Report on the Inauguration of the Model Learning Centre and Community Library under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

Event Date: October 18, 2024 **Venue:** Chaupal of Harijan Basti, Jharoda Village **Organized by:** Unnat Bharat Abhiyan in collaboration with Cluster Innovation Centre, University of Delhi

1. Introduction

On October 18, 2024, a significant initiative aimed at promoting community-based education and literacy was undertaken with the inauguration of a **Model Learning Centre** and the opening of a **Community Library** as part of the **Samantha Program**.



This event was conducted under the framework of **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan** in collaboration with the **Cluster Innovation Centre** (CIC) at the Chaupal of Harijan Basti, Jharoda village. The initiative was designed to provide educational resources and a safe learning environment to the local community, particularly focusing on the educational needs of children and women from underprivileged backgrounds. The event was a collaborative effort with the participation of various educational institutions and the active involvement of local residents. NCERT with CNCL participated in the inauguration.



2. Event Overview

Inaugration: The event saw the presence of

1. Sr. Prof. Rajesh, Program Coordinator Nodal Officer, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, Delhi University- Prof Rajesh was present there in the community at chaupal Valmiki Basti. He inaugurated the events of library inauguration and interacted with the community. He also



- encouraged the participants as well as the volunteers with his enriching words.2. Prof. Usha Sharma, director, National Centre for literacy, SMART project
- 2. **Trot. Osna Sharma**, director, National C coordinator, NCERT- She connected with us through online mode and with her words she gave insight of the program and NCERT role in community engagement. She also talked about different programs of government that taking care of learning and literacy improvement.

With the support of the Chaupal President, Mr. Vijay taap jee and General Secretary, ex government employee Randeep singh Randhawa jee , the program under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan was successfully conducted. They also assured their full cooperation for future initiatives aimed at community welfare, such as establishing a library or a social awareness center, and expressed their commitment to making these efforts a success.





The inauguration event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 20 volunteers from various institutions, including:

- 6 volunteers from the Cluster Innovation Centre (CIC)
- 4 individuals from the Campus Law Centre
- 10 volunteers from the Department of Continuing Education and Extension, University of Delhi

In addition, the event was attended by **32 local residents** from Jharoda village, consisting primarily of **children aged 6 to 17 years**, along with several women and men from the



community. The community library initiative aimed to provide educational resources, promote literacy, and offer a space for children and adults alike to engage in lifelong learning.

3. Program Highlights

The inauguration began with a formal introduction to the objectives of the **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan** and the **Samantha Program**, which focuses on empowering rural communities by bridging educational gaps and enhancing access to learning materials. The library and learning center were established with the goal of fostering an



inclusive educational environment, particularly benefiting children and women who may not have access to formal educational infrastructure.

The key highlights of the event included:

• Library Opening Ceremony:

The community library was officially opened, stocked with a wide range of books suitable for various age groups, including storybooks, educational materials, and reference books. The library is intended to serve as a resource hub for students and a platform for promoting literacy in the village.

• Model Learning Centre Inauguration:

The Model Learning Centre was inaugurated as a space where local children and adults can participate in educational activities such as workshops, tutoring sessions, and skill development programs. The centre aims to bridge the educational gap in rural areas by providing free access to learning materials, interactive teaching, and community-based learning.

• Participation of Local Residents:

A large portion of the attendees comprised children between the ages of 6 and 17, who were excited to explore the newly opened library and its resources. Several women and men from the village also attended, expressing interest in using the library for their own learning and for the benefit of their children.

• Volunteer Involvement:

The 20 volunteers, coming from diverse educational backgrounds, played a crucial role in facilitating the event, organizing activities for the children, and interacting with the community members. The volunteers helped explain the importance of education, the library's role in the community, and the various opportunities for learning available through the initiative.

• Health Camp: A health camp was organised for the community. The doctor and nursing home is in the community and it was assured that at any moment if community member seeks health check, doctor will be made available. The doctor also ensured that every member take primary health care very seriously and emphasised on the health hygiene, WASH

4. Community Engagement and Impact

The community engagement was a key success of the event, as local residents actively participated in discussions about the role of education in improving their living conditions. The involvement of women in the discussions was particularly encouraging, as they highlighted their desire to further their own education while supporting their children's learning journey.

The presence of volunteers from institutions like the Cluster Innovation Centre and the Department of Continuing Education and Extension ensured that the community received guidance on how to make the best use of the resources available to them. This engagement served to inspire both children and adults to make use of the newly inaugurated facilities for educational growth.

5. Future Prospects

The inauguration of the Model Learning Centre and Community Library is the first step towards creating a sustained learning culture in Jharoda village. With regular follow-up programs planned under the **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan**, the community is expected to benefit from continued educational support, including:

- Workshops and learning sessions for children and adults- It was also decided that some of volunteer will take part in teaching the unprivileged kids from the community every Saturday.
- Skill development programs for women, focusing on vocational training and financial literacy.
- Tutoring and mentoring programs to assist students with their academic needs.
- **Collaborative events** involving local schools and educational institutions to further integrate formal and informal learning.

6. Conclusion

The inauguration of the Model Learning Centre and Community Library under **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan** marks a significant step in empowering the residents of Jharoda village, particularly the children and women, with access to knowledge and education. The active participation of local residents and volunteers from various educational institutions demonstrated the potential for community-driven educational initiatives to make a tangible impact. As this program grows, it is expected to contribute significantly to enhancing literacy, improving educational outcomes, and fostering a spirit of community engagement through lifelong learning.

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