

Resolutions of 13th Annual Education Conference: Educating for GNH
January 4 -7, 2010
Phuentsholing Higher Secondary School

Examination issues

1. Criteria for the nomination of teachers for invigilation and answer-script management duties be revised as per the recommendation of the Conference (Action: BBE).
2. Possibility of outsourcing paper-setting in Maths and Science for Classes X and XII examinations be studied and the report be presented in the BBE Board (Action: BBE).
3. The existing assessment system be reviewed and the report be presented in the CASPD Board (Action: BBE/CAPSD).

School Policies

4. A framework for a national policy on school discipline be developed and circulated to schools and Dzongkhags for comments by March 2010 (Action: DSE).
5. To recognize collective effort and promote healthy competition among schools, a national award for the best school be instituted with clear-cut criteria (Action: DSE/EMSSD).
6. The existing policy for two-term schooling be continued (Action: DSE).
7. School Management Board be strengthened to enhance parental and community involvement in the education process (Action: Dzongkhags/Schools).
8. Proposal for the school greening programme be revised to include other aspects of environment like waste reduction and management with strategies to ensure sustainability of the programme (Action: Programme Division/DSE).
9. To supplement the organic food basket in boarding schools, the school agriculture programme be strengthened and opportunities to appreciate dignity of labour be enhanced among students (Action: Dzongkhags/Schools).
10. Schools to promote positive school culture through inculcation of GNH values and principles. Details of what constitutes positive school culture be formulated during the upcoming workshop for the principals on Educating for GNH (Action: DSE).

11. Draft guidelines on school health and safety developed by DYS be uploaded on the education website. Dzongkhags and schools to send their feedback by March 15, 2010 (Action: DYS).
12. To keep the youth meaningfully engaged and to enhance awareness on citizenship and community service, the youth-partnership programme be promoted further (Action: DYS).
13. Extended classrooms be established as per the guidelines to reach the unreached, ensuring that no child has to walk more than 1 hour to school (Action: Dzongkhags).
14. The proposal for distribution of 45 and 5 computers to every secondary and primary school respectively be reviewed to align with the nation's long-term vision of creating a knowledge-based society (Action: Programme Division/DSE).

School constructions

15. School building designs and environment to reflect GNH values and principles (Action: SPBD/DSE).
16. When outsourcing design, guidelines and standard norms of schools buildings be provided (Action: SPBD/DSE).
17. SPBD to incorporate seismic-resistant features in the school building designs with the following changes:
 - a. Replace timber components with GRC (glass reinforced concrete) to reduce timber usage (Action: SPBD/DSE).
 - b. Replace CGI sheets with PPGI (pre-painted galvanized iron) sheets (Action: SPBD/DSE).
 - c. Change structural system from load-bearing to framed structure (Action: SPBD/DSE).
18. Construction and ownership of all staff quarters, excluding those for principals and warden/matron, to be outsourced to communities using SPBD design. To facilitate this, a system of guaranteed loans and rent to be put in place (Action: Dasho Dzongdags/DEOs).

Non-formal and continuing education

19. A study on pay and benefits for the Non-Formal Education instructors be conducted and the report be presented to the Cabinet (Action: NFCED/DAHE).

Administrative Issues

20. Possibility for instituting a regular consultative meeting between the Ministry and DEOs be explored to improve coordination and resolve issues (Action: PPD).
21. The need for strengthening engineering capacity in the Dzongkhags be pursued with the Ministry of Works and Human Settlement (Action: SPBD/DSE).
22. Stipend for rural and remote schools be reviewed based on the transportation costs (Action: Programme Division/DSE).
23. An education fair be instituted at the Annual Education Conference. DEOs to present the status of education and exchange best practices (Action: MoE/Dzongkhags).

Education Staff Welfare Scheme

24. Criteria for disbursing Education Staff Welfare Scheme (ESWS) loan on the first come first served basis be continued for now. A study be conducted to consider alternative criteria for sanctioning the loan and the report be presented in the 14th AEC (Action: ESWS Committee).
25. Alternative investment opportunities for ESWS loan be explored and the report be presented in the 14th AEC (Action: ESWS Committee).