



Digantar is a non profit registered society, working in the field of quality education since 1978, Since 1989 its situated on the outskirts of Jaipur. At present Digantar runs two schools – one up to Secondary level in Bhavgarh Bandhya and the other primary school in Kho Raberiyar.

The Vision of Education



A workshop titled "The Vision of Education – Curriculum and Foundational Numeracy & Literacy", for the team members of Centre for Micro Finance (CmF), Jaipur was organised from June 19-24 in Digantar campus. The first three days were dedicated to reading, discussing, and analyzing the first three chapters of Part A of the NCFSE 2023 and the remaining three days focused on exploring the nature of Language & Mathematics and the pedagogy associated with these subjects. Chapter 1 covered "Aims and Curricular Areas of Education," Chapter 2 focused on

"School Stages: Logic & Design," and Chapter 3 delved into "Approach to Learning Standards, Pedagogy, Content, and Assessment across Stages."

The workshop pedagogy involved reading and analyzing the chapters, identifying key ideas, and understanding their structure, particularly during the initial three days. Language sessions involved demonstrating Digantar's teaching pedagogy, while Mathematics discussions centered around the concept of the number system and understanding the nature of Mathematics. The sessions were designed and facilitated by Rohit Dhankar (Secretary, Digantar), Ridhima Garg, and Pragya Shrivastava. A total of 36 participants attended, with 35 representing the CmF, one additional participant joined the workshop to gain an understanding of the courses offered by Digantar, who volunteered to document the proceedings.

Dialogue on Philosophy of Education & Reading Circles

In the month of May three online Shiksha-Darshan Samvad (Dialogue on Philosophy of Education) had taken place, on May 6, 13 & 20. Each online Samvad lasted for 90 minutes, which was scheduled on Saturdays in the evening. An average of 13-15 people attended each of the Samvad. This Samvad May 6th reflected upon the issues regarding various aspects of Evaluation. Samvad held on May 13 & 20 focussed on 'Structure of school subjects'. In June two Samvads were held on June 10th & 17th. The Samvad on 10th was on Principles of Pedagogy, followed by Samvad on 'Evaluation' on June 17th. Both Dialogues had a consistent participation of 15-18 attendees.

Reading Circle sessions in May were held on May 3rd, 10th, 23rd and 24th on the topic

'Good education' and 'How to ask Good Questions'. Some participants expressed their views about certain notions presented in the article "Good Education" by Rohit Dhankar. One of the participants shared a concept map summarising the article and moderated. One participant reported about reading the article with members from their organization, which was received positively. In June the sessions were held on June 8 and 14. The selected reading for these sessions was 'How to Ask Good Questions' by Karen Haydock, which had also been used in previous sessions. During the sessions, it was agreed upon that participants would focus on their respective subject areas and create insightful questions based on any topic within those areas.

Workshop for Capacity Building of Teachers



The summer workshop for capacity building of the academic team took place from June 12-23, 2023. Various modules were part of this annual workshop. In the first part of the workshop held on June 12-14, draft National curriculum Framework for School Education 2023 Foundational stage was discussed. In addition developing daily work plan, preparation of progress report etc. were also discussed. This part was facilitated by the Coordinators. The second part of the workshop, which was held on June 15-17, was on 'Relevance of Digantar School' which was mainly facilitated by Rohit Dhankar, Secretary, Diganatar on June 15-16. In preparation for this session, all members of the academic team were asked

to write their thoughts on the topic 'Need for Digantar School'. During the session each of the team members shared their views, which were discussed in the group. This resulted in identifying many challenges. Some discussion on possible solutions as also taken up.

During 19-21, workshop on 'English and Life Skills-Teachers Skills Development' had taken place. This part was facilitated by an external resource person Immaculate Mary from i4connect organization, Bengaluru. 10 teachers from Udan School also joined in this workshop. Interactive learning with lots of joyful and concept based activities were part of this workshop. All the English foundation concepts were covered in this workshop.



Adult Literacy Programme



On June 16, 2023, the Seekhne Ki Choupal (Adult literacy) programme for adult learning held for 12 months was concluded in a valedictory function held at Bhavgarh Bandhya village. 52 women learned to read and write in this programme. The programme, to teach

reading and writing was carried out with two groups of women. Out of the first group of 34 women, 25 women learned to read and write. Remaining 9 women could not learn due to not being able to join regularly. In the same order of learning, after four months, three groups were started in which 32 women were enrolled. In the concluding meeting the facilitator of this programme, Khatija presented a report and women, who were part of this learning, shared their experiences. In addition to the teachers and coordinators of Digantar Vidyalay and other key staff, Reena Das (Former Director, Digantar) and George Cheriyan (Executive Director, Digantar) attended this function. This programme was supported by Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy.

School in the new building

In the new academic session started on June 26, Digantar Vidyalaya shifted the classes in the new permanent building. All teachers and children participated in process of shifting, such as transporting the goods of each group, keeping the black board and other materials at the appropriate places etc. All this work was done in a disciplined and orderly manner. Children were very enthusiastic and excited about starting the classes in the new school building.



Educational Tour



Annual Educational tour of teachers and coordinators of Digantar Vidyalay were held from May 27-29. The purpose of this visit was to see and understand historical places/monuments and as an opportunity to get to know and understand each other better. During the tour Kumbhargarh fort and Guru Shikhar in Mount Abu were visited, and their historical significance was understood. A total of 11 staff members attended.

World Environment Day

Since 1972, every year the World Environment Day is observed on June 5. 2023 marked the 50th anniversary of World Environment Day, which became one of the unique chances for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the environment. 2023 WED focused on solutions to plastic pollution under the campaign #BeatPlasticPollution. To mark the occasion, the Executive Director with central office staff planted saplings in the Digantar campus and took note to avoid single use plastic in the campus.

