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# ZERO-INVESTMENT INNOVATIONS FOR EDUCATION INITIATIVES (ZIIEI)

FOR THE TEACHERS BY THE TEACHERS



**MEGHALAYA**  
**PROGRESS REPORT, FEBRUARY 2021**

## VISIONARIES *of the* NEXT FUTURE



Founded in 1960, Sri Aurobindo Society is an international, spiritual, cultural, not-for-profit NGO. SAS has been recognised by the Government of India as a Charitable Organization, a Research Institute and an 'Institution of Importance' throughout India.

With its head office in Puducherry and nearly 350 centres and branches across the world, SAS invites participation from all those who want to work together for a better tomorrow, with no distinction of nationality, religion, caste or gender.

For the last 6 decades, Sri Aurobindo Society has been working with education stakeholders in schools as well as at the grass root level across India to develop innovative strategies for education improvement. Based on deeper values, our programs aim to develop innovative models of excellence which are sustainable, replicable and scalable; and are bringing about social change in a wide range of fields including Education.





# RUPANTAR

Transforming Education - A Journey Towards Excellence



Sri Aurobindo Society  
*Rupantar*  
TRANSFORMING EDUCATION

The program Rupantar by Sri Aurobindo Society is a platform where State and Central governments, nonprofits, corporates, stakeholders and volunteers are working as one team for development of a progressive education system in India. It is a journey, a movement of individual excellence for every education stakeholder, where they are inspired from within to realise their highest potential and offer their best self to the community, the nation and the world.

Launched in 2015, Rupantar is the world's largest ever programs to transform government schools by harnessing the power of the people and existing resources. This multidimensional program has led to several large scale innovative projects to empower teachers, gear up education officers, support students, increase parents and community participation, and technology enablement — all aimed to bring about mass-scale improvement in the quality and reach of education.

Rupantar is based on our 60 years of experience of working for social change and transformation across all walks of life. Including Education, Women and Youth Empowerment, Health, Development of Children with Special, Needs, Palliative care, Leadership and Management, Indian Culture, Sustainable Development and Renewable Energy. These are part of our Action Research to develop innovative models of excellence which are sustainable, replicable and scalable, and based on Values and Inner Change.



Hon'ble Minister of Education, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched 'Innovations and Leadership Casebook' in a Virtual National Conference organized on 24th November 2020 to recognise the effective leadership roles demonstrated by the Education Officers and the innovative approaches adopted by teachers of the country during the lockdown period.

## COMPONENTS OF RUPANTAR

### ZERO INVESTMENT INNOVATIONS FOR EDUCATION INITIATIVES



ZIIEI is one of the largest-ever initiatives of India to develop sustainable, scalable and replicable innovations based on minimal investment that can transform the education of the state. In the process it felicitates the teachers and education officers who are bringing about a change at the grassroots through their simple yet effective innovations to improve the quality and reach of education.

### INNOVATIVE PATHSHAALA



Innovative Pathshaala is a repository of innovative best practices that inculcate experiential learning in existing state board curriculums. It provides teachers with numerous ways of teaching a particular topic and for achieving the learning outcome of the students.

### STUDENT MICRO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Student Micro Scholarship Programme is based on the idea that students should be motivated to compete with oneself. It has a focused approach of improving the students' learning achievements, motivation and learning attitudes. Through simple mobile quiz app, it provides an opportunity to the students to get monthly scholarship of up to INR 1000 for their exceptional scores



### PROJECT INCLUSION



Project Inclusion addresses the key issues of identifying and retaining children with hidden neuro-developmental disorders (NDD) in government schools. The focus is to sensitize, empower and enable teachers to identify and handle students with Neuro Developmental Disorders (NDD).

## RUPANTAR FOOTPRINTS ACROSS INDIA

**20 Lakh Teachers** trained towards ZERO-INVESTMENT INNOVATIONS FOR EDUCATION INITIATIVES (ZIIEI)

**1,551 teachers** received National Awards for their contribution in developing joyful, engaging and willful teaching and learning environment

**27,500+** teachers felicitated at District -level for their innovative approach

**20 Lakh Teachers** using INNOVATIVE PATHSHAALA APP for experiential & joyful learning and teaching

4 Lakh Students & Teachers using AUROSCHOLAR APP

**20 Thousand Teachers** trained to identify & support students with Neurodevelopmental Disorders in PROJECT INCLUSION

# ZERO –INVESTMENT INNOVATIONS FOR EDUCATION INITIATIVES (ZII EI)

A platform for the teachers, by the teachers



ZII EI is a nation-wide education transformation program launched by Sri Aurobindo Society and HDFC Bank in 2015. The focus is to transform the government schools by leveraging the existing resources in the system and by empowering the education stakeholders (teachers, education officers, school managements, students and parents). Since its inception, the programme has been working to find the most effective solutions created by teachers at the grassroots and systematically scaling them up to lakhs of schools across the country.

With the beginning of the new academic session 2020-21, the schools across the country had to be temporarily closed as a measure to contain the spread of COVID 19. This lockdown has witnessed a shift from centuries old classrooms to virtual classrooms. In view of the changed dynamics, ZII EI has refined its roadmap and is working with various state governments to support teachers in achieving the minimum learning outcomes of the students during this tough times.

## ZII EI FOOTPRINTS IN INDIA

Progress as on March 2020

### OPERATIONAL IN 30 STATES/UTS ACROSS INDIA

20 lakh teachers oriented



**12 lakh** teachers submitted innovative ideas



**11 lakh** teachers willing to implement ZII EI



**54 State** Innovations Handbooks launched



1,551 Innovative Teachers received National Award



**231** on-ground district level exhibitions organised



27,585 teachers felicitated at district level for their innovative approach

**125** teachers received Teachers Innovation Award

## SECTION: 1

# ZIIEI ACTIVITIES IN MEGHALAYA (2020-2021)

COVID 19 health crisis caused massive socio-economic disruptions across the globe. It posed numerous challenges before the government and the administrative heads and the toughest amongst them was to ensure the continuity of learning during this crucial time when the schools were closed. Several steps were taken by education stakeholders to mitigate the potentially devastating consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was due to the collaborative efforts of all the stakeholders that the teaching learning process continued through various online and offline mediums even during this challenging period. After observing the changed dynamics in the education sector, ZIIEI too meticulously planned its activities to strengthen its support to the teachers who have shifted from conventional modes to alternative modes of education delivery.

Having worked on Teachers motivation for the last 5 years, ZIIEI has broadened its scope in 2020 and will also work on Teachers effectiveness, Student Motivation and Student Learning Outcomes. Hence, in the year 2020-2021, ZIIEI has consolidated its efforts at the district level, to strengthen innovation-based ecosystems and to provide continuous support to the teachers. With this in mind, ZIIEI has recognized the innovative teachers from different districts of the state and is working to bring their efforts at the national level. With the support of the education officers, about 150 teachers have been selected from the following 6 districts of the state, based on their aptitude, motivation and intent to make a change in education.

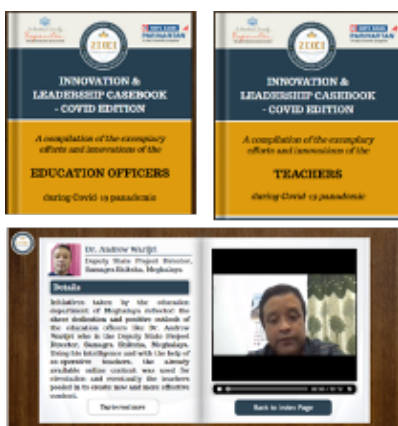
Districts Shortlisted for Innovative Pathshala Implementation			
S. No.	Name of the district	S. No.	Name of the district
1	East Garo Hills	4	West Garo Hills
2	East Khasi Hills	5	West Jaintia Hills
3	Ri Bhoi	6	West Khasi Hills

Sri Aurobindo Society has been conducting following activities with the selected teachers of these districts.

## 1. Compiling the best innovative approach undertaken by teachers and other stakeholders during COVID lockdown period

The pandemic has certainly stimulated innovation within the education sector. The massive efforts made by the stakeholders in a short period of time to respond to the shocks to education systems is commendable. ZIIEI has consolidated these efforts of the Teachers and Education Officers taken to address the learning crisis during the 'lock down' period and compiled them as 'Innovations and Leadership Casebook'. Hon'ble Minister of Education, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched the two e-books in a Virtual National Conference organized on 24th November 2020. These E-books are a video-compilation of innovative approaches adopted by 26 teachers and the effective leadership roles demonstrated by more than 40 Education Officers of the country.

This E-book also includes the innovative approach taken by Dr. Andrew Warjiri, Deputy State Project Director – Samagra Shiksha, during the lockdown period.



24th November 2020: Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Hon'ble Minister of Education, launched 'Innovations and Leadership Casebook' in a Virtual National Conference



## 2. Creation of Role Model Schools

In each of the 6 districts of the state, 15 schools will be nourished and established as 'Role Model Schools'. These schools will become center of excellence with tangible and sustainable source of inspiration for millions of teachers across India. The Role-Model Schools will provide experiential and project-based learning environment in the school. These schools will nourish the students for their holistic development, giving equal importance to academics, extra-curriculum and values. The teachers of these schools will play an instrumental role in transforming their schools as Role-Model Schools.

## 3. Online Orientation and Discussion with Education Officers

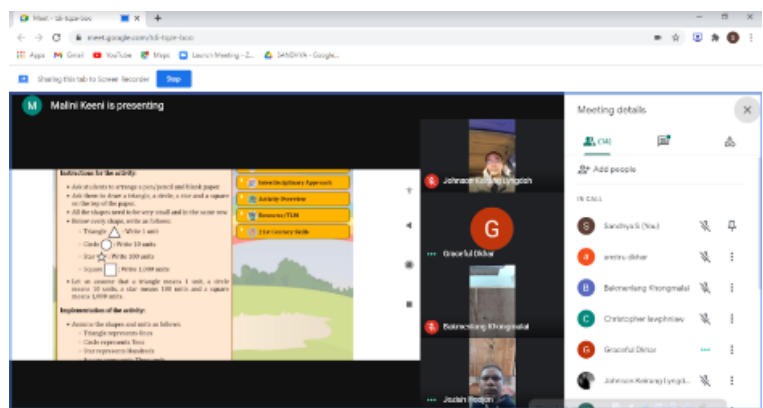
Since December 2020, ZIIIEI has started a series of Online discussion with the Education Officers across different districts of the state to orient them towards the ZIIIEI ideas, training sessions conducted for teachers on Innovative Pathshaala, and establishment of Role-Model Schools in the districts. During these sessions, the officers also share their valuable insights on improving the quality of education at the grassroots. Till date, around 130 officers across 16 states/UTs of the country have been a part of this discussion, of which



around 4 online interviews were conducted with the education officers of Meghalaya. These videos are also posted on the ZIIIEI Facebook Page and has gathered several views.

## 4. Online District-Level Teachers Training on Innovative Pathshaala Alternative Academic Calender (IP AAC)

In order to up-grade the experiential teaching capabilities of the teachers and support them in achieving minimum learning outcomes of the students, ZIIIEI has been conducting online district level training for teachers on IP AAC across the six districts of the state. Based on the guidelines issued by NCERT, IP AAC provides teachers with multiple alternative ways of teaching and learning and ensures to achieve the best possible learning outcomes of the students. In the training session, the teachers are oriented on



practical application of IP AAC through 90 minutes online weekly sessions. During the sessions, teachers are trained to teach any chapter/topic of their State Education Board through zero-investment activities which are mapped with the students' learning outcomes. The training focuses on improving Mathematics, Science & Language skills of the students. So far, about 67 such sessions have been conducted across the six districts and about 150 selected teachers have been oriented on IP AAC.

## 5. Submission of Videos by Teachers on IP Implementation

The teachers who have participated in Innovative Paathshaala Alternative Academic Calender (IPAAC) training, have started sharing their videos of implementing Innovative Pathshaala in their schools. The teachers develop their own best practices and experiential teaching ideas which they have implemented through online classroom. So far, more than 3,800 teachers have submitted their videos. The videos with effective and replicable ideas are posted on ZIIIEI facebook page as a source of inspiration for other teachers. From Meghalaya, around 58 innovative teachers have shared their videos of implementing Innovative Pathshaala.

## 6. E-Exhibitions

In the existing Covid 19 scenario, when on-ground exhibitions are not possible, ZIIIEI has started E-Exhibitions to give a strong platform to the teachers to exhibit their innovative ideas. The teachers present their ideas with the help of relevant teaching materials. These E-exhibitions are live on facebook and teachers across the country can see them presenting their ideas. The participating teachers receive E-certificates for showcasing their ideas. So far, 140 E-exhibitions have been organised with an active participation of over 1,200 teachers across the country. About 36 teachers of Meghalaya have also participated in these e-exhibitions.



Mr. Lambok Myllemngap, Teacher of Umkrem Government LP School, East Khasi Hills presented his idea on 20th August 2020

## 7. National Level Teachers Training on ZIIIEI Innovations

ZIIIEI has been conducting daily online training sessions for the teachers in Hindi and English. These sessions are organised at the national level and teachers from all over the country connect through google meet application or Facebook Page of ZIIIEI. In these sessions, ZIIIEI trainers give detailed explanations of the micro-innovations which are published in the Navachar Pustika. The national level ZIIIEI training started in the month of July 2020, and so far about 162 training sessions have been conducted in Hindi & English.



## 8. National Level Teachers' Motivational session

COVID 19 has posed extraordinary challenges for teachers across the country. It was not easy for them to shift from centuries old physical classrooms to virtual classrooms. The transitioning to online modes of education delivery has indeed intensified the workload of a teacher. To keep the teachers motivated and guide them on various human and ethical values online sessions are organised for them. The teachers join-in from all over India and their queries related to human, moral and ethical values or related to education and students are also resolved. The teachers can join these sessions on zoom application or google meet through invites shared to them over whatsapp or through facebook live. So far 59 such sessions have been organised for the teachers across the country.



## 9. Parents Workshop:

Parents too are facing a tough situation these days while managing their personal and professional lives. ZIIIEI is organising Parents Workshop' to motivate them for greater participation in students' academic and non-academic activities for the holistic development of their children. The trainers will also orient the teachers, in order to implement those innovative ideas which would help in increasing the parents' participation in the school. Launched in August 2020, 31 Parents sessions have been organised so far.



## 10. Students Micro Scholarship Programme

In order to keep track of the Students' Learning Outcomes, students will be enabled to take formative assessments through mobile based curriculum quiz. The Learning Outcomes, as evidenced through Assessments will be made available to respective Teachers for course correction. The teachers can guide and support the students on low scoring topics/subjects and also supervise the student's progression on learning outcomes. Students will also be awarded with micro-scholarship for benchmark performance in these assessments.

To understand the practical application of Student Micro Scholarship Programme, the teachers are oriented through online sessions. So far, about 464 such sessions have been organised and more than 14,000 teachers across different states/UTs have participated in it.



## SECTION: 2

# RUPANTAR ACHIEVEMENTS IN MEGHALAYA (2018-2020)

## I. ZIIEI IN MEGHALAYA

ZIIEI recognises teachers as the agents of change in improving the educational outcomes of children and believes that their contribution, with due recognition and support can bring about a significant improvement in the quality and reach of education.

It is based on the idea that merely making huge investments is not enough to promote excellence in education. The solution lies in promoting ideas that are innovative, bottom-up driven and based on the immense experiential knowledge and understanding of the socio-cultural milieu that most of the educators hold. When the educators, who are most integral to the system, are motivated enough to be entrusted with the responsibility of actively innovating they can reshape and reinvent the entire system and make innovation a norm for the system.

ZIIEI was launched in Meghalaya in August 2019. Over 7,558 teachers across 4 districts of the state have been oriented towards 'Innovation in Education' and around 4,081 teachers have shared their innovative ideas with ZIIEI. After extensive screening and evaluation, the ideas that have a high potential to affect the education quality and could be easily replicated, have been shortlisted. The shortlisted ideas have been transformed into detailed case studies and published in Navachar Pustika. The first Navachar Pustika of Meghalaya was launched in March 2020.

## ZIIEI FOOTPRINTS IN MEGHALAYA

Progress as on March 2020



**12 lakh** teachers submitted innovative ideas



**11 lakh** teachers willing to implement ZIIEI



**54 State** Innovations Handbooks launched



1,551 Innovative Teachers received National Award



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## ZIIEI ACTIVITIES IN MEGHALAYA (2018-2020)

- **Empowered 7,558 Teachers for Micro Innovation**

ZIIEI Program instills a higher level of confidence in teachers, rekindles their innovative traits and collaborative spirits and motivates them to engage with the students in a joyful manner, even in the most resource constrained environment. It meticulously selects the simple yet brilliant solutions devised and practiced by the teachers that can significantly improve the quality of education in a classroom at literally zero cost and systematically scales them up to lakhs of schools across the country.

ZIIEI was launched in Meghalaya in June 2018. Till March 2020, around 7,558 teachers of the state have been oriented across 4 districts of the state towards zero investment innovations. During the orientation, teachers are encouraged to share their innovative practices. Around 4,081 teachers of the state have shared their own innovative ideas with ZIIEI. The teachers are also motivated to use ZIIEI Innovations in their classrooms to create willful and joyful learning environment. Over 6,785 teachers of the state have expressed their willingness to replicate ZIIEI innovations in their classrooms.

Teachers attending ZIIEI Teachers Orientation Session in Meghalaya



- **Felicitation of Teachers and Launch of Innovations Handbook**

The forms submitted by teachers are reviewed and the most constructive innovation which can be replicated easily by teachers in their school, under different circumstances, is compiled as case studies that are published in the ZIIEI Innovations Handbook. The first State Innovations Handbook comprising of the innovative ideas of 22 teachers of Meghalaya was launched in March 2020. The teachers can refer to this Innovation Handbook while implementing ZIIEI innovations in their classrooms.

All 22 innovative teachers of Meghalaya, whose ideas got a place in the Innovations Handbook, have been felicitated by national and state leadership for their grass root teaching innovations.



- **Teacher Innovation Award**

Launched in 2019 Teacher Innovation Award is a digital leap of ZIIEI to acknowledge and award teachers for their path-breaking zero investment innovations in education. Teachers can submit their innovative ideas on the portal and ones with the most constructive ideas are felicitated at national level. Two rounds of TIA have been conducted so far. More than 5 lakh teachers across the country participated in it, and over a lakh idea were submitted. Altogether 125 innovative teachers across the country have been selected and their ideas have been compiled in the TIA Innovations Handbook.

The innovative ideas of 3 teachers of Meghalaya have been published in the TIA Innovations Handbook. These teachers have received national level recognition from Hon'ble Minister of Education, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'.



Shri. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Hon'ble Minister of Education awarded Teachers Innovation Award to the innovative teachers

## II. INNOVATIVE PATHSHAALA

- **Creating & distributing experiential learning content to teach existing curriculum**

Innovative Pathshaala is a series of books that inculcate experiential learning in existing state board curriculums. Every chapter of the state board & NCERT syllabus has been re-written to incorporate the zero- investment ideas by teachers of the state. While this makes the curriculum more relevant for the students, the books provide teachers a choice of at least 10 different experiential learning ways of delivering, recapitulating or revising a topic from the syllabus book. The objective is to improve learning outcomes.

In order to provide quick and easy access to the content of Innovative Pathshaala booklets, Innovative Pathshaala App is also available for android users. It promotes experiential and joyful learning environment in the classroom by providing readymade lesson plans of the entire textbook. This app is a digital leap of Innovative Pathshaala- a series of books that provide tools for primary teaching, applicable to any grade, multi-grade and inclusive classrooms. It aims to help teachers as an everyday classroom companion for

achieving better learning outcomes. This App was formally launched in July 2019 by Hon'ble Minister of Education, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'. Around 20 lakh teachers have downloaded the app and are using it to promote experiential and joyful learning environment in the classroom

Experiential and joyful learning content of Innovative Pathshaala is available at Innovative Pathshaala app



July 26, 2019: ZIIEI Innovative Pathshaala App was launched by Hon'ble Minister of Education, Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', along with the Chairperson, National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), Dr. Satbir Bedi.




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