

IMPROVING QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN RURAL GOVT. SCHOOLS

Transformation of education in
Rural schools through community ownership



BASIC QUESTION TO BE SOLVED

How to bring in a sense of ownership & responsibility towards education in the minds of parents and the overall community?

CONTEXT

Education is one of the primary agents of transformation towards development. It is an activity, or a series of activities, or a process which may either improve the immediate living conditions or increase the potential for future living.

While trying to understand the reasons for degraded quality of education in the schools, We had a thorough discussion with Education department officials, DEO, DSC, ADPO, Principals, Teachers, Parents) to understand the critical gaps. While all are aware of the probable reasons, no one had a clear, well defined reasons behind the critical gaps. An in-depth study was necessary, hence after thorough research the district invited Prajayatna, an NGO working in the district to propose for a way to carry out gap- analysis and then contribute to improve the overall learning outcomes. The initiative has two parts to it:-

1. **Local Educational Governance Data (LEGD)** – Collection and dissemination of Local Educational Governance Data (LEGD) from the schools to give substance for community engagement and deliberation

STAKEHOLDERS:

District administration, Parents, Children, Teachers, SMC, Gram Panchayats and the Community.

2. Action Roadmap – Creating a learning environment through community engagement, Institutional capacity building of the School Management Committees and the Gram Panchayat, Advocacy - Supporting the community to engage with the government system at various levels. Panchayats, Enhancing enrolment and retention at the primary level & Empowerment of teachers.

CONSTRAINTS WITHIN THE INITIATIVE

The success and sustainability of this initiative depends a lot on the ownership shown by the community at large in the form of SMCs & Gram Panchayats. Also there needs to be a thorough line of communication/understanding among all the stakeholders.

CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS

Enhancing enrolment and retention at the primary level

- o All children between 5-11 are enrolled in school (govt or private)
- o Retention will be double or there will be 75% retention rate after 3 years (defined as 50% Attendance of total working days) whichever may be higher. Learning indicators would have been enhanced by 50% in the schools
- o Active participation of all children in the classroom through creation of evidence of work done by the children
- o Regular presence of teachers in class

An active and empowered community that has strong linkages with school in 60% of the schools

- o SMC has been formed as per the mandate of RTE 2009.
- o At least 2/3rd of the members will participate in the process of preparing SDP.
- o At least 2/3rd of the members will attend the monthly SMC meetings.
- o Standing committees for education will be formed at the Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat level in all the GPs
- o School performance indicators will be identified and adhered to by the stakeholders
- o SMC will ensure learning through a tool formulated by them.
- o The village /tola will have the village education register which tracks the children in the village/tola.

GALLERY

