

Communiqué

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Digantar Shiksha Evam Khelkud Samiti, established in 1978, is a non-governmental, non-profit organization dedicated to improving education. Digantar operates two schools—a primary school in Kho Raibariyan with 50 students and 2 teachers, and another in Bhavgarh Bandhya with 180 students and 10 teachers. These schools not only provide quality education to underprivileged children but also serve as training sites for education professionals and student-teachers. They act as practical sites where innovative educational practices and theoretical perspectives are implemented and observed. TARU, a core part of Digantar, conducts training programs for teachers and educational workers, organizes short-term courses and workshops, and engages in research and material development. Through capacity-building initiatives, TARU promotes meaningful educational practices, contributing to educational theory, discourse, and teacher professional development, drawing from its extensive field experience.

Vidyalaya

Children and Books: A Growing Bond

Sports and Games

1. Library: A total of 666 books were issued to 2. Self-Defense Activity & Football Game: children from the library in the month of Under self-defence activity, the Judo Karate February. Routine storytelling activities class was conducted thrice a week. Daily continued throughout the month.



football coaching and paractice showed greater participation of students and improvement in the quality of their game.



Days' Celebration

3. Republic Day Celebration:

On 26th January, both Digantar schools celebrated the 76th Republic Day with enthusiasm. Preamble of the Constitution and values enshrined in the Constitution was showcased. Teachers and students collaborated and presented a play on equality.



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- 1. From January 4th to 9th, 20 participants of the Sociology of Education workshop visited Digantar School. They observed the school and engaged in discussions with teachers.
- 2. On 17th January, 40 people from Agarwal Samaj Chaurasi Jaipur visited the school and assured financial support.
- 3. On 30th January, a group of 5 people from Abercrombie & Kent (A&K) USA visited to understand the school philosophy and teaching-learning practices through observation and discussion.





Continued Professional Development

5. Winter workshop: From January 1 to 10, a 6. Information Campaign: Over the last two Teacher Capacity Building Workshop was months, significant efforts have been made organized. The objective of the workshop was to help teachers improve their English proficiency as well as gain confidence in speaking English. They also discussed and developed teaching plans and relevant posters and 50 banners were used for the material for classroom English teaching.

in preparing material for the information campaign. Pamphlets, hoardings, banners, and the school prospectus were conceptualised and designed. A total of 12,000 pamphlets, 15 hoardings 1,000 purpose. The campaign is still continuing.



7. Construction: The school's main gate was 8. Recruitments: For the appointment of preconstructed, and pathways were repaired. A designated play area for the younger children was built, along with toilets for pre-primary students. Equipment procurement for preprimary classes are under process.

primary teachers, the job description was prepared and disseminated. The interviews for selected candidates are scheduled in the month of March.

9. Uniforms:

A group of Chartered Accountants (NAV India) has sponsored the student uniforms which have been finalized.



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10. Bal Panchayat

Post election, 29th Bal Panchayat was formed in the school with active participation of children. The whole process enriches their understanding of democratic processes and lead them towards being self-regulated responsible members of the society



11. Fundraising Efforts

Vidyalaya members visited six Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) organizations – Round Table, Coloured Rocks Trading Pvt. Ltd., Dhabriya Polywood Ltd., Rajasthan Knowledge Corporation Ltd. – and participated in a CSR meeting at the Collectorate with a purpose to seek their support. They also visited MSME and engaged with company heads.

Fundraising efforts have been progressing well and in the two months (January and February) approximately Rs. 3,00,000 has been raised through crowdfunding.

An MoU was signed with Abercrombie & Kent, India under which they have agreed to grant Rs. 1,44,000/- being salary for the two trainers for skill development. Another negotiation with the same group for an amount of Rs. 10,00,000/- for construction, furniture, and materials for the pre-primary section is in the final stages.

12. Workshop on NCFSE Language and Mathematics

Six Digantar teachers participated in a sevenday residential workshop organized by the TARU team on the nature and pedagogy of Language and Mathematics from 18th to 24th February 2025.



13. Visit to Campus Nursery School, Jaipur



On 11th February 2025, Hemant, Norat, Rekha, and Shivangi visited Campus Nursery School to gain insights into its principles and practices with a view to enrich our own upcoming pre-primary section.

Central Coordination Unit

1. Publication and Store:

- Digantar material sale raised an amount of Rs. 4,686/- during the two months.
- Flyer, posters and banners for dissemination and fundraising were designed, printed and circulated/displayed accordingly.
- Module and material for the two workshops organized during this period Sociology of Education and NCFSE 2023: Language and Mathematics Pedagogy was designed and printed.
- Certificates were also designed and printed for the Sociology of Education workshop participants.
- 2. Maintenance-related tasks: Mess kitchen was renovated along with installation of two new CCTV cameras on the campus.
- **3. Recruitment:** Rajesh Kumar joined as Director of Digantar on 7th February 2025. He will also have the responsibility of supervising TARU works.

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The Academic Resource Unit (TARU)

1. Sociology of Education

A six-day residential course on "Sociology of Education" was organized from January 4 to 9, 2025 and was facilitated by Prof. Amman Madan from Azim Premji University, Bangalore. A total of 17 participants joined the course.

The course's overarching aim was to introduce participants to sociological perspectives on Education that included key concepts and theories from sociology and anthropology, methods for deeper exploration of the social context, and examination of societal processes leading to the growth of complex societies; and their relation with education.



2. An Introduction to Philosophy of Education – Online Course

The course "An Introduction to Philosophy of Education" commenced on February 21st with the opening of the course portal and uploading of required reading materials for Unit 1 – Philosophy, Language, and Logic. A total of 40 participants are enrolled in the course.

The first online session of the course was conducted on February 28th, with full participation from all the 40 enrolled participants.

3. NCFSE' 23: Nature & Pedagogy of Language and Mathematics Course

A seven-day residential course on "NCFSE' 23: Nature & Pedagogy of Language and Mathematics" was organized from February 18 to 24, 2025. The course was facilitated by Prof. Rohit Dhankar, with assistance from a TARU member. A total of 14 participants attended, including 6 teachers from Digantar Vidyalaya.

During the course, participants analyzed relevant sections of Part A ("Approach") and Part C ("School Subjects") of the National Curriculum Framework for School Education 2023 (NCFSE



23), with a focus on the Aims of Education, Knowledge, Forms of Understanding, and Learning in the Foundational Stage, as well as Language and Mathematics Education. Systematic teaching programs for Language and Mathematics at the Foundational Stage were practiced, and the underlying theories were explained. This included the nature, pedagogy, and assessment at a practical implementation level



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