Accelerated Learning Camp for CWSN

"Ten months co-educational residential camp for School readiness for children with visual and hearing impairment"

History:-

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Uttar Pradesh was the first State to start co-educational, residential bridge course in August 2004 for children with hearing impairment and children who are visually impaired. Since year 2009-10, residential camps are organized for 10 months. The State of Uttar Pradesh modified the form of these integration camps as 'Accelerated Learning Camps' since year 2014-15.



Objectives: -

- To prepare the children who are visually and hearing impaired for mainstreaming in regular schools.
- To develop their pre integration skills and competencies.
- To strengthen the academic performance so as to reach as close as possible to their age appropriate class.
- To orient the students to adopt and function in regular classrooms.
- To orient use, care and maintenance of fitted aids/ appliances and their activities of daily living.
- To orient the children with various environments not only for school inclusion, but also inclusion in community & society.
- To develop sense of independence, self confidence and motivation for personal growth.

Selection of CWSN:-

Identification of those schools where Itinerant/ Resource Teachers are not deployed, but 6-14 age group HI & VI children are enrolled. Out of school CWVI & CWHI are given preference. In total, 60 children for the categories of totally blind/low vision and hearing impaired children are selected for this camp. Functional assessment of CWSN before commencement of ALC, based on activity of daily living, psycho-social behaviour & communication, concepts including number & counting, and other sensory abilities is done. Consent of parents/guardians for registration is obtained before including the children in the camp.



Necessary Action for preparation of Camp:

- Prior approval of the committee headed by District Magistrate for conducting accelerated learning camps.
- Selection of camp venue in government building preferably at district head quarter.
- Selection of warden and caretakers by district level selection committee.

- Availability of the TLMs, Braille books, state text books, Braille slate, abacus, Taylor frame, Brailler, loop induction/ group hearing aid system, mobility cane etc. are necessary at camp.
- Facility of safe drinking water, sufficient toilets & bathrooms.
- Medical assessment by the doctors of district medical board.

Curriculum/ Syllabus:-

- 3+7 months syllabus designed for CWSN by Inclusive Education unit, SPO, SSA.
- Training on Plus Curriculum to children in the initial three months
- Next seven months for academic and co-curricular development.
- Plus curriculum contents for visually & Hearing impaired children are- Activities of daily living, Orientation & mobility, Sensory training, Braille reading and writing, use of special equipment, Social skill development, care of individual hearing aid, auditory training, speech & language development, development of total communication.
- Next seven months the children are taught reading writing and comprehension. Children are classified into three groups. The children are introduced to various government textbooks, Braille books like Kaleav, Gintara, Hamara Parivesh etc. and are made to understand contents from curricular and co curricular areas. Children are also taught both vocal and instrumental with the help of musical instruments.

Teaching Technique:-

- Class room teaching with the help of Braille books for CWVI and Government text books for CWHI.
- Preparation of Case History of each Child
- Individual Education Plan (IEP) is developed after the functional assessment by technical experts or IT/RTs. IEP is a document that reflects current academic and therapeutic performance of the special needs child. With the help of IEP the educator decides long term and short term goals for academic and therapeutic development.
- Pictorial models & print rich environment in the classroom.
- Child centred class room teaching with the help of learning materials.
- Educator adopts total communication system for teaching hearing impaired children and visually impaired children through tactile and oral communication



Selection of staff:-

Selection of one warden and three care akers (one must be woman) by a committee, in which, district education officer is the chairman. Selection process is conduicted through viva voce, skill test and merit selection.

a. Selection of warden & deployment of IT/ RTs:

There is no separate selection for IT / RT for these camps. They are recruited through regular system for schools, and then 4 of them are attached per camp.

Eligibility for the position of warden is one year diploma in special education (HI) or diploma in special education (VI), Oor two years special B.Ed (HI) or special B.Ed (VI) from RCI recognized institute. Sign language or Braille reading writing skills is necessary.

b. Orientation of Academic & Non academic staff:

After the approval of warden and care takers by District Magistrate, two days orientation training is provided by Distt. Coordinator (IE). The orientation training focuses on concept of ALC, goals, content, ALC schedule, TLM for children's academic development and teaching strategies etc. One day orientation every month after commencement of ALC.

Evaluation:-

- Every month evaluation process is conducted. It is part of Individualized Education Plan (IEP) of children.
- CCE is implemented on the pattern of the regular schools.
- The pattern of examination is followed as in Government schools.

