

III. Education initiatives from Kamrup district



Compiled by Apurba Thakuria,
AES, Inspector of Schools & District
Elementary Education Officer, Kamrup

Kamrup, a district with vibrant multilingual and multi-ethnic communities living in a rural-urban topography, has about 1.72 lakh children in more than 2275 schools. A number of innovative practices have been undertaken in this district in the last three years with the goal of improving the quality of education for children and contributing towards the overall educational development of the district. More details of these activities are available in the district's website www.ssakamrup.co.in.

Child as an ambassador in single-use plastic free campaign

Launched under the aegis of Samagra Shiksha, Kamrup on 2nd October, 2019 by the then Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup, this initiative was in response to the clarion call sounded by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra



Modi on reduction, reuse and recycle of single-use plastic. Around two lakh children were targeted in this campaign. A CSR fund of Rs. 7.2 lacs was mobilised from ITC Ltd to conduct this awareness campaign. Children were provided with a Swachhata Hi Seva sticker.

Porhok aru Porhuaok - a reading enhancement initiative

This initiative is a response to the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) mission that has received special attention in the NEP, 2020. The results of the last Gunotsav exercise and the study conducted by Pratham on learning

outcomes and literacy levels have shown alarming learning gaps in reading skills of students at primary level. The COVID-19 pandemic has also necessitated accessing education through the digital medium, where e-books and other internet-based content have come to replace physical reading material such as reference books, life histories, biographies of great men, story books, books on moral education, etc. To address the new learning challenges, encourage students to read and to ensure effective utilization of library resources, the Education Department under the aegis of Samagra Shiksha, Kamrup inaugurated the Porhok aru Porhuaok programme in Kamrup district in January 2019 at Dadara Higher Secondary School, Kamrup. The tableau and exhibition stall put up on the theme in the Republic Day celebration of Kamrup district administration in 2019 also received the Best Stall award from the Chief Guest Shri Chandra Mohan Patowary, Hon'ble Minister for Industry & Commerce etc., Government of Assam.





In consonance with the implementation of Porhok and Porhuaok, schools were encouraged to publish handwritten magazines and a wall magazine Ramdhenu. Over 300 schools published such magazines, creating a record. 35 best magazines/schools were awarded during the Republic Day Celebrations 2020.

Parental Education – awareness on digital communication & ethics

One of the serious challenges of education during the Covid-19 pandemic has been the unregulated exposure of children to the internet. Considering this, an initiative called Parental Education-awareness on Digital communication and Ethics has been initiated in Kamrup with the technical support of Bharti Foundation, with the objective of orientating parents/guardians on ways of ensuring safe and ethical engagement of children in virtual learning modes. This project started in May, 2020 and reached 34,485 parents through teachers/CRCCs till the completion of the 2nd phase by December, 2020.

Kamrup Initiated Remedial And Novel-Support (KIRAN & Y-KIRAN)

KIRAN germinated on the basis of findings of the study conducted by Samagra Shiksha, Kamrup and Matri (an NGO) to understand the digital divide among children. The programme was launched in 179 identified schools (mostly in hill and char areas) during the Covid-19 pandemic to provide regular educational access to children in regions where internet facility/digital connectivity is poor or unavailable. Under this initiative, a set of worksheets on core subjects was developed by a group of expert teachers of the district, further scrutinized by educational experts, district officials and other specialists of Samagra Shiksha, Kamrup and provided to children through their parents/teachers. Teachers were encouraged to prepare similar worksheets for different chapters from other subjects as per the academic calendar, and these were distributed fortnightly. Students were asked to return their filled up worksheets in a Drop Box where teachers provided the next set of worksheets. The programme was launched virtually by the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup on 9th May, 2021 in the presence of a host of teachers and functionaries of the Education Department and the effort was highly appreciated by him.



Kamrup Initiated Remedial And Novel-Support-You-Tube-Channel

Y-KIRAN is a YouTube channel launched under Samagra Shiksha, Kamrup to provide children with academic support during the Covid-19 pandemic in a systematic and regular manner. The channel was launched by the Member of Parliament, Guwahati Lok Sabha Constituency Smt. Queen Oza in the presence of Member of Parliament, Mangaldoi Lok Sabha Constituency, MLAs from various LACs of Kamrup, Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup, Heads of various Departments etc. in the DISHA meeting held on 23rd June, 2021.

A group of skilled teachers of the district were identified and engaged to develop e-contents in the local context. The e-contents, designed to be both attractive and useful, were edited by the faculty of DIET, Mirza and other experts, and uploaded in the Y-KIRAN channel. All technical protocols to run a YouTube channel were strictly followed and a mechanism developed to monitor the use of the resources of the channel. Almost 50 such e-contents were uploaded in the first phase during June-July, 2021. The channel received wide publicity and teachers were encouraged to use the materials in their virtual/digital classes. The KIRAN & Y-KIRAN activities helped to promote continuous learning of children during the COVID-19 pandemic period, and the efforts have been appreciated.