

Ministry of Education
Department of School Education and Literacy

Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month of September 2021

I. Financial Achievements/Releases :

28.63 % of the BE was released by 30th September, 2021.

II. Important policy decisions and activities / initiatives:

A. Policy Related Discussions/Meetings:

Important Issues/ Development

S. No.	Subject	Brief
1	Shikshak Parv 2021	<p>In order to widely disseminate the learnings of schools pertaining to quality, inclusive practices and sustainability, Shikshak Parv was organized from 5th September, 2021 to 17th September, 2021 through virtual mode. Policy makers, administrators, academicians, experts, school principals, head-teachers and teachers were invited to participate in the Shikshak Parv to share their experiences(particularly innovative practices adopted to ensure continuity of education at all levels and to all learners in the prevailing COVID 2019 pandemic), learnings and discuss way forward to realise the aspirations of NEP-2020. The theme of this year's Shikshak Parv was "Quality and sustainable schools-learnings from schools in India". The theme was further subdivided into following nine sub-themes : -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Nurturing inclusive classrooms(ii) Promoting Quality and Sustainable schools(iii) Foundational Literacy and Numeracy(iv) Culture of Innovation in our Schools(v) Innovative Pedagogy to promote enjoyable and engaging learning(vi) Technology in Education: NDEAR(vii) Transforming the system of assessment-Holistic Progress Card(viii) Stimulating Indian Knowledge Systems, Arts and Culture(ix) Reimagining Vocational Education and Skill Building <p>Webinars of ninety (90) minutes duration on each of the sub-themes. The SCERT and DIETs in respective</p>

		<p>states will deliberate further on each of the webinars and suggest roadmap which will be consolidated by State SCERT. The DIET's faculties will use these webinars to develop their own innovative ideas for the way forward regarding each theme.</p> <p>2. The Shilshak Parv commenced on 5th September 2021 with the Hon'ble President of India, conferring the National Award to Teachers to 44 Awardees through virtual mode. These teachers were selected through online self-nomination process followed by 3 tier selection process at District, State and National level. A documentary film on each of the 44 Awardee Teachers was shown during ceremony.</p> <p>3. Hon'ble Prime Minister of India graced the inaugural conclave held on 7th September, 2021 and addressed a country wide audience of teachers, students, parents and all other stakeholders associated with school education sector. He also launched Indian Sign Language Dictionary (audio and text embedded sign language video for the hearing impaired, in conformity with Universal Design of Learning), Talking Books (audiobooks for the visually impaired), School Quality Assurance and Assessment Framework of CBSE, NISHTHA teachers' training programme for NIPUN Bharat and Vidyanjali portal (for facilitating education volunteers/ donors/ CSR contributors for school development). The conclave was attended by Hon. Union Minister for Education, Hon. Ministers of State for Education, and senior officials of the Ministry of Education.</p>
2	National Steering Committee for the development of National Curriculum Frameworks	<p>The Ministry of Education has formed the National Steering Committee for the development of National Curriculum Frameworks on 21.09.2021.</p> <p>The Members of the Committee are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sh. K Kasturirangan (Chair) 2. Sh. Mahesh Chandra Pant , Chancellor NIEPA 3. Sh. Govind Prasad Sharma:, Chairman National Book Trust 4. Ms. Najma Akhtar, Vice-Chancellor Jamia Millia Islamia University 5. Sh. T V Kattimani, Vice-Chancellor of Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh (CTUAP) 6. Sh. Michel Danino, guest professor IIT Gandhinagar 7. Sh. Milind Kamble , Chairperson IIM, Jammu 8. Sh. Jagbir Singh, Chancellor Central University of

		<p>Punjab, Bathinda.</p> <p>9. Sh. Manjul Bhargava, Mathematician and recipient of Fields Medal in 2014.</p> <p>10. Sh. M K Sridhar, trainer and Social Activist</p> <p>11. Sh. Dhir Jhingran, IAS(Retd.) Founder Director of Language and Learning Foundation (LLF)</p> <p>12. Sh. Shankar Maruwada, Co-founder and CEO at EkStep Foundation</p> <p>The Terms of Reference of the Committee is to develop four National Curriculum Frameworks- i.e., the National Curriculum Framework for School Education, National Curriculum Framework for Early Childhood Care and Education, National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education and National Curriculum Framework for Adult Education keeping in focus all the recommendations of NEP 2020 related to these four areas for proposing curriculum reforms. The Committee will finalise National Curriculum Frameworks after incorporating suggestions received from various stakeholders, i.e., states/UTs and also in the meetings of Executive Committee (EC) and General Body (GB) of the NCERT and Central Advisory Board on Education (CABE). The Committee will draw inputs from State Curriculum Frameworks received on the Tech Platform for the National Curriculum Frameworks. Tenure of the National Steering Committee will be three years from the date of its notification. Director NCERT will assist the SC.</p>
3	National Scheme for PM POSHAN in Schools	<p>The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, on 29th September 2021, has approved the continuation of 'National Scheme for PM POSHAN in Schools' for the five year period 2021-22 to 2025-26 with the financial outlay of ₹ 54061.73 crores from the Central Government and ₹ 31,733.17 crore from State Governments & UT administrations. Central Government will also bear additional cost of about ₹ 45,000 crore on foodgrains. The total scheme budget will amount to ₹ 1,30,794.90 crore.</p> <p>2. PM POSHAN Scheme, a Centrally-Sponsored Scheme, provides one hot cooked meal in Government and Government-aided schools from 2021-22 to 2025-26 covering all school children studying in Classes I-VIII of Government, Government-Aided Schools. The earlier name of the scheme was 'National Scheme for Mid Day Meal in Schools' popularly known as Mid Day Meal Scheme.</p>

		<p>3. The scheme covers about 11.80 crore children studying in 11.20 lakh schools across the country. Some of the highlights of PM Poshan scheme are:</p> <p>i.) Students studying in pre-primary or Bal Vatikas of Government and Government-aided primary schools in addition to 11.80 crore children from elementary classes will benefit from the Scheme.</p> <p>ii.) The concept of Tithi Bhojan will be encouraged extensively. Tithi Bhojan is a community participation programme in which people provide special food to children on special occasions/festivals.</p> <p>iii.) School Nutrition Gardens will be developed in schools to give children first hand experience with nature and gardening. The harvest of these gardens will be used in the scheme providing additional micro nutrients. School Nutrition Gardens have already been developed in more than 3 lakh schools of the country.</p> <p>iv.) Social Audit of the scheme will be mandatory in all the districts.</p> <p>v.) Special provision has been made for providing supplementary nutrition items to children in aspirational districts and districts with high prevalence of Anemia.</p> <p>vi.) Cooking competitions will be encouraged from village level to national level to promote ethnic cuisine and innovative menus based on locally available ingredients and vegetables.</p> <p>vii.) Involvement of Farmers Producer Organizations (FPO) and Women Self Help Groups in implementation of the scheme will be encouraged. Use of locally grown traditional food items will be encouraged.</p> <p>viii.) Field visits for progress monitoring and inspections will be facilitated for students of eminent Universities / Institutions and also trainee teachers of Regional Institutes of Educations (RIE) and District Institutes of Education and Training (DIET).</p>
4	Samagra Shiksha	<p>The Central Release under Samagra Shiksha till 30th September, 2021 - 7781.87 cr.</p> <p>Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) meetings were held to consider the proposal of Ministry of Education for launching the new centrally sponsored scheme for setting up of Exemplar Schools on 22.09.2021 and 24.09.2021.</p>
5	Swachhata Pakhwada	<p>As per the Calendar of Swachhata Pakhwada for the year 2021 released by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Swachhata Pakhwada 2021 was</p>

		<p>observed by the Department from 1st to 15th September, 2021. Schools affiliated with CBSE organized Swachhata Shapath Day, Swachhta Awareness Day, Community Outreach Day, Green School Drive Day, Swachchata School exhibition days, Swachchta action plan days etc.</p> <p>Swachchata Pakhwada was organised as a mass movement in all KVs of the country. The main focus was awareness about Covid-19 including Covid 19 appropriate behaviour and the safety protocols to be observed. All KVs participated in Swachchata Shapath day, Green School Drive, awareness about the need of proper handwash, health and hygiene, stopping use of single use plastic etc. Adequate publicity about the activities were given in social media platforms.</p> <p>The schools have participated wholeheartedly and more than 5.23 lakh schools, 3.78 cr. students pledged for cleanliness in the country.</p>
6	Performance Appraisal Report (PAR) of Teacher Educational Institutions (TEIs)	<p>High Court of Delhi in W.P. No. 11304/2019 pronounced the Judgment on 27.5.2021 upholding the decision of NCTE requiring the Teacher Educational Institutions (TEIs) to file Performance Appraisal Report (PAR). Based on the above judgment, PAR is now required to be mandatorily submitted by all TEIs online on the NCTE portal for the academic session 2020—2021, leading to better monitoring, transparency and improvement in the quality and service delivery in teacher education sector. Timelines to submit online PAR shall be from 30.09.2021 to 29.01.2022 (mid-night).</p>
7	Adult Education & New India Literacy Programme (NILP)	<p>Based on the observations/comments of the PMO, the revised Note for the Cabinet on the new scheme of Adult Education – New India Literacy Programme (NILP) for 2021-26 was submitted to the Cabinet Secretariat and PMO on 15th September, 2021 and the same was reviewed by PMO through a meeting on virtual mode with the Secretary (SE&L) and Joint Secretary (AE & Coord.) of D/o SE&L on 28th September, 2021. All aspects of the scheme were discussed in the meeting. It was desired by the PMO to prepare a revised and updated Note for the Cabinet on NILP and submit to Cabinet Secretariat and PMO.</p> <p>With the further extension of the implemented period of Padhna Likhna Abhiyan (PLA) 2020-21 for a period of</p>

		<p>two months from 01.08.2021 to 30.09.2021 approved by Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance for completion of the activities of the scheme, most of the States/UTs implementing the Scheme conducted the Assessment Tests for certification of learners as literates by holding the Basic Literacy Assessment Test or the Promotion Policy in Basic Literacy outcome during the last week of September, 2021.</p>
8	Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hon. Union Education Minister held a meeting on 22nd September 2021 regarding universalisation of quality education through digital education. Minister of State for Education Secretary, DoSE&L, BISAG-N, CEO, Prasar Bharati and other officials from the Ministry of Education were also present in the meeting. The meeting discussed leveraging satellite technology and internet to develop an integrated digital ecosystem; innovative approach to leverage technology to further expand the existing platforms to cover all spectrums of School Education, Higher Education, Skill Development and Teachers training; strengthening and expanding the existing Swayam Prabha Initiative and synergize initiatives like National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR) and National Educational Technology Forum (NETF); and the need to bridge digital divide and reach the unreached to bring greater inclusion in education. ➤ During the month of September 2021, awards for showing Excellence in Teaching and School Leadership were given to 22 teachers/ Leaders by Hon'ble MoS for Education. The function was organized virtually on 21.09.21. ➤ On 10th September 2021, UNESCO awarded the National Institute of Open Schooling the prestigious 'King Sejong Literacy Prize 2021 for its programme 'Enabling education of persons with disabilities through the technology enabled inclusive learning material, with a specific focus on Indian Sign Language (ISL) based content'. Established in 1989, with the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea, the King Sejong Literacy Prize honours King Sejong, who made significant contributions to the development of 'Hangul', the Korean alphabet,

		<p>over 500 years ago. The prize is awarded to governments, governmental agencies or nongovernmental organizations for achieving effective results in the fight for universal literacy.</p>
--	--	---

- On the occasion of celebration of International Literacy Day 08.09.2021, a webinar was organised under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education on the theme "Digital Literacy for Youth and Adults".

B. AUTONOMOUS BODIES ACTIVITIES:

Organization	Activity
Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav: Online Patriotic Solo Song Competition was conducted jointly by KVS & NVS at 3.00 pm on 09.09.2021 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi. Hon'ble Minister of State for Education, Smt. Annapurna Devi, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Secretary of School Education & Literary and other officers also attended programme.• Rashtriya Poshan Maah: Rashtriya Poshan Maah has been celebrated during the Month of September 2021 to accelerate various activities under POSHAN Abhiyan and created a Jan Andolan in the process by adhering to COVID-19 protocols.• NEP-2020:The details of progress made in this regard up to 30th September, 2021 in respect of various tasks assigned to KVS by the Ministry are as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Task No. 32 (NEP Para 2.2) - Sensitization of all Primary Teachers and HMs of KVs across the country on FLN completed, concept wise modules for concepts of Class - I on FLN are prepared and 11771 PRTs/HMs are trained and they have started using it for teaching children. KVS Blog on NIPUN Bharat also developed (https://kvs-fln5.blogspot.com/). Material for training of PRTs/HMs uploaded Blog is used by Stake holders. Preparations of concept wise modules for Class-II are in progress. HMs/PRTs of KVs have also been trained on phonics and numeracy across the country. The training was conducted for 75 Principals/ Head Masters and Primary teachers on Foundational Literacy. The Master Trainers further carried out training for 2369 Primary teachers at Regional level and it is continuing.○ Task No. 149 (NEP Para 5.8 -5.14) - In view of the ongoing program of NISHTHA 2.0, the In-house training for capacity building will be taken up after completion of the course.○ Task No. 153 (NEP Para 5.15 - 5.16 & 5.17 - 5.19) - KVS has its own Training Policy. In order to align it with the recommendations of NEP-2020 a committee has been constituted including member from NCERT to review the existing KVS Training Policy. The modules for continuous professional development of teachers have been prepared and are in the process of vetting.○ Task No. 85 (NEP Para 4.1 - 4.8) - Sensitization of all Primary Teachers and HMs of KVs across the country on FLN done, concept wise modules for concepts of Class - I on FLN are prepared and KVS Blog on NIPUN Bharat also developed (https://kvs-fln5.blogspot.com/) workshops/training conducted as elaborated above against Task No. 32. One day workshop for the DCs, ACs of the Regions and some Principals has been conducted for encouraging teachers to write their own Statement of Teaching Philosophy (STP). Further KVS will prepare and implement the action plan after release

	<p>of NCFSE. However, KVS has also prepared modules for conducive learning environment, continuous professional development of teachers and FLN. The same will be used during online/offline mode of training of teachers and school heads.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Task No. 144 (NEP Para 5.2 - 5.7) - Software for the Online Transfer Application has been developed as per the revised Transfer Guidelines of KVS for the year 2021. It is made live to invite transfer applications of the employees on 11.09.2021. The transfer orders of the employees will get finalized using the system logic as per the transfer guidelines on the basis of displacement count/transfer count. ○ Task No. 178 (NEP Para 6-7 - 6-9) - KVs located in aspirational districts for adding of pre-school section, issues to be considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Admission age to be reworked.(ii)Identification of schools-single vs multiple sections. (iii) Upgrading infra-structure in the existing KVs. (iv) Appointment of trained pre-school teachers and support staff. (v) Budgetary requirement. ○ Task No. 231 (NEP Para 16.1 - 16.8) - In order to ensure implementation of vocationalisation and to develop a skill during school period of children, Artificial Intelligence introduced as a vocational subject in all 1205 KVs in Class - VIII. Identified 25 KVs from all 25 Regions for conducting pilot of the Skill Based Aptitude Tests by NCERT. Further KVS has also identified 200 KVs across the country for developing Vocational Skill laboratories.
<p>Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Education Policy - 2020: 370 JNVs identified as exemplar school for implementation of NEP - 2020 under following categories : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Aspirational - 116 b. J & K and Ladakh - 12 c. Hilly Area - 16 d. NE Region - 51 e. Minority Areas - 52 f. Tribal Area - 42 g. SC dominated districts - 81 • Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM): Various activities like conducting Morning Assembly on the theme of AKAM, Essay Writing Competition, Slogan Writing, Poem Writing, Story Writing, etc. were conducted in JNVs under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) programme
<p>National Council of Educational Research and Training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A capacity building programme for the textbook writers of linguistic minorities of Arunachal Pradesh in selection, adaptation and development of resource material in minority language was conducted through online mode by NERIE, Umiam from 27th September 2021 to 1st October 2021

(NCERT)	
National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interactive Session with NEP Expert, Prof. K. Ramachandran, was organized by NCTE on 8th September, 2021 for developing understanding about the recommendations of NEP in Teacher Education Sector.
Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aryabhata Ganit Challenge (AGC) 2021: As part of celebrating Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (India@75), CBSE is organizing Aryabhata Ganit Challenge (AGC)-2021 to enhance mathematical abilities among students. Theme of the AGC-2021 is India's Mathematical Heritage: शून्य से शिखर तक.
National Institute Of Open Schooling (NIOS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A two day National Seminar on NEP 2020: The National Institute of Open Schooling in collaboration with Vidya Bharati Uchcha Shiksha Sansthan (Delhi) hosted a two-day National Seminar on "NEP 2020: Implementation, Strategies, and Progresses" from September 11-12, 2021. Hon'ble Minister of State for Education, Dr. Subhas Sarkar, was the Chief Guest and inaugurated the two-day workshop on September 11, 2021.

C. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF E-GOVERNANCE

E-Office is fully implemented in this Department. The exchange of information, communication & transactions are delivered through e-office/e-mail. Meetings with State Governments/Other Ministries/autonomous organizations are held through Video Conferencing.