



CHILDREN'S FINAL TEST RESULTS

Literacy and Education, a three-school initiative, was tested at the end of the academic year in March. All these children are studying in 2nd and 3rd grade after 2 years gap of covid. Although they were in classes

2nd and 3rd , their prior learning was nil. The result of this test is –

- 66 percent of the children scored between 75 and 99 percent
- 12 percent of the children scored between 50 and 74 percent
- 10 percent of the children scored between 35 and 50 percent
- However, 10 percent of the children were seen to require special attention for improvement
- 2 percent of the children were absent during the test.

SHAHAPUR: LITERACY CLASS ACHIEVES SUCCESS IN ASHRAMSHALAS

While doing library sessions, we noticed the gap in literacy skills of the students from 8 th grade. This was mainly because of the gap in education due to covid pandemic. So Unnati ISEC sought a support from Door step schools, Pune and conducted online literacy classes for one hour daily for 4 months.

96 children from three ashram schools participated in these classes. In just 90 days, about 84 per cent progressed remarkably in literacy skills. About 17 percent children reached the expected level of literacy. About 13 per cent of the children migrated and hence could not attend the test.



AKOT - TEACHERS MEETING TO REPORT THE WORK DONE

A teachers meeting was held on 13th April 2023 to share the results of the final test of the children and to review the mid-term work of Unnati ISEC. A total of 8 teachers from 4 Zilla Parishad schools were present in this meeting.



SURVEYS

HOUSEHOLD SURVEY IN THREE VILLAGES

After deciding to start a village library in three villages, the first step was to do the household survey of the village. It was done in April. The age-wise population data, their education level, helped us decide the number of books required and prepare a design of the implementation of the programme. During the survey Unnati ISEC's work and the information of village library reached every household.

LINGUISTIC SURVEY

A linguistic survey was conducted with a total of 125 children between the ages of 7 and 11 in the 4 schools where Unnati is working. (Khirkund Khu., Khirkund Bu., Dangarkhed, Januna):

- 94 percent children belong to scheduled tribe
- 83 percent children speak Korku language at home
- 26 percent children cannot speak Marathi at all
- 66 percent children can speak very little Marathi

However, education is imparted in Marathi language in the school and the teachers also speak only Marathi language. Unnati ISEC thrusts on using children's mother tongue for literacy and education at primary grades.

SHAHAPUR – MEETING WITH HEAD MASTERS TO DISCUSS THE NEXT PLAN

Last year we saw a very good cooperation from the head masters (HMs) of Ashram schools. We conducted a meeting on 25 th June with HMs of the 6 Ashrams schools to discuss our next plan and programme with their schools.

We informed them about our plan to work with the pre-adolescent girls from 5 th and 6 th std. Instead of working with 8 th standard children. HMs assured us to make available one room for Unnati library. They appreciated our work in the schools and highlighted our contribution in the development of the school. The meeting concluded in the enthusiastic environment.



Shahapur - Girls ran a village library:

We have a girls leadership programme for select Ashrams schools. As a part of this, we taught 14 youth girls to run the village library in their home-villages on an experimental basis. After taking necessary basic training from us, these girls ran a village library in 6 villages in the month of May, during their long vacation time. Girls were excited while sharing their experience of running a library. It helped boost their confidence and improving communication skills. The girls reached out with books to 150 people in the villages. Now our next planning is under way.

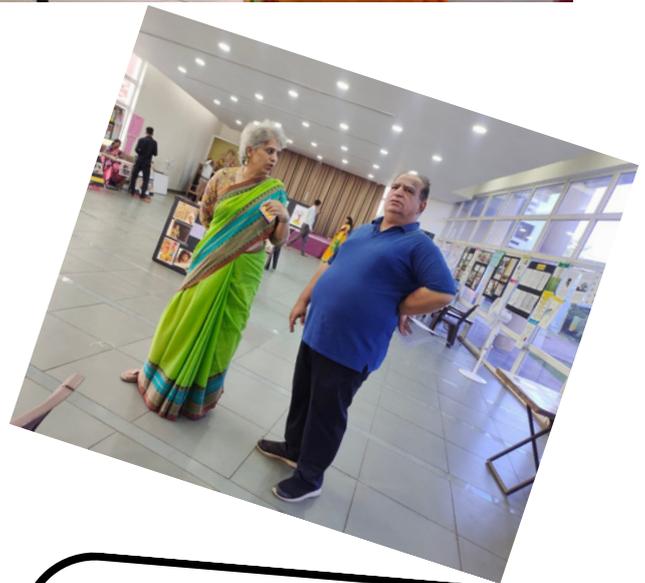


EXHIBITION OF UNNATI'S WORK



We organized a photo exhibition of Unnati ISEC's work in the education domain. It was at the club house of Raheja Garden society on April 30th, 2023 from 4 to 9 pm.

About 100 people visited the exhibition. We had a very good networking opportunity with the people from diverse background.



Unnati works in the tribal area of the Akola and Thane districts. Literacy, school library, village library and env education are the main areas of work. We work with govt schools and villagers. Multi-lingual education and women empowerment are the cross cutting themes.

Korku language course was conducted

In the approach of MLE based pedagogy of language teaching, teachers speaking children's language functionally in the classrooms is imperative. However, we learnt that learning Korku by just being in the community is not easy as the language is totally different from Marathi. The difficulty adds as there is no written content available in the market in Korku, which is a source of learning any language at least crudely. Taking a note of it, we have designed an online course "Lets Learn Korku" which we offer to public at large and the teachers. The course is offered online, using Whatsapp and google meet. This year we opened this course for the teachers of Akot taluka and 35 teachers registered it.

STAFF TRAINING, REVIEW AND PLANNING MEETINGS

During April, May and June is the vacation time for schools. We cannot work with the schools in this period. We utilize this vacation to prepare and train our staff for the upcoming year. Half yearly review of the programmes, exposure visits of the whole team to Pune based various organisations, internal training programmes on various topics, planning of the next semester are some of the key activities conducted in this period.



Visti to Door Step School founder Rajani tai (middle row second from right along with found of Unnati-Isec Hemangi Joshi (middle line, second from left and unnati and DSS team.

ANNUAL REVIEW MEETINGS

April, May are the months of our rigorous annual review. It is done of all programmes. In all the programmes concerned staff and the Director was present. In the review of plantation program, one more Director of Unnati ISEC participated.

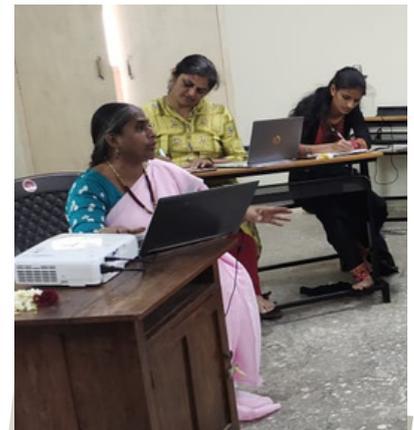
Apart from the review and next planning, the focus is also on to understand professional aspirations of the staff, their mental health and feelings.

on 27th February 2023 – Annual review of environment education programme was done.

On 1 April 2023 – Annual review of plantation programme was done.

24th to 27th April 2023 – Annual review of the following programs was done:

- i) multi-lingual education program in schools in Akot
- ii) village library program in Akot
- iii) school library program in Akot and Shahapur



BROTHER, GIVE ME A BOOK TOO!

In January 2023, we started a village library in village Koha on an experimental basis. The village facilitator goes door to door and provide villagers the books of their choice. We saw that small children in the houses get attracted to the books during this process. "I want a book too! Give me a book too!" Children began to insist to their parents. Children can't read so why do they want the books? Parents would ignore children's demands. The village facilitator was noticing this scene every day. When he started interacting with the children, they started insisting to the facilitator the same way.



He knew the importance of getting young children in the reading process. So, from next day onwards, the facilitator carried the pictorial books and started lending them to the young children. The children started asking for books to the facilitator without involving their parents. Gradually children got used to reading books and developed an interest. Now, on the day when facilitator enters the lane for lending the books, children like Sandhya, Iswari, Naina, Sonu run to him, even when they see him from a distance, and take the desired book from him.

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