



NCE INDIA

'A child without education, is like a bird without wings'

NEWSLETTER April -September 2013

Editorial

National Coalition for Education (NCE) opines that "Education is an enabler for reaching all development goals. "At the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal in April 2000, the international community re-affirmed its commitment to achieve Education for All and adopted the Dakar Framework of Action which contains six goals that must be achieved by 2015. We all witness this commitment and work to make it a priority at all levels. In 2015, the global community is poised to adopt a new education agenda that will guide governments and education stakeholders in addressing the remaining challenges in achieving education for all. Even now, regional bodies and national governments are starting the process of reviewing the EFA achievements in their respective scopes. However we cannot wait for another two years to see that all children are in school.

The Indian situation in achieving the six EFA goals is not very satisfactory. Perhaps the most crucial task India faces is equipping its burgeoning youth with education and skills training. According to India's 2011 Census, India's literacy rate sits around 74%, with significant variation according to state and gender. In this regard, India's 2009 Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act is a big step towards guaranteeing a basic education for every child. Since its launch in 2010 India has witnessed some positive results, with 94 percent of

children between the ages of 6 and 14 enrolled in school, and steady improvements in terms of facilities such as toilets and drinking water.

More so the concern of out of school children is most disturbing issue. According to various Government reports there are around 8 million out of school children. According to 2011 census children aged 6-14 were 233.52 million (121.96 million male, 111.56 million female). According to DISE report 2012 only 199.05 Million children are in 1.41 million schools and being taught by 6.68 million teachers. Thus there are $233.52 - 199.05 = 40.47$ million out of school children.

Also another 12.54 million drop out during 2011 academic session (average dropout rate: 6.50 for primary and 6.56 for upper primary). After adding $12.54 + 40.47 = 53.72$ million children are out of school. This definitely needs a thorough review and revisit.

The concerns regarding the implementation of the Act persist, with teacher's vacancies and large class sizes in many government schools fuelling the popularity of private institutions. Basic educational indicators across the country have actually deteriorated since the implementation of the Act.

Today at the most basic level, India must focus on improving the education of its children in order to make the most of their immense potential. With a Human Development Indicators ranking of 134 out of 187 countries, India has a long way to go, and must swiftly invest in developing the potential of its enormous human capital.

National Coalition for Education (NCE) India being a conglomeration of teachers Unions, civil

society organisations, parliamentarians for education and international foundations has been working for more than a decade to make the right to education a reality.

Recently the agenda of "Education for All by 2015" was discussed at length jointly where representatives of UNESCO and Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt of India and other academic institutions stressed the need to advocate the commitment of our government under EFA. Since we are left with a short period of only two years we need to advocate with all stakeholders to make education right for all children accessible, available, affordable and appropriate. The new agenda for EFA advocacy at international level is "Big Push".

We all resolved that;

- We all join hands in making Education for All, a collective agenda through "Big push"; putting maximum efforts to fulfil maximum goals within 2015.
- Advocate for more resources as 6% of GDP with provision of 3% for elementary and 3% for higher education.
- Identification of out of school children, children in difficult situation and special efforts to enrol them in school.
- Adequate teachers are appointed in schools to fulfil the RTE norms.
- Make education a political agenda.

We need to work hard to make these resolves a collective "Big Push" goal. This news letter throws some light on the efforts being done through National Coalition for Education (NCE) and its partners. Your inputs and suggestions will definitely go a long way to strengthen this movement.

Rama Kant Rai
Convener

Ram Pal Singh
General Secretary

Global Action Week 2013, April 21-27,

New Delhi:

National Coalition for Education (NCE), being the country representative of Global Campaign for Education in India, celebrates Global Action Week every year.



Global Action Week is one of the major focal points for the education movement. This year **Global Campaign for Education (GCE)** announced Global action week to be celebrated from 21st to 27th of April, 2013 and had set the theme **"Every Child needs a Teacher"**.

This year too, NCE commemorated Global Action Week 2013 with its partner CSOs and Teachers Union in 15 states in India.



Teachers, school children, parents, social workers and bureaucrats participated in the event which focused on “**Every Child Needs a Teacher**”. Children participated in different activities like drawing competition, thread and thumb painting, essay writing etc. Rallies by school children, parents and CSOs were also conducted on the theme of EFA Global Action Week 2013.

A charter of demand was presented to the Governor of every State through the District Collectors of different districts. This charter had demands based on the importance of having well trained teachers in making ‘Education for All’ a reality.

National Coalition for Education (NCE) partners who celebrated ‘Education for All (EFA)’ **Global Action Week 2013** across India are:

SN	State	Organization
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Ashtha Welfare Society Madhya Pradesh Prathmik Shikshak Sangha
2.	Rajashthan	Alwar Mewat Institute of Education and Development (AMIED)
3.	Uttarakhand	Uttrakhand Rajya Prathmik Shikshak Sangh Uttranchal Development Institute
4.	Odisha	NCE regional office
5.	Maharashtra	NCE regional office
6.	Punjab	Sarva Adhikar Raksha Samiti
7.	Gujarat	All India Federation of Teacher's Organization
8.	Jharkhand	Jharkhand Rajya Prathmik Shikshak Sangh
9.	Haryana	Rajkiya Prathmik Shikshak Sangh Haryana Gram Vikas Evam Samajik Badlav Kendra
10.	Delhi	Gram Vikas Evam Samajik Badlav Kendra
11.	Uttar Pradesh	Bal Kalyan Evam Shodh Sansthan Spandan
12.	Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu Elementary School teachers' Federation
13.	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh Primary Teachers Association
14.	Bihar	Gaurav Gramin Mahila Vikas Manch
15.	West Bengal	West Bengal Primary Teachers Association

Global Action Week was culminated in the National capital, New Delhi, involving all the stakeholders of Education.

The culmination event on "Education for All, Global Action Week 2013" was organized by National Coalition for Education (NCE) in collaboration with UNESCO on 25 April 2013 at IIC New Delhi. EFA-Global Action Week was also assisted by UNIC and Care India.

The participants in the culmination event were school children (MCD), parents, teachers, parliamentarians, academicians, **OXFAM, Save the Children, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNIC, NCE National and regional representatives, Max Havelaar Foundation, XERTIFIX Germany** and print and visual media representatives. Some of the prominent media houses who covered the event were **All India Radio, BBC world, News Express, Governance Now, Aapka Faisala, Hinduastan.**

The major demands that came out of the culmination event comprised Universalisation of Education to be taken as priority and minimum 6% of GDP to be allocated to education by National Governments, filling of vacant post through trained teachers and regularisation of contractual teachers, inclusion of teachers’ organization and CSOs in planning and budgeting processes by Government.

Participation of School children in GAW

Children from different schools recited beautiful poems in appreciation of their teachers. Fifteen girls and boys together displayed placards in Hindi and English and read the messages on this occasion. Placards read as ‘without Teacher school is just a Building’, ‘Without Trained teachers, schooling is not education’. A demonstration on ‘Transport and communication system’ was made by children and displayed at the fun place specially created for this culmination event by school children.

Training of the Trainers for School Management Committee (SMC)



New Delhi, July 28, 2013:

As per the provisions of Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009, School Management Committees (SMCs) have to play very crucial role in proper and smooth functioning of a school. Important functions of SMCs are to monitor the working of the school, to prepare school development plan and to monitor the utilization of the grants received from the appropriate sources.

One day capacity building training for the SMC trainers was organized by NCE at Shikshak Bhawan, New Delhi and at Kalpana Square, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Total 40 participants each attended training workshops.

The objectives of the training were:

- * To create an understanding of trainees on RTE Act and role of school management committee (SMC)
- * To develop the skill of trainees to conduct training/capacity building of SMC members.
- * To develop skills in trainees to be able to train members from SMCs in developing School Develop Plan (SDP).

Different tools were used in this training programme to groom the SMC trainers. A group work was also undertaken in which a model School Development Plan (SDP) was developed by the trainees.

Regional consultation on Quality Education



Ahmadabad, June, 2013:

The issue of quality education and CCE (Comprehensive and Continuous Evaluation) is of growing importance in education system. With an objective to equip teachers with the necessary skills and expertise to implement CCE in schools, two days consultation on quality education with members of Teachers Union was held at Ahmadabad, Gujarat on 23-24th of June, 2013. A total 40 participants from teachers union (AIPTF, AISTF, AIFTO) from western region (Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat & Rajasthan) participated in the consultation. The participants analysed different aspects related with quality education and CCE (Comprehensive and Continuous Evaluation). A set of recommendations were developed towards the end of consultation.

Recommendations from the workshop are:

- * Forming a state level committee consisting teacher union representative, parents, SMC members for raising voice to the government regarding quality education.
- * Teachers Unions should be informed for feedback on any development in the policy level.
- * Sufficient, structured and standard training on Comprehensive and Continuous Evaluation (CCE) is necessary.
- * The trainings should be equipped with CCE Manual, handbook, material for its

implementation.

- * Trained and full time teacher for every class must be recruited.
- * SMCs should be empowered with proper training.
- * CCE should be implemented effectively for quality education.

Public Hearing on Implementation of Right to Education Act, 2009

Bundi, August 12, 2013:

National Coalition for Education is conducting public hearing in Mining Areas of Rajasthan to take stock of the implementation of RTE Act 2009 with an objective of improving the present status. It also aimed at raising awareness among masses who are supposed to be the beneficiaries of the Right to Education Act.

From the series of public hearing to be organised, the first public hearing was conducted in Taleda block of Bundi district of Rajasthan. It covered villages/ catchment of the mining areas namely Bhagwanpur, Sutda (Bhil Basti), Dhaneswar, Barda ka Jhopda, Kheda, Silka and Parana.



The hearing was presided by **Dr. Yogesh Dube**, Member of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and Chairperson, Mining Committee, **Mr. Rampal Singh**, president of All India Primary Teachers' Federation (AIPTF) and General Secretary of

National Coalition for Education (NCE), **Mr. Rama Kant Rai**, Convener, National Coalition for Education, Officers of District Administration (CEO, District Labour Commissioner, Labour Commissioner, District Education Officer, Mining Officer, Chief Medical Officer etc), representatives from Rajasthan Teachers' Union, members of School Management Committee, parents and children.



The public hearing was organized at Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra, Dhaneswar, Taleda Block, Bundi with 250 participants including children, community members, parents, teachers, local Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) members and Government officials.

Community members of Saharia Tribe and Bhil Tribe from Bhagwanpur, Sutda (Bhil Basti), Dhaneswar, Barda ka Jhopda, Kheda, Silka and Parana presented their cases on denial of right to education before the Jury. The cases were divided in five categories viz cases pertaining to children belonging to 0-6 yrs old, health of children in mining areas, issues of migrant workers children's education, lack of teachers in schools, issue of out of school children.

Jury members, after hearing the cases, issued directions to concerned officials/ departments to remedy the cases within a stipulated time period and report it back to NCPCR.

Visit of German Teachers' Union (GEW) Representatives to NCE, India



National Coalition for Education (NCE) was glad to welcome representatives from German Teachers' Union and had a dialogue with them on the issue of educational rights of children working as child labourers in the mining areas.

In the meeting, a detailed discussion on the areas of intervention in order to mainstream child labour to education was undertaken. Fair childhood GEW foundation, as outcome of the meeting, agreed to collaborate with NCE to work towards eliminating child labour. At present NCE is working in collaboration with GEW Foundation on the issues of educational right of child labour in the mining areas.

Round Table on implementation of RTE Act and 'Education for all (EFA)' goals 2015: Big Push

New Delhi : 23rd and 24th September 2013.

"Round Table conference on RTE: Challenges in implementation and Education for All: By 2015 (Big Push)" was organized by National Coalition for Education (NCE) and RTE Forum, jointly, at India International Centre, New Delhi

This roundtable consultation examined the development in each of the six EFA goals and related national education development goals and targets in the country. The consultation also examined what more needs to be done to achieve EFA goals as the deadline i.e. 2015 knocking the doors.



The consultation came out with a set of policy and action-oriented recommendations. Presence of Parliamentarian Mr. Jagdish Thakor, Dr. Amarjeet Singh, Additional secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, representatives of teachers from All India Primary Teachers' Federation (AIPTF), AISTF, AIFTO, CSOs, academicians from Delhi University, JNU and inputs from experts on child rights and EFA goals, made the consultation a very inspiring event for all the participants. Various facets of 'Education for All' were discussed at length and also assessed the achievements and gaps. Future plan of action and dialogue with policy makers to make 'Big Push' a doable and achievable promise is being worked on.

Representation of NCE at International Forum/ Conference/ Seminar

- * 35th Meeting of the Thematic Working Group on 'Education for All', July 24, 2013, UNESCO Bangkok.
 - This meeting emphasized the need for deeper policy analysis with attention to bottlenecks, constraints and to determining the future education agenda in context with EFA goals.
- * Education Privatization Workshop, 1-3 August, 2013, ASPBAE, Manila, Philippines
 - A global workshop on Privatisation and public-Private Partnership and the right to education held in Manila, which aimed to build research capacities of national education coalitions in different parts of the world to respond more effectively to urgent issues related to education financing and privatization.

Publications by National Coalition for Education :

1. Report of EFA Global Action week 2013
2. Ground Reality of implementation of Right to education Act, 2009 (Bilingual)
3. Status of Functioning of School Management Committees: A study of Bihar, Gujarat, Odisha, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh.
4. Report on Financing of Elementary Education in India: A study of Five Selected States of India

Forthcoming Events:

- * Public Hearing on implementation of RTE Act in the mining area of Rajasthan -
 - a. Alwar (October 24, 2013)
 - b. Bichaulia, Bhilwara (November, 2013)
 - c. Chechat, Kota(November, 2013)
- * Research on PPP (Public Private Partnership) in Education.
- * Dialogue with Parliamentarians on Education Financing.
- * Training on 'Exclusion' based on gender, caste, class, ethnicity & religion.
- * Workshop on Quality Education.
- * Capacity building on Judicial Advocacy.

Postcard Campaign

“Dear Prime Minister,

I wish you a safe and successful trip to New York. I hope you will remember me and other children like me in India, when you discuss about the MDGs and make decisions”

– Shilpa, 11, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh.



In collaboration with World Vision, NCE facilitated the Post Card campaign through which children from across country urged Prime Minister of India, Mr. Manmohan Singh, to keep issues of children in India in focus while speaking at 68th United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Total 900 postcards were written by children and sent to the Prime Minister of India. NCE's partner organisation, working at the grass root level coordinated this campaign at school level.

IMPORTANT LINKS

Teacher Education

Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India

<http://www.teindia.nic.in/Default.aspx>

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA) is a Government of India's flagship programme for achievement of Universalisation of Elementary Education(UEE) in India

<http://ssa.nic.in/>

The Mid Day Meal is the world's largest school feeding programme reaching out to about 12 crore children in over 12.65 lakh schools/EGS centres across the country

<http://mdm.nic.in/>

The mandate of **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** is to ensure that all Laws, Policies, Programmes and Administrative Mechanism are in consonance with the Child right perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India

<http://www.ncpcr.gov.in/>

Building and Wood Workers International (BWI) ensures fundamental rights of workers across globe and supports International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour(IPEC)

www.bwint.org



NATIONAL COALITION FOR EDUCATION

Shikshak Bhawan, 41 Institutional Area, D-Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058

Ph.: +91 11 28526851 Fax: +91 11 28525271

Email: info@nceindia.org Website: www.nceindia.org



All India Primary
Teachers Federation



All India Federation of
Teachers Organisations



All India Secondary
Teachers' Federation



Peoples Campaign for
Common School System

