

MODEL ANGANWADIS PROGRAMME



An anganwadi centre (AWC) is the first point of contact for maternal healthcare and early child development in India. The majority of these centres operate in remote village areas or in pockets of land occupied by the urban poor and cater to the children and women from these villages.

ICDS or Integrated Child Development Program the program responsible for this education and wellness centre has gained considerable feat, nevertheless the lack of access to key enabling factors are hampering the productivity and impact of these centres.

1 Government run Anganwadis are facing a huge drop in enrolment due to lack of good facilities and slow acceptance of technology in comparison to the privately run Anganwadis

As per the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), the percentage of children in the government run Anganwadis has dropped from 89.9% in 2014 to 71.3% in 2016. On a micro level, 33 anganwadis with an average of 32 students were surveyed by SELCO Foundation in early 2018. The drop out rate of the children from the government funded anganwadis was found to be an alarming 38.9% i.e. 5-7 students every year which brings into focus the poor condition of the government funded anganwadis.

2 A child's health is very crucial during learning and hence adequate nutrition needs to be provided for them to be healthy and strong.

97% of the surveyed anganwadis had an Asha worker present and regular but the infrastructure that the Anganwadi has access to, like a building to run the centre, water, sanitation and access to electricity, are major factors which contribute to the success of the Anganwadi. Anganwadis also lack adequate space to host children and mothers at the same time during medical check up camps.

3 Government Anganwadi teachers are over burdened and can use additional aid, better compensations and capacity building.

Among teachers, 44% of them have passed matriculation but only 50% of them know to use basic and smartphone, and even lesser (2.8%) have computer skills. Most of them (77%) live in the same locality but they are overburdened with work, for example, 97% of them engaged in community or panchayat work, 87% for vaccination assistance and awareness, 78.8% for government census and 54% for election work. To add to these woes, they are severely underpaid, with the maximum they get being Rs 8,000 and hence lose interest over time and commitment.

4 Private anganwadis are popular whereas very few are interested in public anganwadis

The private anganwadis have digital learning aids which most of the government anganwadis lack. In most of the government anganwadis, only 2.9% have adequate playing, sports and learning material as 90% of them learn from books and charts. Lack of teaching aids and play material are considered as major constraints in organising pre-school education successfully. Only 58% have adequate outdoor space as 97% of them use the indoor space. Basic amenities like table (88.6%), fans (60%), lights (60%) are provided but 50% of the government funded anganwadis do not have electricity.

SELCO Foundation's Model Anganwadi project is an attempt to innovate upon Model Anganwadis. Our objectives for the programme are to:



ACCESS TO CHILD FRIENDLY LEARNING TOOLS

Using context appropriate learning technologies, methods and content



DESIGN TYPOLOGY SPECIFIC SPACES

For children for their holistic growth, maternal-care (nursing/examination) spaces, kitchens, and storage areas, etc.



DESIGN SUSTAINABLE STRUCTURES & SOLUTIONS

With built-in natural lighting and ventilation, rainwater harvesting and WASH, free play areas with compound walls, storage.



AID THE ANGANWADI WORKER

With digitised technologies with an aim of improved nutrition and development of the child as well as of the expecting mothers.

CHILD FRIENDLY LEARNING TOOLS

Every child has a distinctive learning style. While the current education system only caters to visual and auditory learners, approximately 45% of the students in a typical classroom are kinesthetic learners. (Tranquillo, 2008)

Kinesthetic learners understand concepts and ideas better when they are performing an action. Unfortunately, kinesthetic learners are often deemed as mischievous, restless and disruptive with the present system, disregarding their needs. Moreover, movement based learning, as a concept is almost absent in the present day classroom, in spite of its proven benefit.

CONTENT PARTNERS



Nayi Disha builds Movement based learning modules for kindergarten children that require them to jump, hop, and clap while they learn concepts from their curriculum.

The modules are in form of games that utilize motion sensors to detect a child's body so that he/she is able to physically interact with the virtual content. It facilitates learning in Anganwadis with the help of stories featuring a character that have been noticed to be loved by children, Kaju!



Tablets with inbuilt motion sensors and an Android platform



Solar Energy to charge tablets along with DC Lights & Fans



Television with screen cast to project the tablets content as well as for community awareness.

35

Avg. Sessions a day

33% - 67%

Accuracy Range

333 Sessions

Most Played Game (Number Line)

7 - 17 mins

Average Session Duration Range

ON-GROUND PARTNERS



CASE STUDY



Shivaleela is one of the Anganwadi workers from Bomanahalli, Bijapur district, who benefitted from SELCOs intervention. When asked what is the best thing about her job, she said it is the time she gets to spend with children, interacting with them, teaching them but she also complains that she is unable to spend enough time with the children, due to her workload that keeps her busy often.

In August 2018, SELCO Foundation installed the 1 TV + 1 Tab model in her anganwadi and now the children have started paying more attention in class ever since, leading to a more conducive learning atmosphere in the anganwadi for most times. She mostly uses the tab for the games provided by SELCO Foundation, while she uses the TV to display videos from YouTube on animals and birds, puzzles, rhymes, etc. Shivaleela also reported that the DC LED Tube Light and the DC Pedestal Fan provided by SF have helped them cut down the electricity charges.

There is a **better understanding of technological equipment by children** and hence a sharper focus and interest among them to learn the various topics.

A **replicable model** of the anganwadi was created, as the government run anganwadis were ill-equipped in the use of technology for teaching.

We could create a **general interest among teachers** as there is more efficiency in their teaching content.

Among the children, smart technology and better teaching practices would develop **analytical skills**, making them in par with private anganwadis.

The children now showed **enhanced discipline by being more engaged** with the content in their tablets and **grasped the verbal English quickly** and showed an **enhanced interest in the drawing-based and creative apps**.



Thus there is a constant effort to curb the increasing number of dropouts in government run Anganwadis and develop interactive education material so that the Anganwadi workers could impart information through improved techniques. SELCO Foundation is constantly developing educative content which engages the children and contributes to their overall growth for a brighter future.

Solar tablets for learning in five anganwadi centres

Naina JA

MANGALURU: Mothers of anganwadi children in Beeriga, Montugoli, Manavalike and Gandhinagara are proud as their children have become fluent with letters, numbers and a few rhymes in English in the last few months.

As a part of pilot project by Selco Foundation and with the motivation of Jana Shikshana Trust, the new system of learning has been started in five anganwadi centres in Dakshina Kannada.

These Tablets are loaded with pre-school educational

materials that attract children immensely and help them learn quickly. Handling the gadget is a major attraction for them.

Under the pilot project, the Selco Foundation bears Rs 30,000 and the remaining Rs 26,000 was raised through locals. After the pilot project is implemented at five anganwadi centres, it has also been decided to take up a similar initiative in 150 anagnawdi centres in Dakshina Kannada wherein, the Selco Foundation will bear Rs 25,000 and the remaining Rs 31,000 has to be raised through locals.

Solar panels have been

installed in these centres, through which the tablets can be recharged. In addition, the anganwadi centres have been provided one light and one fan, powered through solar means. Each anganwadi is given two tablets to help the children to learn in groups. Jana Shikshana Trust director and MGN-REGS former ombudsman Sheena Shetty said.

Anganwadi workers make students sit and teach them through tablets. The tablets are loaded with parts of animals, environment-related images, names of fruits, month, days, numbers, songs, stories with a few sentences in Tulu

as well. The tablet has been developed by the Selco by pre-loading about 42 issues for the integrated learning of the tiny tots.

Beeriga Anganwadi worker Aruna told DH: "The anganwadi kids are loving it. The tablet is very helpful in teaching Kannada and English. The children like the attractive visuals. Further, the stories are illustrated through visuals. It is also helpful in teaching a few sentences in English and Kannada to children. They also enjoy solving puzzles as well. The tablet is helpful in mental and intellectual growth of kids."

Sheena Shetty said, "We

have been motivating the anganwadi centres. Further, by raising funds from local co-operatives or elected representatives, the solar panels are implemented in the centre. The Selco has also trained anganwadi workers in teaching using the Tab."

Charmadi PDO said that solar tablets in Gandhinagara anganwadi under Charmadi Gram Panchayat has benefited 53 children. The work on solar panels installation at Peri Anganwadi of Hosangady will be initiated at the earliest to facilitate the children to learn through solar tablet.

DH News Service

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DK anganwadis go digital, kids get tabs

Selco Foundation in association with Jana Shikshana Trust has donated solar tabs to five anganwadis

GANESH MAVANJI @ Mangaluru

IN order to attract students towards anganwadi centers and to match the teaching techniques of private kindergarten schools (LKG and UKG), Selco Foundation in association with Jana Shikshana Trust has donated solar tabs to five anganwadi centers and is planning to disburse the same to another 150 anganwadi schools shortly.

These solar tabs display kindergarten rhymes in three languages - English, Kannada and Tulu, contain attractive videos of national festivals and their importance, techniques of easy learning methods among others. The videos also guide children on how to read and write alphabets. These tabs have already been provided to Peri Anganwadi center in Beltangady taluk, Gandhinagar Anganwadi in Charmadi, Beerinja Anganwadi Center in Bannur in Puttur, Manavalike Anganwadi center in Perabe village and Montugoli Anganwadi center in Bantwal taluk. Along with the tab, two lights and a fan also being given to the anganwadi schools. The total cost of a kit is Rs 56,000. Selco Foundation has born 50 percent of the cost and the remaining amount will be collected by local donors.



An anganwadi teacher using tabs to teach children

The idea

As the social organisation Jana Shikshana Trust came to know that some anganwadi centers have no funds to pay their electric bills, it started to provide solar lights and fans to some anganwadi centers in the district in association with Selco Foundation.

Meanwhile, they also found that some parents are not keen on sending their children to anganwadi centers, despite coming under the poor category. Hence, the idea of providing tabs to anganwadi centers cropped up.

Selco Foundation Assistant General Manager Guruprakash when contacted

initiative' by the Selco Foundation as parents are refusing to send their children to Anganwadi centers. "If there is proper infrastructure in anganwadi centers and students are taught basic English, parents will stop sending their children to private schools where they have to pay huge donation. If government can join hands with the Selco Foundation, we are ready to extend this programme to remaining anganwadis as well," he informed.

Jana Shikshana Trust Director Sheena Shetty informed that their intention was to help anganwadi centers with solar lights and fans as some of the anganwadi centers did not have power connection also. "As we found less students in most of the anganwadi centers, we contacted Selco Foundation and requested them to provide solar tabs. Government needs to pay more attention to the anganwadi centers as parents prefer to send their children to private schools. Anganwadis using tabs have seen good response from both parents and teachers," he said.

If government can join hands with the Selco Foundation, we are ready to extend this programme to remaining anganwadis as well