

BRIEF FOR MINISTER EDUCATION, PUNJAB **ON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION INTERVENTION**

For ensuring quality education to every school going child as enshrined in the Article 25-A of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and retention of those students, who have been enrolled in universal enrollment campaign launched by worthy Chief Minister, Punjab, it is necessary to provide a child friendly environment in the schools for students especially for early year kids.

Directorate of Staff Development (DSD) is implementing a project titled: **“Introduction of Early Childhood Education (ECE) in 2000 Primary Schools in Punjab with Highest Enrollment and Improvement of Environment of School to convert them into Child Friendly Schools (CFSS)”**. Under this project DSD has developed ECE classrooms in 2000 primary schools in 36 districts of Punjab through its District Training and Support Centre (DTSC). This initiative will be supportive in increasing the enrollment and retention of students. Under this scheme, the following interventions have been made:

- a) **learning environment of the existing classrooms are made more attractive through painting walls with some themes for joyful learning of early year kids,**
- b) **learning resources are provided in accordance with the National Curriculum of ECE, 2007 and learning competencies;**
- c) **Provision of part time Caregivers to facilitate ECE teachers, take care of kids and keep ECE room in order; and**
- d) **Imparted training to teachers and head teachers of the concerned ECE schools, members of school councils and education managers of the districts.**

ECE is interactive milestone as it is activity-based and this is the only way to teach children effectively, especially the kids who are too young to concentrate on ideas concepts. ECE training is important in the sense that it has the focus on the most important yet neglected part of students in our schools. The students of early childhood

group require special attention, better teachers to give clear and refined concepts while most of these things are denied on one or the other pretext.

ECE initiative is being deemed the hyper need of the time for this purpose training of School council members of selected ECE schools is also very important and which is also highlighted in PC1. To give overview of ECE “One Day Orientation Workshop for EDOs, DEOs, Dy. DEOs, and AEOs” at divisional level in which orientation on ECE were given to **1004** Education Managers throughout Punjab and also One week training on ECE for (One teacher and One Head Teacher) of selected ECE schools at District Level, (DTSC) were also arranged in which **1976** ECE School Teachers were trained.

Moreover, for ECE awareness to local community and to highlight its importance; three days Orientation Workshop for most active 03 School Council Members from each selected ECE school were arranged throughout Punjab. **2762** School council members were trained at District Level.

In addition to **this UNICEF has started whole district initiative in Toba Tek Singh.** UNICEF has established ECE rooms in 300 schools of Toba Tek Singh in First Phase in (2015). Now 575 ECE rooms in Phase- II have also been developed in Dec 2016 in Jhang, Rahim Yar Khan, Lahore and Rawalpindi.

Briefly, it was decided that UNICEF will provide the funds for establishing ECE Rooms, training of teachers, head teacher, caregivers & SC member **while district government will provide the funds for caregiver pay from NSB/FTF funds.** DSD will support in collaboration with UNICEF to prepare the action plan of training programme for training of teachers, head teacher, caregivers & SC member. DSD and DTSC Head along its team of TE's and DTE's will supervise and monitor the working of the ECE room, Enrollment of students.

Brief on ECE Class Room Development are as follow:

- 2100 ECE Schools have been established till to date (by Govt. & Donor Funding)
- 3000 more ECE Schools to be established till April 2017 (by ADP Govt. Funding)
- 5000 more ECE Class Rooms to be established till April 2018.

Schools Education Department & Directorate of Staff Development (DSD) have firm believed to accomplished 10,000 ECE School till April, 2018.

ECE LEARNING RESOURCE MATERIAL IS NOW AVAILABLE IN ALL 2000 ECE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ALONG WITH PROPER ESTABLISHMENT OF ECE CLASSROOMS. THESE ECE CLASS ROOMS ARE OPERATIONAL AND THERE IS ABOUT 20% INCERASE AND 95 % RETENTION IN ENROLLMENT IN THESE 2000 ECE SCHOOLS.



ECE Class Room having ECE Learning Resource Material (Which includes: Room Décor, Language Cornor, Math Corner, Reading Corner, Art Corner, Science Corner, & Home Corner)

