

## Deepalya Visit Report

**Date of Visit:** 11-10-17

**People Involved:** Noopur, Sangita Sen, Students and teachers from Deepalya

**Address of the Learning Centre: Ramditti J R Narang Deepalaya School**

B-65, Panchsheel Vihar,  
Opposite Trivenicom Complex  
Sheikh Sarai - I, New Delhi 110017

**Time Spent:** 1.5 hours

### Key points from the visit:

1. The Remedial class, funded by Asha for Education, has about 20 students at present. Some of the students from the morning batch were also present at the time of the visit. The morning batch is held for girls who do not attend school and instead attend the Non-Formal education class. The afternoon classes are remedial classes for the girls who have been mainstreamed and attend the school, but also need some additional attention.
2. There was a new headmistress in place this time, Ms Sangita Sen who showed me around the centre.
3. Visit to the classroom was done, where some informal interaction with the students also took place.
4. After the classroom visit, detailed discussion was held with the head mistress and also the teacher handling the class. The teacher is also an alumnus of the centre.
5. A nominal fee of Rs.20/- per month is charged from the children to make the families accountable and also form a commitment around it.

### Interactions and Observations

1. The classroom felt a little cramped and there was hardly any space for children to move about.
2. Though there were charts put up in the classroom, most of it did not look like student work. There needs to be more student work put up on the bulletin board.
3. The students stated that they enjoyed coming to the classes and learnt a lot. Some of them even recited poems on being requested. The teacher was discussing English names for different animals during the class, and most students were able to answer the questions.
4. The principal informed that a 'Bharat Parv' was held during the summer vacations, in which all the students participated. They prepared songs and dances for the same and presented in front of the school and community.
5. A Parent Teacher Meeting is held on every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday to be able to keep the parents abreast on the development of their children.

6. Both the principal and the teacher shared that parents being unaware and illiterate caused a lot of problems, as there was no continuity in student attendance. Sometimes, because of situations at home, the children would drop out, even the ones who have been mainstreamed. The principal also shared examples for the same, like Sanjana, who had to drop out
7. Continuous visits to the community are done by the teacher to follow up on the non-attending or dropped out students and convince parents to send them along, but this seems to be a continuous issue faced by the centre.
8. Another thing noticed was the Multi Grade Multi Level nature of the classroom. There is only one teacher to handle the class. It seems difficult that the teacher would be able to give intended one on one attention to the children. The principal shared that they have volunteers coming in from time to time, to help out with the teaching process. But that is mostly for taking separate classes. There did not seem to be any strategy that the teacher used to manage multiple grades together.
9. Smart boards have been installed with the help of Educomp, even in the Asha class and the students reported it being used. Though in the classroom, the students were seated with back facing to the smart board. So, have doubts about how and how often it is used.
10. The library is also a part of the routine of the children as the last half hour of the class, they are supposed to spend in the library. The person in the library shared that some of the students have developed a keen interest in reading and borrow books regularly from the library.
11. The principal shared that according to her, the biggest achievement is that they have been able to get around 15 kids enrolled into the mainstream government schools in the period between April and September. They have also organised educational tours to Science centre and doll museum for the children.
12. Challenges faced are mostly around the family of the children and the issues that result from unemployed fathers and many younger siblings that need to be looked after. This leads to many students dropping out.
13. The principal shared that right now they don't have a back- up for this project in terms of funding from any other source. She shared that they won't be able to bear the teacher salary and stationary being supplied to students, which in effect means that the project would be closed down, if Asha were to withdraw their support.
14. She also shared about the FADA (Fathers and Daughters) project which right now doesn't have a lot of funding and relies on donations in kind from different people. She shared that Asha for Education funding that project might also lead to better things for the beneficiaries of that project.



Common Bulletin Board at the Centre

**RAMDITTI J.R. NARANG DEEPALAYALEARNING CENTRE**

<b>LKG, UKG</b> 8:00 am to 12:30 pm.	<b>Class I, Class II</b> 8: 00 am to 2:00 pm.
<b>ASHA Unit (Only for girls)</b> NFE: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon REC: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.	<b>FADA Unit (Only for girls)</b> 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.
<b>VTC</b> Computer 8:00 am to 9:00 am.	<b>VTC</b> Tailoring 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm.
<b>Remedial</b> 9:00 am to 10:30 am. 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm. 1:00 pm. to 2:15 pm.	<b>Remedial</b> 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm. 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

Schedule of the Centre displayed



Girls in the Remedial Classroom