

Minutes of the Meeting

9th Steering & Monitoring Committee for Kanyashree Prakalpa

Venue: Conference Hall, Chief Secretary Room. 13th Floor, Nabanna.

Date: 10th July 2015.

Time: 1130 hrs to 1330 hrs.

Participants:

1. Dr. Shashi Panja, Honourable MoS, CDWD&SW Department.
2. Shri. Hridyesh Mohan, Principal Secretary Technical Education & Training Department.
3. Shri. Arnab Roy, Secretary School Education Department.
4. Smt. Roshni Sen, Secretary CDWD&SW Department.
5. Shri. Rajesh Pandey, Secretary, Sports & Youth Affairs Department.
6. Smt. Sanghamitra Ghosh, Mission Director, NHM, Department of H&FW.
7. Shri. S.S. Majumdar, Addl. Secretary, Backward Class Welfare Department.
8. Shri. Nityananda Mandal, Commissioner, Higher Education Department.
9. Smt. Sudipta Chatterjee, State Project Director, SSA, School Education Department.
10. Smt. Sarmistha Das, Joint Secretary, CDWD&SW Department.
11. Shri. Suwendu Ghosh, Director – SIPRD, Panchayat & Rural Development Department.
12. Shri. Abid Hussain, Director of Madarsha Education.
13. Shri. S. Ahmed, Jt. Secretary, Minority Affairs and Madarsha Education Department.
14. Shri. K.K. Poddar, DDG & SIO, NIC, West Bengal.
15. Shri. Subrata Roy Gupta, Scientist, NIC West Bengal.
16. Mr. M. Asadur Rahman, Chief of UNICEF, Kolkata Office.
17. Ms. Paramita Neogi, Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF.
18. Mr. Prasanna Ash, Senior Consultant, UNICEF, Kolkata.
19. Dr. Nandini Roy, UNICEF Consultant for Kanyashree Prakalpa.

Discussions & Decisions

Secretary CDWD&SW Department announced that the Kanyashree Prakalpa has enrolled 26, 65, 223 applicants from eligible adolescent girls across the State of West Bengal. Discussions were around the updates and concerns presented by the Secretary. The members mainly discussed on strengthening the existing reach of the Kanyashree Prakalpa and exploring the possibilities of further convergence with the stakeholder departments.

1. While, updating the committee on progress of Kanyashree Prakalpa, Secretary CDWD&SW mentioned that in spite of a large number of colleges registered with Kanyashree Portal, there were still few who had enrolled/ upgraded as Kanyashree beneficiary during the current academic year.

Action

- (a) The Department of Higher Education was requested to look into this gap and address the issue with the colleges.
- (b) HMoS suggested that career counselling and career fair for Kanyashree beneficiaries should be the way forward for the success of the scheme.

- (c) State Project Director SSA suggested that apart from *Rabindra Bharati Mukto Vidyalaya*, para-teachers and special educators can be roped in to motivate out-of-school adolescent girls for re-entry into school.
2. All departmental representatives assembled for the meeting mentioned that they would inform the district and block level staff on Kanyashree Prakalpa (KP) beneficiaries so as to draw more and more K2 beneficiaries to the livelihood schemes run by their respective departments. Secretary, CDWD&SW Department requested the line departments to track KP recipients within their programme and share the information.

Action

- (a) The Department of Technical Education and Training (TET) agreed to follow-up with their district level authorities to bring K1 and K2 beneficiaries within their scheme. The department will share their plan for vocational trainings with CDWD&SW Department.
- (b) The Department of Backward Classes Welfare (BCW) informed that 10% of the funds received are used for personal development and training. While rest of the funds are used for assisting youth above age 18 years to improve their employability skills. The funds are used for helping them to become self-employed. The Department runs a number of courses, such as beauty care, BPO training etc. The BCW Department assured that they would instruct their District Managers to coordinate with District Project Management Unit (DPMU) of Kanyashree so as to extend the benefit to the KP 2 (One Time Grant) beneficiaries. The BCW Department will also share the guidelines for obtaining the benefit from their schemes with the CDWD&SW Department.
- (c) The Department of Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education informed that they are running computer literacy and career counselling programmes. The Department would also share its programmes with the CDWD&SW Department.
3. The members were informed about various documents being published related to Kanyashree Prakalpa such as Baseline Survey, Rapid field Assessments and good practices documentation.

Action

- (a) All the members agreed that more publicity is required so that K2 beneficiaries are brought into the loop of employability. Suggestion was to develop a counselling booklet so as to enhance the horizon of KP beneficiaries on employability.
- (b) The members suggested the CDWD&SW Department and UNICEF to upload various Kanyashree related documents on the web and circulate abridged version with all stakeholders for their ready reference.
4. UNICEF informed that CII-UNICEF has a CSR hub and MoU has been signed with the CII for partnership. The aim of the hub is to enhance employability status of adolescent girls post class X. Currently NGOs are providing career counseling in 100 government schools. The Hub may also provide assistance to Kanyashree beneficiaries as well.
5. The Secretary CDWD&SW Department informed that except Murshidabad, all district administrations reported not getting required support from the banks.

Action

- The CDWD&SW Department was suggested to review the issues of concern with lead bank officials before taking a decision to include other banks into Kanyashree delivery scheme.
6. The Committee was asked to approve to give benefits to girls aged 12 years if studying in Class VIII or equivalent & 16/17 years even if studying beyond class XII in colleges/ University/vocational training institute/ITIs.

Action

- The committee gave approval to the request of giving benefits to girls aged 12 years if studying in Class VIII or equivalent & 16/17 years even if studying beyond class XII in colleges/ University/vocational training institute/ ITIs.
7. The committee was requested to approve decision to collect income certificate once at the time a girl registers for K1 candidate till she is upgraded to K2 after fulfillment of two criteria – unmarried status and continuation in education.

Action

- The committee approved that there is no need to again collect the required documents for the subsequent years once documents was taken from the beneficiaries at the beginning of their entry into KP. Nonetheless, during up-gradation from K1 to K2, fresh documentation would be mandatory.
 - The renewal of KP may be made by the head of the institution based on documents available at his/her end and sanction to be made en-bloc.
8. Approval was sought for adolescent girls who are mentally/physically disabled be given exemption on class criteria provided the applicant is with some recognized education institute.

Action

- The committee approved Department of CDWD&SW proposal to waive class criteria for mentally/ physically disabled adolescent girls.

Shashi Panja
(Dr. Shashi Panja)

**Minister of State, in Charge Department of Child
Development & Women Development & Social Welfare**