

English Mobile Teams

English and its Importance:

English has been taught as compulsory subject in schools for over two centuries. Due to growing demand for English in India and the world, many people are preferring to study English either as a subject or as medium of instruction. In Andhra Pradesh also, the demand for English has been increasing as it is evident from the following:

Increase in Enrolment in English medium Schools 2007 -08 to 2010-11

Medium	2001-02		2009-10		2010-11	
	Enrollment	%	Enrollment	%	Enrollment	%
TM	10863366	83.11	8650448	66.92	8214416	63.64
EM	1815001	13.89	3906288	30.22	4337731	33.61
Other medium	393231	3.00	370718	2.86	355056	2.75
Total	13071598	100	12927454	100	12907203	100

National Curriculum Framework, 2005 has emphasized the importance of English Language and its teaching in the context of the emerging global world which has opened world wide opportunities for younger generations in academics and job avenues. Accordingly the draft State Curriculum Framework of Andhra Pradesh, 2011 has also stated that English should be compulsorily taught as one subject in all the schools.

With the inspiration of National Curriculum Framework 2005 and keeping in mind the aspirations of the parents and the society in general, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has introduced English as a compulsory subject from class –I onwards from 2011-12 in all schools irrespective of the medium of teaching.

Context:

Over the years many innovative programmes and schemes like Second Language Acquisition Programme (SLAP) had been implemented in many Indian states and the same had yielded some positive results. In A.P. there is growing concern that children are migrating to private schools from Government sector inspite of several quality improvement programmes taken up under various schemes likes SSA, NPEGEL, KGBV & RMSA. Among other reasons medium of instruction is identified as one of the reasons for such migration. Recent studies commissioned by RVM (SSA) reflect the growing demand for English among parents and students as medium of instruction and as compulsory subject in non-English medium schools. While there is demand for instructing English in class-I itself, it is a matter of concern that there are vast number of students who are unable to speak, read and write simple English phrases and sentences despite several years of compulsory study.

Many surveys and research studies conducted by various organizations and academicians revealed that the main cause for learning deficiencies in English among students is that the teachers themselves have a very limited knowledge of English and much learning inputs are not pumped into the system. The major recommendation of the surveys and studies is that teachers of English should be well equipped with the subject and pedagogy in order to promote the English language proficiency among students.

As it is desired to have continuous training for the capacity building of teachers of English in Andhra Pradesh, the Department of School Education has conceived the concept of English Mobile Team to provide on job support to teachers as going mobile is one of the most effective ways. Initially the mobile teams will focus on English Language teaching in Primary and Upper Primary Schools.

Structure of English Mobile Team:**Level: District level**

1. The D.E.O will appoint the members of the Mobile Team as per the guidelines issued by the Director, SCERT and C&DSE, Hyderabad.

2. The senior most member of the ELTC/DCE staff will be the team leader (if the Lecturer / Sr.Lecturer of DIET / Lecturer of CTE / IASE is the member, he / she will be the team leader).
3. 2 staff tutors of ELTC/DCE and 3 District Resource Persons will be members of the team.
4. The retired ELT persons may also be members of the team.
5. The number of members in District mobile team should be as given below:

S. No.	Districts with No. of Mandals	No. of team members in District Mobile Team (DMT)
1	Up to 50	10
2	51 and above	15

Functioning of the District Mobile Team:

1. The District mobile team may function in two to three groups so as to cover the schools widely.
2. The members of District mobile team guide teachers in transacting English Text Books, giving demonstration lessons, observing class room teaching and providing necessary inputs.
3. The Mandal Resource Group in English will accompany the District mobile team and provide constant support to teachers in schools.
4. The District mobile team shall visit all schools at least once a year. The Mandal Resource Group shall monitor and provide support to teachers continuously and on demand also.
5. The District mobile team shall attend the school complex meetings along with resource material. Accordingly the Mandal Resource Group shall attend.
6. The District mobile team shall open as many English Teachers' Clubs at cluster, mandal and District level.

7. The members of District mobile team will give feedback to the Director, SCERT, Hyderabad and the SPD, RVM (SSA), A.P., Hyderabad on a fortnightly basis. The monitoring / reporting formats shall be developed in the training programme scheduled at Tirupati and Visakhapatnam on 17th and 18th, October, 2011.
8. The District Mobile team will help the DEO in forming the English Language Mandal Resource Group (MARG).
9. The District Mobile shall organize training programme for the members of MARG at Division / erstwhile block level in providing on job support to the teachers of Primary Schools and Upper Primary Schools in English Language teaching.

Job Chart of the members of District Mobile Team:

The members will-

1. visit at least 20% of the schools along with the team.
2. prepare teaching learning material and share it with other fellow members and other teachers.
3. do action research .
4. help staff tutors in training teachers at ELTC/DCE as resource person.
5. participate at mandal , divisional and district level ELT programmes / workshops as and when conducted.
6. open English teachers' clubs at cluster, mandal and district level.
7. conduct meeting of English teacher's club in the afternoon of every third Saturday. (If 3rd Saturday falls on holiday, the meeting will be conducted on Monday of every 4th week.)
8. will participate in all programmes which will be conducted for the capacity building of English language teachers in the district.
9. will conduct achievement survey at the District level.

The Structure of Mandal Resource Group in English (MARG):

There will be a Mandal Resource Group in English consisting of three Mandal Resource Persons in English to help the English Mobile Team. The Mandal Resource Group (MARG) will

be mobile like District Mobile Team. The members of MARG will be appointed by the DEO as per the guidelines issued by the Director, SCERT in consultation with the members of District Mobile Team.

Functioning of the Mandal Resource Group for English Language Teaching (MARG-ELT):

1. The Mandal Resource Group for English Language Teaching (MARG-ELT) shall be a Mobile team of three Resource Persons identified by the DEO and provide constant support to teachers in schools.
2. The members of MARG-ELT shall guide teachers in transacting Text Books, giving demonstration lessons, observing class room teaching and providing necessary inputs.
3. The members of the MARG-ELT shall monitor and provide support to teachers continuously and on demand also.
4. The members of the MARG-ELT shall attend the school complex meeting along with resource material.
5. The members of the MARG-ELT shall open English Teachers' Clubs at cluster and mandal level.
6. The members of the MARG-ELT shall continuously give feed back to the District mobile team.

Job Chart of the members of MARG-ELT:

The members will-

1. visit all schools in the Mandal.
2. the team shall ensure that all Primary Schools and Upper Primary Schools are covered at least once in a month.

3. prepare teaching learning material and share it with other fellow members and other teachers.
4. do action research .
5. help teachers as resource person.
6. participate at mandal, divisional and district level ELT programmes / workshops as and when conducted.
7. open English teachers' clubs at cluster and mandal level.
8. conduct meeting of English teacher's club in the afternoon of every third Saturday. (If 3rd Saturday falls on holiday, the meeting will be conducted on Monday of every 4th week.)
9. will participate in all programmes which will be conducted for the capacity building of English language teachers in the district.
10. will conduct achievement surveys.

T-L-M and Resource Material:

- the big book,
- Flash cards,
- Picture cards,
- Picture dictionary,
- Reference books,
- Story books,
- Posters,
- CDs, DVDs etc.,
- Any other item which a teacher can't prepare easily.

Achievement surveys: Achievement survey will be conducted in three phases. The first phase will be the base line survey, the second phase will be the midterm survey and the third phase will be the final survey. The District Mobile Team will conduct and prepare the report of the achievement survey. The schedule of these three surveys shall be finalized in the training programme scheduled on 17.10.2011 and 18.10.2011.