

**Minutes of the First Meeting of the National Consultative Committee for Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madrasas (SPQEM) on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2012.**

1. First meeting of the National Consultative Committee for Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madrasa (SPQEM) was held on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2012 at “Gulmohar Hall”, India Habitat Center, Lodi Road, New Delhi – 110 003 under the Chairmanship of Hon’ble Minister for Human Resource Development. Hon’ble Minister of State, Shri Jitin Prasad also attended the meeting. A list of participants is at **Annexure I**.
  
2. Secretary (SE & L) initiated the proceedings by welcoming all the participants. He informed that the decision to set up a National level Consultative Committee was taken in the stakeholders meeting held on 25.6.2012. He also informed that the information in respect of the SPQEM has been placed on the Ministry’s website as a follow-up to decision taken during the Stakeholders’ meeting. While giving a brief account of the implementation of the scheme during the last three years he informed that the scheme envisaged covering 4,500-6,000 madrasas and providing honorarium to about 13,500-18,000 teachers during the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan period but the Ministry has covered 10,522 madrasas benefitting 25,755 teachers and released grants amounting to Rs.418.88 crore till 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012. He stated that financial allocation for the scheme has been steadily increasing. He also informed that the Ministry is in the process of preparing memorandum for Expenditure Finance Committee for continuation of the scheme during 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. As regard the monitoring of the scheme he mentioned that the Department has taken up the matter of carrying out an evaluation of this scheme together with Infrastructure Development of Private Aided/Unaided Minority Institutes (IDMI) through Jamia Mila Islamia (JMI), Delhi. This evaluation would facilitate further refinement of the scheme. He invited suggestions/inputs from all the stakeholders for effective implementation of the scheme.
  
3. Hon’ble MOS (JP) welcomed all the participants and informed that it is his first meeting after taking over the charge of the Ministry. He stated that the education of Minorities is a major focus area of the Government. While referring to Census 2001 data on educational indicators of minorities, he informed that there are many districts, especially in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar where literacy rates are very low. He further informed that there is a need to improve education of the minorities particularly in the most backward pockets. He appreciated the fact that the coverage and financial allocation has also gone up substantially over a period of time. He informed that the various issues have been reported to the Ministry on the difficulties being faced by Madrasa teachers and the Government is working towards resolving

these. However, on account of federal structure of the country, the State Governments also have to share the responsibility of proper implementation of the scheme. Further, he stated that the proposed evaluation of the scheme by Jamia Millia Islamia, will help in identifying progress/development made in Madrasas and areas for further improvements. He suggested that the best practices in education in Madrasas at national and international level can be collected to offer valuable inputs for improvement of education amongst Minorities. He was of the view that the comments and suggestions received from the participants would be taken forward for better implementation of the scheme.

4. In his opening remarks, Hon'ble Human Resource Minister brought out the need for educational improvement of minority communities. He stated that quality education should enable the children studying in Madrasas to compete with others, in this era of global competition. He mentioned that subjects like Mathematics, Science, English and computer science give exposure to the children which not only equips them to shape their future better but will also contribute in building a modern India. He also emphasised the commitment of the Government to ensure that all children have access to education of quality. He mentioned that the SSA and KGBVs have specific targeted interventions for the educational enhancement of minorities. While expressing satisfaction over the popularity of the SPQEM, he felt that efforts be made to make the scheme more effective. He also expressed gratitude to his predecessor Shri Kapil Sibal for the steps taken to improve the functioning of the scheme including the constitution of the National Consultative Committee which offers an excellent opportunity for open dialogue. He felt that the forum can be utilized best for raising various implementation issues and for raising useful suggestions as a way forward. He requested the members keep a focus on ways improve to the quality of education in Madrasas apart from raising teacher related grievances. While underscoring the need for academic standards for the children studying in Madrasas, he emphasized the need for recruiting better qualified teachers and imparting training to the teachers. He also suggested that the inherent skills in the community needs to be transformed into vocational certification to facilitate employability. He requested the member to come up with practical suggestions which can be taken on board while implementing the scheme during 12<sup>th</sup> five year plan.

5. Thereafter, Dy. Secretary, Shri Virender Singh, made a presentation on the implementation of the scheme. A copy of the presentation is at **Annexure II**.

6. Thereafter, the Hon'ble HRM invited the participants for an open house discussion. All the participants took part in the deliberations and raised various implementation related issues, gave suggestions for improving the implementation of the scheme. Some of the issued

raised were, delay in release of teachers' honorarium, low rate of honorarium, non-receipt of recurring salary, delays in registration with NIOS, need for better monitoring at State level, delay in issue of utilization certificates under the scheme etc. A summary of discussion is presented as follows:

7. Major issues raised by the Members of the Committee

(i) **Regularisation of teachers and Increasing the rate of teachers' honorarium:**

Shri Aizaz Ahmed, Islamic Madarsa Modernization Teacher Association of India (IMMTA) UP; Shri Muslim Raza Khan and Shri Samiullah Khan, All India Madrasa Adhunikaran Shikshak Sangh (AIMASS) UP; Shri Manawar Ahmed, Madrasa Association(MA) Odisha requested that Madrasa teachers would be able to concentrate on quality education only if the uncertainty over their careers is settled by regularizing them. They were also of the view that the salaries/honorarium being given under the scheme were very low and that the rate of teachers' honorarium be increased sufficiently in line with overall inflation.

(ii) **Streamlining Payment of Teachers' honorarium** – Shri Aizaz Ahmed, Islamic

Madarsamodernization Teacher Association of India (IMTAI), UP; Shri Muslim Raza Khan and Shri Samiullah Khan, UP; Shri Manawar Ahmed, Odisha; Shri Mohd Suhaib Qureshi, Madrasa Kalyan Sangh, MP; Mr. Habib Fakih, Sangam Society, Mumbai; Shri Hallim Khan, NCTUL, MP; voiced their concern regarding delays in payment of teachers' honorarium. It was informed that the teachers in some States have not received honorarium for past one or two years. It was emphasised that State Government releases are often very delayed & consequently the next years proposals are also delayed by the State government which do not reach government of India on time. They suggested that the timely payment of honorarium to teachers should be ensured and the required structure / system should be put in place for this purpose. A suggestion was made that instead of transferring funds to the State Governments, the Central Government should directly send the grants to the Madrasas.

(iii) **Delays in Release of Grant for Renewal Proposals:** Shri Aizaz Ahmed, Shri

Muslim Raza Khan and Shri Samiullah Khan, UP. Shri Manawar Ahmed, Odisha raised the issue of delays in release of grant for renewal proposals involving recurring teacher salary. It was suggested that States should be asked to send the renewal proposal to MHRD in time. Further, it was also suggested that the renewal proposal should be sent by State Government to MHRD along-with

Utilisation Certificate without referring to the State Grant-in-Aid-Committee. It was suggested that most of the renewal grants are delayed for want of submission of utilization certificates, the Government of India should devise a mechanism that the grants are released without any delay and the teachers covered under the scheme are able to receive their honorarium regularly in every quarter, if not every month.

- (iv) **Issue relating to undergraduate teachers:** Shri Muslim Raza Khan, informed that the undergraduate teachers, having worked for more than 10 years in Madrasas are too old to attain higher qualifications. As per the scheme guidelines these teachers would not be covered beyond 2012-13. He suggested that the services of these teachers may not be discontinued and they may be allowed to continue in the light of their experience. Government of India should make some suitable provision in this regard.
- (v) **Issues pertaining to NIOS:** Shri Aizaz Ahmed, IMMTA, UP; Shri Muslim Raza Khan and Shri Samiullah Khan, AIMASS, UP; Shri Ehtasham Sadri, Bihar Madrasa Science Teachers Association(BMSTA) Bihar; Shri Usman Madani, Kerala; Shri Mohd Suhaib Qureshi, MP; and Shri Hallim Khan, NCTUL, MP raised the issue of delays in registration of Madrasas by the NIOS. They were of the view that NIOS should take urgent action to process & finalise the pending proposals so that more number of Madrasas can avail the benefits of the scheme.
- (vi) **Extending Facilities like TLM, MDM, Text Books and Uniforms to Madrasas:** Shri Habib Fakhri, Mumbai; Prof. Haleem Khan, MP; Shri Aizaz Ahmed, suggested that facilities like TLM, MDM, Text Books, and Uniforms may also be provided to students in madrasas. It was informed that in some States madrasas get some of these facilities however, there is a need to provide these facilities to all madrasas. Further, participants from the Madhya Pradesh raised the issue of Uniform not being given to madrasas after implementation of the RTE Act. He informed that prior to RTE Act these madrasas were getting uniform under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. He also said that there is no provision of medical check-up of children studying in Madrasas.
- (vii) Dr. Syeda Mubin Zehra, New Delhi while complementing the Ministry's initiative of setting-up of a consultative forum, stated that there should be more focus on vocational education to enable the students to find suitable employment after they pass out of the madrasas. She also raised the issue of sanitation facilities in the Madrasas. In this context Hon'ble HRM informed that the Madrasas should

involves the local community like the model of SMCs, to ensure that these facilities are functional.

- (viii) Maulana Wali Rahmani, also raised the issue of delays in granting affiliation by NIOS and requested the Ministry to take-up this matter with the NIOS. He also raised the issue of non-coverage of independent and unrecognised Madrasas under SPQEM which he stated are very popular and have high enrollment of children, He also informed that the Ministry should consider direct transfer of teachers' honorarium to beneficiaries in view of the State Governments' failure to distribute teachers' honorarium in time. He also highlighted the need for improving curriculum / syllabus and working on the training of Madrasa teachers. While giving his opinion on the issue of considering setting-up SMC like forum for Madrasas, he informed that the legal aspects of such a proposition should be examined in the first place.
- (ix) Shri Manawar Ahmed, Odisha stated that copies of communications which are sent by the Ministry to the State Governments may also be endorsed to the members of the National Consultative Committee so that they can also expedite action at the State level by liaising with the concerned Department. The members of the National Consultative Committee may be authorized to interact with the State Governments to check delays in submission of utilization certificates;
- (x) Shri Ehtasham Sadri, Bihar Madrasa Science Teacher Association, Bihar stated that the Government should also start a scheme for providing character/moral education in all Government schools.
- (xi) Shri Mohd. Suhaib Qureshi, Madrasa Kalyan Sangh, MP raised the issue of providing support to teachers in proportion to the number of students and not to restrict it to 3 teachers. He further informed that State Madrasa Boards should be empowered to give recognition upto class 10<sup>th</sup>; and assistance to Madrasa Boards be increased from the present Rs. 5 lakh per annum;
- (xii) Shri Habib Fakhri, informed that the funds released by Government of India are not reaching the beneficiaries in time due to the time taken by the State Government in releasing the central grants. He suggested that the members of the National Consultative Committee can be made the representatives in State level grant in aid committees for better monitoring. He also suggested that the direct transfer of teacher honorarium to beneficiaries can be explored particularly once the Aadhar (UID) becomes operational.
- (xiii) Shri Halim Khan, Central GIAC member raised the issue of recent order of Madhya Pradesh government setting stringent conditions for funding to be provided

under the SSA. He also informed that Government of India officials have intervened in the matter. He also pointed out that quality educational outcomes should be the purpose of the scheme & not ready emphasis on teachers' salaries. As regards transfer of funds to the madrasas he felt there were delays at state government level and informed that there are other schemes where funds are directly transferred to institutions. This can also be considered in case of SPQEM.

- (xiv) Shri K.A.M. Muhammed Aboobacker, Tamilnadu, informed that no Madrasa in Tamilnadu has been supported under the scheme till date. The Government should initiate all India awareness generation campaign about the scheme as many States like Tamil Nadu are left out of the scope of the scheme. He also mentioned that the Government can also take the member of National Consultative Committee on board for better monitoring by giving the responsibility of his / her respective State.

9. Hon'ble HRM in his concluding remarks, informed that the issue raised during the meeting would be examined and taken into consideration while implementing the scheme during EFC 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. He reiterated the resolve of the Government for educational upliftment of the Minorities. He also assured that the interaction with the representative of beneficiaries would be continued and more such meeting would be convened for getting feedback on various implementation issues. He thanked all the participants for these valuable suggestions.

10. In her vote of thanks, Additional Secretary (SE&L), informed the Committee that lot of good suggestions that have come from many experienced people in the Consultative Committee will be taken to account for shaping the Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madrasa (SPQEM) in the forthcoming XII Five Year Plan.

*The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.*

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**ANNEXURE-I****LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
1.	Dr. S. S. Jena	Chairman, NIOS, A 24-25, Intuitional Area, Sector-62, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida.
2.	Secretary,	Department of Minority Welfare, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
3.	Secretary	Commissioner, Directorate Public Instruction, Madhya Pradesh.
4.	Secretary,	Education Department, Govt. of Bihar, Sachivalaya, Patna, Bihar.
5.	Director Public Instruction,	Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, KERALA.
6.	Chairman,	Madrassa Board, Madhya Pradesh, Islamic Road, Sindhi Colony, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
7.	Chairman	Madrassa Board, Rajasthan, 22A, Jhalana Doongri, Jaipur-302017, Rajasthan.
8.	Chairman	Bihar Madrassa Education Board, Vidyapati Marg, Patna- 800 001, Bihar.
9.	Maulana Wali Rahmani	All India Muslim Personal Law Board, Khankan Rehmani, Munger, Bihar.
10	Mufti Ejaz Arshad Qasmi	320/8 Lalita Park, Laxmi Nagar, New Delhi-110092
11	Dr. Khalid Anwar	136/4, Lalita Park, Laxmi Nagar, New Delhi - 110 092
12	Dr. Syeda Mubin Zehra	122, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Hauz Rani, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi
13	Prof. M.H. Qureshi	JMI, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi
14	Shri Aizaz Ahmed	National President, Islamic Madarsa Modernization Teachers Association of India, Head Office Risia, District Bharich, Uttar Pradesh
15	Shri Muslim Raza Khan	President, All India Madrasa Modern Teachers Association, Vill & PO Dewaitha, Dildar Nagar, Ghazipur, UP.
16	Shri Manawar Ahemed	General Secretary, Madrasa Association, Office Madras Sultania, near Samaj office, Post Bakshi Bazar, Distt. Cuttuck, Odisha
17	Mohd. Fazal Uddin Bashani	President, Madrasa Teachers Association, House No. 6, Sijuwadi Road, Hatigaon, Gauhati, Assam
18	Shri Ziauddin	General Secretary, IMASS, Madrasa Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Junior High School, Mangalore-247656, District Haridwar, Uttarakhand
19	Shri Ehtasham Sadri	Secretary, Bihar Madrasa Science Teachers Association, Madrasa Kahkashan Shahpur Bhagauni, Fazilpur, Samastipur, Bihar.
20	Shri Samiullah Khan	President, All India Madrasa Modernization Morcha, Madarsa Adhunikikaran Shikshak Sangh, 240/10, M.H. Road, Yahiyaganj, Lucknow- 226003, Uttar Pradesh
21	Mohd. Ahmed	General Secretary, All India Madrasa Modern Teachers Association, Mohd Padri Ward No. 17, N.P.P. Maharaganj, District Maharaganj, UP.
22	Shri Mohd. Suhaib Qureshi	Secretary, Madarsa Kalyan Sangh, 38, Shramdan Road, Pul Patra, Near Masjid Suhania, Berkhedi, Bhopal-462 008, Madhya Pradesh
23	Mr. Habib Fakih	G-9 Sangam Society, Manipra, Kalina, Santacruz East, Mumbai
24	Prof. Haleem Khan	Old Prodh Shiksha Kendra, Scheme No. 71, Sector- D, Indore, MP.
25	Shri Usman Madani	Al Hilal Manzil, PO Pathipiriyam, Malapuram, Kerala
26	Shri S.K. Hamza Haji	Perumba, Payyannur PO, Kannur- 670 307 Kerala
27	Shri K.A.M. Muhammed Aboobacker	Flat No. B-3, Alfa Lynnwood, No. 26 EVK Sampath Road, Vepery, Chennai-7
28	Maulana Kausar Hayat Khan	234, Peetal Basti Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh
29	P.M. Koya Master	Arfa Mazil, Edarakkal Parambu, Near GGUP School, PO Pokkunnu, Kozhikode-13, Kerala