

## Project Rajatalab Sangamam report for 2021-2022.

**Purpose:** In the present time, due to the decreasing number of children in government schools, today the government is thinking of privatizing these government schools.

Due to which a big question has arisen on the education and future of the children of poor and deprived community and due to rising inflation, these poor children cannot afford to study in private schools. To support education of these kids, computer labs are being run in these schools with the help of Asha Trust, so that the number of children does not decrease. More and more children learn usage of computers and with the help of computer based content learn about subjects like maths and science.

Under the Sangamam project being run by ASHA Trust in 6 schools (Harpur, Primary and Higher Primary School, Harsos and Mehndiganj, Jagatpur and Hardattapur in 5 villages of Rajatalab area of Varanasi district, about 1772 children are taking education through computers. At present 4 teachers are working in these 6 schools. Over 40 computers have been provided to the schools and we will like to thank FORD india for their support and CSR contribution.

**Second wave of Corona:** the teaching and learning work in government schools were closed from April 2021 to August 2021, which gave our teachers an opportunity to teach alternatively by running a mini school. Alongside, the teachers were involved in mapping of the curriculum in hindi using computer application ASHA Kanini.

Mini School: In the second wave of Corona, the government school was closed for a long time, due to which the children studying in these schools started losing track of what they have learnt prior to Corona. Asha Chennai had started the Mini schools even during the first phase of Corona and this was replicated very well by the teachers in Varanasi by inviting children from the villages where the ASHA teachers were residing to attend the mini Schools.

Mini schools were run at 3 locations by Ali, Armaan and Ajay at 2 places in village Benipur while mini school was run by Rohit in Dadhorpur village.

In village Benipur, Ali and Armaan together started teaching 30-35 children at their home. In which children from class 1 to class 6 were included! Along with computer education, Hindi, Mathematics, English and Science were taught to the children.



In another place of Benipur, Ajay and Rohit gathered 20-25 children at their home in Dadorpur village and taught Computer Education, Hindi, Maths, English and Science to the children.



Mini school was run from 16th July to 31st August! Government schools reopened from 1st September 2021 and computer teachers went to their respective schools and started studying.

**Corona relief kit distribution:** After the second wave of corona, it was feared that children would be affected more by the third wave of corona, which would affect the health of these children, for this, the children of the deprived and poor community of the society studying in 6 schools were given corona kit. In this corona kit, immunity boosting items like gram, groundnut, Horlicks, milk packet and soybean were distributed among the children.





**Independence Day in Mini School:** Independence Day was celebrated with pomp in Mini School in 3 villages! Children enthusiastically participated in singing, dancing and speech.





**School Visit of Rajaram and Ram ( Project Steward):** In the last week of October 2021, Rajaram Krishnan and Ramakrishnan C visited the Government Schools run by Asha Trust under Sangamam Project in Rajatalab from Chennai. They met the children, teachers and principals of Primary School Harpur, Primary and Upper Primary Mehndiganj Composite School Harsos, Jagatpur and Harduttpur Schools. They had interaction with children on different topics and also had a meeting with our computer teachers.

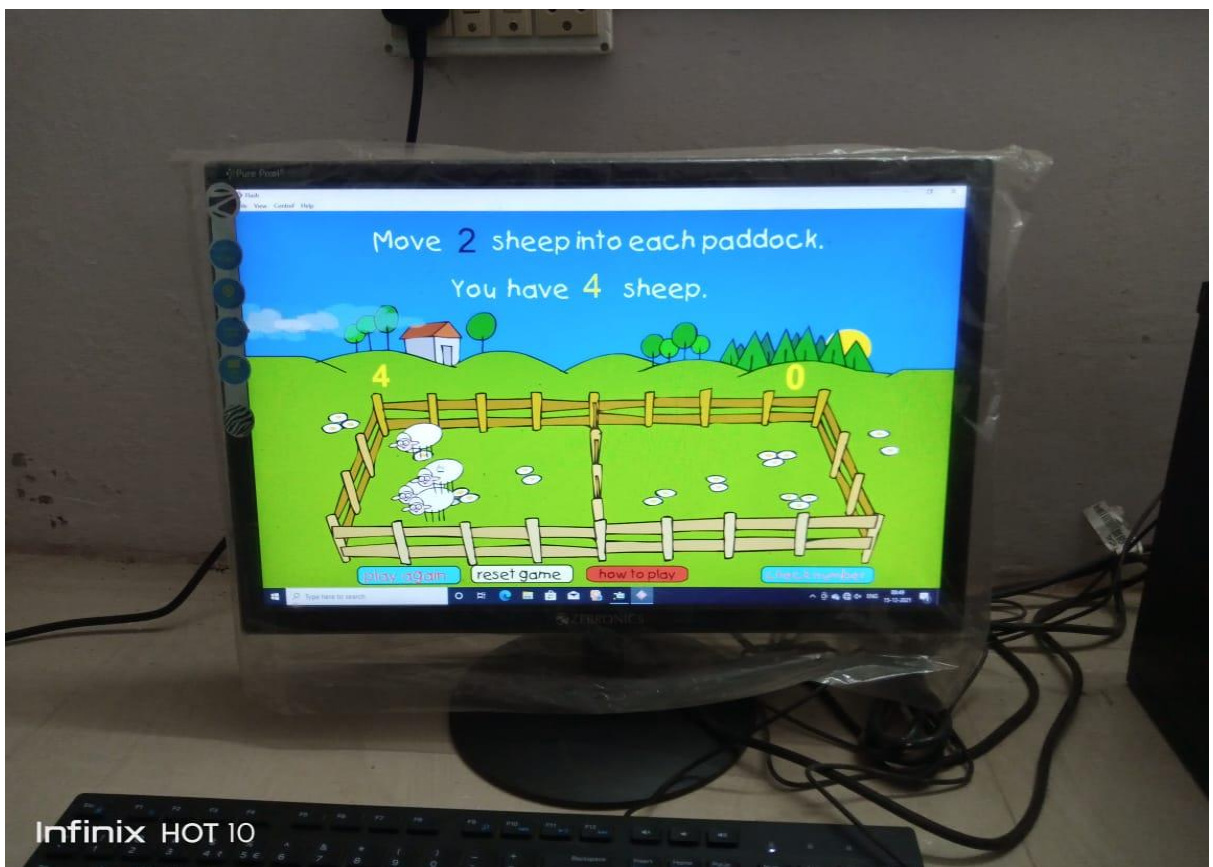






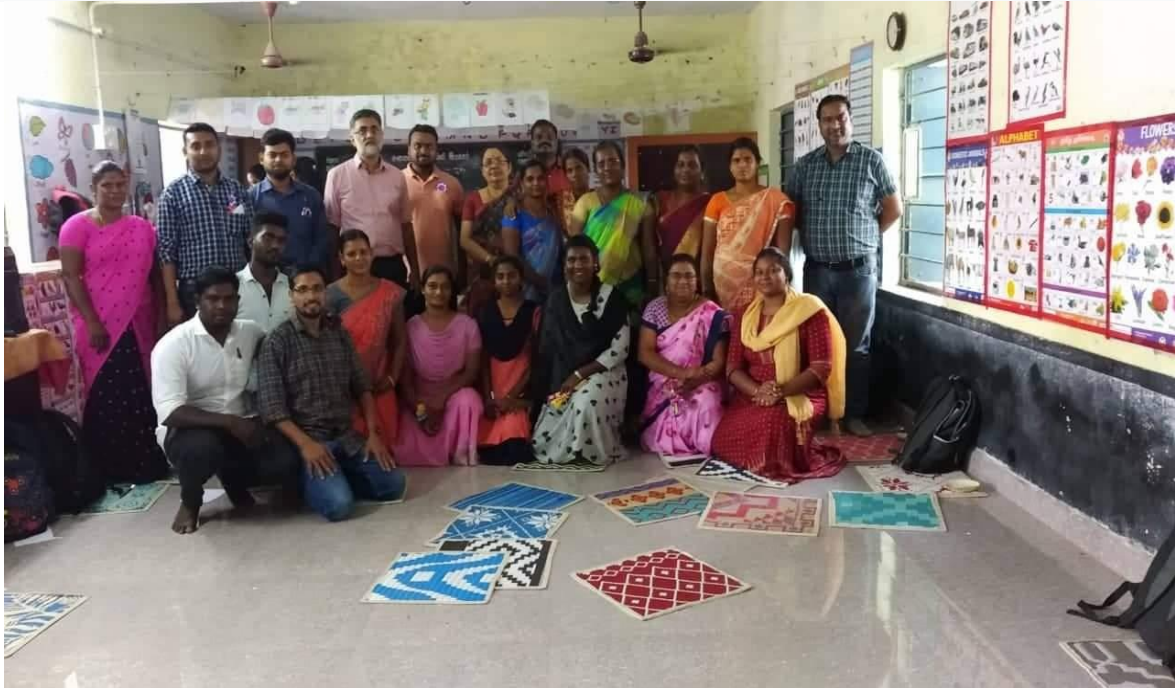
**Teaching children with Asha Kanini Application:** Government school were closed continuously from the first wave of Corona to the second wave! During this all our computer teachers worked from home on many different packages! These packages were mapped to the curriculum of classes 1 to 8 of government schools! After the inclusion of these packages in the Asha Kanini application, children are being educated in the schools through the application of Mathematics, English, Science, Hindi and various types of informative games.







**UP Teachers Visit to Chennai:** Visited Chennai from 27th to 29th December for 3 days of teachers training in Chennai. In the training session, activities related to children and methods of teaching were discussed. This training was very helpful! Got to meet the teachers there, talk and learn a lot.



**Resuming Mini School:** Due to frequent cold and corona cases, the school had to be closed again as per the government order! The mini school was re-run by Armaan, Ajay, Ali and Rohit at Benipur (2nd place), Mehndiganj, Dadhorpur till the government school opened, so that the education of the children is not harmed! This time in the mini school, along with studies, activities were also done by the children.





**Training and awareness on Health issues for Adolescent Girls in Government Schools:** Adolescent girls of classes 6, 7 and 8 of Government School Harsos and Mehndiganj Upper Primary School were trained on health by Neha and Reena, activists of Asha Vishwas Trust. In the training, adolescent girls were made aware by telling them about anemia, menstruation, diet and cleanliness.





**Showing science series to children through projector:** Under the Sangamam project run by Asha Trust, children of government schools are being educated through innovative methods and activities. So that the ability of these children to think, understand and increase their intellectual development. In this sequence, the children were shown the science series through a projector. In this science series, the origin of the Earth and the Solar System and the beginning of human life on Earth were shown.

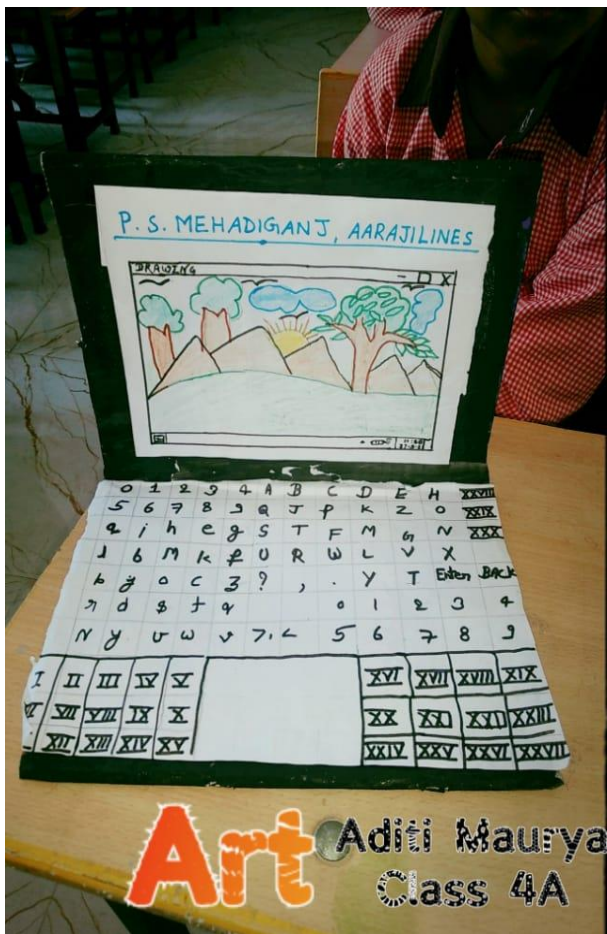




**Getting children to do activities in Mini school:** In order not to burden the children with books and school, they are made to do activities like glass program, match stick program and painting on objects and paper art in the class so that the intellectual development of those children can be done.







**Art** Aditi Maurya  
Class 4A

**Artist**





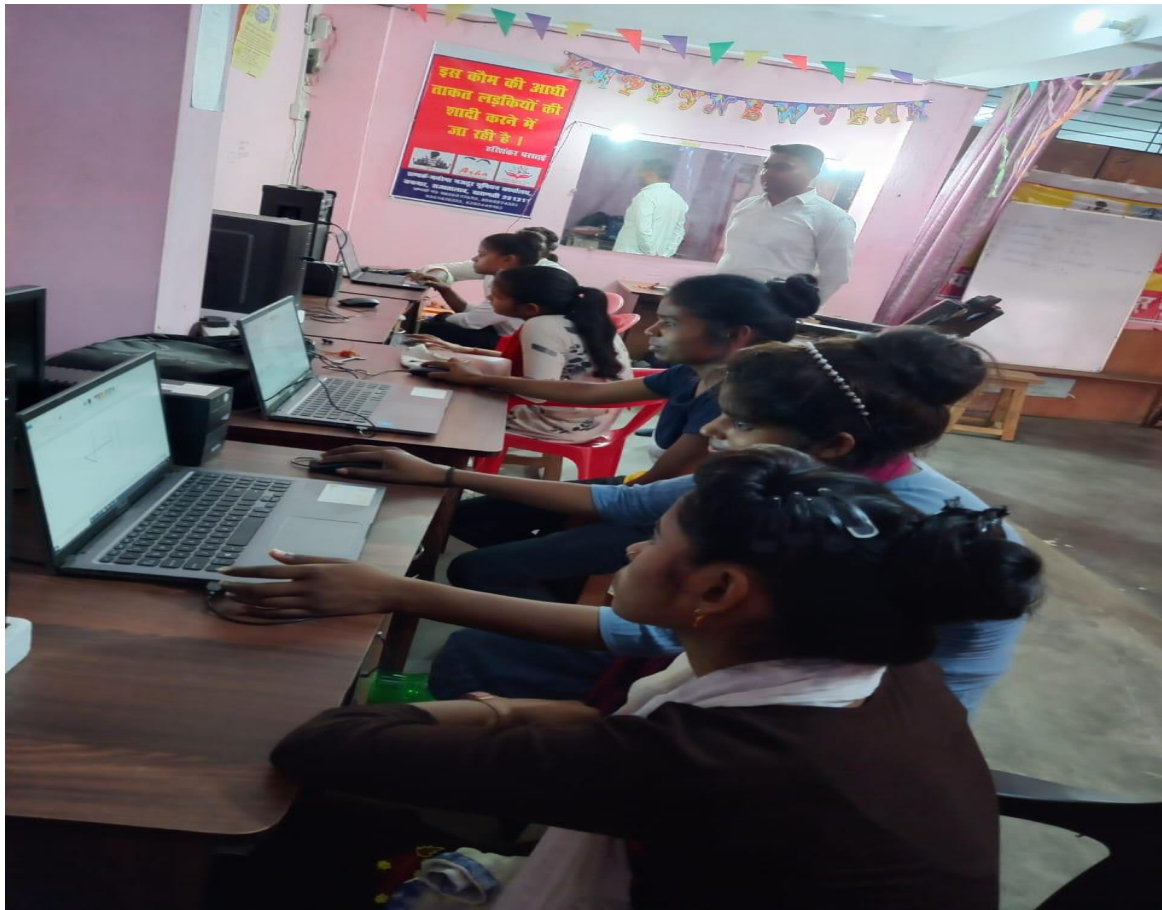
**Kishori Computer Training Center:** With the aim of making adolescent girls self-reliant and connecting them with computer education, work is being done by Asha Rajatalab to run a Kishori Computer Training Center.

We opened this center in February 2021, but due to Covid in March 2021, we had to close the center from March 2021 to September 2021. After that the center was run for a month but due to handing over the computers to Harsos school, we had to close the center, once again after the computers were procured we started the center from January 2022, but after March 2022 we had to close it again due to lack of teachers as our ASHA teachers resumed their regular school work.

We are running this center again from July 2022. Ajay is running this center now. At present, a total of 20 adolescent girls are getting computer education. The center is being run daily from 8 am to 9:30 pm. Computer education is being given to adolescent girls.

Please note that we have opened the Kishori Center, however sometimes due to COVID and other times due to lack of adequate infrastructure we have not been able to run the center smoothly. Girls are very keen to learn from this center, but due to lack of teachers. We are not able to run the center smoothly due to lack of facilities.





In Addition to the above the regular Spoken English sessions were conducted by Ramakrishnan for the UP teachers and the teachers have started to converse in English. A step forward was that regular weekly assignments were provided to the teachers. The teachers are also involved in enhanced Computer training conducted by our ASHA volunteer Mr Venkat. Weekly all our UP teachers' login to this via google meet. Regular Monthly meetings are held by Suresh (Project Coordinator) locally in Varanasi with the teachers. There has been very good support and feedback from the schools supported by ASHA in Rajatalab.



### Plan for Next Year

#### Activities planned:

- 1- Recruiting three new teachers for teaching Computers.
- 2- Identifying and extending our computer education to three large sized schools – Primary and Upper primary school Gangapur (412 students), Primary school Birbhanpur (325 students), Primary school Chittapur (80 students).
- 3- New and existing teachers to attend training and orientation with other teachers in Chennai.
- 4- Excursion for Asha teachers in Rajatalab.
- 5- To organize meetings with the parents of the children studying computers, and to brief them on the benefits of computer education and job opportunities for the child.
- 6- School Visits by steward and volunteer from - Chennai.
- 7- Impart regular computer trainings to our teachers by experts from Chennai by online classes and scaling up their knowledge.
- 8- Continue the spoken English classes for the teachers to improve their communication and vocabulary.