

# Digital Literacy Program

Annual Report ; 2012-13

Bharuch



**Collaboration between CLP India and Pratham**



## **Introduction:**

China Light and Power (CLP) India and Pratham have been collaborating since 2004 in the field of elementary education with children of 6 to 14 years.

The current partnership between Pratham and CLP is for a 'digital literacy program' and the Work Order was for the period July 2012 to June 2013. As per the requirement, giving access to computers and for building knowledge on applications - Pratham implemented two computer centers in the villages of Paguthan and Kothi with the village youth – of the age group -18 to 25 years age.

## **Objectives:**

The objectives of the computer program are

- To develop basic skills to operates computer in Youth (18 to 25 years age group).
- To give access for digital literacy in the villages where CLP has it s presence.

## **Highlights:**

- Completed successfully four batches of the computer class with basic course – Window 7, Microsoft office 2007 and Internet.
- 79 students out of 95 have appeared the exam and have received the certificates for the computer course on basic skills.
- The enrolled students received certificates, from Pratham and in collaboration with Intel.
- Offline Internet methodology – for giving students clear ways of internet usage –Offline surfing - Google search ; railway bookings ; email usage – inbox



## Coverage:

Particular	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
Starting Date of Phase	15/07/2012	19/11/2012	05/03/2013	23/05/2013
End Date of Phase	15/11/2012	23/02/2012	20/5/2013	31/07/2013
Exam Date	18-19/11/2012	27-28/02/2012	23-24/05/2013	02-03/08/2013
Number of Enrolled Students	23	24	24	24
Number of students who appeared for the exam	16	20	21	22
Dates for Certificate Distribution	05/03/2013	15/05/2013	14/08/2013	27/11/2013

According to the Work Order, between Pratham and CLP India, Pratham launched the program from July and first batch was started since 15<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

**Overall out of 95 enrolled students, 83% appeared for the exam and received the certificates for basic computer skills in all four batches.** During the first batch, 23 students were mobilized from the community for the computer class. Mobilization was done by Pratham team and Volunteers of CLP. Contact was made with the village youth by door to door visits. This was a different experience for Pratham as the program was new and with the village youth. The batch was run from 15<sup>th</sup> July 2012 to 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012. The students learnt modules of basic computer skills – windows 7, Microsoft office 2007 and internet for two hours in a day and three days in a week by the assigned computer teacher. The schedule was 30 minutes for theory and 1.30 hours for practical. The exam was organized on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012. 70% students (16 students from 23 students) appeared for the exam. Drop out reasons ranged from leaving the village and getting a job, and thus time schedules could not match. 7 students dropped out from the first batch.



The second phase was delayed due to the festival season of Diwali and Eid. In the second batch 83% students completed the course and appeared for the exam; during the third batch 88% students appeared and 92 % students appeared for the exam during the last and fourth batch. The program thus could retain more students with every batch. There was improvement in attendance and for sustaining the students. In each phase, Action points followed were for



regular contact of students and parents by Pratham team and volunteers of CLP, meeting and convincing them for the benefits and for regular attendance.

### **Snap shot of results**

<b>Result in Percentage</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>% of the students</b>
More than 75%	22	28 %
51 – 75 %	50	63 %
50 and less than 50	7	9 %

The above table indicates that 28% students received more than 75% marks while 63% students had received more than 50% (but not more than 75%)

### **State level training**

A state level training for the computer teachers was organized for five days in August 2012 at Pratham State office by a Master Trainer. The basic modules of computer – Windows 7, Microsoft Office 2007 and Internet were covered during the state training. Additionally, special focus was given to the systematic Intel approach of theory and practical. Each day student decided what practical activity would be done – drew it in the book and then practical on the computer.

### **Monitoring**

The computer class was monitored by CLP and Pratham - issues of concern were discussed and adequate steps were taken to improve the class very systematically and regularly. Students were encouraged during the monitoring period. Parent contact has been done to sustain regular attendance in the class.

### **Teaching Learning Material (TLM)**

Materials have been given to the students by Pratham. Students have been given three modules – Windows 7, Microsoft office 2007 and Internet.





## Assessment & Certificate Distribution

Assessment of the children was done by Pratham at the end of the batch. Pratham teams from outside the CLP team were present for the exam. The students appeared for four papers to complete the digital literacy course. The exam was organized in two parts – theory and practical. After the assessment, results were shared and CLP organized community events for distribution of certificates and encouragement to the students.



## Challenges:

- **Mobilization of children** – In the initial stage of the program, it was a big challenge to the program to mobilize the students from the community at the beginning of the program in both villages. The students were not interested to join the program, because this was the first such class in their village – they had apprehensions on the quality of the digital literacy class. Pratham team and volunteers of CLP were persistent and worked hard to convince students and parents.

There has been a marked improvement – the current situation shows a trust built in the community – for the digital literacy program. Students are enrolled in advance before the next class begins.

- **Sustainability of children** - Another big challenge was the attendance of the children in class. It was difficult to sustain the students in the class for three months. The first batch saw a drop out of seven students due to various reasons of time constraints etc.

To sustain the students and to improve attendance, Pratham team contacted parents regularly and convinced them to send their children regularly. Children are also



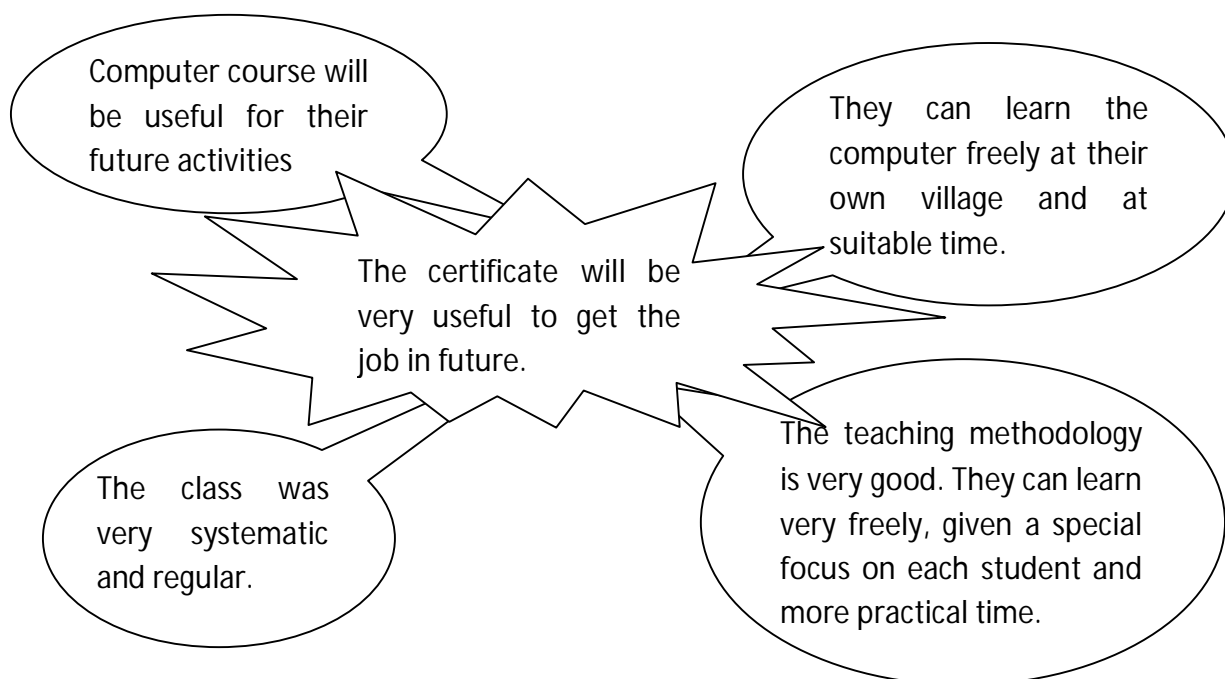
explained the importance for skill building and for regular attendance right from the mobilization period. Thus, in the final batch, more than 90% children appeared for the exams.

- **Enrollment of the older age group (elder people)** – It was also a challenge to enroll to elder people who were not the target group (18-25 years) in the computer class. This age group had not seen a computer – so there was a fear to operate the system and for the learning process. Tutors faced a challenge to conduct mixed classes of different age groups.
- **Logistics** - \*Local festivals and vacation period. \* Electric supply at the computer class  
\* Leave taken by Computer teacher due to marriage. It would be useful to have a back up assistant teacher from one of the students to substitute during such a period.

### Learning:

- ✓ Detailed and clear information should be provided to the beneficiaries about the program and schedule of classes.
- ✓ For regular attendance and sustaining the students – community contact has helped retain the students. Parents were updated and have supported for solving issues around irregularity and sustainability of the children.

### Feedback by Students:





## Tracking some students

- ✓ A student of the digital class Imran Ahmed Patel is doing a computer related job in Africa after completion of the course.
- ✓ Two teachers from Kothi Primary School have attended the class so that they can teach computer to their children in school.
- ✓ 10-12 people from CLP had attended the computer class regularly at Paguthan village for helping them learn on the job and improve efficiency for data entry.

## Plans for next year

- Addition to the number of computers
- Practice time for past students
- Offering career counseling

