

Minutes of the Expert Committee on Gender and Education held on 20.07.2012 at 1430 hrs.in the Conference Hall of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi.

The following attended the meeting:

1. MS. Mamta Sharma	Chairperson NCW
2. Dr. Charu WaliKhanna	Presiding Officer
3. Ms. Neelam Nath IAS (RETD.)	Member
4. Mr. Piyush Angrish	Member
5. Ms. Sangeeta Chabhra	Member
6. Mr. Ridhima Rawat (Representative – K.R Mangalam School)	Member
7. Ms. Anupma Singh (Representative – Queen Mary School)	Member
8. Dr. M. K. Devarajan, (Member, SHRC, Raj.)	Special Invitee
9. Manish Kr. Angirash	Special Invitee
10. Ms.Yogita	Special Invitee
11. Deepak Sharma	Special Invitee

In attendance were:

1. Ms. Aarti Chawla	Coordinator
---------------------	-------------

At the outset, the Presiding Officer welcomed all the Members to the second meeting of the Expert Committee. All members expressed great pleasure at the presence of the **Chairperson NCW** who is taking personal interest in need for gender education among young children and its inclusion in the syllabus. The subcommittee was requested to submit their findings and observations.

Ms. Neelam Nath commenced the session and presented the findings of the subcommittee which are in a detail in the attached note. To summarize she stated that 3 core issues have been identified to be addressed in Phase 1 through the agencies mentioned in the note. The Sub Committee has held meeting at pilot project level at Patudi, Haryana along with representatives from PHD Chamber of Commerce. The issues were discussed at length and the group was of the opinion that the module be tested at the local level to begin with and subsequently at the urban level.

The agencies identified for coordination included the school authorities, local police, local administration, HRD Ministry among others. It was unanimously agreed that audio visual needed to be developed capturing the relevant identified concerns for functional solutions. The Sub Committee also met representatives from PHD Chamber of Commerce and discussed the possibility to collaborate with NCW to the extent possible with financial, legal and intellectual inputs.

Shri. Deepak Sharma representative NGO DIVINE TOUCH introducing the NGO said that they are working for under privileged women, migrant population in West Delhi and emphasized that Gender

sensitization is a crucial topic and it is important it be taught at the school level. He said that the visuals as a medium have a greater impact and was requested to assist NCW in developing a music album for gender sensitization and related issues.

Ms. Ridhima Rawat representative from K.R Mangalam School , informed the Expert Committee that she has spoken to Parents and Teachers who feel that respect for gender must be 'corrected' at the school level. She stressed on the need to sensitize teachers by ways of workshops and students by way of competitions and other ways. Sex education should be included in the syllabus so that respect for women and their body, what is good touch, what is bad touch, can be deeply entrenched in the child's mind.

Mr. Dev Raj expressed his concern for school dropouts who need to be included in the program. In the note of the subcommittee he said RWA's has been mentioned, however RWA's comprise of upper middle class colonies and the possibility of their having dropouts is limited. He suggested that the Police, NGOs and agencies who are implementing livelihood program be included. The suggestion has been well taken and will be included in the note. He also felt that that some subjects have been not included like trafficking and Khap-Panchayat .

Ms. Anupma Singh from Queen Mary School said that Value education should be emphasized at the different stages of the child, in different classes in school according to their intellectual capacity. She stated that in their school sex education is imparted once in 2 months from class 4 onwards. All members agreed for the need to start at an early stage according to the intellectual capacity of the child.

Unanimously it was felt that a Police person come intermittently to schools to familiarize children with procedure to generate and develop mutual trust. The police person can come and speak to the students and as a part of their field trip they can be taken to police station, especially in the rural areas.

Again, all Members reiterated that the urban and rural schools be treated appropriately since they have different problems.

STEP FORWARD:

- Sub Committee to meet representatives of PHD Chamber of Commerce to give concrete proposal on topics related to gender. Member NCW to accompany, if required.
- Sub Committee to formulate capsule at micro level for dissemination in Workshops. Member NCW to be part of the Workshops in schools at both rural and urban levels including drop out centres.
- Music album discussions with NGO to be finalized.
- HRD Ministry to be kept informed of progress and seek their assistance whenever required.

**Presiding Officer
Dr Charu WaliKhanna
Member NCW**