



The Nataraja Foundation

Responses To

The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject

Upto March ' 2011

1. Response From Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia (Dy Chairman Planning Commission)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Montek Singh Ahluwalia** <dch@nic.in>

Date: Thu, Sep 16, 2010 at 9:24 AM

Subject: Re: Presentation : The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject

To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Dear Mr. Puntambekar,

Please refer to your email of July 1, 2010 to Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission enclosing therewith a brief overview of “The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject”. Deputy Chairman has seen your presentation and has referred to Dr. Narendra Jadhav, Member, Planning Commission in-charge of Education in the Planning Commission,

Arunish Chawla

PS to Deputy Chairman

2. Response From Mr. Ratan Tata

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <coffice@tata.com>

Date: Thu, Jul 15, 2010 at 10:41 AM

Subject: Presentation : The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject

To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Dear Mr. Puntambekar,

Thank you for your email.

Thank you also for sharing with me the presentation on “Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject”.

Do accept my good wishes in your endeavour.

With regards,

Ratan N. Tata

3. Response From Mr. Mukesh Ambani

-----Original Message-----
From: mukesh.ambani@ril.com [mailto:mukesh.ambani@ril.com]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 11:45 AM
To: Ashish Puntambekar
Cc: Srinivasan B
Subject: Re: Presentation to Kapil Sibal : The Indian Primary And Secondary Education Megaproject

Ashish,

Can we spend 30 mins. on this when you are in Maker on execution issues.

mda

BS - Please organise.

mda

<< Attachment The Indian Primary And Secondary Education Megaproject_Presentation_June_2010.pdf has been removed by Mukesh Ambani on 7/23/2010 11:44:14 AM >> << Attachment Education_Megaproject_Structuring_And_Financing_Concepts.pdf

has been removed by Mukesh Ambani on 7/23/2010 11:44:14 AM >>

4. Response From NCERT , New Delhi

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **jdciert.ncert** <jdciert.ncert@nic.in>
Date: Fri, Jul 2, 2010 at 5:28 PM
Subject: Re: Presentation : The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject
To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Thanks. I have recd the documents. Would like to discuss with you, once I go thr the same.

V Kamat

Dr. Vasudha Kamat
Joint Director,
Central Institute of Educational Technology,
National Council of Educational Research and
Training
Sri Aurobindo Marg
New Delhi 110016 Ph. : 011 2696 2580 , Fax: 011 26864141

5. Project Introduction to Rahul Gandhi's Strategy Team

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Vijayam Ravi** <drvgravi@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Sep 17, 2010 at 2:09 PM
Subject: The Project
To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>
Cc: "S. Krishna Kumar" <skrishnakumar1@hotmail.com>

Dear Ashish,

I am writing this mail to you after speaking to you, tagging a copy to Shri Krishnakumar. His number is 09910150920.

I know Shri Krishnakumar as a brilliant administrator. He was the former Central minister also in the Congress Government.

I am giving your number to him as 09867612368. hope this is fine. He has shown interest in your Project and would like to share it with Rahul Gandhi.

Kindly send him the details and please do speak to him. I would be glad if something great happens to the children of this country and any help you require, I would be glad to offer.

warm regards

-- Dr. Vijayam Ravi

'Be kinder than necessary because everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.'

6. Response from Indian School Of Business Hyderabad

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ramachandran K** <K_Ramachandran@isb.edu>
Date: Fri, Sep 24, 2010 at 6:01 PM
Subject: Re: Indian Education Megaproject ... Responses Received From The Planning Commission, Large Industry Players ,Political Parties & Leading Social Organizations
To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Ashish:

Excellent idea! I had missed this mail earlier but am glad that you are on a mission!

Best wishes!

Ram Sent from BlackBerry® on Airtel

7. BJP Response (Mr. Nitin Gadkari's Office) :

On 7/1/10, Vinay Sahasrabuddhe <vinays57@gmail.com> wrote:

dear ashish,
thanks for your mail. i have already spoken to few education ministers from BJP ruled states about your idea and ministers from MP and Chhattisgarh have shown keen interest in the same.

I am trying to have a meeting between yourself and these ministers set up within next fortnight.

thanks and warm regards,

sincerely,

vinay

8. Response From Dr. JS Rajput (Former Director NCERT)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **jagmohan singh rajput** <rajput_js@yahoo.co.in>
Date: Mon, Sep 7, 2009 at 10:19 PM
Subject: Re: BJP-RSS ... The Hunt For New Ideas
To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Dear Ashish

Initiative deserves detailed discussions and serious consideration. Could we talk on phone 09810481415.. Regards

JS Rajput

9. Response From The Times Of India Foundation

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rema Mohan** <rema.mohan@timesgroup.com>
Date: Thu, May 6, 2010 at 3:46 PM
Subject: Re: Thank U
To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Dear Ashish,

Thank you for your mail. It is rare to find such an erudite and committed person in today's commercial day and age. Request you to please send me a one pager which condenses the essence of the project including the financial projections and sustainability so that it can be forwarded to Mr.Rao the gentleman I was telling you about.

Regards
Rema
9773399234
9833207162
remamohan123@gmail.com

10. Response From Lok Satta Party (Andhra Pradesh)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Surendra Srivastava <surendra.srivastava@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Aug 17, 2010 at 1:07 PM
Subject: Re: Presentation To Mr. Kapil Sibal : The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject
To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Dear Ashishji,

Great work and vision. Lok Satta Party supports any effort that increases the reach, improves quality and universalises the education cross country. We are going through your proposals deeply and would like to have a detailed dialogue on this.LSP realises that if our education is set right, India can have better citizenry in one generation.

Where are you located? and can we have your contact numbers. Regards

Surendra Srivastava
Founder - Maharashtra Chapter & Volunteer - Lok Satta Aandolan
Base Unit-4, Bycula Service Industries Premises,
Dadoji Konddeo Road, Bycula (East), Mumbai 400027
Tel: 00 91 22 2377 2242
Email: info.maharashtra@loksatta.org, Web: www.loksattamovement.in
If India wins, who loses?

11. Response From Tata Energy Research Institute

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gaurav Shorey** <gshorey@teri.res.in>

Date: Mon, Jul 12, 2010 at 9:49 AM

Subject: Re: Presentation to Kapil Sibal : The Indian Primary And Secondary Education Megaproject

To: Nataraja Foundation <nataraja.foundation@gmail.com>

Cc: Vivek Jha <vivekjha@teri.res.in>, Supriya Singh <Supriya.Singh@teri.res.in>,

Livleen K Kahlon <kahlonl@teri.res.in>, Ranjeeta Buti <ranjeeta@teri.res.in>

Hi Ashish,

This is a great proposal. It covers everything that can possibly be required for completely transforming the schooling system, infrastructure, course content, languages, etc. It's great.

When do you estimate it shall be accepted?

Kindest regards,

Gaurav Shorey,

Area Convenor,
Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA),
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI),
Darbari Seth Block,
India Habitat Centre (IHC),
Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110003
Phone : 91-11-24682100,41504900, Extension - 2112
Fax : 91-11-24682144, 24682145
Mobile: 91-98-114-78353
www.teriin.org

12. Response From Education World Magazine

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dilip Thakore** <dilipthakore@hotmail.com>

Date: Wed, Apr 28, 2010 at 6:21 PM

Subject: Re Education Megaproject

To: ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com

Dear Ashish: Thanks for your report written for the Nataraja Foundation which I just received. I read the covering letter carefully. **You deserve the gratitude of the community for taking considerable pains to write this comprehensive report.**

In this connection, I wonder if you are aware of a detailed proposal made by EducationWorld to equip 1.03 million government primary schools with lib-lab-lav (library, laboratory and lavatory) facilities? The schema based on a calculus of Dr. A.S.Seetharamu, hitherto professor of education at the Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore was first published in April 2008. It can be read in our online archives (educationworldonline.net).

Regards,

Dilip Thakore

13. Response From Prof. Bibek Debroy ,(Centre For Policy Research New Delhi)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bibek Debroy** <bdebroy@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Apr 22, 2010 at 1:11 PM

Subject: Re: The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject ... Rev 03 ... Mail 2 of 2

To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Dear Mr Puntambekar,

This is great. Do you think you can distil out a paper (of between 5000 and 10,000 words, average of 7,500) based on this? Sameer Kochar of SKoch Foundation and I are editing a book on the state of India's education. The publisher is Academic Foundation.

The deadline for receipt of papers is end of June 2010. This fits in very nicely, if you have the time and the inclination

Best wishes and regards,

Bibek Debroy

14. Response From The Centre For Science & Environment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sunita Narain** <sunita@cseindia.org>

Date: Tue, Jul 6, 2010 at 4:07 PM

Subject: Re: Presentation : The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject

To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Email/c
July 5, 2010

Ashish Puntambekar
Email: ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com

Dear Ashish,

Thank you very much for your email of July 3, 2010 informing about your project for schools. It is indeed an important initiative. I am also sharing this information with my colleague who looks after our environment education programme. I am sure she will find it of interesting and useful. Thank you again for keeping us informed.

With my very best wishes,

Yours cordially,

Sunita Narain

15. Response From Mr. Vikas Satwalekar (Former Director, National Institute Of Design)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **vikas satwalekar** <vikas_satwalekar@yahoo.com>

Date: Sat, Jul 10, 2010 at 8:19 PM

Subject: Re: Presentation : The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject

To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Hi Ashish,

So nice to hear from you. And congrats that persistence finally has at least opened a crack in the governmental sector. Hope the meeting goes well and that there would then be a serious discussion on your proposal.

Warm regards

Vikas

26, Kalanagar ,Bandra (E),Mumbai 400 051,Phone: 022 2659 0861,Mobile: 99200 43435

16. Response From The Vice Chancellor , Institute Of Chemical Technology Mumbai

On 7/5/10, Professor G.D. Yadav <gdyadav@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Dr Puntambekar:

Thanks. Please also my see paper which was published in Current Science recently (10 June 2010). Basically it is on Higher Technical Education. The paper is titled, 'Fuelling Indian Economic Engine by Retooling Indian Technical Education. We have also mentioned the value of primary education. Perhaps you have seen its review in Indian Express on 15th June.

Best regards,
Sincerely yours,
G.D. Yadav

Professor Dr. G D. Yadav, F.N.A., [F.N.A.Sc.](#), [F.M.A.Sc.](#), Ch.E., F.I.Chem.E.(UK),
F.I.I.Ch.E., F.I.C.S.
Director (Vice Chancellor) and R.T. Mody Distinguished Professor
J.C. Bose National Fellow (DST-Govt of India)
Institute of Chemical Technology (formerly UDCT/UICT)
(Deemed University under Section 3 - UGC Act 1956)
Nathalal Parekh Marg, Matunga,
MUMBAI-400019, INDIA
T:+91-22-3361-1001/1002, F:+91-22-3361-1002/1020
B: +91-22-3361-1111/2222; gd.yadav@ictmumbai.edu.in; gdyadav@yahoo.com
<http://www.ictmumbai.edu.in>

17. Response From Auroville

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Auroville Earth Institute** <earthinstitute@auroville.org.in>

Date: Wed, Aug 4, 2010 at 5:17 AM

Subject: Re: From Satprem for Indian Primary And Secondary Education Megaproject

To: Nataraja Foundation <nataraja.foundation@gmail.com>

Ref. 2362 P 305 Ashish 0804

Dear Ashish,

Thanks for your Email and this beautiful project. I went quickly through it. Though I could not spend the time to read it entirely, I find it ambitious but also needed! I wish you the best to implement it.

Building / creating 30,000 schools is not a small task. It is not only to build the shell (the buildings) but you need to find good teachers, which might be the hardest to find, and set up a proper curriculum.

I did not see any curriculum which will be taught, or maybe I did not look properly. I would propose that in these schools, children would be educated to discover their inner self and possibilities and learn what this self need to learn.

An important aspect would be learning how to work with one's hand so as to master the body, create material things and give children the possibility to get into life with a practical knowledge which would be unable to find easily jobs.

These schools should be also examples of properly designed and build buildings, which are eco sensitive, climate responsive and built with appropriate building technologies. Schools are one of the best ways to bring change in society and the building itself should invite people to question themselves and propose alternate solutions for the built environment.

Please let me know how I could help. I would see my help with some design and training people who would build them. I could also assist the construction of a few models.

Please let me know how you see our involvement.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Satprem Maini

Architect – Director Auroville Earth Institute

BASIN South Asia – Member, UNESCO Chair Earthen Architecture – Representative for Asia

PS. You may visit with interest our website <http://www.earth-auroville.com> for more information on earth architecture and our activities.

Auroville Earth Institute

Auroshilpam, Auroville 605 101 – T.N. India

Tel.: 0091 (0) 413 – 262 3330 / 262 3064

Fax: 0091 (0) 413 – 262 2886

Email: earthinstitute@auroville.org.in

Web: <http://www.earth-auroville.com>

18. Response From Centre For Civil Society

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Parth Shah** <parth@ccs.in>

Date: Thu, May 13, 2010 at 6:04 PM

Subject: RE: The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject ... Rev 03 ... Mail
2 of 2

To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Thanks Ashish for sharing the great plan! Also received a hard copy, will pass on the other copy to Mr. Gurcharan Das. Happy to see your use of the voucher idea in making quality education accessible to all in India.

As you said, you are already talking to the powers that are and we will you all the success.

Parth-

Parth J Shah

President, [Centre for Civil Society](http://www.ccs.in) , www.ccs.in www.schoolchoice.in www.jeevika.org www.azadi.me

A 69, Hauz Khas, New Delhi 110016 India

Phone: +91 11 2653-7456 / 2652-1882 **Fax:** +91 11 2651-2347

Email: parth@ccs.in **Mobile:** +91 98111-45667

19. Response from Educational Initiatives / Eklavya

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sridhar Rajagopalan** <sridhar@ei-india.com>

Date: Tue, Jun 1, 2010 at 3:45 PM

Subject: RE: The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject ... Rev 03 ... Mail
1 of 2

To: Ashish Puntambekar ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com

Ashish,

Have we interacted before or do you know us in Eklavya / EI?

The proposal is interesting – do you have a PPT with the details or a briefer write-up? Look forward to understanding this a little better!

Sridhar

20. Response From The Indian Liberal Group

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sunil Bhandare** <sunil.bhandare@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, Jul 10, 2010 at 11:16 PM

Subject: Re: Presentation to Kapil Sibal : The Indian Primary And Secondary Education Megaproject
To: Nataraja Foundation nataraja.foundation@gmail.com

Dear Ashish

My sincere compliments for such comprehensive and distinctive work on conceptualisation and structuring of Primary and Secondary Education megaproject. I hope that the minister Mr. Kapil Sibal responds to your presentation positively.

I also hope that there will be an opportunity to interact with you personally at an appropriate time, as we in Indian Liberal Group are proposing to take up the issue of Education reforms for intense debate in the Seminar.

Sincere thanks for your e-mail and all the relevant attachments and information about website links.

Regards and all the best

Sunil Bhandare

Lt. Gen Vijay Oberoi has designed the Homeland Security component within the Education Megaproject

21. Response From Lt. Gen Vijay Oberoi (Former Director General of Military Operations & Vice COAS)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **VIJAY OBEROI** <oberoivijay@hotmail.com>

Date: Fri, Aug 13, 2010 at 7:20 AM

Subject: RE: Education Megaproject Responses
To: ASHISH PUNTAMBEKAR <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Dear Ashish,

Congratulations. The project is obviously appealing to many distinguished persons. The outcome should be positive. Well done.

Warm regards.

- *Vijay Oberoi*

Former Vice Chief of Army Staff (VCOAS)
Former Director Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS)

RESIDENCE

Lt Gen Vijay Oberoi, PVSM, AVSM, VSM

'DAULAT'

#673, Sector - 6

Panchkula - 134109

Telephone - 0172 - 2587642, 2587648

e - mail : oberoivijay@hotmail.com

OFFICE

Lt Gen Vijay Oberoi, PVSM, AVSM, VSM

President

War Wounded Foundation

313, MIG (Ground floor), Pkt-I,

Sector-23, Dwarka,

New Delhi- 110075

Telephone - 011-45604116

E-mail - warwounded@rediffmail.com ; enquiry@warwounded.org.

Web site www.warwounded.org

22. Response From The Asian Development Bank (New Delhi)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <asharma@adb.org>

Date: Thu, Aug 26, 2010 at 1:29 PM

Subject: Re: Presentation To Mr. Kapil Sibal : The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject

To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Dear Ashish

Many thanks for sharing this. appreciated. Pl do drop by in Delhi and see Anouj.

best regards

Ashok Sharma
Senior Advisor, Office of the Director General, South Asia Department
Asian Development Bank
Tel. No. (632) 632-6755/5827
Fax No. (632) 636-2221
www.adb.org

23. Response from IIM Ahmedabad

On Thu, Sep 23, 2010 at 12:13 PM, Prof. K.V. Ramani <ramani@iimahd.ernet.in> wrote:

Very good

Pl let me know if I can also be of any help

Regards

ramani

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Prof. K V Ramani, Ph.D., Cornell University USA
Professor, Public Systems Group
Centre for Management of Health Services (CMHS)

Indian Institute of Management
Ahmedabad - 380 015, Gujarat, India
Phone : 91- 79 - 6632 4825 / 4699
Fax : 91- 79 - 6632 4698 / 2630 6896
E-mail : ramani@iimahd.ernet.in
Personal Homepage : <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/~ramani/>

24. Response from The Bill & Milinda Gates Foundation

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Info** <info@gatesfoundation.org>
Date: Wed, Dec 23, 2009 at 10:08 PM
Subject: The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject ... A Unique Teacher Centric scheme to reach 126 Million Children
To: "ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com" <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Dear Ashish Puntambekar,

Thank you for contacting the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Your email to the foundation's leadership team has been forwarded to me for reply.

While we appreciate how important your request is, the foundation's Education initiative focuses on improving education in the United States and does not accept letters of inquiry or unsolicited proposals, whether they are domestic or international.

Through its partnerships in communities across the United States, the foundation is committed to raising the high school graduation rate and helping all students-regardless of race or family income-graduate prepared for college, career, and life. Our Education initiative also works to provide children with opportunities for quality early learning in Washington state and funds scholarship programs that reduce financial and other barriers to higher education for low-income and minority students.

For more information about the foundation's Education initiative, please visit www.gatesfoundation.org/topics/Pages/high-schools.aspx.

We wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Jones
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

25. Response from The Infosys Foundation

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Foundation** <foundation@infosys.com>

Date: Tue, Dec 29, 2009 at 12:12 PM

Subject: RE: The Indian Primary & Secondary Education Megaproject ... A Unique Teacher Centric scheme to reach 126 Million Children

To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Dear Ashish,

Thank you for the email and we appreciate your activities. Sorry, due to our own constraints we are unable to take up this project though it is good. We wish you all the best.

Regards

Trustees

26. The Institute Of Education (London) ... Approx ... 150 PhD's in the Education Faculty

2008 August 20
: 36:57
Firefox 3.6
Win7
1280x1024

London, United Kingdom

Please Note :

The Project is now on the **Internal Portal** Of The IOE
(This is Important)

The Bloomsbury Computing Consortium (144.82.32.246) [\[Label IP Address\]](#)
portal.ioe.ac.uk/http/www.nataraja.org.in/masseducationproject.htm
[portal.ioe.ac.uk/https/mail.ioe.ac.uk/owa/redir.aspx?C=86aca8531592415da512b6933b17b366&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.nataraja.org.in%2fmasseducationproject.htm](https://mail.ioe.ac.uk/owa/redir.aspx?C=86aca8531592415da512b6933b17b366&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.nataraja.org.in%2fmasseducationproject.htm)

2008 August 20
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1280x1024

London, United Kingdom

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portal.ioe.ac.uk/sustainabledevelopment.htm
[portal.ioe.ac.uk/http/www.nataraja.org.in/masseducationproject.htm](http://www.nataraja.org.in/masseducationproject.htm)

27. Stanford University ... School of Education

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Paulo Blikstein** <paulob@stanford.edu>

Date: Thu, Mar 3, 2011 at 2:16 PM

Subject: RE: The Indian Education Megaproject High Quality Education to 126 Million Children ... Totally Free Of Cost

To: Ashish Puntambekar <ashish.puntambekar@gmail.com>

Great initiative, Ashish.

Best

Paulo