

Resolutions of the 14th Annual Education Conference (December 27-29, 2010)



Vision

1. The Conference adopted the following as the Vision of Education: “.....an educated and enlightened society of *gyalyong gakid pelzom*, at peace with itself, at peace with the world, built and sustained by the idealism and the creative spirit of our citizens.”

National Education Day

2. 21st February, which is the Birth Anniversary of His Majesty the King, be observed as the National Education Day from 2011(**Action: Schools and Dzongkhags**).

Examinations and Assessment

3. Strategy for putting in place an alternative assessment system for PP-III and training of all teachers in Continuous Formative Assessment be presented to the next AEC (**Action: DCRD in consultation with BBE and DSE**).

School policies

4. School Development Fee structure be maintained status quo. However, schools and SMBs may waive off fees based on the merit of the case (needy students etc). At the same time, SMBs and schools have no authority to raise the fees (**Action: Schools/ Dzongkhags**).
5. Regular remedial and other additional support be provided to weaker students to reduce drop out and repetition rates and to improve performance (**Action: Schools/ Dzongkhags**).

Curriculum and Supplies

6. Dzongkhags to only pay for actual supplies ordered and delivered to the schools, and schools to inform their Dzongkhag and the Ministry in writing if suppliers default on their delivery dates or make wrong or inadequate supplies (**Action: Schools/Dzongkhags**).
7. Dzongkhags to keep adequate budget provisions with inflation factored in (**Action: Dzongkhags**).
8. To ensure quality of supplies are as per samples approved by the DCRD, approved sample copies, along with the names of suppliers, be provided to schools (**Action: AFD/MoE**).

9. The list of item-wise suppliers and copies of the supply orders be disseminated to the schools **(Action: Dzongkhags)**.
10. Tendering of science consumables be centralized from 2011 as in the case of textbooks supply **(Action: AFD/Schools/Dzongkhags)**.
11. While the proposal to allocate adequate budget based on the school level, stream and enrolment is approved in principle, the figures be worked out based on actual costs **(Action: Dzongkhags/DSE)**.
12. All lab assistants be provided at least a basic training in lab management **(Action: DCRD)**.
13. To enhance the standards in science, all schools to carry out science practical without compromise as per the curriculum guidelines **(Action: DSE)**.

Chiphen Rigphel Project

14. Dzongkhags to initiate the installation of internet connectivity in the secondary schools and propose the cost in their annual budget. Ministry of Education to take it up with Ministry of Finance during budget discussions **(Action: Dzongkhags/DSE)**.
15. Recognizing the importance of training more teachers (6600) instead of the previously planned target of 5000 teachers, only DSA be provided to training participants under the Chiphen Rigphel project **(Action: DSE)**.

School Constructions

16. The topography, climate, location, etc. of the schools be considered while making new school designs and proposing construction materials **(Action: SPBD)**.
17. New school designs and constructions to integrate safety and disaster resistant features as well as child friendly and inclusive aspects **(Action: SPBD)**.
18. Primary level schools to be creative and try to provide space within existing facilities for a separate science room, and this provision be kept in mind while constructing new schools **(Action: Schools and Dzongkhags)**.
19. Dzongkhags to establish ECRs, if included in the approved 10th Five Year Plan, upon fulfillment of the minimum criteria for establishment without waiting for approval of the Ministry. However, the Ministry be informed accordingly and immediately. For non-plan ECRs, Dzongkhags to seek approval of the Ministry for incorporation into the 10th Five Year Plan **(Action: Dzongkhags)**.

Non-formal education

20. English be introduced into the NFE programme by mid 2011 (**Action: NFCED/DAHE**).
21. Aggressive advocacy be mounted to enhance the NFE programme and ignite the enthusiasm for learning (**Action: Dzongkhags/NFCED**).
22. All stakeholders, including the local leaders, learners and the communities, be mobilized in order to garner support for, and ensure the quality of the NFE programme. DEOs to play the lead role in this regard (**Action: Dzongkhags**).
23. Strategic Plan for expansion of the NFE programme be disseminated immediately upon end endorsement by the next NFE Board meeting (**Action: NFCED/DAHE**)

Mid-term Review of 10th FYP

24. All Dzongkhags to rationalize their plans and put up for endorsement during the mid-term review of the 10th FYP. Rationalization to be based on need, enrolment target and practical realities such as urgency, capacity to implement, and Dzongkhag education budget ceiling (**Action: Dzongkhags**).

Education Staff Welfare Scheme

25. Semso payments to be claimed within 6 months. DEOs and Principals to process the timely payment of semso claims. Furthermore, Semso claims and payment procedures to be made as simple and easy as possible (**Action: Schools/ Dzongkhags**).
26. The loan repayment period be made flexible (6 months-3 years) depending on beneficiary's choice and need (**Action: ESWS Committee**).
27. ESWS loan disbursement be based on seniority. However, the seniority clause will not be used in case of medical emergencies (**Action: ESWS Committee**).

Green Schools for Green Bhutan: Dzongkhags Leading the Way

28. In order to deliver on the pledges made in the Performance Compacts and to advance the overall aim of educating for gross national happiness through building Green Schools for Green Bhutan, the whole of the education system, from the headquarters to the Dzongkhags and schools, to channel all resources towards realizing the mandates of education by the end of the tenth five year plan. To this end, the education system to gear up towards Sherig 2013 as a crucial milestone to cross. In all these, the Dzongkhags to lead the way forward.