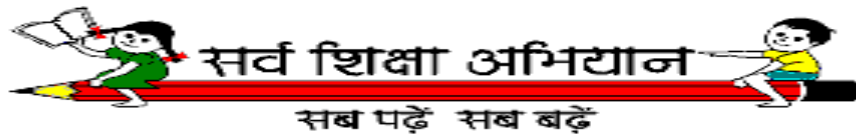


**MONITORING REPORT OF
Gauhati University, Gauhati
ON SSA FOR
ASSAM STATE
FOR THE PERIOD
1ST APRIL 2006 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2006**

DISTRICTS COVERED

**N Hills,
Karbi Along,
Golaghat,
Bongaigaon,
Morigaon,
Nagaon**



HALF YEARLY REPORT OF MONITORING AND SUPERVISION (A Tentative Report)

Period : April 2006 to 31st October 2006

Name of the State : Assam

Name of the MI : Department of Education
Gauhati University, Guwahati

Number of Districts visited : 6

Name of districts	Date of visit	Total No of Schools	5% of schools visited	Total No of EGS	5% of EGS visited
NC Hills	3-09-06 to 5-09-06	894	45	103	6
Karbi Along	6-09-06 to 8-09-06	1788	89	599	30
Golaghat	25-06-06 to 28-06-09 & 8-09-06 to 9-09-06	1346	67	223	11
Bongaigaon	18-06-09 to 19-06-09 & 25-09-06 to 26-09-06	1309	65	209	10
Morigaon	23-09-06 to 25-09-06	1829	91	516	26
Nagaon	27-09-06 to 28-09-06	2513	151	1252	62

The team members of Monitoring Institute, SSA, Assam made a field visit to NC Hills, Karbi along, Golaghat, Nagaon , Morigaon and Bongaigaon Districts of Assam from April 2006 to 31st October 2006. The team members interacted with all the functionaries of SSA and DIET faculties in the district mentioned above. The MI made an on the spot study of the progress and the problems encountered. After verification of the data submitted by the District authorities in connection with the progress achieved in the district, the team members have made the following observations under separate parameters as per guidelines.

(A) OPENING OF NEW SCHOOLS

The Monitoring team observed that no new schools were opened for the current financial year 2006-07 in the districts mentioned above. It has been reported that the VEC and SMC have not received any funds for construction of new schools, hence the number of posts sanctioned for new schools doesn't arise. So far as one time grant of Rs 10.000 is concerned for TLM at primary level the fund has been received by the schools but the money has not been utilized. Regarding the items (infrastructure, TLM etc) to be provided to the new schools , no proper guidelines has been issued from either SPO or DPO. The schools are still awaiting the guidelines as has been reported on the days of visit.

(B) CIVIL WORKS

In connection with the civil works the target for construction of school buildings, additional classrooms, drinking water toilet and other items like rain water harvesting etc. for the current financial year 2006-07 the list of which has not been finalized on the date of visit by the MI in all the 6 districts. So sample check of civil works in different categories could not be made possible. During the field visit it has been found that the SMC and VEC members have not been given training by the technical person for execution of civil works as has been reported by SMC and VEC members in all the districts . Further the community manual for civil works is not available with the VEC, SMC members interviewed by the MI in all the districts. As construction of new building and ACR not yet been started, the spot verification regarding the construction of ramp and railings could not be made possible in all districts. However the MI team during field visit observed that the construction of schools/ACR completed from previous year budget was found to be in accordance with the guidelines. The fund provided by SPO is kept in separate Bank/ Ac by the SMC. Regarding the supervision of civil works at different levels it has been found that only in district level DPE/ JE supervised the technical aspects of civil works. At sub-district and block level, technical supervision of civil works has not been entrusted to only officials. Regarding the frequency of visits by the technical persons the MI couldn't find correct evidenced as tour diary is not maintained properly by the technical officers responsible for supervision. Regarding the visit by the technical persons at different levels of construction could not be confined as new construction is yet to take place. Regarding the quantum of fund for Swajal dhara and Sanitation

campaign MI team observed that the fund provided by concerned authority is inadequate as per evidence of sites visited. However the installation of drinking water facilities is done by specialized agencies. Regarding TSC in respect of toilet facilities found to be inadequate. In respect to the quality of construction the MI was satisfied. The SPO has one civil works in charge having engineering background ,but MI could not confined the use of format and frequency of visits by the In charge for reviewing progress of construction works in the districts. There is a system of third party evaluation for completed civil works.

(C) TEXT BOOKS

Regarding free text books for children it has been reported and also verified by the MI that all children under all categories have received free text books from SSA and State govt. Before the start of the academic session instruction/circulars regarding textbook distribution has been sent by SPO to the schools. In majority of the schools textbooks has been received on time. Only a negligible number have reported delayed receipt due to problems of delivery service.

(D) SCHOOL GRANT

Regarding the school grants to be released to the schools for current financial year the Monitoring Institute couldn't confirm the No of schools in the districts because the No and list of the schools to which grants will be released yet to be finalized. In this regard no guidelines have been issued as how to utilize the grants.

In connection with the school grants of Rs 2000/ it has been observed that all the schools visited by the MI have received the said amount ,but since the guideline have not yet been issued the said money have not been utilized. The MI could not ascertain regarding the centralized functions for schools out of the school grants. Further the MI couldn't confirmed the actual date of received the school grant by schools, hence any delay in receipt of fund of grants in the schools visited by MI could not be ascertained. Regarding utilization for last year school grants the MI has verified the pass book and expenditure statement maintained by the schools/VEC and found that most of the schools have properly maintained the record. Only 16 schools of Bongaigaon have not kept proper record of the utilization details of the last year school grants amounting Rs 5000/ in each school ($5000 * 16 = 80000$) under Srijangram Block.

(E) TEACHERS TRAINING

In connection with the number of additional teachers sanctioned district wise under SSA in primary and upper primary schools and the numbers of teachers in position therein the MI could not collect up-to-date data as district authorities couldn't provide related documents on the date of visit. However it has been reported by the district authorities that teachers are recruited by the following guidelines of recruitment by holding written and oral interviews.

Most of the teachers are appointed on contractual basis. The VEC and Panchayat are empowered for decentralized recruitment of teachers for which procedures has been laid down. As reported the local community is not satisfied with the mode of such recruitment. In the schools visited by MI it was observed that some teachers including the headmasters were found to be absent on the day of visit. It appeared that there were few teachers who were regular absentees.

Regarding target number of teacher's district wise given in-service training and the actual number of teachers given such training, majority of the schools couldn't provide required data. There is a system of supervision and monitoring to check quality and training but the actual system could not be reported by the authority concerned.

The teachers are given training for 60 days in DIET. The module has been prepared by SCERT/DIET comprising contents for effective teaching learning. The faculty members of DIET conduct the course and gives necessary training to the teachers. On interaction with trainees the MI observed that most of the trainees were satisfied with the level of training but desired for innovative courses like child psychology. The MI on spot verification was satisfied that BRC/CRCC give academic support to the teachers in all the districts visited. The BRC/CRCC taken part in the training programmes and collected feedback from teacher trainees. The BRC/CRCC being overcrowded with varied activities, sometimes find it difficult to make the frequent school visit. Most of the BRC/CRCC were found not keeping records of school visits made by them in all the districts. However they do conduct random tests to children to test the pedagogic improvement. As per expectations the MI was not satisfied with the role of DIET. They could have done much more so far as academic supervision, capacity building and action research concerned. The BRC/CRCC s academic support should be more need based. Only recently arrangement has been made to appoint Quality Coordinator. The MI did not meet their presence during the field visit.

(F)TEACHING LEARNING MATERIAL (TLM Grant)

In connection with no of teachers eligible to receive TLM grants and districtwise details of grant released to the district couldnot be collected as data related to this not yet been updated. Regarding the data of release of TLM from DPO it has been observed that the school authorities were not systematic in keeping the records. So date of release of TLM grant by DPO couldnot be confirmed. Moreover it has been reported by the teachers during field visit that they were waiting for instruction from DPO for utilization of TLM grants. Again it was observed that most of the TLM materials are not displayed during classroom transaction but kept inside the box. So MI observed that more training should be given to the teacher in connection with the use of TLM and for development of their motivational level.

(G) EGS/AIE/NRBC/RBC

In connection with EGS it has been observed that Education Volunteres ,SM are attending the centres and taking classes regularly in the districts visited by MI, but in the district of Karbi Along SM of 6 EGS centers are found to be less effective in running the centeres. In this regard Monitoring team puts suggestion to component incharge of EGS to orient the Shiksha Mitra of those EGS properly.

During the field visit it was found that all the districts have District Coordinator for EGS/AIE to organize the activities related to EGS/AIE. Monitoring format is available with DPO on which SPO take information regarding the EGS/AIE centeres operating operating in the districts. As far information collected from SPO it has been found at present no step has been taken to upgrade the EGS centers to primary schools during the current financial year.

(H) CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Children with special needs have ben identified in all the districts and also enrolled in the schools but the actual number couldnot be obtained by DPO. The children have been provided with aids and appliances but they were adequately sufficient the aids and appliances are received on time as has been reported.

It was that in none of the district visited NGOs were found to be involved with CWSN . however proper guidelines has been issued to resource teachers / NGO working for CWSN.

All the districts visited have IED Coordinator who has been oriented in capacity building programme. The state has prescribed a Monitoring format for IED Coordinator but knowledge in this area was found to be insufficient. As reported on the day of visit , the IED coordinator has attended a number of workshop / training. In respect to the district visited the Monitoring Institute observed that majority of the schools have ramps. Regarding home based support few children got this facilities in the current financial year.so far as counseling of parents the number is also negligible in all the districts. The MI couldnot collect the actual number of CWSN children enrolled in the schools on the day of visit as the system of keeping record is not systematic.

(I) **NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR EDUCATION FOR GIRLS AT ELEMENTARY LEVEL**

In connection with NPEGEL it has been reported by SPO that the said programme has not yet been implemented. The MI suggested that the SPO should take initiative to implement the programme at an early date.

(J) **KASTURBA GANDHI BALIKA VIDYALYA**

The MI observed that the scheme is yet to be implemented in the districts visited by MI and strongly feels that this innovative programme should be started soon.

(K) **DISTRICT INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR EDUCATION**

The EMIS were found in all the districts visited but the required number of trained operators and computers are inadequate. The time schedule drawn for the DISE and EMIS has not been properly chalked out. It was observed in the districts visited by MI that data capture format were supplied to all the schools within the stipulated time . It was found in all the districts that though training were imparted to the teachers it was not sufficient to gain the required skills. It was also observed that CRC/BRC were not properly orient in the verification of the data collected (5%). There is an MIS in charge at the state level and according to the observation of the MI he is conversent with need of SSA programme. As reported he has attended required number of workshops and training organized by GOI and NIEPA.

(L) **RESEARCH AND EVALUATION**

It has been observed by the Monitoring Team that till the day of visit no concrete step was taken by the district authority regarding the research and evaluation in connection with SSA activities. At the State level also the steps taken by the SPO in connection with research and evaluation is at initial stage. No research and evaluation is done so far related to SSA activities. The MI feels that immediate step should be taken to introduce research and evaluation by independent agencies.

(M) FUNCTIONING OF VEC

The total number of VEC functioning og VEC couldnot be ascertained due to lack of records on the day of visit in the said districts. Though guideline on delegation of powers to VEC/SMC were issued it was found to be not properly implemented. Women representative in VEC / SMC were observed to be very few.

The meeting of VEC are not held regularly although guidelines have been issued for holding meetings on time .Majority of the members of VEC donot attend the meetings regularly as has been verified from the attendance registrar/ proceeding book. It was also observed that in certain VEC meeting women representation and SC/ST members were satisfactory.

It was observed that though there is provision of training of members of VEC the number of training is not sufficient and more orientation is needed in this regard.Majority of members of VEC have taken the scheme half heartedly and more involvement and awareness is required. It was observed in the districts visited by MI proper record of fund was not properly maintained by VEC. Though there is a component incharge for community mobilization his role is to be made more active by total participation.

(N) STAFFING AT STATE AND DISTRICT LEVEL

It was observed during field visit the staff at State and district level were adequate. All the programme coordinators were oriented about their works. However there are few vacancies yet to be filled up including District Quality managers.

(O)MIDDAY MEAL

In connection with the mead day meal scheme it has been observed by the MI that there is no uniformity in the implementation of the mead day meal scheme in the school of the districts visited by MI. many schools are serving cooked mead and many schools are distributing uncooked rice. Fruits, eggs are rarely served and green vegetables are also rarely added in the meal. Many of the children are not happy with the quality of meal provided to them.

The above mentioned report has been prepared by MI tentatively and detailed report will be send shortly as per guideline in the format.

Report Prepared By

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