Annual Report 2008-09

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Annual Report 2006-07

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Gramin Shiksha Kendra

Preface

Gramin Shiksha Kendra (GSK) has been working on elementary education in Sawai Madhopur district since 2003. GSK is working towards demonstrating its idea of quality education to the community so that they are *able to demand quality education from the State*. GSK defines 'community' as the 'parent community' with whom we work and whose children study in our schools but also the 'education community' comprising government school teachers and school administration.

Area Profile: Gramin Shiksha Kendra works in the two blocks Sawai Madhopur and Khandar of the Sawai Madhopur district, in the villages on the periphery of the Ranthambhore Tiger reserve. This area is mostly inhabited by Gurjars (mostly animal grazers) and Meenas (mostly agriculturists).

I. Our Programmes

1. Uday Pathshalas

A. Uday Pathshala Jaganpura:

The fifth session of the Uday Samudayik Pathshala, Jaganpura began on 1st July 2008. This academic year the number of children reduced to 152(B-73, G-79). About 37 children left the school. This was the due to the financial crisis which the organization had to undergo last year. We had lost almost half of our teachers. There had also been constant demand from the community for the affiliation of the school. The team has been rebuilt; the school advisory committee has been reactivated. With



better financial situation/security things have changed. We expect an increase in the number of children to the school. This school now also has affiliation as an elementary school by the state elementary education board, Bikaner. Three children appeared in the Class VIII public examination. All the three students secured high first division.

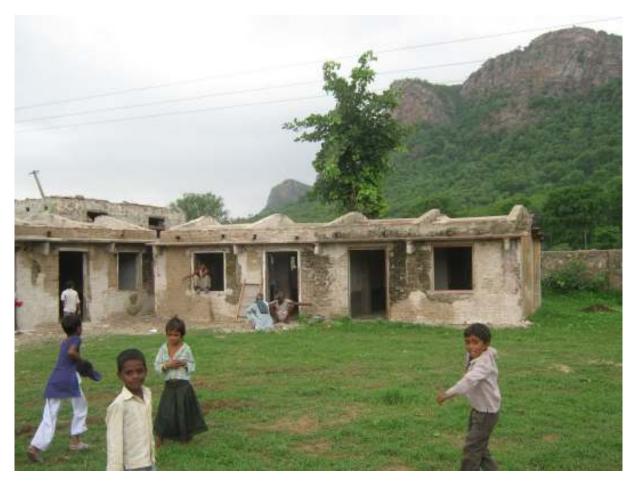


A child performing a solo play during the assembly

b. Uday Pathshala Bodal:

This year was the third academic session of UDAY Samudayik Pathshala, Bodal. The number of students at this school has been 149 (B-71, G-78). The school advisory committee and children decided to contact Mr. Amit Sankhala. and his mother Ms. Indu Sankhla (The Sankhala family owns 3 acres of land in Bodal) and asked them to allow the community to shift the school to their land. The land has 10 rooms and a well. They have agreed to have a MoU with us and the community and allow us to run the school on that land.





The new school campus for Uday Samudayik Pathshala Bodal

c. Uday Sawai Madhopur: The urban community has started showing interest in the school, its ideas and the pedagogy. The number of children in this school has risen to 25. This school is also developing into an inclusive school (parents of children with special needs are showing interest in the school, two such children are already enrolled in the school). At present the school is being run by a single teacher.





d. Fourth UDAY Samudayik Pathshala: Gramin Shiksha Kendra will start its fourth UDAY Samudayik Pathshal at Faria. The community of Faria, Katar and Goplalpura had been demanding for long for the school. Several visits of the community to the three old schools have been made, several rounds about the objectives and nature of such a school has been discussed. An



organization from Australia – Yatra Foundation has agreed to support the school. A MoU between Community of Faria, Yatra Foundation and Gramin Shiksha Kendra has been signed. The community already has donated a piece of land for the school. This school will start on 1st July 2009.



2. New Initiatives at the schools

This year the special emphasis was given to introduce Sports as a subject in our schools. Yatra Foundation has also shown interest to building up on the concept and provides support with all the sports goods at all the schools.



3. Capacity Building of Teachers

Workshops:

- 1. Fortnightly Workshop: Regular fortnightly workshops are being conducted on every alternate Saturday- Sunday. The teachers present the report of the activities done in last 15 days and the work plan for next 15 days. These workshops are also the forum of discussions on academic, personal and administrative matters. Teachers also present the innovative methods of teaching and new TLM in the workshop and the teams of teachers approve/disapprove the ideas after long discussions.
- 2. Winter Retreat: The winter retreat for this year was organized from 26th December 2008 to 1st January 2009 in Udaipur. Astha, an organization working on the forest rights of tribals of Rajasthan hosted our visit. This retreat is an event to look into what we have been doing, review our rules and regulations, understand each other and visit a new area and understand its culture.
- 3. Summer Workshop: The summer workshop was to be organized from 1st June-30th June 2008. This workshop could not be organized due to financial crisis.





4. Infrastructure development

School Building:

Uday Samudayik Pathshala Jaganpura: This school now has eight classrooms, one office, separate toilets and bathrooms for boys and girls, drinking water and a playground.

Uday Samudayik Pathshala Bodal: The school now has its own campus, 8 classrooms, and 2 offices, well for drinking water. At present this structure is in ruins, we need to renovate the entire campus.

Uday Sawai Madhopur: The school runs in rented building with two classrooms, one office and one library. The school has separate toilets for boys and girls and tap water for drinking water.

Uday Samudayik Pathshala Faria: Community has donated four acres of land for the school to be.

5. Community Initiatives

A. **Kilol**: The annual function-KILOL of Gramin Shiksha Kendra was celebrated as an "Integrated" activity where the children's work was presented and guest children had the opportunity to draw, paint, play as well. The children and community members from at least 10 villages surrounding Uday Pathshala participated in the event. Government officials, representatives of district education department, representative of PRIs (Sarpanchs), government school teachers, private school teachers and children also encouraged us by their participation.



For us the annual function is the occasion where Gramin Shiksha Kendra demonstrates its pedagogy to all its stakeholders. It also presented a glimpse of the educational activities being done in the UDAY Pathshala. This year the theme of

the KILOL was Sports. Teams from our three schools participated in different sports events like cricket, athletics, football, kho-kho and hockey.

II. Our Partners:

- 1. Asha Trust, USA
- 2. Vibha Trust, USA
- 3. Education Development Center, USA
- 4. Yatra Foundation , Australia
- 5. Unnati, Ahmedabad