

# Gramin Shiksha Kendra

- Asha has supported teacher and staff salaries, library costs and TLM over the last 5 years for 2 schools at Jaganpura and Bodal
- GSK started in 2003; today have 4 schools and over 450 children
- Children make a daily newspaper, bal panchayat etc.
- Experienced staff, most have master's degrees in education.
- School operations are child-centric
- Typical school day: 8a-11.30a (classes), 11.30a-12.30p (lunch), 12.30p-2.30p (classes), 2.30p-5.30p (evaluation and planning for next day), 5.30p-6.30p (interaction with villagers).

# Updates - Morange

- New creative journal, Morange, being published by the children every month.
- 8 Morange articles and poems were published in Chakmak, a popular kids' magazine by Eklavya
- Edited by Prabhat, a locally accomplished poet, who is also a part-time teacher at GSK
- Room to Read has sanctioned 1000 books for 2 schools each.
- GSK and Aravali are researching into a livelihood generation project
- Bodal construction is complete

# Infrastructure/Schools

- New school at Faria is doing well, have experienced and motivated teachers
- Teachers attended a workshop by Room to Read in December
- A real estate company has donated 4 acres of land for a new Uday school
- Local IT commissioner is trying to generate 4-5 lakh rupees.
- SDTT proposal is on hold because of RTE bill.

# Site visit

- Zankhana, Vibha's employee in India, visited GSK in December 2009.
- Most of the old staff who had left during the turbulent funding times in previous years have now returned with more stable funding.
- Uday Jaganpura has got the affiliation from the Rajasthan Education Board this year.
- Teachers have weekly workshops on Saturdays. GSK also had quarterly workshops in October and December, the second one held at the XISS (Xavier Institute of Social Services) campus of Ranchi.
- The new school at Faria now has 100 children and 4 teachers. The school caters to 3 villages at the edge of the Ranthambore sanctuary. Different villages donated 20 bighas (~8 acres, ~30k sqm) of land for the school campus. It currently runs in thatched structures built by the villagers similar to how the schools at Jaganpura and Bodal started.

# Site visit notes

- In all 3 schools, children have started playing cricket and hockey with all the donated sports equipments.
- The 5th and 6th editions of Morange, the children's magazine, has come out.
- With the new facilities at Bodal, many more children have joined this year from govt schools, and the children enjoy the new way of learning: 'dimag me baith jata hai' (concepts are grasped easier).

# Funding scenario

- Overall budget ~ Rs. 39 lakhs
- Support from Asha Austin + WAH ~ Rs. 10 lakhs
- *Support from Asha SV: Rs 14.6 lakhs*
- *Disbursals so far: ~10.2 lakhs (Sep 2009)*
- *Remaining disbursals: ~4.4 lakhs*
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