



# Summary of Policy Round Table for Parliamentarians on New Education Policy

**Centre for Civil Society**



## **POLICY ROUND TABLE FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS ON NEW EDUCATION POLICY**

**DATE:** 02 August 2016

**VENUE:** Constitution Club, Rafi Marg, New Delhi

**TIMINGS:** 6.30 PM- 8.00 PM

### **PANELISTS:**



**Ms Shailaja Chandra, Member of  
Drafting Committee for  
framing the New Education Policy**



**Dr Parth Shah, Founder President,  
Centre for Civil Society**

### **MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT:**

- Smt Meenakshi Lekhi, Member of Parliament in the Lok Sabha, New Delhi
- Shri Gaurav Gogoi, Member of Parliament, Kaliabor, Assam
- Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan, Member of Communist Party of India (Marxist), West Bengal
- Shri Rajiv Gowda, Member of Parliament of Rajya Sabha, Karnataka
- Smt Dr Mamta Sanghamita, Member of Parliament in the Lok Sabha, West Bengal
- Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh, Member of Parliament in the Lok Sabha, Odisha
- Shri CL Ruala, Member of Parliament in the Lok Sabha, Mizoram
- Shri Thangso Baite, Member of Parliament in the Lok Sabha, Outer Manipur



- Shri Dharam Vir Gandhi, Member of Aam Aadmi Party, Patiala
- Shri Nadimul Haque, Member of Parliament representing All India Trinamool Congress in the Rajya Sabha, West Bengal
- Shri Dr Thokchom Meinya, Member of Parliament, Inner Manipur
- Smt Anu Aga, Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha, Maharashtra



#### MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT & REPRESENTATIVES FROM CENTRE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

**OBJECTIVE:** Platform for interaction between policy makers and civil society members to discuss and debate key ideas of the New Education Policy

Dr Parth Shah introduced the speaker, Ms Shailaja Chandra and kick started the discussion on the New Education Policy. He also requested the participants to go through the shared documents and research (provided to them in a folder) along with a list of 12 reform ideas. At the end of the event, the participants had to vote for top 3 ideas from the list.

Ms Shailaja Chandra shared her experience of drafting the recent New Education Policy where they reached out to the different state governments, panchayats, NGOs to discuss critical subjects. The aim was to make substantial changes in the policy incorporating as many practical solutions as possible. The Committee was formed in early December 2015 and they submitted their recommendations in May 2016.

#### KEY ISSUES & IDEAS HIGHLIGHTED:

- Quality of education is deteriorating. Investment in education needs to increase.



- Lack of data driven education policy. Invest in research and generate real time data. Paperless tracking of children with use of ICT to improving learning.
- 25% Reservation for EWS students to be implemented more effectively. No detention policy to be brought down from up to 8th standard to 5th standard.
- Physical infrastructure of schools is given more importance than quality of education. Infrastructure requirements need to be scrapped and focus to be shifted on quality.
- HRD committee's 10+2+3 formula to be questioned. Innovation in University degrees is the need of the hour. A 4 year integrated B. Ed course 10+2+4 should be started for graduates to become trained teachers.
- Curriculum and pedagogy should be revised. Skill education should be integrated in schools from 8th standard. Anganwadis to be a part of the formal schooling system.
- Individuals interested in establishing educational institutions should be allowed. Ecosystem for investment should be developed. Over regulation should be avoided.
- World class universities to be created. Bodies like NCERT, NUEPA, IGNOU, UGC need peer review.
- Focus on education loans and fellowship. Under National Higher Education Promotional and Management Act, a National Fellowship Fund should be set up for 10 lakh students from disadvantaged families.

The session concluded with participants voting for the top reform ideas of their choice. Dr Shah expressed gratitude to Ms Chandra and the participants for highlighting some of the pertinent issues in the education sector and arriving at a consensus for finding solutions.