

MENTAL MATHS PROJECT

Mental Maths, a project of the Directorate of Education was initiated in the year 2004 under the guidance of the then RD (south) and DDE(south) Mr B.N.Bajpai . He observed that most of the children suffered from a Math phobia and therefore did not have interest in the subject leading to poor performance.

Mental Mathematics was thus introduced with the objective of improving the numeric skills and removing Maths phobia among students of Govt. Schools in Delhi in the year 2004 as a pilot project for classes 4th and 5th of Sarvodaya Schools of District South with the following objectives:

- Making mathematics learning enjoyable, interesting and full of fun.
- Strengthening the foundation for learning mathematical concepts
- Shedding of the usual fear for mathematics
- Improving the results- both in CBSE exams and school exams
- Developing better reasoning and logical skills.
- Enhancing speed and accuracy in students and thereby competency and confidence to handle high stake competitive exams like NTSE, JSTS and IIT- JEE etc.
- Making learning joyful.

The project was formally launched by Hon'ble Chief Minister on September 5, 2005.

A Core team was formed consisting of teachers, Principals and Vice Principals and other officers of the District South. The team worked under the guidance of DDE(S) at the following tasks with full dedication and interest, the functions of the team being as follows

1. Development of Question Banks to be Printed by DBTB
2. Preparation of Annual Budget for the Project
3. Holding of Workshops for preparation and review of Question Banks for various classes
4. Development of booklet on Simple Mathematical Tricks
5. Organizing Quiz Competitions at various levels.

A massive Project such as this was not easy to take off. There was resistance, mindsets were fixed, teachers, officers and schools were occupied in numerous other tasks, large budgets were needed, and so on and so forth, but all was surmounted. As the team was committed its spared no effort to nourish the seeds of the Project with their dedicated efforts and belief in its benefits for the students. Their hard work paid off and the young sapling blossomed into a tree with its many branches spread over all the Govt. schools of Delhi.

- Question Banks were prepared by the subject teachers of the Department and distributed to schools for practice.
- The Project was extended to all Districts under Directorate of Education in the year 2005-06.The project was extended to classes 6th to 10th each

successive year. In the year 2015, it has been extended to classes 1st to 4th also.

- For the session 2016-2017 Mental maths booklets are revised for classes V TO X in Hindi and English medium .The booklets are colorful and activity based under the guidance of project director Mrs Anita Satia (Director SCERT)and Mrs. Sandhya Pasricha (CRC deputed at SCERT for Mental Maths project)



The **quiz competitions** began at school level and progressed to the state level year after year with blessings, constant support and appreciation from Hon'ble Chief Minister, Education Minister, Secretary and Director of Education .Subject experts from various institutions,

whenever called in to judge, expressed their appreciation and approval. And the project scaled new heights.

The schedule of Mental Maths Quiz competition for each year is uploaded on the website of the Department-www.edudel.nic.in for all schools to follow. The quiz competitions are held from School level to State level through Cluster, Zonal, District, Regional levels for classes 6th to 10th. Practice is given to students from the available Question Banks during special periods allotted for Mental Maths in the school time table.

Mental Mathematics Quiz is an interesting component of this project is one of the ways to make the subject “fun” and sharpen one’s precision and ability related to ‘time’ and ‘accuracy’ essential for excellence in terms of achievement levels in mathematics subject. This is the most popular activity among the students. The quiz competitions are held every year from school level to state level:

Design of Mental Maths Quiz competition

SCHOOL LEVEL--- Within the class and Interclass

CLUSTER LEVEL ---Among the selected students of schools of respective clusters

ZONAL LEVEL --- Among clusters of respective Zones

DISTRICT LEVEL---Among Zones of respective Districts

REGIONAL LEVEL –Among Districts of the respective regions

STATE LEVEL -- --Among the five Regions

Prizes and Awards

Prizes and Awards are given to the winners at Zonal, District, Region and State level.

Prizes consist of Cash incentives, Appreciation Certificates, Books, Trophy and Medals.

Cash prizes given to each participant are as follows:

Zonal level	Rs. 200
District level	Rs. 500
Regional level	Rs. 1000
State level	Winner Rs.3100. 1 st Runner up Rs.2100. 2 nd Runner up Rs. 1100

The State Level Quiz competitions are held every year in the presence of senior officers of the Directorate and most often are graced by the Chief Minister, Education Minister and other eminent personalities from the field of Mathematics. The performance of the students is exemplary and invited experts are enthralled by enthusiasm shown by students. The presence and commendation received by these imminent persons serves as inspiration and motivation for the students.

Question of the State level Mental Maths Quiz Competition for the year 2015-16 were prepared by the centralized state level Mental Maths core committee to maintain the uniformity and confidentiality . Quiz Competition for 1st level was conducted at RPVV, Sector – 11, Rohini, 2nd level at SKV, B-3,

Paschim Vihar and 3rd level at Ishani, SKV, G Block Saket. To give it a Hi-tech look and to make it more interesting for students, this year each team at each level had an access to desktop. Reverse clock system was displayed on the screen for convenience of the students. All the questions were displayed on the screen through projector. Students gave an overwhelming response and it was a great success.



In addition to the Quiz competition, the Mental Maths team has developed a booklet of simple tricks for the students to learn. These mathematical tricks help the students in quick calculations orally and hence enhance their speed and accuracy in the Quiz competitions. Various workshops are also held throughout the year for teachers of Mathematics to make them proficient in conducting Mental Math Quiz competitions in their respective schools and to be able to motivate students.

Mathematics has been the key factor for determining overall results of Delhi Govt. Schools over the last few years. There has been a considerable improvement in the result of Mathematics, which has contributed significantly in the improvement of class X CBSE results.

IMPACT ON STUDENTS

- Improve Maths result in all the classes specially in class X.
- Result of class X Maths improved from 53.3% in the year 2004-05 to 90% and above over the years.
- Improved the skill for competition.

The success of Mental Maths Project has been due to the constant efforts of the Project Director and her core team and support and motivation from the Principal Secretary and Director of Education who witness these competitions held at various venues every year .Over the years, it has been implemented in true spirit-with the co-operation of teachers and head of schools and has helped in building confidence, speed and accuracy among the students.