



Annual Report 2016-17

Association for Promotion of
Creative Learning



चरैवेति चरैवेति

CREATIVE LEARNING

Genesis

Association for Promotion of Creative Learning (APCL) was established in the year 1997-98 as a not-for-profit organization to promote creativity in the society. It is registered under Society Registration Act of 1860 at Bihar (India) vide registration No. 171 dated 31.3.1998.

Vision

It visualizes a world free from all discrimination where each individual is able to develop his/her full creative potential. It would be a learning society where:

- **Every occasion is a learning occasion**
- **Every place is a learning place**
- **Every person, animate object becomes a learning object, learning facilitator and learner**

Mission

- Universalisation of Quality Education
- Development of full Creative Potential of all human beings.
- Evolution of a Learning Society

Focus

Creativity has assumed great importance in the context of globalization and new economic order. It is creativity, which is going to make major difference in the social, economic and cultural status of different societies. Childhood is the main period for the development of creativity. If creative potential of a society has to be tapped, the main focus has to be on the development of creativity right from childhood. Further, focus on creativity would also be helpful in bringing equity in society as underprivileged section of society has a great untapped creative potential. This potential being properly recognized, nursed and developed can be a major tool of their empowerment.

Nature of activities

APCL strives to work for promoting creativity through following activities.

Research

Working relentlessly to find out new ways to develop creativity in persons of different age-groups and developing new pedagogy for creatively mainstreaming the underprivileged

Training

Working for capacity building and skill development of teachers, parents, educator- planners and other persons involved in promotion and dissemination of creative skills in society.

Demonstration and Extension

Creating awareness regarding use of teaching learning methods and materials for development of creativity and help people to learn throughout life and establishing institutions and networking with other institutions.

Association for Promotion of Creative Learning (APCL)

Association for Promotion of Creative Learning was established in 1997 as a Non Profit/Non-Government organization to promote creativity in the society. APCL visualizes a world free from all discrimination, where each individual is able to develop their full creative potential. It would be a society where every person would realize their right to lead a dignified, healthy and creative life. Such society would be a learning society rooted to the principles of creativity, where every occasion is a learning occasion, every place is a learning place, every person and institution is a learning object, a learning facilitator and a learner.

APCL has been working in rural areas, particularly with members of scheduled castes (consisting of Chamar, Dhobi, Pasi, Paswan, etc.), and Muslims. Even among scheduled castes it has worked with Musahars - the most landless, houseless, illiterate and backward community of society. Its main focus is on school and out of school children. It also works with EBCs (Extremely Backward Castes) as EBCs are educationally backward. Some of them like Beldars are landless and agricultural labours and educationally their status is comparable to SCs.

As EBCs are mainly professionals or land cutting communities, there is large scale migration in them, this makes their children specially girls vulnerable who have to keep themselves engaged in household chores and baby-sitting and their education suffers.

APCL also works with the community to enhance their participation in education processes. It also works with the parents and community of those children. It has also worked for school going girls. APCL also works with children who are not performing well in examinations and performs home counselling. The organisation is also working with old women and destitute. APCL has developed vulnerability indicator for assessing vulnerability of a community and identified vulnerable groups in community.

Awards and Honours

- The book '**CREATIVE LEARNING**' written by Mr Vijoy Prakash and published by VIVA Books, New Delhi was presented to Dr. APJ Kalam the then President of India at a special function organised in Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi in 2006.
- The book '**EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRACY**' written by Mr Vijoy Prakash and Mr Shailendra Kumar Srivastava was released by the then Governor of Bihar Dr R. L. Bhatia at Raj Bhavan, Patna in 2008.
- '**ALPHABET GENERATOR**' selected as innovation by Bihar Innovation Forum supported by World Bank in 2014.
- Contributions of Dr Mridula Prakash have found mentioned in the book published in the '**Bihar ke Vikas me Mahilaon ki Bhumika**' on the occasion of Centenary Celebrations of Bihar by Bihar Archives, Government of Bihar (page 77-78).
- Dr Mridula Prakash has been honoured for her contribution in the field of '**Innovative Elementary Education**' by Zakir Hussain Group of Institutions in 2011. The honour was given by Ex Chief Minister Shri Jagannath Mishra.
- Dr Mridula Prakash was honoured for '**promotion of culture**' by Nav Jyoti Sangh in 2014 on the occasion of Vivekananda Jayanti.
- Dr Mridula Prakash was honoured by '**Chetana Samiti**' for her contributions in the field of Social Service in 2014. The honour was given by the Ex Chief Minister, Bihar Mr Nitish Kumar.
- Dr Mridula Prakash was honoured by '**Mahila Udyog Sangh**', Bihar in 2015 for her contribution in the field of Social Service.
- Dr Mridula Prakash was awarded '**Prof Papiya Ghosh Memorial Award**' by Centre for Gender Studies, Patna University in Feb 2016.
- Mr Vijoy Prakash was honoured by the '**Buddhist Mission of India**'. Mr Vijoy Prakash was honoured by the '**Indian Council of Arts**'.
- Special features of contribution of Mr Vijoy Prakash in the field of creativity has been covered in Hindustan, Prabhat Khabar, Dainik Jagran, Dainik Bhaskar, Nai Dunia and many such newspapers.
- The achievement of Dr Mridula Prakash in the field of creativity have been widely covered in print and electronic media including Fame India, Hindustan, Dainik Jagran, Dainik Bhaskar, Prabhat Khabar, Telegraph, Zee News, Sahara Samay.
- Special features about School of Creative Learning have been published in India Today, Prabhat Khabar, Dainik Hindustan, Dainik Jagran and so many other newspapers.
- APCL has been certified by '**Credibility Alliance**' under the category of desirable norms prescribed for good governance in 2015.
- Arti and Radhika of the '**School Chalo Bahana**' volunteers got felicitated by OXFAM India.

School of Creative Learning

(Support: Own Resource and Beneficiary Contribution)



Objectives:

- To provide quality education up to XIIth classes mostly belongs to BPL and exclude communities.
- To test innovative ideas of different tools of learning at grassroots level.
- To broach new ideas through implementations of developed ideas of creative learning.
- To develop managerial and other competencies through involving students in different activities within the school premises.
- To enhance democratic sense and moral value based education to students

What is Creative Learning?

SCL (School of Creative Learning) is affiliated to CBSE, New Delhi for 10+2 examination. It transacts CBSE curricula with Creative Learning Methodology.

After a long and painstaking research APCL has developed a new teaching/learning methodology called Creative Learning which aims at developing creativity of a person. It believes that every child is born creative. The basic purpose of any learning system should be to develop his/her intrinsic natural learning process.

Based on information processing model of learning, it attempts to develop seven basic competencies called Core Creative Competencies (C³) - *Concentration, Power of observation, Memory, Thinking, Imagination, Emotional Management and Power of Expression/Communication.*

While designing teaching learning materials and methods, it takes care of different learning styles of children based on the concept of multiple intelligence. It also takes into consideration the unique role of symbols and patterns in multiple intelligence frameworks.

The new TLM evolves from the traditional cultural practices, which have been found suitable to develop creativity in society since time immemorial. In this context it has integrated Yogic method of learning into the modern learning system.

Based on Yogic method of learning, APCL has developed unique *Visualization Exercises* to develop processes of *Mental Image Making*. These exercises help learners to develop power of concentration, memory, imagination and ability for faster mental mathematics. It further helps them to have better emotional control, which is now considered to be so vital for achieving success in life. The new TLM basically aims at preparing child to keep learning continuously from womb to tomb.

The content of learning is chosen taking consideration of the uniqueness of learning environment. It is selected to meet the needs of self, family and neighbourhood. Thus, it tries to develop a person not only as an individual, but also as a social being strengthening family ties and friendship bonds. Its activities are designed in such a fashion that it we should gradually reduce individual competition and enhance group cooperation. As emotions have been found to play an important role in the development of relationships and success of individuals, it is given due importance in the teaching learning process.

The new TLM has also developed a unique monitoring and evaluation system, which helps in understanding the strengths and weaknesses in the achievement of a learner. It also helps in diagnosing the actual problems in learning process so that appropriate and timely remedial measures may be applied.

The concept has been developed in the form of a book called *Creative Learning* (published by VIVA Books Ltd.). The first copy of the book was presented to HE Sri APJ Kalam in a presentation ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

It has developed a unique teaching learning methodology, based on our age old Indian learning system properly blended with modern learning technology, to promote Quality Education in society. It believes that the problems of our society in new millennium can be solved only by universalizing Quality Education.

Major Activities (2016 - 17)

Saturday Activity

To demonstrate and use the creative potential of students, the School of Creative Learning organizes every Saturday an event called 'Saturday Activity' throughout the academic year. On this day different activities, programmes, workshops, competitions, children parliament and presentations are organized. In the year 2016 - 17, the following activities are held -

Election of Children Parliament

On 4th May, 2016 school witnessed an election for the children parliament for house group captains and vice captain for different categories namely Imaginative, Creative, Progressive and Active at the main hall of SCL. About 400 hundred students elected their representatives through voting by ballot papers. Main resource persons and guests for this event were students and teachers. Winners of various categories are -



Imaginative - Kajal Kumari (Captain) and Prachi Sinha (Vice Captain)

Creative – Priyanshi (Captain) and Nitish (Vice Captain)

Progressive – Aakriti (Captain) and Shail Kumari (Vice Captain)

Active – Styra (Captain) and Sweeta Shree (Vice Captain)

Memory Games and Debate

On Saturday 7th May, 2016 a debate competition and different memory games were organized at the main hall and in the IXth class room. The topic of the debate was 'Importance of reservation in Indian society'. Students from standard VIth to Xth took part in this debate. After the tough competition, Satya of class Xth stood first and Nippu of class IXth stood second. In memory games, from nursery to standard Vth students had actively participated in this competition. Different memory games such as Counting Games for Nursery, LKG, UKG students, Word Chain for standard I to V students were organized. This game was highly interesting which made up for a lot of fun and excitement. In counting game, Tanya of Nursery, Ujjwal of LKG and Tanya of UKG declared winner. In word Chain, Sunny, Alok and Aditya of standard Vth declared winner. About 400 hundred students took part in this event.



Memory Games and Debate

On 2nd July, 2016 different memory games and debate are organized at the SCL as a part of Saturday Activity. Word Chain for Nursery, LKG, UKG, Poem Recitation for class I to V and a

debate for class VI to X students. In Word Chain, Monika and Hritik (UKG) and Abhishek (LKG) declared winner. In Poem Recitation, Simran (Std. III) and Sunny and Amrita (Std. V) declared winner. In debate, Kajal and Styra (Std. X) and Sweeta Shree (Std. IX) declared winner. A total of 400 hundred students participated in the event.

Antyakshari

On Saturday 17th July, 2016 SCL organized Antyakshri competition at school library. This antyakshari competition encourages the students to not only exhibit their musical abilities, but is also a test of their memory skills and on the spot thinking. The winners were Group A students comprising Pratima, Anish, Sweeta Shree and others. A total of 150 students participated in the antyakshari competition.



Painting and Slogan Writing

As part of the 70th Independence Day Celebrations, SCL organized on Saturday 3rd August, 2016 a Painting and Slogan writing competition in which around 400 students from different classes participated. The topic for both the events was 'Independence', on which the participants unleashed their creativity on the papers.

Independence Day Celebration

70th Independence Day was celebrated with utmost Patriotism. Sri Vijoy Prakash IAS(R) and Dr Mridula Prakash Principal SCL graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and unfurled the national flag and inspected the parade. Students from KG to class X participated in the parade programme. Thereafter, the cultural programme began; patriotic poems and songs were recited both by the teachers and the students. Some students also presented the group dance and skits. As a martial art, the formations of human pyramids in different shapes by these students were very exemplary. Awards and certificates were distributed to the best performing students in literary, cultural and creative activities. A total of 400 students participated in the programme.



Teacher's Day Celebration

Teacher's Day was celebrated on Friday, 5th September, 2016 at School of Creative Learning with great fervour and enthusiasm. The day 5th September is the birth day of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan who was a great follower of education, scholar and President of India. The performance of students on stage exclusively for teachers was a memorable one. Students from all classes exhibited their talents as a treat to the teachers. Dance, music, poem and skit made the day explicable. The students took great effort and ensured that teachers enjoy every minute. Sweets were distributed among teachers and Students. It was a celebration by the children for the teachers. All teachers were also given gifts by the school management.

The First Term Examination

From 12/9/2016 to 24/9/2016, school conducts its first term examination with an aim to evaluate the performance of students from class Ist to Xth. A total of 400 hundred students have participated in the examination.

Parents - Teachers Meeting

A parents and teachers meeting was organised at the school campus to discuss the performance of their ward in first term examination. All the class teachers discussed the result with parents and gave report card and answer sheet to the parents. About six hundred students participated in the meeting.

Manav Shrinkhla (Human Chain)

To make aware the people of the society about what is the harmful effect if we burn the crackers in 'Diwali', the SCL student forms Manav Shrinkhla in and around the school on 28 October, 2016. Student displayed hording and banners showing how crackers and fireworks cause the cumulative effect of the sound, air and water pollution and urged the people try to celebrate this festival of lights with more lights, preferably Diyas (oil-lamps). About three hundred students took part in Manav Shrinkhla formation.



Gharaonda & Rangoli Competition

The school ushered in Diwali festivities by organizing gharaonda and rangoli making competitions on its premises on 29 October, 2016. The students made rangoli designs using geometric shapes, deity impressions and floral patterns. The myriad colours of the gharaondas and rangolis gave the school premises a festive look. Students enthusiastically took part in the competitions. The entire area was decorated with colourful rangolis and gharanodas. Students from all classes participated in the competitions and were lauded for their efforts by everyone for the sheer spread of beauty all around the school. Noted Messy Paper sculpturist and Mithila painting artist Mr Sharad Kumar was the Chief Guest of this event. A total of 400 hundred students participated in the event.



Atal Tinkering Laboratories - Innovation Challenge Competition

School of Creative Learning has been selected under the Atal Innovation Mission for establishing Atal Tinkering Laboratories in the school. After screening of 13,005 schools

across the country, 257 schools have been selected under the mission. Niti Aayog organized the Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATL) – Innovation Challenge, the final round in the selection process for the establishment of Atal Tinkering Laboratories. The ATL Innovation Challenge was held on 5th November, 2016 in Kolkata. The school team comprising Sri Vijoy Prakash, a Science teacher Mr Manoj Kumar and three students Vishal (X), Nippu (IX) and Anish (IX) participated in the competition.



Children's day celebration

Children's Day was celebrated in school to commemorate the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on 14th November, 2016. Teachers organize different cultural programs and events for students. Children participated in various activities, such as singing, dancing, painting, drawing, quizzes, storytelling, debates, speeches, and so on. Sweets were distributed among teachers and students. It was a celebration by the teachers for the children.



Speech and painting competition

On 30th November, 2016 speech and painting competition was organised at Bihar Vidyapeeth Patna. School of Creative Learning was represented in the competition by ten member debating team, the team won many prizes. Bihar Vidyapeeth also organized Painting competition on this day. The event saw an enthusiastic participation from all the students. SCL students won many prizes.

Annual Sports Day

School of Creative Learning celebrated Annual Sports Day with zest and zeal. Students took part in various races and allied events with enthusiasm. Students took part in 100 meter race, 200 meter race, three legged race, spoon marble race, high jump and long jump. Besides these sports kabbadi, carom and chess were also organised in the event. Sri Vijoy Prakash IAS(R) and Mridula Prakash Principal SCL was the chief guest on the occasion and gave away the prizes. A total of 500 hundred students took part in this event.

Creativity Olympiad

Creativity Olympiad is a special annual event organised by School of Creative Learning. It displays best in one's ability of Concentration, Memory and Imagination. It is a unique event in which participants competitively engage in activities related to development of seven core competencies namely - Concentration, Power of observation, Memory, Thinking, Imagination, Emotional Management and Communication. Activities of the Olympiad



are Number Memory, Word Memory, Picture Memory, Object Memory, Word Train, Spelling, Chungi, Bouncing Ball, Balancing on fingers, Drawing without touching, Counting without touching, Ravindra Yog, Number Picture, Alphabet Picture, Problem under Constraints, Parody Making (Hindi), Complete the half story and Display anything unique. The events held here ranging from yogic exercises to art and music. Sri Vijoy Prakash IAS(R) and Dr Mridula Prakash Principal SCL was the chief guest on the occasion. It was held from 14th to 17th December, 2016 and a total of 400 students participated in Creativity Olympiad.

Science Exhibition

The Annual Science and Innovation Exhibition - Innofest was held at School on 25th December, 2016. It is organised every year with a view to encourage and inculcate a scientific temper amongst students. The students showcase their talents in Science, Mathematics, Languages and Social Science. Different venues were allotted for the different subjects for the displays of projects made by the students. The esteemed guests at the exhibition were Sri Vijoy Prakash IAS(R) and Dr Mridula Prakash Principal SCL. . They keenly interacted with students who showed confidence while explaining to him the various projects and activities that were on display.



Republic Day celebration

The 70th Republic Day was celebrated with patriotic fervour and gaiety in the school. The celebrations commenced with the customary unfurling of the national flag followed by the National Anthem. The school witnessed impressive parade by girls and boys of the school. A colourful cultural program, patriotic songs and dances were presented by the students and teachers to mark the occasion. Dr Mridula Prakash principal SCL urged the students to maintain the dignity and glory of the country by working together to eradicate all social evils. Mr Vijoy Prakash IAS(R) motivated the students to be the harbingers of a social change to build a new, better and strong India.

Saraswati Pooja Celebration

On 1st February, 2017 the auspicious day of Saraswati Puja, the students and teaching faculty came together to seek the blessings of the goddess of knowledge, music, art and culture. The ritual was graced with the presence of Mr Vijoy Prakash IAS(R) and Dr Mridula Prakash Principal SCL and all the teaching faculties and students. Both the faculty and students joined hands together, with great zeal to make the event a memorable one also evoking the blessing of the goddess of knowledge to have a successful academic and carrier growth. The rituals were conducted by Shivdani Sir, who not only performed the Pooja but also enlightened on the concept of worshiping Goddess of knowledge, ending the event by serving prasad to everyone present. The main attraction of this Puja was the statue of Goddess Saraswati which was made by the students themselves.

English Access Microscholarship Program

(Supported by US department of State)

In today's globalized world one can believe that communicative English is one of the most sought-after employable skills that one can learn for career advancement. **English Access Microscholarship program** is just the perfect avenue in achieving this goal.

The 'English Access Microscholarship Program (Access Program)' is a newly initiated program at Patna in Bihar and sponsored by U.S. Embassy/the US Department of State. This is an international project. This program began in 2004 and over 110,000 students in more than 80 countries have participated in the English Access Microscholarship Program. This Program is funded by U.S. Department of State.

The Access program makes every effort to provide a foundation of English-language skills to talented 13- to 20-year-olds youths from economically underprivileged section of the society around the world. It is done through after-school classes and intensive sessions.

This highly effective training program is designed to provide a significant English-language learning experience to the student to have better opportunities in employment, education, and life in general. . It also has the goal of improving student's appreciation of U.S. culture and values, encouraging critical thinking and open-mindedness, and improving performance in regular school classes.

Access promotes skills and knowledge in the English language, as well as giving students the ability to compete and participate in future exchanges and study in the United States of America. Access is a two-year program. It requires a minimum of 360 hours of instruction distributed over two-year period plus 36 hours of intensive two-week summer program each year.

The principal objective of Access is to change the life of the students, improving their social and leadership skills. It develops social awareness about the country's problems, and how they can solve them as well. Access tries to improve the system of learning and makes it part of the student's life, not as an obligation

Access seeks to help economically underprivileged 13 to 20 years youth to improve their English language skills. To achieve this, the program is free of charge to participating students and materials (books, paper, markers, etc.) are provided by the American Embassy.

Prestigious APCL has been selected by the United States government as an educational service provider in Patna for the English Access Microscholarship Program. The US Consul General in Kolkata Craig Hall inaugurated the first ever English Access Microscholarship Program (Access) program at APCL Patna in Bihar in 2015.

Major Activities (2016 - 2017)

Speech Competition

A short speech competition in English was organized by Access Patna centre on 28th May, 2016. Students very enthusiastically participated in the competition. They gave inspiring speeches on to bring an end to child labour, fight against dowry, domestic violence, alcoholism, and bullying. The event not only enhanced knowledge of students but also provided them a platform to enhance their oratory skills. Later on, they interacted with Access Kolkata students via Skype.



Teachers Training

Teachers training is an important component of the Access program and is conducted on regular basis. On 2nd and 3rd July, 2016 Access Patna centre conducted teachers training at APCL, Danapur. This training session's focuses on the pedagogy of the three language skills: Critical Thinking, Task Based Language Learning and Strategies for Warm up Activities. The two day workshop was facilitated by Dr Sonali Chakraborty, an English language trainer from Kolkata.



US Independence day Celebration

On 4th July, 2016 Access students celebrated United States Independence Day by making US flag and attending a session on significance of this day for US and world and praise the US heritage, laws, history, society and people

Independence Day Celebration

70th Independence Day was celebrated with utmost Patriotism. Sri Vijoy Prakash and Dr Mridula Prakash Executive President APCL graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and unfurled the national flag and inspected the parade. All Access students participated in the parade programme. They also took part in cultural events and sang patriotic poems and songs 'Being Free' and 'Mera desh, mera mulk'. Some students also presented the group dance and skits.



Visit to the Sri Krishna Science Centre

In the first week of September, 2016 the Access students visited the Sri Krishna Science Centre, Patna as an educational trip. It was a learning and fun experience for the students as they came across various scientific equipments, 3D show, Magic Show, old model of an Airplane, Musical instrument, Bhul Bhulaiya etc. They also learned about the evolution of different species. . It was a great learning experience for the Access students. It is an experience that engaged students to learn by seeing and doing. This is one of the best ways to arouse curiosity.

Teachers Training

Teachers training is an important component of the Access program and is conducted on regular basis. On 11th, 12th and 13th September, 2016 Access Patna centre organizes teachers training at APCL, Danapur. This training session's focuses on the pedagogy of the various language skills: Language teaching methodologies, Writing skills, Content based teaching and learning, ESL teaching and learning, using Rubrics scoring tool, Observations and Feedback, etc. The three day workshop was facilitated by Dr Sonali Chakraborty, an English language trainer from Kolkata.



Christmas Celebration

The festival of Christmas was celebrated with gaiety by Access students at APCL, Danapur on 25 December, 2016. They reflected upon the teachings of Jesus Christ and his life. They also learned the significance of celebrating Christmas in the US and how it is celebrated. A Christmas tree was decorated. Students sang Carols and Jingle Bells and danced to the tunes of Christmas-related songs. The teachers and students attired as Santa Claus attracted the attention. Sri Vijoy Prakash and Dr Mridula Prakash Executive President APCL wished Merry Christmas to all the Access students and teachers.



Atal Tinkering Laboratories – Innovation Challenge Competition

Three Access - School of Creative Learning students Vishal, Anish and Nippu have brought laurels to the school at Atal Tinkering Laboratories – Innovation Challenge Competition held in Kolkata on 5th November, 2016 as School of Creative Learning has been selected under the Atal Innovation Mission for establishing Atal Tinkering Laboratories in the school. They

presented two projects on 'Mosquito Repellent – cum - Lamp' and 'Earthmover – cum - Lift' at the competition. On the basis of the presentation, 257 schools from India, 5 schools from Bihar have been selected for establishing Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATL).



Educational Excursion

Jawaharlal Nehru once said, 'Education without travelling is not perfect'. On 5th February, 2017 Access students visited Harnadir Sahib Gurudwara, Patna Sahib, Patna. The year 2017 is the year to mark the 350th birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh, the 10th Sikh Guru. Students understood the philosophy and teachings of Sikh religion during this visit. They also participated in 'Langer', a community kitchen and offered service there.



Access students went on an educational excursion to Nalanda and Rajgir on 12th February, 2017. Both these places are of great historical significance. At Rajgir the students visited the hot spring, the Venu Van, the Viswa Shanti Stupa, the Manasha temple and the Buddhist temple. Access students visited the old place and its beautiful surroundings. At Nalanda they saw the ruins of the ancient Nalanda University, and the Great Buddha Statue. They observed the old heritage and came to know about the history behind it. Access students not only enjoyed themselves but gained a lot of knowledge about the ancient place and the history behind it.



Fulbright Students Visit Access Patna Centre

On 25th February, 2017 four Fulbright English Language Teaching Assistants (ETAs) from USIEF (United States - India Educational Foundation) Kolkata visited Access Patna centre and interacted with the Access students. The ETAs took a wonderful session on Black History month which is being observed in the month of February in America every year. This session provided a wonderful exposure to the Access students and they interacted a lot with the ETAs which helped them to develop their confidence and communication skills. They also discussed about discrimination, apartheid, history of Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King and methods to fight against discrimination.



Kanka Gajendra Centre for Inclusive Learning (KGCIL)

(Support: Kanka Gajendra Foundation and beneficiary Collection)

The Context

Every child is unique. It has a natural style of learning which is not only dependent on his/her genetic disposition at birth, but is also affected by the environment of upbringing. When she/he goes to school she/he is subjected to a new way of learning. If this way of learning is compatible with her/his natural style of learning, her/his progress is well otherwise she/he does not achieve well.

At times she/he starts feeling alienated. Either she/he gets dropped out or settles down as low achievers. Such children are also led to commit suicide which has resulted in sharp increase in suicide cases among children due to failure in schools. One of the main challenges of education today is to ensure success to all children. Actual inclusive learning should lead to success to all children. APCL has been working for promotion of creativity and creative learning among all children.

Kanka Gajendra Centre for Inclusive Learning is being set up to supplement the efforts to ensure that each child gets exposed the right way of learning as per her/ his natural way of learning.

It also requires proper counselling of parents so that they also take care of children right from the womb. They should also be familiarised with the processes of handling children in case they are not able to perform as per their potential in the schools. Teachers are also required to undergo training to handle the individual learning requirements. The centre aims at fulfilling all these requirements.

Objectives

- To help children in realizing their total learning potential
- To provide counseling services to parents, relatives and teachers of children and young people to deal with their specific learning needs
- To train teachers and caregivers in managing special learning needs of children

Activities

- To provide counseling to children for enhancement of their learning ability
- To provide counseling to parents for creating enabling environment for their children for maximizing their learning ability
- To train teachers in the techniques of managing children with learning difficulty

Motto

Count ability not disability students in Patna, to enable them to fully complete their secondary education.

Ritu Sinha Knowledge Centre for Creative Learning (RSKCCL)

(Support: Ritu Sinha Charitable Foundation Inc. and beneficiary Collection)

With a view to promote creativity and creative learning in society, Ritu Sinha Knowledge Centre For Creative Learning (RSKCCL) has been established at School of Creative Learning (SCL), Patna as a resource centre for collection, storage, processing and dissemination of information pertaining to creative skills of different communities and also of different age-groups.

A Project of APCL to Develop a Nucleus for Knowledge Society

Creative Learning is basically a learning system aimed at promoting creativity in society. APCL has been established with a view to promote Creativity and Creative learning in society. This requires collection, storage, processing and dissemination of information pertaining to creative skills of different communities and also of different age-groups. To achieve this purpose Ritu Sinha Knowledge Centre For Creative Learning (RSKCCL) has been established at School of Creative Learning (SCL), Patna (India). It specially focuses on the issues related to poor and underprivileged. It also has special section on issues related to children not getting desired results in schools and also of gifted children

Objectives of RSKCCL

- To maintain and develop knowledge repositories e.g. the organisation's intranet, key information databases and collections
- To provide content management services such as cataloguing, indexing and developing taxonomies for electronic knowledge repositories
- To co-ordinate the capturing of knowledge from projects and assignments and incorporating it into knowledge bases such as databases of best practices and or case studies
- To identify and form skills links with sources of important knowledge, both inside and outside the organisation
- To provide pointers to people as well as information- connecting people who need help with people who can provide it, identifying subject experts, maintaining a skill data base, connecting people who share similar needs or are working on similar problems, etc.
- To provide 'one stop shop' for multiple knowledge and information needs
- To provide pointers to resources and/or training in information and knowledge skills

Activities and Services

RSKCCL maintains a library with reading room facility. It also has reference section.

Braj Prasad Memorial Computer Centre

The centre has a Web based Computer Centre. Computer Centre also plans to run programmes/courses in the field of Computer Education.

Conference Halls

The centre has facilities for organising conferences for creation of materials for promotion of creative learning and their dissemination. It also has proper facilities for presentation and display of materials. It is also used for organising various group discussions and competitions.

Health Centre

RSKCCL also plans to run a Health centre.

Increasing people's access and control to quality, universal and inclusive elementary education in the public education system in Danapur Block of Patna District

(Supported by OXFAM India)

Objectives

- To establish a resource centre which works as a model centre for ensuring better access and control over institution by the community for effective implementation of RTE.
- To support children with learning difficulties and low achievers for the socialization and rehabilitation in the education system
- To develop/strengthen network of likeminded CSOs working on RTE and advocate effective implementation of RTE including critical pedagogic changes

Major Activities (2016 – 2017)

State Resource Centre

APCL has set up a State Resource Centre (SRC) to create resource materials, conduct training, research and evaluation in the field of RTE. It has developed 'Gyan Setu' - a bridge learning course for language and 'Pahada Sabke Liye' - an innovative learning book for mathematics.

In addition, the resource centre supported in capacity building of the School Chalo Bahna volunteers, Community Educators, Community Workers, PRIs, Teachers, Parents etc. The SRC has also contributed in making favourable environment for the education of the excluded communities.

School Chalo Bahna (SCB)

To enhance enrollment & retention of girl children in the school, APCL has formed School Chalo Bahna (A group of regular school going girls). School Chalo Bahana volunteers were capacitated through organizing a capacity building workshop to promote people to raise grievances against non-implementation of RTE act and its provisions and tracking of their grievances to be resolved & motivate them to participate in the school educational activities. Through their massive efforts they have enrolled 100 children in different schools in the year 2015-16. Group also support their peers in learning, if the student is not performing well in his studies.

Srijan Chaupal (SC)

Srijan chaupal (a club of school chalo bahana volunteers and other children of the villages) have been established to make people aware about the provisions of RTE. Regular community meeting with the Srijan Chaupal were organized to make people aware about the RTE act and its provisions. In the year 2015-16, APCL had made 13 Groups of Srijan Chaupal having a total number of 293 students, of which 117 were boys and 116 were girls. In the year 2016-17, 11 groups are active having a total number of 229 students, of which 84 are boys and 146 are girls. Two groups were dissolved due to migration and students passing out from the schools. These two groups were under process to be reorganized.



Adhikar ki Ghanti

Adhikar ki Ghanti is a mobile tricycle carrying a loudspeaker which is a platform for articulating grievances specially related to RTE and other discrimination against women and children. The grievances received from Adhikar ki Ghanti in this period were referred to the concerned department.

Bal Sansad

Bal Sansad has now been implemented in almost every Government school. It is an experiment to enhance the leadership qualities among the school going kids. This year APCL will focus on capacity building and training of the students elected from each Bal Sansad under the project area. In the year 2016 - 17, APCL constituted 16 Bal Sansad having a total of 295 students (146 boys and 149 girls). In this way, APCL have made students accountable and responsible towards maintenance and development of schools.



Networking with NGOs and individuals

There is a forum of NGOs and Civil Societies in Bihar to deal with the issues of RTE. It has been found in Bihar that the communities like Musahars have been totally alienated from education despite being offered so-called equal opportunities. The rate of growth of literacy and participation in education is abysmally low in these communities. Hence, there is a need to create a forum which can focus on the special issues related to these deprived communities, it was felt to establish a 'Network' of NGOs and individuals working on the RTE issue with special focus on underprivileged communities. Accordingly a network of NGOs and individuals named 'Forum on Right based Education and Development' (FRIEND) has

been formed. It has proved to be an important milestone towards the effective strategy formation for effective implementation of the RTE.

IEC materials

APCL has developed various resources and IEC materials in the last few years of program implementation. This year the focus will be to distribute out these IEC materials. The IEC materials developed previously will be taken to the project area and the same will be made available in the schools. Also several events will be organized in the project intervention area like competitions on the playing cards and other resources developed on inclusive education. The results coming out of the above processes will be captured and shared to Oxfam India. In this regard APCL have developed these resources and IEC materials - 'Shiksha Adhikar Samvaad', 'Haasil ho Shikshadhikar', 'Learning with Playing Cards', 'Adhikar ki Ghanti' and 'Financial and Operational Norms under RTE Act'.



Public Hearing on RTE

The session on Public Hearing on Right to Education (RTE) was organised on 19th Jan 2017 at APCL Danapur. It entailed a healthy discussion on the current status of the education system and right to education in Bihar. Mr Vijoy Prakash IAS(R), Chairman Bihar Vidyapeeth, Dr Mridula Prakash Executive President, APCL, Mr Rakesh Kumar, teacher Hathiyakandh Middle School, Mr Jawahar Lal, Teacher Shikarpur Primary and Middle School were the guests of this program who shared their invaluable experiences about the importance of the School Management Committee and its members. They defined how and why SMC Members are significant in the formation of an ideal educational society. A report on 'Status of Quality Education and Right to Education in Bihar – A Study of Danapur Block in Patna District' was released on the occasion.



Evidence based Advocacy on ECCD and RTE

There were collection of the grievance cases with our team members and volunteers. A follow up exercise was undertaken and a booklet named 'Shinhalokan' was prepared. It was shared with the members of SMCs, PRI, and the teachers on 19th January, 2017 at APCL and attended by 34 members. Sri Vijoy Prakash IAS(R) and Chairman Bihar Vidyapeeth, Dr Mridula Prakash Executive President APCL, Mr Awdhesh Narayan and Mr Y.L. Das were the chief guest. These activities lead to better understanding of the functioning of RTE and the method through which the grievances under RTE can be resolved.



Capacity Building on RTE Act for SMC members, PRI leaders, local institutions and CBOs

A capacity building training programme for SMC members, PRI leaders, local institutions and CBOs was organised on 25th September, 2016 at APCL. The aim of this capacity building was to train these bodies on various provisions of RTE Act and issues involved in its implementations. Sri Vijoy Prakash IAS(R) and Chairman Bihar Vidyapeeth, Patna, Dr Mridula Prakash Executive President, APCL and Mr Ajit Kumar (WHO) attended the event and provided their valuable inputs. A total of 50 members attended the training program.

Democratic and inclusive functioning of SMC

A training program on democratic and inclusive functioning of School Management Committee was organized on 11th January, 2017 at APCL. A booklet named – ‘Status and Functions of School Management Committee in Bihar’ was released on this occasion. Two Mukhiya from Jamsaut and Hathiyakandh panchayat also attended the training program. Sri Vijoy Prakash IAS(R) and Chairman Bihar Vidyapeeth, Dr Mridula Prakash Executive President, APCL, Mr Awdhesh Narayan and Mr Y.L. Das were the guest. Dr Y.L. Das briefly elaborate the role and responsibility of SMCs and described School Development Plan as per the RTE norms and Guidelines. A total of 50 persons attended the training program.



People centric Advocacy through RTE Forum

People centric advocacy is done through meetings with existing RTE Forums six times in a year and community level meetings with RTE Forum Members. The six meetings with RTE Forum were done between June, 2016 to December, 2016 and three community level meetings in January, 2017 and attended by 113 members.

Project learning and sharing with community

The learning's from the ongoing project intervention area was documented and further a booklet - 'Shiksha Samvedna' was published out.

Training of children and adolescents on child rights and education

A district level and four Panchayat level training of children and adolescents on child rights and education was held in November, 2016 and attended by 351 participants.



Resource Material on Inclusive Education

Resource material on inclusive Education had been developed in the form of 'Learning Playing cards' of different subjects to promote and enhance learning capacity of the children.

Learning centres/camps for children including children with special need (CWSN) to mainstream them in classroom transaction

Under the project, 273 children with special needs related to physical disabilities were identified in 15 districts of Bihar, by organising different camps. Of these, 159 were males and 114 were females. Also, among these children, 42 belonged to EBC, 2 in ST, 28 in SC, 55 in BC, 22 in Minority and remaining 125 belonged to the General category. Of the 273 children, 252 have been enrolled into schools. Additionally, over 100 children were identified having different types of learning difficulties. Special counselling sessions were organised for them in order to ensure their mainstreaming into the school system.



Workshops on Inclusive Education

A two-day workshop was organized on 12th – 13th January, 2017 at APCL to discuss the nature of inclusive learning. As children have different learning difficulties, the education system should take care of their strengths and weaknesses in the learning system. Various strategies for inclusive learning were discussed in the programme. Mr Vijoy Prakash IAS(R) and Chairman Bihar Vidyapeeth, Mr Awadhesh Narayan (SRC Deepayatan), Dr Y. L. Das, Mr Rakesh Kumar (Government Teacher, Hathiyakandh) and Mrs Poonam (Government Teacher Hathiyakandh) provided their valuable inputs during the workshop. A total of 87 participants attended the workshop.



State Level Stocktaking with Stakeholders on RTE

A state level conference on stocktaking with stakeholders on RTE was organized on 24th and 25th January, 2017 at Geology Department conference hall, Patna University. Government officials, non-governmental bodies like SCERT, RTE Forum in Bihar, local NGOs and individual experts attended the conference.

In the conference, RTE Forum members discussed the status of implementation of RTE in Bihar. A draft note on the education in Bihar was circulated. It was resolved to pursue the concept of 'Common School System' in the state. There is a need to pursue the issue, as the status of implementation of RTE remains relatively poor in the state. Prof Vinay Kanth (Retd Prof. Patna University), Mr Amresh (RTE



Delhi Convenor), amongst other delegates was also present and shared their views on the matter. The conference helped to make people aware about the current status on RTE Acts and its provisions. The conference made a resolve to collectively work for the implementation of RTE Act. A total of 450 people attended the conference.

Training of teachers for improved classroom transactions

State level training of school teachers for improved classroom transactions was held on 15th January, 2017 at Tara Mandal Auditorium, Patna. It was organised in collaboration with SCERT, Bihar Panchayat / Nagar Elementary Teachers Association and Education Development Council. An exhibition on promotion of creative abilities among children for containing drop outs was also done with the help of School of Creative Learning. Mr Sanjiwan Sinha, Director SCERT; Mr Sanjay Sinha, Director, NIOS, Bihar, Mr Binodanand Jha, Director, Mass Education, Bihar; Mr Prem Kumar, OXFAM and Mr Puran Kumar, President, Bihar Panchayat / Nagar Elementary Teachers Association also addressed the audience on the issue of providing quality education to all. A total of 315 teachers from all over districts of Bihar had come. The program prepared more than three hundred teachers in the modern techniques of quality education with special focus on improved classroom transactions.



National Education Programme and the Devi Charan Chatterjee and Raylaxmi Chatterjee scholarship for higher education.

(Supported by Action Aid India)

Objectives

- To provide support to 25 young people from poor and excluded communities to complete university education
- To support 80 Government elementary schools to provide quality, non-discriminatory and universal education.
- To strengthen school governance system in the 80 target schools through genuine and empowerment of Panchayat, SMC and PTA members.
- To ensure access to quality and free elementary education for all children for poor marginalized and excluded groups in the target areas and beyond through media mobilization and advocacy work.
- To reduce the no of children participating in child labor and increase ex-child laborers enrollment and retention rates in elementary schools in the target area.
- To build a strong alliance of like-minded organisation and people to influence education policy at state and national level to ensure quality and universal education for all.

Area

The project is being run in Bahadurpur block of Darbhanga district.

Major Activities (2016 – 17)

Community Meeting

Community meetings were conducted in the project area at local level on regular basis. These meetings were facilitated by community animators and attended by parents, PRI members and school students. In the meetings, community animators discussed various provisions of Right to Education (RTE), Bihar Public Grievance Redressal System (BPGRS) and other local issues and problems. Through these community meetings, community animators collected and solved 22 cases related to BPGRS. It has been observed that community people are very happy with the government decision to ban on alcohol. Community animators also discussed about the enrolment of the children in the schools for the session 2016 - 2017.



School Visit

Community animators visited the schools in the project area on regular basis. During these visits community animators met Headmasters and teachers and discussed about enrolment of students, school education committee, parent - teachers meetings, school infrastructure, mid - day meal and quality of the education. The Headmaster told that for the improvement of quality of the education, it is essential for children to attend the class regularly and teachers should also track non attending students and find the reasons behind it. Teachers should also get their salaries in time.



Meeting with Meena Manch

Meena Manch meetings were conducted in eight middle school in the project area in every month to fight against social evil such as dowry system, sexual abuse, child marriage, female foeticide, child labour, benefit of education for women, physical changes appearing in growing young children, benefits of using sterilized napkin etc. with the help of community animators. Community animators also discussed about Swachhta Abhiyaan and reason for dropout of the girls from the school. The girls promised community animators that they will go to the school and surely will get higher education.



Beti Zindabad Rally

Between 15th August to 30th August, 2016 meetings and rallies were organised under the program 'Beti Zindabad' at the middle schools of Pingi, Birnia, Mahapara, Laxmipur, Bela Yakub, Chatria, Dekuli, Jogiara of the project area. The theme of the meetings and rallies was 'Aazadi Rally - Betiyo ki shiksha ki, Ghumane ki, Khelne ki' and raised the voice against dowry system, child marriage, female atrocities, female illiteracy, female foeticide and similar female related issues. The meeting and rallies was attended by Headmaster, teachers, APCL program manager, ward members, scholarship recipient girls, Meena Manch children and people of the villages.



Meeting with Scholarship Recipient Girls

Meeting with 25 scholarship recipient girls was done on quarterly basis at the Action Aid office. Of these 25 selected girls, 14 girls belong to SC Community, 8 girls belong to



minority community, 2 girls belong to EBC community and 1 girl is differently disabled. The main purpose of this meeting was to sensitize them regarding their higher studies and other social issues such as child marriage, child labour, anti liquor policy of the government, Right to Education etc. Dr Mridula Prakash Executive President APCL, Prof. (Dr.) Sunila Das and Sri Vijoy Prakash I.A.S (R), Chairman Bihar Vidyapeeth also counselled these girls on different issues. Among these 25 selected girls, three girls have been dropped from the list due to their completion of graduation and marriage.

Disbursement of Scholarship to the 22 Students

Scholarship worth Rs. 8500/- was disbursed among the 22 girls selected for scholarship. Of these 22 selected girls, 13 girls belong to SC community, 8 girls belong to Muslim community and remaining 1 girl belong to EBC community. The scholarship was given to these girls for the purpose of admission fee, examination fee, travelling expenses, purchase of material like books, notebooks, pens, pencil and uniform for studies.



Training and Capacity Building Program with Animators

Training and Capacity Building Program with animators was held on 30th May, 14th June, 11th December and 27 December 2016. Dr Sharad (Program Manager, Action Aid), Prof. (Dr) Sunila Das and Mr Manish Anand (Program Manager) conducted the training program. In the training program, they discussed about various provisions of Right to Education, Bihar Public Grievance Redressal System, gender discrimination, child marriage, child labour etc.



School Level Intervention and SMC Orientation Meeting

School Level Intervention and SMC Orientation meeting was organised at primary school Ammapatti on 17th September, 2016. The main purpose of this meeting was to ensure proper functioning of School Management Committee and its funds. Sri Awadhesh Narain resource person talked about Right to Education and basic infrastructure available in the schools. Manish Anand program manager discussed about Bihar Public Grievance Redressal System. A total of 98 participants attended the meeting.



Orientation and Community Meeting Including PRI

Orientation and Community Meeting including PRI was conducted at primary school Dashrathpatti of Mahapara panchayat on 28th September, 2016. The basic purpose of this meeting was to sensitize the communities on the provision of Right To Education Act, learning achievement among students, discrimination issues, child labour, child marriage, domestic violence, and women empowerment.



Programme Manager Manish Anand discussed about the different schemes run by government for the school children and society. Chandreshwar Das briefly discussed about the Bihar Public Grievance Redressal System. Complaints from local people have also been collected on that meeting. A total of 179 participants attended the meeting.

Meeting with Government officials on Quality Education

Meeting with Government officials on Quality Education has been organized at primary school Baraur on 23rd December, 2016 and attended by Cluster Resource Coordinator (CRC), Headmasters and teachers of Baraur sankul, community animators, ward members and Vikash Mitras. In the meeting, APCL program Manager Manish Anand, Headmasters of the various schools in the project area and community animator Mr Chandreshwar Das said adverse teacher - student ratio, lack of parents willingness towards education, discrimination between regular teachers and niyojit teachers, too much clerical job and burden of mid day meal preparation on teachers are the major hurdles in the quality education. All of them said that the teacher should himself set as an example. Students attendance should be 75% thereafter the quality of the education can be improved. A total of 51 participants attended the meeting.



Interface Meeting with the Government Departments and NCPCR

An interface meeting with Government Department and NCPCR was organised at Ritu Sinha Knowledge Centre for Creative Learning, Danapur on 31st December, 2016 and attended by Mrs Sujata Chalan Secretary SCPCR, Mrs Rekha member SCPCR, Dr Y L Das, Mr Ajit Kumar, Dr Sharad and some scholarship recipient girls from Darhanga. In this meeting they discusses about educational rights of a student. Sri Vijoy Praksh I.A.S(R), Chairman Bihar Vidyapeeth discussed about the 'Samaveshi Shiksha' and said that until we did not leave the traditional way of teaching, all the students can't be educated. A total of 46 participants were participated in this meeting.



List of Members of Board of Management (2015-17)

| Sl. No. | Member | Post |
|---------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Dr. Ajay Kumar | President |
| 2 | Dr Mridula Prakash* | Executive President |
| 3 | Prof. Shaileshwar Sati Prasad | Vice President |
| 4 | Dr. Vishwendra Kumar Sinha | Vice President |
| 5 | Sri Onkar Prasad Singh | Vice President (Finance and Accounts) |
| 6 | Dr Ran Bijay Narayan Sinha | Secretary |
| 7 | Sri Raman Kumar | Member |
| 8 | Mrs Anju Sinha | Member |
| 9 | Mrs Kiran Dutt ** | Member |
| 10 | Dr. Shamsad Hussain | Member |
| 11 | Dr. Azhar Hussain | Member |
| 12 | Shri Srinivas Singh | Member |
| 13 | Shri Vijoy Bhushan Das | Member |
| 14 | Mr Shyamal Das | Member |

Declaration

*Dr Mridula Prakash is holding the charge of Principal, School Of Creative Learning and the projects of the association. In **2016-17** she received a sum of Rs 1173898 as salary for the post of Principal and honorarium for leading the projects supported by external donor agencies.

** Ms. Kiran Dutt is teacher's representative on the board of management as such she received Rs. 79792 as salary for that post in **2016-17**.

Except the above members no other member has been paid any amount.

None of the members have undertaken any International tour out of the at the cost of association's fund.

The highest salary/honourarium to an employee in 2016-17 as Rs 1173898 and lowest to full time employee was Rs 68760.

Dr Mridula Prakash, Mrs Anju Sinha and Mrs Kiran Dutt are females and others are males. None of the Board of Management members are related to each other.

Board is rotated after every two years

Income groupwise Male & Female Staff

| Gross Salary Slab (Monthly in Rs) | Male Staff | Female Staff | Total Staff |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| <5000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5001-10000 | 19 | 11 | 30 |
| 10001-25000 | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| 25001-50000 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| >50000 | 0 | 1 | 1 |