

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

DEMAND NO. 51

Department of School Education and Literacy

A. The Budget allocations, net of recoveries, are given below:

Major Head	Actual 2014-2015			Budget 2015-2016			Revised 2015-2016			<i>(In crores of Rupees)</i> Budget 2016-2017		
	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
Revenue	42478.60	3243.81	45722.41	39038.50	3181.00	42219.50	39038.50	3148.00	42186.50	40000.00	3554.00	43554.00
Capital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	42478.60	3243.81	45722.41	39038.50	3181.00	42219.50	39038.50	3148.00	42186.50	40000.00	3554.00	43554.00
BE 2016-2017												
1. Secretariat-Social Services	2251	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.42	7.42
2. Grants to Autonomous Bodies												
2.01 National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT)	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.50	214.50	228.00
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.50	...	1.50
<i>Total</i>		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.00	214.50	229.50
2.02 Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS)	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	990.00	2695.47	3685.47
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	110.00	...	110.00
<i>Total</i>		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1100.00	2695.47	3795.47
2.03 Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS)	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1710.00	571.00	2281.00
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	190.00	...	190.00
<i>Total</i>		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1900.00	571.00	2471.00
2.04 Central Tibetan Schools Administration (CTSA)	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.50	49.38	51.88
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Total</i>		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.50	49.38	51.88
2.05 National Bal Bhawan	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.40	9.50	14.90
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.60	...	0.60
<i>Total</i>		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.00	9.50	15.50
<i>Total- Grants to Autonomous Bodies</i>		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3023.50	3539.85	6563.35
3. National Education Mission: Saakshar Bharat												
3.01 Central Plan	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47.49	3.93	51.42
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.50	...	4.50

(In crores of Rupees)

Major Head	Actual 2014-2015			Budget 2015-2016			Revised 2015-2016			Budget 2016-2017		
	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51.99	3.93	55.92
3.02 State and UT Plan	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32.00	...	32.00
	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	281.00	...	281.00
	3602	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.01	...	0.01
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	313.01	...	313.01
<i>Total- National Education Mission: Saakshar Bharat</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	365.00	3.93	368.93
4. Scholarships												
4.01 National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33.00	...	33.00
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.00	...	2.00
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35.00	...	35.00
4.02 National Scheme for Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42.00	...	42.00
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.00	...	3.00
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45.00	...	45.00
<i>Total- Scholarships</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80.00	...	80.00
5. National Education Mission-Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan												
5.01 Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan (Amount met from Gross Budgetary Support)	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120.00	...	120.00
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	744.00	...	744.00
	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5553.35	...	5553.35
	3602	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.00	...	100.00
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6517.35	...	6517.35
5.02 EAP Component	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1426.00	...	1426.00
5.03 Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (Amount met from Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh)	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1456.00	...	1456.00
	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13100.65	...	13100.65
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14556.65	...	14556.65
<i>Total- National Education Mission-Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22500.00	...	22500.00
6. National Education Mission-Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)												
6.01 Programme Component	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	...	20.00
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	350.00	...	350.00
	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2675.00	...	2675.00
	3602	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.00	...	30.00
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3075.00	...	3075.00

(In crores of Rupees)

	Major Head	Actual 2014-2015			Budget 2015-2016			Revised 2015-2016			Budget 2016-2017		
		Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
6.02 EAP Component	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	625.00	...	625.00
<i>Total- National Education Mission-Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)</i>		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3700.00	...	3700.00
7. National Education Mission-Teachers Training	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.51	...	14.51
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72.50	...	72.50
	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	402.98	...	402.98
	3602	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.01	...	20.01
	<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	510.00	...	510.00
8. Development of Minorities-Education Scheme for Madrasas/Minorities	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.50	...	0.50
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.00	...	12.00
	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107.30	...	107.30
	3602	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.20	...	0.20
	<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120.00	...	120.00
9. Digital India e-learning	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.35	...	1.35
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.15	...	0.15
	<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.50	...	1.50
10. National Award to Teachers	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.80	2.80
11. <i>National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools</i>													
11.01 National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools (Amount met from Gross Budgetary Support)	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50.00	...	50.00
	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	372.00	...	372.00
	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3432.00	...	3432.00
	3602	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	130.00	...	130.00
	<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3984.00	...	3984.00
11.02 National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools (Amount met from Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh)	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	570.00	...	570.00
	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5146.00	...	5146.00
	<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5716.00	...	5716.00
<i>Total- National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools</i>		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9700.00	...	9700.00
12. Transfer to Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (PSK)	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20272.65	...	20272.65
13. Amount met from Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-2026.00	...	-2026.00
	3601	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-18246.65	...	-18246.65
	<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-20272.65	...	-20272.65

(In crores of Rupees)

Major Head	Actual 2014-2015			Budget 2015-2016			Revised 2015-2016			Budget 2016-2017			
	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	
RE 2015-2016													
14. Secretariat-Social Services	2251	...	4.14	4.14	...	6.50	6.50	...	6.29	6.29	...	...	...
General Education													
Elementary Education													
15. National Bal Bhawan, New Delhi	2202	6.49	8.28	14.77	9.90	8.70	18.60	9.90	8.70	18.60	...	...	...
16. National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools	2202	76.92	...	76.92	36.40	...	36.40	50.80	...	50.80	...	...	...
17. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)	2202	53.55	...	53.55	100.00	...	100.00	115.42	...	115.42	...	...	...
18. Transfer to Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (PSK)	2202	4.00	...	4.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Schemes financed from Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (PSK)													
19.01 National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19.02 Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)	2202	4.00	...	4.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total- Schemes financed from Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (PSK)		4.00	...	4.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Amount met from Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (PSK)	2202	-4.00	...	-4.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. Support to Educational Development including Teachers Training & Adult Education	2202	173.43	...	173.43	198.60	...	198.60	191.57	...	191.57	...	...	...
22. Scheme for providing education to Madrasas/Minorities	2202	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.50	...	0.50	...	...	...
23. School Assessment Programme	2202	2.47	...	2.47	45.00	...	45.00	9.58	...	9.58	...	...	...
Total-Elementary Education		316.86	8.28	325.14	389.90	8.70	398.60	377.77	8.70	386.47	...	...	...
Secondary Education													
24. National Council of Educational Research & Training	2202	14.88	145.44	160.32	22.50	200.00	222.50	19.81	167.21	187.02	...	...	...
25. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan	2202	742.00	2501.15	3243.15	787.50	2403.47	3190.97	787.50	2403.47	3190.97	...	...	...
26. Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti	2202	1474.53	538.40	2012.93	1395.00	511.00	1906.00	1602.14	511.00	2113.14	...	...	...
27. Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)	2202	12.19	...	12.19	17.00	...	17.00	30.29	...	30.29	...	...	...
28. Scheme for Setting up of 6000 Model Schools at Block Level as Bench Mark of Excellence	2202	1.12	...	1.12	...	...	...	0.69	...	0.69	...	...	...
29. Access and Equity	2202	1.08	...	1.08	1.00	...	1.00	0.47	...	0.47	...	...	...
30. Central Tibetan Schools Society Administration	2202	1.10	41.38	42.48	5.00	45.00	50.00	2.85	45.00	47.85	...	...	...
31. Other Programmes	2202	...	2.17	2.17	...	2.70	2.70	...	2.70	2.70	...	...	...
Total-Secondary Education		2246.90	3228.54	5475.44	2228.00	3162.17	5390.17	2443.75	3129.38	5573.13	...	...	...
Adult Education													

(In crores of Rupees)

	Major Head	Actual 2014-2015			Budget 2015-2016			Revised 2015-2016			Budget 2016-2017		
		Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
32. Support to NGOs/Institutions/SRCs for Adult Education & Skill Development	2202	61.98	...	61.98	67.50	...	67.50	91.77	...	91.77	...	...	...
33. Directorate of Adult Education	2202	5.04	2.50	7.54	7.20	2.95	10.15	5.43	2.95	8.38	...	...	...
34. National Literacy Mission Authority	2202	0.07	...	0.07	2.70	0.03	2.73	1.08	0.03	1.11	...	...	...
35. Other Programmes	2202	...	0.39	0.39	...	0.65	0.65	...	0.65	0.65	...	...	...
Total-Adult Education		67.09	2.89	69.98	77.40	3.63	81.03	98.28	3.63	101.91	...	...	...
Total-General Education		2630.85	3239.71	5870.56	2695.30	3174.50	5869.80	2919.80	3141.71	6061.51	...	...	...
36. Provision for Projects/Schemes for the Benefit of NE Areas and Sikkim													
36.01 National Bal Bhawan, New Delhi	2552	...	...	...	1.10	...	1.10	0.68	...	0.68	...	...	...
36.02 National Council of Educational Research & Training	2552	...	...	...	2.50	...	2.50	2.50	...	2.50	...	...	...
36.03 Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan	2552	...	...	...	87.50	...	87.50	87.50	...	87.50	...	...	...
36.04 Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti	2552	...	...	...	155.00	...	155.00	172.00	...	172.00	...	...	...
36.05 Support to NGOs/Institutions/SRCs for Adult Education & Skill Development	2552	...	...	...	7.50	...	7.50	8.23	...	8.23	...	...	...
36.06 Directorate of Adult Education	2552	...	...	...	0.80	...	0.80	0.07	...	0.07	...	...	...
36.07 National Literacy Mission Authority	2552	...	...	...	0.30	...	0.30	0.07	...	0.07	...	...	...
36.08 Support for Educational Development including Teachers Training & Adult Education	2552	...	...	...	17.00	...	17.00	17.00	...	17.00	...	...	...
36.09 School Assessment Programme	2552	...	...	...	5.00	...	5.00	1.00	...	1.00	...	...	...
Total- Provision for Projects/Schemes for the Benefit of NE Areas and Sikkim		...	...	...	276.70	...	276.70	289.05	...	289.05	...	...	...
State and UT Plan													
Elementary Education													
37. National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools	2552	...	...	...	132.00	...	132.00	536.16	...	536.16	...	...	...
	3601	3606.14	...	3606.14	1193.00	...	1193.00	2840.41	...	2840.41	...	...	...
	3602	84.90	...	84.90	100.00	...	100.00	100.00	...	100.00	...	...	...
	<i>Total</i>	<i>3691.04</i>	...	<i>3691.04</i>	<i>1425.00</i>	...	<i>1425.00</i>	<i>3476.57</i>	...	<i>3476.57</i>	...	...	...
38. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)	2552	...	...	...	200.00	...	200.00	844.46	...	844.46	...	...	...
	3601	8412.17	...	8412.17	1800.00	...	1800.00	7366.41	...	7366.41	...	...	...
	3602	63.24	...	63.24	100.00	...	100.00	100.00	...	100.00	...	...	...
	<i>Total</i>	<i>8475.41</i>	...	<i>8475.41</i>	<i>2100.00</i>	...	<i>2100.00</i>	<i>8310.87</i>	...	<i>8310.87</i>	...	...	...

(In crores of Rupees)

	Major Head	Actual 2014-2015			Budget 2015-2016			Revised 2015-2016			Budget 2016-2017		
		Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
39. Transfer to Prarambik Shiksha Kosh (PSK)	3601	22319.19	...	22319.19	27575.00	...	27575.00	19298.16	...	19298.16	...	...	...
40. Schemes financed from Prarambik Shiksha Kosh (PSK)													
40.01 National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools	2552	...	...	...	775.00	...	775.00	370.84	...	370.84	...	...	...
	3601	6755.52	...	6755.52	7000.00	...	7000.00	5338.19	...	5338.19	...	...	...
	Total	6755.52	...	6755.52	7775.00	...	7775.00	5709.03	...	5709.03	...	...	...
40.02 Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)	2552	...	...	...	1980.00	...	1980.00	1335.54	...	1335.54	...	...	...
	3601	15563.67	...	15563.67	17820.00	...	17820.00	12253.59	...	12253.59	...	...	...
	Total	15563.67	...	15563.67	19800.00	...	19800.00	13589.13	...	13589.13	...	...	...
Total- Schemes financed from Prarambik Shiksha Kosh (PSK)		22319.19	...	22319.19	27575.00	...	27575.00	19298.16	...	19298.16	...	...	...
41. Amount met from Prarambik Shiksha Kosh (PSK)	3601	-22319.19	...	-22319.19	-27575.00	...	-27575.00	-19298.16	...	-19298.16	...	...	...
42. Support to Educational Development including Teacher Training and Adult Education	2552	...	...	...	173.50	...	173.50	161.15	...	161.15	...	...	...
	3601	895.53	...	895.53	839.00	...	839.00	706.00	...	706.00	...	...	...
	3602	16.94	...	16.94	29.50	...	29.50	6.88	...	6.88	...	...	...
	Total	912.47	...	912.47	1042.00	...	1042.00	874.03	...	874.03	...	...	...
43. Scheme for providing Education to Madrasas/Minorities	2552	...	...	...	38.00	...	38.00	38.00	...	38.00	...	...	...
	3601	119.28	...	119.28	337.00	...	337.00	296.50	...	296.50	...	...	...
	3602	...	...	...	0.50	...	0.50	0.50	...	0.50	...	...	...
	Total	119.28	...	119.28	375.50	...	375.50	335.00	...	335.00	...	...	...
Total-Elementary Education		35517.39	...	35517.39	32517.50	...	32517.50	32294.63	...	32294.63	...	...	...
Secondary Education													
44. Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)	2552	...	...	...	350.00	...	350.00	350.00	...	350.00	...	...	...
	3601	3364.11	...	3364.11	3143.00	...	3143.00	3129.71	...	3129.71	...	...	...
	3602	21.89	...	21.89	55.00	...	55.00	55.00	...	55.00	...	...	...
	Total	3386.00	...	3386.00	3548.00	...	3548.00	3534.71	...	3534.71	...	...	...
45. Scheme for setting up of 6000 Model Schools at Block Level as Bench Mark of Excellence	2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	3601	978.62	...	978.62	1.00	...	1.00	0.31	...	0.31	...	...	...
	3602	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	978.62	...	978.62	1.00	...	1.00	0.31	...	0.31	...	...	...
Total-Secondary Education		4364.62	...	4364.62	3549.00	...	3549.00	3535.02	...	3535.02	...	...	...
Total-State and UT Plan		39882.01	...	39882.01	36066.50	...	36066.50	35829.65	...	35829.65	...	...	...
46. Actual Recoveries	2202	-7.94	-0.04	-7.98	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

(In crores of Rupees)

Major Head	Actual 2014-2015			Budget 2015-2016			Revised 2015-2016			Budget 2016-2017			
	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	
2552	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3601	-26.32	...	-26.32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Net</i>	-34.26	-0.04	-34.30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	42478.60	3243.81	45722.41	39038.50	3181.00	42219.50	39038.50	3148.00	42186.50	40000.00	3554.00	43554.00	
Head of Dev	Budget Support	IEBR	Total	Budget Support	IEBR	Total	Budget Support	IEBR	Total	Budget Support	IEBR	Total	
C. Plan Outlay													
Central Plan:													
1. General Education	22202	2596.59	...	2596.59	2695.30	...	2695.30	2919.80	...	2919.80	3050.25	...	3050.25
2. North Eastern Areas	22552	276.70	...	276.70	289.05	...	289.05	1862.25	...	1862.25
Total - Central Plan		2596.59	...	2596.59	2972.00	...	2972.00	3208.85	...	3208.85	4912.50	...	4912.50
State Plan:													
1. Elementary Education	43601	35352.31	...	35352.31	32287.50	...	32287.50	32087.25	...	32087.25	30997.00	...	30997.00
2. Secondary Education	43601	4342.73	...	4342.73	3494.00	...	3494.00	3480.02	...	3480.02	3810.28	...	3810.28
Total - State Plan		39695.04	...	39695.04	35781.50	...	35781.50	35567.27	...	35567.27	34807.28	...	34807.28
Union Territory Plans :													
Union Territory Plans (with Legislature)													
1. Secondary Education	43602	21.89	...	21.89	55.00	...	55.00	55.00	...	55.00	50.21	...	50.21
2. Elementary Education	43602	165.08	...	165.08	230.00	...	230.00	207.38	...	207.38	230.01	...	230.01
Total - Union Territory Plans		186.97	...	186.97	285.00	...	285.00	262.38	...	262.38	280.22	...	280.22
Total		42478.60	...	42478.60	39038.50	...	39038.50	39038.50	...	39038.50	40000.00	...	40000.00

1. **Secretariat Social Services:** Provides for Secretariat expenditure

2. **Grants to Autonomous Bodies:** This includes Schemes of NCERT, KVS, NVS, CTSA and National Bal Bhawan.

2.01 National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT): NCERT was set up in 1961 by the Government of India as an autonomous organization to advise and assist the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India and Departments of Education in States/UTs in formulation and implementation of their policies and major programmes including finalization of National Curriculum Framework (NCF) in the field of Education particularly for qualitative improvement in School Education. From the year 2006-07, the scheme of Quality Improvement in Schools having the components of National Population Education Programme (NPEP), Environment Orientation to Schools, Introduction to Yoga in Schools and International Science Olympiad have been transferred to NCERT for implementation.

2.02 Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS): KVS was set up in 1965, as a registered body, wholly financed by Government to establish, control and manage Kendriya Vidyalayas,

the main objective of which is to meet the educational needs of the children of transferable Central Government employees.

2.03 Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS): In pursuance of National Policy of Education (NPE)-1986 (as modified in 1992) on setting up of pace setting residential schools where good quality education could be imparted to the talented children from rural areas, a Central Scheme was launched by the government of India in 1986 to set up Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) in each district of the country. These JNVs are run by an autonomous organization, the Navodaya Vidyalayas Samiti (NVS) established in 1986 under Registration of Societies Act, 1860.

2.04 Central Tibetan Schools Administration (CTSA): CTSA was established as an Autonomous organization in the year 1961. The main objective of the CTSA is to provide free education to the children of Tibetan refugees scattered in different remote areas in our country. CTSA has 79 schools.

2.05 National Bal Bhawan : National Bal Bhawan, New Delhi established by the Government of India in 1956 at the initiative of the first Prime Minister of India, Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, is

an autonomous body which is fully financed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education and Literacy. National Bal Bhawan has been contributing towards achieving creativity amongst children in the age group of 5-16 years, especially those from weaker sections of the society.

3. **National Education Mission: Saakshar Bharat:** Important Schemes under this Umbrella are :

A The Schemes of Literacy Campaigns & Operation Restoration and Continuing Education for Neo-Literates have been merged into one single scheme of Adult Education & Skill Development and now known as Saakshar Bharat programme that will cover both the existing schemes.

B Support to NGOs/Institutions/SRCs for Adult Education & Skill Development: This scheme assimilates the two existing schemes of Support to NGOs in the field of Adult Education and Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS). Under the scheme, financial support is being provided to NGOs for imparting literacy to adult non-literates in the age group of 15-35 years. The State Resource Centres (SRCs) managed by the NGOs also receive support under this programme.

C Directorate of Adult Education: Directorate of Adult Education (DAE) has been functioning as the National Resource Center in the field of Adult Education. The Directorate was set up as subordinate office of the Department of Elementary Education & Literacy under the Ministry of Human Resource Development to provide academic and technical resource support to various government and non-government agencies implementing Adult Education Programme in the country. The DAE is fully funded by the central Govt.

D National Literacy Mission Authority (NLMA): National Literacy Mission Authority was set up in 1988 as an autonomous wing of the Department of School Education & Literacy for implementation of the programmes of the National Literacy Mission.

4. **Scholarships:** Important Schemes under this Umbrella are :

4.01 National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme: National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme launched in 2008 provides for one lakh Scholarship of ₹ 6000/- per annum (₹ 500/- per month) at class IX stage which continue upto class XII subject to fulfilment of eligibility criteria. The objective of the scheme is to award scholarships to meritorious students of economically weaker sections to arrest their drop-out at class VIII and encourage them to continue the secondary stage i.e. upto class XII.

4.02 National Scheme for Incentive to the Girl Child for Secondary Education: Pursuant to the announcement made by the Finance Minister while presenting the budget for 2006-07 the scheme for providing incentive to girls pursuing Secondary Education was launched in 2008-09. The objective of the Scheme is to establish an enabling environment to reduce the drop-outs and to promote the enrolment of girl child belonging to SC/ST communities in secondary schools and ensure their retention.

5. **National Education Mission- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan:** Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a flagship programme of Government of India being implemented in partnership with the States/UT Governments for universalisation of elementary education in the country. The SSA covers all districts in the country in order to ensure access, retention and quality improvement in elementary education.

6. **National Education Mission- Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA):** As a follow up to the implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) leading to a massive increase in the number of students completing upper primary level, it has been felt necessary to meet the increased demand for access to Secondary Education. Accordingly a new scheme Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) was launched in March, 2009 and the implementation of the scheme commenced in 2009-10.

7. **National Education Mission- Teachers Training:** Important Schemes under this Umbrella are :

a Strengthening of Teachers Training Institutions: The Schemes aims to prepare teaching staff of global standards. The Scheme envisages integration of teacher education with the overall education development in the States in keeping with the mandate of RTE. It will also help in the expansion of the capacity of the Teacher Education Institutions specially in some of the deficit States of East and North-Eastern Region and also address the problem of large number of untrained teachers.

b Appointment of Language Teachers: The financial assistance under the scheme is given for appointment of Hindi Teachers in schools in non-speaking States/Uts, Urdu teachers in any locality where more than 25% of the population is from Urdu speaking community and Modern Indian Language Teachers to teach a third language in those schools of Hindi speaking States/Uts that demand them.

C School Assessment Programme: This Programme for assessment of schools performance. An amount of ₹ 20.00 Crore (including ₹ 2.00 crore for NER) has been provided in the BE 2016-17.

8. **Development of Minorities -Education Scheme for Madrasas/Minorities:** The Scheme seeks to bring about quality improvement in Madrasas to enable Muslim children to attain standards of the National Education System in formal Education Subject

9. **Digital India e-learning:** This is a new scheme aimed at catering to the digital initiatives of Department of School Education & Literacy.

10. **National Award to Teachers:** Instituted in 1958, the National Award to Teachers are given by the President of India on 5th September (Teacher's Day) every year to give public recognition to meritorious teachers working in primary, middle and secondary schools. Altogether there are 374 awards out of which 20 awards are reserved for Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic teachers. Each State/Union Territory/Organization has an earmarked quota based on the number of teachers.

11. **National Programme of Mid-Day Meals in Schools:** With a view to enhancing enrolment, retention and attendance and simultaneously improving nutritional levels among children, the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education was launched as a centrally sponsored scheme on 15th August 1995, initially in 2408 blocks in the country. Gradually, it has been expanded to cover children at primary level in all Blocks in the country. In October 2007 the scheme was further revised to cover children in upper primary level (Classes VI to VIII) in 3479 educationally backward blocks. From 2008-09 onwards the programme covers all children studying in class I to VIII in all areas across the country.