OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Monthly summary for the Cabinet for the Month of April 2020 -regarding.

The undersigned is directed to circulate herewith a copy of the Monthly summary for the Cabinet relating to the significant activities of the Department of School Education and Literacy for the month of April, 2020.

(M.C.Worthing)
Deputy Secretary to Government of India
Tel No: 011-23385489

Encl : As above

To
All Member of Council of Ministers

Copy with enclosures, forwarded to:

1. Secretary to the President (Rashtrapati-ke-Sachiv)
2. Secretary to the Vice-President (Up-Rashtrapati-ke-Sachiv)
3. Vice Chairman, Niti Aayog, New Delhi
4. Principal Director General (M&C), M/o Information and Broadcasting, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
5. Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
6. Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
7. Secretary, Legislative Department, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
8. Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
9. Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs, Paryavaran Bhawan, C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi
10. Secretary, Department of Space, LokNayak Bhawan, New Delhi
11. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
12. Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
13. Secretary, Department of Telecommunication, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi
14. Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Parivahan Bhawan, New Delhi
15. Secretary, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Sardar Patel Bhawan, New Delhi
16. Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, CSIR Building, Raja Marg, New Delhi
17. Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.

Copy for information to:

- PS to Hon’ble HRM
- PS to MoS, MHRD
- PPS to Secretary (SE&L)
This is to report the following important developments in the Department of School Education & Literacy during the month of April, 2020.

I. 5% of the Plan allocation was released by 30th April, 2020.

II Important policy decisions and activities / initiatives:

- Hon’ble HRM held a meeting with the Ministers of School Education Department of all States and UTs through Video Conference (VC) on 28th April, 2020. The agenda of the meeting included digital/online education, alternate academic calendar, land and other issues of Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas and implementation of Samagra Shiksha and MDM schemes.

- The New Scheme of Adult Education (Padhna Likhna Abhiyan) has been approved by Hon’ble HRM as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a financial outlay of Rs.224.95 crore for implementation in the FY 2020-21, after it was recommended by SFC under the chairmanship of Secretary(SE&L) in its meeting held on 17th April, 2020.

- Owing to impact of COVID-19, the OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) has been requested to postpone PISA Field Trial from the year 2020 to 2021 and PISA Main Survey from the year 2021 to 2022.

- EFC approved the STARS project in its meeting held on 08.04.2020. Further, a draft note on the project for Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs was circulated to line Ministries/Departments/Institutions including NITI Aayog, PMO and Cabinet Secretariat for comments. Negotiation with World Bank for STARS project was held on 16.4.2020.

- Screening Committee, Department of Economic Affairs has granted in-principle approval for funding of education sector project by Asian Development Bank (ADB) amounting to $500 million in its meeting held on 16 Jan, 2020. Further, Preliminary Project Report was forwarded to participating states for comments. Concurrence on fund sharing pattern has been received from two States viz. Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand.

- The meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) for considering the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2020-21 for Samagra Shiksha and Mid Day Meal schemes for the State of Jharkhand and UT of Lakshadweep was held through Video Conference on 29.04.2020.

- Ministry of HRD has taken an initiative, named, ‘MANODARPAN’ covering a wide range of activities to provide psychosocial support to students for their mental health & well-being during the COVID outbreak and beyond. A working group, with experts from the fields of
education and mental health as its members, has been setup to facilitate this through counseling services, online resources and helpline.

- Important Activities related to **Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS)** are as follows:
  
  o 99 Kendriya Vidyalayas school buildings have been taken over by Defence/ States Government Authorities for temporary housing of suspected COVID-19 cases.
  
  o KVS Employees (Teachers and Non Teaching Staff) voluntarily contributed Rs.10,40,60,536/- to the PM Cares Fund to support the Nation in its fight against the Corona virus pandemic.
  
  o Live interaction of Hon’ble HRM with parents was held on 27th April 2020, in view of the current lock-down period. Hon’ble HRM interacted live with the parents on social media and answered their queries.
  
  o Teachers are taking online classes using free platforms like Zoom, Google classroom, Skype, Web-chat and are sharing assignments, lessons, quizzes through You Tube channel & Whats-App. NIOS courses on MOOCS and DIKSHA portal of MHRD are also available for students/teachers.

- Important Activities related to **Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS)** are as follows:

  o All JNVs, functioning from permanent sites have been offered to the concerned state/district authorities for making temporary hospitals/quarantine centres. Presently 46 JNVs are being used as isolation/medical camps in coordination with the concerned district administration.
  
  o Online contents for students have been made available for study during vacation/lockdown period.
  
  o A total of Rs. 7,48,29,519/- from all employees of NVS has been contributed to the PM CARES Fund for fight against COVID-19.
  
  o Regular efforts have been made to evacuate 3086 stranded outstation students from 168 JNVs to their parent JNVs and to their parents. Now as per the relaxation provide by Government, a detailed plan to evacuate the students through buses has been drawn and activated.

- Important Activities related to **National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE)** are as follows:

  o With a view to provide quality Online Educational Resources (OER) free of cost, the NCTE has formed a Committee of Experts to prepare and curate quality OERs for teacher-educators, teacher-pupils and school teachers. To begin with, quality OERs from TISS and Azim Premji University have been hosted on the NCTE website.
  
  o There has been considerable progress in the project to identify 700 Model TEIs an online portal for inviting applications has been prepared.
Important Activities related to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) are as follows:

- There has been lockdown in the country w.e.f. 25th March, 2020, due to which no examination or evaluation related activity has been conducted during this period.
- The last date for online submission of applications for affiliation under various categories viz. fresh affiliation/ upgradation/ extension is extended up to 30.06.2020.
- Following the recommendations of National Curriculum Framework 2005, CBSE started offering two levels of examinations in Mathematics at secondary level from the year 2019-20. In continuation, elective of 'Applied Mathematics' has been offered to Sr. Secondary classes from the current academic year 2020-21.
- CBSE disseminated information on ‘Arogya Setu App’ and ‘Protocol for Immunity Boosting’ with a detailed brochure for use of students, teachers, other staff and their family members. Schools were also requested to disseminate the information to light a candle or torch in the evening of 5th April.
- CBSE and Fit India Mission have collaborated to provide live sessions by experts covering a range of topics for holistic well-being of school going children like, basic exercises, nutrition, yoga & meditation, boosting immunity etc. These sessions are conducted live on YouTube, Facebook, Instagram daily at 9.30 AM from 15th April 2020, for a period of one month.
- CBSE has completed phase-I of Vidya-Daan by pooling various types of e-learning content for classes VI-X with the help of contributions from different affiliated schools and developed a repository of 10,000+ e-learning content pieces. For classes XI-XII, chapter wise e-books have been provisioned on DIKSHA along with e-content such as lesson plans, concept maps and additional reading material.
- NCERT has published alternative calendar for classes I-X to retain continuity of learning in new classes and provide multiple ways of learning at home, during the lockdown period. Schools affiliated to CBSE have been advised to adopt/adapt the above calendar available at http://ncert.nic.in/aac.html to enrich their existing resources.
- Online training sessions were conducted by the CBSE Centre of Excellence during the lockdown period. Total 335 sessions were conducted and 23098 teachers attended these sessions in the month of April 2020. Online Teacher training sessions in skill education were conducted for the teachers of secondary and senior secondary level. 1028 Teachers of classes XI-XII and 1436 teachers of classes IX-X attended these sessions.
- CBSE asked affiliated schools to encourage their students to participate in the National Online Quiz of National Mission for Clean Ganga (Ministry of Jal Shakti) with the aim to enhance ownership of children and youth for rivers and Ganga.
Important Activities related to National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) are as follows:

- NIOS is harnessing the available learning platforms during the lockdown period and has started imparting live programmes every day on Swayam Prabha channels for Secondary and Senior Secondary levels from 7th April 2020. The programmes are available free of cost with different service providers such as Airtel, Videocon, Tata Sky, Dish TV, Sun Direct, DD Dish & Jio App.
- Multiple Choice Questions have been developed in all subjects for new session of courses on SWAYAM at Secondary and Senior Secondary Level.
- Capacity Building Cell (CBC) organized three Orientation Training Programmes on Skype for experts involved in NIOS Live Interactive Session during April 2020.

Important Activities related to Central Tibetan School Administration (CTSA) are as follows:

- E-learning has been started for all students through You Tube and Whats-App groups. 5 period time table has been circulated in all schools to all teachers and students. Accordingly, online classes are being run in all schools.

Important Activities related to National Bal Bhavan (NBB) are as follows:

- NBB faculty has been advised to work from home and make virtual creative activities for children to upload on its website. They have prepared online videos, presentations and write-ups. A virtual tour of jute exhibition has been added on the website.

Important Activities related to National Council for Educational Research & Training (NCERT) are as follows:

- The Alternative Academic Calendar for primary stage (Classes I to V) and upper primary stage (Classes VI to VIII) was released by the Hon’ble HRD Minister in April, 2020.
- NCERT is conducting live interactive sessions with students, parents and teachers through the TV channel Swayam Prabha (Kishore munch). 77 live interactive sessions of varying duration have been telecasted for Primary and Upper Primary levels.
- 15 Webinars on ICT tools have been transmitted live covering about 15 hours, 180 hours of content telecast on SWAYAM Prabha, on various cable networks, viz.: DD Free dish channel, Zee Dish TV Channel, TataSky Channel, Airtel TV Channel, Videocon Channel and Sundirect channel.
- A new initiative to translate 20 SWAYAM courses of NCERT into eight regional languages (Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Marathi, Gujarati and Bengali) is in progress.
Books are being made uploaded on DIKSHA portal with mapped resources. Total 179 e-textbooks of NCERT and 4109 e-Resources have been made live on DIKSHA portal from Class 1-12.

Online Quiz on Indian Constitution, both in English and Hindi, was launched for the students of class VI-XII on 14th April, 2020 in order to enhance their interest and knowledge on Indian Constitution.