Sub: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on implementation of Chunauti 2018.

Many queries are being received in the School branch, through Mentor Teachers and the District Deputy Director Education regarding the Chunauti 2018 and how it is to be implemented in the schools. Although the HOS is the best judge about the situation in their school still some clarification in the form of frequently asked questions are given below:

Q 1. What is the purpose of regrouping students?
A. The main purpose for re-grouping of students in different sections of their own classes in classes VI to IX is to use one set of content with children who cannot read, write or do basic Maths i.e. Nishtha group and another with those who can do it i.e. Pratibha group.

Q 2. For the purpose of Nishtha group, what exactly is the meaning of child not being able to read or do basic maths?
A. It means a child who cannot read a Hindi Story given in one on one assessment tool and/or not being able to solve subtractions in the same tool. The child should be able to do both, to be placed in Pratibha group.

Q 3. Who will be in Nishtha and Pratibha groups of Class VI?
A. On the basis of one on one Reading and Maths assessment tool, the child who cannot read a Hindi story and/or not being able to solve subtraction will be in Nishtha and those who can do it will be in Pratibha group.

Q 4. What is the basis of grouping the children in Nishtha or Pratibha group of Classes VII to IX?
A. As stated in Chunauti 2018 circular, scores of SA-1&2 of previous year would be taken. Since it was brought to our notice that with 33% as the cut off, there is very less children in Pratibha group in some schools therefore the cut-off is reduced to 25% which is the criteria of passing in Class IX and X as per CBSE norms is 25% in combined SA-I and SA-II.
However, schools are free to choose 33% or 25% as the cut-off in order to rationalize their group size.

Q 5. What is the baseline assessment plan?

A. As follows for different classes:

- All students of Class VI- Oral one on one tool.
- Those students of Classes VII to IX who scored less than 33% or 25% (as the case may be)- oral one on one tool.
- Those students of Classes VII to IX who scored more than 33% or 25% (as the case may be)- pen and paper tool.

Q 6. What is the rationale of taking 25% or 33% marks as cut-off for Classes VII to IX for Nishtha or Pratibha group?

A. It is again clarified that 33% or 25% is the aggregate marks in all subjects and it is the starting point for quick regrouping so that teaching learning activities can start immediately. However, if after the baseline or during the interaction with children a teacher realizes that a particular child is a non reader, then the non readers of Classes VII and IX are to be grouped in Nishtha section. The rationale for the same is that the approach for Nishtha sections of Class VII and VIII will be different and will enable the teachers to build the reading and writing skills of the students of this group. Besides, those children of Class IX who failed in the exam of 2015-16 and cannot read may be placed in “Vishwas” group instead of Nishtha. This is because such children may not have enough time to be ready for SA-I of CBSE pattern in September and would feel de-motivated due to repeated failure. These children should therefore be moved to Vishwas section so that their basic skills are built and encouraged to appear in Patrachar scheme of exam in 2017 instead of dropping out of the school system. Further, regrouping should not be seen as a purely administrative exercise, its academic purpose is more important.
Q 7. What is the purpose of pen and paper tool? Will the results of Pen and paper be used in re-grouping of children?

A. Pen and paper tool is to determine the academic baseline of the schools and for teachers and parents to monitor progress of students in subsequent assessments. The findings of this assessment i.e. Pen and paper tool will NOT be used in regrouping of children.

Q 8. What is the data entry plan of baseline assessment?

A. IT branch has generated an online data entry module for oral one on one and pen and paper assessment. Schools are required to first of all enter the one on one baseline assessment data of Class VI, followed by oral one on one of Classes VII to IX students. Thereafter, the school to enter the pen and paper data of randomly shortlisted 10% students of each Class VII, VIII and IX separately.

Q 9. Why one on one data to be entered for all children while pen and paper data entry for only a sample of children?

A. Since one on one assessment will determine the re-grouping of children, this data should be entered online for all children who were assessed. On the other hand, the purpose of pen and paper assessment is to understand the academic baseline of the school hence the entry of sampled data will be enough. However, schools are required to maintain all answer sheets for records for the academic year.

Q 10. Will there be difference in class room teaching approach for different groups throughout the year?

A. No, it would be only in the beginning when the focus in Nishtha sections of Classes VI, VII and VIII and Vishwas sections in class IX would be on building reading, writing and basic Maths competency. Subsequently, there would be no distinction or difference in classroom approach between children of “Nishtha” and “Pratibha” group while the Vishwas section will follow the curriculum of Modified Patrachar.

Q 11. How many groups are to be formed- two or three?

A. There would be two groups each in all classes between Classes VI to VIII- Nishtha and Pratibha. For children in class IX now, in addition to Nishtha and Pratibha, there would be Vishwas group
Q 12. What is “Vishwas” group and how will it be constituted?
A. Students of DoE’s Government schools who have failed in Class IX TWO OR MORE TIMES i.e. having failed in 2015-16 exam and 2014-15 and/or 2013-14. Further, those students of Class IX of DoE’s government schools, who failed for the first time in 2015-16, and cannot read and solve subtractions, may, with the consent of their parents, be moved to “Vishwas” group.

Q 13. Will the children in “Vishwas” group be admitted in Class IX or Class X?
A. Students in this group would be enrolled in Modified Patrachar Scheme and admitted to Class X.

Q 14. Does the Vishwas group include even those children who have taken School Leaving Certificate (SLC) this year?
A. Yes, it includes those children also who took SLC after failing in Class IX of 2015-16 session in the Government Schools of DoE.

Q 15. Is it compulsory for the students meeting the criteria of “Vishwas” group to take Modified Patrachar Exam?
A. No, it is optional. The teacher should advise the concerned student and explain the features of this scheme and why it would be useful for him/her. However, the decision should be taken either by the student or his/her parents. If the student opts against the Modified Patrachar and wants to study as regular student:

- In the same school- the school should retain him/her and place in Nishtha group of Class IX, or
- In any other nearby Government school.

Q 16. What is the benefit of opting Modified Patrachar Exam Scheme?
A. The advantage of Modified Patrachar would be with respect to the choice of subjects. Students can opt subjects like Home Science, etc in place of some which they considered difficult. Further, they would be eligible for all benefits as regular students. These students who clear Class X exam of Patrachar will continue as regular student in Class XI of the DoE schools in the session 2017-18.
Q 17. Will the students opting Modified Patrachar Exam Scheme continue in the same school?

A. Yes. They will continue in their regular school in the same manner but in a separate section called Vishwas. There would be regular classes based on Patrachar curriculum and the HoS would assign some of the most motivated teachers to teach these subject. Their forms and other formalities related to registration will be done by the concerned School.

Q 18. Who will pay the fees of registration and exam?

A. Difference of registration and exam fees between Patrachar and Regular students' expenditure on this head will be borne by the DoE.

Q 19. What is the difference between section and group?

A. Group is the basis on which children would be allocated the sections. For example, if in Class VI there are 4 sections then children of Nishtha and Pratibha group of that class should be distributed among four sections. Hence, there would be no change in the number of sections of each class as a result of this approach.

Q 20. What should the teacher do if any parent insists that their child should be in “Pratibha” group only?

The teacher should politely ask the child to read a text from one on one assessment tool before his/her parent and based on the reading level explain them that the group allocated to their child is in his/her interest. However, if the child can read the text fluently and solve basic subtraction operation then transfer him/her to “Pratibha” group immediately.

Q 21. What is Pragati Material and is it different from syllabus?

A. Pragati is a supplementary learning Material for Class VI to IX which basically explains the content of the syllabus in a simple and contextual form. It also has questions/activities which the children are expected to solve/do individually or in small groups.

Q 22. What is the role of existing textbooks in Chunauti 2018?

A. Teachers are always free to use the textbooks for more details whenever they want (timelines in Chunauti 2018 circular is indicative only). However they should use the
textbooks only at the stage when they believe that children of their section are ready for it. Readiness of children means that they can read the content of the textbook.

Q 23. What is the use of the Reading and Maths practice material uploaded by School branch on 11/07/2016?

It is also a type of Supplementary Learning Material which should be used with children who cannot read, write or do basic Maths i.e. of Vishwas and Nishtha group. There is a manual on Reading and Maths for teachers which they can refer before using it. Teachers can also use story books from school library and any self created material with this group to help them learn to read.

Q 24. How should a teacher decide when to use Reading and Maths practice material or Pragati or Textbook?

A. Reading and Maths practice material is to be used with Nishtha or Vishwas group in order to help children learn to read. As soon as children start reading, the teachers should use Pragati material and refer textbooks for going into more details provided the children are ready for it.

Q 25. What is the SUGGESTED TIMELINE for use of different teaching learning material?

A. For Pratibha sections, teachers should use Pragati material along with textbooks right from the beginning. For Nishtha sections, the suggested use of material would be as follows:

- **Nishtha sections of Class VI-VIII:** In the first two month i.e. till 18th August 2016, use basic Reading and Maths practice material along with Pragati Phase 1 material. Thereafter, Pragati Phase 2 material may be used. Teachers may refer textbooks and create their own activities following the approach of Pragati workshop they attended. They can refer any other material to explain the topics being taken. More than the material, the focus should be on building the basic reading, writing and Maths skills of children in this group.

- **Nishtha section of Class IX:** HoS MUST strive to organize (within the existing infrastructural/logistical limitations) extra classes for these students by deploying more guest teachers. Details regarding hiring teachers for this will follow from planning branch. There teaching period should be block teaching periods and teachers
must focus more on the subjects/skills which is challenging for them. The school should use Pragati material and textbooks judiciously.

- Vishwas section (Modified Patrachar) - Focus on basic reading, writing and Maths skills till the 18th August 2016. Thereafter, classes would be as per the syllabus of Patrachar with focus on writing practice.

Q 26. What should the schools do if some children (particularly those in Nishtha or Vishwas group) do not come regularly?

A. Widely publicize the Mega PTM dates. Have regular PTM and share the progress of the child with parents. Make the classroom more interesting. Use story books from the library very often. Make school a warm inviting and interesting place for children. Give the names of irregular children to SMC members and request them to follow up with their parents and report back. Use the mass SMS facilities given to the HoS to send the message to parents in case the child is irregular in class.

Q 27. What happens to other subject?

A. Other subjects like Drawing, Yoga, Music, etc should continue in the school as per their existing practice.

Q 28. What should be the approach with other medium sections like English, Urdu, etc?

A. These sections may continue as before. Classroom process should be similar to Pragati with focus on children’s specific learning needs.

Q 29. Does Chunauti apply on Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidhyalaya (RPVV) also?

A. In RPVVs and some other schools where there are very few students in Nishtha group they may use text books along with Pragati Material in their schools. However, those children who require help in basic skill should be addressed separately at school level.

Q 30. How would the students of Class VI to VIII be assessed during the year?

A. School will conduct unit tests on topics covered through Pragati or text books. Further, there would be two separate sets of question papers for SA-I for Nishtha and Pratibha groups respectively. The detail about SA-2 will follow.
Q 31. How would the students of Class IX be assessed?

A. There would be common SAs examination for Pratibha and Nishtha group. However, the questions in SA-I would be based on focused syllabus.

Q 32. Is there any career risk for the teacher who works with Vishwash or Nishtha group in case the performance of children is not satisfactory?

A. The DoE accepts that it is a challenging task and would like to assure all its teachers that their performance is not going to be assessed only on the basis of children’s result. On the contrary, those who turn around these classes will be specially recognized.

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All Heads of Govt. Schools under Directorate of Education through DEL-E

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