charges etc., for 25 cases comes to around Rs.1687.67Crores. Considering the volume of cases, huge claims and complications involved it would be helpful if a Senior Counsel can also be engaged along with Shri. G.B Sharath Gowda, Private Advocate.

Agenda 24 B Decisions: The Committee accorded approval to hire a Senior Counsel from SSK to represent 25 Arbitration Cases of RMSA Civil works along with Shri. Sharath Gowda, Private Advocate. The expenditure incurred on professional fees to be booked under available MMMER funds.

Agenda 25: Reconstitution of Executive Committee

The Chairperson, EC directed SPD SSK to submit a proposal to Government for re-constituting the EC with key departments/stakeholders.

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks


(I.S.N Prasad)
Additional Chief Secretary and
Development Commissioner &
Chairperson, Executive Committee
Samagra Shikshana Karnataka.

List of members attended the 5th Executive Committee Meeting of Samagra Shikshana Karnataka

1. Shri. I.S.N Prasad, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner, Government of Karnataka and Chairperson EC SSK, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.
2. Shri. Ritesh Kumar Singh, I.A.S., Principal Secretary, Primary and Secondary Education, Government of Karnataka, M.S. Building, Bengaluru.
3. Shri. P Manivannan, I.A.S., Secretary to Government, Social Welfare Department, Vikasa Soudha, Bengaluru.
4. Ms. B.B. Cauvery, I.A.S., State Project Director, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru.
5. Shri. Krishna Bajbai, I.A.S., Regional Commissioner and Secretary, Kalyana Karnataka Regional Development Board, Kalaburagi.
6. Ms. Garima Panwar, I.A.S., Additional Commissioner, Department of School Education and Literacy, Kalaburgi.
7. Shri. Aanand Meena, I.A.S., Deputy Secretary, Kalyana Karnataka Regional Development Board, Kalaburagi
8. Ms. Sumangala V, Director DSERT Bengaluru.
9. Shri. Maruthi M.R, Director (Quality) and Addl. Director (Programmes), Office of the State Project Director, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka, Bengaluru.
10. Shri. K Gururaj Rao, Sr. Director, Planning Department, Human Development Division, MS Building, Bengaluru.
11. Dr. Usha B, Joint Director, Department of Women and Child Development, Bengaluru.
12. Shri. Narayangowda, Joint Director, Mid-Day meals, Bengaluru.
13. Prof. Somashekhar T.V, Regional Institute of Education, Mysuru.
14. Shri. H.R. Harsha, State Project Engineer, Office of the State Project Director, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka, Bengaluru.
15. Shri. Mahesh R.K, Chief Accounts Officer, Office of the State Project Director, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka, Bengaluru.
16. Shri. S.B. Bingeri, Deputy Director (Admin), Office of the ACPI Dharwad.
17. Dr. Y.B. Venkatesh, Section Officer, Pre-University Education, Malleswaram, Bengaluru.
18. Shri. Hanumanthappa Nittur, Deputy Director, Pre-University Education, Karwar District.
19. Shri. S.M Hudedmani, Deputy Project Coordinator, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka District Project Office, Dharwad District.
20. Shri. Mahesh, Deputy Project Coordinator, Samagra Shikshana Karnataka District Project Office, Hassan District.

21. Ms. Manjula Nanjundaiah, Director, Seva-in-Action, Bengaluru.
22. Shri. Varun Nallur, Member, Azim Premji Foundation, Bengaluru.
23. Ms. Vijayanthi, Programme Director, Akshara Foundation.
24. Joint Directors and Senior Programme Officers, Office of the State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha Karnataka, Bengaluru.
25. Office Copy.