



An ISO 9001:2015 certified



**School Education and Literacy Department,
Govt. of Jharkhand**

Jharkhand Education Project Council

GYAN SETU

Jharkhand's Learning Enhancement Programme



GYAN SETU – Jharkhand’s Learning Enhancement Programme

Introduction

It has been six months since Gyan Setu, Jharkhand’s flagship learning enhancement program fully launched across all 24 districts in the state. Gyan Setu was conceptualized because a massive percentage of Jharkhand’s students are significantly behind their grade level and struggle with basic literacy and numeracy skills. This is reinforced by reports such as ASER.

Gyan Setu is based on the premise that teaching should be pitched directly at a child’s learning level, a concept that was pioneered by JPAL and Pratham, later reinforced by the World Bank Development Report, 2018 as one of the most scientific methodologies to improve student learning outcomes.

Every morning for the first 1.5 hours, schools in Jharkhand conduct the Gyan Setu period to overcome this gap. Irrespective of their grades, students sit and work in homogeneous learning groups. These groupings have been thought through with immense attention to detail (see images below), keeping in mind the capabilities and bandwidth of our teachers. Students practice in customized workbooks pitched at their individual learning levels before they move on to engaging with grade level syllabus for the rest of the day. For the first 45 days of the project 5-9 grade classes held the “booster phase” where Gyan Setu was conducted all day instead of the first 1.5 hours.



The infographic is divided into three columns. The first column features an icon of a computer monitor connected to three student icons, with the text 'Grouping of students into 5 different levels with customised & targeted teaching for each'. The second column shows three book covers with the text '5 sets of customised worksheets created according to learning level of students (+ teacher guidebooks)'. The third column shows a clock icon with the text 'Year round Remediation 1.5 hours every day; Booster in UP/Sec 270 Hours of remediation in 1 year - maximum among SATH states'.

Grouping of students into 5 different levels with customised & targeted teaching for each

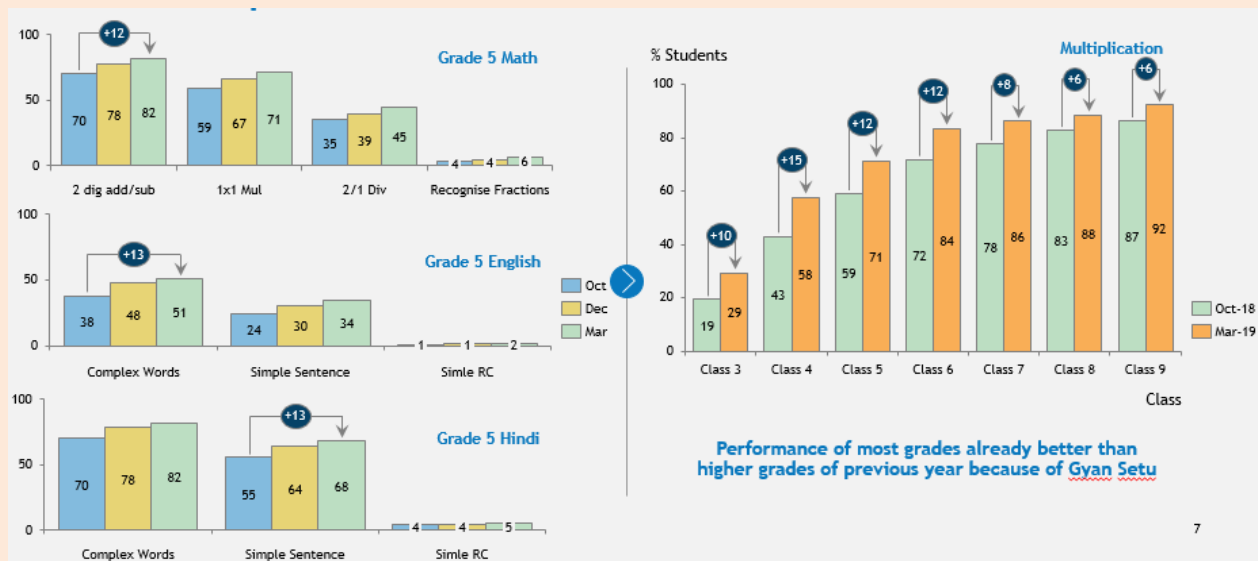
5 sets of customised worksheets created according to learning level of students (+ teacher guidebooks)

Year round Remediation
1.5 hours every day; Booster in UP/Sec
270 Hours of remediation in 1 year - maximum among SATH states

Early Impact

Gyan Setu has had an extremely promising start in Jharkhand. **The maximum learning in a school day now happens in these 1.5 hours.** This is because for the first time in many years there is a program in school education that is welcomed with immense enthusiasm unanimously by students and teachers. Students, especially potential dropouts who had lost hope of being able to grasp grade level topics are excited to come to school and are getting a second shot at attaining a proper education. Gyan Setu has also led to a drastic rise in teacher interest and motivation. Teachers have started teaching again because teaching students at their levels makes sense and because it is enjoyable again. **Gyan Setu has rekindled the initial spark of motivation that every teacher had at some point in their career – of working hard to see real impact among their students.**

Over the past 6 months Gyan Setu has led to 12% improvement across most competencies (details on spot testing data have been provided on a separate note). As shown in the figure in the right column, students currently in class 5, for example, have already achieved competencies that students in grade 6 students started with in 2018. This trend is similar for most grades.



Initiatives under Gyan Setu

Projects like these usually show initial momentum and then fizzle out. But Gyan Setu is on a different trajectory because it has been designed and led differently. One of the reasons Gyan Setu has been successful in Jharkhand is that the state has run it with a single minded focus – improvement in learning outcomes. This is a message that the state leadership reiterates constantly. There is a common understanding across stakeholders at all levels - all other

initiatives running in the government – the MIS, school consolidation, teacher rationalization etc. are all meant to contribute to improvement in learning outcomes eventually.

While learning outcomes is the single minded focus, unlike other academic focused projects across the country, there is a lot more to this project than just developing content, training teachers and then hoping for outcomes to improve. The state leadership believes that improvement in learning outcomes requires a holistic approach. Gyan Setu also involves a strategy for robust program implementation, recognition and incentive structures, real time monitoring and impact evaluation:

1. **The GS Review Model is the first outcome focussed review model designed by any state –** This is one of the state’s primary governance methodologies leveraged across all levels – from daily reviews of the districts led by the SPD to monthly reviews of blocks by District Commissioners. Reviews track monthly compliance and targeted action plans. But these reviews have some unique features - firstly, core focus of reviews is on learning outcomes & discussion on movement in competencies, which is unprecedented. Secondly, to build motivation and actual ownership for the project – meeting participants are mandated to prepare and present in the meetings as opposed to listen to instructions from their bosses. The presentations have transformed the meeting from a review of work done to a **learning exchange platform**. Since the past few months, all 24 districts and over 80% blocks have been conducting reviews.
2. **Data orientation and capacity building of stakeholders is a consistent practice–** Around 2000+ schools are inspected in Jharkhand everyday and a number of key Gyan Setu specific indicators, such as quality of Gyan Setu conduct, workbooks used and checked, lesson planning etc are reported. Capacity building, whether of district leaders or frontline administrators, to be able to gather, analyse and use this real time data and make swift improvements is an inherent part of the state’s strategy to make Gyan Setu a success.

District	% schools inspected	% inspected UP/S schools where books have reached	% inspected schools where books have reached	% inspected UP/S schools where GS was being conducted	% inspected UP/S schools where GS was conducted and for the right time	Verdict from GSACS	Overall Performance
Giridih	29%	90%	89%	41%	40%	●	
Palamu	34%	32%	34%	19%	51%	●	
Hazaribag	51%	80%	81%	58%	64%		
Bokaro	40%	90%	91%	73%	52%	●	
Godda	37%	78%	82%	56%	64%	●	
Garhwa	34%	89%	92%	82%	78%	●	
Gumla	30%	85%	81%	77%	54%		
Ramgarh	51%	83%	79%	24%	55%	●	
Dhanbad	15%	96%	98%	90%	78%	●	
Lohardaga	41%	91%	96%	89%	68%		
Khunti	25%	77%	79%	75%	41%		
Kodarma	5%	75%	85%	50%	70%	●	

3. **GS certification is a first of a kind incentive program centered purely around the child**– In addition to strict accountability measures as mentioned above, a recognition and rewards program has been designed to motivate stakeholders and generate intrinsic motivation. For the first time, an incentive program is based on achieving learning outcomes metrics. *Details on this have been provided on a separate note.*
4. **Performance is tracked and action is taken daily through state monitoring and field reviews** - Every week, data is collected from eVidyaVahini based on field entries by CRPs / BRPs. Thereafter, the state PMU translates the data into meaningful insights and directly calls on-ground stakeholders to further understand gaps. Based on the final analysis, field visits to schools and block offices are conducted to comprehensively review implementation. Based on the final report, a clear, plan of action is created jointly with key district officials, including the Deputy Commissioner.

District	Rank	Challenge	Action Step
Palamu	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No ADPO No district level support staff BEEOs manage more than 3 blocks each 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urgent rationalisation of APO/ARP staff from Chatra/Deogarh Explore if additional BEEOs can be placed from TTC/DIETs
Sahibgani	21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No ACP and District Fellow District swamped with other activities under Aspirational Districts Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DC to dedicate 2 members of AD team to Gyan Setu Greater synergy between AD & Gyan Setu
Chatra	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DEO about to retire Disproportionate work load + No MIS in-charge Discipline issue with blocks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal visit to Chatra with SPD Redistribution of work-load and greater monitoring; dedicated GS APO required Daily follow-up with all block staff on Gyan Setu

Number of schools conducting GS in Palamu for example, improved from 19% to 60% after a two week targeted intervention

Block	Challenge	Action Step
Huntermari	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single teacher schools Low teacher interest Poor teacher understanding even after training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video & Training on - How to Conduct GS in Single Teacher Schools
Simaria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High teacher shortage Lack of interest in teachers Low motivation and parent engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly PTA Days Teacher Motivation Workshop Explore retired teacher hiring at local level with DC
Panki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very low teacher understanding even after GS Poor BRP/CRP understanding and monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show cause to teachers not conducting/not monitoring Re-training of all stakeholders by JCERT

Recently, the state has moved from targeting poor performing districts to a greater level of granularity. The table shows a month long action created to transform the bottom 24 blocks in Jharkhand.