

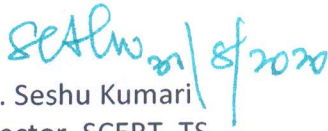
## Preface

The early years of a child have acquired significance globally, as it is considered that the foundations for growth, development and learning are laid at this stage and are influenced by not only the nutritional & health status of the child but also the psycho - social experiences & stimulating environment the child is exposed/received to during these early years. The child at this stage moves towards independence and begins to establish relations with outer world laying a base for the critical/crucial social life. Hence, providing appropriate care and education during this stage through ECCE Schools/Pre Schools with appropriate inputs, curriculum, trained teachers, stimulating/rich environment etc. is considered as more significant for overall development and appropriate learning of child.

It is a known fact that though many provisions/factors contribute for overall development and learning of child at Pre School, the role of teacher is crucial and occupies the prominence in bringing out the best in the children. Teachers acquired with requisite knowledge, skills etc. can act as facilitators/mentors promoting overall development among children by creating stimulating classroom atmosphere and using developmentally appropriate methods, materials, strategies etc.

Hence, the State Government has initiated steps to provide Pre School Education Programme in the State to provide quality Pre School teachers in Pre Schools. Presently, the two year DPSE Programme is being conducted in the DIET, Medak and two Private D.El.Ed. Colleges in the State. The DPSE curriculum was prepared by the SCERT, Telangana based on the DPSE Curriculum Framework, 2015 of NCTE, with a focus on concepts of understanding the child, child development, approaches & strategies to deal with children, creation of interactive and inclusive classroom etc., to build the required knowledge, skills and capacities among Pre School teachers to deal with Pre School children. Since inception of the programme, the SCERT is providing continuous professional guidance with the support of the experts in the field for conduct of the DPSE programme effectively.

Further, realizing the need for reference books on DPSE Programme and request made by the student-teachers and faculty, the SCERT took initiation for development of reference material for DPSE Programme with the support of SRC, DDMS (formerly AMS), Hyderabad, experts in the field of Pre School Education in the State. I appreciate and express gratitude to the team of SRC, DDMS, Hyderabad who have put their valuable time in development of this reference material and also thank the authors and editors who have participated in the development of the reference material.

  
B. Seshu Kumari  
Director, SCERT, TS

## **A Word on the Material**

The significance of early years has been recognised globally along with the need to support children at this stage as the foundations of an individual's linguistic, cognitive, social, creative, physical, moral and spiritual development evolve. Deficits in these areas of development can have long term implications for the child, often affecting his or her ability to respond to the challenges provided in the educational system. We owe it to all young children to assist them in maximising their individual potential. There would be much less need for remedial and compensatory education if resources were targeted at young children.

Recognizing children as nation's asset, understanding the criticality of early years, exciting opportunities from growing scientific knowledge, have all necessitated a re-look at the ECE programmes that we provide. Child first years are of crucial importance. The best start that we can provide should on one hand arrest the avoidable loss of human potential and also offer children the care and support that helps in optimizing their potential. The need for capacity ensured childcare services is no longer a matter of option but a prerequisite on human resource development agenda. Article 3 of Child Rights Convention directs that the best interest of all children shall be a primary consideration in all actions concerning children undertaken by public or private institutions. Competent child education staff is crucial to implementing programmes, which are sensitive to the needs of young children.

### **Role of ECE Teacher**

The central point of ECE curriculum is the teacher and the teacher's role and the relationship to the child as an individual and in a group. This in turn points to the importance of teacher development, which includes initial preparation as well as continuous guidance, support and supervision. Curriculum should not only be child centered but should be constructed as well as transacted with the involvement of the teacher. This can happen only when the teacher is not only adequately prepared but continuously supported. Hence there is a need to prepare teachers who are sensitive to the needs of children, equipped with required knowledge and necessary skills in developing a "whole child" who in turn become a responsible citizen.

### **Reference material**

Understanding the requirement for completely qualified ECE teachers by all means, curriculum was designed in consonance with the NCFTE and Curriculum Framework for Dip. Preschool Education (2015). The reference material is developed to provide the student –teachers with required knowledge of the field and also ample of

opportunities to practice their learning and develop essential skills. A detailed introduction with objectives of each course has been given.

The theory courses give theoretical information and the practical aspect is focussed on providing first hand work experiences with children which is the central focus of the programme. It is expected that the student teachers will benefit in understanding young children in the age group 0 to 6 years and the developmentally appropriate practices which makes them creative and innovative teachers.

We are grateful to Smt.B.Seshu Kumari – Director SCERT - Telangana for entrusting SRC ECE DDMS (AMS) with the responsibility of developing Reference material for the course DPSE (Year I and II). We also acknowledge and appreciate the contributions of all the experts who contributed and worked with great zeal, dedication and involvement in developing this material.

**Smt.K.Lakshmi**  
**Chairperson**  
**SRC ECE, DDMS (AMS)**