

F. No. 8-1/2025-IS.6
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of School Education and Literacy
IS.6 Section

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated, 27th August, 2025

Subject: - Minutes of Supplementary Meeting of PAB held on 22.08.2025 to consider release of funds to the State of Tamil Nadu for 'RTE Entitlements' component of Samagra Shiksha.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith Minutes of the supplementary meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) held on 22.08.2025, to consider release of funds to State Government of Tamil Nadu for 'RTE Entitlements' component of Samagra Shiksha in compliance with Orders dated 10.06.2025 of Hon'ble Madras High Court in Writ Petition No. 18427 of 2025 [*V. Eswaran vs. Government of Tamil Nadu & Ors.*].

Encl: As above


(Pradeep Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
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प्रदीप कुमार/PRADEEP KUMAR
अवर सचिव/Under Secretary
भारत सरकार/Govt. of India
शिक्षा मंत्रालय/Min. of Education
स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग/D/o School Education and Literacy
शास्त्री भवन, नई दिल्ली/Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

To,

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment
3. The Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
4. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs
5. The Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
6. The Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs
7. The Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability
8. Additional Secretary (SS-II), DoSEL, Ministry of Education,
9. Additional Secretary (PMPY & Digital) DoSEL, Ministry of Education
10. JS (SS-I&AE), DoSEL, Ministry of Education
11. JS (Cord & Media), DoSEL, Ministry of Education
12. Smt. A. Srija, EA, DoSEL, Ministry of Education
13. JS (Inst & Trg), DoSEL, Ministry of Education
14. JS & FA, Ministry of Education
15. Sr. Adviser (Education) / Deputy Adviser (Education), NITI Aayog
16. Director, NCERT.
17. Vice Chancellor, NIEPA.
18. Chairperson, NCTE, Hans Bhawan, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi
19. Vice Chancellor, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi
20. Member Secretary, NCPCR, Chanderlok Building, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001

21. DDG (Statistics), Ministry of Education
22. Dy Secretary, IFD, Ministry of Education
23. The Secretary, School Education Department, Government of Tamil Nadu
24. The State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Tamil Nadu

Copy to:

1. All Divisional Heads of SS-I & SS-II Bureau, DoSEL
2. All Under Secretaries of SS-I & SS-II Bureau, DoSEL
3. NIC- with a request to upload minutes on the portal

Copy for information to: -

1. PPS to Secretary (SE&L)
2. PPS to AS(SS-II)
3. PPS to JS (Coord & Media)
4. TSG Consultants


(Pradeep Kumar)

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शास्त्री भवन, नई दिल्ली/Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Minutes of the Supplementary Meeting of Project Approval Board (PAB), held on 22.08.2025 to consider release of funds to the State of Tamil Nadu, for 'RTE Entitlements' component of Samagra Shiksha

A supplementary meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB), for considering the proposal for release of funds to the State of Tamil Nadu for 'RTE Entitlements' component of Samagra Shiksha, in compliance with Orders dated 10.06.2025 of Hon'ble Madras High Court in Writ Petition No. 18427 of 2025 [*V. Eswaran vs. Government of Tamil Nadu & Ors.*], was held under the chairmanship of Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSEL) on 22.08.2025. The list of participants who attended the meeting is at **Annexure-I**.

2. Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary (SE&L) welcomed the participants and asked Dr. Amarpreet Duggal, Joint Secretary (C&M), DoSEL to make a brief presentation including the need for convening supplementary meeting of the PAB.

3. The PAB was informed that for the FY 2024-25, Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) for an amount of Rs. 430566.06 lakh was approved under Samagra Shiksha for the State of Tamil Nadu. Out of this an amount of Rs. 215159.61 lakh was approved as Central share. However, central share could not be released to the State Government of Tamil Nadu during the financial year 2024-25.

4. In the meantime, Writ Petition No. 18427 of 2025 [*V. Eswaran vs. Government of Tamil Nadu & Ors.*] was filed before the Hon'ble Madras High Court as a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking directions to the Government of Tamil Nadu to initiate the process of admission under Section 12(1)(c) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 for the academic year 2025-26. Hon'ble Madras High Court pronounced its judgement on 10.06.2025. Notable observations / directions of Hon'ble High Court are as under: -

- a. *The State Government has the primary responsibility under Section 7(5) of the Act to be responsible to provide funds for the implementation of the provisions of the Act. Therefore, the State Government is directed to make reimbursements by adhering to the timeline laid down in the statute.*
- b. *Non-receipt of funds from the Union Government cannot be cited as a reason to wriggle out of this statutory obligation.*
- c. *It is true that implementation of the Samagra Shiksha Scheme is aligned to NEP 2020. But then, obligation under RTE Act is independent by itself. Section 7 of the Act states that the Central Government and the State Governments have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for carrying out the provisions of the Act.*
- d. *We, therefore, direct the Central Government to consider de-linking the RTE component of SSS and disburse the funds accordingly.*

As directed by the Hon'ble Madras High Court, this Department considered the issue and decided to implement the aforesaid Order dated 10.06.2025.

Pradeep Kumar
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अवर सचिव/Under Secretary
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5. As per the Programmatic and Financial Norms of Samagra Shiksha, based on which detailed costing sheet of the AWP&B is prepared, 'RTE Entitlements' include six (06) sub-components, namely, (a) Special Training of Out of School Children (OoSC), (b) Community Mobilization including Training of SMC/SMDC, (c) Free Uniforms, (d) Free Textbooks, (e) Support to SCPCR, and (f) Reimbursement towards expenditure incurred for admission under Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act, 2009. However, expenditure under these sub-components is 'Recurring' in nature, and not carried forward to subsequent financial year. Therefore, approval of the PAB is required in order to facilitate release of central assistance, against the recurring expenditure incurred in 2024-25, in the current FY 2025-26.

6. Initially approved outlay for 2024-25, actual expenditure by State Government of Tamil Nadu as per information received from the State Government, admissible amount in respect of aforesaid 'RTE Entitlements' are as under: -

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sub-Components of the 'RTE Entitlements' Component	Initially Approved outlay for 2024-25	Actual expenditure by State Government	Amount admissible for approval	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Special Training of Out of School Children (OoSC)	998.61	743.22	743.22	Recommended as per actual expenditure
Community Mobilization	1688.40	160.18	160.18	
Free Uniforms	19532.66	54553.82	19532.66	Recommended as per initially approved amount
Free Textbooks	14414.57	25350	14414.57	
Reimbursement under Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act, 2009	25617.15	36446.66	25617.15	
Total	62251.39	117253.88	60467.78	

7. After considering the relevant facts and figures as brought out above, the PAB decided to approve the amount mentioned in column (d) of the Table under Para-6 above and to include in the AWP&B of current FY 2025-26. The PAB also approved that admissible Central Share on the amount mentioned in column (d) of the Table under Para-6 above may be released in the current FY 2025-26 in one go as the State has already incurred the expenditure.

8. Accordingly, the revised Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) 2025-26 of Samagra Shiksha for the State of Tamil Nadu and release by Government of India during 2025-26 will be as under: -

(1) Total Estimated Budget (2025-26):

The approved estimates for the AWP&B for 2025-26 under Elementary, Secondary and Teacher Education are as under:


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(Rs. In Lakh)

Head	Spill over	Non-Recurring (Fresh)	Recurring * (Fresh)	Total Fresh (3+4)	Grand Total (Including Spill-Over) (2+5)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Elementary	11996.85	747.41	253362.10 (192894.32+60467.78)	254109.51 (193641.73+60467.78)	266106.36 (205638.58+60467.78)
Secondary	13913.80	18597.85	58495.85	77093.70	91007.50
Teacher Education	5184.39	0	6040.17	6040.17	11224.56
Total	31095.04	19345.26	317898.12 (257430.34+60467.78)	337243.38 (276775.60+60467.78)	368338.42 (307870.64+60467.78)

(2) Actual release by GoI during 2025-26

Against the above estimates, **Central Government shall provide to the State Government, Rs. 221003.052 lakh (Rs.184722.384 Lakh+Rs.36280.668 Lakh)** as its share: Rs. 159663.816 lakh (Rs. 123383.148 lakh+ 36280.668) lakh for Elementary education, Rs. 54604.50 lakh for Secondary education and Rs. 6734.736 lakh for Teacher Education. **The State would contribute Rs. 147335.368 lakh (Rs.123148.256 lakh+24187.112 lakh) as its matching share.** State will also be able to utilize their unspent balances as on 31.03.2025 for the activities approved for 2025-26 including spill over. The details of central share under recurring and non-recurring grants are as given below:

(Rs. In lakh)

Component	Elementary Education	Secondary Education	Teacher Education	Total
Recurring	152017.26 (115736.592+36280.668)	35097.51	3624.102	190738.872 (154458.204+36280.668)
Non-recurring	7646.556	19506.99	3110.634	30264.18
Total	159663.816 (123383.148 + 36280.668)	54604.50	6734.736	221003.052 (184722.384+36280.668)

9. All other contents of the Minutes of the meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) held on 19th March, 2025 circulated on 02.5.2025 read with revised minutes vide this Department's communication of even number dated 10.7.2025 shall remain unchanged.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

Pradeep Kumar
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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary (SE&L), MoE
2. Dr. B. Chandra Mohan Secretary, School Education, Tamil Nadu (through VC)
3. Dr. Amarpreet Duggal, Joint Secretary (Coordination & Media), MoE
4. Dr. M. Aarthi, State Project Director, Tamil Nadu (through VC)
5. Shri Guljari Lal, Deputy Secretary, MoE
6. Shri Pradeep Kumar, Under Secretary, MoE
7. Ms. Renu Ruhil, Consultant TSG-SS & State Coordinator, MoE
8. Smt. S. Uma, Addl. State Project Director, , Tamil Nadu
9. Smt. R.V. Chitra, Finance Controller, Tamil Nadu
10. Dr. V. Kumar, Joint Director, Tamil Nadu
11. Shri J.K. Prabhu, Financial Advisor & Chief Accounts
12. Smt. C. Pushpa. District Educational Officer, Tamil Nadu
13. Smt. S. Priyadarshini, State Coordinator, Tamil Nadu
14. Shri S. Vadivel, State Coordinator, Tamil Nadu

Through VC
