BRIEF NOTE

Workshop on “INTEGRATING CRAFT SKILLS IN SCHOOL EDUCATION”

Education at all stages has been regarded as a powerful instrument for social transformation. The major task of education in India today is to usher in a democratic, socialist, secular society which removes prejudices among people. The objectives of introducing crafts in schools is to help in the realization of these goals. Therefore, not only does it form an integral part of the school curriculum, but has its ramifications into other subjects of the school curriculum.

The programme of Action of the National Policy on Education of 1986 states that the basic emphasis in interlinking education and culture should be on helping a child to discover his latent talent and to express it creatively. This can be achieved through a participatory process using their immediate environment, giving special emphasis to curriculum reorientation and motivating teachers to interact with the students at different levels.

Handicrafts in this country are an important part of our rich cultural heritage, which serve to satisfy the aesthetic needs of man and provide a vehicle for his urge for self-expression. The real significance of handicrafts lies in the newness and surprise of each object.

Today we are losing not only our ancient heritage but also an essential element in our social composition which has been a strong cementing force. Crafts in schools gives an opportunity to revive and keep active the rich heritage and cultural traditions of our country and encourages creativity among students. During the Workshop on ICSSE, the teachers learn 3 to 4 crafts in-depth. The crafts which are generally taught are Pottery, Clay Modelling, Papier Mache, Mask Making, Tie & Dye, Rangoli, Wall decoration, Cane Work, Bamboo Work, Book Binding, Paper Toy making, etc. Lecture-demonstrations and slide-shows are arranged on a variety of topics related to Indian Handicrafts and Culture. Special emphasis is laid on “Aesthetic in Crafts”. Sessions on use of CCRT’s Educational Material for creative activities in curriculum teaching are also organised. The workshop is approximately of 10-11 days duration.

Objectives:

- to revive an interest in Indian Crafts and study their relevance in contemporary life,
- to help teachers to value and recognize the importance of local craft resources,
- to guide teachers to formulate a syllabus for teaching Crafts/SUPW/WE in schools with the new awareness created during the Workshop,
- to learn about the life-styles of craftsmen and recognize their role in society,
- to instill in teachers, the importance of value and moral education and to suggest projects that can be taken up while working for the welfare of the community,
- to inculcate values of social service and dignity of labour,
- to develop an aesthetic sensibility relevant to Indian Culture.

Community Service forms an important component of these Workshops. Emphasis is laid on the training programme providing a bridge between traditional crafts and modern techniques. Attempts for innovations in the use of craft traditions in the modern society are also made. Interaction with school children is also an essential part of the training programme.

A few CCRT Educational Publications with Audio-CD’s are gifted to the school through the participating teacher after successful completion of the said Workshop.
The following points may please be noted while deputing the teachers for the Workshop on “Integrating Craft Skills in School Education”

1. The deputed teachers should below the age of 52 years. (It is essential to give proof of Date of Birth at the time of Registration.)

2. The Workshop is for in-service Govt./Govt. aided school teachers teaching classes I to X and subjects like Craft, Drawing, Painting, Arts, SUPW/WE.

3. Headmaster/Headmistress and Principal of school and those teaching Yoga/Physical Education should not be deputed for participation in the Workshop.

4. Those teachers who have already attended Workshop on “Socially Useful Productive Work/Work Experience” organized by the CCRT as per your record should not be deputed again for the same Workshop.

5. No Contractual or Temporary Teachers like Shiksha-Karmi, Shiksha-Bandhu, Shiksha-Mtr, Education Friend, Teacher Facilitator, Sanvidha Shikshak, etc. should be deputed.

6. The lectures will be delivered in English for the benefit of the teachers participating from all parts of the country. Therefore, an understanding and working knowledge of English is essential.

7. As the working hours will be long and the workshop will be held in a camp atmosphere, teachers should be in good health.

8. The deputed teachers may be asked not to bring any escort/family member with them under any circumstance.

9. Only one teacher should be deputed for participation from one school at a time for the Workshop.

10. Your deputation order will be treated as a final order and the CCRT will not issue any selection letter to individuals. However, any relevant query by the deputed teachers will be answered by the CCRT.

11. For correspondence with the CCRT our letter reference number and date must be quoted.

For registration on the first day of the Workshop and for payment of TA/DA on the last day of the Workshop, the deputed teachers must bring the following certificates on separate sheets of paper:-

(i) Date of Birth Certificate
(ii) Relieving Certificate from the School
(iii) Basic Pay Certificate
(iv) Two passport size photographs
(v) Tickets/Ticket Nos. (Original of the onward journey performed and photocopy of the return journey). To and fro tickets of the entitled class and by shortest route should be purchased for the journey.

As this will be a good opportunity for deputed teachers from different States/UTs to stay together, interact with each other and share a common platform, the deputed teachers may be asked to bring the text books of the subjects which they teach along with the books prescribed in social sciences in their State/UT.

The participating teachers will also be given an opportunity to present their regional cultural programme, hence the deputed teachers may also be requested to bring costumes, repertoire of folk songs, dances and other important items of cultural value which they would like to share with their colleagues from other States/UT’s during the Workshop.

Since it is difficult to get the confirmed return reservation in a short time, we would like to suggest that the deputed teachers make their “return reservation” from their headquarters beforehand.