

Social and Development Research and Action Group

**Term Initiation Report on Learning and Support Centre (LSC) at Agahpur village,  
Sector-41, Noida (U.P.), India**

**June – October 2010**

**Submitted to Noon.ch**

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Social and Development Research and Action Group  
Email: [mail@sadrag.org](mailto:mail@sadrag.org)  
URL: [www.sadrag.org](http://www.sadrag.org)

**TERM INITIATION REPORT**

**June – October 2010**

Following is Term Initiation Report for the Academic year beginning June 2010. The Report provides information on Agahpur LSC from June to October 2010.

The academic year 2009-10 ended in June 2010. For the formal school session 2010-11, a total of 37 children were mainstreamed in various schools within Noida city. With the total strength of 40 children on permanent rolls, the centre successfully mainstreamed 37 children for the current academic year 2010-11.

The formal school status of mainstreamed children for the year 2010-11 has been given in the following table.

**Table – 1**  
**Mainstreamed children for the session 2010-11**

LSC	Total no. of children mainstreamed	No. of boys	No. of girls	School of Admission	No. of children in each school
<b>AGAHPUR</b>	37	20	17	Government Primary School, Agahpur	20
				Private Schools, Agahpur	10
				Charitable Schools	7
	<b>Total</b>				<b>37</b>

The government schools offer free school facilities and services to children. SADRAG has got the process of admission simplified whereby, the parents do not need to submit the proof of residence or affidavit of any kind. This process was simplified with the help of The District Education Department who was given a representation by Sadrag in this regard. The children have been admitted in Primary Government School which is situated within Agahpur village. The school is situated adjacent to the community centre, where the LSC is operational. This school opened on 6 July after the two months summer

break. Though the school does not have excellent educational and sports facilities yet it does offer basic teaching learning experience to the children along with an opportunity to continue their formal studies beyond elementary level.

The charitable schools charge no fee and children are provided free books and uniform during the year. A total of 7 children have been admitted in charitable school in Sector-41 itself. The school, Sai Baba Public school has a very good reputation in Noida. It is run by Sai Baba Trust which is running a lot of facilities for the local poor population. There are many other charitable schools but due to distance the parents do not want to send their children despite having been offered better educational facilities.

The private schools charge the monthly fee ranging between Rs 100 -200 from the children. Sadrag has got the fee reduced through the school Principal. A total of 10 children are going to these neighbourhood private schools and their parents have willingly taken up the responsibility of bearing the school expense of their children. Sadrag has however provided school bags, pencils/erasers and uniform to a few such children.

The children enrolled in the schools are now been monitored in terms of their:

- Attendance in school
- Regularity and participation in school
- Adjustment in school
- Scholastic performance in each term during the year.

Monitoring and Follow-up by SADRAG have the following components:

- Regular maintenance of the attendance register on monthly basis
- Parental counseling for not pulling out the child from school
- Close interaction with parents and teachers of the children
- Mediating between school and the children in case of a complaint from either side
- Regular interaction between facilitators and children

The monitoring and follow up process would continue through out the session 2010-11 and all kinds of support would be provided to ensure that the children get used to the concept of formal schooling and find the experience encouraging enough to continue even after one year of stay in school. A good networking is done with the school and district education authorities for an efficient monitoring of the children.

**A few Bottlenecks:**

As against 40 children regularly attending the Centre during the year 2009-10, three children were not mainstreamed due to their family's reluctance to send their children to school. As it is, we assume 10 percent drop out rate at our end.

**The Present status:**

The new session began in June 2010. Initially only a few children came to the center but now they number 40. The list of enrolled children would be sent subsequently by mail.

**Activities in the center:**

In June 2010 end, an Orientation Day was organized where community children and their parents were called and were explained the agenda and objectives of Ugta Suraj program.

The following events were held in the center since the inception of the session:

- **Friendship Day:**  
To promote friendly ties among children, Friendship Day was observed in the center on 1 August 2010. Around 27 children were present on that day. The children were told the meaning of Friendship and the role of friends in life. The children shook hands with each other and took the vow that they would never fight.
- **Independence day:**  
The Independence Day was celebrated on 14 August 2010 with 30 children in attendance. The children were told the stories of our great freedom fighters and they drew National flags and coloured them. Sweets were distributed among the children.
- **Rakshbandhan:**  
On 23 August was celebrated the festival of Rakshabandhan. The children were told the significance of this festival. The girls tied rakhis on the wrists of the boys in the center. They had sweets on that day. A few days back on 19 August, the children made decorative rakhis with coloured paper, cloth and ribbons.

- **Drawing and Painting Competition:**  
28 August morning was buzzing with activity for 40 children in the center. An NGO, named SEED (Society for Education, Empowerment and Development) volunteers came to the center and held a painting competition for the children. Around 15 children (they had planned likewise) participated in the event. They were given colours and paper by the volunteers to draw their imaginations and dreams. The children were excited and they were promised by the volunteers that they would teach them dance and drama in the days to come.
- **Janmashtmi:**  
Lord Krishna's Birthday was celebrated on 1 September 2010. Around 35 children were present on that day. They listened to the story of Krishna and made crowns with coloured paper and cardboard. They also made tiny Radha and Krishna statues with mud. Sweets were distributed among the children on this day.
- **Gandhi Jayanti:**  
Mahatma Gandhi's birthday was celebrated on 2 October 2010 by 35 children present in the center. The children were told the life story of Gandhi and how non-violence brought us the freedom from colonial rule. They made Gandhi's picture on a chart paper. The children recited poems and songs on the occasion.
- **Visit by Noon.ch Team:**  
Agahpur center had guests from Noon.ch on 27 October 2010. The visiting team comprised Doris and her husband, Klaus. They interacted with children despite having the language barrier. Doris showed them the World map brought by her and told them where they came from. She also asked them where they lived in India. The children enthusiastically pointed towards Delhi, Noida on India's map. The children recited poems and played many games. They bid good bye to guests with the promise that they would visit them again.

### **Volunteers:**

Two volunteers, Adiep and Mayank from University of Delhi interacted with children on two days in the month of August. They taught them basic English and Maths tables/simple additions.

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