

## **Rajasthan Education Initiative**

The Rajasthan Education Initiative (REI), launched in year 2005, has evolved as a showcase of the public-private partnership in the field of education. The REI has supported and complimented the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) actions and strategies in improving the delivery of educational services in the State. It aims at supporting the State efforts in achieving equitable access, enrolment and retention of children in schools, reducing gender disparities, addressing geographical and physical imbalances, promoting skill development and enhancing learning levels through ICT and non-ICT interventions in collaboration with REI partners.

The REI has engaged with global and national partners from the private sector, foundations and NGOs to support public education in the State of Rajasthan. 26 MoUs have been signed since the launch of REI.

The partners from private sector have brought resources, including technologies, training, knowledge and expertise to meet specific needs of the students, teachers and schools. These efforts need to be up-scaled at a large scale in the State to transform the educational scenario. At the same time, REI has engaged with NGOs and foundations to mobilize, sensitize and involve the communities in the educational processes, strategies and outcomes.

The REI, driven by the State Government and supported by the activities of the core partners, namely the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), the Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative (GeSCI) and the World Economic Forum (WEF), focuses on girls, rural children, urban under-privileged children, and children with special needs, through various ICT and non-ICT track interventions.

### **REI Integrated Strategy through two work streams:**

#### **ICT Stream**

Technological interventions for effective delivery of educational processes for students & teachers.

#### **Non-ICT Stream**

Socially relevant, innovative interventions for creating qualitative enabling environment & conditions conducive for effective teaching-learning processes.

### **Snapshots of REI Partnership:**

#### **Microsoft**

Microsoft aims to accelerate computer literacy in Rajasthan by providing a comprehensive program (Project Shiksha), which includes software solutions and comprehensive training for teachers. Over 8000 school teachers from 3000 schools per year will have an opportunity to strengthen their IT proficiency through this initiative over the next 5 years.

- Provision of comprehensive training, support, and resources to Government school teachers and expose them to the latest computer technologies.

- Establishment of the Information Technology Academy (ITA) at Jaipur for 5 years, space provided by the State Government under SSA.
- Training of teachers through ITA and DIETs in 11 districts (Jhunjhunu, Alwar, Churu, Hanumangarh, Nagaur, Sikar, Sirohi, Sriganganagar, Bhilwara, Jhalawar, Jaipur).
- Development of courseware, curriculum and training experts by Microsoft.
- Over 12740 teachers trained from 6511 schools in 11 districts so far. Assessment, certification and monitoring of teachers by Microsoft.
- Annual national leadership awards for outstanding achievement by teachers in devising e-lesson plans.
- The future plans include seeking collaboration on smart schools or schools of future and PPP model for building teachers & students community.

### **Intel**

The Intel Teach Program is a professional development program that helps in-service and pre-service teachers, effectively integrate technology to enhance student learning. The teachers use technology in support of project-based learning and encourage active inquiry and higher-order thinking in classrooms.

- Intel provides training, support and resources including, internet, multimedia and assessment tools to teachers in 3600 government schools in the State.
- Training intervention in 11 districts (Ajmer, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Dausa, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Pali, Tonk, Udaipur)
- Training of subject teachers in all the girl schools that have been computerized under Project Grace.
- 1209 principals trained, 11583 teacher trained and 1242 schools covered.

### **Hole in the Wall Education Limited (HiWEL)**

HiWEL introduced an interesting and innovative initiative for improving the outcomes of elementary education in Rajasthan through providing computer-aided learning in an outdoor, playground setting.

- Establishment of 15 Learning Stations (7 in Jhalawar, 4 in Tonk and 4 in Dholpur) to provide under privileged children with unconditional and unsupervised access to special purpose personal computers equipped with a range of learning software, so as to encourage the children's innate sense of curiosity, experimentation and play.

### **HiWEL, JMC and RCEE**

- HiWEL has a target to install 2 computers per school in an outdoor situation, playground setting for 200 schools in Jaipur.

### **American India Foundation**

Digital Equalizer (DE) is a flagship program of the American India Foundation (AIF) that aims to advance the use of technology to engage, educate, enrich and empower India's under-served children.

- AIF's initiative in the State aims to provide teacher training and capacity building inputs to Upper Primary and Secondary Schools in the implementation of Computer Aided Learning Program (CALP).
- Coverage of 207 schools in 13 Districts by over 20 facilitators of AIF providing hand holding, training and monitoring.

### **CISCO**

CISCO aims at providing High End IT Training (internet and networking education) to faculty and students through Networking Academy Programme.

- Provision of courseware and training to master trainers, who in turn will impart the knowledge to students at DCEC in all 32 Districts.
- Till date, 44 Cisco Instructors trained. 28 out of them certified for giving Cisco training.
- Currently four DCECs in Bikaner, Jaipur, Kota, and Udaipur) are operational.
- One more DCEC (Ajmer) is being made operational very soon. Additional 10 DCEC's operational - overall 15 DCEC @ 50 students each - minimum 750 students exposed to by the end of July 2008

### **IBM**

- Joyful learning through Early Learning Centers (Young Explorer Units) in the premises of the Host Primary Schools for education of students in the age group of 3-11 years.
- 100 IBM Kid smart computers in 14 schools of Jaipur.
- Technical support by Pratham.

### **Azim Premji Foundation (APF)**

The APF's initiative contributes to the quality of education in the State through Computer Aided Learning.

- Educational content in the form of 30 CDs provided to CALP schools in the State.
- Training of key resource persons / master resource persons and training material by APF.

### **Hindustan Zinc Ltd. And Sterlite Foundation**

- Computer education to the students in 50 schools in Udaipur District.
- 5 sets of computers and required furniture in each of the identified schools.
- Computer training to identified teachers.

### **Bodh Shiksha Samiti**

The Bodh initiative aims to evolve a community based effective and sustainable model to ensure universalization of equitable and quality education for disadvantaged urban children with focus on appropriate transformation of mainstream education system.

- Under Janbodh program, 58 Government schools and 6 Bodh Resource Schools covered.

- Academic and Pedagogic support through facilitators
- Plan to expand the program in 16 more schools and reach to 15,000 children.

### **Foundation to Educate Girls Globally (FEGG)**

FEGG's initiative aims at involving the communities in the educational processes, strategies and outcomes, promoting enrolment and retention of girls in schools in Pali district, reducing gender disparity and improving the level of life skills and competency of the girl child.

- Program covers 500 Schools in Bali, Rani and Sumerpur blocks of Pali district.
- Formation of Gram Shiksha in villages for the Mobilizing the community participation / Bal Sabhas for Vocational preparedness, leadership and skills.
- Teachers trained for life skill development and competency enhancement
- Life and work skills to girl students in Kasturaba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas

### **Naandi Foundation**

- Providing comprehensive health care to approximately 40,000 students from around 222 schools.
- Subsidized evening meal from Mid Day Meal (MDM) for 70,000 students with 35 Km radius.
- Established indoor patients centers at two major Government Hospitals.
- Established 22 out-patient clinics in 22 schools.

### **CII-Shri R.k.Poddar's Trust**

- Adopted 3 schools at Chomu for additional quality and civil work inputs.
- Donated 3 Vans to Akshya Patra for carrying meals from Kitchen to schools.
- CII carried out gap analysis in 80 schools of Jaipur District.

### **Azim Premji Foundation (APF)**

- APF's Learning Guarantee programs aims at building a voluntary spirit of accountability among schools, community and government functionaries and study factors that influence learning.
- Intervention aimed at improving competency skills of children in schools of Sirohi and Tonk districts.

### **ICICI, Digantar and Vidya Bhawan Society**

- Field level strengthening of SSA interventions.
- Intervention in 75 schools (pace setter schools).

### **Bharti Foundation**

- Adopted 50 schools in Alwar and Jaipur districts for ten years.
- Pursuing Quality Education within State curriculum.

- All facilities, resources, teachers and day to day management of schools by Bharti.

#### **K.C. Mahindra Trust**

- Providing support to approximately 10,000 ST girl children of Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) area of udaipur to pursue education.
- Students of class I to VIII to get uniform, additional books, stationery and academic support in the form of remedial, special coaching.

#### **Pratham Rajasthan**

- Organizing 'Read Rajasthan' campaign in schools of 14 districts by using innovative teaching-learning methodology for developing the reading skills of students in classes I and II.
- The teachers will use Flash cards to enable identification, spelling, pronouncing alphabets, words and numbers.
- Active involvement of SDMC members and young volunteers in children.