

## **Half yearly report Read India Read Madhya Pradesh** **October 2008 to March 2009**

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### **• October08**

**Background:** Since last two months 'Reading to learn' program is running in all 17 selected districts. Std. 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> (who can read at least word) children are enrolled in these classes running by volunteers. With objective the children who are able to read should solve questions with understanding. Unpaid volunteers are asked to start classes. Monitoring responsibility is given to the Sarpanch & other respective people. We had discussed with people on their duties about children's education in Gram sabhas. We had explained hard spots of reading & writing to the parents. Remaining summer camp material & 'Reading to learn' manual (language & math) was distributed to the volunteers. Volunteers were also asked to use children's text books as reading material.

**'Reading to learn' pre test:** In the first week of October all districts were asked to take pre testing in randomly selected 50 villages. These villages were selected by Sudhakar (Delhi) with the help of PPS method. The testing was based on 'Reading to learn' method. Two zones had done this testing in first week (where zone level training was done in second week) and other three did it in second week because of first week training schedule.

**Zone wise trainings:** After visiting all zone we felt that our district coordinators & block coordinators need to reorient 'Reading to Learn' method. To ensure qualitative

training the training program was scheduled on different dates in all zones. State coordinator visited at all training locations. It was a three days residential training. Two days were taken for language & math. On 3<sup>rd</sup> day all district coordinators & block coordinators were taken to the field for practical experience.

**State level training (master trainer's) for ASER 08:** From 18<sup>th</sup> October to 21<sup>st</sup> October the ASER state level master trainers training workshop was organized in Indore. All district coordinators, zonal & state head had participated. Out of our 34 district coordinators 17 were planned to send nearby district as ASER master trainer & remaining 17 were given their own district responsibility as ASER master trainer. The all trainers were asked to visit their respective district and meet the partner NGO (non government organization) & discuss district level training plan.

**Diwali vacation:** From 25<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November we took Diwali leaves.

## • November 2008

Since August 2008 we are working with world & upper level children with the help of “**Reading to Learn**” program. All district coordinators and block coordinators were retrained in the month of October. End of the October we took Dipawali leaves. As per schedule the month of November passed in the ‘**annual status of education report**’ survey.

**ASER 2008: -**

State level meeting for preparations: - On 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008 all team came back to Bhopal after Dipawali vacation. All zonal, district coordinators & office staff was oriented by ASER associates about ASER survey. Districts were allotted to district coordinators for this survey where they were asked to take master trainer's responsibility.

**District level training for ASER:** -District level ASER master trainers 2 days training was organized in all districts on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> November 2008. Partner NGO head, master trainers & all surveyors were attended this training workshop. First day information sharing, format reading and survey technique was discussed with participants. On 2<sup>nd</sup> days pilot survey was done in near by 4 villages. A team of 10 to 12 surveyors was sent to every village. Feedback of training & pilot survey was taken on 2<sup>nd</sup> day of workshop.

**1<sup>st</sup> phase survey:** -On 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2008, 15 villages were surveyed in the first phase. A team (2 surveyors) was sent to each village for this survey. ASER associates & state-monitoring team was randomly visiting during the survey.

**2<sup>nd</sup> phase survey:** - On 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2008, remaining 15 villages were surveyed in the second phase. Again the same team (2 surveyors which had experience in first phase) was sent to each village for this survey. ASER associates & state-monitoring team was randomly visiting during the survey. This time it was come to know that Shajapur district surveyors were not following rules as per instructions given.

That's why the state coordinator canceled the survey of Shajapur district.

**ASER recheck:** - Selected list of surveyed villages for all districts was given to all master trainers & zonal. On 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> recheck was done across the state. Same time report of recheck was given to ASER associates.

**Data submission meeting:** -On 21<sup>st</sup> all master trainer were called to state office to submit survey data. After rechecking the data was send to **vision enterprises** for entry.

**Resurvey of Shajapur district:** -On 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> Shajapur district survey was reorganized (after cancellation) with help of all district coordinators & local block coordinators.

**3 districts English training:** Before starting English pilot classes in 3 selected districts refresher training was organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> November. The block coordinators and volunteer (who will take classes) were trained. They were asked to start classes from next week.

During this survey the exiting block coordinators in all 17 districts were visiting 'Reading to Learn' classes. New village volunteers were trained & material was distributed to them.

**Gram Panchayats** were asked to take responsibility for monitoring of volunteers classes. Due to state assembly election on 27<sup>th</sup> we could not visit to the field in end of the month.

## ● December 2008

### **Read India –Read Madhya Pradesh**

**Training of new volunteers:** In the month of Dec 08 new volunteers were prepared by Block coordinators with help of Sarpanch and community. Some volunteer were made in the end of Nov08 also. All volunteer were needed to be trained that why up to 10<sup>th</sup> Dec08 volunteers training were taking place in zones. One day training was organized at the cluster level or village level. Block coordinators were asked to give demonstration to volunteers during training. Volunteer were asked to record children's progress in the testing formats. Time and again testing formats are giving to volunteers.

**Slogan writing on walls:** Election of state assembly was done in last week of Nov 08.

Slogans(**Read India-Read Madhya Pradesh**) written on the walls were washed by the order of Election commission .In the first week of Dec 08 we were again writing slogans on the walls. Main roads and squares are painted with the slogan. These slogans are creating advocacy in the community. Many volunteers are coming to us to give their services. Some times we starts taking with reference of "Read India-Read Madhya Pradesh" written on the walls.

### **Chhattisgarh Govt. Cluster Coordinator (Janshiksha) Training 13<sup>th</sup> Dec to 16<sup>th</sup> Dec:**

There was a training program (Reading to Learn & Math) in Chhattisgarh of Govt. cluster coordinator at various locations. We were asked to send our trainers there. Before moving to Chhattisgarh we did two days orientation of our trainers in Bhopal office. A team of 30 trainers were send to Chhattisgarh for four days training program. Since July we are running "Reading to Learn" program in all 17 districts of state so our trainer could do good training in Chhattisgarh.

**Internal Joint review mission visit 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec to 28<sup>th</sup> Dec:** A team of two persons (Sakti & Shailendra) came to Bhopal on 22<sup>nd</sup> for random visits. They visited 4 districts. They met with Sarpanchs & Govt. officials. According their feedback they found strong wall writing campaign in all four districts were they visited. Out of four in one district they found that

volunteer were not acting according “Reading to Learn” methods. They also found that our block coordinators & district coordinators have made strong communication with local administration as well as local representative.

**English Program:** Since month of Dec 08,152 English learning classes are running in three selected districts (Indoe/Bhopal/Jabalpur). Level one teaching module has been given to the volunteers .End of January 09 their will be post test to analyze progress of program. Volunteer who are running classes are aware that they also need to improve their English for their future. In our first feedback we have found that children have started talking with each other by simple sentences like: I am a boy and u? The parents are visiting classes often to see the process of class.

## ● January 2009

### **Read India –Read Madhya Pradesh**

**Contact with old volunteers:** In the month of January our focus was on communication with old volunteer who are working with since last six months or more.

Due to some work or examination some volunteer have dropped teaching village children so we met them again asked him to help for finding new one. We also asked them take children’s post test in last week of February or first week of March.

### **Read India pamphlets & slogan writing on walls:**

With writing slogans on walls we have started distribution of pamphlets having an appeal to the community for looking in to our children’s learning levels. All five zones have done this exercise during this month. The matter of pamphlets is different in zones. Few zones have written story of Gandhi about salt .Few other have written learning levels weakness & need of improvement.

**“Reading to learn” pilot in Rewa govt. schools:** Rewa district level administration has decided to do a pilot of “Reading to Learn” program in 10 selected schools of each block. On 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> January “Reading to Learn” program training was given to the selected school teachers by Pratham personal in every block. Additional director Lok shikshan is personally looking this program closely. Official letter for this program has been given to the block & schools administration.

**English Program:** Since month of Dec 08,152 English learning classes are running in three selected districts (Indoe/Bhopal/Jabalpur). Post test of these classes has been started.

### **Review of Chakmak (monthly magazine for children by Ekalavya) distribution:**

Since month of March 2008 we have been distributing Chakmak magazine to the village volunteer for “Reading to Learn” program. In this month we took a review of utilization & distribution of Chakmak in the villages. We randomly called some block

coordinators asked them about chakmak. We found that 90% block coordinators were using chakmak properly.

**Celebration of 26<sup>th</sup> January (Republic day):** In all 17 districts all block coordinators & district coordinators went to the various villages & participated in republic day celebration programs. We organized story reading competitions & essay writing competitions in the schools after republic day celebration. We also shared testing technique with parents & villagers which will help them to knowing their children's learning level.

## • February 2009

**Community classes:** Random visits on volunteer classes ('reading to learn' program) in community were done by block coordinators, district coordinators & zonal during the month. It was observed that many of std. 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> students are able to answer questions & able to tell summary of lesson. Understanding about theme of lesson still looks poor. Children are writing answers & summary writing but grammatical mistakes still remains. Next month it will be annual examination in all districts so most of parents are worried about completion of syllabus. Our volunteers are also doing preparations for their examinations.

**Volunteers in schools:** After govt. permission we have appointed our volunteer in the govt. schools for support to teachers. In this month it was crosschecked by random school visits. The volunteer were found in the schools. Many schools have welcomed our volunteers & are taking their services. These volunteer have trained with "reading to learn" method.

**National math & language training field practice:** Trainees of national training workshop (who were attended Ajmer training) were asked to take a 10 days practice classes. These practice classes were taken in Indore & Jabalpur zone. In math practice class percentage, loss-profit & fraction were taught to the children. Question-answer, summary writing & getting the theme of lesson was taught in language classes. These trainers (who were trained in Ajmer) were asked to observe closely problem & developments while they were taking classes.

**Mumbai visit:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2009 Savitri & her colleague came to Bhopal from Mumbai to know about improvement in learning levels of children. They visited three districts (Bhopal/Sihore /Indore). On 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb. they went to Bhopal field & next day they visited to Sihore. Last visit was made in Indore district. They talked with volunteers, parents & teachers. A briefing was given to them about Madhya Pradesh program from starting by zonal.

**Rewa 'Reading to Learn' pilot (in govt. schools):** Since last month 'reading to learn' pilot program has been running in 10 govt. primary schools per block of Rewa district. Our block persons are continuously visiting these selected schools. The program will end on next month. After getting pretest the improvement will be analysis which will help to scale up the program in next academic year.

**Volunteer's mela:** In Rewa zone to raise new volunteer & for community awareness volunteers mela's were organized. In Chhattarpur district 175 volunteers were came to join mela at a place. At the same time awareness rally (march) was also organized. A large number of school children were joined this rally. Some volunteers have proposed us to run summer camps in few blocks without payment. They want material support only.

## • **March 2009**

**Post test of Reading to learn program:**

Since September 2008 "Reading to Learn" program was running in all 17 districts where we were working. The program was ended in the month of February 09. In Madhya Pradesh there was annual examination in the month of March 09 that's why program was ended in the last week of February 09. We conducted post test of "Reading to Learn" in the second week of March 09. We took randomly selected 50 villages (which were taken for pre test also) per district for post test. Every 5<sup>th</sup> household (left hand rule was followed) was taken for testing. Total 40 household were surveyed from a village. We had tested all children at age of 6 to 14 yrs.

**State level ASER 2009 release:**

On 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009 we did state level ASER release in Bhopal. This function was done at Chief Ministers (Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan) house. The chief minister released the state level ASER book in his office at 11am. The present state project director, Exe state project director, principle secretary of school education was also attended this function. From Pratham Madhya Pradesh Mrs. Usha Rane, Sajjan Singh, Sakshi (ASER research associate from Delhi) & other four persons were participated. It was zero budget function.

**District Block level ASER 2009 release:**

After state level release we sent copy of reports to the district (district magistrate, district project coordinator SSA etc.) & block (block education officer, chief executive officer) officers. We send them letters with analysis of data. We also appealed to them to cooperate us for village level dissemination. Almost every district administration is agreed to support us for ASER 09 dissemination. After parliament election village level ASER dissemination will take place.