

State Education Ministers Conference New delhi 22nd February 2012

The State Education Minister's Conference held , in New Delhi on February 22, 2012. The Hon'ble Union Minister for Human Resource Development and Communications and Information Technology, Shri Kapil Sibal, and Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Dr. (Smt.) D. Purandeswari jointly chaired the conference.

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu State Government the Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education Thiru.P.Palaniappan and The Hon'ble Minister for School Education and Sports and Youth Welfare Thiru N.R Sivapathy attended the conference and delivered speech. The Additional Chief secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu, Higher Education Department, Dr. T.S.Sridhar I.A.S and Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu School Education Department, Tmt.D.Sabitha I.A.S., Project Director SSA, Thiru.A.Mohammed Aslam I.A.S., were also attended the Conference.

SPEECH TEXT OF THIRU. P.PALANIAPPAN, HON'BLE MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Respected Hon'ble Union Minister for Human Resource development, Respected Hon'ble. Union Minister of State for HRD, beloved Ministers for Education, Secretaries of Education of the Government of India and States, officials of the Government of India and states, friends from the media, ladies and gentlemen,

'AMMA's Government is determined to increase the GER to 25% by 2025.

There is a substantial strong evidence that significant majority of the people of Tamil Nadu consider CET as an additional and unnecessary burden on a large number of students hoping for admission to professional courses. The State of Tamil Nadu favours the faced of CET on account of severe disadvantages faced by different vulnerable sections of the student – population such as rural households, Tamil medium and underprivileged categories. This is most established from the increase in the number of rural students getting admitted to professional degree courses. The percentage of rural students admitted into engineering courses during

2005 and 2006 when the Common Entrance Test was conducted, has been 56.72% and 58.26% respectively. The Tamil Nadu Government under the Able leadership of Hon'ble CM "AMMA" is not in favour of common Entrance Test (CET)

And this trend was reversed after the abolition of CET. The percentage goes to 68.79% in 2011.

Keeping all this in mind on the floor of the Assembly of the TN Government, the issue of CET was taken up on 30.12.2012. It was unanimously decided that the Government is not in favour of CET, as it will be disadvantageous to the interests of students.

Therefore, the Government of Tamil Nadu under the Able leadership of Hon'ble CM "AMMA" is not in favour of common Entrance Test (CET). However, the Present formula is a new Proposal which needs careful, detailed study. We shall examine the proposal in consultation with Hon'ble CM AMMA and send our response in due course.

In Tamil Nadu at Present 183 Community Colleges are running Vocational Education through Tamilnadu Open University and more than 60,000 students are on the rolls of the vocational Education Institutions.

The University offers 15 Diploma level programmes in various trades such as fashion design, house electrician, health assistance, four – wheeler mechanic, animation, beautician, etc., and 1 Certificate level programme in acupuncture. More such programmes are on the anvil. It is reported that the skill certification is being introduced at the University. Other State Universities in Tamil Nadu also have introduced the Community College system. So community College system is not new to Tamil Nadu as we have pioneered it. We welcome the move.

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The speech text of Hon'ble Minister for School Education and Sports and Youth Welfare Thiru.N.R.SIVAPATHY Govt. of Tamilnadu

Hon'ble Minister of Human Resources Development Thiru.Kapil Sibalji, Hon'ble Education Ministers of States, officials from Ministry of HRD and from the state Governments, At the outset , I , would like to bring to the notice of the audience in today's meeting . About the efforts, taken by our Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi AMMA , for the welfare of school children in Tamilnadu.

In our State, there are 12 vocational courses under the vocational stream in higher secondary education in Tamil Nadu. About 1,86,094 students have been enrolled in vocational courses across the state.

As you are aware, there are many important industrial hubs in our state namely, automobile, textile, light engineering and foundries. Efforts are already being taken to integrate the vocational courses to the requirement of the industries.

Our Hon'ble Chief Minister Amma is very keen on ensuring employment opportunities to the students who come out of the vocational courses. The Suggestions of the frame work will be taken up for discussion with our Chief Minister AMMA and our views will be sent in due course.

The offer made by Minister HRD to open community colleges near the industrial hubs, will also be examined in consultation with our Hon'ble Chief Minister AMMA and will be taken up with Government of India for further action

However, the Present formula is a new Proposal which needs careful, detailed study. We shall examine the proposal in consultation with Hon'ble CM AMMA and send our response in due course.

In Tamil Nadu, child friendly method of teaching was started as early as 2002-2003; known as 'Activity Based Learning' (ABL). The teachers are trained on a regular basis to ensure that the classroom learning is enjoyable. We are now in the process of simplifying the ABL to make it more age appropriate. The text book is integrated with the cards used in the ABL, where the child learns using cards, objects and other playthings.

The research team of the Directorate of Teacher Education Research and Training (DTERT) is continuously working on the text and the cards used in the ABL to make it not only age appropriate but also to help the child to read and write as required of the respective classes. Tamil Nadu has also introduced the Active Learning Methodology(ALM) in classes Vi, VII and VIII.

In order to implement the RTE Act, 2009, our Hon'ble CM AMMA has issued the RTE Rules, subsequent to which the guidelines along with the booklet of Frequently Asked Questions(FAQ) have also been issued.

Regarding creating awareness for Siksha Ka hak Abhiyan we have already conducted a meeting with representatives from all teacher associations, principals of private schools parent teacher associations etc. Detailed programmes have been charted out to create awareness about various provisions of the RTE Act throughout the State.

In order to reduce the load of books and to enable the children to learn with joy as prescribed by the NCF, 2005 our Hon'ble CM AMMA has introduced the Trimester system for classes I to VIII along with the Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation.

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