



Completion Report

IND-RES-COM-P01, India
Reporting Period: January to June 2017

Equipping the poor with life skills

Budget: \$33,000 – fully funded.

Update:

This project is supporting ten literacy centres in Northern India to provide informal education for children who are unable to enter the formal school system (usually because of poverty-related reasons). As well as supporting the centres to run, the project is extending the work of the centres by providing a computer and modem for each centre, thus allowing the children to become familiar with technology as well.

Our partner reports that *“The literacy schools are going strongly, with a strong vision for educating children in the local communities who do not have access to education. I am pleased with the passion of the staff who work in these projects. During my visit for the Annual Conference in March, I heard reports from each of the community leaders and all of them are making good progress in their programs. They were very excited about the computer training, seeing it as an essential component of education in the current context.”*

Literacy teachers and project coordinators continue to be trained in computers so that they can impart this knowledge along with basic literacy skills.

Ashish (literacy teacher) *“I never imagined that I will ever be able to put my hands-on computers. It was a tremendous experience for me. It’s like an adventure journey that I never thought of. I have now learned all the basics of computing and had a great time in doing it by myself on my own laptop provided to me.*

Ravi (project coordinator) *“I never thought that I would get a chance to learn computers. I am happy to be part of this training. People who come from backward communities like me can never imagine that our children would also get a chance to be computer literate. I am very happy to gain knowledge of computers and becoming more confident about myself. Now when I have been given a Laptop, I am excited to teach my community children at our literacy centre.”*



5 new computers were handed out to trainers so that they can commence computer programs in their communities.



A project coordinator passes on her computer knowledge.

Approximately 550 children between the ages of 6 and 15 are attending the literacy schools. Almost all do not have regular access to state or private schools in their community either because their village is too remote or because they are socially restricted from attending a community school. Most of the children are from Dalit families and fall into the economic category of ‘living on less than a dollar a day’. Most have parents who are illiterate and are pulled into family situations such as begging or picking up rubbish from an early age.

Thank you for helping to teach these children how to read, write and become computer literate.