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GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRPERSON REVIEW COMMITTEE OF
DSEAR'73,
ROOM NO. 10, SCERT, VARUN MARG, DEFENCE COLONY
NEW DELHI-110024

F.No.1/CH/RC/2011/12

Dated: 21.07.11

Minutes

A meeting was held with Ms. Geeta Sagar, former (Retd.) Secretary, Education, at 11.00 A.M. on 21.07.11 which was attended by following officers :-

Review Committee members present :

- a) Ms. Shailaja Chandra, IAS (Retd.), Chairperson, Review Committee
- b) Ms. Abha Joshi, Member Secretary
- c) Sh. Manish Gaur, ALA, Member
- d) Sh. Pushparaj Deshpande, (Intern consultant)
- e) Sh. Marcel Ekka, ADE (Act)

1. At the outset the Chairperson welcomed Ms. Geeta Sagar and briefed her about the issues taken up till date by the Review Committee. She sought her opinion on the following issues:-

- i) Enhancement of the powers of the Tribunal.
- ii) Constitution of Redressal Committee at Regional Director level on the pattern of PGC.
- iii) Creation of a web-site on which the school be asked to put up the vital information. The web-site would be so designed that if a school does not fill up a particular field, exception reports would pop-up. The pass-word of the site would be with the stake holders only. This would enhance transparency in the function of school system.
- iv) Designing of a financial statement by a Chartered Accountant which will project main financial aspects of a school. This may be helpful in categorising a school for the purpose of fee-regulation .
- v) Issue of appointment of teachers in aided school.
- vi) Allowing aided schools to raises resources under the existing provisions like using premises for conducting educational activities after school hours.

2. Ms. Geeta Sagar opined on the issues raised above as –

- i) That instead of creating a Grievances Redressal Committee under Regional Director there should be an Arbitration machinery just as it happens in matters related to co-operatives. This would be more beneficial and effective because officials of the department are already over-burdened and more over, it is always better to get any disputed matter resolved by an external party. For this purpose a panel of arbitrators may be prepared.
- ii) The aided schools should be allowed to raise funds as per existing provisions. If an aided school desires to discontinue aid the department should accept their proposal provided the land was not given to the school by any government agency. For this detailed information about every school like its enrolment and status of land should first be compiled so that an appropriate policy decision may be taken.
- iii) Before considering creation of more than one Tribunal or enhancing its power, provision of Tribunal vis-a-vis provisions of prosecuting authority under RTE should be examined so that there is no conflict between the two Acts.

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iv) Tribunal should be an appellate body i.e. complaints of any nature may first be referred to Grievance Redressal Committee under Regional Director who may pass appropriate orders. In case the order is not complied by the school, action against the school may be taken by the Director.

If the school / complainants are aggrieved by the order, they may go in appeal to the Tribunal.

Similarly, dispute between management and employees may first go for arbitration. If any party is aggrieved by the decision of arbitrator, it may go in appeal to the Tribunal.

v) The proposal of creating a web-site for the purpose of over-all transparency is a worthwhile proposal.

vi) However, for better management of aided schools a Governing Body should be constituted for every aided school just as is done in government aided colleges and in this Governing Body at least 50% representatives should be of government.

For carrying out maintenance work in aided schools out of funds provided by the government, every school should constitute a 'building committee' in which at least one member should be either of S.E. or E.E. level.

3. The Chairperson concluded the meeting with thanks to Ms. Sagar for her valuable suggestions and with following directions –

1) Mr. Manish Gaur, ALA would draw a procedural note on arbitration mechanism to be adopted for resolving disputes between employees and management of private schools. For this he should also work out the details for selection of arbitrator.

2) Mr. Deshpande, Intern Consultant would develop a format to seek land status and other information from aided schools. Data would need to be collected for which Member Secy was asked to take up officially and quickly.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all present.


(ABHA JOSHI)

MEMBER SECRETARY