

PROJECT UTKARSH

(An Innovative Initiative in Govt. Schools for Smart-Classes & e-Learning)



RAJASTHAN PROGRESS & IMPACT REPORT (2013-2019)

9
Districts

1522
Schools

10,600
Teachers
Trained

4,90,000
Student
Beneficiary

प्रोजेक्ट
उत्कर्ष

(सरकारी विद्यालयों में स्मार्ट क्लास एवं ई-लर्निंग हेतु अभियान)

Joint Initiative By:



Government Of Rajasthan
Dept. Of Sec. Education

Moinee Foundation
Freedom By Knowledge



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PROJECT UTKARSH – INTRODUCTION

Rajasthan state is divided in 7 Divisions, 33 Districts and 244 Tehsils. The literacy rate in Rajasthan is 67.06%. State Government had established 16000 secondary schools till 2013, along with more than 10000 higher secondary schools across state having 20 Lacs Students overall. Ajmer, Bikaner, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Udaipur are the key educational hubs in the state.

State government has also been keen to develop overall infrastructure for school education. As part of that, starting since 2006, Government has provided ICT labs to 8900+ schools as well as tablets & laptops to bright students through various schemes.

Looking towards State Government's focus for promoting quality education and digital empowerment, there has been need of an initiative which could support to ensure;

- Effective utilization of available ICT infrastructure.
- Integration of technology at grass root level for digital empowerment.
- Contribution in enhancement of government school image.
- Ecosystem for smart-education.
- Improvement in enrollment, attendance, results etc in long run.



PROJECT UTKARSH – OVERVIEW

With an aim to revolutionize mass education system in rural India, Project Utkarsh was initiated in Rajasthan 6 years back. Promising quality digital education for government school students, the project envisioned qualitative and accountable changes at scale.

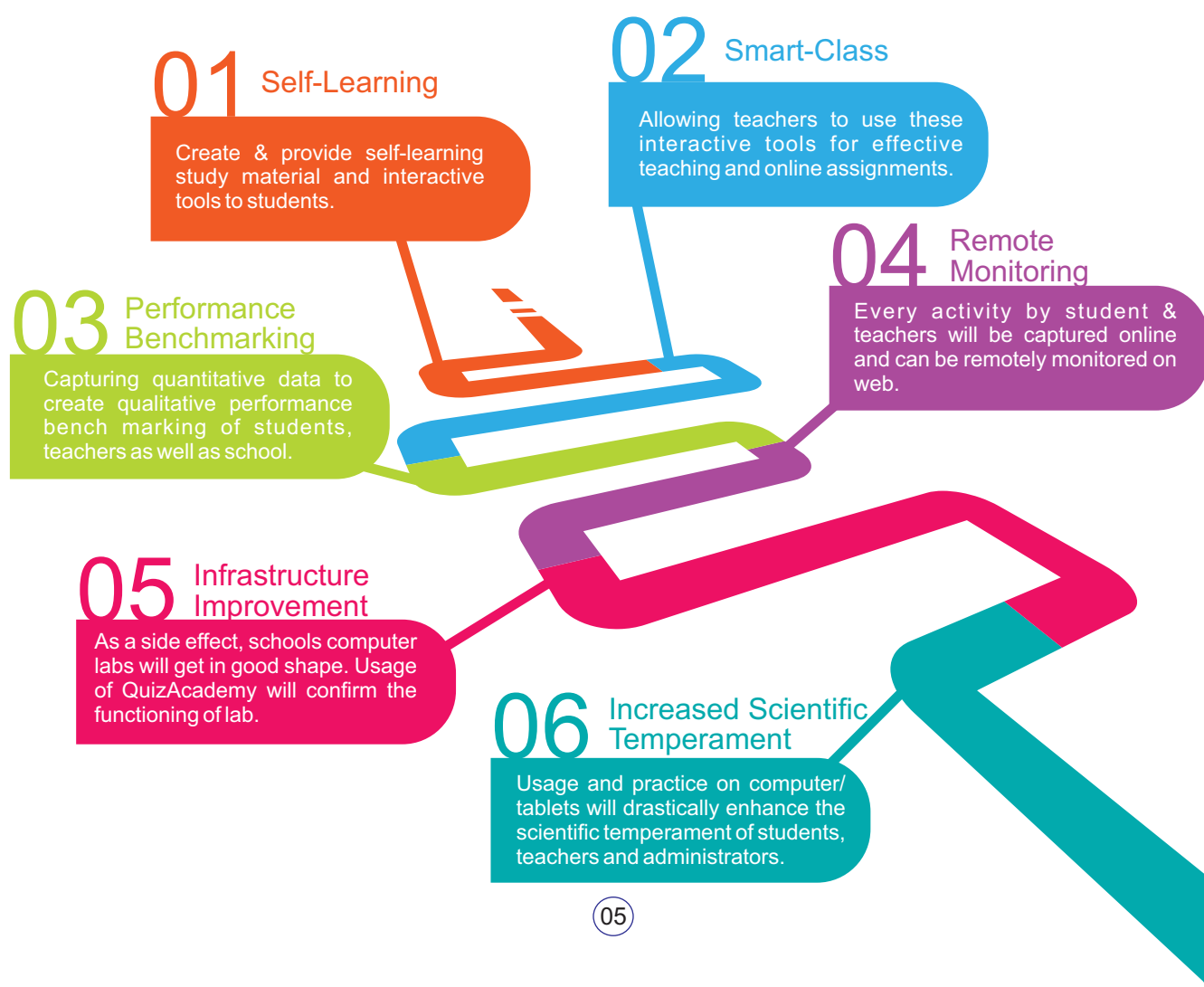
Now, after six years of its implementation, the project stands smart, bespeaking its success story and basking in pride as it has steadily enhanced education system via tech-enabled processes and quiz-based learning with majority areas being rural and tribal.

Newer techniques have smartly paved way in those belts of the state where e-learning was a distant dream. The results in the schools running Project Utkarsh speak about its success quotient too as they are getting better each day.

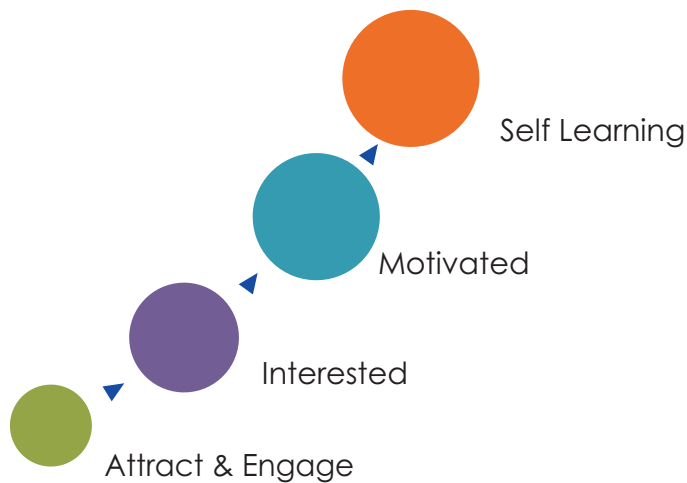
Project Utkarsh is also functional in Udham Singh Nagar District Of Uttarakhand State (since Jan - 2015), Pune district of Maharastra (since June - 2017) and Dhar & Sehore Districts of Madhya Pradesh (Since January - 2019).

The project aims at transversing many more boundaries & languages to realise dreams of students, who are in need of quality education and global exposure.

PROJECT UTKARSH – OBJECTIVES



METHODOLOGY & EXECUTION APPROACH



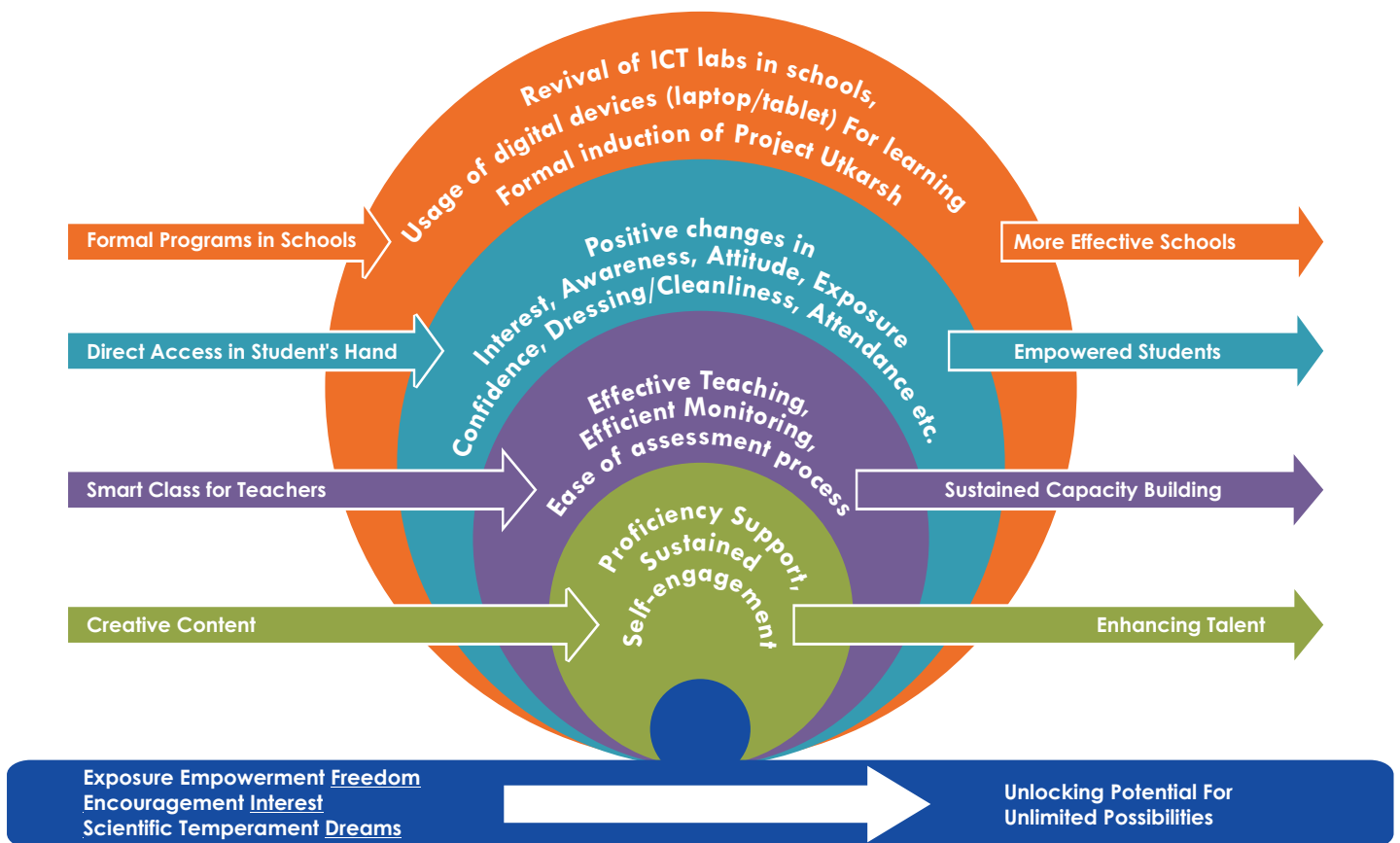
Stages of Rising
(Maturity Model)



Execution Cycle
(Continuous Improvement Model)

THEORY OF CHANGE

(A pictorial representation of broader theme for ICT schools)



PROJECT UTKARSH KEY FEATURES

KEY FEATURES



CONTENT

Course coverage, Concept based focused question sets, Remedial Question sets, Learning Question sets Quarterly and monthly course coverage plans and assessment plans.



TECHNOLOGY

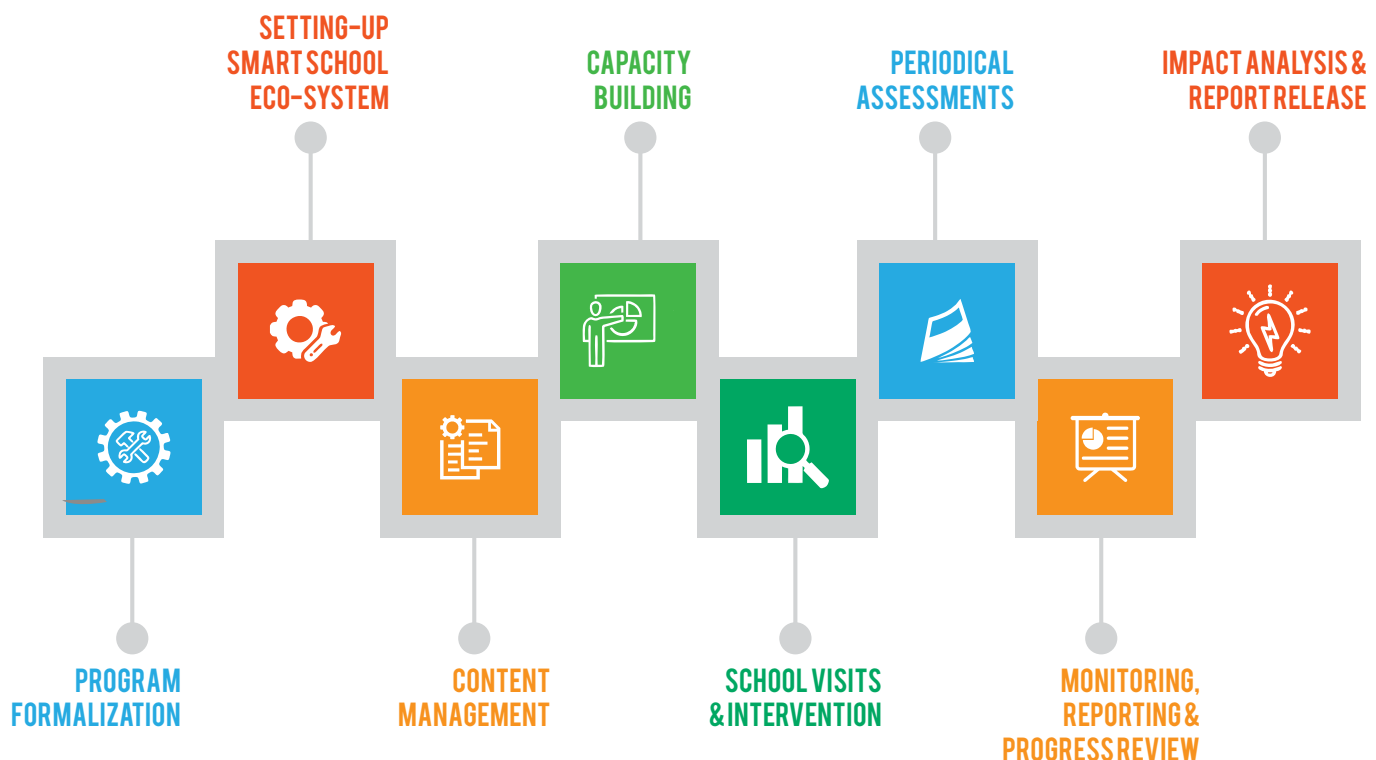
Technology is important backbone for managing the scale of program day to day tech support and improvisation in tool for supporting effective content delivery, day today support for monitoring and data analysis etc.



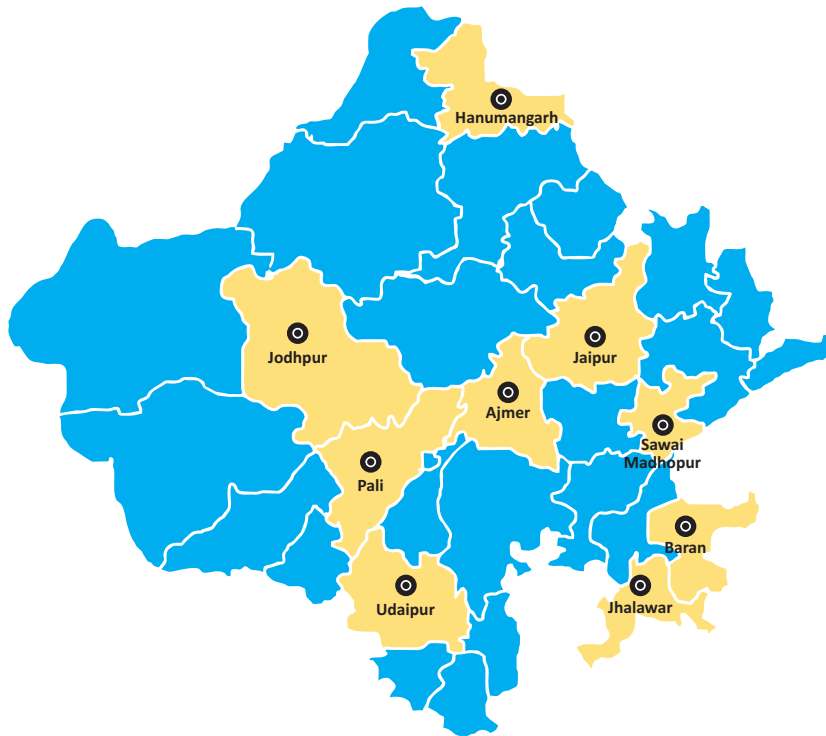
IMPLEMENTATION

Detailed Planning for each lesson session. Define student-facilitation techniques in various scenario. For e.g. 30 min lesson plan question-facilitation techniques like thinking Head, Peer-Learning groups Revision technique, written activities post quizzes etc.

PROJECT UTKARSH KEY ACTIVITIES



PROJECT UTKARSH – RAJASTHAN COVERAGE



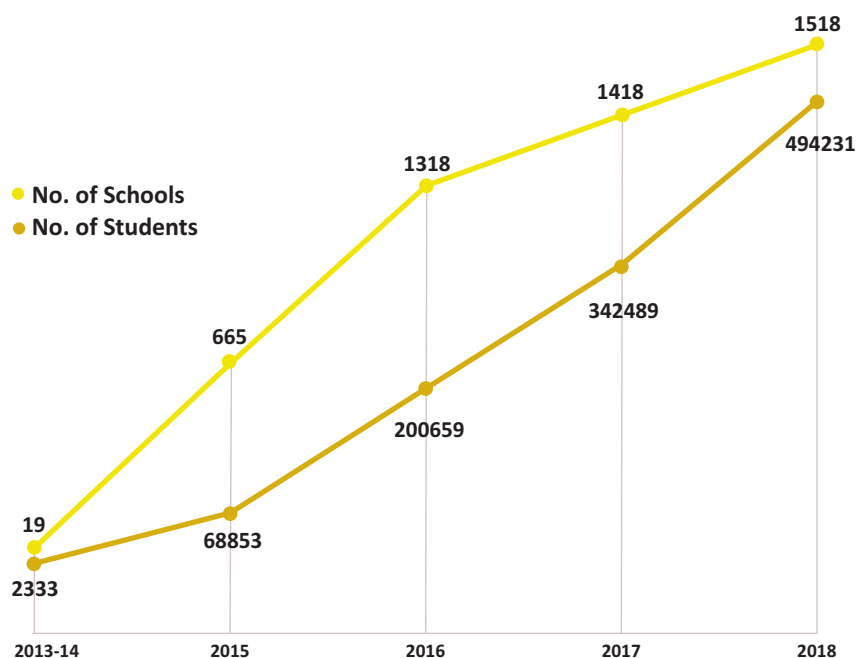
Total Districts
9

Schools Covered
1522

Students Benefitted
4.9 Lacs

Teachers Trained
10,600

PROJECT UTKARSH – JOURNEY IN RAJASTHAN



- In 2013, Pilot Project initiated in 12 Schools of Udaipur District.
- After successful pilot, in 2014 focused intervention started in 7 Schools Of Jhalawar & 5 schools of Hanumangarh.
- In 2015 it expanded to 617 schools in Jodhpur Sawai Madhopur along with Udaipur and Jhalawar.
- In 2016 Ajmer, Pali & Baran District initiated.
- In 2017-18 200 schools of Jaipur District has been started.

EVENTS & ENGAGEMENT FROM YEAR 2013-19

Pilot project launched in Udaipur in January 2014 by then DM Mr. Ashutosh AT Pednekar.



Project Launched in Jhalawar District By then DM Bishnu Charan Mallick.



Meeting with state education secretary regarding state wide expansion of Project Utkarsh.



Launch of Project Utkarsh in four blocks of Jodhpur District by then District Collector Shri Pritam B. Yashwant on 12th Dec 2015



MOU signed for Project Utkarsh in Sawaimadhopur with District Administration in guidance of then DM Ms. Anandhi.



Online and Offline Assessment Activities on Quizacademy platform across all running districts.



EVENTS & ENGAGEMENT FROM YEAR 2013-19

Rewards for best performing teachers in Project Utkarsh by then DM in Jhalawar.



Former DM Dr. SK.Singh representing Project Utkarsh on Civil Service day in Delhi.



Project Utkarsh review meet along with education conference of government.



Manthan award to Project Utkarsh by Digital Empowerment Foundation



Review Meeting of Project Utkarsh in Ajmer district by then DM Gaurav Goyal.



Project Utkarsh officially launched in Udaipur district in 319 schools by then DM Mr. Rohit Gupta.



EVENTS & ENGAGEMENT FROM YEAR 2013-19

Regular State wide report sharing with then education secretary Mr. Nareshpal Gangwar.



Visit by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Delhi to review Project Utkarsh in Baran District.



Hands-on teachers training across all districts on regular basis.



Annual Report Launch of Jodhpur district by honorable DM Dr. Ravi Surpur.



IAS officers of Rajasthan state reviewing Project Utkarsh exhibition on IT Day in Jaipur.

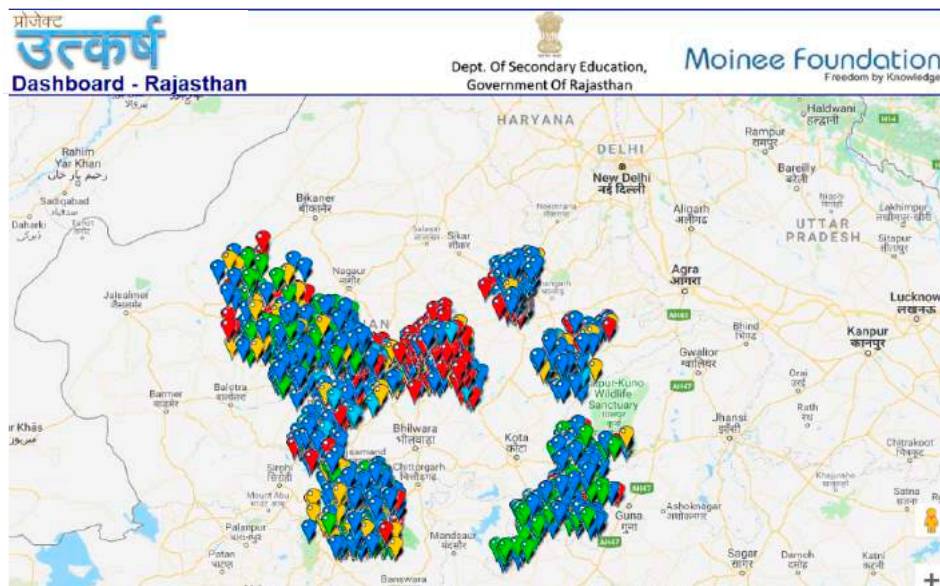


Parents visiting schools to see the smart classes running in government schools.



USAGE OF TECHNOLOGY

• Remote Monitoring & Dashboard Analysis



Total Districts
9

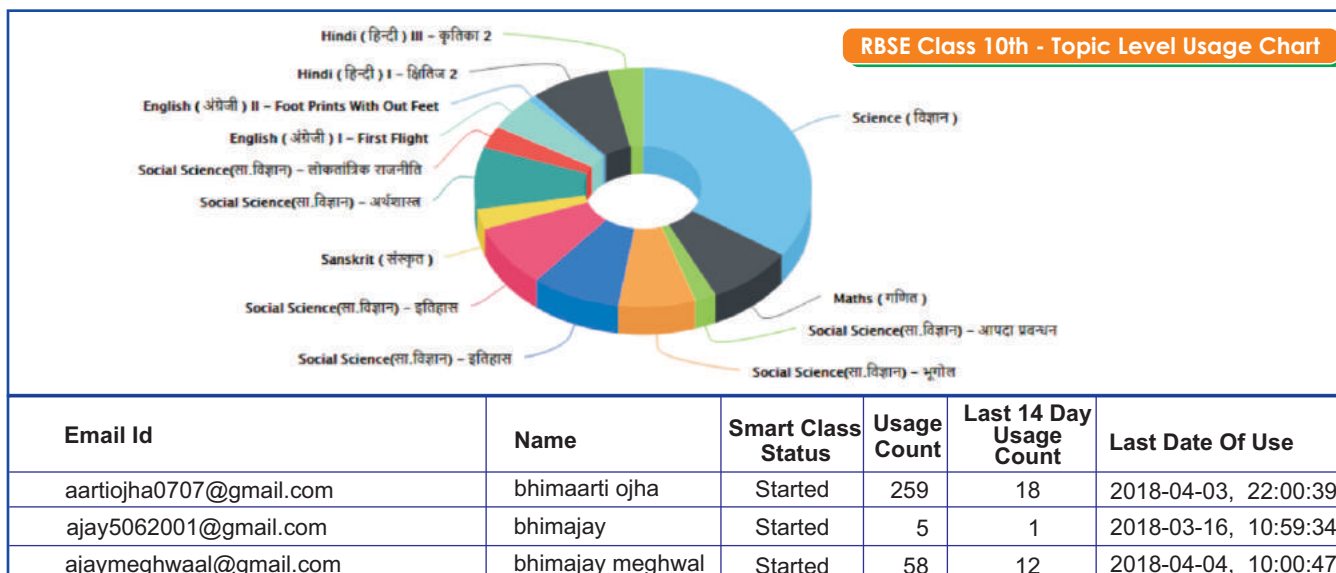
Schools Covered
1522

Students Benefitted
4.9 Lacs

Quizzes Played
15 Lacs

District	Block	School Name	School_Status	Class Name	Enrollments in Class	Quizzes played by Teaching ID	Quizzes played by Student IDs	Assignments given	Quizzes played for Assignments	Usage by Teachers in last 15 days	Usage by Students in last 15 days
BARAN	Anta	GSSS Badwa (Total Computers 10 Working Computers 10 Projector/LED Status yes,Internet Status yes,PowerBackup Status yes,Seating Capacity: 35)	Model_School	Class_9th_2018_19	48	2	2639	1	51	0	1051
BARAN	ATRU	GSSS KUNJER (Total Computers 10 Working Computers 7 Projector/LED Status yes,Internet Status Dongle,PowerBackup Status yes,Seating Capacity: 25)	Model_School	Class9_2018_19	80	16	894	0	0	0	806
Udaipur Phase I	Sakroda	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Gudli (Girwa) (Total Student: 9+10= 65+31=96) (Total Computers: 10 Working Computers, 10 Projector/LED Status Not Working,LED,Internet	Model_School	class 9 (season-2018-19)	83	1	806	1	73	0	805

• Deep Dive Analytics, Monitoring & Reporting



PROJECT UTKARSH OUTCOMES

Reach

- 1522 Govt. Sec/Sr. Sec. schools with ICT infrastructure where program is formally rolled out.
- 4.9 Lacs students are direct beneficiary with double the indirect beneficiary.
- 90% schools are in rural & tribal area of Rajasthan.

Infrastructure Status (ICT LAB)

- Revived underutilized ICT infrastructure worth Rs 70 crore and put to active use.
- 1300 labs are activated.
- 8000+ computers are active for regular learning usage.

Capacity Building

- 9000 teachers & 1600 principals of 1522 schools oriented and trained to run the program.
- 5000+ additional teachers trained for long-term capacity building in various training programs, workshops and Vaakpeeths organized by Education Department.
- 1500 smart teachers trained with hands-on practice.
- 400 training programs organized.

Skill Development

- Over 3,00,000+ students became hands-on in computer usage for learning purpose.
- 3000+ sessions conducted at schools covering soft skills & personality development sessions.
- 1,50,000+ students across 1200+ schools were directly benefitted in these soft-skills sessions.

Perceptual Impact

- Increased participation in training & Project Utkarsh related activities.
- Formal inclusion of the program through time table creation & execution.

Government Alignment

- Regular review by District Administration & Education Dept.
- 200+ formal orders & notices issued for various trainings, assessments & other key activities to increase rigor & serious participation.
- Local governance support of SDM & BDO for progress in their blocks
- Regular review and visits by D.M., DEO & D.D. (Sec. Edu.) to check the progress.

Remote Monitoring

- 1522 schools on state remote dashboard for real time monitoring.
- Regular progress cum usage reporting to all stakeholders.
- Student email ids are created, enrolled and mapped to over 2500 virtual classes.
- Qualitative usage analysis of individual user on real time basis.
- Data driven decision making is possible for planned & continuous improvement.

Learning Impact

- As per the class 10 board result, 23.25% is the average result improvement in schools having poor performance and selected as part of a control group, where regular usage of ICT, assessments, focused remedial practice on fundamental topics etc were executed and monitored.

STAKEHOLDER TESTIMONIALS



During my visit to Baran, I am most impressed with the initiatives taken especially the Project Utkarsh and also the work done under the Bhamasha Health Insurance Programme, where Baran is the best performing district in Rajasthan. As has also been requested, we have to quickly share two of the best practices and achievements of the district for consideration at the national level. I propose to convey the project Utkarsh and Bhamasha initiative as two best practices.

Yaduvendra Mathur (IAS - Additional Secretary, Niti Ayog, New Delhi)

Project Utkarsh has been an advantage, not only for education administrators whose E-Governance capability to remotely monitor ICT labs has increased but also for our students who are mostly first generation learners from rural and remote areas. Today when everything seems to be available at the click of a mouse, these steps towards convergence of curriculum based learning with digital platform and innovative methodology are the need of the hour and are highly appreciated.

Naresh Pal Gangwar (IAS)



The benchmark this project has set in terms of Students Participation, Performance Improvement, Teachers Receptiveness and Quality Enhancement has certainly exceeded my expectations. Given the adversities involved in the project like working with rural & tribal schools in remote areas and limited connectivity etc., I am amazed to see that how all the stakeholders collaborated and coordinated to bring about a surprisingly positive impact in education for these govt. schools.

Ashutosh A.T. Pednekar (IAS)

Project Utkarsh, which has been designed to bring qualitative changes in school education through integration of technology at grass root level leveraging available infrastructure at school, has been very effective in terms of ICT infrastructure usage, student-teacher engagement, innovation in learning teaching experience as well as enhancement of I.T. skills.

Rohit Gupta (IAS)



During my visits in schools, I really enjoyed interacting and facilitating the learning sessions through e-books and quizzes with students. I feel immense pride, when I see students from rural background comfortably using latest technology for formal learning. I have a strong belief that through the right exposure of technology at right stages, the education for students can become more engaging and relevant. It is my dream that every student must get the equal opportunity for E-learning and become an empowered student and I am confident that initiatives like Project Utkarsh will be able to fulfil my dream.

Bishnu charan mallick (IAS)

STAKEHOLDER TESTIMONIALS

Project has not only been successful in term of converting ICT enabled government schools in smart-schools but also positively contributed in developing IT skills of students, creating innovative learning environment, improving scientific temperament of teachers & students, increasing enrollment in schools, better performance in board exams etc.



Dr. S. P. Singh (IAS)



I am delighted to see that we are making systematic changes in our education and making the best use of technology available. This is certainly a right way forward, not only for quality of education but also to fulfill the dream of our nation to digitally empower everyone.

Nutan Bala Kapila, Joint Director - Secondary Education, Bikaner

Project Utkarsh is crucial in knowledge dissemination through Technology and e-learning in Govt. ICT schools. Two important change which I have observed during the implementation of project in Jhalawar District are; revival & functioning of ICT lab for e-learning, and alignment & smooth interaction of students with technology.



Surendra Singh Gaur (Then DEO - Jhalawar)



Education, being the primary and most important step of a student's journey to life, needs to build a strong foundation and this programme has definitely come up as an effective solution for the same. We are happy to have been associated with Project Utkarsh as we wanted to move in same direction to raise the quality of life and social well-being of communities and I am happy that we did achieve what we aimed for.

Nusrat Pathan CSR Head, HDFC Bank Ltd. Mumbai (India)

It gives immense pleasure to see the implementation of Project Utkarsh in ICT-enabled government schools of Baran district to bring qualitative changes in education. This project is playing an important role in leveraging technology with available ICT infrastructure. We are happy to have been associated with Project Utkarsh by supporting it under CSR initiatives of our organisation for betterment of education. I thank and congratulate all stakeholders for their immense support and efforts made to make this programme successful.



Pramod Agarwal, Chief Engineer, Chhabra Supercritical Thermal Power Project, Baran



I am glad to know that Project Utkarsh has successfully completed two year of implementation in Jodhpur District with the objective of bringing qualitative changes. I extend my best wishes to all stakeholders to carry forward this journey of success and achievements with full zeal and passion for betterment of the society.

Snehasis Chanda, DGM-CSR, Birla White, Jodhpur

PROJECT UTKARSH – NEW PATHWAYS (INNOVATION AWARD)



Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
Government of India

New Pathways

Prime Ministers Awards for Excellence, 2018

Stories of Innovations and New Initiatives in Implementation of Priority Programmes

Project Utkarsh Educates Tribal Youth

Baran - Rajasthan

The city of Baran in Rajasthan primarily houses a tribal population while half the area of the district lies barren. Literacy rates in the district, especially woman literacy rates, are low and digital literacy is a remote dream.

Since 2006, Government provided Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure, including computer labs with minimum 10 computers, projector, internet connection and power back-up in over 7,200 Government schools of Rajasthan including 105 Government schools in Baran district.

However, utilisation level of these computer labs by both teachers and students was very low, resulting in inactive computer labs. Thus, there was an urgent need to integrate technology at the grass root level for digital empowerment and creation of a strong learning ecosystem. Project Utkarsh was launched to leverage the underutilised ICT infrastructure and address the need for digitally empowered youth in rural areas.

The project was initiated as a mission to bring qualitative and accountable change to mass school education through technology and quiz-based learning. The programme is designed to leverage ICT labs and infrastructure for hands-on skill building, curiosity-driven teaching and learning with content in local language, building a scientific temperament, capacity building, assessment and performance benchmarking, remote monitoring, data-driven administrative

CHALLENGES FACED

Utilisation levels of technology infrastructure by teachers and students were generally low
There was no effective way for the government to track ICT infrastructure usage or measure the impact on student learning outcomes
Lack of teaching staff at school level, and unawareness about effective usage of latest teaching aids

FINAL OUTCOMES

The first year targets in terms of ICT lab revival, virtual school setup, students and teachers participation, formal assessments, etc., achieved way more than double
There was 18.89% increase in new admissions as well as 9.29% improvement in class ten board results in Project Utkarsh enabled schools in comparison to previous year data
Students received real-time performance feedback; access to online databanks and literary/visual learning resources well beyond standard textbook material; customised practice tests and preparatory workbooks for competitive national exams
Teachers were able to easily assess student performance through online assessment tools that could algorithmically capture and process large amounts of data; efficiently administer classroom assignments and examinations; provide students with specific feedback

empowerment and establishing accountability.

In Baran district, 105 ICT-enabled Government schools were selected for implementation. All of these schools were provided access to the virtual smart-class setup and also with district dashboard for remote monitoring. More than 10,000 students were provided with a direct access to smart-classes and 500 teachers were trained for long-term capacity building.

Rajasthan Board of Secondary Education (RBSE) made provision for curriculum mapped digital content in Hindi, covering all subjects for students of classes nine and ten.

Curriculum based learning has helped build a strong learning culture by making students more curious, confident, engaging and playful.



CONCLUSION

- Project Utkarsh has been able to create ecosystem for quality education through smart-classes & e-learning.
- It has optimally leveraged available resources including ICT Infrastructure and Human Resource of Education Department.
- Remote monitoring through district dashboard and regular review by key stakeholders played vital role in project success.
- It has positively contributed towards digital India mission through digital empowerment at grass root level.
- Positive changes in terms of 10th Board results, students attendance in classroom, new enrollment in higher classes, drop out control has been observed in Project Utkarsh enabled schools.

WAY FORWARD

Taking the learnings from successful adaptation of ICT in rural and tribal area govt schools, we are looking forward to enable each and every student with smart and quality education by further breaking the barriers of access, cost and language. To achieve this dream we working on following:

- Implementing "QuizAcademy : School in a Box", which is an offline smart class system with best of internet material.
- Including more rich learning materials in Hindi on QuizAcademy for better self-learning.
- Enabling and empowering remote villages with localized self-sufficient smart learning system as part of "Village as a school" concept we have developed.

ABOUT MOINEE FOUNDATION

Moinee Foundation is an educational trust and working for "right to quality education" since 2012. We started in Rajasthan with mass implementation programs like Project Utkarsh and eGyankendra. As of now the success of these programs is also replicated in 210 school and 135 offline eLibraries across other 9 states of India, including Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar and Chattisgarh.

प्रोजेक्ट उत्कर्ष

(सरकारी विद्यालयों में स्मार्ट क्लास एवं ई-लर्निंग हेतु अभिनव पहल)



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1-Ka-17, Housing Board, Shastri Nagar, Jaipur (Rajasthan)