

Report

SUBJECT:IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHEME TITLED “INTRODUCTION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION [ECE] IN 1000 PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN PUNJAB WITH HIGHEST ENROLLMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF ENVIRONMENT OF SCHOOL TO CONVERT THEM INTO CHILD-FRIENDLY SCHOOLS [CFSS]”.

For ensuring quality education to every school going child as enshrined in the Article 25-A of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and retention of those students, who have been enrolled in universal enrollment campaign launched by worthy Chief Minister, Punjab, it is necessary to provide a child friendly environment in the schools for students especially for early year kids.

Directorate of Staff Development (DSD) has implemented a project titled: “Introduction of Early Childhood Education (ECE) in 1000 Primary Schools in Punjab with Highest Enrollment and Improvement of Environment of School to convert them into Child Friendly Schools (CFSS)”. Under this project DSD has developed ECE classrooms in 1000 primary schools in 36 districts of Punjab through its District Training and Support Centers (DTSCs). This initiative will be supportive in increasing the enrollment and retention of students. Under this scheme, the following interventions have been made:

- I. learning environment of the existing classrooms are made more attractive through painting walls with some themes for joyful learning of early year kids,
- II. learning resources are provided in accordance with the National Curriculum of ECE, 2007 and learning competencies;
- III. Provision of part time Caregivers to facilitate ECE teachers, take care of kids and to keep ECE room in order; and
- IV. Imparted training to teachers and head teachers of the concerned ECE schools, members of school councils and education managers of the districts on ECE.

a) Training of Teachers and Head Teachers on ECE at District Level

As a part of ECE project, four (04) days training on ECE was arranged for teacher and 6head teacher of selected ECE schools at District Level (DTSC), in which **1976 ECE school teachers & head teachers** were trained. During training, it was emphasized that Early Childhood Education (ECE) in the schools play a pivotal role in enhancing the enrolment and retention of students and reducing the drop out.

Teachers demonstrated about the holistic development of child during early years. They were also trained about the usage of learning resources for early year's kids to improve their learning, promoting creativity. They were also trained on the effective use of low cost and no cost material for learning and doing activities.

The following major **methodologies** were adopted in ECE Training of teacher and head teacher of ECE school:

- i. Activity Based Teaching
- ii. Child-centered approach
- iii. Group work
- iv. Pair discussion
- v. Role Play
- vi. Learning by doing
- vii. Demo/Micro Teaching
- viii. Low-cost/No cost material development through group activities

The trainees were assigned topics for preparing presentations and working in the groups during their four days training sessions:

- i. Importance of ECE
- ii. Reasons of Kids room failure
- iii. Proposals for effective implementation of ECE Project
- iv. How ECE initiative can enhance enrollment and retention?

At the end of 04 days training, all concerned teachers agreed that activity-based and learning by doing is the only way to teach children effectively. ECE training is important in the sense that it has the focus on the most important yet neglected part of students in our schools. The students of early childhood group require special attention, better teachers to give clear and refined concepts while most of these things are denied on one or the other pretext.

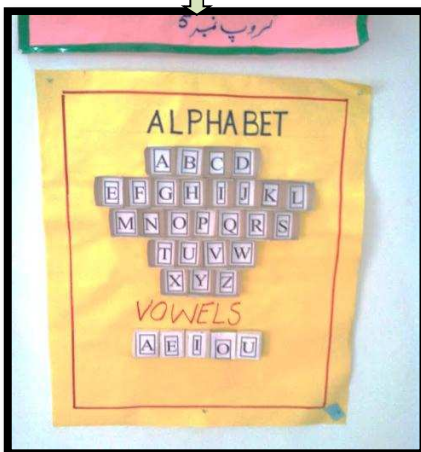
SNAP SHOTS OF "FOUR DAYS TRAINING OF TEACHER AND HEAD TEACHER OF SELECTED SCHOOLS ON ECE AT DISTRICT LEVEL (DTSC)"



Trainees showing 6 learning areas of ECE



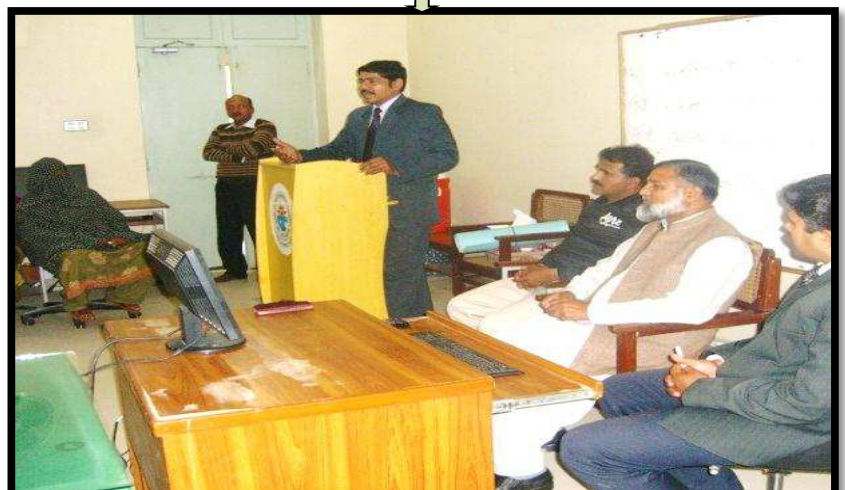
Group Discussion by Head Teacher on the importance of ECE



Activity Base Learning Corners



PD,DSD giving an overview of ECE & its significance on enrolment



b) Training of School Council(SC) Members on ECE:

To give an overview of ECE and ownership of ECE to community, three days Orientation Workshops for most active three School Council Members from each selected ECE school were arranged throughout Punjab from **27 May 2014 to 29th May 2014, in which 2762** School council members participated. They were briefed about the ECE initiative taken by Government of the Punjab through Directorate of Staff Development Punjab, Lahore. All the members were sensitized about their roles and responsibilities being member of the School Council. They were asked to encourage local community to increase enrollment in their concerned schools with this new concept of ECE and to motivate them with the effectiveness of ECE on their Kids.

Different activities relevant to ECE and group discussion on “Issues and Problems confronted to the schools”, and “Strategy for making the school best” were also conducted by the school council members. ECE corners were established separately and were visited by all the participants of the workshop.

The members of the School Councils highlighted the following problems:

- i. Unavailability of basic facilities;
- ii. Non- cooperation of Head Teachers with School Council Members;
- iii. Distrust of Community on Public Sector Schools.
- iv. English language as Medium of instructions.
- v. Weak Examination System
- vi. Late provision of free Text Books..

The issues raised were discussed and highlighted their role in solving all the above mentioned issues as an active and effective School Council Members. Special focus was made upon their roles and responsibilities regarding the utilization of funds in the best possible way and generating the resources with the community involvement in order to make the school's environment more attractive and suitable for the effective teaching and learning. They appreciated the Punjab Government's ECE initiative for their kids.

SNAP SHOTS OF “THREE(03) DAYS ORIENTATION WORKSHOP ON “EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECE)” FOR SCHOOL COUNCILS (SCs) AT DISTRICT LEVEL (DTSC)”



School Council Members are actively participating in all activities conducted in different sessions



School Council Members taking keen interest in Group activities & focusing on ECE importance during training session



c) Orientation Sessions on ECE for District Education Managers:

As a part of ECE project and in order to give orientation about the Punjab Government's ECE initiative and to get feedback from the Education Managers of District Education Department for effective implementation of ECE Project, Directorate of Staff Development (DSD) arranged "One Day Orientation Workshop for EDOs, DEOs, Dy. DEOs, and AEOs" at divisional level in which about **1004 Education Managers** participated.

Education Managers not only appreciated the efforts of DSD for ECE Project but also convinced that ECE initiative will be very useful to meet the challenges MDG. During orientation workshop education managers were assigned topics for discussion and presenting their suggestions/ proposals for effective implementation of ECE initiative. Education managers put forward the following recommendations for effective implementation of ECE :

- i) ECE Rooms should be established in every public primary school;
- ii) Active ,dedicated ECE trained teachers are to be appointed in these ECE centers;
- iii) Involvement of SC should be encouraged;
- iv) Agenda item in the monthly Head Teacher and CTSC Heads meetings for feedback;
- v) Head Teachers of the concerned school should be made responsible for effective utilization of resources of ECE Rooms
- vi) Education Managers during their field visits must observe the activities of ECE Room, teachers presence and students enrolment in ECE class;
- vii) DTEs should also pay special focus on ECE Class during their mentoring visit and submit report to DSD;
- viii) Linkage of ECE with other grades i.e. focusing improving the overall school environment;
- ix) Special focus of ECE Teacher on language;
- x) Conversion of ECE rooms in to daycare centres;
- xi) Incentives and appreciation of best ECE Teacher in the district;
- xii) Provision of budget for maintenance of ECE Rooms;
- xiii) Maintenance of individual student record/files/ portfolio;
- xiv) Discussion point in the DRC meeting;
- xv) Public awareness should also be involved.

SNAP SHOTS OF “ONE DAY ORIENTATION WORKSHOP FOR EDOS, DEOS, DY. DEOS, AND AEOS AT DIVISIONAL LEVEL”



Education Managers taking keen interest in the panel discussion about ECE



Different stalls were organized for the establishment of attractive ECE rooms during the workshop



PD addressing Education Managers about the importance of ECE schools to achieve the target of 100% enrolment and retention of kids.



Group work and presentation on implementation mechanism, its monitoring and effects of Child friendly environment on ECE enrolment.



Stalls of ECE relevant materials for Education Managers



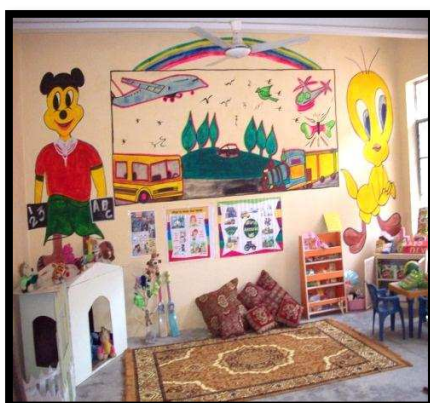
Education Manager giving presentation on ECE importance

SNAP SHOTS OF “ECE SCHOOLS ESTABLISHED WITH LEARNING RESOURCE MATERIAL IN ALL DISTRICTS OF PUNJAB

"ECE LEARNING RESOURCE MATERIAL IS NOW AVAILABLE IN 1000 ECE PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND THSE ECE SCHOOLS ARE FULLY OPERATIONAL. TEACHERS ARE ABLE TO INTEACT WITH EARLY YEAR KIDS WITH MORE PROFESSIONAL APPROACH"



ECE Class Room having ECE Learning Resource Material (Which includes: Room Décor, Language Corner, Math Corner, Reading Corner, Art Corner, Science Corner, & Home Corner)



d) Impact of ECE Initiative on Enrolment:

As Education Department is focusing on enhancing school enrollment throughout Punjab, ECE schools are the vivid proof of enhancing children enrollment and having greater impact on the community as well. As summer vacations are just over, impact of ECE initiative on enrollment and retention at primary school level will be seen within next few months, however, the initial comparison of students enrollment due to establishment of ECE rooms in District Nankana Sahib & Sheikhpura is given below in tables.

Initial Comparison of Students' Enrollment before & after ECE initiative of ECE in District Nankana Sahab

Sr. #	Name of ECE School	Enrollment Status Before Establishment of ECE Rooms		Enrollment Status After Establishment of ECE Rooms	
		Nursery	Grade One	Nursery	Grade One
1	GGES Chak No 8/60	41	36	44	38
2	NCMPS DHOOR KOT	39	20	50	28
3	NCMPS BUDDHAY	82	29	88	32
4	NCMPS CHAIND PUR	103	30	117	31
5	GGPS WALGAN SUHAIL	40	27	45	20
6	GGPS RAZA ABAD	120	38	140	55
7	NCMPS BOWARY	50	27	53	27
8	NCMPS KATTIAN WALA	87	38	89	39
9	GPS RAHMAT PURA	55	61	60	56
10	GGES BHORU 18 RB	60	38	63	46
11	GGHS BHULAIR	61	63	65	66
12	GGHS BINAAT UL ISLAM	63	58	80	41
13	GGHS ISLAM NAGAR	40	84	55	83
14	GPS PAKKA DALLA	93	50	95	46
15	GGES WANOTIAN WALI 39	60	46	66	44
16	GES CANADA COLONY	64	36	85	35
17	GGCMS MASOO	94	77	105	80
18	GGCMS CHAK 84	83	87	91	90
19	GGCMS SENIBAR	40	38	54	34
20	GGCMS IMAM PURA 89 RB	45	35	51	30
21	GGCMS DOLAT PURA	79	36	76	30
22	GGCMS BUDHA	110	45	81	64
Total		1509	999	1653	1015

Initial Comparison of Students' Enrollment before & after ECE initiative of ECE in District Sheikhpura

Sr. #	Name of ECE School	Enrollment Status Before Establishment of ECE Rooms		Enrollment Status After Establishment of ECE Rooms	
		Nursery	Grade One	Nursery	Grade One
1	GPS GharyalKhurd	50	20	62	30
2	GGPS BhulleDhassenwal	40	25	47	30
3	GGPS MC Ashraf Park	30	16	36	38
4	GGPS SalarSyedan	31	11	41	16
5	GGES TibbiMeeto	13	8	13	10
6	GGPS Qila Sahib Singh	10	6	12	8
7	GGPS DhantPura	39	50	53	65
8	GGPS DeraGujran (Lalke)	10	12	15	12
9	GGPS DhamoKe	18	5	22	8
10	GGPS ChakSaithan	36	14	50	15
11	GPS Khokhar Ki Mallian	26	11	30	11
12	GPS Bohar Bath	10	3	12	7
13	GPS MC Qadir Abad	124	100	140	128
14	GPS Firdous Colony Muridke	100	104	126	117
15	GPS Deror Hindu Muridke	150	43	173	50
16	GPS ChappaMinara	75	40	75	47
17	GPS Dhamke	50	30	57	38
18	GPS Ratt Garh	47	30	52	35
19	GPS Mohallah Islam Pura (KhankahDogran)	75	45	89	59
20	GGPS QilaMaseeta	170	80	193	95
21	GGCMES Rechand	120	110	123	115
22	GGCMES Wahgray	20	14	26	17
23	GGCMES RayanPura	80	20	86	36
24	GGCMES MallianKalan	60	35	70	52
25	GGCMES Longowal	40	20	46	36
26	GGCMHS MandialaChak No. 20 RB	20	23	29	28
Total		1444	875	1678	1103

