

Orientation Program for Elementary Teacher Educators

A three-day orientation Program was organized by the Board of School Education Haryana for Elementary Teacher Educators at SCERT on 6th to 8th Dec. The participants comprised Principals and senior Lecturers of DIETs and also some from the private colleges. This orientation program was aimed at bringing to the notice of the participants and through them to others, the initiatives taken in revamping the D.Ed program in Haryana.

The first day session was devoted to explaining the new D.Ed curriculum being introduced by NCTE, in consonance with the current concerns in school education. Prof. Poonam Batra of Dept. of Education, Delhi University, who has played a significant role in shaping up the new curriculum, elaborated on the philosophy behind it. As the new D.Ed curriculum developed by NCTE has yet to be finalized, the previous D.Ed curriculum has been decided to continue with some vital changes in Haryana. First and foremost is introducing Semester system. Further there are new themes like Right to Education Act, ICT, Community work etc.

Next session dealt with Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act. Dr. K.K.Vashishta ,retd. Head of Department of Elementary Education, who has been associated with this Act right from its initial stage, explained lucidly the implications of various provisions of the Act.

Since the orientation relied on interactive mode, the participants were encouraged to prepare presentation in groups. They were asked to propose various activities for the purpose of school experience/ Teaching practice in different semesters.

The second day session began with a discourse on “ Teacher Education” by Prof. D.D.Yadav retired from Department of Teacher Education, NCERT. What changes the program of Teacher Education has under gone and Why, was explained by Dr. Yadav with the help of examples relying on his vast experience and expertise in the field..

The next session was focused on Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation. This system of Evaluation was introduced by the Board way back in 2006-07. Dr. Yogesh Vashisht, senior expert of SCERT explained the concept and various components of CCE introduced in schools. How CCE empowers the teachers and also enhance the sense of their responsibility was discussed with the participants.

The significance of leadership role of the Principals/ Headmasters and other functionaries in schools was elaborated upon by Sh. A.S.Nehra, rtd. specialist of

SCERT. The kinds of leaders and their styles of functioning along with qualities of a good leader emerged from the discussions held with participants.

In the last session the participants made presentation on School Experience Program/ Teaching Practice and had an open discussion thereon.

The third day begin with the session on” Emergent Approaches to Teaching and Learning” by Dr. Mudhulika Patel from NCERT. She explained how the concept of “ Constructivism” has reoriented the whole approach towards Teaching and Learning. The child is the center of the school system and every effort has to be made to help him/ her to construct own knowledge.

The next session chaired by Sh Shekhar Vidyarthi, IAS, Secretary, Board, was joined by a group of visitors from Jammu and Kashmir also. They represented various DIETs of J&K and were asked to join under an ongoing program of NUEPA

The session started with a brief background of the Orientation Program. Sh Vidyarthi threw light on the role of the Board as affiliating, examining and certifying body for D.Ed program in Haryana. He also read a message of FC&PS to Govt. of Haryana, Department of Education, cum Chairperson of the Board, underlying the importance of the role of DIETs and particularly of the Private Colleges. In order to maintain the quality in D.Ed Program, it was asserted that a system of monitoring and inspection will be put in place and will be operationalized very soon. Further the message also informed about introducing the concept of giving computer education to children enrolled in those private schools in the DIETs on Weekends or during non-working hours of DIETs. This will be obviously on payment basis . There are two goals of this computer education -1) computer literacy and b) Computer Aided learning .Microsoft has been asked to support DIETs in this respect .If that works out, it will ensure very good quality computer training .Even in their absence it will be ensured that needful happens with out ICT program

The valedictory session ended with giving away participation certificates and group photograph to each participant