

Sampark Smart Class
An initiative by Chhattisgarh Government
School Education Department

Improving Early Grade Math & English at Primary Level: Chhattisgarh initiative

Chhattisgarh Govt. decided to improve the deteriorating conditions of Primary education after the declaration of NAS class III results and started focusing on Early Grade Numeracy & literacy skills. For improving literacy skills it started working with Room to Read and in order to improve Math skills, it collaborated with Sampark Foundation.

State entered into an MoU with Sampark Foundation to implement Math & Primary level English Program. As per the MoU, the roles envisaged were as follows:

- SarvaShikshaAbhiyan will be the implementing agency and support in the implementation of the program.
- SSA will bear the cost of teachers training and ensure teachers presence and monitoring.
- Sampark Foundation will develop the Math and English Program as per state curriculum.
- Sampark Foundation will bear the cost of developing and supply of Math and English kit.
- Sampark Foundation will provide state and district level team to implement and monitor the program along with a call centre to have follow up at grassroots level.

Program Timeline:

Academic year	Goal	Status
2014-15	Program implementation in cluster model schools in Rajnandgaon and Kawardha	Achieved
2015-16	Program Implementation in 13 blocks of 12 districts	Achieved
2016-17	Program implementation in 32000 primary schools across the state	Achieved

Math Kit:

Math kit contains a box with colorful materials like Number line, play money, numbers, shapes, colors and many other TLMs. The pedagogy is split in two levels, Level 1 focuses on concepts covered in class 1 & 2 while Level 2 is aligned with the syllabus of class 3, 4 & 5. In each of these levels, the concepts are grouped in four broad areas: Numbers & Operations; Geometry; Measurements; as well as Patterns, Data handling and Problem Solving. Each class is provided

with a Math kit with multiple teaching aids that cover all the Math concepts in class 1 to 5. A teacher's reference calendar describes the way a concept can be progressively introduced and mastered using TLM and written practice using square line notebooks. It also includes ideas for games, formative assessments and areas that need focus. An introductory hands-on training for teachers covering all the early grade math concepts introduces teachers to the philosophy, methodology and the use of TLM.

English kit:

English kit comes with a battery operated audio device to play the role of the teacher and to create exciting Teaching Learning Materials (TLMs) around the lesson so that teaching becomes interesting and effective. The teacher is given a booklet that guides her through a well structure sequence of teaching 240 lessons (120 each of Math and English) with details of where to use SamparkDidi along with teacher lead activities.

Progress Tracking, monitoring and review through app.

- I. To track the progress of our children under this program, we leverage progress charts in class to capture data through android offline application on smart phones, which when connected when connected to Internet, upload data automatically
- II. The data analytics engines analyze the monthly data and sends actionable relative performance reports to school administrators at all levels including the Chief Minister.
- III. This report has been incorporated in the Chief Minister dashboard for his review with the state district leaders, while Sampark Foundation has joint reviews with the CM thrice a year.

Smart Class Monitoring Parameters for Grading of Schools

- i. Teachers trained (Yes/No)
- ii. Teacher Learning Material usage (Yes/No)
- iii. Sequence followed from booklet (Yes/No)
- iv. Progress Chart Updated (Yes/No)

Ranking **"A"**: Using kits effectively, Teachers are trained, Sequence Followed, Progress Chart Updated

Ranking **"B"**: Using kits ineffectively, Teachers are trained, Sequence Followed, Progress Chart Updated

Ranking **"C"**: Not using kit, Teachers are not trained, Sequence not Followed, Progress Chart not Updated

Budget:

The Program is largely about improving processes and ways of working. The majority of the estimated costs are already a part of current budget frameworks. Wherever available the budget will be utilized from SSA such as teacher training, TLM etc. Sampark Foundation will fill the gap in funding towards the innovations for the program such as maths & English kits. Sampark Foundation has also supported by providing state as well as district program coordinators and assisting the state in providing teachers training by providing Master trainers etc. The cost of per math kit & English kit comes around Rs. 10 thousand each which includes production cost as well which is provided by Sampark Foundation whereas SSA bears the cost of teachers training as per SSA norm @ Rs. 100/-per day per teacher having trained more than 36 thousand teachers for two days costing around 75 lacs.

