



Jasmin Kumar
National President, Elementary Education
Council

Women's Indian Chamber Of Commerce and Industry

Smt. Nirmla Sitharaman Ji,
Honourable Finance Minister,
Ministry of Finance, Government of India

14-01-2021

Subject: Seeking for sector-specific policies and incentives

Respected Madam,

I am honoured to introduce myself as the National President of the Elementary Education of WICCI (Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry). We are aimed to strengthen the Elementary Education in our country with the Vision to ensure access of quality 'Education to All'.

With respect to the upcoming budget 2021-22, our National Council of Elementary Education would like to propose the following recommendations to the Ministry of Finance:

1. Budget allocation to increase in Education sector, particularly for Anganwadis. The last year's provision of Rs.99,312 crore for education plus Rs.3,000 for skilling was barely 0.50 percent of GDP and was too meagre, considering that nearly 100 million youth will be entering the workforce within the next decade.
2. Millions of kids have lost access to education due to COVID-19 pandemic. Our strong recommendation is to implement program for children to get access to education. In light of the above, our council has launched an initiative "**WICCI Elementary Education – Bharat on Parivartan**". It is aimed to provide 4 Ts: Tools, Techniques, Training, and Technology to the children in remote areas. It costs an estimate of Rs. 5000 per child (annually). We also suggest to engage the government machinery i.e. Anganwadi workers, Asha workers, or Public Distribution System, to further reduce the cost by 30% - 40%.
3. SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Teachers Training Program, to be made mandatory in both public and private schools. The COVID-19 Pandemic has increased mental health issues amongst the teaching faculty. In light of this, our council has started Pilot project on **SEL Teachers training program** in various schools, aimed to prevent mental health issues, create awareness about child rights and to push attainment of the SDGs. A budget to run these programs in both public and private schools will certainly bring about the changes we want

to see in the education system. The program costs an estimate of Rs 1500/- per teacher for 6 months.

4. Emergency Relief fund to be created to support the preschools and K-12 Schools that have shutdown their operations over financial constraints due to the coronavirus pandemic or are on the verge of shutting down. This shall not only help the Education industry to revamp but shall also provide employment to the teaching and support staff who have lost their jobs this year.
5. Create cash subsidy for students enrolled in public and aided schools for their textbooks and writing material, with direct benefit transfer (DBT) to school students of government and aided schools in classes one to eight and cash subsidy to students of classes nine to 12 to ensure their continuity of education.

We have our National Council team comprising of women with strong knowledge and expertise into Education Industry. I am privileged to introduce my fellow council members.

1. Mrs. Nidhi Jain, Vice President, Educationist, Entrepreneur
2. Mrs. Neerja Singh, Council Member, Educationist, Author, Professional Speaker, Coach
3. Mrs. Suprabha Jha, Council Member, Founder Blue Orange Publications
4. Mrs. Vibha Raj, Council Member, C.E.O. – Education Today
5. Mrs. Pritika Gulati, Council Member, Counsellor
6. Ms. Vibha Ravee, Council Member, Image Consultant, Professional Speaker
7. Mrs. Rolii Singh, Council Member, NLP Practitioner, Founder - Mind Nirvana
8. Mrs. Meeta Bajaj, Council Member, Educationist, Centre Head – Rayz International Preschool
9. Mrs. Maninder Sachdev, Council Member, Runs education for underprivileged children in local communities.
10. Mrs. Shailja Arvind, Council Member, Educationist, Franchise owner - Footprints
11. Mrs. Shagun Singhal, Council Member, Educationist, Professional Speaker, Writer
12. Mrs. Seema Bhattacharya, Council Member, Founder – Super Parents, Writer
13. Ms. Sanchita Shaw, Council Member, Head Admissions, Rayz International Preschool
14. Ms. Shivani Pandey, Council Member, Teacher
15. Mrs. Nandini Govind, Council Member, Advocate
16. Mrs. Prachi Seth, Council Member, Educationist, Principal
17. Dr. Manisha Singhal, Council Member, Clinical Psychologist
18. Mrs. Jyoti Kadam, Council Member, IT Professional
19. Mrs. Sucharita Das, Council Member, Content specialist

We look forward to your cooperation and attention to the above requests.

Thank you

Regards,

Mrs. Jasmin Kumar

National President, Elementary Education Council

Founder, Rayz International Preschool

