

**Rejoinder of published news in Dainik Sambad on 03/10/2024 titled**

**‘গোদের উপর বিষফোঁড়া- বিদ্যাজ্যোতির নামে মানুষের পকেট কাটছে সরকার!’**

The School Education Department has reviewed the above article published in "Dainik Sambad" on 03/10/2024 and found several factual inaccuracies and misrepresentations of the ongoing efforts of the Department to create the schools of excellence and hence to improve the state's education system. We wish to provide better clarification in this regard as follows:

1) 125 state government schools have been brought under CBSE as Vidyajyoti Schools, focusing on holistic development and academic excellence.

2) Till now twenty-five (25) CBSE training programs had been conducted in various districts based on various generic as well as subject specific capacity building program by the Centre of Excellence, CBSE, initiated from this end for all the Principals & Teachers on Leading Transformation, Guru Dakshata, Classroom Management, Experiential Learning, Active Learning, Art Integrated Learning & Strengthening Assessment and Evaluation Practices.

Moreover, Subject specific teachers trainings for CBSE Examinations already been conducted in collaboration with SCERT & Ramakrishna Mission, Viveknagar, Agartala by this end. **Around 90% teachers of Vidyajyoti Schools have been trained as per the CBSE curriculum.**

3) All the Study materials regarding CBSE Board Examinations, Question pattern, CBSE Syllabus, etc. are being shared with the Schools for distributing the same with the concern Teachers and students of the schools for better preparation of the CBSE Board Examinations.

4) The pass percentages for CBSE board exams in 2024 were 87% for Class X and 75% for Class XII, showing the collective efforts of the Department and teachers.

5) Chapter wise weekly assessments are being done after completion of each chapter. After assessment, weak learners are being identified. Remedial classes are also in progress focusing to enhance the academic achievement of the weak learners.

6) Teachers Diary are also being maintained regularly to track student progress and ensure that learning outcomes are timely achieved.

7) Regular and intensive inspections are being conducted across Vidyajyoti Schools to ensure adherence to quality standards and to promote the holistic development of students.

8) Frequent meetings with the Principals of Vidyajyoti Schools are held to review the progress of academic enrichment activities and ensure that all initiatives are on track.

9) Teachers from English medium backgrounds have been transferred to Vidyajyoti Schools to facilitate a smooth transition from Bengali medium to English medium instruction.

10) Till date 88 Special Educators, 179 PGTs (Psychology, Sociology, Geography, Economics) have been posted, and recently, the recruitment of 352 Pre-Primary Teachers, 112 Special Educators, 125 School Librarians and 118 PGT (Computer Science) is initiated. Recruitment of teachers, Librarians, and other staff is also underway to strengthen human resources in schools. 52 nos. of PI had been transferred from Directorate of Youth affairs & Sports to Vidyajyoti Schools. Medical Officers (Doctors) had been deployed for 100 Vidyajyoti Schools by CMO for weekly visits. Aayas have been engaged by the concerned school authority.

11) The development funds are being utilized for various academic and infrastructural development purposes and also for organizing various subject enrichment and student enrichment. It can furtherly be utilized for purchasing computer peripherals, sound systems for cultural & Co-curricular activities, library books, subscribing periodicals and teaching materials. Additionally, the fund can cover costs for first aid supplies, sanitation, emergency repairs, painting, gardening, school beautification, installation and maintenance of fire extinguishers, water sources, wages for contractual staff (e.g., water carriers, sweepers, cleaners, night guards) and other recurring expenses as per CBSE specifications.

12) Rs. 87.80 Cr. has been released so far for infrastructure development, with 24 projects completed and 63 ongoing. Additional funds are being processed.

The School Education Department remains committed in bringing all the transformative changes in the field of education to foster the quality education as envisaged in NEP-2020 & NCF-SE-2023.