Puppetry has played an important role in disseminating knowledge in most parts of the world. Puppetry imbibes elements of all art forms such as literature, painting, sculpture, music, dance, drama, and enables students to develop their creative abilities. Puppetry has been used traditionally in India as a popular and an inexpensive medium to transmit knowledge about Indian myths and legends.

Since Puppetry is a dynamic art form that appeals to all age groups, this medium of communication has been selected to serve as an aid for imparting education in schools. The CCRT provides a comprehensive and an integrated training in the preparation, manipulation and production of such puppet programmes which may be used in a variety of formal and non-formal teaching situations. The Workshop on "Role of Puppetry in Education" is organized for the in-service primary school teachers from all parts of the country throughout the year. It is approximately of 15-16 days duration.

Objectives:
- to introduce Puppetry as an aid to education,
- to teach preparation and manipulation of glove, shadow, rod, string and other puppets, out of low cost material & easy to use in classroom situation,
- to prepare educational scripts and programmes for teaching curriculum subjects through puppetry and to study the impact of training for evaluation,
- to enable teachers to acquire knowledge about traditional puppet theatre forms of India and to provide them with an opportunity to interact with traditional puppeteers,
- to encourage teachers to improvise inexpensive teaching aids and to make creative activities for students an integral part of classroom teaching.

To achieve the above mentioned aims, the training program is divided into four parts:

- Preparation of various types of puppets and their manipulation techniques,
- Preparation of educational scripts,
- Practical training in allied arts like story-telling, role play, voice modulation/speech, mime and movement, music and its improvisation,
- Production and presentation of educational programmes for school students with practical experience through interactive session.

Introductory lecture sessions on “Concept of Puppets and Script Writing” are very important for the success of the Workshop. A good educational message is the core of the puppet play. Great emphasis is given to the writing of the script for puppet plays. Suitable themes for puppet plays are suggested according to the target audience and few good stories are selected after the discussion sessions on stories developed by the participants.

Traditional artists from different parts of the country are invited from time to time to acquaint the teachers with regional traditional forms of puppetry. Lecture-demonstrations on Traditional Puppet Theatre of India are organised for the participants to introduce the different styles of puppet theatre in the country. Participants are taught to make and manipulate simple paper puppets like finger puppets, masks and paper rod puppets.

The participants are informed that the Workshop aims at production of simple puppets out of easily available and waste materials to convey educational concepts and create awareness of social issues in the classroom.

Manipulation of all these puppets is taught after each practical session. Teachers learn to produce educational puppet programmes with the help of these different kinds of puppets.

Educational visits to places of historical importance and museums are organized.

Sessions on folk music/music for theatre are also organized.

Resource material on puppetry using modern technology developed by the Centre will be used from time to time.

A few CCRT Educational Publications with Audio-CD’s and a ‘Puppetry Kit’ 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 "Role of Puppetry in Education"

1. The Workshop is for in-service Govt./Govt. aided school teachers teaching classes I to V below the age of 52 years (It is essential to give proof of Date of Birth at the time of Registration).

2. Headmaster/Headmistress/ Principals of school should not be deputed for participation in the Workshop.

3. Those teachers who have already attended a course on “Puppetry in Education”/Workshop on “Role of Puppetry in Education” organized by the CCRT as per your record should not be deputed again for the same Workshop.

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

5. 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.

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

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

8. Only one teacher should be deputed for participation from one school at a time in a Workshop.

9. Your deputation order will be treated as a final order and the CCRT will not issue any selection letter to individuals.

10. 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, they should bring some of the traditional puppets of their region if possible, which will be returned to them after the Workshop.

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.