



## Shikha Sambal Programme

A FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME OF HINDUSTAN ZINC LIMITED AND VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY

Annual Report | VBERC | 2021-22



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## Introduction

Shiksha Sambal programme (SSP) is a joint initiative of the Government of Rajasthan, Hindustan Zinc Limited and Vidya Bhawan Society. The programme aims at providing academic support in Science, Maths and English to children in 64 secondary and senior secondary government schools. The primary objective of the program is to strengthen conceptual understanding and improve results of board examinations. The programme is now expanding its reach to the students of upper primary level also with an objective to strengthen the language proficiencies, mathematical understanding and scientific inquiry in the students.

## Outreach

SSP encompasses 64 schools from the core and peripheral areas of HZL sites at six locations- Agucha (7), Ajmer (7), Chittor (17), Dariba (8), Debari (15), Zawar (10). It supports the students of classes IX and X of these schools in Science, English and Mathematics (SEM) subjects. In addition, support is provided to the science stream students of classes XI and XII. In the academic session of 2021-22, SSP has supported the students of class VIII as well in Science, Language (Hindi & English) and Mathematics.

Following table shows the enrolment of students in the 64 SS schools –

Class VI to VIII	Total students: 6287 (Girls: 2895; Boys: 3392)
Class IX-X	Total Students: 6653 (Girls: 3217; Boys: 3436)
Class XI and XII	Total students: 516 (Science stream)

## Activities under taken in 2021-22

1. Classroom Teaching (Regular, Extra and Paid)
2. Digital work with children
  - a. Work in WhatsApp Groups
  - b. Online Classes
3. Beyond-school support
  - a. Home Visits
  - b. Diwali Classes
  - c. Winter Classes
4. Developing/ providing Learning material for students of Classes VIII to XII (including worksheet compliance)
5. Assessment
  - a. Baseline-Endline of Classes IX & X
  - b. Open Book Tests (OBT)
  - c. Baseline Test in Classes VI & VII
  - d. Baseline-Endline Class VIII

6. Additional Activities
  - a. Reading Mela
  - b. Career Counseling Sessions
  - c. Science-O-Mania
  - d. Lab and Library Work
  - e. Distribution of COVID safety kit- Students and Schools
7. Communication with other Stakeholders
  - a. Advisory Committee Meeting
  - b. Meeting with DEOs and Principals
  - c. Sharing Online Work with School Teachers, Principals and Govt. Officials
  - d. Interactions with Subject Teachers (SEM)
8. Work with FPs: weekly meetings and capacity building
9. General Language Comprehension Study
10. Other Events

## Outputs

### *Classroom Teaching (Regular, Extra and Paid)*

Classroom teaching is one of the core activities in SSP. Field Personnel (FPs) take classes in Science, English and Mathematics (SEM) in classes IX and X in the project schools. In this session, schools were closed during April 15 to Sept1, 2021 due to the COVID-19

Classes taken by FPs (% against target)			
Apr-2021	Science	English	Maths
Class X	106	145	146
Class IX	91	112	137

pandemic. Classes were taken up when schools were open and running. The details of percentages of classes taken by the FPs in SEM against the given target are presented below. The target for each FP was to take 4 classes (two each in classes IX & X) every day.

In the month of April, 90, 96, 46 and 46 paid classes were also conducted for students of classes IX, X, XI and XII respectively. The average percent attendances in these classes were 75.7, 73.8, 73 and 73.4 respectively.

The schools resumed from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and the FPs started taking classes in IX and X as per their deployment. FPs also took extra classes. However, many FPs from Zawar location resigned due personal reasons therefore we approached students of B.El.Ed. and similar courses to work as interns with VBERC and teach at Zawar. In the current session around 10 volunteers worked in 9 schools of the location at different time during the year and supported in taking the classes of SEM subjects.

#### Month-wise details of classes taken by FPs & volunteers in classes IX and X

	SEM (Regular and Extra)			SEM (Classes by Volunteers, Zawar)	SEM (Paid Classes)
	Target	Achieved	%		
September	2024	1947	96	0	380
October	3890	3618	93	168	354
November	3472	3432	99	220	318
December	1932	2240	116	18	173
January	4170	3551	85	72	347
February	4938	4222	85	116	553
March	4532	3609	80	46	375
<b>Total</b>	<b>24958</b>	<b>22619</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>2500</b>

Classroom Teaching in Classes XI-XII: Getting suitable personnel for Sr. Secondary science classes has always been a challenge in SSP. In-spite of this, with the support of the FPs for classes IX and X, paid teachers and VBERC subject team members 784 classes for XI and XII were conducted this year. Among these 130 were regular classes, 621 were paid classes and 147 were online classes.

## *Digital work with children (WhatsApp and online classes)*

### **WhatsApp classes**

In the current academic year schools were closed during April 15 to Sept 1, 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We resumed academic work with students via online platforms such as WhatsApp, Google meet. The WhatsApp groups made in the last session were updated and the contact numbers verified by the FPs. Wherever needed separate groups for boys and girls were also created.

Regular assignments framed by the VBERC subject teams were uploaded every day in these groups. The students after solving these assignments, posted their responses in the groups for the FPs to give feedback. In case of difficulties, they called their respective FPs to get the doubts cleared. The FPs and the VBERC team members made regular phone calls to the students to make them active in the WhatsApp.

VBERC subject team was a part of these groups and closely monitored the work being done by the students and the feedback given to them by FPs. Additionally, VBERC team and FPs collaboratively searched/made videos and reference materials which could be helpful to the students in understanding and doing the tasks better. All these materials were shared with FPs on a weekly basis. FPs was expected to go through the tasks on before sharing it with the students.

The following work was done in SEM through the WhatsApp groups:

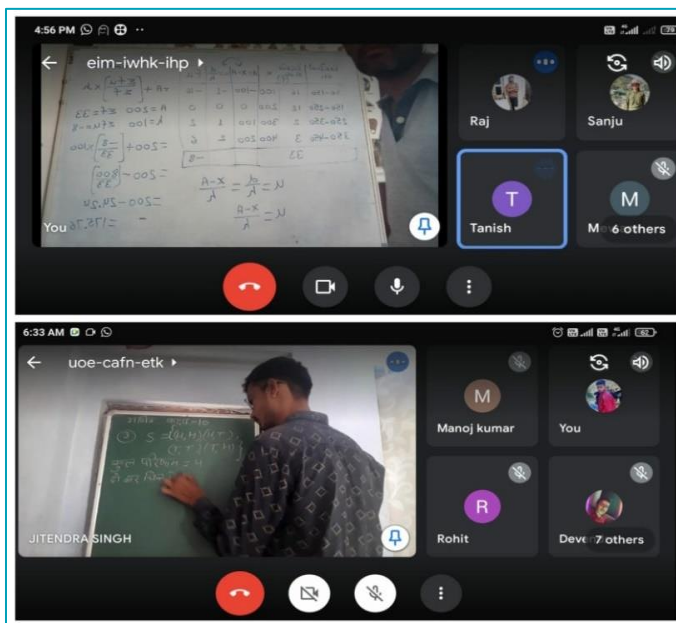
- **Science:** Some of the important concepts covered in class X were chemistry in daily life, understanding electrical circuits and study of body parts. The concepts covered in class IX were cell structure, atomic structure and work, power and energy.
- **English:** Focus was on reading, writing and grammar and chapters from text books. In reading we covered both seen and unseen reading comprehension, in writing – letter, paragraph and speech writing, picture comprehension. In grammar, the topics covered were tenses, modals, sentence structure, narration, etc.
- **Math:** Topics like co-ordinate geometry, trigonometry, fractions, polynomials, etc. were covered in class X and addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of integers, the use of number line, properties of geometric figures such as rectangles, square rhombus in class IX.
- In all three subjects, weekly tests were taken.

Due to the nature of occupation of their parents, all enrolled students do not have regular and continuous access to android phones making it difficult for them to participate in online classes. To overcome this problem topics such as cell division, DNA structure and chemical reactions in science and algebraic expressions, remainder theorem, rationalization of denominators and coordinate geometry in math were covered through videos. FPs also designed some tasks to create interest among students. For example: Puzzles in Math and Science, Chart work, Poster making, making working models in science and reading library books and activities around them.

## Online classes

Along with sharing assignments and feedback on WhatsApp groups, FPs also took online classes for the students of class IX and X in SEM and in PCMB for students of classes XI and XII.

The schedule (day and topic) was prepared in the beginning of the month or week and shared with all the FCs, subject group members and LCs at VBERC. The time for online classes was scheduled in such a way that the maximum students could attend these classes. VBERC subject team members and LCs also took part in these classes to facilitate the students and handholding of FPs.



Online classes were started in the month of May for class XII students in Physics and Biology. These classes were taken by the Science team members of VBERC. 9634 online classes for classes IX and X and 147 online classes for XI and XII have been conducted in the session.

### *Beyond school support (home-visits, Diwali classes and Winter classes)*

**Home visits:** Regular home visits were done by the FPs and FCs to increase student outreach, and ensure their participation in the work being done through WhatsApp groups and to connect the students who did not have android phone facilities.

The team visited the houses of active students to check their homework and give them feedback. Home visits are also done to inspire students to join the winter camp and be regular in offline classes. The subject team members accompany the field team in such visits during their visits to the field. Houses of 21137 students in total were visited mostly during June 2021 to August 2021.



**Winter classes/camp:** Winter break is one of the vacations which is being used in SSP for board exam preparation. In the current academic year, a 6 days long winter break (22<sup>nd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, December, 2021) was announced for the state government schools.

Usually, one school is finalized as camp site and students of nearby schools join the camp to get benefited from the classes being held. But due to Covid-Protocol this year it was not possible to organize such camps in the winter break. So instead of camp the winter classes in the programme schools were held for class IX, X SEM and XII.

As camp preparation, deskwork for Science English and Maths were distributed to all students of class X. Along with the FPs, volunteers from different universities also joined winter classes to give academic support to the students. To ensure homogenous planning and its execution, a day long orientation of the volunteers and field team was conducted.

At the end of the camp a feedback meeting was organized with all the volunteers, where they shared their feedbacks and suggestion with reference to the programme and the academic work being done with the students.

The detailed data for winter camps can be seen from the tables below.

Class X											
Location	No. of Schools	Enrolled Total	Enrolled in			Av. Attendance			Total Classes		
			Camp	B	G	Overall	B	G	Sc	E	M
Ajmer	6	300	180	62	118	170	55	115	42	42	42
Agucha	7	536	278	110	168	265	107	158	73	73	73
Chittor	14	571	405	231	174	365	206	159	192	192	196
Dariba	8	441	243	114	129	222	109	113	54	54	52
Debari	11	438	252	118	134	236	108	128	117	124	121
Zawar	9	540	311	96	215	284	94	190	112	112	112
<b>Total</b>	55	2826	1669	731	938	1542	679	863	590	597	596
%	NA	NA	59	44	56	55	44	56	NA	NA	NA

Class XII													
Location	No. of Schools	Enrolled Total	Enrolled in			Av. Attendance			Total Classes				
			Camp	B	G	Overall	B	G	Bio	Che	Ph	M	E
Ajmer													
Agucha													
Chittor	1	12	12	4	8	12	4	8		7		7	
Dariba	3	54	36	18	18	24	8	16		7	12		6
Debari													
Zawar	1	17	15	4	2	3	3	0				7	6
<b>Total</b>	5	83	52							14	12	14	12



**Diwali classes:** For this year the Diwali break was announced from 29th October to 7th November, 2021 in state government schools. From the 10 days long break of Diwali vacation 6 days were utilised as extra classes in SEM for class IX and X under SSP. As the schools resumes from September onward the major focus in these classes was to help students in better understanding of the concepts and practice the learning through worksheets.

The target was to cover 80% students of class IX and X of the programme schools. Against the set target we were able to achieve participation of students from 72% schools in IX and 73% schools in X. Details of classes are as follows:

	Total number of SEM classes	Schools Covered	Students Covered	Av. Attendance
IX	1323	72%	69%	45%
X		73%	73%	41%

Paid teachers working with class XI and XII also conducted classes during Diwali Break. In all 43 classes were held for class XI and XII in this period.

*Developing/ providing Learning material for students of Classes VIII to XII (including worksheet compliance)*

**Learning material for students:** Shiksha Sambal tries to support the students through various inputs and learning and study material is one such input. The subject teams of SEM subjects have developed this material after analyzing the prescribed syllabus by RBSE, prescribed textbooks and the pattern of Board examinations. SSP learning materials have two features, one these are self-learning materials designed to help students to understand concepts independently and another is scope of practicing questions modelled in board examination pattern.

The following learning material were made available for SSP students in 2021-22:

1. Workbooks: a compilation of worksheets, one booklet for each SEM subjects.
2. Model papers for practice of exam type questions and writing in examinations.

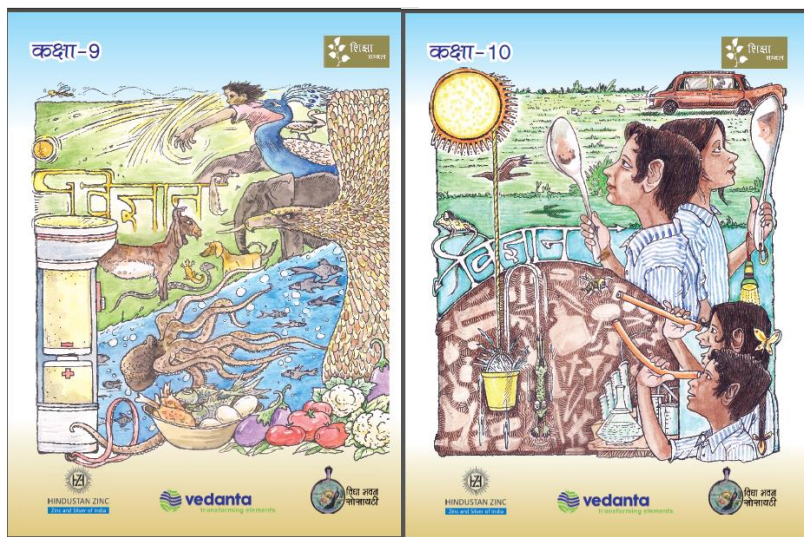


SEM worksheets prepared by the VBERC team have been distributed to all the enrolled students of classes IX and X in the project schools. The worksheets for the three subjects have been put in individual workbooks. A copy has been also given to the subject teachers.

Model papers (Deskwork) in SEM were distributed to enrolled class X project schools and in class XII to enrolled PCMB students. Model papers for class IX

were also distributed for the students enrolled in class IX.

In addition, in the current session of SSP team developed learning material for classes VIII, XI and XII. The material distributed among the students of class VIII covered not only the fundamental concepts but also the concepts of class VIII in Science, Language (Hindi & English) and Mathematics (SLM). The material distributed



among the students of classes XI and XII include notes and reference material for Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Biology (PCMB) and English.

**Worksheet compliance:** The primary purpose of the learning material given to students is to provide good reading, reference and practice material that may help in preparing for the examinations. Therefore, the usage of the learning material plays important role in achieving the better results in board examinations.

In SSP, the usage of learning material or the worksheet compliance is tracked for the workbooks of SEM subjects. This tracking requires regular checking of the workbooks and thus is done in those schools only where the FPs are deployed. The following table explains the different levels of usage by the students. The usage levels are also shown in percentages in the table given below (numbers refer to percentage of students):

Subject	Class X			Class IX		
	Level 0	Level 1	Level 2	Level 0	Level 1	Level 2
Science	21	36	43	18	31	42
English	18	35	42	19	33	42
Math	20	25	41	19	24	41

*Note: an average of 5 worksheets per subject were checked*

#### Usage level definition

- Level 2: More than 70% usage
- Level 1: 30 to 70% Usage
- Level 0: Less than 30% usage

## Assessment (OBT, BL-EL)

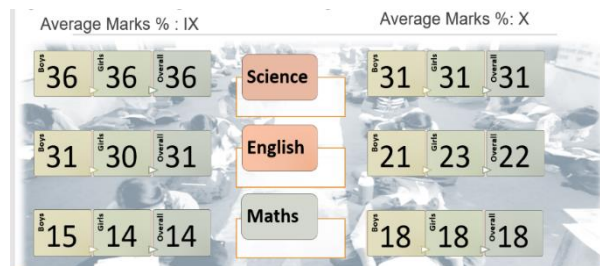
### Open Book Tests (OBT)

Board examinations could not be held in the 2020-21 session due to Covid-19. We worked with the students in the digital mode during the first quarter (April-June) of the present academic year. As a result, and due to the closure of schools, the Open Book Tests was administered with the students in July 2021. The objective of these tests was to assess the effect of the work in the digital mode.

Considering the number of FPs, Students, schools, locations, classes and three subjects we have decided to conduct the tests for 25% randomly selected students. The analysis of the test results can be seen in the 'Outcomes' section.

### Baseline-Endline of Classes IX & X

Conducting baseline and endline test is an activity to assess the impact of the academic inputs provided to the students of classes IX and X. Baseline papers for SEM for class IX and X were made by the VBERC subject team. The maximum marks for all three subjects for both the classes were kept 30. Baseline (BL) test for classes IX and X was conducted in 25% schools. The schools were selected using random table numbers. 91% students of the total enrolled (from the selected schools) participated in the BL test. The test was conducted in the month of September 2021. The class and student wise average % marks in SEM are shown alongside.



The table below show the distribution of students in different categories in SEM.

% of students in different categories (BL)										
Subject	Class X					Class IX				
	<=30	>30<=50	>50<=70	>70<=90	>90	<=30	>30<=50	>50<=70	>70<=90	>90
<b>S</b>	44.6	46.2	8.1	0.91	0	26.7	58.61	14.09	0.52	0
<b>E</b>	73.2	19.6	6.8	0.19	0	46.7	49.56	3.66	0.00	0
<b>M</b>	75.9	20.3	2.8	0.93	0	87.8	12.14	1.73	0.00	0

If we look at the BL results with reference to the engagement with students, we found a significance difference among the average % marks between code-1 and code-3 for SEM in both the classes.

Class IX									
SSP	Science			English			Maths		
Class IX	Obtained Av M	MM	Obtained Av M%	Obtained Av M	MM	Obtained Av M%	Obtained Av M	MM	Obtained Av M%
Code 1	12.71	30	42.37	10.17	30	33.90	12.54	70	17.91
Code 2	10.15	30	33.83	8.68	30	28.93	8.8	70	12.57
Code 3	10.01	30	33.37	8.86	30	29.53	9.39	70	13.41
Diff Cod1-Code3 % point			9.00			4.37			4.50

Class X									
SSP	Science			English			Maths		
Class X	Obtained Av M	MM	Obtained Av M%	Obtained Av M	MM	Obtained Av M%	Obtained Av M	MM	Obtained Av M%
Code 1	11.13	30	37.10	9.82	35	28.06	19.34	80	24.18
Code 2	8.72	30	29.07	7.41	35	21.17	12.94	80	16.18
Code 3	7.11	30	23.70	5.54	35	15.83	8.94	80	11.18
Diff Cod1-Code3 % Points			13.40			12.23			13.00

The endline test was conducted in the month of January 2022 with same students who appeared in the baseline test. The comparative analysis of baseline and endline test can be seen in detail in section – ‘Outcome’.

## Baseline Test in Classes VI & VII

In light of the future plan of the programme regarding working with upper primary classes, it was proposed to gauge the learning level of the students of class VI and VII by the end of the academic year. It will be used as Database for the coming year plans with reference to the work to be done with these classes. Till the third quarter, 3597 students are enrolled in classes VI and VII. 78% students of the total enrolled appeared in the Baseline exam. The location wise details are as follows-

Class	Location-wise number of students						
	Ajmer	Agucha	Chittor	Dariba	Debari	Zawar	Total
VI	172	174	334	105	361	293	1439
VII	196	196	331	145	372	338	1578

Following table shows the analysis of the baseline test conducted with the students of classes VI and VII.

Class	Science	Language (Hindi & English)	Maths
VI	Total Students: 1178 (B-556 & G-622)	Total Students: 1289 (B-700 & G-589)	Total Students: 1287 (B-673 & G-614)
	Average marks: 56% B-55%, G-57%	Average marks: 43% B-41%, G-46%	Average marks: 49% B-49%, G-49%
VII	Total Students: 1402 (B-727 & G-675)	Total Students: 1396 (B-722 & G-674)	Total Students: 1379 (B-677 & G-702)
	Average marks: 48% B-48%, G-47%	Average marks: 45% B-44%, G-46%	Average marks: 49% B-50%, G-48%

## BL-EL in Class VIII

In all 2067 students are enrolled in class VIII across the locations. Baseline paper was distributed to 76% of the enrolled students. 80% of these attempted the paper and returned it to the team. Location wise details can be seen in the below table:

Location	Ajmer	Agucha	Chittor	Dariba	Debari	Zawar	Total
<b>Enrolled Students</b>	308	250	381	197	542	389	2067
<b>Paper Distributed</b>	261	168	319	178	354	289	1569
<b>Paper collected</b>	182	129	287	145	292	214	1249

In view of circumstances of COVID, the format of the baseline test paper for class VI to VIII was kept an Open Book Examination. Students were given 2-3 days to solve the paper and returned it back to the concerned Fp. Analysis of baseline paper for class VI and VII is in process. Subject- wise analysis for baseline class VIII is as follows:

Class VIII	Max Marks	No. of Students			Average Marks		
		Total	Girls	Boys	Overall	Girls	Boys
BL Science							
Av. Marks	30	1084	531	553	16.08	16.05	16.1
In %	100		49	51	54	54	54

Class VIII	Max Marks	No. of Students			Average Marks		
		Total	Girls	Boys	Overall	Girls	Boys
BL English							
Av. Marks	30	1250	590	660	14.75	15.79	13.82
In %	100		47	53	49	53	46

Class VIII	Max Marks	No. of Students			Average Marks		
		Total	Girls	Boys	Overall	Girls	Boys
BL Math							
Av. Marks	30	1149	567	582	14.14	14.25	14.04
In %	100		49	51	47	48	47

Category-wise (marks range) analysis for baseline class VIII is as follows:

Science	No. of Students			% of Students	
	Total	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
0-32	136	72	64	53	47
33-44	196	97	99	49	51
45-59	313	139	174	44	56
60+	439	223	216	51	49

English	No. of Students			% of students	
	Total	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
0-32	295	116	178	39	60
33-44	172	76	96	44	56
45-59	316	139	177	44	56
60+	467	259	208	55	45

Math	No. of Students			% of students	
	Total	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
0-32	343	153	190	45	55
33-44	138	84	54	61	39
45-59	259	127	132	49	51
60+	409	203	206	50	50

EL for the students of class VIII was conducted to measure the impact of the self-learning material provided to

the students of this class. The analysis of baseline-endline can be in section – ‘Outcomes’.

*Additional Activities (Reading Mela, Career Counseling, Science-o-mania, Safety kits)*

**Reading Mela:** Reading Mela is an additional activity, included in the current year for class VI to VIII students with the following objectives -

- To create a learning enable environment in school
- Promote learning by doing
- Exposure to print rich environment
- Promote reading and writing and comprehension
- Motivate students to share their thoughts

In reading mela there were different corners for different activities like; games, story reading and writing, science experiments, fun with mathematics and puppet show, magic show, drawing etc.

In the session 2021-22, 11 such melas have been organised; **2 in Chittor, 2 in Zawar, 1 in Debari and one in Dariba,1 in Debari and 2 each in Agucha and Ajmer.**

During these melas all Covid Protocol were followed.

Along with VBERC team, school staff, HZL CSR team members actively participated in these melas. This activity was highly appreciated by the students, school teachers and CSR team. PRO members and Government officials also visited these melas and motivated the team and students.

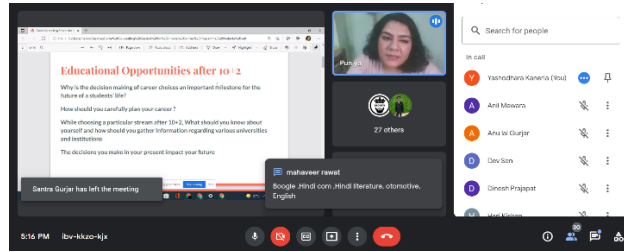
**Career Counselling:** As most of the students of Government schools belongs to the villages, where no proper guidance and counselling is available from the point of the education and future aspiration. Career counselling plays an important role in this case. It helps students to understand the career opportunities and option available.



Therefore, career counselling sessions for class 12 for arts, science and commerce stream were planned for this year. Six counselling sessions for arts and science stream students



has been done in Dariba, Zawar, Debari and Chittor locations. Three counselling sessions for science and arts stream students of Agucha location have been organised in this quarter. The Resource person for these sessions were Mr. Deepak Gupta, Mr. Arpit Jain and Ms. Punya Bakshi. The location CSR team and the VB team also participated in these sessions.



**Science-O-Mania:** Like reading melas, Science-O-Mania is also an additional activity with the students of class XII. The Idea behind the same is to engage HZL newly recruited staff members to volunteer some of their time with class XII students to work on concepts and developed some model. The participation of students should be in such a way that they should get an understanding of the concept involved in the model making.

From 5 senior secondary school total 76 students took part in this activity. This activity had two level. At first level the students of selected schools made some models in groups of 5-6 students. The school principal and invited guests selected the two best groups. At the second level, these groups made a presentation of their models to the Senior team of HZL via a virtual platform. The senior team then selected first, second and third among these groups based on the presentations.



**Distribution of COVID safety-kits: Students and School:** As a safety measure, (post COVID pandemic) Sanitizer stands and sanitizers were distributed in all schools in this quarter, along with this, each student (class 6 to 8) was provided with 2 masks and a bottle



of sanitizer for personal use. The material has been distributed to the students through proper channel. The CSR team also participated in the process.



**Lab and Library Work:** Apart from the regular teaching of science lessons some project work were also been planned by the science team members at VBERC. These projects were shared with the FCs and they facilitate the students in completion of these projects. Students collected leaves of different plants available in their neighbourhoods and grouped them in different categories. They also made different type of artwork with the collected leaves. Drawing of diagrams of different human body parts was another project done by the students. Total 960 Science experiments/demonstration are to be conducted in this session across all the locations. Till the end of March, 2022, 638 experiments have been conducted by the science FPs across all the locations.

At most of the locations every Sunday library books were used to be shared by FPs to the students. After reading the books students shared their drawing, summary or anything other which they liked in the book. Along with the soft copy of the books Hawamahal a publication of SCERT Udaipur is being shared with students on regular basis. On an average 10 books have been shared every month at all locations. The VBERC team shares the books to the FCs and then they share it further with FPs. Most of the time the books remain same but the selection of books is up to the FCs. In the current session around 180 books have been shared (till the end of March, 2022) among the students across the locations.



**Daddy's Mo**  
 Author: Madhul Purandare  
 Illustration: Madhul Purandare  
 Translator: Sai Ankar



Anu likes many things about Daddy. She likes the bright paper lanterns he makes, the crisp onion pakodas he fries and the cute tartaise he makes out of paper. Besides, he climbs the stairs with a hop, and wrestles with Uncle for fun. When guests come over, he always makes them laugh. Anu likes all these things about Daddy. But do you know what Anu likes most of all? Daddy's moustache!



## *Communication (Advisory Meetings, DEO meetings, Interactions with Principals and teachers)*

### **Advisory Committee Meeting**

A new advisory committee of 6 external members (three nominated by HZL and three by VBS) was formed in the current session and the first meeting of the committee was held on January 22, 2022. Given the situation of COVID – 19 pandemic the meeting was held online and 5 out of the 6 external members attended the meeting. The agenda of the meeting was to brief the new members about the programme, inputs in the current situation and the way forward. The committee appreciated the efforts of the field and subject teams and also Hindustan Zinc in reaching out and working with students online and through home-visits in the midst of the pandemic. The new committee members also shared their queries about the various aspects of the programme.

### **Meeting with DEOs and Principals**

Government agencies are important stakeholders of SSP, it is essential to keep the DEOs and school principals updated about the programme. Apart from the regular sharing interactions, one organised meeting with DEOs and Principals, have been proposed for each location. This year due to COVID-19 some meetings were organised through virtual platform and some were organised in-person.

The meetings for Zawar, Debari and Agucha location were held in online mode while the meetings for Dariba, Chittor and Ajmer locations were held in-person mode. The venues for the in-person meetings were HZL offices at the respective locations.

Location	Date	Participation by Principals & CBE0/DEO
Ajmer	Nov 26, 2021	8
Agucha	Feb 24, 2021	9
Chittor	Oct 8, 2021	14
Dariba	Sept 3, 2021	11
Zawar	Jan 14, 2021	10
Debari	Jan 14, 2021	13



Some of the key points discussed in these meetings were as follows:

- Presentation of activities done in SSP schools in session 2021 – 22.
- Effective support from SSP - The activities of Shiksha Sambal during lockdown period were appreciated and it was recognized that with the extra effort of Shiksha Sambal, a good result can be expected. Program encourages peer learning: students learn from each other.

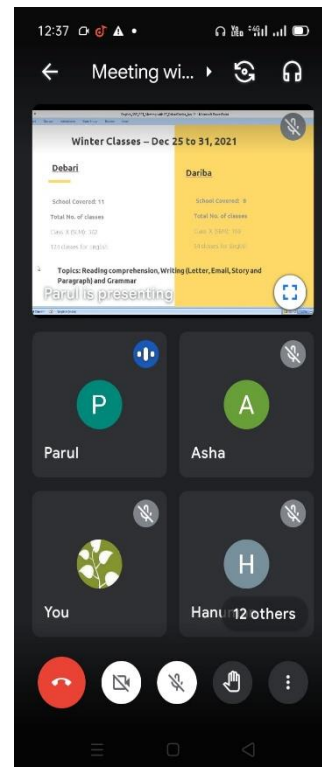
- It would be better if FP stayed in one school full day.
- Learning level of students and bridging the learning gap; focused work with the students who are not at the expected learning level of their class was suggested
- Board examinees have benefited a lot from the classes going on in winter vacation.
- Study materials given by SSP and it was suggested the distribution of Shiksha Sambal worksheets among the students of other schools and requested the principals to ensure the usage of these worksheets
- Organizing fortnightly test and science quiz suggested by CSR team member
- Principals shared the need of Shiksha Sambal personnel against the vacant position and the need of laboratory material. It was suggested to take suggestions and feedback from principals.
- Opportunities and recognition of students for innovation
- The development and use of a laboratory centre at the location for doing and learning.

### Sharing online work with school teachers, principals and Govt. officials

Sharing Online Work with School Teachers, Principals and Govt. Officials: As a regular part of the work, the work done through WhatsApp groups, online classes and home visits are being shared with subject teachers and principals of the concerned schools. When the schools were not open, this was done through WhatsApp groups and phone calls. But now all schools are open and our FPs and FCs are in touch with them. They share regular updates with the principals and also with the subject teachers. In fact, in some of the groups, the subject teachers and principals are also active and they do instruct the students to remain active in the groups and online classes.

### Interactions with subject teachers

Interaction between the subject teachers and the VBS team is an important platform for academic discourse. Representatives of the CSR also participate in some of the meetings. The major focus of the interaction was the learning loss among the children, reduced syllabi as a result of the COVID – 19 pandemic and the revised question paper pattern. VB team shared the BL-EL results of winter camp and open book test results with the teachers and requested their inputs for the preparations for Board examinations. Many teachers shared their concern about the learning levels of the students and requested to provide some material focused on basic concepts along with the learning material for classes IX and X. These interactions were held online. The details regarding this session can be seen in the table below:



Location	Science		English		Maths	
	Total Gov Teacher	Participated in the meeting	Total Gov Teacher	Participated in the meeting	Total Gov Teacher	Participated in the meeting
<b>Ajmer</b>	7	6	7	6	7	5
<b>Agucha</b>	6	6	5	5	5	5
<b>Chittor</b>	16	10	16	12	16	6
<b>Dariba</b>	5	5	6	4	4	2
<b>Debari</b>	14	6	13	6	14	7
<b>Zawar</b>	8	6	10	6	6	6
<b>Total</b>	56	39	57	39	52	31

From the above table we can conclude that 66% teachers participated in the interaction. In these interactions subject teachers shared their experiences with FPs. They also appreciated the study material and the activities being undertaken under the programme.

### *Work with the FPs (weekly meetings and capacity building)*

#### **Capacity Building**

Capacity building of all FPs was also done through weekly online sessions in which along with the subject team, subject mentors are also actively involved in engaging in the FPs. After having a thorough discussion on the selected concepts or topics the Field team was asked to submit assignments which are being checked by the VB team. The FPs also attended meetings with their respective subject teams. The number of such interactions varied from subject to subject. These interactions were fortnightly for Science and Math FPs and weekly for English FPs.

The science team initiated the academic discourse around the topics of biology. For this, a few readings were selected from a book '*Jeevan ke baahar*' by *Madhav Gaadgil* and were shared with the FPs. The online sessions were focused on discussing these readings.

In English, 2 sessions a month were devoted for FPs to discuss their experiences in working online with the students and what other aspects apart from that planned about language learning, they covered in their online classes. A couple of FPs have shared that they have small spoken English sessions. Such interaction encourages peer learning wherein FPs learn about pedagogic practices from their peers. The remaining sessions were devoted to capacity building. Capacity building sessions have taken place on reading, writing and editing written texts. Grammar in the context of a text was also covered.

In Math, the subject team took the FPs' feedback about their experience during last year's online intervention. In addition, the FPs were asked to analyse the concepts in geometry covered from classes VI to X and shared them with the group.

## **Weekly meetings**

Weekly Meeting with FCs: Weekly online meetings with FCs are being done regularly from the beginning of this session. The primary purpose of these meetings is regular update and planning for the work in SS schools such as classroom teaching, running the WhatsApp groups, strategies to motivate the children to remain active in on-line groups, planning of home visits, etc and specific activities like Diwali classes, winter camp etc. Apart from this, these meetings also provide platform to discuss any specific issues rising from the field. The capacity building of FCs with reference to different philosophical aspects of education, is also an integral part of these meetings.

## *General Language Comprehension Study*

Given in scenario where schools were mostly closed due to Covid – 19 pandemic and the students of primary and upper primary were out of classroom for almost two years. A study on general language comprehension has been carried out with the purpose was to understand the proficiency levels of the students of upper primary level in Hindi and English. The outcome of this study may provide helpful insight for the pilot intervention (SSP) in the classes of upper primary level.

In the situation of third wave of Covid-19 pandemic, it was decided to consider the convenient sample for the study. In session 2021-22, there are 6363 students in the upper primary level classes of SSP schools. The sample size, for this study is 10% of whole population i.e., 636 students of classes VI to VIII. A detailed report has been prepared on the findings of this study.

## *Other Events*

1. In the times of the COVID – 19 pandemic awareness for the prevention of spread of Covid during almost all the SSP activities became a regular practice.
2. The following other online activities were conducted in June 2021
  - World Environment Day was celebrated in all locations. Two competitions were organised on this occasion at Zawar location.
  - 85 students participated in the Bal Shram Nishedh Diwas in Ajmer. The District Coordinator of Childline was the Resource Person in this.
  - Sessions on Immunity and Covid were held in Zawar and Dariba respectively.
  - Yoga Day was celebrated in all locations.
3. World Organ Donation Day – World organ donation was celebrated on 13th, August, 2021. Students were made aware through online program on World Organ Donation Day. In all 633 students and teachers participated across all locations.

Prior to the day the event was celebrated at school level with the students of class IX and X. Some of the students were selected among these and took part in the virtual

celebration of the day. Students shared the poster, models made by them. They were also made aware about the importance and need of the organ donation.

4. Independence Day – Independence was celebrated in virtual mode with the students of all SSP schools. Students recite poem, express their views through posters, dance, slogan and making India's Flag on their faces. Students actively participated in the activities.



5. International Girl Child Day – October 11, 2021 International girl child day was celebrated in all programme schools on 11th October, 2021. Students of class 9 and 10 took part in the celebration, Students were engaged in several activities like; slogan writing, poster making,



quiz, poem recitation and writing, essay writing etc. Apart from this all of the importance of the celebration of the day was also discussed with the students. School teachers and community members also took part in the event celebration.

6. Children's Day – November 14, 2021 Children's Day was celebrated in all the schools of Chittor and Dariba location, under the supervision of the principal. Students of class 9 to 12 put up stall of their choice. The students enthusiastically enjoyed the experience of shopping at each other's stalls.
7. Global Handwashing Day – October 14, 2021 Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Rajpura, Dariba Participant – Mr. Kamlesh choudhary (UpPradhan, Railmagra), Mr. Heeralalgadri (Sarpanch, Rajpura), Mr. Lalit kumar (UpSarpanch, Rajpura), Mr. Zaved khan (Principal), Mr. Yogesh varma, Ms. NamrahYasha, Ms. Sanjivani & Other (CSR Team)
  - a. Discussion & Conversation held on following issues-
  - b. The importance of Hand Washing Day was explained to the students by Up Pradhan Kamlesh Choudhary.
  - c. Hand Washing demo was explained to the students by CSR team.
  - d. Yogesh ji gave detailed information about the importance of washing hands and the diseases caused by it.

- e. Washing activities for 20 seconds per day were taught to the students by NamrahYasha.
  - f. Handwash as well as one Lifebuoy Soap & one Chocolate were given to the students by CSR team.
8. World Toilet Day – November 23, 2021 World Toilet Day was celebrated in Gawaradi school by Hindustan Zinc Dariba. The first movie was shown by CSR team to the students of class 9,10 about the utility of toilet. After that, the debate between the students through for and against was done. Poster competition was conducted. Students enthusiastically participated in this program. Prizes were distributed to the students in this program. Thanks to the HZL team on behalf of all the staff of the school.
9. Science Day celebration – National Science Day was celebrated on 28 February, 2022 in all programme schools. Students made charts, posters regarding the theme. Science quiz was also organised by FPs in their classes. Students actively participated in the activities.

## Outcomes

### Open Book Test

The Open book test was conducted to gauge the impact of the work being done through digital platforms. For this purpose, the students were divided into three categories on the basis of the engagement. The description of categories is given below -

- Code 1: Active Students (those who work on assignments, send them and feedback is given)
- Code 2: Students have joined the WhatsApp groups; we send assignments to them but no response is received from their side.
- Code 3: Students who are not in contact with us

The tables below show us the code wise average marks obtained by class IX and X students in SEM.

Class X: M M_30	Science		English		Maths	
	No. of Students	Av Marks	No. of Students	Av Marks	No. of Students	Av Marks
Code 1	289	18.53	239	17.53	262	17.49
Code 2	312	14.61	267	11.94	257	12.01
Code 3	266	12.09	209	10.16	242	8.56

Class IX M M 30	Science		English		Maths	
	No. of Students	Av Marks	No. of Students	Av Marks	No. of Students	Av Marks
Code 1	170	22.58	145	19.48	184	15.96
Code 2	150	18.07	130	14.01	165	9.3
Code 3	177	15.4	155	11.44	177	7.99

From the above table it is clearly seen the difference between average marks scored by the students of code-1 and code-3 in SEM by students of both the classes. This shows the impact of the work being done with the students.



Analysis of BL-EL tests in Classes IX and X

Class IX	BL obtained average % marks	EL obtained average % marks	EL-BL Difference
Science Boys/Girls	39.13 39.13/39.13	55.90 54.67/56.93	16.77 15.53/17.80
English Boys/Girls	28.46 28.97/28	40.34 40.54/40.20	11.89 11.57/12.20
Math Boys/Girls	14.26 14.88/13.71	27.81 27.69/27.91	13.55 12.81/14.20

Class X	BL obtained average % marks	EL obtained average % marks	EL-BL Difference
Science Boys/Girls	33.87 33.87/33.87	52.30 49.17/54.37	18.43 15.30/20.50
English Boys/Girls	22.14 20.83/23.09	45.83 44.11/46.97	23.69 23.29/23.89
Math Boys/Girls	19.23 18.35/19.85	38.08 33.46/41.03	18.85 15.11/21.18

## Analysis of BL-EL of Class VIII

Science	Language (Hindi and English)	Math
Average marks: 54% B-54%, G-54%	Average marks: 49% B-46%, G-53%	Average marks: 47% B-47%, G-48%
Total Students: 1084 (B-553 & G-531)	Total Students: 1250 (B-660 & G-590)	Total Students: 1149 (B-582 & G-567)

### Board Results

Awaited

## Conclusions

In the academic year 2021 – 22 schools were closed during May to August 2021 due to the second wave of COVID – 19 pandemic. The SS programme ensured that the students' process of learning did not stop. They were provided with learning materials. And along with online studies, the FPs visited the houses of students without internet connection and smart phones and worked with them. Once the schools were open the SSP team resumed the regular activities. In this session SSP team introduced some new activities like, Reading Mela, Science-O-Mania, Counselling sessions. These activities were much appreciated by the schools and the students. The assessment of the impact on students' learning during the initial months was carried out through Open Book Tests and impact of overall academic inputs was measured through Baseline – Endline tests. Presently, the students of board classes have appeared in the examinations and are their board exams results are awaited.

