

2017-2018



Annual Progress Report

April 2017-March 2018

AADHAAR- An Association for Development, Harmony and Action Research

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Foreword

It is our pleasure to present the fifth annual report of AADHAAR for the year 2017-2018. This year journey took AADHAAR a step further, towards its mission. AADHAAR not only succeeded in engaging community to work towards their developmental needs in intervening areas of Uttarakhand but also successfully extended education intervention in Noida, Uttarpradesh

We acknowledge the resource support received from our volunteers, supporters, partners and governing board members for their support and guidance in our journey.

Neha Chaturvedi

President

Kamleshwar Singh

Secretary

I. Background

AADHAAR operational areas is spread in two north Indian states namely Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh since its inception in 2011

AADHAAR's Programmes and Interventions in 2017-2018

Annual report for the year 2017-2018 presents the highlights of AADHAAR's developmental interventions in under different themes. The report has been divided into three sections which are as follows:

1. Field based Interventions
2. Support to Civil Society
3. Liaison and Linkage Building

Section I Field based Intervention

1. District Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand

Under the own initiative of AADHAAR- "Environment Protection and Water Conservation with the involvement of the community", AADHAAR undertake following activities:-

a) Community Mobilisation :

Series of meetings were organized in the villages to mobilise farmers and especially women to adopt the modern agricultural practices. During these meetings, detailed discussions were held on problems related to agriculture in the area. It was discussed with farmers that the problem of irrigation could be managed through the collection of rain water at field level which could then be used to irrigate crops during critical times. It was also highlighted in the meetings that the problem of wild animal attacks of wild animals on the crops could be managed by introduction of medicinal plants like -Tulsi, etc.



Under the mobilisation, meetings of the Panchayats were called and resolutions were passed in the Gram Sabha meetings to submit proposal to the block development office to construct big chahal in Mahar and Kimkhola to collect the rain water in the Panchayats. These resolutions were forwarded to Block Development Officer (BDO) for approval under the MGNREGA.

On the occasion of **the environment day (5 June, 2017)** a meeting was convened at vill.- Mahar.



Honorable local M.L.A, Honourable Chairperson Kshetra Panchayat, B.D.O and Programme Officer- MGNREGA, chairpersons of Panchayats and around 135 farmers participated in the meeting. Event was chaired by Mr. Vinod Kandari, Honorable MLA-Devprayag. Participants were briefed about the project and were asked to lend their support to the project. B.D.O and Chairperson Kshetra Panchayat assured their full cooperation to the farmers and to work on their demand for water

collection tanks. Local M.L.A present in the meeting also assured his support to the AADHAAR interventions and requested farmers to adopt modern agricultural practices and urged to do the plantation in the area. Honorable MLA also planted a tree to mark the occasion.

b) Agriculture-Horticulture Promotion and Animal Production:

By the liaison efforts of AADHAAR, 28 farmers (14-Mahar & 14 -Kimkhola) of the area were selected by the Department of Horticulture under their scheme- "double the income of farmers".



-70 grams seed of capsicum was also procured from the horticulture department under their scheme for 7 nali's of land in 7 farmers fields. A nursery was raised for capsicum plants which further distributed among the farmers for kitchen garden. Agriculture equipments-drip irrigation system and sprinklers were introduced in the area

-Plans were also submitted for improving agriculture production and animal husbandry by the mini cooperative-Amni for the intervening villages under the National Cooperative Development Corporation scheme.

To collect the rain water at fields to percolate down it to main the soil moistures, farmers were motivated to dig narrow furrow near the side



wall of the agricultural terraces.



B) Education Initiative "Vidya Arpan"

In India, significant progress had been made in universalizing primary education, with improvement in the enrolment and completion rates of girls in both primary and elementary school. The new national Education Policy and Sustainable Development Goal 4 share the goals of universal quality education and lifelong learning. Although the Sarva Shikksha Abhiyan has made tremendous achievement in universalizing elementary education, but much needs to be achieved in terms of quality education and students' achievement at the higher level of education especially at High School (10th) level. The dropout¹ percentage of the students especially girls belonging to poor families at this level, is much higher. Most of these girls in higher classes are first generation learners but due to the low quality of education being imparted in the government school, are unable to cope up with the syllabus and despite having made the effort to stay in school overcoming various obstacles are unable to perform well, which in turn, sabotages their future. Their families are also not in the position to support their help-classes as that is an additional economic burden on the parents. This situation gets worsened with the science students who find more difficulties to cope up with the syllabus. To meet this challenge, AADHAAR with the support of WeKare/Capgemini initiated Vidya Arpan project- remedial classes at Mahamaya Balika Inter College(MBIC) Noida for 10th slandered girls on science and mathematics.

Liaison with District Education Office & School Administration :

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- ¹ India has 47 million youth of secondary and higher secondary school-going age dropping out of school, according to a report by the Montreal-based UNESCO Institute for Statistics and Global Education Monitoring.
 - The 47 million young men and women dropped out of school by the 10th standard, according to the 2016 report.
 - The enrollment in class 10 is 77 percent, but enrollment in class 11 is only 52 per cent, according to a report from the New Delhi-based Institute for Policy Research Studies (PRS).
 - Enrollment declined by about half between class 11 and 12 and college, said the report, although university enrollment increased, in general, since 2008-09. Source: <https://www.firstpost.com/india/unesco-47-million>

After the initial introductory meeting with the DIOS- Dr. Upadhyay, Gautam Budh Nagar, a letter was issued by the DIOs office to run remedial classes in a government school premises in Noida. Mahamaya Balika Inter College(MBIC) Noida was chosen to run classes after getting approval from the principal of the school.

Reasons to select Mahamaya Balika Inter College:

1. It is a residential government girl's school. There are *67 girl students* enrolled in class 10th
2. Being a residential school – it offers almost no possibility to the students to attend any kind of coaching/remedial classes for science and mathematics other than the regular school classes.
3. School's openness and willingness to join the project and run the classes within the residential vicinity of the school.
4. The school is for the girls belong to the underprivileged section of the society.
5. Poor performance of students especially in mathematics and science

After the Inauguration of the project on the 18th of September 2017, the classes started on the 20th September 2018 by AADHAAR. The inauguration function was attended by CEO & other team members of AADHAAR, Capgemini representatives, and teachers from Mahamaya school along with 10th standard students. In his opening speech Mr. Kamleshwar Singh, the CEO of AADHAAR, introduced the project as well as discussed the issue of 'gender' and the importance of girl child education in India. He also touched upon brief issues on what is a 'not for profit' organization mean – and its functioning in context of support to the government.

Ms. Madhulika Bhatnagar from the Capgemini group shared how her education has empowered her. She shared with the students on a lighter note, that how she has been able to see most of the countries in the world – specifically in the context of the value of education in a further context of the Indian girl child/Woman. There were valuable exchanges and contributions by Ms.Niki Das, Mr. Pallav, and Mr.Tarun from the Capgemini group, and the students – which helped the children to open up.



Major steps in carrying out the classes:

1. After evaluation of the students based on the first term examination, it was decided that specific methodologies and learning aids need to be designed so that quality of education is to be imparted to 67 students.
2. After the half yearly examinations, it was seen that some students still did not show much improvement – hence it was deduced that there is a section of students which needs to be identified and separately focused .
3. These students were separately focused in a separate classroom. New Teaching aids were thought of and used so that these students may gain confidence, and be more participative in class. Regular tests – with care so that these students may not feel de-motivated was taken while ensuring their learning.

Teaching Learning-Pedagogy Used:

Concept Oriented

1. Engagement -Real time derivation of formulae using real models. Models of real cylinders, spheres and cones used for students to touch, feel, imagine, and then arrive at formulae derivations.
2. Writing collective answers-without the ‘fear’ of errors: Inviting all students of class to write an answer to a difficult problem on the blackboard, allowing them write their answer without the fear of error and then asking class to correct if there is any errors and helping them out them to find out the step where they have missed. It reinforcing among the students that a good quality answer can only come from *real understanding* of concepts. *Errors* can be corrected – only when we underscore our concepts again and again.
3. Five minutes revision tests before starting of the actual class. Framing a 5minute question paper/answer sheet, and distributing it among the class – based on the concepts taught in the previous classes. And naming it as a ‘5 minute test’. Occasionally design of such tests keeps the students attention and participation active.
4. Use of digital media-Picking up a particular topic and watching the whole process through Animations – carefully elected. The students find this mode of study engaging. This helps information retention as well.
5. Framing Objective type assignment with a little higher difficulty level- This enforces revision of concepts thoroughly, keeping in mind – not to impart extra study burden on the students. In this model students are free to refer to reference books, ask their friends and teachers as well.

Examination Score Oriented

6. Distribution of printed collated formulae, important theorems, questions to the students – primarily to ensure the students have a one point resource of exam material.

7. Selection of Important chapters from exam point of view in collaboration with school teachers and preparing the weaker students accordingly.

Rangoli Competition: Application of lesson learnt on geometry:

The objective was to develop an interest towards the real understanding of the concepts to score well. For this purpose students were divided into 7 groups of students. Each group consisting of roughly 8 students. Groups were formed keeping in mind that every group should have students having all range of marks. The concept behind this was to enhance teamwork as well as a healthy competition, and learning from each other.

An 'Activity Class' was held before the actual competition, and children were allowed to calculate their designs with mutual discussion in the groups. This had opened up the students towards each other. An orientation was given on all the possible designs they could make out of the application of the concept. Of course some samples from the internet were also distributed to the students which opened them to the depths of mathematics which mostly isn't possible in a typical classroom study.

Rangoli Completion and Prize Distribution Event, 26th of January 2018:

A competition of rangoli making carried out by the students of 10th before the arrival of the guest. The participants of event were school staff and all the science students, including 9th, and 11th standard girls. The guests of the event were Dr. P. Upadhyay (DIOS Gautam Budhdh Nagar) and Dr. Rajni Gupta (Professor, Botany, Kirori Mal College, Delhi University). Guest were welcomed and objectives of the event shared by the project team followed by experience sharing by Dr.Updadhaya. He in



his speech motivated the students by giving live examples.

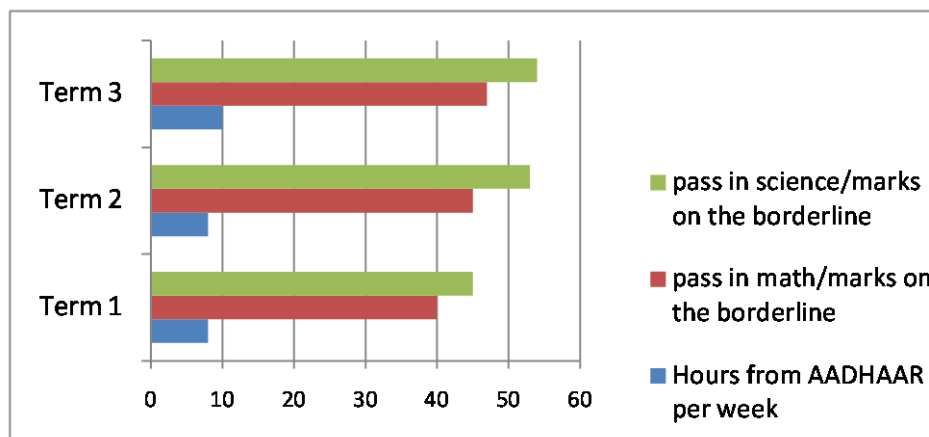
This was followed by the presentation on Genetics named "the Chromosomal Edge" by Dr. Gupta. Post this, the designs of the students were collectively judged and awarded by the guests. The trophies to the winning team was presented by Dr. Upadhyay. Mementos were also presented to Ms. Pratibha (Principal MBIC, for being of much support in the vision of

AADHAAR/Capgemini). The celebration concluded with the thanks to the guest by Ms. Ruchi and tea and snacks organized by AADHAAR on this occasion.



Achievement of the Vidya Arpan

It was observed that in half yearly examinations pass percentage increased by approx 10 % in science and 5 % in mathematics while all the students got success in their CBSC board examination.



C) Disaster Resilience in Urban Areas of Uttarakhand in Chamoli District:

Volunteers of AADHAAR, have continuously engaged in spreading information to local masons and common citizen about the disaster resilient building technology through Karnshila disaster resilience building technology park -Karanpyag. A number of models is displaying various aspects (foundation, plinth, lintel, slab etc) of building construction in the park.



Support to Civil Society Organisations

Support to project-Sustaining livelihood through rain water harvesting for small scale productive use' -promotion of medicinal plants

AADHAAR experts are providing its technical and handholding support to its partner organisation CBED in implementing, HANS foundation supported project "Sustaining livelihood through rain water harvesting for small scale productive use' -promotion of medicinal plants in inter cropping in Gram Panchayats- Mahar, Kimkhola, and Kandi. The project is aiming to address the problem of water scarcity through promotion of rain water harvesting and livelihood by the introduction and use of crops needing less water and resistant to wild animals attacks like medicinal plants(tulsi, and rosemary etc) in inter cropping to revive agriculture. Following activities were undertaken in the year under this initiative:-

i) Farmer Producer Group Meetings:

There are 27 Farmer Producer Groups (FPGs) were formed in the project area, having membership of 254 (242 women and 12 men) farmers primarily women. Farmers were motivated to adopt the tulsi farming as well sow lentil and mustard as a cash crop. These groups played key role in selection of beneficiaries and distribution of materials-seeds etc.



ii) Linkage of farmers with KCC:

There are total 56 farmers linked with the Farmers Cooperative Bank, Amni, under their credit to increase the accessibility of farmers to soft institutional loan for Agriculture purposes at the time of need.

iii) Capacity Building of Farmers

a) Exposure visit to HRDI, CHIRAG and TERI, Mukteshwar

Exposure visits to HRDI Gopeshwar, CHIRAG and TERI organisation, Mukteshwar were



organised for the local farmers to provide an exposure on medicinal and aromatic plants grown in the hills especially in arid region, and their methods of production and marketability. Exposure team got an opportunity to see the production of rosemary and other herbs in one of local farmers fields in Mukteshwar. CHIRAG organisation also facilitated the visit to Kumaun Gramoudhyog (CHIRAG support producer company) production and marketing facility.

b) Training on pest control measures and increasing yield by use of organic pest control

measures Training to the farmers on how to prepare shivansh khad, *Matka Khad* and *Amirtghol* at home to control pest and he also informed the farmers about the method to use this in fields. He also informed the farmers about the application of procured bio-fertilizer by the project.



c) Training on Good Agriculture and Cultivation Practices (GACP) Developed by WHO for the Trade of Medicinal Plant Worldwide-

A field based training was facilitate by the Mr. Harsh Lal, Master Trainer, HRDI about the good agricultural and cultivation practices set by the world health organization for the medicinal plant production on 13 and 14 September 2017 at village Mahar. The training was attended by 51 farmers (26 women and 25 men).



iv) Promotion of Medicinal Plants

To promote tulsi plantation, seeds of tulsi were distributed among (126) farmers to grow tulsi at-least in 1 nalis of land. Mix cropping of tulsi with rajma and other crops was also promoted

to understand the production cycle. These intervention has provided farmers first hand exposure to the tulsi production and the processes related to it (showing, harvesting, drying of produce and its marketing). Both methods-transplantation of tulsi and seed sowing were practiced. 150 kgs of dry tulsi leaves were produced in about 25-30 nalis of land.



v) Construction of Rain Water Harvesting (LDPE) Tanks:

Farmers were promoted to build LDPE tanks at their fields to collect rain water . There were 74 rain water harvesting tanks constructed in the fields of the farmers in project.



Developing a roster of District wise Disaster information Volunteers:

Mr. Kamleshwar Singh provided its support services to partner organisation -SEEDS, New Delhi to develop a roster of 'Disaster Information Volunteers ("DIV's") in Uttarakhand. In emergencies, these volunteers will be able to provide near-real time firsthand information on extent of damage in their local communities as it was experienced during past disasters had hit remote locations in the State and made it extremely difficult to obtain timely and accurate damage information. This has hampered relief efforts to these locations, prolonging suffering and loss among affected communities.

Liaison and Linkage Building

Deliberation on issues related with lake Nainital

CEO-AADHAAR participated in a deliberations held on the 27th of November 2017 at the Governor's Auditorium on issues related to Lake Nainital organised by UNDP and coordinated by CEDAR. His Excellency, the Governor of the state has was Chief Guest of this event while Honourable Chief Minister presided over the function. Experts have deliberated on the issue in length.

Law and Governance - Pathways for collaboration - Law Schools, Legal Services Authorities and Civil Society

CEO -AADHAAR attended the annual Conference of Good Rural Governance and Citizen Participation on the theme of "Law and Governance - Pathways for collaboration - Law Schools, Legal Services Authorities and Civil Society" on October 27, 2017 organised by the Sehgal Foundation, Gurugram Haryana.

