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ABOUT SHILLONG

Shillong is the capital city of Meghalaya and its rolling hills remind one of Scotland. October is perhaps the best month for visit to Shillong as the average temperature during the month varies from 21^o C to 13^o C. It's well connected by road to Guwahati (NH-40); Silchar, Agartala (NH44) and Aizawl (NH44A). The nearest railway station is Guwahati; while the nearest airport, Umroi outside Shillong has limited flights.

SUBTHEMES

All papers should relate to North Eastern region of the country.

Policy initiatives, coordination, collaboration / SSA, RMSA, ECCE in NE / Curriculum, Syllabus and Text books and NCF / Teachers Training (pre-service and in-service) / Physical Infrastructures in schools / Assessment, evaluation and examination in schools / Challenges of science and mathematics education / Innovative pedagogy / Diversity and language education and related challenges / Roles of Parents, Community, SMCs, PRIs and entrepreneurs in school education / School Leadership / Library, Laboratories, ICT in schools / Vocational education, distance education, Inclusive education, adolescence education program and sports and physical education in schools and issues thereof / Public-Private Partnerships in school and teacher education / Monitoring and Supervision / Financing in education / Research and Innovations in school education / Art integrated education

ABOUT NERIE

NERIE is a constituent unit of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) covering NE region. NERIE's mandate is to provide academic and technical support to the Governments of the NE states on policies and programmes of all aspects of School Education. For details, please see nerie.nic.in or ncert.nic.in.

ABOUT NEC

The North Eastern Council (NEC) is a nodal agency of the Government of India for the economic and social development of the North Eastern Region. The North Eastern Council was constituted in 1971 by an Act of Parliament. For details please see: necouncil.nic.in.



NATIONAL SEMINAR

on

IMPROVING LEARNING OUTCOMES AT SCHOOL LEVEL: ISSUES IN POLICY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

In Collaboration with

North Eastern Council (NEC)
Nongrim Hills, Shillong-793003

Organised by



North East Regional Institute of Education (NERIE)
NCERT, Umiam, Meghalaya-793103

Date

OCTOBER 15-16, 2014

Venue

**North Eastern Council Secretariat
Auditorium, Nongrim Hills, Shillong-
793003**

Background

The North Eastern (NE) region comprising eight states, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura, has a high literacy level and is rich in ethnic cultural heritage with linguistic diversity. However, the region lacks infrastructure and facilities in educational institutions across sectors and there is a need to improve the quality of education imparted.

Quality is at the heart of education. It influences what students learn, how well they learn, and what benefits they derive from their education. The quest to ensure that students achieve desirable learning outcomes and acquire values and skills that help them play positive role in their societies, has always been an issue on formulation of education policies, planning and frameworks. Therefore, the capacity, motivation and accountability of teachers to deliver quality education need to assume priority at all levels of school education in order to bring about significant improvements in learning outcomes of students.

It is a matter of great concern that various educational surveys and educational data over the years have indicated unsatisfactory learning achievements of children in various subjects particularly in Languages, Mathematics, Environmental Studies, Science and Social Sciences. The Joint Review Mission's reports of *Sarva Siksha Abhiyaan* (SSA) of last few years also mentioned that the learning levels of children are not up to the desirable level despite all the efforts being made by the states such as timely availability of textbooks and other learning materials, training of teachers, regular monitoring, etc. The India's 12th Five Year Plan (2012-2017), therefore, envisages a shift in focus from inputs, access and enrolment to teaching-learning process and its improvement in order to ensure adequate learning outcomes. It underlines the four main priorities of education policies, viz., Access, Equity, Quality and Governance, which places the greatest emphasis on improving *learning outcomes* at all levels. The plan takes a comprehensive view for building a strong focus

on teacher capacity, improving school leadership/management, strengthening academic support system, better community and parents' participation, measuring and improving learning outcomes in a continuous manner. The learning outcomes are generally treated as assessment standards. Broadly, learning outcomes define what each child should know, be able to do and the disposition that should be acquired over a period of time. The National Curriculum Framework (NCF-2005) and the syllabi developed as a follow up for various curricular areas provide stage-wise learning outcomes or curricular expectations.

Education is concerned with all-round development of children, physical, socio-emotional and cognitive. The education system, therefore, need to focus on improving children's learning outcomes in curricular subjects as well curricular activities, personal social qualities, and other curricular subjects such as work education and health education. All these aspects of children's learning and holistic development need to be assessed continuously and comprehensively in an integrated manner leading to augmenting learning process, learning outcomes and their overall growth. The proposed seminar on "Improving Learning Outcomes at School Level: Issues in Policy Planning and Implementation" to be held on 15th and 16th October, 2014 at North Eastern Council (NEC) Auditorium, Shillong will provide a platform wherein the academia, education functionaries, practicing teachers, supervisory personnel, researchers, policy makers, administrators and students would deliberate on these issues and come out with **a set of concrete suggestions/recommendations which would serve as the base for formulating plan by NEC for improving learning outcomes among school children of NE region.**

The seminar will be participated and contributed by different stakeholders such as students, teachers, headmasters, SCERT/DIET faculty members, administrators, academicians, parents, SMC members, Anganwadi functionaries, etc.

Call for papers

Interested participants may send their original research manuscripts, covering one or more themes of the seminar, along with abstracts and recommendations to nerieseminar.nec@gmail.com (in word processor file) by 30th September, 2014. The manuscript should be about 1500-2000 words having various sections and sub-sections. The concerns of the manuscript should be localized in the NE region. The Academic Committee of the seminar will shortlist suitable manuscripts, which are in conformity with the seminar objectives and contain the academic rigour for presentation in the seminar. Authors of the selected manuscripts will be intimated by email by the first week of October and invited to make presentation in the Seminar. The medium of manuscript should preferably be in English. Papers presented in this seminar may later be printed in a book form with ISBN.

The auditorium and seminar halls of the NEC are fully equipped for making presentations on LCD projectors.

The presenting authors of the selected papers will be provided with free local hospitality and TA as per their respective entitlements or 2AC train fare (whichever is less). Air fare (in economy class by Air India) to a few participants will be available about which the organizing committee will take the final decisions.

There is no registration fee.

----Principal & Staff, NERIE, Umiam

Important Dates

Last date for submitting the full paper with recommendations is **30th September, 2014**. Participation confirmation will be intimated by email before **6th October, 2014**. Decisions of the organizing committee will be final in all matters related to Seminar.