

Saturday Clubs in Elementary Schools

(A guideline of activities)

Background :

Developing the potential of children in co-scholastic areas is an area of concern since most of the elementary schools hardly organize activities for children with such objectives in a systematic and structured manner. Though activities related to Art, Physical and Work Education are introduced in the daily class-routine of elementary schools, it is very difficult to realize its objectives in letter and spirit without proper guidance followed by adequate resource support.

Further, harnessing community resources of different trades may be an effective tool to create a conducive environment for fine-tuning the hidden talents of the students. The community resources can be of various types- manpower, financial or in kinds etc. Given a scope and proper orientation, the community may even play a pivotal role to organize, facilitate and co-ordinate various activities and generate resources from different sources in this regard.

Presently only two periods are fixed for teaching-learning/ discussion of scholastic aspects in every Saturday of school working days and hence, children get ample scope to utilize the day-time of Saturday atleast for 2-3 hours for co-scholastic activities.

Keeping all the above facts in mind, it is decided to constitute **Saturday clubs** in a few elementary schools of Assam under AWP & B, 2010-11. The effort is the first of its kind and hence, shall be carried out in pilot basis.

The idea of constituting such club in the schools is to give a platform to the children to exhibit their hidden talents and to nurture their potential in right direction under the supervision and support of the community.

Few objectives of Saturday clubs:

1. To give the children an opportunity to explore activities of various trades that suit their hidden talent and enhance their skills, aptitudes,
2. To inspire and engage the children through the resources available in the locality,
3. To engage children with the diversified and multi-dimensional activities like gardening, clay-modeling, campus cleaning, drama/songs, house keeping, art & craft works, sports, literary, project work and many more such feats.
4. To give the talent of children a shape at the very young stage,
5. To strengthen school-community linkage.

Expected outcomes:

These Saturday clubs are expected to deliver following outcomes in support to the children:

1. Enhancement of psycho-motor ability,
2. Sense of dignity of labour,
3. Instill integrity and responsibility,
4. Inculcate team spirit and sportsmanship,
5. Facilitate one to one experience with nature,
6. Fostering competitive spirit,
7. Improvement of aesthetic & performing skills,
8. Improvement of life skills and scientific skills,
9. Giving a shape to their talent , etc etc

Structure of the Saturday Club Committee:

Activities of Saturday clubs will be facilitated, co-ordinated, organized and promoted through a committee with the following structure:

1. Chief Co-ordinator : One of the active members of Mother Group of the concerned school.
2. Co-ordinators : One active member of the School Managing Committee,
One active and dedicated person of the locality of concerned school having expertise in these line.
3. Members : Two members from the office-bearers of SMC concerned
Three members from Mother Group concerned
Three community members from the locality,
Two members to be co-opted by the committee
Two members from Student Government of the school

Chief Co-ordinator, Co-ordinators, Members will be selected in a general meeting, to be organized by Member Secretary of SMC/Mother Group and to be attended by members of SMC, Mother group, local peoples and Student Government.

Activity schedule/ Manual : Based on the above objectives, each district will prepare a manual for the Saturday Clubs of their respective district and will circulate it to these clubs.

District will print the manual as per following specification :

- Quantity: As many as approved in the AWP & B, 2010-11 under Activity head 18.3.1(d)
- Size, Paper : 1/8 DD, 70 GSM, both side printing, Pages should be restricted as per availability of fund,
- Colour : Mono colour
- Medium : As per need of the district.
- Rate: Maximum of Rs. 5.00 (Five rupees only) per copy

Expenditure for this activity is to be booked in the activity head 18.3.1(d) of Plan of Action , 2010-11.

No. of Saturday club : As per the list enclosed (*annexure-1*). District will finalize the criteria for selection of schools keeping in mind the objectives of the activity. Preference is to be given to the schools in ST, SC, Minority & TG areas.

- (1) **2-day block level non-residential orientation workshop of Chief Co-ordinator of the Saturday Clubs:** District will organize 2-day non-residential orientation workshop for Chief Co-ordinators of Saturday Clubs by 20th August, 2010. Threadbare orientation in respect to the manual, strategizing activities etc will be done in this workshop. *Expenditure for this activity is to be booked in the activity head 18.3.1(b) of Plan of Action, 2010-11.*
- (2) **Day-long district level review cum follow up meeting of Chief Co-ordinator of Saturday Clubs:** District will organize day-long meeting for Chief Co-ordinators of Saturday Clubs by 30th September, 2010 to review of activities and to take future course of action in this regard. *Expenditure for this activity is to be booked in the activity head 18.3.1(c) of Plan of Action, 2010-11*
- (3) **Corpus fund for Saturday club:** District will release an amount of Rs. 1000/- (one thousand only) per Club through the respective SMC, which will be utilized by the Club as corpus fund for activities to be conducted through this club. The Saturday Club committee is to submit U/C to the DMO concerned through the respective SMC. *Expenditure is to be booked by all but Kokrajhar district in the activity head 18.3.1(a) of POA, 2010-11. For Kokrajhar district activity head will be 18.3.16.*
- (4) **Reporting :** The district is to submit a report of this activity to SMO by 27th August, 2010 as per enclosed proforma (*annexure-2*) along with 5 copies of manual of Saturday club.

Reporting format for Saturday Club

District :

1. Total no. of Saturday clubs sanctioned as per AWP & B,2010-11:
2. Total no. of clubs opened :
3. Total no. of clubs functionalized :

Sl	Name of the school where the clubs is constituted	Name of the Educational Block	Name of the Chief Co-ordinator	Contact no. of the Chief Co-ordinator	Remarks

Signature of DPO(CP & SFG)

Signature of DMC