

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Directorate of School Education, Kashmir

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Subject: - Management of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Dyslexia and other slow-learning issues.

To review the Departmental initiatives for inclusion of children with learning disorder particularly Autism Spectrum Disorder, Dyslexia and other problems of slow-learners, a meeting under the Chairmanship of Director School Education, Kashmir was held today on 23.03.2016 in his office chambers.

Participants:

1. Principal, SIE, Srinagar.
2. Prof. Seema Naz from Govt. College of Education, Srinagar.
3. Dr. Mansoor Ahmad, MD, Department of Psychiatry, SMHS Hospital, Srinagar.
4. Mr. Wasim Trumboo (Special civil society invitee).
5. DRG's of all Districts.
6. IED Coordinators.
7. Field Supervisors.
8. Mtr. Qurat Masoodi, NGO Aash.

Director, School Education, Kashmir informed the house that excessive focus on management of children with physical disabilities has completely ignored the children with learning disorders and children with ASD, Dyslexia, ADHD etc. are not getting due attention and very less work has been done in this field so far.

The IED Co-ordinators informed that about 500 ASD / other mentally retarded children have been identified in various districts till now, field surveys. Accordingly it was desired that: -

- I. Dr. Rabia Naseem, Research Officer, SIE, Srinagar is nominated as Divisional level Nodal Officer to co-ordinate all available departmental initiatives for implementing the Inclusive Education component for such special children.
- II. The said Nodal officer shall be equipped with adequate resources and telephone helpline for facilitating the IEC activities on this subject.
- III. A committee of following officers under Principal, SIE, Srinagar shall be constituted to oversee identification of school children with various learning disabilities (dyslexia and ADHD/ASD):
 1. A representative from Government College of Education, Srinagar.
 2. Dr. Mansoor Ahmad, MD, Department of Psychiatry, SMHS Hospital, Srinagar.
 3. District Coordinator, IED Budgam, Pulwama & Srinagar.

Action by Principal SIE, Srinagar



Rehabilitation plan:

- i. A special proforma shall be devised for preparing a check list of indicators for identification of children with ASD / other learning disabilities to be verified by DSEK for public awareness.
- ii. DRG's / IED Co-ordinators shall workout an individual rehabilitation plan for each identified child which shall also include physical rehabilitation.

Action by CEO's / DRG's

Trainings:

To update skills of DRG's / IED Coordinators / DRP's handling ASD / Dyslexia children a special workshop shall be conducted in College of Education, Srinagar. Mr. Wasim Tramboos has been kind enough to arrange Resource Persons from outside the State for the purpose. Prof. Seema Naz shall coordinate the arrangement.

Action by Prof. Seema Naz

Additional Human Resource:

In order to ensure that adequate number of Resource Persons are available for implementation of individual rehabilitation policy in the field, Chief Education Officers (CEO) shall identify (05) Masters / Teachers preferably females for utilization of their services in District Resource Centres making these centres truly functional. The IEC Coordinators shall assist CEO's in identifying trained teachers for this purpose.

Action by CEO's / DRG's

Other decisions:

1. In order to ensure that relaxations / facilities available for such children at State and National Level are extended to the school children of Kashmir Division, a committee of following officers under the Chairmanship of Principal, DIET, Sopore is constituted to examine the available facilities / relaxations / academic interventions and to make the facilities compatible with CBSE / NCERT:
 - i. Two Field Supervisors from SIE.
 - ii. Two DRG's Budgam & Baramulla.
 - iii. District Coordinators from Kupwara, Srinagar & Pulwama.

Action by Principal, DIET Sopore

2. Concession / exemptions available in BOSE for such children shall be brought into the notice of CEO's / Head of Institutions through formal means and also by public notice for 8th class. It was noticed with displeasure that few Principals do not admit children with such needs in their Institutions in 9th / 11th class. The **CEO's / Principals** are **put on instruction** to ensure that (CWSN) are admitted without hassles.

Action by Joint Director, SSA



3. The District Coordinator Srinagar shall arrange a get-together with already identified ASD / dyslexia children in District Resource Centre, Srinagar on Tuesday the 29th of March 2016.

Action by CEO' Srinagar

4. The representative of Aash has put forth a proposal of starting of State-of-the-craft (fully equipped centre for rehabilitation of such children in Srinagar District) and it was agreed that the Directorate will extend all possible cooperation in this regard.

Action by NGO Aash

5. Follow-up: A follow-up meeting shall be held in SIE for reviewing progress of the scheme in the **third week of April 2016**.

Action by Principal SIE, Srinagar

Sd/-
Director
School Education Kashmir

No: DSEK/PS/misc/97

Dated: 26 - 03 - 2016.

Copy to the: -

1. Commissioner / Secretary to Government, School Education Department, Civil Secretariat, J&K, Mini Block, Jammu.
2. State Project Director, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, J&K, Jammu for information.
3. Principal, SIE, Srinagar.
4. Chief Education Officer _____ (All).
5. Principal, DIET, _____ (All).
6. Prof. Seema Naz from Govt. College of Education, Srinagar.
7. Dr. Mansoor Ahmad, MD, Department of Psychiatry, SMHS Hospital, Srinagar.
8. Mr. Wasim Trumboo (Special civil society invitee).
9. DRG's of all Districts.
10. I/C Website.


Personnel Officer

Directorate of School Education, Kashmir
26/3/2016