



DEVI SANSTHAN
Dignity, Education, Vision International

GLOBAL DREAM

ENGLISH NEWS

2014-2021



Leave no one behind
GLOBAL
DREAM

Editorial **mp** 7

Global Dream

Nexus of Good



ANIL SWARUP

An estimated five lakh students at schools dotted across India have volunteered in the 'Global Dream Each One Teach At Least One' campaign to teach FLN to both adults and children outside of schools

The methodology is addressing the colossal problem of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy through an experimental approach at a faster pace

Disruptive methods and systemic approaches are originally required to make India's adults and children fully literate. Dr Sarita Gandhi has developed groundbreaking tools and processes that have the potential to solve India's greatest education problem — Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN).

India's New Education Policy (NEP) aims to reach universal literacy by 2025. The FLN problem, however, is colossal and unless out-of-the-box solutions are found, it will not be accomplished by 2025 or even 2030 as required by UN's Sustainable Development Goal 4.6. A quarter of India's adults are illiterate, accounting for 27 per cent of the world's share (UNESCO 2014). More than 50 million children in schools still read non-per FLN-capable (NEP). Nearly a half of Grade-5 children cannot read Grade-two text, and one-fourth of those graduating from Grade eight do not have FLN skills (ASER Annual Survey of Education Report 2019).

Recognising that literacy is the best equalizer, Dr Sarita Gandhi left her high-profile job at the World Bank to directly serve her family and the cause of education. By this time, she had gained considerable expertise in implementing education policies in several countries, travelling to 40 countries and studying their education systems against the backdrop of her own family-run world-famous school situated in Lucknow where she grew up to breakfast, lunch and dinner talks about education. She has also conducted a 15-year research in education



Global Dream methodology is imparting literacy to adults in addition to government school children

newspaper in just one month? Can she do so with single 15-minute study session per day? Can they learn without much assistance from a volunteer? Through research work around these questions, the impossible was made possible. Upside-down Global Dream methodology relied upon cognitive mind-connection that solidified learning, and three guiding principles that nurtured intrinsic motivation and self-confidence: 1) Go from known to unknown, 2) Go from visual to abstract, and 3) Ask, not tell.

Global Dream delivers FLN in 30 hours over three months or more. In comparison, it takes 120 hours over four months or more to teach the FLN skills to an adult who is illiterate as per the Government's new Padma Lakshmi Abhiyan (Read Write Mission). A typical school-based learning of both literacy and

a volunteer or teacher to begin teaching immediately. The Global Dream FLN programme has been developed in 13 Indian languages and is being replicated in other languages. These advantages are combined with similar costs of physical toolkits, surveys, assessment, certification, etc., as in Padma Lakshmi Abhiyan (PLA). However, the costs come down to near zero and zero with the Global Dream learning system and mobile app-based tools both online and offline.

For children in government schools, the Global Dream methodology has shown remarkable results. BGC Trainees were trained in Uttar Pradesh to implement the Global Dream reading programme in government schools in Lucknow district. Similarly, teachers of primary classes were trained to implement the same in the Himachal Pradesh.

contexts. Currently, discussions are underway to implement the Global Dream in the context of both adult literacy and of children studying in government schools. So far, an estimated five lakh students at schools dotted across India have volunteered in the 'Global Dream Each One Teach At Least One' campaign to teach FLN to both adults and children outside of schools. They have used the physical toolkits in their summer breaks to teach an illiterate child or adult, who is often a family member, a maid or her children. Some schools and universities have created engaging programmes and established school-based global 'dream-shalas' within their schools and in communities such as slums and villages near their locations.

A new Name Literacy Challenge, launched by Dr Gandhi

takes just two hours of a volunteer's time because it does not require that learners first learn the alphabet (surmount and matrix).

While FLN is considered equivalent to Grade three, Global Dream's new digital platform adds content for homeschooling or government schools for up to Grade 12. The platform is an interactive learning tool that motivates learners to learn. It picks up data and analytics to track progress and provides useful insights to policymakers. The new digital platform solves the issue of 'missing beneficiary' by recording the real-time progress of every learner and, therefore, serves as a literacy data repository for the nation.

Global Dream has made a significant impact without any external funding since the first groundbreaking toolkit was made. Some 2,50,000 adults and children have been made literate by the efforts of students in government schools. This is borne out in a detailed survey of 15 lakh target population in 3,50,000 households in Lucknow between six and 60 years of age, covering all rural blocks of Lucknow and some urban wards. This led to reports and policy discussions on adult literacy and mainstreaming of 10,000 out-of-school children. In an experiment, 22 women of a village made 800 women literate. 180 of them in the first two months! Going forward, the plan is to make India literate through advocacy and in collaboration with governments, voluntary organisations, corporates and educational institutions.

A challenge to promote female literacy

According to data from National Statistical Office, between July 2017 to June 2018, India's country-wide female literacy rate is 70.3%, while the male literacy rate is estimated at 84.7%



IANS
Published: 08 Mar 2021, 9:30 PM

Engagement: 126



To mark International Women's Day, Indian educationist Sunita Gandhi, has invited volunteers from all sections of society to take up the one-hour 'One Word Literacy Challenge' where volunteers commit an hour to teach an illiterate learner (preferably female) to read and write her name.

After completing this Name Literacy Challenge, volunteers are encouraged to sign-up for the 30-hour 'Complete Literacy Challenge' to make their learner

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This UP teacher is making poor kids 'literate' in 30 hour

Shobita Dhar | TNN | Updated: Dec 21, 2020, 08:17 IST



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Sunita Gandhi

LUCKNOW: Is it possible to make someone literate in just 30 hours? For five years, [Sunita Gandhi](#), an educationist in Lucknow, has been doing just that, free of cost, for out-of-school children in UP. Over the next year, she will replicate her model in other parts of the country.

"We hope to take this to 20 states by the end of next year,

hopefully reaching out to 20 lakh out-of-school children," Gandhi told TOI. The [Global Dream Project](#) is entirely volunteer-driven. It's all based on a simple principle — ask children what they know and build on it. So, instead of a uniform structure for all students, it breaks things down for each child.

This Educationist Launches 'Global Dream Shaala' To Provide Free Lessons To Out-of-School Children, Adults

Dr Sunita Gandhi's initiative is completely driven by volunteers and is based on the principle of asking children what they know rather than making them repeat the lessons. Hence, the learning process is dynamic depending upon each child's need rather than implementing a uniform structure.

The Logical Indian Crew
Uttar Pradesh | 30 Dec 2020

Writer : [Palak Agrawal](#) | Editor : [Prateek Gautam](#) | Creatives : [Vijay S Hegde](#)



EDUCATION

This physicist, former World Bank economist, and educationist is helping the illiterate become literate in a month

By Nirandhi Gowthaman | 9th Jul 2020



2019 NEWS, THE BETTER INDIA



World Bank Economist Quits Job, Helps Educate 800+ Women At Just Rs 5 Per Head!

While her husband bent forward to put his thumb impression, Guddi boldly picked up the pen and signed her full name. All because 22 women taught 180 more, who in turn made 800 women literate! #Education #WomenEmpowerment

BY SAYANTANI NATH

SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

2018 NEWS, HINDUSTAN TIMES ONLINE

LUCKNOW NEWS

International Literacy Day: Turning uneducated women into literacy champs

Sixty-year-old Shiv Kanti of Karouni village, on the outskirts of Lucknow, was an illiterate woman till a few years ago. She even did not send her children to school, engaging them in farm work instead, and was against the idea of her granddaughter attending school, which she thought was a waste of time.



Hindustan Times, Lucknow | By [Rajeev Mullick](#), Lucknow

PUBLISHED ON SEP 08, 2018 01:12 PM IST



ROTARY NEWS MARCH 2016

Rotary **India** Global **Dream** *- leave no adult illiterate*

Each year, NIOS in collaboration with National Literacy Mission Authority (NLMA) conducts examination for adult learners in March and August.

RILM got approval from NLMA to conduct examination at RILM-run adult literacy centres for adult learners on August 23, 2015.

The examination was conducted at five locations for 200 adult learners. Results were announced recently.

In West Bengal

Three centres in Kolkata – Belegkata (15), Kidderpore (19) and Chowringhee (53) registered 81 per cent score on average.



Chowbaga (17) in South 24 Parganas registered 100 per cent and Kulgachia (105) in Howrah registered 92 per cent score.

On average, a score of 85 per cent was secured by all learners who sat for the NIOS Exam and successfully cleared it.

Literacy campaign in village Kurauni

LUCKNOW: Part of ongoing efforts to make Kurauni Village under Sarojini Nagar block, as a totally literate village of UP, a host of 30 volunteers joined hands to achieve this mission in a programme organised on Sunday in which various stakeholders participated.

Addressing the gathering, Dr Sunita Gandhi of Global dream said, "There are three phases scheduled in the campaign. First is to identify the illiterates, register them and schedule the teaching, and finally awarding them with certificates."

HTC



13 MARCH 2015, MONDAY,

HINDUSTAN TIMES

MOVEMENT LAUNCHED TO MAKE LUCKNOW FULLY LITERATE

HT Correspondent

lkreporter@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW: More than 4,000 primary and anganwadi teachers on Thursday participated in a launch meet on 'Global Dream' - a people's movement for literacy aimed at making Lucknow the first fully literate city in UP.

The meeting was organised by the district administration along with Devi Sansthan, an NGO spearheading the literacy movement in Uttar Pradesh. Chief development officer Yogesh Kumar, Sunita Gandhi, president of Council for Global Education, USA and lead facilitator-worker, Global Dream, G Pattanaik, chairman India Literacy Board and other eminent government authorities also attended the meet.

The main focus of the programme was to communicate and set an action plan to make Lucknow literate and ways to identify the uneducated between the age group of 7 to 70 years.

CDO Yogesh Kumar said the time had come to make every person living in Lucknow and outside literate. "Illiteracy is a curse on our civilisation and it is the responsibility of the educated class to support all efforts to eradicate illiteracy," he said.

A presentation was also given on the use of mobile apps developed exclusively for teachers and learners to facilitate the younger generation in participating and teaching at least one illiterate person.

**THE EVENT AIMED TO
SET AN ACTION PLAN FOR
SPREADING LITERACY
AND IDENTIFYING THE
UNEDUCATED AGED
BETWEEN 7 AND 70
YEARS**



3 MARCH 2015, TUESDAY,
THE PIONEER

LUCKNOW, TUESDAY MARCH 3, 2015; PAGES 16 ₹3



the pioneer
www.dailypioneer.com

Summit lays stress on removing illiteracy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
LUCKNOW

The first national CSR summit on literacy and education organised by Devi Sanshodhan held at CMS auditorium on Monday was aimed at taking immediate actions needed to eradicate problems related to illiteracy and improve the quality of education imparted to the masses.

While addressing the summit, District Magistrate Raj Shekhar said, "It is the first priority of all of us to see that Lucknow becomes the first district of Uttar Pradesh to achieve 100 per cent literacy. We all have to work together at various levels to see that proud moment of our life. Lucknow has all the necessary infrastructure and developed human potential chain to achieve this important goal. I am strongly for it and have full trust in my team."

He added that all government departments should take up literacy and work



CSR summit being inaugurated at CMS auditorium in Lucknow on Monday

towards the important goal. "Lucknowites are known for supporting movements of social importance in its history and it is in their blood too," DM pointed out.

IT entrepreneur and Lead

will miss a great opportunity to become completely literate not only from the point of view of Uttar Pradesh, but the country as a whole," he added.

A new multiple language mobile application for Global

Dream was launched during the summit to help any socially conscious individual to teach an illiterate.

The agenda of CSR summit included a discussion covering the most important issues and the opportunities to eradicate the persistent and growing problem of illiteracy in India by engaging all stakeholders under one roof that plays a constitutional role towards a totally literate India.

Besides the CSR community, Leading India Campaign winner and IT Entrepreneur RK Misra, CDO Yogesh Kumar, president of Council for Global Education, USA, for Global Education, and other eminent government authorities concerned with the education programme. The corporate representatives from various sectors including energy, infrastructure, education, health, consumer products, banks and financial institutions, IT and communication industry attended the summit.



hindustantimes

Collective effort required for full literacy in city: DM

LUCKNOW: District magistrate Raj Shekhar said on Monday that the first priority of all citizens of the state capital should be to help Lucknow become the first district of Uttar Pradesh to achieve 100% literacy.

Speaking at the first national CSR summit on Literacy and Education organised by Devi Sansthan at City Montessori School, Gomti Nagar, the DM said, "Lucknow has all the necessary infrastructure and developed human potential chain to achieve this important goal. Everybody must join hands to make it possible."

He proposed that all government departments should take a proactive stance and work collectively towards this important goal. He also praised the media for supporting this cause wholeheartedly.

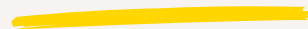
Echoing his views IT entrepreneur RK Misra said complete literacy played a very important role in making a society developed. Global Dream, an initiative spearheading this literacy campaign, organised the programme that focused on the immediate actions that are needed to eradicate illiteracy and improve the quality of education, especially among the poorer sector of the society. Sunita Gandhi is the president council for global education, USA and lead facilitator worker of global dream. The highlight of the event was launch



Leave no one behind
GLOBAL DREAM



3 MARCH 2015, TUESDAY,
HINDUSTAN TIMES



The Hindustan Times

ESTABLISHED IN 1924

CSR literacy summit on March 2

LUCKNOW: The first national CSR summit on literacy and education is being organised by the DEVI Sansthan on March 2 at City Montessori School, Gomti Nagar. It will focus on immediate actions needed to eradicate illiteracy and improve the quality of education. The summit will be presided over by minister for basic education Ram Govind Chaudhary.

HTC



28 February 2015, SATURDAY,

HINDUSTAN TIMES



1st NEWS HINDUSTAN TIMES 29 JUNE 2014

SUNDAY
hindustan times hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW FOR LITERACY

'Toolkit can help people learn quickly'

HT Correspondent

■ lkreportersdesk@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW: The Lucknow for Literacy campaign, which aims to achieve complete literacy in the city by 2015, started on Saturday with an introductory meeting at the City Montessori School, Gomti Nagar campus 2.

The discussion saw members of various NGOs, city schools and the campaign advisory board comprising city's whose who sitting together to discuss ways in which the campaign could be taken forward.

Sunita Gandhi, the lead facilitator for the campaign said, "The global dream toolkit that is to be used during the campaign to spread literacy is a magic pill by which one can learn to read and write within a month. Thirty sessions of 15 minutes each day can help attain the basic literacy level."

Sunita asked schools to join in the campaign and motivate their students to take up the challenge



■ Kids performing at the inaugural programme of Lucknow for Literacy campaign on Saturday.

ASHOK DUTTA/HT PHOTO

as a part of their SUPW project. The toolkit, she said, could be collected from her and the literacy programme be started anywhere.

Magsaysay awardee Sandeep Pandey said, "Several of my students at the IIT BHU campus are currently teaching some illiterate adults using the same toolkit with good results. They

are learning quickly and making people read is a great achievement."

Rose H, an American volunteer working on the literacy programme in Lucknow slums shared, "The joy on the faces of people who couldn't read or write, when they begin to do so is wonderful. It might take as little as just two months to gift

someone literacy that would help him all through his life."

Sunita, along with the board of advisors for the programme lamented that Lucknow did not have a single literacy programme till now. While 37% of the world's total illiterate live in India, UP contributes for a major share, she added. Studies have shown that literacy levels are only getting worse in Lucknow and thus the need to spread the light of literacy was urgent, said experts.

The Lucknow for Literacy Campaign is an initiative of Dignity, Education, Vision International (DEVI Sansthan) in collaboration with Education We Want, both non-profit initiatives. The programme aims at making 1,00,000 individuals literate by the end of 2014.

The literacy project began in May, when 58,000 students of 150 schools in Lucknow pledged to teach at least one underprivileged child in the city during summer vacation.

02 | hindustantimes

htcampaign

Spiritual edu more important than material lessons: Sunita Gandhi

HT Correspondent

■ lkoreportersdesk@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW: Highlighting the inadequacy of present-day education in meeting the needs of students, educationist Sunita Gandhi on Wednesday batted for a new system that helps children develop empathy for people everywhere and reverence for all forms of life.

Delivering a talk on 'All Encompassing New Education'

organised by the Lucknow Management Association at the Scientific Convention Centre, Gandhi, who is also the chief academic advisor of City Montessori Schools, said, "The new system says spiritual education is more important than material education. Competition with oneself is more important than competition with others."

Gandhi says that in the education system, processes take

precedence over the end result. "It matters, for example, that children learn to do everything with a sense of beauty and perfection. We are rushing them so much. Their handwriting is so bad," she said.

Gandhi advocated quality in work, which would require competition with oneself and cooperation with others. This would create an intrinsic motivation to always strive to do one's best.



LUCKNOW, SUNDAY JUNE 29, 2014; PAGES 12+8 '3

Campaign to achieve cent per cent literacy in Lucknow by 2015

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Aiming to achieve cent per cent literacy in Lucknow by 2015, the first meeting of 'Lucknow for Literacy' campaign was held at the City Montessori School on Saturday.

A joint initiative of CMS, Global Class Room, Dignity, Education and DEVI Sansthan, 'Lucknow for Literacy' campaign aims to teach the illiterates using an interactive 'Global Dream Tool Kit'.

The kit is specially designed to teach the illiterate adults and minors by enabling them to read within a month or 30 sessions of 15 minutes per day. To reach out to those who can not afford schooling or dedicate much time, the cam-

paign takes the help of school children who are volunteering to reach out to such people.

"With a strong network of 58,000 students from 150 schools of Lucknow, out of whom 28,000 are from CMS itself, all the volunteers have been given kits and are in touch with the coordinators," said Nidhi Jain, coordinator of DEVI Sansthan.

"Students will submit their reports after their vacation ends. We are already in touch with them and they were given initial training to use the tool kit for teaching different age groups by realising their grasping capabilities," said Jain.

She added that the entire module was the idea of Sunita Gandhi and it took 14 years of

A joint initiative of CMS, Global Class Room, Dignity, Education and DEVI Sansthan, 'Lucknow for Literacy' campaign aims to teach the illiterates using an interactive 'Global Dream Tool Kit'.

research for the kit to evolve. Bharti Gandhi, founder director of the City Montessori School said that the campaign

would lead to personal and social awakening.

"The girls need to learn to read. All statistics and data show when girls can read and write and get educated, there are less children born, lower child morality, better health and education for the next generation. When a girl is empowered, the whole family and even the society benefits," said Gandhi.

Social worker Sandeep Pandey said the programme held tremendous promise and that several of his students on IIT/BHU campus were teaching slum children using Global Dream Tool Kit.

Several foreign volunteers also participated in the programme.

29 JUNE 2014,
SUNDAY
PIONEER

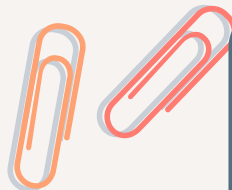


■ Dr Sunita Gandhi with James and Mary Pearce.

AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS FELICITATED

LUCKNOW: American volunteers James Pearce and Mary Pearce were greeted on the occasion of US Independence Day celebration on July 4 by Dr Sunita Gandhi, PhD, Cambridge University, UK, and founder, DEVI Sansthan, Lucknow lead facilitator-worker, Lucknow for Literacy Campaign. Pearce have been working as volunteer for DEVI Sansthan for the last one year. They have helped pilot and develop the curriculum for Global Dream. Pearce is kind in India, an illiterate can learn reading in one month's time (15 minutes every day). DEVI Sansthan in association with 'Education We Want' is striving hard to achieve complete literacy for Lucknow and have started the 'Lucknow for Literacy' campaign on June 28. It has formed an advisory board comprising principal secretary, information and other eminent persons from the cities to formulate and implement the programme. The Lucknow for Literacy Campaign is an initiative of Global Dream in collaboration with Dignity, Education, Vision International (DEVI Sansthan) and Education We Want, both non-profit initiatives. Behind it is a purpose-driven team led by Dr Sunita Gandhi.

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES



LUCKNOW | TUESDAY | AUGUST 12, 2014

Students share experiences of mission to spread literacy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
LUCKNOW

Several schools have supported the Lucknow for Literacy Campaign in which thousands of illiterate persons are being taught how to read and write.

A press conference was organised at the auditorium of Gomti Nagar branch of the City Montessori School on Monday to give information about the progress made by the 'Lucknow for Literacy Campaign'.

The campaign was started in the beginning of May when some 60,000 students from 150 schools of the city were given the summer assignment of making at least one person literate.

In the press conference, 1,000 portfolios of children from dozens of schools were shared.

The schools included Army Public School, Bal Vidya Mandir, Canossa School, Central Academy, Career Convent, Children's Academy, City International School, City Montessori School (Gomti Nagar Campus 1, LDA and Station Road), Colvin Talukedars, Doon Valley High School, Ghayasiaban Inter College, IMD Public School, Loreto Convent, Rabindranath Tagore School, RK Senior Secondary School, Spring



Students share their experiences of teaching illiterate people

Dale College, St Francis College, St Paul's College, St Peter's Inter College, Study Hall, Tulsa Devi Inter College and Vibgyor High School etc.

Speaking about the progress of the campaign, lead facilitator of the programme Sunita Gandhi said: "The response from the school children is beyond expectation. Youth are an untapped resource. The society needs to draw upon children and youth idealism that can be directed to many good objectives. With the goal to make 1,00,000 literate in Lucknow between May and December, we are already 40 to 60 per cent of the way there with the help of children."

Students of various schools who had taught the illiterate people also shared

their experiences.

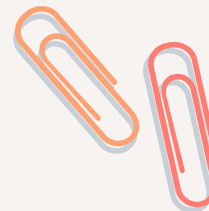
Animesh Kumar Maitreya (9), a class IV student of St Francis College, taught a 35-year-old domestic help at his home, Shanti.

He said, "In the beginning, she hesitated because she had studied only till class III many years ago. Only after one or two sittings she gained confidence and became excited to continue learning. She wanted to keep the toolkit for practice and to teach her younger son also."

Two girls from Career Convent taught 25 children in a slum during the summer vacation. One child from Loreto Convent taught five children while another from LDA branch of the City Montessori School made nine persons literate.



12 AUGUST 2014, TUESDAY,
THE PIONEER



Lucknow's first literacy lab to light up slumkids' world

HT Correspondent

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LUCKNOW: In their tattered houses, lined up in narrow clusters, they can hardly dream of a better tomorrow. With no basic facilities residents of city slums, particularly the children, only hope for a stomach-full today. But Wednesday brought an array of opportunities for them.

Global Dream, the non-governmental organisation running 'Lucknow for Literacy' campaign, inaugurated the first-of-its-kind 'Dream Lab' that aims to improve lives of the underprivileged kids.

"The innovative dream lab will not only impart literacy but also life-skills. It will also impart them self-defence training," said Madhu Banerjee, president of UP Police Welfare Association, while inaugurating the dream lab here at Tedhipuliya, near Kursi road crossing, on Wednesday.

"This is a laudable effort and we need to support such efforts, especially so because it is a community-based and



■ Dignitaries discuss ideas to bring more slumkids to the 'Dream Lab', which was inaugurated at Tedhipuliya, near Kursi road crossing, on Wednesday.

ASHOK DUTTA/HT PHOTO

community-run project. I want to especially thank advisory board member of the Global Dream Dr Sangeeta Sharma and social workers Sarvesh Mishra, Anam Zaidi and Parvati Sharma for spearheading this novel initiative," Banerjee said.

It is no secret that years of lop-sided developed has forced thousands of people to migrate to cities in search of proper employment. In Lucknow alone there are 609

slums, where most residents are illiterate and live in rank poverty.

"Research shows that an illiterate person suffers from lack of self-esteem and fears that he/she will be cheated. Though technically enrolled in school, most of the children do not attend them, which continue to make them vulnerable and marginalized," said a volunteer associated with the project.

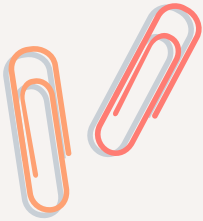
Taking steps to reverse the trend Global Dream

THE INNOVATIVE DREAM LAB WILL NOT ONLY IMPART EDUCATION, BUT ALSO LIFE-SKILLS. IT WILL ALSO TRAIN THEM IN SELF-DEFENCE TECHNIQUES

MADHU BANERJEE, president of UP Police Welfare Association

launched its 'Lucknow for Literacy' campaign, which aims to achieve 100% literacy for Lucknow first and spread the campaign further to other parts of the state and then rest of the country in association with 'Education We Want', said Sunita Gandhi, who is spearheading the campaign.

Former bureaucrat G Pattanaik, who was also present at the inaugural programme, also appreciated the efforts made by the NGO to bring quality education to children of migrant workers living in the city's slums.



Dream lab a boon for slum children

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

For underprivileged children of Vinayakapuram slum situated near Tedipuliya, the opening of the first dream lab is no less than a boon for them.

Dream lab will provide not only training in literacy but also in skills development, self-defence, financial literacy and entrepreneurship to slum dwellers especially children.

Dream Lab for literacy was inaugurated by the president, UP Police Welfare Association, Madhu Banerjee in the presence of former LU Vice-Chancellor GB Pattanaik, social activist Sandeep Pandey, director, Jan Shikshan Sansthan, SP Rastogi. It was inaugurated as a part of 'Lucknow For Literacy' campaign. Aimed at skill development and improvement for the extremely underprivileged people living in the slum, the dream lab's primary target is to make residents of the slum literate.

Addressing the gathering, Madhu Banerjee thanked every one who had spearheaded the effort. She said: "This is a laudable effort and we need to sup-

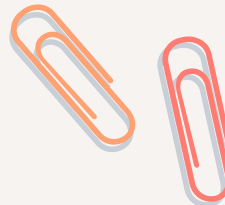
port such endeavour. This is a community-based and community-run project. Everyone should do their part to support the global dream campaign for literacy and empowerment. It would help slum-dwellers a lot specially enhancing their literacy level."

She also promised to provide dream lab with the first of its kind solar-powered borewell and support the cause in every manner.

Lead facilitator of the campaign Sunita Gandhi said that there were around 609 slums in Lucknow. "Residents there live not only in poverty but also a good proportion of them are completely illiterate. A research shows that an illiterate person suffer from lack of self-esteem and fear that he/she may be cheated. Though technically enrolled, many of the children do not attend school, most of whom are girls.

It would be the target of the dream lab to educate the children as well as other illiterate residents of the slum. This lab will benefit slum-dwellers in a big way," she added.

4 SEP 2014, THURSDAY,
THE PIONEER



02 | hindustantimes
htmetro

WORLD LITERACY DAY ON SEPTEMBER 8

Literacy mission losing steam due to fund crunch

HT Correspondent
■ live.reportersdesk@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW: Stung by fund crunch the National Literacy Mission is gradually losing steam in Uttar Pradesh. The state, it is reported, has not received funds from the Centre for carrying out the literacy campaign for two years now.

As a result the work to identify and teach the illiterate in 66 districts of the state has eclipsed.

Talking to HT, director of literacy and alternate education, UP Amarnath Verma informed: "We have asked for ₹167 crore fund from the Centre to revive the campaign, but have not received it yet. And as the Centre has not released the grant, the state government too has fol-

lowed the suit."
"Due to paucity of funds, the Preraks or volunteers entrusted with the responsibility of motivating people are yet to receive their honorarium for nearly two years now," Verma said, adding that the 1.9 crore illiterates identified in the 66 districts of UP,



LITERACY RATE IN STATE WAY BELOW NATIONAL AVERAGE

- Literacy rate in UP is much below the national figure as per 2011 census. The total literacy rate in India's most populous state is 69.72% against the national figure of 74.04%. The female literacy rate is 59.26% against national female figure of 65.46%.
- The figure had improved sufficiently between 2001 and 2011

census. The literacy growth in the country was pegged at 9.26% against UP 13.42%.

- In female category also, UP women shown an improvement of 17.06% against all India female figure of 11.79%.
- There are 8 districts in UP where literacy rate among women is below 50%.

also could not be given requisite training due to the paucity of funds.

The reality of the National Literacy Mission comes at a time when India is making leaps to make its ambitious National Digital Literacy Mission a success.

Interestingly, the literacy programme in 26 districts of UT was supposed to be launched in 2009-10, but could only be launched in 2011.

"Thereafter in the second phase, the programme was introduced in another 40 districts in 2013," Verma added.

**WORLD
LITERACY
DAY**



9 SEPTEMBER 2014, TUESDAY,
THE PIONEER

Spread word of literacy among masses: Bedi

'Each one, reach one at least and teach one,' literacy coordinators urged



HT Correspondent
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LUCKNOW Social activist and former IPS officer Kiran Bedi, on Monday declared the current year as 'Literacy Celebration Year' and asked literacy coordinators and educationists to spread the word of literacy among the masses, especially women and children to boost the literacy rate in UP.

Bedi also gave a mantra - 'Each one, reach one at least and teach one' to the literacy coordinators present at the programme and helped them set their goal. "We cannot achieve complete literacy unless we have a goal," said Kiran Bedi, while addressing a gathering of literacy coordinators, social activists, students and teachers at the City Montessori School on Kanpur road.

The former IPS was here on the culmination ceremony of three-day-long 7th Education Leadership: Inter-Regional Conference, the initiative of an NGO - Education We Want, and the lead facilitator of which is educationist Sumita Gandhi.

Addressing the coordinators, Bedi said they should take each of their students to take the responsibility to make at least 10 children literate. "Even as that by next year you will achieve your goals," Kiran said while appreciating the initiative of Sumita Gandhi.

Sumita Gandhi said, "When it comes to education, nowhere it is pushed as second and third priority. It should be among the top priorities, as is seen in all top performing countries."

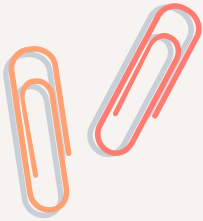
She said it is important for the student to choose a career in education rather than looking forward to only other professions. Around 100 principals and senior teachers from various schools and colleges attended the programme.



■ Former IPS officer Kiran Bedi addressing literacy coordinators, social activists, students and teachers at the City Montessori School on Kanpur road.

HT PHOTOS

9 SEP 2014, TUESDAY,
HINDUSTAN TIMES



CS holds meet to discuss way to combat illiteracy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

A high-level meeting was held by Chief Secretary Alok Ranjan with senior officials of various departments to discuss ways to counter illiteracy in the state.

An analysis of the present situation of illiteracy in the state was presented by Sunita Gandhi. "There are 60 million illiterate persons in UP and the majority comprises of women. If we look at the growth rate in literacy over the last few decades and project it forward, it will take 30-40 years to make Uttar Pradesh fully literate," she said.

She presented the case for global dream which has the advantage of speed, motivation, flexibility, self-led learning and involvement of every community member to make a quick impact so that UP can be made literate within two years.

The Chief Secretary asked the officials concerned to submit a plan to counter illiteracy in Uttar Pradesh and submit it to him at the earliest.

Alok Ranjan, who has written a book "Towards Adult Literacy in India" said: "It is indeed possible to make UP literate within two years if we make literacy a people's movement. When there is a collaboration between civil society and the government, the mission will succeed. We are going to do it."

Global Dream is a project of Devi Sansthan, a non-profit organisation.

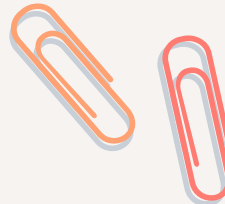


In May, 150 Lucknow schools participated in the campaign.

Principal Secretary, Social Welfare, Sunil Kumar said, "If we go through the national literacy mission way, it may take another two years to get approvals. If we want to move faster, we may have to copy the models like pulse polio campaign where all stakeholders joined hands and civil society and the government worked hand-in-hand. We may also need to connect with the avenues like Samajawadi Pension Yojana in which 40 lakhs people are currently enrolled, out of whom many may be illiterate and brought under the literacy programme. There is a ₹50 per month incentive attached to this scheme if a person is literate."

An important outcome of the meeting was the Chief Secretary becoming the chairman of the Global Dream Literacy Mission with Dr JB Pattnaik as its co-chair and Sunita Gandhi as its general secretary.

19 SEP 2014, FRIDAY,
THE PIONEER



16 OCTOBER 2014, THURSDAY,

THE PIONEER



LUCKNOW | THURSDAY : OCTOBER 16, 2014

Admin set to lead literacy movement

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
LUCKNOW

The district administration is all set to lead literacy movement in the City of Nawabs.

A district-level meeting on 'Global Dream People's Movement for Literacy' was held at the camp office of the District Magistrate on Wednesday.

The meeting involved all district-level educational, social welfare, village-level officials under the direction of the Lucknow District Magistrate.

The meeting was aimed at discussing the ways to garner support to make Lucknow fully literate.

This meeting was a follow-up action of the discussion held on September 18 under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Alok Ranjan. Principal secretaries and other senior officials of various ministries attended the meeting



which discussed action plan for a statewide literacy programme based on the global dream tool kits and experience.

DM Raj Shekhar said: "It is the first priority of all of us to ensure that Lucknow becomes

the first district of UP to achieve cent per cent literacy rate. Lucknow has all the necessary infrastructure and developed human potential chain to achieve this goal. I am strongly for it and have full faith in my

"Lucknow has all the necessary infrastructure and developed human potential chain to achieve this goal. I am strongly for it and have full faith in my team"

team." He proposed that all Government departments should take a proactive stance and work concretely towards the goal. Presenting the case study, coordinator of the cam-

paign, Sunita Gandhi said that in the beginning it might have seemed to be an unattainable task, but as each day passed, everyone's confidence grew and the movement became very strong. "We invite every citizen of the state capital to make literacy their mission and lend their support by volunteering, training, leading etc," she added. Chairperson, India Literacy Board, GB Pattanaik in his address said: "This is not one person or a group's campaign but it is everyone's mission. We are really happy that there is widespread acknowledgement of the impact of literacy on population control and empowerment of individuals and their families, especially education of the girl child and women, and we are glad, the government authorities are strongly supporting this movement and providing leadership and ownership," he added.

hindustantimes

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2014

Literacy centre for have-nots inaugurated

LUCKNOW: A literacy learning centre, Dream Lab, meant to impart education to the under-privileged was inaugurated in Akbar Nagar here on Friday

Surabhi Ranjan, chairperson of Akanksha, the voluntary body that runs chapters all over UP, inaugurated the lab in the presence of Sunita Gandhi, general secretary, Global Dream Mission for UP Wide Literacy Campaign and Sangeeta Sharma, member of Global Dream advisory board.

"It is amazing to see so many enthusiastic children. This shows that they want to learn and to move ahead," said Surabhi Ranjan. Her husband Alok Ranjan, chief secretary UP, is the chairperson of Global Dream Mission that aims to spread literacy among the masses in the state.

Sunita Gandhi said, "We are progressing with each passing day I am sure the goal to push up the literacy bar in UP will be achieved soon."

HTC



■ Surabhi Ranjan interacting with kids at the inauguration function.

DEEPAK GUPTA/ HT



26 OCTOBER 2014, SUNDAY,
HINDUSTAN TIMES

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hindustantimes

HINDUSTAN TIMES, LUCKNOW
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2014



■ **THEATRE FEST ON CHILD RIGHTS:** Three plays were organised under the aegis of Child Rights and You and Voice of People, as part of a theatre festival at Bhartendu Natya Academy on Thursday. It raised issues such as child labour, trafficking and child marriage - the three social ills still plaguing India.

DEEPAK GUPTA/HT PHOTO

ALOK RANJAN IS CHAIRMAN OF GLOBAL DREAM LITERACY MISSION

LUCKNOW: Chief secretary Alok Ranjan was declared chairman of the Global Dream Literacy Mission with GB Pattnaik as its co-chair and Sunita Gandhi as its general secretary. In a meeting held on Thursday, top officials, including principal secretary, social welfare Sunil Kumar, state director, adult literacy Amarnath Verma, secretary, higher education Arvind Narayan Mishra and representatives from Global Dream led by Sunita Gandhi, lead facilitator-worker and GB Pattanaik, chairperson, India Literacy Board sat together for an analysis of literacy in the state. Sunita Gandhi said, "There are 60 million illiterate in UP of which a vast majority is women. If we look at the growth rate in literacy over the last decades and project it forward, it will take 30-40 years to make Uttar Pradesh literate." Amarnath Verma of Adult Literacy, when asked to explain the reason for a two-year gap in receiving money from the National Literacy Mission, said the money remained unspent for the last two years because of which they could not get further funds.

19 SEP 2014, THURSDAY,
SUNDAY PIONEER



SUNDAY | JULY 13, 2014

sunday pioneer

city 04

Feeling of being literate matters: Kiran Bedi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Illiterate people should not only be imparted the knowledge of reading and writing but also a dignified feeling of being literate. Such people who get basic education in 'Lucknow for Literacy Campaign' should be given certificates as it would fill them with enthusiasm and the feeling of being literate would help them teach others to complete the circle.

These views were expressed by former IPS officer Kiran Bedi in a programme organised to support 'Lucknow for Literacy Campaign' in the state capital on Saturday.

Addressing the gathering, Bedi said: "Being a social worker, I feel happy and privileged to be supporting this campaign. I will also try it out for the people of Delhi through my NGO. The module seems to be simple and effective. It's the first time in India that such an initiative has been taken with a result-oriented approach to fast-track the reading skills of illiterate. Being the capital of

the most populous state, choosing Lucknow to start the campaign from will help spread it to other parts sooner rather than later."

The Magsaysay awardee said that the participation of volunteers, especially youths, from all walks of life, would give the campaign the desired impetus. Leading initiator of the campaign Sunita Gandhi said the aim was to increase the literacy rate and it would only be possible if all generations from Lucknow stood up for the cause. She appealed to all the organisations and individuals in the city to rise up to the occasion and contribute to the cause.

American volunteers Andy and Trudy said reminisced that on April 30, they started teaching a 25-year-old youth with the help of a special tool kit and he got zero marks in a pre-test session. "But with eight sessions over three weeks, he underwent a pre-test session and scored 29 upon 30. He has shown a great desire and commitment to learn," they said.



13 JULY 2014,

SUNDAY PIONEER



Delegation apprises Rajnath about literacy campaign

Lucknow (PNS): A delegation, led by the lead facilitator of Lucknow for Literacy campaign Sunita Gandhi, met Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh in the state capital on Sunday. The delegation apprised him about the campaign. The Home Minister hailed the campaign and wished it was converted into a movement for literacy across India. He also offered his support for the campaign. Gandhi informed the minister that Lucknow had a population of approximately 50 lakh out of which 11 lakh persons were illiterate which implied that one in every five persons did not know how to read and write. "Lucknow district has no programme to counter illiteracy because it does not meet the National Literacy Mission (NLM) guidelines for adults above the age of 15 years," she said. "Neither the Central nor the state Government has any programme for children outside of schools. The children on the street, in slums or a process in the city amounting of some three or four lakh will remain illiterate for the rest of their lives because their circumstances do not allow them to go to school," she said.



18 AUGUST 2014, Monday,
SUNDAY PIONEER

18 AUG 2014, MONDAY, **HINDUSTAN TIMES**

793.70+2.95 ASENSEX 26,183.23+3.04 ADOV JONES 16,442.91+1.80 ANASDAQ 4,444.93+3.00 A T/S 60.76+0.42 A T/EURO 81.8+0.40 GOLD/10G 122,703.00+1.37 SILVER/K 141,323.00+2.43

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MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2014

MUMBAI DAHI-HANDI GROUP BREAKS RELIGIOUS BARRIERS, NON-HINDUS JOIN IN >ht nation p8

PIPED GAS FOR 77 MORE TOWNS >ht business p12

NOT OUT TO CONQUER ASIA, SAYS POPE REACHES OUT TO CHINA, N KOREA FOR BETTER TIES >ht world p11

Literacy campaign gets home min's support

HT Correspondent
● kunaportersdesk@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW: Union home minister Rajnath Singh has offered his support to the Lucknow for Literacy campaign. The mission, which began in May and has already spread literacy to more than 30,000 illiterate people, gives responsibility to every school child to educate at least one illiterate child.

On Sunday, a delegation led by Sunita Gandhi, lead facilitator of "Lucknow for Literacy" campaign, met Member of Parliament from Lucknow Rajnath Singh and appraised him about the campaign. According to reports, Gandhi told the home minister that 60,000 children of 150 Lucknow schools have been reaching out to illiterate people to spread literacy using the Global Dream Toolkit. The toolkit makes it possible to teach most individuals to learn to read within a month with just 15-minute session per day or a total time investment of 10 hours.

The delegation presented the Global Dream toolkit to Rajnath Singh. According to Gandhi, the home minister has endorsed the campaign and wishes that it be converted into a movement for literacy across India. Singh had offered his support for the Lucknow Campaign which can serve as model for district across UP and India, she said.

"Lucknow has a population of approximately 50 lakh, of which 11 lakh are illiterate. This makes it one in every 5 people who does not know how to read and write. Lucknow has no programme to counter illiteracy because it does not meet the National Literacy Mission (NLM) guidelines for adults above the age of 15. Our programme has enabled more than 30,000 people to read a newspaper and write their names"

According to Gandhi, neither the union government nor the state government has any programme for children outside of schools. These illiterate street children account for 3-4 lakh and would remain illiterate because their circumstances do not allow them to go to school. "We need to do something about literacy and education because otherwise they have virtually no chance of emerging from illiteracy or poverty in their lifetime. It is only literacy that can give them that ultimate break from low self-esteem and fear of being cheated that surrounds most illiterate people," she said.

The initiative is working to achieve 100% literacy for Lucknow in collaboration with global dream.

Union home minister Rajnath Singh with 'Lucknow for Literacy Campaign' lead facilitator Sunita Gandhi on Sunday. HT PHOTO



19 SEP 2014, THURSDAY,
SUNDAY PIONEER

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LUCKNOW | THURSDAY | OCTOBER 16, 2014

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LUCKNOW | THURSDAY | MAY 15, 2014

Present-day education is inadequate: Sunita Gandhi

'NEED TO CREATE SPACE FOR MULTIPLE-INTELLIGENCE'



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

The LMA organised a lecture on 'All-encompassing new education, at LMA Conference Hall of Scientific Convention Centre here on Wednesday.

The lecture was delivered by educationist and chief academic advisor of City Montessori Schools, Sunita Gandhi.

She said the present day education met the needs of the 19th century society but was inadequate to address the needs of today's children.

Gandhi said that education today was like a vial of inspection whose expiry date had passed long before.

'But we are administering that old education to our children and at best it has had uncertain results. But a lot of innovation has focused on how you fix the classroom, make learning easier, put technology to use. The need is to create space for multiple-intelligence as different gateways to learning, constructivism,

enquiry-based learning," she added. The CMS chief academic advisor said the present day's education was quite inadequate as it aimed at meeting materialistic goals.

"The entire education paradigm we inherited from the British is about jobs. Even career guidance is about seeking jobs, it is not about becoming job providers, it creates followers, not leaders, it says, compete with others, it does not matter how you get there, get good marks and get a good job, whatever it might be," she pointed out. Gandhi said education should focus more on the individual child than marks scored in examination.

"The moment you start marking the child, you are saying that nothing matters but your marks. So, the child invariably cheats because he or she knows the teacher is going to value the marks," she said.

Gandhi regretted that in the current education pattern, higher education was more important than pre-primary education.

"The new education says: pre-primary education is the most important period of preparation for life, therefore, we should put most of our resources, have the best paid teachers in the pre-primary sections. They should be well-trained in psychology and early learning," she said.

The noted educationist said spiritual education was more important than material education and competition with oneself was more important than competition with others.

While pointing out that the process was more important than the end result, Gandhi said children must develop a sense of empathy and kindness towards all people of the world and show reverence to all forms of life and things.

"Every child is special, every child matters. Education must be worshipped as work worship. Service is not an occasional act of charity we do instead, it is a way of life," she added.

15 MAY 2014, THURSDAY,
THE PIONEER



DEVI SANSTHAN
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www.globaldream.guru