

## **Initiative 10**

### **Leading Collaboration with the Community to ensure teaching and learning**

*Dr. Juri Devi*

*Indranee Devi Higher Secondary School*

*Dergaon, North Block, Golaghat, Assam*

[devijuri85@gmail.com](mailto:devijuri85@gmail.com)

#### **The School Context**

Indranee Devi HS School is located in the North block of the Golaghat district of Assam. It is situated in a semi-urban area. The school is managed by the Department of Education. It is a co-educational school with classes up to XII.

#### **Challenges Faced due to School Closure**

Key challenges faced by the school during lockdown were that the students with poor financial backgrounds were unable to attend online classes due to a lack of Android devices. More numbers of students were dropping out and engaging in small businesses. More students were seen as mentally depressed. Irregularity in classes as well as extracurricular and cultural activities were hampering. The collective morale support from parents was below expectation.

#### **Innovative Leadership Practices for Mitigating Learning Gaps**

The school leader, with the help of teaching staff, SMC members, and ex-students came up with innovative ideas to cope with the situation and ensure the function of student learning. Organization of regular google meets among staff, SMDC members, ex-students parents, and sometimes community members to implement and improvise a possible teaching-learning process. Classes were organized with the support of local people in Namghar and open spaces to facilitate study in remote areas. Maintaining the COVID protocol teachers distributed study material in some shops and selected places that were designated by the committee. Online extracurricular activities were organized to assist students learning.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvXu50Lo8a4&list=PLSiPjXQ11pfac7VJn9ya1\\_jxSj\\_bU\\_p\\_zQ&index=51](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvXu50Lo8a4&list=PLSiPjXQ11pfac7VJn9ya1_jxSj_bU_p_zQ&index=51)

#### **Collaboration with Community and Parents to Ensure Student Learning**

During the lockdown period, maintaining COVID protocol emphasis was laid on collaboration with SMC, community members, and parents. Continuous online and

offline meets were arranged to facilitate learning and reach as many students as to provide study materials. Further awareness activities were organized such as the right to education, child protection, COVID awareness program, and environmental awareness with the help of aforesaid members.

### **Way Forward**

To ensure student learning in the year 2021-22, the school has taken some initiatives like designating mentors from teachers to a small group of students. Mentors will take the responsibility for providing students with study materials and also manage the group in general. School also collaborated with ex-student teachers who will be volunteering for classes to be organized. Several clubs have been formed to enhance the engagement of students. Home visits by the teachers are mandatory. Collaboration has been seen as a requirement during the lockdown period. Hence, activities were designed to focus on initiating and improvising teaching methods and reaching the students with materials to ensure learning. Therefore, it is important to collaborate with SMC, the community, and parents to facilitate the learning process. The school intends to involve these groups in cultural as well as other activities along with educational meetings. The school head also organized the extra classes during summer vacation with the help of teachers.