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For feedback please contact:
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Cover Story

Recursive Feedback: Backbone for Quality E-Learning

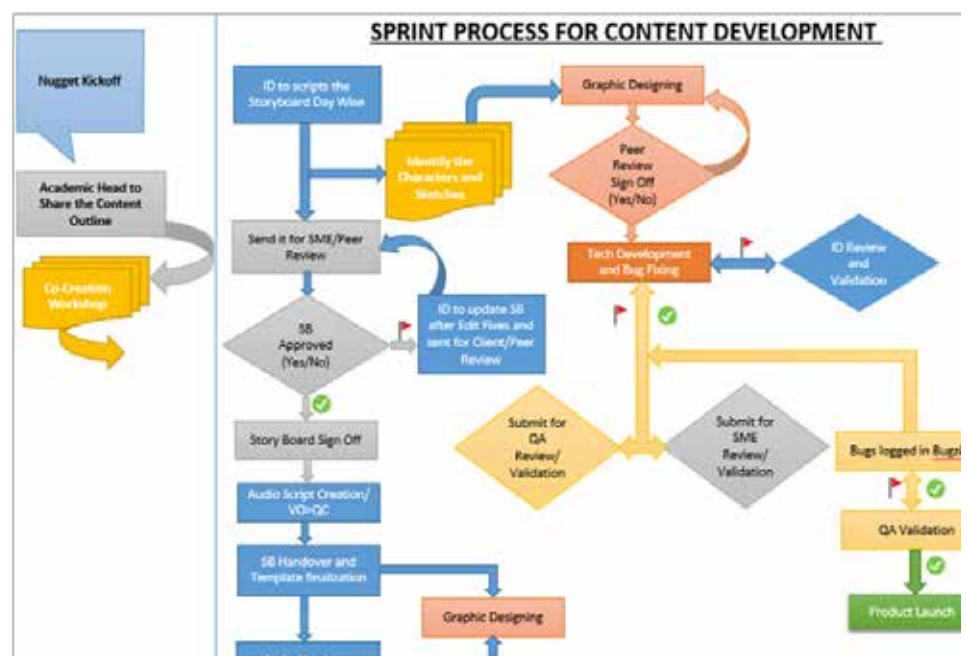
Learning with a shared experience can be defined as recursive feedback, no matter if it comes from peers, self, instructor/teacher, user, SMEs or any of the stakeholders.

Importance of the same is being explained scientifically by Dr. Mary Kalantzis (<https://fr.coursera.org/learn/elearning/lecture/k1a4A/recursive-feedback-part-4a-why-feedback-matters>) . For organization like SHIKSHA Initiative it become more important to have the recursive feedback, which become more important to develop Digital content more effective for the effectiveness of the program.

Instruction Design(ID) acts a back bone for any E-Learning program. Recursive feedback also allows IDs to produce quality e-Learning product in close co-ordination with media team and recording studios.

At present, Sprint Process for Content Development is followed, here recursive feedback become call of hour. There are multiple stake holders at different levels before product launch, like Academic Lead, ID Lead, Instructors, Media team, Recording Studio, Development (programming) team, and Quality Check team.

At the time of content outline (CO) creation educational data mining and mapping skills of academic lead along with ID team plays an important role. A co-creation discussion with all stakeholders gives a shared feedback and based on their respective experience CO is finalized. CO becomes frame work to script Story Board (SB), covering final content to be delivered.



Flow Chart for e-Learning Content development

Once SB is finalized by the IDs, it is peer reviewed to receive a feedback confirming checklist and suggest the areas of improvement. ID signed off SB is handed over to the graphic/media team with proper narration.

Within SB, both formative and summative assessment activities are scripted

to assess the learner and level of understanding. SB writer receives feedback at various levels. It comes from peer and ID lead (internal client) and SME (external client). Similarly, nugget (media) is also reviewed by both internal and external clients. This process established a continuous feedback mechanism, meeting recursive feedback.

Even after product launch, another feedback process is defined; which is a feedback from field team/instructors using these nuggets. Ultimately, recursive feedback helps to create an effective and impactful deliverable. ■

– **ANUJ GOSWAMI**
Manager, Instructional Designer

Lead Article

The Role of Information Technology in SHIKSHA Initiative

Introduction

SHIKSHA Initiative firmly believes that technology has the potential of transforming education and improve learning among students as well as building the capacities of teacher. To support teaching and learning, as well as improve overall education management, a variety of ICT-aided instructional approaches are implemented. To ensure smooth operations of these approaches IT vertical is established in SHIKSHA Initiative.

The IT vertical plays a pivot role in SHIKSHA Initiative program as it's an integral part by providing technical assistance and support in ensuring proper functioning of all electronic devices, maintenance and upgrading of ICT equipment's. The Vertical was formally established in 2015 and currently consisting a team of 12 members, who are supporting IT operations across Centre of Excellence (Gautam Buddha Nagar and Bulandshahr) and Expansion (Kasmanda). During the entire

course of evolution and execution, the vertical is strengthened with the creation and implementation of robust processes that ensure zero downtime. Furthermore, the IT team management of SHIKSHA Initiative along with the support of core team members successfully enforced the Standard Operating Procedures (SoP) like Daily field visits, downtime logging and monitoring, preventive IT health checkup, inventory management etc.

SHIKSHA Initiative IT setup utilize advanced information technology to convert the learning content of primary classes into simple, interactive computer-based tutorials which are embellished with audio-visual approach. It support's subject knowledge and ensure that technology-use enhances teaching and learning more effective. It has been widely recognized that fostering digital literacy in the classroom help children to diversify this experience and knowledge to make learning more relevant, eventful and purposeful.

Research and Innovation

Other than day-to-day IT operation, IT vertical of SHIKSHA Initiative is also undertaking continuous effort in bringing innovative technologies and best practices to work. Regular research and development is being conducted to enhance the ICT delivery in the classroom by developing high tech, replicable, scalable and robust systems. Learning Management System (LMS) and Path Finder (Internal resource tracking, Asset tracking, call ticketing, Data driven app with features of geo fencing) are two of such products that are worth mentioning and are in a process to be rolled out soon.

Enhancement of the ICT content with the need of incorporating changes introduced in Government textbook of Elementary level and Adult literacy Program are major projects to be delivered which is being monitored under the leadership of IT project desk of SHIKSHA Initiative being supported by HCL Technologies. Two



Pranjali Kumar Baruah, IT Head -SHIKSHA Initiative, discussing various aspects of IT vertical with Senior Leadership



SHIKSHA Initiative IT Team in Action, Picture: Right of CoE tam and left photo is from Expansion



dedicated teams from HCL Edge and HCL BPT are engaged closely for the development of Digital Content and Learning Management with SHIKSHA IT team.

Support and Collaboration

All the young and enthusiastic team members of IT domain are always ready to support and are at their toes in extending cooperation in other field operations like data management and field surveys

working closely with field operations team at CoE and Expansion. The team also extends support to other verticals of **Shiv Nadar Foundation** in conducting Online Entrance Examination for Vidya Gyan Leadership Academy.

It's noteworthy that CoE- IT team not only carryout IT operation management, but also toil out in conducting POC (Proof of Concepts) of new Research and Develop-

ments (R & D) from newer technology integration and conducting UAT(User Acceptance Test) for products under development.

SHIKSHA Initiative, IT team is highly motivated and dedicated by contributing its best to achieve the mission 'Eradication of Illiteracy'. ■

**– PRANJAL KUMAR BARUAH
IT Head, SHIKSHA Initiative**

Update

Business Communication and Email Etiquette Training

A “Business Communication & Email Etiquette Training” was organized by SHIKSHA Initiative for its employees. Training was conducted at both locations, CoE (Dadri) and Expansion (Kasmanda). Pre-assessment was conducted for employee’s before enrolling employees in this training. The training was organized in three batches – two at Dadri and third at Kasmanda. Event witnesses huge participation of 81 participants at SNU and Vidya Gyan, Sitapur campus respectively. Trainer from T2ID, Ms. Sheital Sood delivered the training with a great enthusiasm of participants.

Training was designed with two-fold objectives i.e. helping participants to learn integrated professional communication skills and to adapt appropriate practices for drafting clear and concise emails. Employees from varied departments i.e. operations, academics, IT, data analytics; administration attended this training providing overwhelmingly positive feedback. All the participants unanimously agreed that this training will certainly help them in their day-to-day communication, subsequently enhancing overall performance and look forward for similar trainings. SHIKSHA Initiative extend heartiest gratitude to the T2ID team from HCL Technologies for providing resource and expertise for conducting the training in the guidance of Mr. Ullas Kakkar. The overall event was planned and executed by Mr. Pranjal Kumar Baruah, SHIKSHA Initiative in the co-operation and collaboration with the operations team from both the location. ■

Training Schedule			
Batch	Date	Location	No. of Participants
1	12-13 June 2018	Shiv Nadar University (SNU), Dadri	27
2	14-15 June 2018	SNU, Dadri	27
3	19-20 June 2018	Vidyagyan, Sitapur	27



1 (Top) and 2(Bottom) SHIKSHA Initiative team at Kasmanda and SNU respectively attending training

**– PRANJAL KUMAR BARUAH
IT Head, SHIKSHA Initiative**

Coffee for Cause'

Cause Because, India's one of the most credible catalyst to generate networking among various stake holders for sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), organized an event 'Coffee for Cause' on June 22, 2018 at Hotel The Lalit in New Delhi. Event was focused to provide a forum to development-leading professionals representing the responsibility and sustainability domain to ensure the continuity of conversations keeping in mind the value-addition moments clubbed together in one bouquet. SHIKSHA Initiative was represented by Robin Sarkar, Project Director and Lalitendra Bhartiya, Deputy Project Manager Operations. Robin was one of the panelists to discuss 'Individual Social Responsibility (ISR) – how individual employee of corporates and NGOs can make a difference'. The key topics covered were, power of the collective strength of the workforce – how several companies together can initiate a movement and best ISR practices at some of the large corporate houses in the country. "SHIKSHA



Robin Sarkar, Project Director, SHIKSHA Initiative (Second from Left) participating in panel discussion

Initiative, is a unique model of basic education with ICT aided content operating in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh", said Robin. Furthermore, he explained how a learner from a rural area (students and adult learners) can easily understand, learn and grasp the information, with retention and apply it in real life. Robin concluded with the words that, "SHIKSHA Initiative is a replicable and scalable ICT content-based

model, which can impact and transform our education system. Referring to Individual Social Responsibility (ISR), is an individual's duty to the community towards upliftment of various social causes" ■

– LALITENDRA BHARTIYA
Deputy Project Manager
Operations, SHIKSHA Initiative

Seminar: Torch Bearers for Education

PHIA Foundation and Vigyan Foundation in collaboration with the UNICEF, Change Alliance, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Department of Basic Education, FICCI-Flo organized a brief session with the objective for ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education as 'Torch-bearers for Education.' The session was organized on June 27, 2018 at SCERT Hall, Nishatganj, Lucknow. During the session, CCRD (Centre for Community and



Panel discussion on 'Potential Collaboration on Education'

Rural Development) interventions were briefed by Mr. Ritwik, Education Specialist, UNICEF Lucknow. Furthermore, Director Basic Education, Mr. Sarvendra Bahadur shared UP State Government's initiative on improving status of education. In the light of new policies, Joint Director Mr. Ajay Singh presented the SSA perspective on quality education. Post briefing a 'Potential Collaboration on Education' was discussed among panellists, attended by Mr. Manyank Sinha, Sr. Program Manager, SHIKSHA Initiative.

Session kicked off with introducing panel organization and respective interventions. Mr. Mayank Sinha, shared the challenges faced by SHIKSHA Initiative and the opportunities available in the journey to achieve organizational goals. Collective list of challenges shared by various stake holders are noteworthy for effective deliver.

- ▶ Organizations working in schools rarely get support from teachers.
- ▶ The infrastructure of schools is a big challenge.
- ▶ Penetration of IT Enabled Services is still a challenge in rural areas.
- ▶ Gender equality is still a challenge in many districts of U.P.
- ▶ Various organizations have different mandates and they work as per the mandate
- ▶ Organizations should come together and work in collaboration to display an effective way to cater to existing challenges.

The seminar concluded with the way forward for the potential collaboration among the organizations present in the event. ■

– MANJULA YADAV
Project Associate, Kasmanda

Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh inaugurated SHIKSHA Initiative Smart Class

Sonbhadra district is one of the aspirational districts in Aspirational Districts Program launched by the PM of India in January 2018 that aims to transform selected districts by the virtue of educational mile stones. For holistic development district administration has collaborated with numerous non-governmental organizations. To introduce innovative method of teaching in Government Primary Schools, District Magistrate, Mr. Amit Kumar Singh has invited SHIKSHA Initiative to collaborate for ICT enabled education. For the upliftment of quality education under the 'Sone School Kayakalp Initiative', ICT enabled classes will commence in 100 schools of Sonbhadra district.

In view of above, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath inaugurated SHIKSHA Initiative Smart Class on 7 July 2018 in Patwadh-I Primary School of Chopan Block, Sonbhadra. He observed the class and its effectiveness by teaching through digital content CM, showed his contentment and suggested to teach every class with this technique. He also interacted with students present in the class and enquired about their interest for this methodology. District Magistrate, Mr. Amit Kumar Singh explained to the CM that, "content and all possible IT/academic support for the SHIKSHA class is provided by Shiv Nadar Foundation." Mr. Kartikey Pandey (ITSE-Kasmanda) from SHIKSHA Initiative presented brief overview of SHIKSHA Initiative and its content to the CM.

Chief minister showed his keen interest in the content and appreciated the efforts of SHIKSHA Initiative. He made special mention of impact generated by Shiv Nadar Foundation at different schools of Sitapur, where this program is running successfully since one year.

District administration has collaborated with Shiv Nadar Foundation, UNICEF, Panchayat, NEDA, District Mineral Foundation Trust, Sonbhadra, Piramal Foundation to uplift the education level in the district schools. District Mineral Foundation Trust has provided fund for laptop and projector, as it was a great challenge for village Panchayats. Patwadh-I, ICT enabled Primary School will be a model for the remaining 99 schools shortlisted for 'Sone School Kayakalp Initiative'. ■



Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh - Yogi Adityanath Interacting with Students in SHIKSHA smart class



Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh - Yogi Adityanath observing SHIKSHA Initiative Smart Class.

MESSAGE FROM PROJECT DIRECTOR



"Man often becomes what he believes himself to be. If I have the belief that I can do it, I shall surely acquire the capacity to do it even if I may not have it at the beginning."

– Mahatma Gandhi

The precious thought reflected in action during selection of Janshikshak for expansion of SHIKSHA Plus, the adult literacy program. Each one of us aligned with vision and values of mission becomes individual torch bearer of our moto. Every single minute invested to achieve our goal demands our overall alignment and integrity. Perhaps, we are living it and as a result Chief Minister, UP visited our smart classes in Sonbhadra district (UP). It shows greater acceptance of our vision and expanded grounds for our action. Our actions will choose the participation of various stake holders. Our capacity will create, possibilities of their contribution. Our reaction will provide them a choice to embrace our philosophy. Future may give us many horizons, full of challenges or silky smooth; but I am confident enough that with integrated endeavours, we shall come over; whatever be the path. My heart will sing chorus for our every collective victory. Good Luck. ■

– **RENU CHAUHAN**
Project Associate, Kasmanda

– **ROBIN SARKAR**
Project Director, SHIKSHA Initiative

Untapped Potential: Role of Parents in Early Learning in the Digital Age

There are numerous dialogue happening around the world on a range of facets in early learning. However, there is less deliberations on the role of parents in early learning. In the current scenario, parents across socio-economic layers becoming more aspirational of their kids' education and there is a digital access surge in their households.

Based on this theme, SHIKSHA Initiative team participated in roundtable entitled "Untapped Potential: Role of Parents in Early Learning in the Digital Age." This is second roundtable of a series organized by World Reader, Project Literacy (a Pearson Initiative) and Aga Khan Foundation on June 27, 2018 at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi. This roundtable

brought together leading stakeholders from the early learning, digital space and impact investing to serve as a platform to discuss promising practices. SHIKSHA Initiative was one of the key stake holders with its philosophy and unique model. ■

– **AL FURQAN SHAH KHAN**
Deputy Project Manager



Panel discussion during event

Recruitment Drive for 'Janshikshaks' in Kasmanda



Recruitment and Selection Process of 'Janshikshak'

2018-19, academic year is remarkable for SHIKSHA plus program by witnessing an expansion to reach around 7000 adult illiterates in the district of Sitapur and Gautam Buddha Nagar.

A drive to on board volunteers called 'Janshikshaks' was carried out in the selected villages at both the locations. 'Janshikshaks' will play pivot role in program by implementing the program on ground.

Every village of targeted Village Panchayat was visited and screened to identify well deserving and result oriented candidates. It's was a challenging task to convince masses to volunteer and appear for selection process, especially when candidates are from rural background



Volunteers appearing for written test for the position of 'Janshikshak' at Gram panchayat level

with almost no exposure to such community work. Moreover, due to various social factors they avoid stepping forward for such initiatives. Ebullient efforts of team members generated awareness in all the gram panchayats of Kasmanda block and created a consent to be associated with noble cause of eradication of illiteracy by driving focused mobilization activity. Applications had also been received from other blocks of Sitapur and Lucknow.

Recruitment and Selection Process of 'Janshikshak'

'Janshikshak' selection drive conducted two rounds of written test and face-to-face interview has been conducted at five Village Panchayats. In total, 363 candidates showed their interest in volunteering, out of which 153 have been shortlisted for pre-selection training round which will be done in the month of June. ■

– **SMRITI RIA PATAR**
Project Associate, Kasmanda

Case Story

ऋतिका की लगन



सात साल की ऋतिका, दादरी जिला गौतमबुद्ध नगर के प्रा० वि० शाहपुर खुरद में दूसरी कक्षा की छात्रा है। ऋतिका ने इस विद्यालय में पहली कक्षा से पढ़ना शुरू किया था। ऋतिका अपने माता-पिता, एक बहन व एक भाई के साथ स्थानिय निवासी है। पिता, दिल्ली के एक आंगनबाड़ी में कार्यकर्ता हैं। घर

में ऋतिका के पिता एकमात्र कमाने वाले व्यक्ति हैं। गांव से दूर रहने के कारण ऋतिका के पिता शनिवार को घर आते हैं और रविवार की शाम को वापस चले जाते हैं। यदि ऋतिका की माँ बिमार हो जाती हैं, तो वह और उसका भाई निशांत पढ़ाई के साथ-साथ घर के कामों में माँ का हाथ भी बंटते हैं।

ऋतिका का भाई, निशांत बड़ा है और इसी विद्यालय की चौथी कक्षा में पढ़ता है। वह घर पर पढ़ने में ऋतिका की मदद भी करता है। ऋतिका अपनी उम्र के हिसाब से बहुत अच्छी बातचीत करती है और उसका इस तरह से बात करना मुझे बहुत अच्छा लगता है। ऋतिका के द्वारा दिये गये जवाब बहुत प्रभावित करते हैं। यह छात्रा हमारी कक्षा में दी जा रही शिक्षा से भी बहुत प्रभावित रहती है। मैंने देखा कि जो छात्रा पहले प्रश्नों के उत्तर पूछने पर थोड़ा झिझकती थी, वह धीरे-धीरे न जाने कब कक्षा में होशियार बन गयी। ऋतिका कक्षा में दूसरे बच्चों को भी पढ़ने के लिए उत्साहित करती है। कक्षा में ऋतिका

मन लगाकर रुची पूर्वक पढ़ती है। जब मैंने पूछा कि उसे कंप्यूटर से पढ़ने में कैसा लगता है? तो उसने मुझे बताया कि पहले जो बात समझने में कठिनाई होती थी, वह बात अब जल्दी समझ लेती हुं। अब ऋतिका नयी बातों को समझने में देर नहीं लगाती, बल्कि दूसरे बच्चों को भी सीखने में भी मदद करती है। यह छात्रा हर विषय में बहुत अच्छे अंक लाती है। अन्य बच्चों की अपेक्षा यह छात्रा शिघ्र ही पढ़ाई सम्बंधित बातों को आसानी से सीख जाती है।

अतः मैंने सोचा की क्यों न इस छात्रा को और आगे बढ़ाया जाये ताकि यह उन हजारों लड़कियों की प्रेरणा का स्रोत बने, जो पढ़ाई के नाम पर रोने लगती हैं और पढ़ाई से वंचित रह जाती हैं। उन्हें भी कंप्यूटर के माध्यम से पढ़ने का अवसर मिले। मैं ऋतिका के उज्ज्वल भविष्य की कामना करती हूँ, ताकि यह भविष्य में आगे बढ़ती रहे और अपने परिवार, गाँव व विद्यालय का नाम रोशन करें। ■

– सरस्वती शर्मा,
फील्ड ऑफिस, सीओई

ICT का प्रभाव

छियासियान गढ़ी एक बहुत ही पिछड़ा हुआ क्षेत्र है। यहाँ बच्चों को पढ़ाना बहुत कठिन कार्य है। यहाँ बच्चों का विद्यालय में प्रतिदिन उपस्थिति नहीं हो पाती अतः वहाँ का वातावरण शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में बिल्कुल निम्न है। बच्चों को बुला कर लाना पड़ता है तथा बच्चों के माता पिता भी इस विषय में बहुत सक्रिय नहीं हैं। किन्तु हमारे प्रयास से बच्चे विद्यालय आने लगे हैं और उन्हें अच्छी शिक्षा भी प्राप्त होने लगी है। जब विद्यालय में I.C.T. के माध्यम से बच्चों को सिखाया जाता है, तो उनके अंदर पढ़ने में रुचि देखने को मिलती है। बच्चे कंटेक देखकर जल्दी सीखने की कोशिश करते हैं तथा वे प्रतिदिन विद्यालय में आने की कोशिश करते हैं। उनके माता-पिता भी कभी-कभी बच्चों को देखने विद्यालय आते रहते हैं। वे अपने बच्चों को पढ़ते देखकर अत्याधिक प्रसन्नता व्यक्त करते हैं। अतः अब यहां पर लोगों को शिक्षा की



I.C.T. के माध्यम से पढ़ते बच्चे

आवश्यकता व महत्त्व प्रति जागरूक हो रहे हैं और सभी ग्रामीण बहुत खुश हैं। ■

“शिक्षा ही है ऐसा हथियार,
जो दूर करे अंधकार”

– नीलिमा पुष्पाजीवी,
फील्ड ऑफिस, सीओई

Action plan for Basic Education

SHIKSHA Initiative team met Mrs. Manisha Trighatiya, Secretary, Department of Basic Education, Government of Uttar Pradesh on May 21, 2018. In this meeting, Mr. Rajalingam, Special Secretary, Basic Education along with other development partner like Tata Trust, UNICEF, HCL Foundation etc. were also invited. The objective of the meeting was to form a joint monitoring action plan for department of Basic Education. Mrs. Manisha Trighatiya asked SHIKSHA Initiative, HCL Foundation and Tata Trust to provide technical support to develop mechanism for monitoring student's attendance, enrollment and teacher training management. Mr. Mayank Sinha, Senior Programme Manager (SPM), SHIKSHA Initiatives heard that SHIKSHA Initiative is currently testing its Learning Management System (LMS), which is going to serve said purpose and a demo session will be organized for the department once it is implemented. Mrs. Manisha Trighatiya instructed special secretary Mr. Rajalingam to review the LMS and understand the SHIKSHA Initiative program. She also urged to explore the possibilities to develop a Training Management System.

- SHIKSHA Elementary Demo to Special Secretary, Basic Education

Mr. Rajalingam, Special Secretary, Department of Basic Education, Government of Uttar Pradesh called a meeting with SHIKSHA Initiative team to understand SHIKSHA Initiative's content and its process of analyzing learning outcome of students. Grade 1 and 2 content was demonstrated to Mr. Rajalingam. Special Secretary expressed his keen interest for Grade 3, 4 and 5 content to be catered. 'It is under pilot run in some of the schools, can be shared with the department once required objectives are achieved, conveyed Mr. Sinha, SPM, SHIKSHA Initiative.

Mr. Rajalingam expressed the need of tracking system for school mapping, attendance management, and test mapping. He was informed about the importance and features of LMS, analyzation process for learning outcome of students, in addition the impact evaluation study being conducted by IIM, Lucknow. Mr. Rajalingam appreciated the process developed and adopted by SHIKSHA Initiative and assured every possible cooperation by the department. ■

SHIKSHA Initiative Program in Jail

Education is one of the most powerful instrument in overall development of individuals enabling them to become active participants in the transformation of society. Education elevates them to comprehend their social, political and cultural environment better and respond to it appropriately.

As many of us have the luxury of taking basic literacy for granted, millions of adults around the world are still unable to read and write. According to UNESCO-Global Education Monitoring Report, 781 million adults in the world lack minimum literacy skills globally. Out of these 781 million people, India has the highest rate of illiteracy with 264 million adults unable to read and write. This is a significant concern for a country with a booming population and a growing economy.

Considering the fact, SHIKSHA Initiative is working to address it through its profound intervention among the Adult illiterate through its SHIKSHA+ program. In view of the above, SHIKSHA+ expanded its operation in District Jail Gautam Buddha Nagar, on the request of Superintendent of Jail. A letter of intent



SHIKSHA Initiative team members with jail authorities

was signed on May 1, 2018 to run the program for the Adult illiterate inmates, aiming to make them literate; with an objective to adopt them in mainstream. In first phase, 81 inmates have been identified as illiterate of the age group of 18-23 years. To teach them, nine literate inmates were selected on the volunteer basis, and imparted training for two days on May 10-11, 2018. Training was done on digital Content Delivery based on ICT. Digital content, hardware and stationery required for the

smooth operation of the program was provided by SHIKSHA Initiative, which includes slate, slate pencil, projector, speaker, etc.

Program was formally launched on May 15, 2018 in the presence superintendent jail, jailer, deputy jailer, officials from Shiv Nadar University and SHIKSHA Initiative. ■

**- JAYA SINGH
Project Associate. CoE**

SHIKSHA Initiative with ‘School Chalo Abhiyan’



SHIKSHA Initiative team members organizing village meeting

SHIKSHA Initiative participated actively in “School Chalo Abhiyan” of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, to generate awareness for enrolling in schools. Drivelasted for five days and community mobilization activity (May 7-11,2018) was carried out in villages of Kasmanda block, Sitapur (U.P). School and community are the most important stakeholder for a child’s education and their aligned, active participation can help to change the scenario of a child’s education.

Community mobilization was planned at three levels - School Management Committee (SMC) meeting in school, door-to-door campaign in village and village meeting. SMC meeting was organized in schools;teachers, SMC members, and local residents filed their presence with great enthusiasm. The agenda of this meeting was to discuss the reason of low attendance in school, to create awareness among parents on effects of absenteeism on their child’s learning and to inform them about the village meeting to be organized by SHIKSHA Initiative.

Door-to-door campaign was the next step after SMC meeting. Last step was village level community meeting. Village level community meeting was organized in the villages,where enrollment in schools is on a higher side,but at the same time large number of absentees is one of the major drawbacks. Approximately 20-25 people participated in these meetings and during the meeting importance of education, role of parents in child’s education and SMC members, absenteeism and reasons for low learning outcome of children were discussed.

Community members participated actively in the discussion and put forward some of the known and unknown factors responsible for absenteeism e.g. crop harvest, lack of teachers in school, lack of teacher’s interest etc. During the discussion, these points were addressed, and it was communicated, if community take its ownership and play an active role,said issues can be handled effectively. During the drive,parents of 6-8 years age group children;never enrolled in school were suggested to get their wards registered in nearest school. ■

– RENU CHAUHAN
Project Associate, Kasmanda



Quiz

- Which activity was organized by Kiran Nadar Museum of Art during 'Baalkalakar' event?
 - Debate
 - Track and field activities
 - Nukkad-Natak
 - Speech
- What is the name of first ever summer camp organized by SHIKSHA Initiative?
 - Tarang
 - Umang
 - Malang
 - Satsang
- What is the strength of SHIKSHA+ learners in expansion as on April 30, 2018?
 - 632
 - 236
 - 362
 - 623
- What is the benefit of migrating e-Learning content from Flash to HTML5?
 - no copy right required
 - easy to create
 - low cost
 - allow mobile access

Philanthropic and CSR support for the Right to Education Act

As part of the Philanthropy in Education Symposium Series, NORRAG and India Development Foundation (IDF) organized the first roundtable "Philanthropic and CSR support for the Right to Education Act: A Platform for discussion and research" in New Delhi. The objective of this initiative was to facilitate dialogue, research, and stakeholder collaboration for engagement of philanthropic actors in supporting the Right to Education Act (RTE) in India. Shiv Nadar Foundation and SHIKSHA Initiative actively participated in the event to have a meaningful discussion and to achieve the objectives set out. The outcome of the roundtable was to facilitate a common understanding between participating stakeholders on the role of philanthropic actors in supporting elementary education in India. It will also act to identify gaps in data and research needed to improve strategic engagement of philanthropic sector in the provision of equitable quality education. Furthermore, to foster an ecosystem in India for collaboration between philanthropy and education stakeholders to develop, share knowledge on supporting RTE and elementary education. ■

– RENU CHAUHAN
Project Associate, Kasmanda

Send your answers to
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SHIKSHA Initiative Program Status (as on June 30, 2018)

	SHIKSHA-Elementary (Data as on 30th June 2018)		SHIKSHA+ (Data as on 30th June 2018)	
	CoE	Expansion	CoE	Expansion
Total no. of Districts (Till date)	2	1	2	1
No. of intervention Blocks (at present)	2	4	2	1
No. of Villages	50	134	10	40
No. of Schools/Batches (Till April)	35	101	59	66
Total staff	52	21	10	24

Source- DAT and Operations