

Best Practices In the Implementation of Mid-day Meal Scheme in Assam

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Best Practices
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*Success stories of School Managing Committee, Mother's Group and NGOs
sharing social responsibility*

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CONTENTS

	Page No.
I Introduction	1 - 10
1.1. Profile of Assam	
1.2. Status of Elementary Education in Assam	
1.3. Implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme in Assam	
II Methodology of the Study	11 - 14
III Evidence Based Best Practices of Mid Day Meal Scheme	
3.1 Profile of Golaghat District	15 - 29
3.1.1. Case Study of Balijan L. P. School	
3.1.2. Case Study of Nepali Khuti Bonua L. P. School	
3.1.3. Case Study of Bonsapare Bagisa L. P. School	
3.2 Profile of Jorhat District	30 - 47
3.2.1. Case Study of Ward No. 4 Primary School	
3.2.2. Case Study of Ward No. 151 Parbatia Adarsha L. P. School	
3.2.3. Case Study of Ward No. 83 Nakani Adarsha L. P. School	
3.2.4. Case Study of Ward No. 133 Bongal Pukhuri Adarsha L. P. School	
3.2.5. Case Study of Krisilaya L. P. School	
3.3 Profile of Dibrugarh District	48 - 59
3.3.1. Case Study of 145 Chanimari L. P. School	
3.3.2. Case Study of Mazbam L. P. School	
3.3.3. Case Study of No. 1 Puberun Nigam L. P. School	
3.4 Profile of Nagaon District	60 - 67
3.3.4. Case Study of Neherubasti L. P. School	
3.3.5. Case Study of Burapahar M. E. School	
3.3.6. Case Study of Natun Danga L. P. School	

Annexures

Annexure – I School Managing Committee

Annexure – II Mother's Group

Annexure – III Meena Club

References

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SECTION: I

Introduction

1.1. State Profile

Physical Features

Assam is located in the northeastern part of the country and has an area of 30,285 square miles (78,438 square kilometers). It is bounded to the north by the kingdom of Bhutan and the state of Arunachal Pradesh; to the east by the states of Nagaland and Manipur; to the south by the states of Mizoram and Tripura; and to the west by the state of Meghalaya, Bangladesh, and the state of West Bengal.



The Brahmaputra River valley is the dominant physical feature of Assam. The river enters Assam near Sadiya in the extreme northeast and runs westward across the length of Assam for nearly 450 miles before turning south to enter the plains of Bangladesh. The river valley, rarely more than 50 miles wide, is studded with numerous low, isolated hills and

ridges that abruptly rise from the plain. The valley surrounded on all sides, except the west, by mountains and is intersected by many streams and rivulets that flow from the neighboring hills to empty into the Brahmaputra.

The average temperature is moderate, about 84 degrees F (29 degrees C) in the hottest month of August. The average valley temperature in January is 61 degrees F (16 degrees C). The state is covered with dense tropical forests of bamboo and, at higher elevations, evergreens. Common animals of Assam include the elephant, tiger, leopard, rhinoceros, and bear.

Demographic Features

The population of Assam is 2,66,55,528 according to 2001 census. Assam is divided into three regions, each headed by a commissioner. Under each commissioner, there are 27 administrative units called Districts. The State has the highest population density among NE states, of 339 persons per sq. km. As against decadal growth rate of 21.54% at the national level, the population of the State has grown by 18.92% over the period 1991-2001. The sex ratio of Assam at 935 females to 1000 males is higher than the national average of 933. Female literacy of the State rose to 54.61% from 43.03% in 1991. There are many major tribes and a number of sub-tribes inhabiting the area.

The state of Assam has 27 districts (including 4 new districts of BTAD) with Kamrup (Rural and Metropolitan) district being the most populous accounting 8.92 % to total population of the state. The population density is highest in the Nagaon district having 604 persons per sq.km. But in the North Cachar Hills population density is only 38 persons per sq.km. The literacy rate is highest in Jorhat district (77.91 %) and is lowest in Dhubri district (49.86%). (Census 2001)

There are 219 development blocks, 2,489 Gaon Panchayats and 26,312 revenue villages (Census 2001).

Table 1.1: Socio-demographic scenario of the state

Background Characteristics	Data
Geographic Area (in Sq. Kms)	78438
Total population (Census 2001)	26655528
Population Urban	3439240 (12.90%)
Population Rural	23216288(87.09%)
Population Female (15-49 yrs) - Total	6574794
Population Female (15-49 yrs) – Urban	939909
Population Female (15-49 yrs) - Rural	5634885
Population (0-6 yrs) – Total	4498075
Population (0-6 yrs) – Male	2289116
Population (0-6 yrs) – Female	2208959
SC Population	1825949 (6.85%)
ST Population	3308570 (12.41%)
Male Population	13777037 (51.68%)
Female Population	12878491 (48.31%)
Decadal Growth Rate	18.85
Area (Sq.Km.)	78438
Population density	339
Literacy rate Total	63.25
Literacy rate – Male	71.28
Literacy rate – Female	54.61
Sex Ratio – Total	935/ 1000
BPL population	36.09 %. (1999-2000, Planning Commission Estimates)
Religion	Predominant-Hinduism, Islam, & Christianity
Language spoken	Assamese, Boro, Bengali, Hindi, English

(Source Census, 2001)

Economy

Assam's economy is rural and agricultural. Tea is cultivated in the hilly regions, and the state provides much of the tea grown in India. The valley of the Brahmaputra River is important for rice, the major food product of Assam. Other agricultural products are jute,

sugarcane, cotton, oranges, and potatoes. The cultivation of silkworms is common in many areas. Lumber is valuable to the economy of Assam, and the extraction of crude oil is gaining in importance. The primary industries of Assam are textile manufacturing, cement production, and oil refining.

Health Indicators

The Total Fertility Rate of the State is 2.4. The Infant Mortality Rate is 66 and Maternal Mortality Ratio is 490 (SRS 2001 - 03) which are higher than the National average. The Sex Ratio in the State is 935 (as compared to 933 for the country). Comparative figures of major health and demographic indicators are as follows:

Table 1.2
Demographic, Socio-economic and Health profile of Assam State as
Compared to India figures

S. No.	Item	Assam	India
1.	Total population (Census 2001) (in million)	26.66	1028.61
2.	Decadal Growth (Census 2001) (%)	18.92	21.54
3.	Crude Birth Rate (SRS 2007)	24.3	23.1
4.	Crude Death Rate (SRS 2007)	8.6	7.4
5.	Total Fertility Rate (NFHS-III)	2.4	2.7
6.	Infant Mortality Rate (SRS 2007)	66	55
7.	Maternal Mortality Ratio (SRS 2001 - 2003)	490	301
8.	Sex Ratio (Census 2001)	935	933
9.	Population below Poverty line (%)	36.09	26.10
10.	Schedule Caste population (in million)	1.83	166.64
11.	Schedule Tribe population (in million)	3.31	84.33
12.	Female Literacy Rate (Census 2001) (%)	54.6	53.7

1.2. Status of Elementary Education in Assam

In the Northeast region of India, Assam occupies a distinct place in the field of education. The overall literacy rate of Assam is 63.25%, where the literacy rate of male is 71.28% and female 54.61%. Huge numbers of educational institutions are established here imparting education to the students of entire Northeastern region. Formal education starts in schools with elementary, secondary, higher secondary. Then the students move to a college and

pursue education in a stream he is interested in. The Directorate of Elementary Education of Assam organizes numerous activities to universalize Elementary Education (UEE). The Elementary education in Assam includes classes from Class I to Class VII, within the age group of 6 - 14 years of students. Secondary and higher secondary schools in Assam covering class VIII to tenth and twelfth respectively, finally prepares the child for higher education.

The Government of Assam provides free and compulsory education for children till the age of 14.

Table 1.3: Number of Institutions and Enrolment in Assam

Category of School	No. of schools/centers	Enrolment
(I) Lower Primary School		
(i) Govt. Primary school	30068	31,96,531
(ii) MV school (primary section)	925	
(iii) Govt. aided school	2521	
(iv) EGS center	5822	4,01,083
(v) AIE center	11725	2,33,008
<i>Total of LP stage</i>	51061	38,30,622
2. Upper Primary School	6910	18,35,693
3. High School	2544	
4. Higher Secondary School	594	
<i>Total of UP stage</i>	10048	

There are 38,30,622 children have been enrolled in 51,061 institutions (Primary schools, EGS/AIE Centers as on 30-09-2008 (against 35,25478 children availing MDM in 2006-07). The State claims that all the 38,30,622 children are availing MDM. Similarly all the 1835693 children enrolled at upper primary stage in Educationally Backward Blocks (EEBs) in 10048 institutions are availing MDM as on 30.09.2007.

Mid day meal programme have a positive impact which fulfilled the objective of the programme. It is observed that retention in the schools have been increased after implementation of hot cooked mid day meal programme. The enrolment, attendance and retention of the students have been increased after implementation of the MDM programme.

The State health department have been requested to provided micro-nutrients, vitamin-A, de-worming medicine, iron and folic acid to the students of elementary schools.

The Sub Inspector of Schools, Block Elementary Education Officer, Deputy Inspector of Schools and District Elementary Education Officer has regularly monitored the Scheme of Mid day meal. SMCs have already been constituted for all the schools.

1.3 Implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme in Assam

Coverage

National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (known as the Mid-day Meal Scheme) was launched as a CSS on 15th August 1995 for the children studying at primary stage of education in Government, provincial primary schools and primary section of M. V. Schools in Assam. Consequent to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's direction in 2001 to provide cooked meal to children, the Government of Assam launched the cooked Mid Day Meal Programme with effect from January 2005. It was extended to cover venture schools receiving financial assistance, Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) and Alternative and Innovative Education (AIE). The scheme has been extended up to the upper primary stage i.e. up to class VIII with effect from 1st October, 2007 in 81 educational backward blocks of Assam. The scheme does not cover children studying in privately managed and unaided institutions.

Fund Flow

State Nodal Officer (Director of Elementary Education, Assam) releases the fund under cooking cost and wages for implementation of the programme directly to the District Nodal Officer (Deputy Commissioner). The District Nodal Officer releases the fund to the SMC of the schools. A/c payee cheque is issued by the District Nodal Officer in favor of President of the SMC and head master/head mistress of the school concerned.

Allocation of Food Grains

The State Nodal Officer, Assam collects district-wise requirement of food grains on the basis of enrolment data of eligible primary schools (Government, Provincials, Government

aided schools) and EGS, AIE centers as on preceding 30th September and anticipated enrolment in the next financial year and furnishes the same to the MHRD, Department of Elementary Education and Literacy, Government of India through State Nodal Department i.e. Elementary Education Department, Government of Assam by 15th January of every year.

Government of India conveys district-wise allocation of food grains for the next financial year to the State and FCI by 28th February of the year.

District-wise allocation for next financial year is conveyed to all Deputy Commissioners by 15th March from the State Nodal Officer.

The District Nodal Officer sub-allocates the district allocation for the year to GPSS and SMCs of the school on a month wise basis and also inform concerned officers of Food Corporation of India (FCI). Month-wise break up is given taking into account actual number of school days in the month.

Block / Sub-Divisional level Officer of the Nodal Department (Elementary Education Department) monitors actual utilization of the fund (in each institution) of food grains delivered in each institution and suitably regulate further delivery to it taking into account unconsumed balance if any and intimate to the higher authority immediately.

The Govt. of India has supplies rice (food grains) @ 100 gram per child per day to primary schools and accordingly has allocated district-wise adhoc allocation of rice. During 2007-08, 51209.802 MTs rice have been lifted up to Dec. 2007 against the 71421.88 MTs rice allocated by Govt. of India.

The Govt. of India has allocated 12740.07 MTs food grains (rice) also to the upper primary schools (EBBs) for implementation the programme in the state.

Lifting of Food Grains

The State Nodal Officer of MDM makes district-wise allocation based on number of children in Government, provincial, government aided schools and EGS, AIE centers under SSA. The District Nodal Officer allocates food grains to Village Panchayat Level

Co-operative Societies accordingly, GPSS lifts food grains from FCI godowns and distribute to Fair Price shops concerned. Block Elementary Education Officer (BEEO) identifies and enlist the schools and tag them with the Fair Price shops nearest to the school.

School Managing Committees (SMCs) make necessary arrangement for lifting the rice from Fair Price shops. It is the custodian of food grains. President/Secretary of SMC of school concerned maintains the accounts of cooking cost and food grains in separate register.

Programme Management

The District Nodal Officer may use the services of Village Education Committee/ Parent-Teacher Association/NGO /SMC of the schools for ground level implementations. Deputy Commissioner will be the District Nodal Officer for the proper implementation of the programme at district level and entrust on ADC to supervise and monitor the programme at district level and entrust one ADC to supervise and monitor the programme in the district and SDO entrust one EAC for the Sub-Division.

SMCs of schools keep account of food grains received and utilized cost incurred for cooking etc., by maintaining daily attendance / records, etc.

The cooks and helpers are engaged by the SMCs of the schools.

SMC is empowered to engage Mothers Group, Self Help groups for procuring the cooking ingredients. Mothers groups supervise, the preparation of cooked meal and distribution of meal to children.

Teaching staff of the school does not involve themselves with the activities related to cooking purpose.

Depending upon local situation at particular school, SMC in consultation with District Nodal Officer utilize the service of Village Education Committee, Village Level NGO, Panchayati Raj Institution for supervising the day affairs of MDMS. The District Nodal

Officer assigns the responsibility for implementation and supervision of the programme to NGO/Municipality/Town Committee in urban areas.

Menu of Mid-Day Meal

Weekly Menu of rice, dal, Vegetables is displayed by SMC of school. Varied and nutritious menu is planned in consultation with nutrition experts like staff of Home Science Colleges and Officers of Food and Nutritious Board of the Government of India posted in the State. Local Community, Mothers Group, PTA, Women's Self Help Groups are also consulted.

Inspection

Monthly targets for inspection of Mid-Day Meal served in schools (Government/ Provincial and Government aided schools) is fixed by the Deputy Commissioner in respect of officers of District, Sub-Divisional, Circle level belonging to Departments – (1) Revenue / General Administration, officials of Education Department at Block Level, Sub-divisional Level (2) Rural Development / Urban Administration (3) Health & Family Welfare Department, (4) Food & Civil Supply Department, (5) Social Welfare Department.

Suitable Inspection Rosters are prepared for every block/town to ensure that all Primary Schools and EGS/AIE centers are inspected at least once every year. About 25% of the Primary Schools and EGS/AIE centers are inspected in every quarter.

State Nodal Officer sends monthly report on off take of food grains to the MHRD, Department of Elementary Education and Literacy, Government of India by 15th of the following month with a copy of intimation to the MDM Cell (attached to the State Nodal Department, i.e. Elementary Education Department, Assam Civil Secretariat)

Similarly quarterly progress report in terms of progress of provision of infrastructure and unspent balance at the end of the quarter is sent by the District Nodal Officer to the State Nodal Officer. State Nodal Officer sends the same to MHRD with a copy to MDM Cell.

Utilisation Certificate: Utilisation Certificate in respect of lifted food grains is sent by the Director of Elementary Education under his/her signature after ascertaining the district-

wise position and the same is countersigned by the Commissioner and Secretary of the State Nodal Department or the Officer authorized by him/her. State Nodal Department sends the same to MHRD by 30th June of the following financial year.

Utilisation Certificate in respect of central assistance for cooking cost and fund for Monitoring Management and Evaluation (MME) is sent by State Nodal Officer to MDM Cell of the State Nodal Department after ascertaining district-wise position as obtained from Deputy Commissioner. Director of Elementary Education puts his/her signature on the UC and the Commissioner and Secretary of the Nodal Department send the same to MHRD with his countersignature by 30th September of the following financial year.

Steering cum Monitoring Committee has been set up at District Level and Block level.

The committee generally performs the following functions.

- i) Guiding various implementation agencies.
- ii) Monitoring programme implementation, assessing its impact and taking corrective steps.

Community Participation

The Mid Day Meal scheme is the community owned programme in Assam. The involvement of School Managing Committee, Village Education Committee, Kitchen Garden Committee and Mothers Group is very crucial in the implementation of the scheme. The SMC is responsible in procurement of material, regular monitoring of the programme by the Head Masters through quality assurance. The village women (mother's committee members) are involved in bulk cooking and serving the food to children.

SECTION - II

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

Introduction

The Mid-day Meal Scheme is a nation-wide programme, different state governments are following different methods in implementation of the programme. The state of Assam also started implementing the programme in all government primary schools. Cooked Mid-day Meal programme was started in the state with effect from January, 2005.

This study tries to document good practices in implementing the Mid-day meal scheme in different districts in Assam. The study was undertaken with the following objectives.

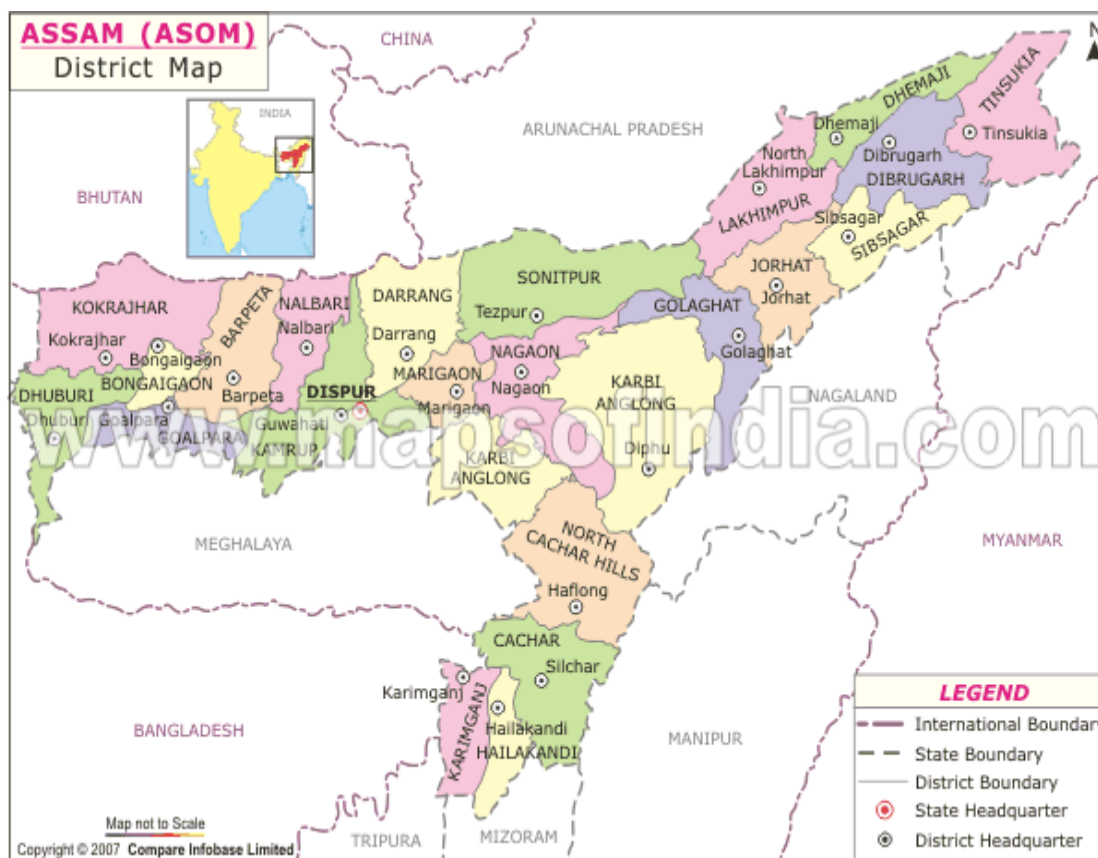
Objectives

1. To study the status of Mid-day meal scheme in the state of Assam
2. To identify best practices in the implementation of Mid-day Meal programme in the state.
3. To document good practices implementing at the school level

Sample

The State of Assam is divided into 27 districts. Out of 27 districts four sample districts for case studies were identified in consultation with the staff from state nodal office. The State Nodal Officer contacted District Elementary Education Officers of Golaghat, Jorhat, Dibrugarh and Nagaon districts and requested them to identify schools implementing good practices in mid-day meal scheme in their respective districts. The investigator as well as the staff of MDM scheme identified 13 sample schools from four districts with the help of district and block level education officers. The investigator witnessed some of the best practices following in these sample schools. The sample districts, blocks and schools are given below:

Name of the District	Name of the Block	Name of the School	Best Practices adopted
Golaghat	Bokakhat (west Golaghat)	Balijan Pratham L.P. School (All communities)	Participation of SMC, Mother's committee and Meena club for school development and MDM.
		Nepalikhuti Banua L.P. School (Tea garden workers)	Kitchen Garden maintained by the Community. SMC and Mother's Committee involved in school activities like teaching, MDM etc.
		Barchapori Chah Bagisha L.P. School (Tea garden workers)	Participation of SMC and Mother's committee in MDM implementation
Jorhat	Jorhat (urban)	Ward no. 4 L.P. School (All communities)	Participation of SMC and Mother's Committee in MDM implementation
	Jorhat	Ward no. 151 Prabatia Adarsa L.P. School (Tea garden workers)	Teacher's contribution and Hygienic conditions in the school
	North west Jorhat	Ward no. 83 Nakani Jr. Basic School	SMC president and Teachers contribution
		Bongal Pukhuri Adarsha L.P. School (migrant workers)	SMC involvement and Head Teacher contribution
		Krisibya L.P. School (Urban poor families)	SMC members and head mistress contribution for quality education
Dibrugarh	Khowang	145 Chamimari L.P. School (Remote rural poor families)	Kitchen garden by the community (with NGO support)
		Majbam Jr. Basic School (remote rural poor families)	Kitchen garden by the community (NGO support)
		1 No. Pubarm Neigam L.P. School (remote rural poor families)	Kitchen garden by the community (NGO support)
Nagaon	Kaliabar	Neherubasti L.P. School (Tea garden children)	Increase in enrolment and attendance Improving Nutrition
		Burapahar M E School (Tea garden children)	Increase in enrolment and attendance Improving Nutrition
		Natun Danga L.P. School (Tribal children)	Tribal community cook maintaining hygienic kitchen



Collection of Data

The data was collected from both the primary and secondary sources. Primary data was collected by using interview schedules, observation schedules and Focus group discussions. School Management Committee members (implementing agency), Mother's Committee members, Kitchen Garden Committee members, Community members, parents, teachers, and students were involved in the Focus Group Discussions. Besides this, observation method was also adopted to note the condition of kitchen shed, maintenance of kitchen garden, and availability of the drinking water facility, preparation and distribution of the meal, manners of the children during the time of serving mid-day meal and hygienic conditions in the kitchen and school premises. School data on enrolment, number of teachers, weekly menu, etc. were collected from the head masters and teachers.

Relevant secondary data like, Annual Work Plan and Budget 2008-09, MDM data, revised guidelines for Mid-day Meal Scheme, and office orders and reports, etc. were collected from the Office of the Director of Elementary Education / Office of the State Nodal Officer, Mid-day Meal Scheme from the State Head Quarters, District Elementary Education Officers' offices, Block Elementary Education Officers' offices and schools.

SECTION – IV

Evidence Based Best Practices of Mid-Day Meal Scheme at School level

4.1 Profile of Golaghat District

Golaghat district covers the total area of 3502 sq. km. and is located 100 meters above the sea level. It lies between 93° 16' East to 94° 10' East Longitude and between 25° 50' north to 26° 47' North Latitude. The district is bounded by Brahmaputra River on the North, Jorhat, Nagaland on the East, Karbi Anglong and Nagaland state on the South and Naogaon, Karbi Anglong on the West. Golaghat district is situated at a distance 288 km. from Guwahati constituted with 5 educational blocks. The total population of the district has been recorded as 9,46,279 comprising of 4,90,286 males and 4,55,993 females. The scheduled caste (Kaibartta, Muchi, Dhupi etc.) population is 51,169 persons (5.41 percentage to total population). The scheduled tribe (Miri, Boro, Kachari etc.) population is 93,920 (9.93 percentage to total population). The sex ratio is 930 females per 1000 males. The population of the district is 14.21 per cent during the year 1991 to 2001. The economy of Golaghat district is chiefly dependent on agriculture. Crops grown in the district are Sugarcane, and Tea and Rice. Tea industry is one of the major industries of Golaghat. 20000MT of tea are produced every year by 63 Tea gardens of the region. The region is very rich in flora and fauna.

Golaghat district has an average literacy rate of 69.38 per cent: male literacy rate is 77.14 per cent and female literacy rate is 60.99 per cent. Some educational indicators are as given below:

Table: 4.1.1 Educational Institutions in Golaghat District

LP School	ME School	MV School	Venture LP	Recognized ME Schools
1002	195	40	278	176

Table: 4.1.2 Enrolment in Golaghat District

Type of School	2006-07	2007-08
Govt./Prov./Recog./TG	140432	153658
All School (including EGS, HTR, SSK)	175552	216199

Table: 4.1.3 Status of Out of School Children in Golaghat District

Year	Number of Children
2006 (As per House to House Survey)	25790
2007-08 (As per DISE)	9198

The department of education is implementing the following development schemes in the district for achieving the goal of Education For All.

A. Under SSA, Golaghat

- Construction of school building/ACR
- Sanitation scheme(Toilets)
- Drinking water facility
- Annual school infrastructure and annual school repairing and maintenance grants
- Teaching Learning Material (TLM) grants for teachers
- Operation of residential bridge course centre for working children and drop out children
- Training to the teachers for development of teaching
- Distribution of FTB

B. Under Department of Elementary Education

- Construction of kitchen-cum-store for Mid Day Meal
- Mid Day Meal
- Scholarship to the meritorious children
- Distribution of bicycle to the girl student living underBPL
- SCCP grants for construction of school building
- Financial assistance for non-govt. institutions
- F.C. grant
- Cash award to best performed school
- State award to the teachers

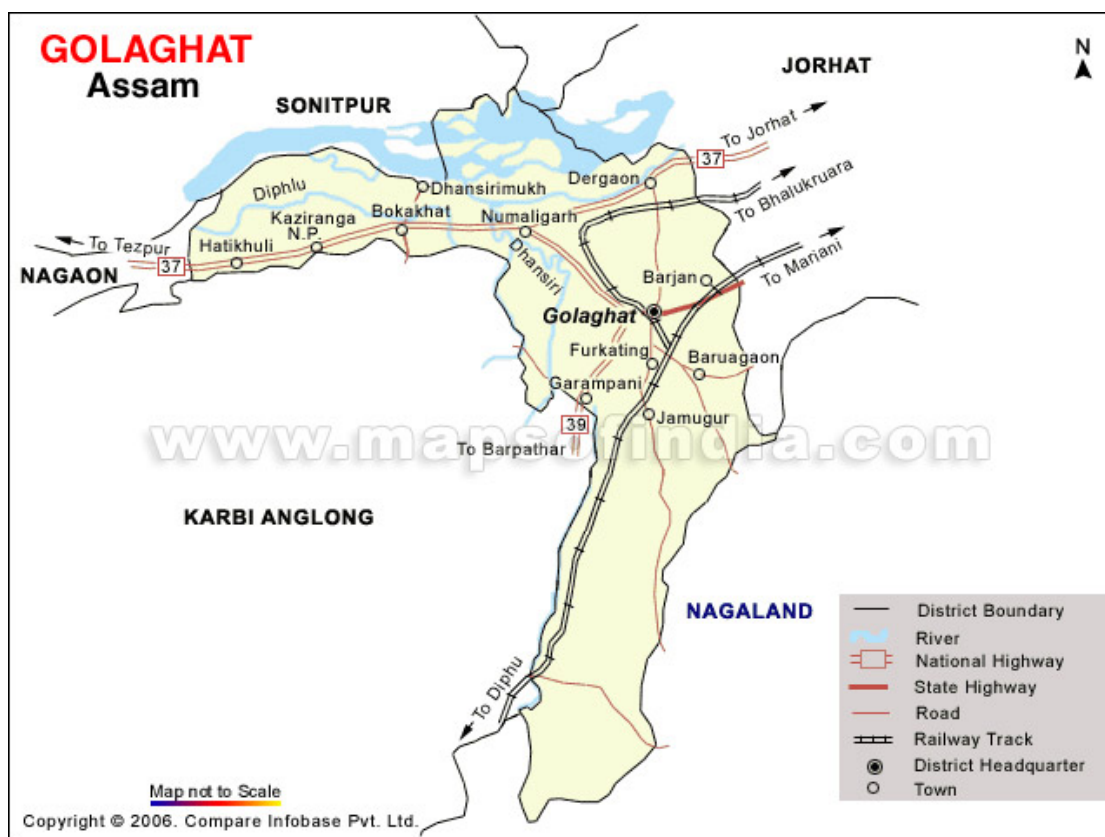


Table: 4.1.4
Enrolment in Lower Primary School of Golaghat West Education Block, Bokakhat

Year	Enrolment
2005-06	14,784
2006-07	15,983
2007-08	16,062
2008-09	16,583

School Managing Committee (SMC) and Mother's Group are supporting the school while implementing Mid-Day Meal Scheme in the district. Three schools identified for the best practices are discussed below:

4.1.1. Case Study of Baliyan L.P. School

The school was established in 1948 and is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in the rural area. It is located in west block of Golaghat district of Assam. The school consists of Grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational and it has an attached

pre-primary section. However, it does not have separate teachers for pre-primary section. Assamese is the medium of instruction in this school.

The school has two building blocks which is housed in a Government building. It has got four classrooms for instructional purposes. All the classrooms are in good condition. The pre-primary section is running in CRC building within the school premises.



The school has boundary wall with traditional main gate. The source of Drinking Water in the school is tube well. The school has a common toilet facility. There is no separate toilet for girls. The school has a playground. The school arranged medical check-up for its students during the previous academic year.

The school has three regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of three posts. The school has two female teachers. It has two community teachers also. They receive their salary from the SMC.

The total enrolment of school is 162, out of which boys' enrolment is 93 and girls' enrolment is 69. The ST enrolment is 84, OBC enrolment is 43 and others enrolment is 35.

Table: 4.1.5 Caste-wise Enrolment of the School

Class	S.T		OBC		General		Others		Total	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Ka-	11	8	4	5	0	5	1	0	16	18
I	13	5	6	2	2	1	1	0	22	8
II	7	10	14	3	5	4	4	2	30	19
III	5	5	5	3	3	2	0	0	13	10
IV	11	7	2	1	1	2	0	1	14	11
Total	49	35	28	15	11	16	6	4	93	69

Out of 127 students in primary classes 95 students were present in the school. It is informed that the due to Puja festival the attendance on that day is poor. The average attendance of the school is 90 per cent. All students take mid day meal in the school.

Best Practices adopted by the school for implementing Mid-Day meal scheme.

Community participation

Community coordinator encouraging Mother's committee members to participate in school activities like MDM, teaching in the absence of the teacher, running anganwadi centre in CRC building, attending prayer meetings, preparation of teaching aids, painting on the walls, cleaning the school premises and class rooms. Mother's Committee members are cooking mid day meal and serving to their children. The president of the committee is Mrs. Sareemai Bhuyan and the secretary is Mrs. Rupa Goswami. Students are following good habits like dressing well, keeping their shoes in order and washing hands before taking meal.

School Managing Committee



The names of the members of the School Managing Committee as given below: Sh. Jatindranath Sharma, President, Smt. Anuprava Loing, Secretary and the other members are: Sh. Ranjit Datta, Sh. Jiten Saikia, Sh. Jagnnath Hazarika, Smt. Biju Dutta, Smt. Renu Bora, Sh. Khagen Bora, Sh. Biman Boruah, Sh. Gobin Saikia, Smt. Rina Saikia, Sh. Tutul Rajbanshi, Md. Rafikul Haque, Sh. Subhra Jyoti Sharma, Smt. Sarumai Bhuyan, Sh. Nani Nath and Smt. Rupa Goswami.

School Managing Committee is implementing MDM scheme with the help of teachers and Mother's committee members in the school. Both the committees are working for the development of the school. The SMC president Sh. Jatindranath Nath Sharma is actively involved in the implementation of the MDM scheme and other developmental activities of the school with the help of Smt. Anuprava Loing, Secretary of the SMC. He is closely monitoring the activities of the school. He also donated money for the construction of Assam traditional main entrance gate of the school. Assam state housing board has not yet constructed the permanent kitchen shed. SMC members built temporary kitchen shed for

cooking purpose. The president of Committee arranges funds to meet the cooking cost in case of delay in getting funds from the department.

Mother's Group Members Cooking Mid-Day-Meal



The Mother's Committee is cooking and serving hot cooked meal to all children. Separate CRC hall is available for serving mid day meal to students. The menu of MDM is rice, dal and vegetable with soyabean on the visiting day. The weekly menu of mid-day meal is as follows:

Monday	-	Rice, dal and mixed vegetables
Tuesday	-	Khichdi and vegetables
Wednesday	-	Sweet, rice with milk
Thursday	-	Rice, dal and seasonal vegetables
Friday	-	Khichdi and mixed vegetables
Saturday	-	Sweet rice with milk

Mother's Group Members and Cook



Social Equity

All the communities are represented in both SMC and Mother's Committee. There is no social discrimination in the village.

School is also conducting student elections through proper ballot papers, campaigning in the village for electing student representatives. Education officers are encouraging community members to participate in the day to day activities of the school. Mother's committee members and SMC members are visiting other schools and sharing their experiences.

Good practices observed in the school

1. Community involvement in the day to day activities of the school through SMC, Mother's group and Meena club.
2. All the communities are working together for the development of the school. There is no social discrimination in this village.

3. School is maintaining hygienic conditions in the kitchen and school.
4. Education officers, Teachers, SMC and Mother's group are working together.

4.1.2. Case Study of Nepali Khuti Bonua L.P. school

The school was established in 1971 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in rural area. It is situated at a distance of about 9 km. from the block head quarters. It is located in west block of Golaghat district of Assam. The school consists of grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational and it has an attached pre-primary section. However, it does not have separate teachers for pre-primary section. Assamese is the medium of instruction in this school.

The school has 2 building blocks which are housed in a Government building. It has got four classrooms for instructional purposes. The school has huge play ground. The source of Drinking Water in the school is hand pump. The school has a common toilet facility. The school arranged medical check-up for its students during the previous academic year.

This school is having one head master and one community teacher. Mr. Bubul Dutta is the head master. His academic qualification is Higher Secondary. The school does not have non-teaching staff. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 61:1.

The total enrolment of school is 123, out of which boys' enrolment is 62 and girls' enrolment is 61. The SC enrolment is 31 and OBC enrolment, 18. The enrolment is increased because of MDM scheme. The average attendance of the school is 90 per cent. But only 68 students attended the school out of 123 children on that day due to festival.

Table: 4.1.6 Caste-wise Enrolment of the school

Class	General		S.C		OBC		T.G.L		Total	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Ka-	0	2	4	1	3	1	5	2	12	6
I	0	2	2	3	2	0	8	5	12	10
II	2	0	1	3	3	3	3	5	9	11
III	0	1	0	7	0	2	12	10	12	20
IV	3	2	4	6	1	3	9	3	17	14
Total	5	6	11	20	9	9	37	25	62	61

Store Room



Mid-Day meal Scheme is going on well in this school. This school is having temporary kitchen shed for cooking purpose. The Assam State Housing Board has not yet constructed the permanent kitchen shed. There is no separate store room for rice and other utensils. They are keeping rice in the class room. They are facing elephant problem in this area. Sometimes elephants break the walls and enter into the store room. The school has water facility for washing purpose. Not good for drinking purpose. Pupil carry drinking water from their home. School has common toilet facility for the students. Meena club is helping to improve the girl's enrolment in the school. Mrs. Mridula Ghatowa is the president and Mrs. Monika Nahak is the vice president of the club. District quality volunteers visit the school occasionally to guide the teachers and villagers. They also represent this school in the district meetings for quality improvement in teaching learning activities.

School Managing Committee (SMC)

Sh. Probhat Bora, president of SMC helps the Headmaster of the school in teaching as well as in MDMS programme. He spends some time in the school every day for helping

students and teachers. All the members of the SMC are closely associated with the school activities. School printed slogans for Education For All on the new year calendar and distributed to all the households in the village. They are motivating parents to send their children to school.

School Teachers



Growing Kitchen Garden by the Community members

Kitchen-garden has been developed in the school campus by the local community members with the help of SMC members and head master. One family is living in the school premises to protect the kitchen garden from the wild animals. They are growing Radish, green leaf, potato and other vegetables for cooking purpose. Mother's group is getting fresh vegetables for mid day meal purpose.

Kitchen Garden



Mother's Group

Mother's group members cooking mid day meal and serving to the students with the help of SMC members and teachers. Ms. Monica Saikia is the president and Ms. Nibha Pujari is the secretary of the mother's group. They are also helping in teaching, singing traditional songs, conducting prayer meetings and cleaning the class rooms. Mother's group members are involved in day to day activities of the school. The cook prepared rice, dal and soyabean for mid day meal.

Good practices observed in the school:

1. Community involvement for growing kitchen garden for MDM in the school.
2. All the communities are working together for the development of the school. There is no social discrimination in this village.
3. SMC president is attending the school and teaching every day.
4. Mother's group is maintaining hygienic conditions in the kitchen and school.

5. Education officers, sanitary inspector, health workers, Teachers, SMC and Mother's group are working for the overall development of the school.
6. School calendar printing and distributing every year to all the households.

4.1.3. Case Study of Bonsapare Bagisa L.P School

The school was established in 1953 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in rural area. It is located in West block of Golaghat district of Assam. The school consists of Grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational and it has an attached pre-primary section. It has got one teacher for pre-primary section.

The school has 2 building blocks which are housed in a Government building. It has got four classrooms for instructional purposes. It has no other room for non-teaching activities.

The school has no boundary wall. It is located very close to the main road. The source of Drinking Water in the school is Hand Pump. The school has a common toilet but does not have a separate toilet for girls. There is no separate playground for the school.

Ms. Mamoni Gayloo is the head mistress of school. The school has four regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of four posts. Out of this two teachers are female teachers. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 54:1.

The total enrolment of school is 215, out of which boys' enrolment is 110 and girls' enrolment, 105. Out of 215 children 204 children are from the tea garden employee's families. The average attendance of the school is 185 out of 215 students. But only 75 students attended the school on 04-11-2008 due to festival.

Table: 4.1.7 Class-wise Enrolment in the School

Class	General		T.G.L		Total	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Ka-	0	0	16	8	16	8
I	0	0	23	30	23	30
II	0	2	19	27	19	29
III	2	5	32	17	34	22
IV	0	2	18	14	18	16
Total	2	9	108	96	110	105

Kitchen Shed



Mid day meal is looked after by the School Managing Committee. They appointed cook and helper for cooking purpose. Most of the children in this school belong to tea garden workers. Their mothers are not in a position to spare much time for cooking and serving the mid day meal. One of the member from the Mother's group visiting the school every day for monitoring the quality of the food, cleanliness in the kitchen and helping to cook for serving the food. Community members donated furniture for the school and contributed

for the construction of separate store room for MDM .The village panchayat constructed temporary kitchen shed. Block level education officer visits the school every month once and cluster level officer visits monthly twice.

Drinking water



Good practices observed in the school:

1. Community members contribute money for infrastructure development of the school.
2. Meena group is working in the village for enrolling girl child.
3. VEC members visit school occasionally to give suggestions and support for SMC members.
4. One member of the Mother's group visiting the school every day for food quality monitoring and serving the mid day meal.
5. Primary health centre staff is visiting the school every month and distributing vitamin tablets.

4.2. Profile of Jorhat District

Jorhat district lies at the central region of Brahmaputra Valley, between 26° 46' north latitude and 96° 16' longitude. It is surrounded on the north by river Brahmaputra and on the south by the state Nagaland. Jorhat district was constituted in 1983 from the erstwhile Sibsagar District. Jorhat, Majuli and Titabor are the three Sub-divisions of Jorhat district, which is further split up into six revenue circles namely Jorhat West, Titabor, Teok, Mariani Majuli and Jorhat East, and eight development blocks namely Kaliapani Development Block, North West Development Block (Dhekorgarah), Titabor Development Block, East Jorhat Development Block (Selenghat), Central Jorhat Development Block (Chipahikhola), Jorhat Development Block (Baghchung), Majuli Development Block, Ujani Majuli Development Block. Jorhat has the honor of being the first district in Assam that has 100% literacy rate.

Total population of Jorhat district is 10,09,197 persons (according to 2001 census). Among them 5,30,240 male and 4,78,957 female. The rural population is 8,38,549 and among them 4,39,282 male and 3,99,267 female. The urban population is 1,70,648 persons. Among them 90,958 are male and 79,690 female.

In the agriculture sector tea and rice are the major crops grown in the region. Jorhat district is culturally rich with many creative authors, journalists, historians, etc. Indian Air force has a base at Jorhat and the premier oil company of India also has an establishment here. In the state of Assam Jorhat district has established itself as the seat for modern education. Some of the oldest educational institutions of India Jorhat Govt. High School founded in 1883 and Jagannath Barooah College in 1930 are established in the district.

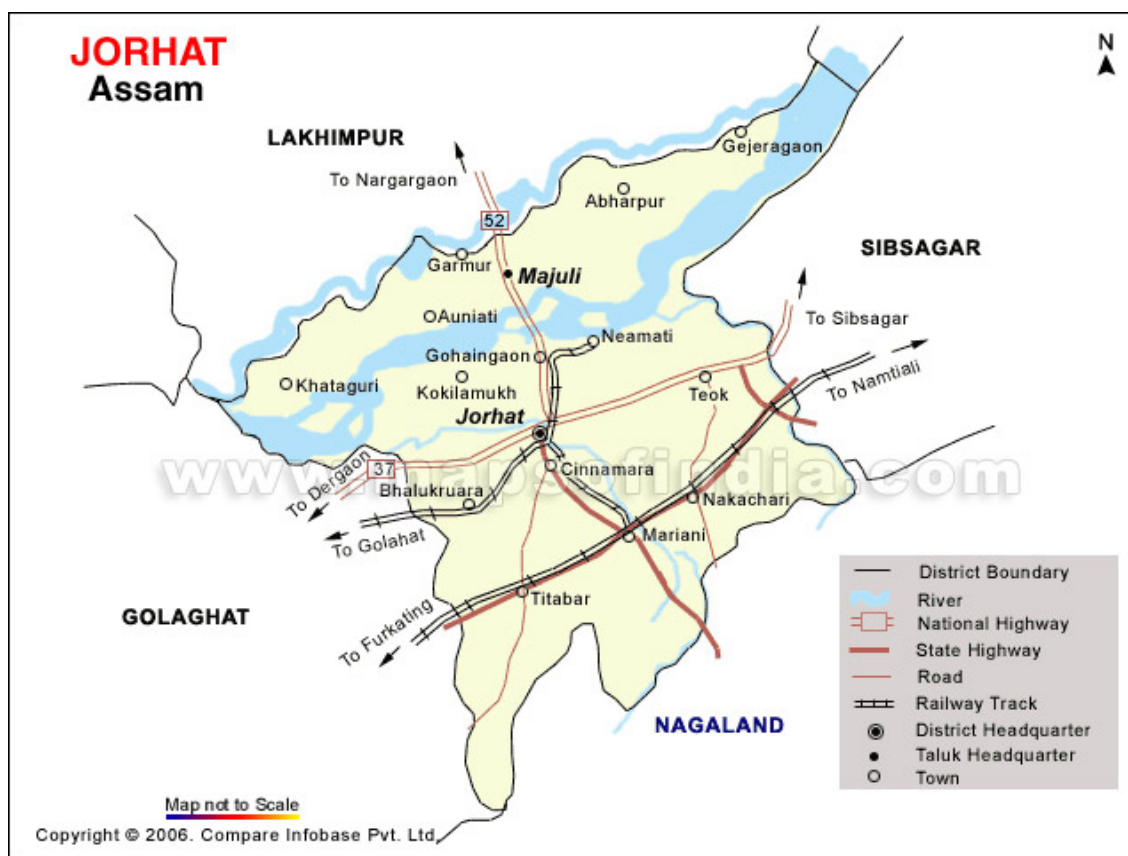


Table: 4.2.1 Literacy rates of Jorhat district in 1991 and 2001

1991			2001		
Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
66 %	73 %	57 %	76 %	83 %	68 %

Table: 4.2.2 Block Wise Committees

Block	Cluster	GP	VEC	TGEC	WEC
Central	18	14	89	25	
East	15	15	94	23	
Jorhat	23	27	82	34	24
Majuli	29	20	190	00	
North West	11	18	96	2	
Titabor	17	17	119	33	
Total	113	111	670	117	24

Jorhat district has an average literacy rate of 76 per cent: male literacy rate is 83 per cent and female literacy rate is 68 per cent. Some educational indicators are as given below:

Table: 4.2.3 Circle Wise Literacy Rate of Jorhat District (as per census 2001)

Name of the District: Jorhat										
Name of Circle Wise	Literacy Rate in percentage									Rural Female Literacy Rate
	All communities			Rural			Urban			
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Majuli	84.0	63.0	73.9	84.0	63.0	73.5				63.0
Jorhat West	85.2	72.2	79	83.7	69.5	76.6	92.7	85.1	89	69.5
Jorhat East	90.6	82.8	86.9	93.3	83.1	88.2	89	82.5	86	83.1
Teok	81.1	63.7	72.6	81.1	63.7	72.4				63.7
Titabor	79.3	66.3	71.5	77.6	60.8	69.2	91.7	84.1	88	60.8

Table: 4.2.4 Block-wise Number of Lower Primary Schools in Jorhat District

Block	LP (Govt.)	Bagan Managed	Local Body
Central	225	1	
East	229	1	
Jorhat	254		3
Majuli	433		
North West	203		
Titabor	223	1	
District Total	1567	3	3

Table:4.2.5 Block-wise Number of Upper Primary Schools in Jorhat District

Block	ME	MV	Recg. ME	Composite	Central Govt.
Central	30	6	19	9	
East	38	12	18	10	
Jorhat	42	10	21	26	2
Majuli	84	12	58	20	
North West	39	9	11	10	
Titabor	42	7	24	13	1
Total	275	47	151	88	3

Table: 4.2.6 Block-wise Number of Institutions for MDM

Name of Block	Block wise Total nos. of schools/ center for MDM	School/Centers								Total	Enrollment
		LB	BM	FA	SSK	EGS	CCP	HTR	RBC		
Majuli	515	0	Nil	22	17	19	16	1		75	15645
North-West	252	Nil	Nil	13	17	1	5	Nil		36	9856
Titabor	319	Nil	1	25	38	18	8	2	1	93	15472
Jorhat	298	3	Nil	13	33	21	1	Nil		71	15700
DI Jorhat	64	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	26	1	29	5504
Central	281	Nil	1	18	18	3	8	1		49	9156
East	287	Nil	1	17	26	3	Nil	Nil		47	10449
Total:	2016	3	3	110	149	65	38	30	2	400	
						Total Enrolment					81782

Table: 4.2.7 Sample School Profiles of Jorhat and North West Jorhat Blocks

Block Name	Panchayat Name	School Name	Teachers Position	Kitchen Shed	Drinking Water Facility	KAB	KAG	C1B	C1G	C2B	C2G	C3B	C3G	C4B	C4G	Total Enrolment
Jorhat	48 No Uttar Namoni Charaibahi	151 No Parbatia Adrasha Lps	6	Yes	Hand Pump	14	14	21	20	23	18	20	31	19	24	204
North West Jorhat	34 No Pachim Charigaon	83 no. Nakari Adar. Nimna Bu.	5	Yes	Hand Pump	18	21	16	20	17	16	15	17	21	19	180
Jorhat	51 No Baghchung Charibahi	133 no Bongal Pukhuri Adarsha	12	Yes	Hand Pump	13	12	8	11	10	14	26	14	23	20	151
Jorhat	49 No Madhya Namoni Charaibahi	KRISHILAYA LP	5	Yes	Tap Water	9	10	9	9	5	8	7	3	6	6	72
Jorhat	Jorhat Town	4 no Ward Lp	28	Yes	Tap Water	107	82	94	110	101	103	112	103	120	91	1023

4.2.1. Case Study of Ward Number 4 Primary School

The school was established in 1941 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in urban area. It is situated at a distance of about less than 1 km. from the block head quarters. It is located in Jorhat block of Jorhat district of Assam. The school consists of Grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational and it has an attached pre-primary section. The school is non-residential in nature.

The school has 4 building blocks which are housed in a Government building. It has got 23 classrooms for instructional purposes. It has 3 other rooms for non-teaching activities. All the classrooms are in good condition.

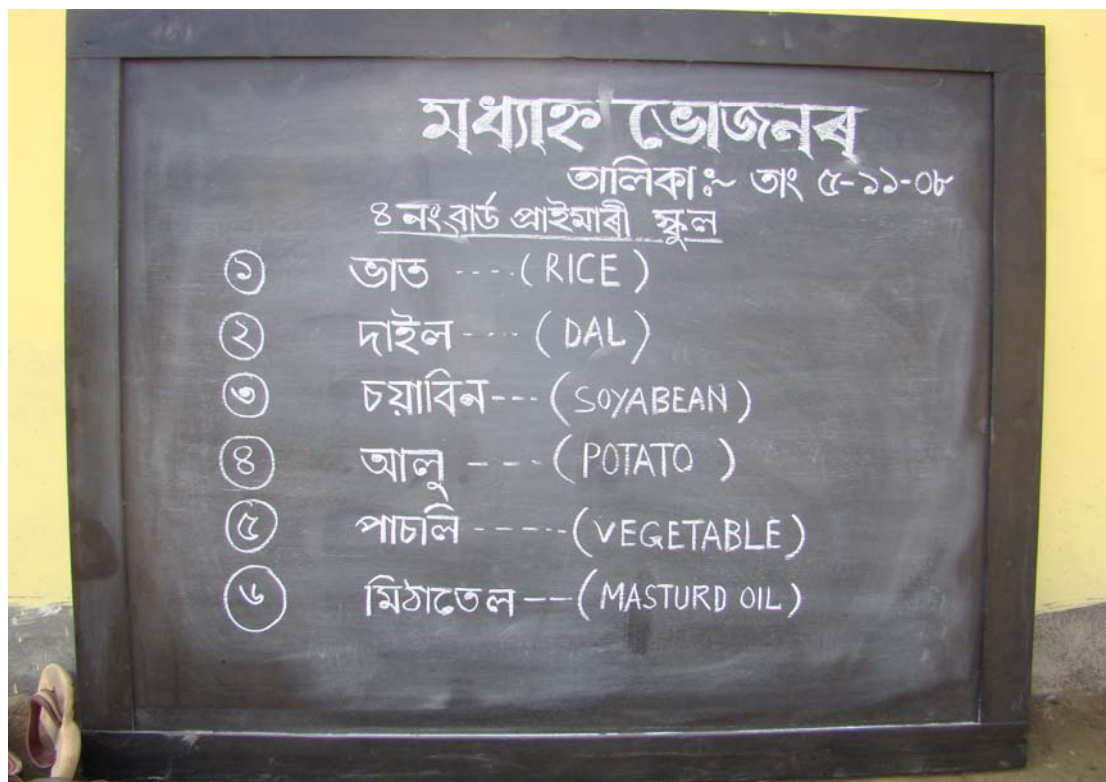
The school has got pucca boundary wall. The school has electricity connection. The source of Drinking Water in the school is municipal tap water. The school has a separate toilet for girls. The school does not have playground. The school arranged medical check-up for its students during the previous academic year. The school has a computer.

Ms. Bizoya Dutta is the Head mistress of the school. The school has 30 regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of 30 posts. There are eight female teachers in the school. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 23:1.

The total enrolment of school is 716. There is a demand for admission in this school. The class wise enrolment is as given below:

Table:4.2.8 Class Wise Enrolment

Class	Number of students
Kaman Sreni	120
I	130
II	133
III	163
IV	170
Total	716



Implementation of the mid day meal scheme

SMC president and the secretary (head teacher) are maintaining all the registers. Mother's group members are very active in this school. There are eight members cooking food for about 716 children. They received training for bulk cooking arranged by the SMC members. They are maintaining hygienic conditions in the kitchen. They want to cook good food for their children. Mother's group members are sparing much time for the development of the school. The menu is Soya bean, Alu, dal and rice. SMC members provided steel plates for poor children. They also supervise MDM and other activities of the school. School is also maintaining health record of all the students with the help of health workers. The school is providing good food because of low per student cost.

Good practices observed in the School:

1. Best urban school with good infrastructure facilities like teachers, buildings, furniture, drinking water etc.
2. SMC members taking keen interest in school activities and conducting monthly meetings.
3. Mother's Group is very active and dedicated for the development of the school.
4. Head teacher is maintaining all the records regarding MDM.
5. Providing quality food under MDM scheme.

4.2.2. Case Study of Ward No.151 Parbatia Adarsha L P School

The school was established in 1883 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in rural area. It is situated at a distance of about 10 km. from the Block head quarters. It is located in Jorhat block of Jorhat district of Assam. The school consists of Grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational and a pre-primary section attached. The school has two building blocks which are housed in a Government building. It has got seven classrooms for instructional purposes. The school has a boundary wall. The school has electricity connection. The source of Drinking Water in the school is Hand Pump.

Water filter was donated by the North East Institute of Science and Technology, Jorhat. The school has a separate toilet for girls. The school does not have playground. The school has a book-bank and has 120 books in its library. School has kitchen shed and separate store room for MDM purpose.

Water Filter



Ms. Ranu Goswami is the Headmistress. She is maintaining all the records with the help of other teachers for MDM scheme. The school has six regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of 6 posts. The school has four female teachers. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 32:1

The total enrolment of school is 197, out of which 166 students were present on 5th November, 2009. The average attendance of the school is 85 to 90 per cent. The class wise enrolment and attendance is as follows:

Table: 4.2.9 Enrolment and Attendance of the School on 5th Nov., 2008

Class	Enrolment	No. of students present on 5th November, 2008
Kaman Shreni	32	25
I	36	30
II	40	34
III	41	32
IV	48	45
Total	197	166

Cook Serving the Food



Teacher's Participation in MDM

The Head mistress is looking after the mid day meal scheme with the help of other teachers. Most of the students are from the low income groups of the village. Their parents are not in a position to spare much time for the school activities. They have to go to work every day. The president of the SMC is Sh. Noren Pujari. Twelve member SMC meets once in a month. Occasionally they visit school to monitor the MDM. SMC appointed two persons for cooking and serving the mid day meal to the students. They pay consolidated salary of Rs.450/- per month, per head. Both of them belong to mother's group. On the day of the visit the menu included rice, dal and vegetable. On Monday children get boiled egg in addition to their normal food. Every Saturday they prepare khichdi for mid day meal. Mother's group members visit school occasionally and supervise the quality of the food and hygiene conditions in the kitchen. Community members donated money for the construction of two rooms. They also donated fan and cupboard for the school. Implementation of the mid day meal is going on well with the support of all the teachers.

Good practices observed in the School:

1. Maintaining the hygienic condition in the kitchen by the cook.
2. Teacher's involvement in MDM programme.
3. Community contribution to the school
4. Using water filter for drinking water purpose

4.2.3. Case Study of Ward Number 83 Nakani Adarsha L.P. School

The school was established in 1881 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in rural area. It is situated at a distance of about 10 km. from the block head quarters. It is located in North West Jorhat block of Jorhat district of Assam. The school consists of grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational.

The school has one building block which is housed in a Government building. It has got five classrooms for instructional purposes. All the classrooms are in good condition. It has got another room for non-teaching activities.

The school has got pucca boundary wall. The school has electricity connection. The source of Drinking Water in the school is Hand Pump. The school has a common toilet and also has a separate toilet for girls as well. The school has a book-bank and has 50 books in its library. The school organised medical check-up for its students during the previous academic year.



The school has five regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of five posts. The school has three female teachers. The school has one non-teaching staff. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 31:1 and the Student-Classroom Ratio (SCR), 31:1. On an average, about 31 students sit in one classroom which sounds comfortable.

The total enrolment of school is 156, out of which 80 students are from SC community, 4 students from OBC, 3 students from Tea garden. The average attendance of the school is 90 per cent.

Table:4.2.10 Enrolment and Attendance of the school on 5th Nov., 2008

Class	Enrolment	No. of students present on 5th November, 2008
Kaman Shreni	27	15
I	35	24
II	32	21
III	30	17
IV	32	21
Total	156	98

Implementation of MDM Scheme

The government has constructed kitchen cum store room for mid day meal scheme. School Managing Committee is providing all support for implementing the scheme. The president of SMC Mr. Debeswar Saikia is educated person. He is visiting the school regularly and motivating other members of SMC to take active part in the day to day functioning of the school. Head Mistress of the school, Mrs. Monjula Duwora is the secretary of the committee. The SMC president is present every day at the time of mid day meal distribution. Mother's group members Mrs. Moni Boma and Mrs. Nimoda Boma are cooking mid day meal and distributing to the students. Teachers are contributing money for purchasing vegetables from the market. The community members are very poor. They are not in a position to give vegetables for mid day meal. The weekly menu of the MDM is as follows:

Monday	Rice, Dal, Vegetable and egg
Tuesday	Rice, Dal, Vegetable
Wednesday	Khisiri with Vegetable
Thursday	Kheer (Sweet)
Friday	Rice, Dal, Vegetable
Saturday	Rice, Dal, Vegetable



Good practices observed in the School:

1. Mother's group has taken the responsibility of cooking and serving the mid day meal.
2. SMC president is visiting the school regularly and helping teachers and cook. He wants more freedom to select active SMC members.
3. School is very neat and clean. Painting work is in progress.
4. Drawing of block, district and state maps on the walls by the education department.
5. Teachers contributing money for providing vegetables for mid day meal.

4.2.4. Case Study of 133 Bongal Pukhuri Adarsha LP School

The school was established in 1901 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in rural area. It is situated at a distance of about 4 km. from the block head quarters. It is located in Jorhat block of Jorhat district of Assam. The school consists of grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational.

The school has one building block which is housed in a Government building. It has got seven classrooms for instructional purposes. The school has got barbed wire fencing boundary wall. The school has electricity connection. The source of drinking water in the school is hand pump. The school has a common toilet but does not have a separate toilet for girls. The school does not have playground. The school did not arrange medical check-up for its students during the previous academic year.

Mr. Bubul Ch. Bora is the Head Master of school and his academic qualification is Secondary. The school has 11 regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of 13 posts. The school has 9 female teachers. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 11:1 and the Student-Classroom Ratio (SCR), 24:1. On an average, about 25 students sit in one classroom.

The total enrolment of school is 121, out of which, SC enrolment is 1, ST enrolment is 5 and OBC enrolment is 17. The average attendance of students in school is 90 per cent.

Table:4.2.11 Enrolment and Attendance of the school on 5th Nov., 2008

Class	Enrolment	No. of students present on 5th November, 2008
Kaman Shreni	17	15
I	26	18
II	16	15
III	26	19
IV	36	31
Total	121	98

Implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme

Majority of the students from migrant labour settlements from far away places in the town. They are not taking proper food at home. Most of them are getting nutritious meal at school. There are 12 members in SMC. Sh. Proful Khound is the president of the committee. He is a retired government servant. Mr. Bubul Ch. Bora is the secretary of the committee. He is sparing most of his time for MDM scheme. All other teachers are not involved in MDM scheme. They are concentrating on teaching only. They appointed Mr. Bubu Dutta as a cook. Mother's group members are helping the cook for preparation and distribution of the food. School is having kitchen, store room and separate room for eating mid day meal. They serve the food in three different batches. They are using fire wood for cooking purpose to reduce the cooking cost. School has municipal tap water facility. The puja committee is bearing the water charges. Community members donating for infrastructure facilities like additional room, water filters, fans and cupboards etc.

Good practices observed in the School:

1. Head master is working very hard for the implementation of mid day meal.
2. SMC president and other members are providing support for the school.
3. Mother's group members helping in cooking and serving the mid day meal.
4. Most of the students in this school are from economically poor families. They are getting nutritious food.
5. School has separate room for serving mid day meal
6. Community organizations are providing financial support to the school.

4.2.5. Case Study of Krisilaya LP school

The school was established in 1961 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in rural area. It is situated at a distance of about 4 km. from the block head quarters. It is located in Jorhat block of Jorhat district of Assam. The school consists of

grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational. The school has one building block which is housed in a Government building. It has got five classrooms for instructional purposes. The school has got barbed wire fencing boundary wall. The school has electricity connection. The school has a separate toilet for staff, boys and girls. The school has a playground with all the equipment. The school has a book-bank and has 50 books in its library. The school arranged medical check-up for its students during the previous academic year.

Ms. Bhanu Borah is the Head Mistress of school and her academic qualification is Secondary. The school has four regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of 5 posts. All the teachers of school are female teachers. The school does not have non-teaching staff. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 20:1.

The total enrolment of school is 82, out of which the SC enrolment is 2, ST enrolment is 1 and others enrolment is 79.

Table: 4.2.12 Enrolment and Attendance of the school on 5th Nov., 2008

Class	Enrolment	No. of students present on 5th November, 2008
Kaman Shreni	12	03
I	24	23
II	10	10
III	14	12
IV	12	07
Total	82	55

Implementation of the mid day meal scheme

The school is situated in the Agricultural university campus. School has good infrastructure facilities like kitchen, store room, separate toilets for staff, girls and boys. Most of the children are coming from out side the campus. Their parents are daily wage labourers. They are not taking proper food at home. Most of them are getting nutrition meal at school only. Dr. Ratul Ch. Bora, Dean, AAU is the president of the committee. Mrs. Bhanu Bora is the secretary of the committee. She is sparing most of her time for the development of the school. She got the best HM award at the district level this year. There

are 2 more professors from the university are also members of the SMC. SMC appointed Mrs. Bina Neog and Mrs. Purobi Bora as cooks for MDM. They are providing nutritious mid day meal to the poor students. The weekly menu is as follows:

Monday	Dal, Rice, Vegetable and Soyabean
Tuesday	Dal, Rice, Vegetable and Soyabean
Wednesday	Dal, Rice, Vegetable, Soyabean and egg
Thursday	Khichdi/Kheer
Friday	Dal, Rice, Vegetable and Soyabean
Saturday	Khichdi

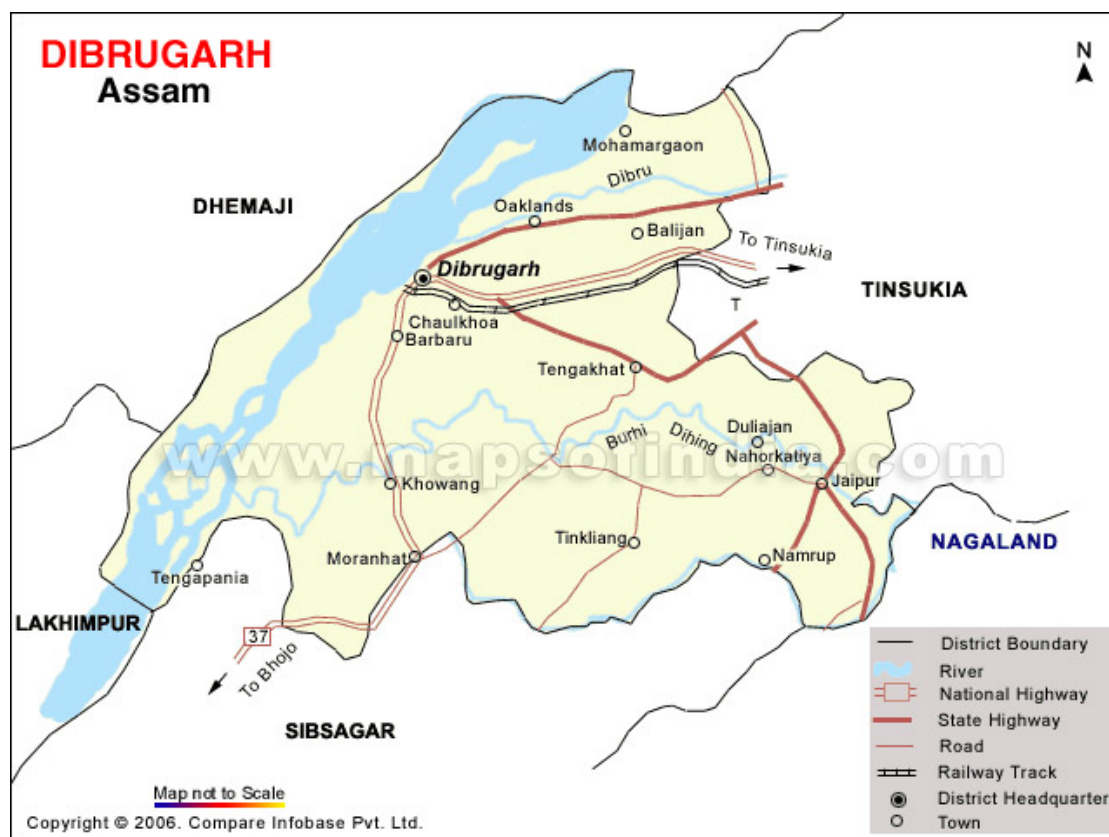
SMC members are trying very hard to improve the quality of education in the school. They are organizing special classes for the students. All other teachers are not involved in MDM scheme. They are concentrating on teaching only. They are using fire wood for cooking purpose to reduce the cooking cost. School has water facility. The SMC is getting budget allocation from the university for the development of the school infrastructure.

Good practices observed in the school:

1. SMC members providing nutritious food and extra classes for the improvement of the quality of education.
2. SMC president and other members are working in the university. They are giving guidance to teachers and getting funds from the university for infrastructure development.
3. School has very good infrastructure like Pucca kitchen, store, play ground with equipment and separate toilets for staff, boys and girl students.
4. Most of the students in this school are from economically poor families. They are getting nutritious food.
5. HM is taking keen interest for providing hot cooked meal with the help of two cooks and SMC members. She is maintaining all the records up to date.

4.3 Profile of Dibrugarh District

Dibrugarh district is located between 27° 5' 38" North to 27° 42' 30" North latitude and 94° 33' 46" East to 95° 29' 8" East longitude. It is surrounded on the Southeast by Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh, on the North by Dhemaji district, on the East by Tinsukia district, and on the North and Southwest by the Sibsagar district. The district covers a geographical area of 3381 sq. km. Some of the rivers flowing through the region are Brahmaputra, Burhi Dihing, Digboi, Tipling, Deherang, Sessa, Telpani, Tingrai, Tipam and Disam. As per 2001 census the total population has been recorded as 698,148 out of which 406,265 are males and 291,883 female. The scheduled caste (Kaibartta, Generic castes, Namasudra etc.) population is 48, 024 persons (4.05 percentage to total population). The scheduled tribe (Kachari, Miri, Mech etc.) population is 88,337 persons (7.45 percentage to total population). The population growth rate of the district is 12.43 per cent during the year 1991 to 2001. The district headquarter is Dibrugarh.



Dibrugarh district is one of the most industrialized regions of Assam. The major industries of Dibrugarh district are Oil and Tea. Oil India Limited has its headquarters at Duliajan, located 50 Km from Dibrugarh town. Some of the other industries established in the district are the Fertiliser Corporation of India and Assam Petro-Chemicals Limited at Namrup and the Assam Gas Company at Duliajan, North Eastern Electrical Power Corporation (NEEPCO) near Duliajan.

The district of Dibrugarh has only one sub-division and seven revenue circles and seven development blocks. The seven revenue circles of Dibrugarh district are: Tingkhong, Dibrugarh West, Chabua, Moran, Tengakhat, Naharkatiya and Dibrugarh East circle. The seven development blocks of Dibrugarh district are: Tengakhat, Borboruahh, Deputy Inspector of schools (urban) Dibrugarh (Sadar), Lahowal, Panitola, Khowang and Joypur development block.

Dibrugarh district has an average literacy rate of 68.96 per cent: male literacy rate is 77.30 per cent and female literacy rate is 59.95 per cent.

The total number of Schools of the District covered under Mid Day Meal scheme along with Enrolment position is given below:

Table: 4.3.1 Management-wise Number of Schools covered under MDM and Enrolment in Dibrugarh district

Type of the School	No. of schools	Enrolment
Govt./provincialised L.P. Schools	1184	82996
Govt.Aided L.P.S. (F.A.)	109	6453
L.P. Section of M.V. School	40	2507
EGS Centre (SSA)	134	7546
AIE Centre (SSA)	345	8426
HTR Centre (SSA)	20	690
T.G. Management	144	18699
Total	1,976	1,27,317

The district of Dibrugarh has only one sub-division and seven revenue circles and seven development blocks. The seven revenue circles of Dibrugarh district are: Tingkhong, Dibrugarh West, Chabua, Moran, Tengakhat, Naharkatiya and Dibrugarh East circle. There

are six educational blocks of Dibrugarh district namely Tengakhata, Borboruah, Lahowal, Panitola, Khowang, Joypur and Deputy Inspector of schools (urban) Dibrugarh (Sadar),

Table: 4.3.2 Block wise and Sub-Division wise Number of Institutions covered under MDM and Enrolment in Dibrugarh district (2008-09)

Name of the Block	No. of Institutions	Enrolment
Khowang	379	22965
Borboruah	285	17167
Lahowal	237	15404
Panitola	200	13916
Tengakhata	364	21782
Joypur	460	28376
D.I., Dibrugarh (Sadar)	51	7707
Total	1976	127317

The total number of institutions increased from 1,865 (2007-08) to 1,976. The number of students enrolled in the schools also increased from 1,24,246 to 1,27,317 in Dibrugarh district.

Kitchen Garden for nutrition rich food for school children

Northeast Affected Area Development Society (NEADS) through participatory rural appraisal involve the communities, village organizations and community based organizations in the development process. NEADS is also carrying out a project on “Kitchen Gardening” sponsored by UNICEF to support the Mid-day meal programme functioning in the schools with a view to enrich the nutritional value of the meals, making the schools self-reliant, generate interest among the children to ensure active participation in developing and maintaining kitchen gardens and ensure effective use of the activities as experimental learning for the children.

Kitchen Garden



There are 43 schools from six education blocks of Dibrugarh district has been selected on the basis of availability of land, water facility and within a distance from each other in a block. The block wise schools selected for the project is given below:

Table: 4.3.3 Project Schools for implementation of kitchen garden

Sl.No.	Name of the Block	Number of Schools
1.	Khowang block	9
2.	Lahowal block	6
3.	Panitola block	6
4.	Tingkhong block	10
5.	Borboruah block	8
6.	Tengakhath block	4
Total		43

Implementation of the project

- School level and community level meetings organized to create awareness regarding the project.

- The selected schools have formed a “Kitchen gardening management committee” for smooth functioning of the project.
- To encourage organic farming, training on “Bokashi”, a Japanese technology on preparation of organic manure has been imparted to the schools carrying out the project.

Monitoring

Regular monitoring of the gardening activities of the schools are recorded by the Programme Facilitators at every block.

There are three schools visited out of 43 project schools in Dibrugarh district.

4.3.1 Case Study of 145 Chanimari L P School

The school was established in 1950 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in rural area. It is located in Khowang block of Dibrugarh district of Assam. The school consists of Grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational. Assamese is the medium of instruction in this school.

The school has two building blocks which are housed in a Government building. It has got 2 classrooms for instructional purposes which are in good condition. The school has got pucca boundary wall. The source of drinking water in the school is hand pump. The school does not have a common toilet or separate toilet for girls. The school does not have playground. The school arranges medical check-up for its students for every two months.

Mr. Umesh Gogoi is the head master of school and his academic qualification is Secondary. The school has 2 regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of 2 posts. The school does not have female teachers. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 15:1.

The total enrolment of school is 30, out of which 24 students attended the school on 6th November, 2008. The students are from the poor families. But, they are attending the school regularly. The class wise enrolment and attendance is as follows:

Table: 4.3.4 Enrolment and Attendance as on 6th November, 2008

Class	Enrolment	Attendance on 6th November, 2008
Kaman Sreni	7	3
I	7	6
II	4	4
III	5	4
IV	7	7
Total	30	24

Good practices adopted by the community and NGO for Implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme

Kitchen Garden Managing Committee

The school has kitchen garden managing committee to look after the kitchen garden for MDM scheme. The committee developed very big kitchen garden on the river bank. UNICEF is providing Rs.4000/- financial assistance through NGO (NEADS). The NGO is giving guidance for developing the kitchen garden and maintaining through community members. They are growing variety of vegetables for providing nutrition rich food for school children. Community is taking keen interest for supporting MDM scheme through growing kitchen garden on the river bank.



Mother's group contribution

The school is a small school. It has pucca kitchen shed and store room for MDM purpose. The enrolment in the school is very less (30 students). Cook and helper are getting nominal amount for preparing mid day meal. Mother's group provided cook and helper. The name of the cook is Smt. Bhadyaboti Bokuah. She is serving food for children in the veranda. Ms. Reena Baruah is the president and Ms. Rumi Chetia is the secretary of the mother's group along with 8 other members. All the members are house wives. The weekly menu of the school is as follows:

Monday	Rice and Dal
Tuesday	Potato and Rice
Wednesday	Green vegetable and Rice
Thursday	Soy bean and Rice
Friday	Potato and Rice

Role of School Managing Committee

The school is implementing MDM under the supervision of SMC. They are getting food grains as per the time schedule time from the department. The president of the committee and other members are providing all the necessary support to the head teacher for implementing the mid day meal scheme. The members are also visiting the school occasionally.

4.3.2. Case Study of Mazbam L.P. School

The school was established in 1956 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in remote rural area. It is situated at a distance of about 24 km. from the block head quarters. It is located in Khowang block of Dibrugarh district of Assam. The school consists of grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational and it has an attached pre-primary section. It does not have toilet facility for boys and girls. The school is non-residential in nature. The school does not have a boundary wall.

The school has one building block which is housed in a Government building. It has got five classrooms for instructional purposes. None of the classroom(s) needs major repairs. It has no other room for non-teaching activities.

The school does not have electricity connection. The source of drinking water in the school is hand pump. The school does not have permanent kitchen shed and store room for MDM scheme. Thengal Kachasi Autonomous Council has donated water filter and cupboard.

Mr. Bhairob Chandra Gogoi is the Head Master of school and his academic qualification is Secondary. The school has two regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of two posts. The school does not have female teachers. It has one IED volunteer from SSA. The school does not have non-teaching staff. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 33:1.

The total enrolment of school is 82, out of which Kaman Sreni students are 15, Class I enrolment is 10, class II enrolment is 14, Class III enrolment is 15 and Class IV enrolment is 28. The average attendance of the school is 80 per cent. Most of the students in the village are from OBC and ST communities. They are from the economically poor family background.

Kitchen Garden Managing Committee

The school has a kitchen garden managing committee to look after the kitchen garden for MDM scheme. The committee consists of 8 members. The president of the committee is Ms. Prasanta Gogoi and the secretary is Ms. Pratima Mohan. Committee developed big kitchen garden adjoining to the school building. They are growing seasonal vegetables and fruits for nutrition rich mid day meal. Most of the parents are very poor. They are not able to spare time for school kitchen garden work. The committee hires some workers for kitchen garden work. The committee is getting funds for fencing, seeds and wages from the NGO. The committee members are not taking wages for working in the kitchen garden. The NGO has appointed programme facilitator for giving guidance for the committee from time to time.

Kitchen Garden



Mother's Group

The school does not have pucca kitchen shed and store room for MDM purpose. The Mother's group is appointed permanent cook for preparation of the food from their group. The members are helping in cooking and serving the food. They are also helping in teaching. The cook is getting nominal amount (0.30 paisa per student). The weekly menu of the school is as follows:

Monday	Rice and Dal, Potato and Soya bean
Tuesday	Potato, Dal and Soya bean and Rice
Wednesday	Green vegetable and Rice
Thursday	Green vegetable and Rice
Friday	Khichdi

School Managing Committee

The school is implementing MDM under the supervision of SMC. They are getting food grains as per the time schedule from the department. The president of the committee Sh. Subhash Phukan and other 10 members are providing all the necessary support to the head teacher for implementing the mid day meal scheme. The members are also visiting the school occasionally to monitor the mid day meal scheme.

School Managing Committee Members



4.3.3. Case Study of No. 1 Puberun Nigam L.P. School

The school was established in 1982 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in remote rural area. It is situated at a distance of about 19 km. from the block head quarters. It is located in Khowang block of Dibrugarh district of Assam. The school consists of grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational and it has an attached pre-primary section.

The school has one building block which is housed in a Government building. It has got two classrooms for instructional purposes. It has no other room for non-teaching activities.

The school has got barbed wire fencing boundary wall. The school does not have electricity connection. The source of drinking water in the school is hand pump. The school does not have a common toilet or separate toilet for girls. The school has a playground. The school does not have a book-bank. The school arranged medical check-up for its students during the previous academic year.

Mr. Kamakhya Saikia is the head teacher of school. The school has one regular teacher in position against a sanctioned strength of two posts. The school does not have female teacher. It has one volunteer from SSA. The school does not have non-teaching staff. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 30:1.

The total enrolment of school is 60, out of which Kaman Sreni students are 14, Class I enrolment is 11, class II enrolment is 9, Class III enrolment is 16 and Class IV enrolment is 11. The average attendance of the school is 80 per cent. Most of the students in the village are from OBC and ST communities. They are from the economically poor family background.

Kitchen Garden Managing Committee

The school has kitchen garden managing committee to look after the kitchen garden for providing nutrition rich mid day meal. The committee consists of six members. The president of the committee is Mr. Jagannath Dutta and the secretary of the committee is Mr. Kamakhya Saikia. The other members are Ms. Lata Saikia, Mr. Subhash Saikia, Mr. Hukeswar Bora and Ms. Bimala Sonewal. They have developed big kitchen garden adjoining to the school building. They are growing seasonal vegetables for nutrition rich mid day meal. Most of the parents are poor. They are not able to spare time for helping in kitchen garden. The committee hires some workers for kitchen garden work. The committee is getting funds from UNICEF through the NGO. The committee members are not taking wages for working in the kitchen garden. The NGO is appointed programme facilitators for giving guidance for the committee from time to time.

Kitchen Garden



Community Involvement

The school does not have pucca kitchen shed and store room for MDM purpose. SMC members constructed temporary kitchen shed for cooking purpose. The school has drinking water facility within the school campus. The SMC appointed cook and helper from village community for preparation and distribution of the cooked food. Ms. Rupa Sonowal, President and other members of the mother's group are helping for implementing the mid day meal scheme. The cook and helper are getting nominal amount as salary. The weekly menu of the mid day meal is as follows:

Weekly Menu

Monday	Rice and Dal, Potato and Soya bean
Tuesday	Green vegetable and Rice
Wednesday	Green vegetable, dal and Rice
Thursday	Khichdi
Friday	Rice and Dal, Potato and Soya bean

School Managing Committee

The school is implementing MDM under the supervision of SMC. They are getting food grains as per the time schedule from the department. The president of the committee is Shri Basanta Dihingia and the secretary is Mr. Kamakhya Saikia. There are twelve other members of the SMC are providing all the necessary support to the head teacher for implementing the mid day meal scheme. The members are also visiting the school occasionally to monitor the mid day meal scheme.

4.4 Profile of Nagaon District

Nagaon district is a part of the upper Assam (in North-East India). Its landmass extends from 250-45' to 260 -45' N Latitude 920 -33' -6" E Longitude and is bounded by Sonitpur district and the Brahmaputra river in the north, West Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills in the south, East Karbi Anglong and Golaghat district in the east. The district covers a geographical area of 4435.3 Sq. Km.

As per 2001 the total population has been recorded as 2,314,629 out of which 1,190,950 are males and 1,123,679 female. The scheduled caste (Kaibartta, Namasudra and Patni) population is 215,209 persons (9.30 percentage to total population). The scheduled tribe (Lalung, Boro and Kachari etc.,) population is 89,394 persons (3.86 percentage to total population). The sex ratio is 944 females per 1000 males. The population growth rate of the district is 22.30 per cent during the year 1991 to 2001. The district headquarter is Nagaon.



Nagaon district is situated at 123 km from Guwahati, A huge portion of the world famous Kaziranga National Park falls in this district. The major rivers flowing through the district are Brahmaputra, Barpani, Sonai, Kalong, Nanoi, Kopili and Jamuna.

Nagaon is referred to as the rice bowl of Assam. Agriculture is the primary economic activity of the people of the district. The chief crops grown in the region are mustard, sugarcane, vegetables, paddy, potato, wheat, jute, and oilseeds. On the other hand, the horticultural and plantation crops of the district are betel nut, banana, pineapple, coconut, etc. followed closely by handloom and weaving. Infrastructural facility for industrial development is generally low but rice, jute and sugar sectors along with many small scale industrial units have flourished over the years. Of special mention is the multi-crore Agar perfume industry. Sprawling tea gardens contribute largely to Nagaon's economy.

Nagaon district has an average literacy rate of 61.73 per cent: male literacy rate is 68.27 per cent and female literacy rate is 54.74 per cent.

There are three schools of Kaliabar educational block under Nagaon district identified to study.

4.4.1. Case Study of Neherubasti L. P. School

The school is managed by the Department of Education. It is located roadside in rural area. It is situated at a distance of about 35 km. from the block head quarters. It is located in Kaliabor block of Nagaon district of Assam. The school consists of Grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational. The school is non-residential in nature.

The school has one building block. It has got two classrooms for instructional purposes. None of the classrooms are in good condition. One of the classroom(s) need major repairs. It has no other room for non-teaching activities.

The school has got no boundary wall. The school does not have electricity connection. The source of drinking water is hand pump within the school premises. The school has store room for mid day meal purpose. The school does not have a common toilet or separate toilet for girls. The school does not have playground. The new school campus developed with class rooms, toilets and permanent kitchen shed. The new campus is completed but not yet shifted.

The school has one regular teacher in position against a sanctioned strength of two posts. The school has one SSA volunteer. The school does not have non-teaching staff. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 28:1.

Table: 4.4.1 Caste wise enrolment in Neherubasti L. P. School, Amoguri

Class	SC	ST	T.T	General	Total
I		6	12	1	20
II	1	1	10	1	7
III	1	1	4	1	13
IV		3	13	1	16
Total	2	11	39	4	56

The total enrolment of school is 56, out of which SC enrolment is 2, ST enrolment, 11, General enrolment, 4 and Tea Garden enrolment, 39. Most of the parents are working in the tea garden. They are from very poor economic background. They speak Kavy and Assamme language.

Increase in enrolment and attendance

Most of the children in this school are from tea garden families. They are very poor economic background. Majority of the children attend the school because of mid day meal scheme. They are getting nutritious hot cooked meal. The average attendance of the student in school is 85 per cent.

Most of the students are over aged because of late joining in the school. The quantity of food is not sufficient for these children. They need at least 300gms of rice per head. At present they are getting 100gms per head.

Mother's Group

Mother's Group president is working as a cook for mid day meal scheme. The other member is working as a helper. Other members of the mother's group are not in a position to help in cooking and serving. They visit the school occasionally to supervise the quality of food and hygiene conditions in the kitchen. Mid-day meal is being cooked in temporary kitchen shed.

School Managing Committee

School Managing Committee president and members are giving support for providing mid day meal in the school. The president is also running grocery shop. He supplies all the ingredients for mid day meal in advance to the school. The members of the committee give vegetables for mid day meal.

4.4.2 Case Study of Burapahar M.E. School

The school was established in 1962 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in road side. It is situated at a distance of about 35 km. from the Block head

quarters. It is located in Kaliabor block of Nagaon district of Assam. The school consists of Grades from 5 to 7. The school is co-educational and it does not have an attached pre-primary section. The school is non-residential in nature.

The school has one building block which is housed in a Government building. It has got three classrooms for instructional purposes. None of the classrooms are in good condition. All the classrooms need major repairs. It has no other room for non-teaching activities.

The school has got no boundary wall. The school does not have electricity connection. The source of drinking water in the school is hand pump. The school does not have a common toilet or separate toilet for girls. The school does not have playground. The school does not have a book-bank. The school arranged medical check-up for its students during the previous academic year.

The school has four regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of six posts. The school has one female teacher. It has no para-teacher. The school has one non-teaching staff. All teachers of school are having graduate and above degrees. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 38:1 and the Student-Classroom Ratio (SCR), 50:1. On an average, about 50 students sit in one classroom.

The total enrolment of school is 151, out of which boys' enrolment is 96 and girls' enrolment is 55. The SC enrolment is 1, ST enrolment is 65 and OBC enrolment is 4. Tea garden tribe is 57.

Table: 4.4.2 Caste wise enrolment in Burapahar M.E School

Class	ST	SC	OBC	Tea Tribe	General	Total Boys	Total Girls	Total
V	24			28	3	32	23	55
VI	24	1	2	6	6	23	16	39
VII	17		2	23	15	41	16	57
Total	65	1	4	57	24	96	55	151

Increase in enrolment and attendance

Most of the children in this school are from tea garden families. Their socio economic background is weak. Children start working at the age of 14 years in tea gardens for Rs.50/- per day. Majority of the children attend the school because of mid day meal scheme. They are getting nutritious hot cooked meal. Menu the day of the visit is rice, dal, vegetable and soyabean. The average attendance of the student in school is 85 per cent.

Most of the students are over aged because of late joining in the school. The quantity of food is not sufficient for these children. They need at least 300gms of rice per head. At present they are getting 100gms per head. The mid day meal in Upper Primary schools is located in Educationally Backward Blocks getting cooking cost from the government. Mid day meal scheme has helped to increase enrolment and attendance.

Mother's Group

The cook and helper belongs to Mother's Group. The other members also visit school occasionally. They visit school to supervise the quality of food and hygiene conditions in the kitchen. Mid-day meal being prepared in temporary kitchen shed.

School Managing Committee

School Managing Committee president and members are giving support for providing mid day meal in the school. Tea garden is not supporting for mid day meal scheme in this school. The members of the committee give vegetables for mid day meal. They are not able to include fruit in weekly menu.

4.4.3 Case Study of Natun Danga L. P. School (Tribal Area)

The school was established in 1984 and it is managed by the Department of Education. It is located in rural area. It is situated at a distance of about 13 km. from the block head quarters. It is located in Kaliabor block of Nagaon district of Assam. The school is located in the centre of two villages. The school consists of Grades from 1 to 4. The school is co-educational and it has an attached pre-primary section. The school is non-residential in

nature and is not using school building as a shift-school. This place is malaria prone area. Health worker visits school in regular intervals.

The school has two building blocks which are housed in a government building. It has got three classrooms for instructional purposes. The school building is in good condition. The source of Drinking Water in the school is hand pump. The school does not have a common toilet or separate toilet for girls. The school has a playground. The school has permanent kitchen shed for mid day meal.

Mr. Haren Rongpi is the head master of school. The school has 2 regular teachers in position against a sanctioned strength of 3 posts. The school does not have female teachers. It has one SSA volunteer. The Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) of the school is 22:1 and the Student-Classroom Ratio (SCR), 22:1. On an average, about 24 students sit in one classroom which sounds comfortable.

The total enrolment of school is 67, out of which ST enrolment is 48, Tea garden enrolment is 10 and Muslim enrolment is 9.

Table: 4.4.3 Caste wise enrolment in Natun Danga L. P. School

Class	ST	Tea Garden	Muslim	Total
I	8	1	2	11
II	6	0	5	11
III	13	4	0	17
IV	21	5	2	28
Total	48	10	9	67

Hygienic kitchen maintained by Tribal women cook

The school has permanent kitchen shed cum store within the school premises. But it is not too close to the school building. The kitchen shed cum store is constructed by the housing board. Majority of the children are from the tribal community (Karvi). The cook is also tribal women. The menu for Monday is rice and dal and Thursday is kichdi.

She is keeping the kitchen neat and clean. She is maintaining hygienic conditions in the kitchen.

Increase in enrolment and attendance

School Managing Committee members encourage parents to send their children to school. The mid day meal scheme increased the enrolment from 50 per cent to 80 per cent in the village. Mother's group and SMC members visit school occasionally to monitor the quality of food and serving the food. The teachers are also from the same village. They have very close interaction with the parents. There are only 5 students in village not attending the school. The average attendance of student in school is 90 per cent. The average attendance of the school is increased because of mid day meal scheme. Children are getting nutrition food regularly. They are also studying well because of mid day meal scheme.

School Managing Committee (SMC)

The SMC is constituted as per instruction of the SSA, Assam, A general meeting is called for constitution of SMC at village level covering the SMC and 100% attendance of the villagers should be ensured in the meeting and for this invitation letter is given to each and every villager. The agenda, resolution etc. should be maintained properly. One representatives of SSA attend the meeting.

Composition of SMC:

- (1) President: One of the parents/senior citizen of the habitation/village (minimum H.S.L.C Passed)
- (2) Member secretary: The Head Teacher/Head Master.
- (3) Members: (a) Five parents of students of the school of which two shall be female.
(b) Three non parent members (at least class VII passed)
(c) Village Headman/Gaon burha
(d) One donor
(e) President of VEC/TGEC/WEC/CEC (special invitee)
(f) President of the Mothers Group (special invitee)

If no person with requisite qualification is available for the position of president or members of the school managing committee and a resolution to this effect is adopted in the meeting conveyed for the constitution of SMC, persons having completed education up to class-IV can also be selected as president or member of SMC.

Term of the SMC: Two years from the date of constitution.

Approval of SMC:

The approval of the VEC will be given by the concerned Block Elementary Education Officer in rural areas and Deputy Inspector of schools in urban areas.

Powers and Functions of SMCs:

The power and the functions of school Managing Committees shall be as follows:

- 1 To take all the necessary steps for the growth and development of the school leading to an educational environment conducive for attainment of academic excellence by the children.

- 2 To take effective steps to ensure cent percent attendance, retention and completion rate and zero dropout rate in the school.
- 3 To ensure regular supervision and monitoring of the functioning of the school and of the conduct and behavior of the teaching and the non-teaching staff.
- 4 To monitor, and try to improve the learning, achievements leave of the children. This shall be done by: (1) taking up micro planning, school mapping and optimum utilization of locally available resources. (ii) Supporting the Axom Sarba Siksha functions as per the approved Academic Calendar and (iv) paying special attention to the disabled, working children, girls children and out of school children.
- 5 To foster peoples/community participation in all the aspect of the development of the school.
- 6 To monitor the attendance of the teaching and the non teaching staff of the school and approve their monthly absent statement. Since salary of the teachers and non teaching staff of the school shall be disbursed on the strength of the absentee statement approved by the SMC, the SMC must meet one day before the last working day of the month to consider and approve the absentee statement of the teachers and the non teaching staff of the school. A resolution to this effect shall be adopted in the prescribed proforma indicating the dates on which the teacher/non teaching staff was absent, came late or left early.
- 7 If the SMC does not meet and approve the absentee statement latest by 5th of the month, the disbursement of the salary of the teaching and non teaching staff of the school will be done by the SMC provided the Member Secretary of the SMC gives a certificate that despite having been requested to convene the meeting, the president did not convene the meeting or the Members did not attend the meeting. The BEEO shall however show-cause notice to the president of the SMC concerned in all such shall however show-cause notice to the president of the SMC concerned in all such cases and if the SMC concerned does so for two consecutive months, it should be held responsible for negligence of its duties.
- 8 The president of the SMC and three Members authorized by the SMC shall have the power to check the attendance register of the teachers and non teaching staff and also of the students and put their remarks in the registers concerned. The SMC may authorize different members for this work for different months.
- 9 No application for casual leave of the teachers or non teaching staff of the school should be accepted unless it has been forwarded with the signature of the president of the School Managing Committee.
- 10 The SMC shall have the power to report to the competent authority by a resolution adopted by minimum of 50% members of the committee if a teacher is found not to be following the child centric and activity -based teaching –learning processes and the Government instructions regarding evaluation and remedial teaching. Authority

concerned shall be duty bound to take cognizance of the report and take necessary action against the teacher concerned with intimation to the SMC.

- 11 To receive fund through subscription, donation or grant etc. for development of the school and to maintain proper record of the fund received and spent, assets created and liabilities incurred.
- 12 To abide by the instructions of the State Government/Mission regarding maintenance of records and accounts, inspection and audit of accounts and submission of reports and utilization certificates.

Mother's Group

The Mother's Group is constituted with all mothers of school going children. Moreover, any woman above 18 years of age can be a member of the group. It is constituted at all LP, UP, EGS and HTR centers.

Executive Committee: The executive Committee will be constituted with 11 to 21 numbers of members from the general MG Committee. The number of members may be increased according to the need.

Formation for Executive Committee:

A public meeting is called where all the mothers are to be attended and the following committee is formed.

- 1) **President:** The president for both the Executive Committee and the general committee will be the same mother and she will be selected in the general meeting.
- 2) **Secretary:** The Secretary for both the Executive Committee and the general committee will be the same mother and she will be selected in the general meeting.
- 3) **Members:** Total number of members should be 11 to 21 numbers. At least one mother should represent from each habitation.
- 4) **Sub Committee:** A sub-committee may be formed with 4-5 members from the Executive Committee and general Committee. The Executive Committee will select these members. The various sub committees Such as, Social Development sub committee, Cultural sub committee, School Development sub committee, Self Help Group etc. These committees are purely temporary and it may be dissolved after completion of a job. These Sub Committees may be formed against each class of the school.

Method of formation of Mothers Group (MG):

The Presidents of VEC, TGEC, SMC and WEC will discuss about the formation of Mothers Group at cluster level and they will fix a date & venue for formation of MG in each village.

The female members of VEC and SMC will take initiative to organize the public meeting for formation of MG.

All the teachers, the VEC, SMC, local Youth Club members will be invited in the meeting.

The activities of the MG will be fixed in the general meeting.

The minutes of the MG formation meeting will be sent to cluster Resource Centre.

Term of MG: One year from the day of formation.

The MG will help the education committee during micro planning and school mapping.

Help VEC in updating VER.

To develop the MG fund and invest the fund in infrastructure development of school.

To observe the works carried out in the schools and to inform different problems of the school & teachers to the GP or higher authority.

Enrolment of children and regular attendance of children in the classes.

Help the SMC for smooth running of school development works.

Help teachers in class room transaction and preparation of TLM in schools/EGS/HTR.

Help in the summer camp & enrolment drive.

Take care of children's cleanliness.

School campus cleaning, supply of drinking water during school hours.

Taking classes in 'Ka' Sreni.

Helps in maintenance of school library.

To take care of children in home study.

Help the students' Government to run their functions.

Block-wise Peoples Committees in Golaghat District

S. No.	Particulars	Central	East	North	South	West	Total
1	No. of SMC	274	536	182	230	192	1414
2	No. of VEC	98	326	57	316	98	895
3	No. of TGEC	23	42	4	5	21	95
4	No. of GPEC	16	39	10	21	16	102
5	No. of WEC	0	13	10	8	4	35
6	No. of Mothers Group	274	536	182	230	192	1414

Meena Club

Meena Club is a platform for girls in Tea Garden areas up to 16 years of age. Meena Clubs will work towards multi-faced development of the girls and create community linkages for a supportive environment for girls' education. The Meena Clubs will also be used for community sensitization on critical issues impinging on the quality of life. The operationalisation of the Meena Clubs will be with the help of all Head Teachers, community members, leaders and local organizations.

Objectives of the “Meena Campaign”

To make an attempt to eliminate the problems of girls education in Tea Garden areas.

To make the Community, Parents and Teachers aware about 100% retention of girl children.

To establish Meena Club among the girl children in Tea Garden areas.

Block-wise Meena Clubs in Golaghat District

Block	No. of Meena Clubs in Tea garden areas	No. of Meena Club in Ex-tea garden areas
Central	23	14
East	50	27
North	4	16
South	4	33
West	21	20
Total	102	110

Activities of Meena Club:

A. Day to Day activities: Some of the daily activities that are to be conducted by the Meena Club are:

- a) Monitoring the attendance of girls' children in school or EGS/SSK centre during Morning Assembly (by those members of Meena Clubs who are enrolled in school).
- b) Enquire and follow up cases of the absentee children, especially girls, and report to the concerned (parents/volunteers/Head Teachers/Line Sardar/TGEC/SMCs/Mothers Group) to take measure against the reason for their absenteeism.

- c) Maintenance of attendance records on the display board in the school or EGS centres. Separate records of those girl children who remain absent for three or more consecutive days will be maintained. In case of such girls, the club will create pressure upon parents/volunteers/head teacher/line sardar/TGEC/SMC/Mothers Group to intervene in the matter to enable these girls to attend school regularly.
- d) Before school begins, the members of the club with the help of Mothers Groups will observe the girl children who have not bathed or are shabby in their physical appearance etc. Whenever necessary they will immediately measure to improve personal hygiene and cleanliness.

B. Fixed Activities:

- a. Quarterly meeting with Community, TGEC, SMC, Mothers Group and other organizations.
- b. Weekly meeting with the Students Govt.
- c. Enrolment drive.
- d. Micro Planning.
- e. Drop out prevention drive.
- f. Observation of Meena Day on September 24th.
- g. Observation of Sishu Diwas on November 14th.
- h. Organisation of Annual School/EGS day and Meena Mela.

C. Need based programmes:

- a. Discussion based on the Meena Story books.
- b. Felicitation of girl children.
- c. Organize games & sports and cultural activities for girl children.
- d. Organization of Health & Hygiene programme.
- e. Preparation of attendance calendar of girl children.
- f. Visit to target parents.
- g. Arrangement of discussion with the Mothers.

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