

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**SUMMARY RECORD OF DISCUSSION OF THE 60TH MEETING OF
CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD OF EDUCATION, UNDER
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, HELD ON
8TH NOVEMBER, 2012**

New Delhi: November 9th, 2012

The Sixtieth Meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) was held on 8th November, 2012 at New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of Human Resource Development. Shri Rahman Khan, Minister of Minority Affairs, Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Minister of State of HRD along with 18 Ministers-in-charge of Education from various States/UTs, Ms Shantha Sinha, Chairperson of NCPCR, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development and other members of CABE attended the meeting.

2. The CABE is the highest advisory body to advise the Central and State Governments in the field of education. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th June, 2012 were confirmed today along with the Action Taken Note on them.

3. In his opening remarks, Hon'ble HRM Dr M. M. Pallam Raju mentioned that the purpose of education should be to build an inclusive, fair and just society. In a country as diverse and as large as India, the task of developing national policies while at the same time respecting and incorporating regional aspirations and an inclusive agenda of growth is indeed a real challenge. In this

context, Hon'ble HRM emphasized on a participatory approach in which Central Government and State Governments, academics, autonomous institutions, private sector and all other stakeholders, should work together, Hon'ble HRM also expressed the view that education should lead to character building of our youth and also inspire them to work towards the task of nation building in addition to their work for employment or self-employment.

4. Hon'ble HRM emphasised the importance of Teachers' education as also the need to prohibit unfair practices in schools. He also emphasised the need for close cooperation in implementation of the RtE Act.

5. As regards higher education, Hon'ble HRM said that the consolidation of the initiatives undertaken during XI Plan period, strengthening of the State Institutions, Faculty Development, strengthening Research and Innovation in Basic Sciences and Social Sciences, Skill Building and Vocational Education should be the critical focus areas.

6. Hon'ble Minister of Minority Affairs, Shri Rahman Khan in his address, urged the State Education Ministers and the CABE members to ensure that the provisions of the Constitution relating to establishment of educational institutions by Minorities should be respected in letter and spirit so as to ensure the educational development of minorities. He also suggested constitution of a Sub Committee of CABE for monitoring the protection of child's rights and minority educational institutions.

7. Presentations were made by the officials and academics on the following issues relating to school education.

- Recommendations of Justice Verma Committee on Teacher Education
- CABE Committee on prevention of unfair practices adopted by schools
- Review of implementation of RtE Act
- CABE Committee on expanding RtE upto Class X and to include pre-school education

The above presentations were followed by discussions in which state education ministers and CABE members actively participated.

8. Thereafter, the presentations were made on the following issues relating to higher and technical education.

- CABE Committee on University Reforms
- National Framework in Higher Education
- Role of States in Mandatory Accreditation
- All India Higher Education Survey
- Reforms in polytechnic sector

9. After detailed discussions, the following resolutions were adopted:

- (i) CABE discussed the recommendations of the Justice Verma Commission and endorsed the recommendations of the Commission. CABE also approved the suggested Action Plan for implementation of the recommendations of the Commission.
- (ii) CABE noted the progress under the roll out of the RTE Act, 2009 which shows substantive efforts by the States and UTs to implement its various provisions. CABE took note of the support extended by the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in augmentation of school infrastructure in order to meet the gaps in the opening of neighbourhood schools, recruitment of teachers and in improving quality of schooling. Bihar Education Minister pointed out to the need for extending the RTE deadline for completion of school infrastructure by March end 2013. While some other members of CABE did not support such an extension. CABE took the view that redoubled efforts should be made by State/UTs to achieve RTE standards for school

infrastructure in 2012-13 as over 12,000 new schools remain to be opened, over 2,50,000 additional class rooms and large number of toilets, drinking water facilities, and ramps are under construction under SSA as also by other national programmes for sanitation and drinking water supply. The CABE would review the progress again in its next meeting.

- (iii) CABE reiterated the need for the initiative to curb prevalent unfair practices in the school education sector including charging of capitation fees, misleading and non-transparent processes adopted by schools for admission of students in higher classes, appointment of ineligible and unqualified teachers and unanimously endorsed the proposed legislation.
- (iv) The report of the Committee on extension of RTE to preschool and secondary school was discussed and the issues identified by the subcommittees and the recommendation of the Subcommittees for further and wider deliberation with stakeholders, was endorsed by the CABE.
- (v) The report of the CABE Committee on University Reforms was discussed. CABE accepted the recommendation to incentivise the state universities & institutions and endorsed in-principle the proposed Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan. CABE decided the other issues such as National Higher Education Framework, role of States in mandatory accreditation, and reform in polytechnic sector be discussed in the next meeting.

10. CABE also noted the proposals put forward by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports on the need for awarding credits under National Service Scheme and the note of Ministry of Women & Child Development relating to gender issues and protection of children.

BK/VSB