

## Case Study

**Name of the School : Purba Gakulnagar Class XII School**

**Name of the School Head : Shri Subir Chouhan**

### **Introduction :**

The tasks of getting children to school can be extremely difficult, especially when their socio-economic conditions are unfavourable. But this herculean task has been accomplished, to a great extent, by Shri Subir Chouhan, HM, Purba Gakulnagar Class XII School.

### **Major Change(s) :**

The inhabitants of this locality and the nearby villages are mostly engaged as daily wage labourers in the local tea-gardens that pay them a meagre amount for their sustenance. These people, struggling to make ends meet for their families, often resort to forcing their wards to drop out of schools. Also, these children have to walk 2-3 kilometers every day to reach their school. Eventually, due to financial crunches accompanied by family problems, these children lose interest in studies and stop coming to school. The key challenge, for the HM, was to revive the zeal for learning among children so that they attend their classes regularly.

### **Steps Taken by the School Head :**

- i. The HM called an urgent staff meeting with the stake holders on how to improve the dilapidated condition of the school building and find out ways to make the school look visually appealing to children.
- ii. Accordingly, he came up with an idea of setting up a Kitchen Garden in the school where children would learn to grow their own food and can have first-hand experience of being one with nature.
- iii. Meetings were held with the children and their guardians where the HM explained the benefits of having a kitchen garden in school and also on the need of providing nutrition to young children.

### **Visible Results :**

At present, a sprawling 60 feet by 30 feet Kitchen Garden at Purba Gakulnagar Class XII School is the talk of the town! The idea not only motivated the children to return to the school and resume their classes, but also inspired them to set up their own kitchen gardens at their own places. Now, the children know how to be self-reliant and think of protecting their surroundings. They look after the kitchen garden, water the plants regularly and inspire other children to do the same. In fact, the vegetables grown in the school kitchen garden are used in the preparation of the school Mid-day-Meal for children.