

## **Subject Teacher Forum – 2014–15**

### **Minor changes to the programme**

RMSA and DSERT have implemented the Subject Teacher Forum for the last three years across all the 34 districts of Karnataka. Over the three years 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, the programmes has focussed on the following:

1. Extend the computer literacy skills for teachers
2. Introduce the learning possibilities from using the Internet
3. Use emails, [subject mailing forums](#) and [discussion forums](#) to communicate
4. Build digital resource libraries and extend the Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge
5. Participate in the [Karnataka Open Educational Resources](#)

#### **Proposal for 2014-15**

During 2013-14, mathematics, science and social science teachers from Phase 2 schools were covered in 19 districts, along with Head Teachers. The proposal of 2014-15 programme was to cover the remaining 15 districts (for mathematics, science, social science and head teachers) and introduce Kannada forum in the 19 districts. While earlier, the programme was aimed at Phase 1 and 2 schools, it was decided in discussions between RMSA and DSERT to focus STF training for teachers who have not been previously trained during this year (Phase 3 schools). In addition to this, a core group of teachers was proposed to be trained on resource creation (web-based) for mathematics, science and social science.

The first round or resource creation workshops have been completed for mathematics, science and social science.

#### **Revised plan for 2014-15**

It is now proposed to slightly modify the state level training programme to focus on Mathematics and Kannada training for all the 34 districts in addition to Head Teachers' Training in the 15 districts. This change is necessary so as to maximize the effectiveness of the training in view of the existing lab facilities as well in view of the readiness and need of the teachers.

	<b>Phase 3 schools</b>	<b>No of batches (weeks) of training (Maths and HTF)</b>
15 districts (Annexure 1)	1945	Minimum – 4 Maximum – 22 About half the districts need 10-14 weeks to complete With a start date of 3/11/14, the training in most of the districts will go on through December-mid January. In the larger districts like Tumkur-Madhugiri, this will go into February.
19 districts (Annexure 2)	2450	Minimum - 4 Kannada – 26 About half the districts need 10-14 weeks to complete With a start date of 15/9/14, the training in most of the districts will go on through December-mid January. In the larger districts like Belgaum-Chikkodi, it may be difficult to complete all batches by February.

Hence attempting to complete all the subjects (Mathematics, Science, Social Science and Kannada plus HTF) in one academic year will put enormous pressure on the DIETs to conduct multiple batches of training and in large batch sizes both of which is likely to compromise the quality of the training. Specially since, the focus of this year's training is ICT Phase 3 schools, which are the largest in number. Hence, it will be better to focus on 2 subjects for optimising effectiveness of training. From our experience, we find that Mathematics teachers are the most ready in terms of technology adoption. It is also important to complete the HTF training in all the districts so that the school leadership is supportive of ICT integration in schools.

It is, therefore, recommended that we focus on

1. Mathematics for all 34 districts – covering all Phase 3 schools
2. Kannada for the Phase 3 schools in 19 districts (which were covered last year)
3. Head Teacher forum for the Phase 3 schools in 15 districts (being taken up this year)

In order to strengthen the RPs required for this, the State level training schedule will be revised as follows:

1. Add one additional batch of RP training for Mathematics (6 days) for the 19 districts covering Phase 3 schools for mathematics (An addition of 6 days)
2. Add one additional batch of Kannada teachers to cover the 19 districts Phase 3 schools There are 924 schools and with the proposed number of batches, a team of 3 resource persons would not be adequate to cover the training requirements. An additional batch would mean more resource persons are available for training. (An addition of 8 days)

However, the above additions will not lead to an increase in the overall efforts to that extent. Along with above, we propose that

3. the science and social science batch training for RP for 6 days each (A reduction of 12 days); be postponed to the next academic year, which will reduce MRP effort by 12 days.

Hence, the overall effort will be increased by 2 RP training days at the state level. We request your concurrence for this change.

IT for Change  
September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014