

- Children's workshop in October
- followed by the Facilitators workshop in November
- partners have now started village level workshops
- Some done with all five village level workshops but will have the children write RTI applications after their exams
- Some partners have had 2 or 3 workshops and are filing RTIs simultaneously.
- Some of the children have had success in the applications they have filed.
- A young boy in Horrawalla Dehradun wanted information on the removal of huge pipes that were scattered on the road.
- The pipes were causing a huge potential risk for accidents.
- The JE actually came to Devrats house and asked him to take the RTI back
- But Devrat didn't and the JE responded that the pipes will be removed by the end of Feb

- In Pithoragarh the children requested of information on the status of electricity in their village.
- The voltage was often low and lights would often go causing problems for them when they wanted to study at night.
- A few days after the application was filed the voltage suddenly got much better.
- We have had cases of children filing for information and the answer coming back that the information requested was to be sent to another department. These we have sent further to the commission.
- Dwarika our facilitator has been traveling to the different villages while the workshops were taking place and sometimes after to help the children write the right type of questions.
- Right now children have exams, so workshops are postponed
- Next set of workshops will be after April.
- Partners prefer working with the children during their holidays.
- We have also requested that they do not burden the children.
- While the children are preparing for their exams we at the office are filing for Information. We have had successful and unsuccessful applications but we are carrying on to see what the status of RTI is in Uttarkhand.
- The children who have applied for RTI and have got answers are very satisfied and it is making them want to file new applications.

Our Mount Valley Partner (Really interior Tehri) Had their workshops and the kids put RTI applications to get to know who the teachers were in their school.

Would you believe it a toli of 12 people (from the Basic Shiksha Adhikari) came to the village to visit --- first they tried to scare the kids by saying that children could not file RTIs. So the children said please give that to us in writing. (I was so impressed)

Then the kids showed the Asha-MCF RTI brochure and the BSA (District Education Officer) and all said that they don't know anything about RTI!!!

Then in the next village the whole group went and there the children had asked for a photocopy of the teachers attendance. So the BSA checked the attendance (9 days only) and yelled at the teacher. The funniest thing is that the parents had complained several times to the department and got no response.