

SCHOOL ADOPTION INITIATIVE, DARRANG (ASSAM)

In a nutshell: Under this initiative, one college teacher adopted one school in the district of Darrang, Assam with the aim of improving teaching and learning practices.

Nodal agency: District administration, Darrang, Government of Assam

Darrang district in Assam performs poorly in the education dimension among the parameters of human development. An important indicator which is also included in the indicators of Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) is learning outcomes. According to the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), the percentage of children in the district in classes V–VIII who could read a Class II textbook was 28.4% in 2016.

To improve the learning outcome of students in Darrang, an innovative programme namely school adoption initiative was designed and started in Darrang district by engaging 98 college teachers as Mentors in 98 schools. In response to the appeal of the district authority, the college teachers agreed to be part of the programme. Every college teacher adopted 1 school and designed their support plan initially in consultation with the teachers and school management committee of the concerned school. These teachers support the school in improving the learning outcomes through co-created academic activities specifically in class VIII for language and mathematics. The programme is being run on a voluntary basis without funding.

One college faculty member was designated as programme coordinator against each college for coordination. Once the initiative was launched, the college teachers started visiting the schools assigned to them and extended onsite support to the teachers and the students from June 2018 onwards. The programme coordinators submit a bi-monthly consolidated report to the district authority. The report is reviewed at the district level and support is extended accordingly.

The programme aims to achieve the following -

- To impart complete learning as per Learning Outcome indicators.
- To identify the gaps in teaching-learning methodologies.
- To bring changes towards effective teaching-learning processes.
- To give information on a wide range of resource materials.
- To make them aware of a new approach, the way of communication and transaction of classes.
- To reshape the vision of students towards education and influence them to pursue higher education.

Impact

- The attendance of teachers and students has improved considerably.
- Better results have been observed because of effective classroom learning and better participation of students.
- Effectiveness of classroom teaching is observed.
- Conceptual clarity in subject matter among students has improved.
- Teaching learning process is being modified, as per classrooms requirement.
- Community members are involved in school activities.



Photos from School Adoption initiative, Darrang¹

¹Photos provided by Ms. Anmol Narain, Monitoring and Evaluation Lead, DME0, NITI Aayog