

National Seminar on “New State Curriculum Frameworks (SCFs) as the Basis for Transforming School Education”, organised by SCERT, Goa: 05-06 December 2024

The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Goa, in collaboration with the Directorate of Education, Goa, successfully organized a two-day National Seminar on “New State Curriculum Frameworks (SCFs) as the Basis for Transforming School Education” on December 5th and 6th, 2024. The seminar served as a pivotal platform for policymakers, educators, and teachers to deliberate on the implementation and far-reaching implications of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

The event was graced by the presence of esteemed dignitaries, including Mr. Anandrao Patil, IAS, *Additional Secretary*, Ministry of Education, Government of India; Mr. Prasad Lolayekar, IAS, *Secretary* (Education), Government of Goa; Dr. Dinesh Prasad Saklani, *Director*, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi; Dr Shashikala Wanjari, *Vice Chancellor*, National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA); Mr Shailesh Zingde, *Director of Education*, Goa; and Mrs. Meghana Shetgaonkar, *Director*, SCERT, Goa.

Dr Dinesh Prasad Saklani highlighted NCERT's role in spearheading national curriculum reforms and elaborated on the development of the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) 2023. His address underscored how the NEP-2020 envisions a holistic transformation of school education, with curricula and textbooks designed to meet the evolving educational needs of students across various stages.

Mr. Anandrao Patil provided valuable insights into the government's initiatives aimed at promoting digital literacy and integrating Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into the education sector. He also elaborated on the Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) ID system, a groundbreaking initiative designed to facilitate targeted interventions, boost school enrollments, and efficiently manage academic records for students nationwide.

Dr Deepak Paliwal, Joint Director of the PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE), Bhopal, presented the contributions of PSSCIVE in fostering vocational education across schools. His presentation emphasized the need for aligning vocational training with the demands of Industry 4.0 and the future workforce.



A highlight of the seminar was the panel discussion titled "Reimagining Skill Education in Goa," featuring Dr Vinay Swarup Mehrotra, Professor at the Curriculum Development and Evaluation Centre (CDEC), PSSCIVE and Mr. J. R. Rebello, Chairman of the State Curriculum Framework for School Education (SCFSE) Committee. Dr V.S. Mehrotra shared innovative approaches and best practices for advancing vocational education, aligning curricula with industry needs, and addressing the skills gap in the labour market. His presentation emphasized the importance of equipping students with relevant skills for employment and entrepreneurship. The panel discussion explored the impact of the changing labour market on youth skills, addressing future skill needs, especially concerning Industry 4.0, and how the vocational education and training (VET) system should respond to emerging economic changes. Mr. Ruildo D'Souza coordinated the panel discussion.

