

Client: Directorate of Education (DoE), Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi

Duration: 2021-24

Objective: To provide project management support to the newly formed DBSE.

Summary: DBSE was set up in 2021 to build an education system that promotes the use of advanced techniques and global practices in school education, and does not focus on rote learning. Out of approximately 1000 government schools in Delhi, 30 schools have been affiliated to DBSE in the 2021-22 academic session. Over time, all government schools are planned to be affiliated to DBSE and some private

schools are also expected to switch to the new Board from their existing affiliations.

The ACER-managed PMU will support affiliation, training and professional development, curriculum design and development, development of courses of study, learning assessment, and reporting or

certification of results.

Significant challenges:

The launch of the new Board coincided with the most severe wave of the COVID-19 pandemic that the country had faced to date. Hence, the Board's first academic year had approximately seven months during which schools were mostly closed and learning continued online. In the same period, the PMU had to deliver test papers for admission to the Schools of Specialised Excellence (SoSEs), develop curriculum and content in accordance with international best practices, build the system of assessment to be followed in DBSE schools, and prepare test papers for assessments.

Activities:

On behalf of DBSE and DoE, ACER is providing support in a wide range of areas.

- School affiliation: Preparing bylaws, overseeing applications for affiliation, making recommendations
  on the suitability of institutions seeking affiliation, deciding minimum qualifications of school heads
  and teachers, and setting teaching tenures.
- Professional learning: Developing the professional learning calendar, supporting the preparation of training modules for school leaders and teachers, helping in the training of trainers and implementation of professional learning workshops, and building institutional capacity of DBSE and DoE staff in assessment, pedagogy, and curriculum.
- Curriculum development: Designing a world class inclusive curriculum that incorporates
  play-based learning, active learning, 21st century skills, the Delhi government's happiness
  curriculum, innovation labs, and technology-based learning; aligning the curriculum to the
  National Education Policy (NEP) 2020; modifying instructional materials; recommending
  textbooks; and rolling out the curriculum.
- Course development: Introducing new subjects, supporting the preparation of syllabus, and recommending textbooks.
- Learning assessment: Developing new formative and summative assessments for secondary and senior secondary grades, planning and preparing for international assessments such as the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), conducting workshops on the use of assessments, preparing discussion papers, and building capacities of government stakeholders.
- Results: Certification of students for secondary and higher secondary examinations.
- Other key areas of support: Reviewing, designing, and implementing skills education, assisting in financial management, and supporting information technology needs.

