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### **Abstract**

The major challenges faced by the school were infrastructure development which included no play ground. The school team made a list of influential people in the block and through networking began to garner support from community, SMCs, PTA and SDMC. He converted morning assembly as an effective tool of learning where every student got a chance to come on the stage at least 3-4 times in an academic session. He initiated activities encouraging gender sensitivity e.g., National Girl Child Day on 24th of January, International Girls Day on the 11th October, Mother's day, International Women's Day were celebrated regularly. He and his team developed the school environment by planting more than 700 trees.

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I joined Swami Vivekananda Government Model School-Derol, Block-Reodar, District-Sirohi, State-Rajasthan, on 16 April 2015. I was the founder Principal of this school. The school is situated in EBB (Educationally Backward Block) Reodar of District Sirohi in Rajasthan. The literacy rate in this block is very low. The total literacy rate of Reodar block is 47.89%. The male literacy rate is 53.22% and the female literacy rate is 25.43%. The block has 128 villages. Only 45% people are employed and out of this 45% employed, 45% people are totally dependent on agriculture. Schedule caste (SC) constitutes 34.5% while Schedule tribe (ST) was 13.7% of total population in Reodar. Around 3.7% of total population of Reodar tehsil lives in urban areas while 96.3% lives in rural areas. Hindu 97.22%, Muslim 2.09% and others 0.69 % (data as per Census 2011). Caste and gender discrimination is a major issue. Untouchability is still prevalent in the block. So called lower caste people dare not raise their voice of right on the face of so called higher caste people. Parents don't turn up in PTA meetings. Majority common people are like suppressed or frightened. Most of the land is hilly. Cultivable land is less. Scarcity of water is the major issue. The farming is totally dependent on monsoon. This is a block level school where students from more than 70 Villages and Dhaanis come. This is a CBSE affiliated English medium school of Government of Rajasthan. The school was established in July 2014.

Describe the problem situation/challenges in school:-

**Infrastructure play ground development, plantation and beautification of school with community participation.**

### **Efforts initiated or the process of transformation:-**

- Made a list of influential people (Public Reps, Education Lovers, Donors etc) of the block with the help of local staff and news reporters. Met these people personally after the school time and visited villages on holidays.
- Conducted PTA, SMC and SDMC meeting regularly. Made personal requests on phone calls, made moral and emotional pressure on the parents to attend the meetings. Apprised all the PTA attending parents of the academic development of their wards and physical development of the school.
- Made prayer assembly an effective tool of learning where every student gets a chance to come on the stage at least 3-4 times in an academic session.
- Activities encouraging gender sensitivity (National Girl Child Day on 24th of January, International Girls Day on the 11th of October, Mothers Day, and International Women's Day) are conducted regularly. The girl child is made to feel proud of being a girl through these celebrations and activities. (News paper cuttings attached)
- Published positive stories of school in media. (News paper cuttings attached)
- Used social media for publicity (created FB handle of the school and WhatsApp Group) Facebook handle **Svgms Reodar**
- Staff meeting on alternate days for 15 days and after that weekly staff meeting. Motivated the staff by giving positive feedback.
- Regular contact with the influential people and inviting them on various occasions. \* Invited eminent speakers for counseling, motivating, meditation and memory management.
- Though we we had 25 bigha land but no play ground. The land was uneven. I contacted the local Panchayat and other government bodies but could not succeed to get the play ground ready for two years. I contacted one Mr Prakash Nath Goswami a philanthropist and requested and motivated him to do land levelling for play ground. He readily agreed to my proposal and he did levelling in three days.
- I wanted to make my school A Clean School Green School. There were no plants in the school. There was only two side's boundary wall. Protection of plants from stray animals was a big concern. With the help of donors we made wire fencing on the other to sides. Nearest nursery for quality plants was at a distance of 60 KMs. I met prospective donors for plantation. One of my teachers Mr Ganesh Ram introduced me to Mr Chhagan Lal Mali an eminent agriculturist and philanthropist of the area. With his expertise in plantation and financial support I managed to initiate plantation process. We were two now. We encouraged more than 15 people to donate for plantation in the school. The donors include local police station, banks, automobile dealers and shopkeepers. We went to the Sardar Patel Agriculture University Nursery for 5-6 times to fetch plants. We started plantation in July 2015. We ensured complete involvement of students in

plantation. Each student was given responsibility to take care of the plant. The students took a keen interest and within a short period of three years the school area developed in a lush green campus. The students not only took care of plants at the school but also they planted at other public places and at their homes. Today we have more than 700 grown up trees and other plants and 70 varieties of plants (trees, shrubs, creepers and air plants) in the school campus. I wanted to beautify the building with decorative plants. I encouraged one donor to donate for 50 flower pots. We went to a private nursery and purchased 50 flower pots at Rs 7500/-. It was a big amount and we could accommodate 50 decorative plants and a very small area of the building. I once happened to visit a campus of Brahmakumaris at Abu Road there I saw thousands of flower pots, I inquired and found that these people made flower pots. I immediately decided to learn flower pot making. That day itself I learnt flower pot making with Sand and cement. I shared it with my staff, students and parents. I purchased six flower pots of plastic and motivated donors to donate for sand (bajari) and cement. The plastic flower pots were used as frames to make other flower pots with Sand and cement. Some students also learnt pot making. We got an overwhelming response from all the stakeholders of my school. This practice of ours was appreciated by the department and other schools also. Today we have more than 400 flower pots at school without spending even a single penny from school budget. (Photographs attached)

- We have designed prayer assembly session as a very good tool of learning where each and every student and teacher gets an opportunity to come on the stage. We have divided 6 days in three parts. Two days in English, two days in Hindi and two days in Sanskrit. Everyday new class and 10 new students get opportunity to conduct the assembly. A class of 40 students has been divided in four groups of 10 students. On the first working day of every month we all the teachers conduct the assembly eg. Anchoring, singing the prayer, speaking thought of the day, asking GK question, commentary for meditation, speaking the pledge. Things like prayer, pledge, thought, meditation commentary, GK questions and students talk are spoken in the language decided for the day. This is how we have developed the assembly as a very good tool of learning languages and personality development.
- Keeping in mind the scarcity of water in mind we decided to find out ways of saving water. I designed a water camphor stand and kept it in front of all the class rooms. Thus we reduced crowd of students during intervals and wastage of water at drinking water point. The water that drops while dispensing gets accumulated in the pot and is used to water flower pots (Photos attached). The students grew sensitive towards judicious use of water.
- There are 250 students upto 8<sup>th</sup> class who eat MDM at school. About 250 litres of water was being used or rather wasted to wash plates after eating. I purchased five water pots and used them for washing plates as shown in the photographs. The students were made aware about saving water and cleanliness. They were asked to come in queues after having lunch. The first pot was used to drop remaining of food if any. The second pot is filled with washing powder mixed water. The third, fourth and fifth pots are filled with simple water. The students wash their plates coming in queues and after that they rub their plates with cotton cloths. The water is used for watering plants after washing the plates. This is how we save about 250 litres of water from

being wasted. If one school saves this much water in a day, think of 20000 schools of Rajasthan only! This is how the students are learning innovative methods of saving water.

- We have arranged centralised sound system worth Rs 75000/ and installed 55 IP CCTV Cameras worth Rs 500000/ (five lakh) with the help of donors. We play fresh news downloaded from [www.newsonair.com](http://www.newsonair.com) daily for 5 minutes in English and 5 minutes in Hindi. Students make notes while listening sitting in class rooms. Students are improving their listening skills and improving vocabulary along with standard pronunciation of both the languages and also keep themselves updated. The next day in the prayer session students ask five GK questions from this bulletin. Listening and writing skills of the students is increasing with the help of this bulletin. These 10 minutes of period is in addition to the academic period 6 hours and 30 minutes voluntarily agreed by the staff and students. (Photograph attached)
- Got CC Road constructed by the help of the PS Pradhan Cost Rs 500000/ (Five lakh) and Got vehicle parking constructed by the MLA Cost Rs 500000/ (Five lakh), in the school campus
- We invited the Member of Parliament Mr Devji M Patel and MLA Mr Jagasi Ram Koli as guests in our school's annual function. I requested both of them to help my students visit The Parliament and The Rajasthan State Assembly. Both of them readily agreed and they not only sponsored the tours but also facilitated all the formalities. 90 students witnessed live proceedings of Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha Jaipur and Jaipur Darshan completely sponsored by the MLA (Reodar) Mr Jagasi Ram Koli in March 2017. 60 students witnessed live proceedings of Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha, interaction with the Minister of State Law & Corporate Affairs Mr PP Choudhary at his residence and Delhi Darshan completely sponsored by the MP (Jalore-Sirohi) Mr Devji M Patel in March 2018. (Photograph attached)
- 12 students in 2017 and 11 students in 2018 were selected for NMMS (National Means cum Merit Scholarship). News paper cutting attached.
- All the class rooms and other rooms have been named after eminent personalities of various fields eg. Science & Tech, Literature, Businessmen, Sports Person, Global Leaders, Freedom Fighters, Entertainers giving due respect and space to the female personalities.
- Made best use of waste material with the help of donors. We had some long pieces of stones which are used for rooftop building in Rajasthan. I suddenly had an idea and thought to construct benches under the trees that may be used for sitting after or before school timing or during intervals. I requested one donor to donate bricks, one donor to donate sand and cement and one donor to provide labour for construction. Within five days we got the benches constructed and painted these benches white. I called a staff meeting and invited their ideas to make these benches look beautiful. One of my teachers Mr Dinesh Kumar and Mrs Jyoti Bharatwal suggested painting the benches with the help of students. Next day during the prayer session I talked about it and invited students to paint the benches as per their choice. The students were given free hand to choose their theme and colour patterns. I only purchased colours. This is how with active involvement and participation we had 24 beautiful benches and

one platform painted rainbow adding beauty to the campus and developing a facility in the school at no cost from school budget.

Above are the some of the works that helped me to win confidence of all the stake holders of the school. Whenever I asked anybody for any kind of help I received it positively. People felt honoured to support the school in all respects.

After a period of about four years I find my students more confident, more innovative, more aware, fearless, love towards school, awakened global citizens, and positive attitude. I find my teachers more dedicated and inclination towards innovative ideas and more responsible. The parents and other stake holders felt valued in the school. Donors felt honoured.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of December 2018 I was transferred to other school. On the first day I took an informal staff meeting and on the third day of my joining I took a formal staff meeting. I met some influential people of the village. Based on my personal observation and interaction with the staff and some parents I have made a detailed list of works to be done. The biggest challenge in the new school is to restore confidence of parents and the public in common as in this session one of the senior most lecturers was arrested on the charges of molestation of a girl student in the school. I observed a clear fear on the faces of all the staff members and doubt and no confidence in the eyes of parents. So my first priority will be to empower the staff and to earn confidence of the public by working transparently with the help of all the stake holders of the school. My second priority will be to make my school a clean school and a green school. I shall intervene in all the daily routine of the school whether it is prayer assembly, Class room management, MDM way of celebrations, way of inviting community participation, conducting workshops for enhancing efficiency of the staff and staff welfare and leading innovations.

I believe that I am a born leader but when I attended one month certificate course in school leadership and management at NUEPA New Dehli in June 2016 I saw myself growing more systematic, more focused, more empowered, more humane and I decided personal my vision and my mission. I have become more time and resources conscious. I take personal care of everything. I have feeling of ownership. I take initiative and have positive attitude. I facilitate to bring out latent leadership qualities in my staff, students and every stakeholder of my school and prepare and provide platform to all of them and make them understand that by working with a public school we are helping in nation building and paving way to realising the dream of developed India. My work has been recognised by the CM Vasundhara Raje on the 5th of Sep 2016 and the DM Sirohi on the 15th of Aug 2017. I have started facilitating leadership among my peer school leaders in Rajasthan.