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SEMESTER III

Paper OC12A: Issues and Concerns in Secondary and Higher Secondary Education

Unit II Recommendations and Institutions for Secondary and Higher Secondary Education

- *Recommendations of various commissions and committees concerning secondary and higher secondary education in India.*
- *Role, functions and networking of institutions like UGC, NCERT, NCTE, NUEPA, SCERT's for secondary and higher secondary education in India.*

STATE COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING
(SCERT)

MISSION/VISION

- To work towards universal elementary education of equitable quality for all children.
- To work towards quality improvement at all spheres and all levels of education.
- To work towards universal elementary education and universal adult literacy.
- To act as resource support agency for policy, planning, research, training & material development for the school system.

- To act as affiliating agency for elementary and pre-school teacher education courses and teacher education institutions working in the different states.
- To design Courses for professional development of teachers.
- To frame curricula, syllabi, textbooks, materials and evaluation framework for educational administrators, teachers and children.

DUTIES TO BE PERFORMED TO ACHIEVE THE MISSION

The main duties to be performed by SCERT to achieve the Mission are:

1. Organize regular In-service teacher education programmes for all teachers in the system.
2. Design and Organize Course for professional advancement of teachers such as B.Ed. (In-Service).
3. Prepare textual materials for children at all levels of school education.
4. Prepare teacher support materials.
5. Prepare computer aided learning modules, cassettes, CDs, teaching-aids.
6. Conduct research for qualitative improvement of school education.
7. Evolve and initiate school improvement programmes.
8. Oversee the functioning of DIETs.
9. Act as affiliating body for elementary and early childhood care and education Courses in respective states.
10. Conduct entrance examinations, syllabi, examinations and award Diploma for these Courses.
11. Act as resource support agency to Directorate of Education and respective municipal councils.

ESTABLISHMENT OF SCERT

- The first step taken in the direction of the setting of SCERT's on the pattern of NCERT in all the states and union territories of India was the D.O.No.F. 19-17/78-SCH-5 dated 23.3.79 from Mrs. J. Anjani Dayanand, the Joint Secretary, Department of Education, Ministry of Education and S.W., Government of India, addressed to the State Secretaries.
- In fact she had been making correspondence with the State Governments on the subject of reorganization of State Institute of Education (SIEs), State Institutes of Science Education (SISEs) into State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERTs) Since March 1978.
- The correspondence referred above contained a detailed guidelines for the reorganization of SIEs and SISEs into SCERTs touching all the organizational, administrative and academic sides of the matter.
- This Magna Carta of qualitative improvement programme is an important document.
- Most of the SIEs were established in 1964 with their functions of training, extension, research and Publication limited to elementary education.
- After some time functions related to secondary and higher secondary education were included in the domain of SIE in some states.
- SIEs in some states took the responsibility of Science education, teaching of English, audio-visual education, teacher training and vocational guidance, etc.
- SCERT is in fact a counterpart of NCERT in the State.
- It has been given the responsibility of overseeing the work done in the academic wing of the School Education Board in the area of curriculum renewal and development of textbooks.

OBJECTIVES OF SCERT

1. To bring about qualitative improvement in the existing education system.
2. To develop the curriculum of various school subjects.
3. To provide pre-service and in-service education for teachers and educational supervisors.
4. To develop new techniques and methodologies in the field of school education.
5. To undertake and promote investigation, surveys, studies and researches in various fields and sections of education.
6. To formulate and implement pilot projects for bringing about quality improvement in different fields of school education.
7. To evaluate, monitor and develop educational programmes.
8. To provide career guidance and counseling to school students.

FUNCTIONS OF SCERT

1. ***In-Service Training of Teachers:*** SCERT arranges in-service training of teacher educators working in teacher training institutions for all the stages of education from preschool to secondary stage.
2. ***In-service Training of Supervisory Officers:*** It arranges in-service training and orientation of supervisory and inspecting officers dealing with preschool, elementary, secondary and senior secondary education in the state.
3. ***Extension Services:*** It provides extension services to teacher training institution at all levels.
4. ***Coordinate Extension Services:*** It coordinates the work of extension centers of teachers training institutions in the state.

5. ***Programmes for Professional Development:*** It organizes programmes including correspondence-cum-contact course for overall professional development of teachers, teacher educators, supervisory and inspecting officers.
6. ***Preparing of Curricula, Instructional Material and Textbooks:*** It prepares curricula, instructional material and textbooks for the use of educational institutions and teachers of preschool, elementary, secondary and senior secondary stages in the state.
7. ***Prescribing Curricula:*** It prescribes curricula for school and teacher training institution at preschool and elementary stage.
8. ***Prescribing textbooks:*** It prescribes textbooks for schools and teacher training institutions at preschool and elementary stage.
9. ***Producing Instructional Material:*** It produces instructional material for the use of teacher educators at secondary and senior secondary education level.
10. ***Coordinating Programme:*** It co-ordinates the programme of different subject teachers associations in the state.
11. ***Controlling Authority:*** It functions as a controlling authority essentially in connection with academic aspects of elementary teachers education and if possible in connection with its administrative aspect also.
12. ***Conducting Studies and Investigations:*** It conducts studies and investigations in various problems of education in general and in the training of teachers and the teaching of the curricula at levels of preschool, elementary, secondary and senior secondary education.

13. **Acting as agent of change:** It acts as an agent of change in school education and lifelong non-formal education in general and in teacher education in particular.

14. **Undertake Projects:** It undertakes such specified projects at different levels of education as be entrusted to it by government from time to time.

MAJOR UNITS OF SCERT

1. Department of Curriculum Development,
2. Department of Training and
3. Extension and Department of Educational Technology.

These three departments are further divided under many sub-units, so as to disseminate work properly and to achieve the above said objectives. These sub units are:

1. Department of Pre-School and Elementary Education.
2. Department of Non-formal Education.
3. Department of Curriculum Research and Special Curriculum Renewal Projects.
4. Department of Science and Mathematics Education.
5. Department of Population Education.
6. Department of Teacher and In-service Education.
7. Department of Educational Technology.
8. Department of Examination Reform and Guidance.
9. Department of Research coordination.
10. Department of Art and Aesthetic Education.
11. Department of Adult Education and Education for Weaker Sections.
12. Department of Publication

References:

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