

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH THE PRIVATE SCHOOL OWNERS / CHAINS / ASSOCIATIONS ON ORIENTATION OF SINGLE NATIONAL CURRICULUM AND ADOPTION / IMPLEMENTATION OF 30 MODEL TEXTBOOKS FROM CLASS PRE-I TO V

In the backdrop of the implementation of Single National Curriculum (SNC) and adoption of 30 model textbooks for Grades Pre-I to V, a meeting / orientation session with the representatives of various school owners / systems / chains / associations was organized by the PCTB in its committee room on 07-01-2021. The session was jointly presided by the Chairperson, PCTB and Managing Director, PCTB wherein 38 representatives of the following private school systems participated.

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Beaconhouse | 12. American Lyceum |
| 2. Lahore Grammar School | 13. The Educator |
| 3. The City School | 14. Garrison |
| 4. Dar-e-Arqam | 15. Army Public School |
| 5. American Lycetuff | 16. Bahria Town School |
| 6. Unique Group of Institutions | 17. The Spirit School |
| 7. Allied School | 18. Qazi Group of Schools |
| 8. Crescent School | 19. Pakistan Chamber of Education |
| 9. KIPS School | 20. Indus School |
| 10. The Punjab School | 21. International Standard School |
| 11. LACAS | 22. The Smart School |

2. The attendance sheet of the participants is attached as **Annex-A**.

3. The meeting started with the recitation of verses from Holy Quran. The Chairperson, PCTB welcomed all the participants. An introductory session was conducted in which all the participants gave their brief introduction.

4. After the introductory session, the Chairperson, PCTB apprised the participants that the Single National Curriculum (SNC) for Grades Pre-I to V has

been prepared and notified along with model textbooks of all the subjects in accordance with the “One Nation One Curriculum” vision of the Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan. Although, it was not an easy task but with the dedicated effort of the Federal Ministry of Education and Professional Training, all the Provincial School Education Departments / relevant Agencies and stakeholders, the Phase-I for Grades Pre-I to V has been accomplished which is going to be implemented in all streams of educational institutions including Private Schools, Public Schools and Deeni Madaris with effect from the Academic Session 2021-22.

5. He further apprised that the Phase-II for developing Single National Curriculum (SNC) for Grades VI to VIII has already been commenced which will be implemented from Academic Session 2022-23. Similarly, the SNC for Grades IX to XII will be implemented from Academic Session 2023-24 in Phase-III.

6. The orientation session was arranged to create awareness and bring the stakeholders of various private school systems / chains on board and address their queries so that vision of Prime Minister of Pakistan shall be implemented in its true letter and spirit.

7. After the introductory remarks of the MD, PCTB, the Director Curriculum, PCTB delivered a brief presentation to the participants to apprise them with the relevant details and share important information with them. The key takeaways of his presentation are as follows:

- The vision of the Prime Minister of Pakistan is as under:

“One system of Education for all, in terms of curriculum, medium of instruction and a common platform of assessment so that all children have a fair and equal opportunity to receive high quality education. Single

National Curriculum is a step in that direction”.

- The process of developing SNC 2020 has been spearheaded by the National Curriculum Council (NCC) which comprises 46 members including:
 - Federal Minister for Education & Professional Training as Chairman.
 - Provincial and Area Education Minister.
 - Chairman HEC.
 - Heads of Ittehad Tanzimat-ul-Madaras Pakistan.
 - Chairmen of Provincial Textbook Boards.
 - Representatives from Army, Navy and Air Force Educational Institutions.
 - Eminent Scholars and Educationists.
- After approval of the SNC 2020 for Grades Pre-I to V, the process of developing Model Textbooks was started which has also been completed and now the Model Textbooks are in the printing stage.
- The Phase-II for development of SNC for Grades VI to VIII has also been started which will be implemented from the Academic Session 2022-23.
- Private Publishers will be allowed to develop their textbooks on Single National Curriculum (SNC). However, they will seek NOC from the concerned authorities in the respective provinces and areas. The schedule for development of Textbooks & Supplementary Reading Materials (SRMs) will be announced within very soon positively.

- During the process of development of SNC, various litigations were made on the basis of 18th Amendment, however, the Hon'ble Lahore High Court, Lahore in its judgement dated 22-10-2020 in W.P. No. 49211 of 2020 decided as under:

“Likewise, it is expected that the initiative of bringing conformity in the syllabi and curriculum for Grades Pre-I to V through the country, if taken by the Federal Government in its capacity of co-ordination in the matters of interprovincial nature, must be materialized with utmost inclusiveness and after taking into consideration the inputs from all the federating units so that it may not only strengthen the unity of Nation but also upgrade the minimum standard of education for all classes of children alike so that quality and equality of education be secured.”

- The Provincial Cabinet of the Punjab in its 39th meeting held on 17-12-2020 considered and approved the following proposals:
 - ***Adoption of Single National Curriculum and 30 Model Textbooks for Grades Pre-I to V based on SNC developed by Federal Government for its implementation by School Education Department as well as Punjab Curriculum and Textbook Board as per Section 9(3)(a) of PCTB Act, 2015.***

- ***PCTB is exempted for Scheme for Development of Textbooks and Supplementary Reading Materials (SRMs) for one year initially as it has been developed by the Federal Government.***
- The PCTB in its meeting held on 31-12-2020 approved the adoption / implementation of SNC 2020 for Grades Pre-I to V in accordance with the directions of the Federal Government and Provincial Cabinet of the Punjab Government and issued the notification dated 01-01-2021 to this effect as under:

“No. M-49-02/PCTB/2021: In pursuance of Reminder No. PM’s office U.O. No.89-FEPT/M/DS (IA-II)/20 dated 14.12.2020 and Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training’s Letter No.F(5)/2015-NCC/RE dated 30.11.2020 regarding adoption / implementation of Single National Curriculum (SNC) for Grades Pre I-V and Model Textbooks developed by the Federal Government, the Provincial Cabinet of Pakistan in its 30th meeting dated 17.12.2020 has accorded the concurrence and adoption of Single National Curriculum (SNC) for Grades Pre I-V and Model Textbooks in all streams of education (Public, Private and Deeni Madaris) in Punjab for the forthcoming Academic Session 2021-22 and onwards. Therefore, as per approval of the Board in

its 76th meeting dated 31.12.2020 and as per Section 9(3)(a) of PCTB Act-2015, the Competent Authority, Punjab Curriculum and Textbook Board, Lahore hereby notified the Single National Curriculum (SNC) for Grades Pre I-V and Model Textbooks of Education Reforms & Textbook Development Wing, School Education Department developed by the Federal Government for implementation in all streams of education (Public, Private and Deeni Madaris) in Punjab for the forthcoming Academic Session 2021-22 and onwards.”

- The above notification has been widely circulated and is available on the website of PCTB.
- The participants were also apprised of the decision of the Hon'ble Lahore High Court, Lahore in ICA No. 55556 of 2020 titled “**Altamush Saeed Vs. Govt of the Punjab**” that:

“No private or public school shall prescribe or suggest any kind of book or reading material without getting its approval from the Government or its authorized officers / department / organization and in case of its violation all kind of legal action shall be taken.”
- In view of the above decision of the Hon'ble Lahore High Court, Lahore the “FINAL WARNING” to the private publishers / printers / book sellers / writers /

public & private educational institutions was published in the newspapers accordingly.

8. After the presentation, the house was opened for Question- Answer Session. The participants took part very enthusiastically and asked their questions which were comprehensively answered by the MD, PCTB. During the Question Answer Session, following points were clarified to the participants:

- The Model Textbooks will be made available before start of the next Academic Session 2021-22.
- Other than the Model Textbooks, all kinds of books / Supplementary Reading Materials to be used by the private schools will be required clearance from the PCTB. However, it will be responsibility of the concerned publishers to get clearance from PCTB before publishing / printing of such books / SRMs. In case of violation, strict legal action shall be taken.
- The schedule for development of Textbooks & SRMs by the private publishers will be announced very soon.
- The PCTB may provide printing of the Model Textbooks as per specification of the paper and title on demand.
- As per the Punjab Compulsory Teaching of the Holy Quran Act, 2018, Nazira Quran is to be completed up till Class V. Furthermore, the Hon'ble Lahore High Court, Lahore in ICA No. 55556 of 2020 titled "**Altamush Saeed Vs. Govt of the Punjab**" has passed directions:

"That the provisions of the Punjab Compulsory Teaching of the Holy Quran Act, 2018 shall be enforced in letter and spirit and implemented in all educational institutions from the next academic year"
- NCC is working to develop modules for pedagogical content and teachers' training which will be made available in due course of time.

- The Urdu translation of SLOs is available.
- Regarding the use of digital / online resources by various institutions, a comprehensive response from PCTB shall be provided later.
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) will be developed by the PCTB and shared on its website.

9. The participants appreciated efforts of all the stakeholders to materialize the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister of Pakistan towards achieving the goal of 'One Nation - One Curriculum' and provided assurance of their cooperation in this regard.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks by the Chairperson and MD PCTB.



(Abdul Razaq)
SECRETARY, PCTB

Copy to:

1. Minister of School Education Department, Government of the Punjab.
2. Secretary, School Education Department, Government of the Punjab.
3. Advisor on SNC, Islamabad
4. PS to Federal Minister of Education, Government of Pakistan.
5. All Directors, PCTB.
6. PS to Chairperson, PCTB.
7. PS to MD, PCTB.
8. PS to Secretary, PCTB.
9. All participants (through email)