

Special Training Component

The special training is based on specially designed, age appropriate learning material, approved by the academic authority specified in section 29 (1) in the Assam RTE Rules. It is provided in classes held in the premises of the school, or through classes organised in safe residential or non-residential facilities. It is provided by teachers working in the school, or by teachers specially appointed for the purpose. The duration is for a minimum period of three months which may be extended, based on periodical assessment of learning progress, for a maximum period not exceeding two years. The child, upon induction into the age appropriate class, after special training, continues to receive special attention by the teacher to enable him/her to successfully integrate with the rest of the class, academically and emotionally.

Special Training is imparted through Non -Residential and Residential mode. The Non -Residential Special Training Centres (NRSTCs) cover the learners of Rural & Urban areas. The Residential Special Training Centers (RSTCs) cover orphans, child with single parent, child labourers, and belonging to economically poor families.

Various programmes and activities are undertaken under Special Training to provide academic support and to mainstream these OoSCs to the age appropriate classes in the formal schools.

Activities implemented in Financial Year-2022-23:

[1] Identification of Out of School Children (OoSCs): State wide survey for identification of Out of School Children was conducted in Nov-Dec, 2022. Survey was conducted in all habitations of the State. Survey was conducted by grass root level functionaries of Education Department, Asha Karmi of Health Department, Anganwadi workers of Social Welfare Department, PRI members, Teachers of formal schools, CRCCs, responsible citizens of local areas, educationists and NGOs.

- State level sharing meeting was conducted in presence of representatives from Line Departments like Labour & Employment, P&RD, Social Welfare, Health & Family Welfare, Police Administration.
- District level planning meeting was held with DC, ADC [Education], DEEO, IS, DMCs, all BEEOs/BMCs and DPOs, NHM, Department of Social Welfare and assignment of block in-charges for the same. Printing of Survey formats was carried out at district level.
- Block level orientation for enumerators/surveyors, PRI members, CRCCs, DQMs, BRPs, Head teachers, NGOs, Asha and Anganwadi workers etc. Data Capture Formats [DCF] were distributed to the enumerators after the orientation.
- Online Data Entry of Out of School Children at blocks carried out by Block MIS personnel in the Prabandh portal and 10% sample checking of DCFs. OoSC Survey DCFs captured the OoSCs comprising age group of 6 to 18+ years of age. As per the direction of Ministry of Education [MoE], New Delhi, the data base was uploaded in the PRABANDH Portal.

Total No. of OoSC			Gender-Ele.			Gender-Sec.			Never Enrolled		No. of Dropout		Age Group- ELEMENTARY]					No. of CWSN			Social Category- Ele.				Social Category- Sec.					
ELE	SEC	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	ELE	SEC	ELE	SEC	Below 6 Years	6-7 Years	8-10 Years	11-14 Years	Above 14 years	ELE	SEC	Total	GEN	SC	ST	OBC	Total	GEN	SC	ST	OBC	Total
84006	28984	112990	51861	32145	84006	20142	8842	28984	28772	0	55234	28984	69	3125	32874	47850	88	4318	760	5078	52418	4452	6891	20245	84006	14913	2089	1949	10033	28984

Data Source: As per PRABANDH portal-2022-23

Few snapshots of the Survey:**[2] Coverage & mainstreaming of Special Training Learners [2022-2023]:**

As per the survey conducted in 2021-2022, total 129529 [80734-Elementary & 48795-Secondary] Out of School Children [OoSCs] were identified. The PAB had approved 59614-Fresh OoSCs & 5542 Continued learners] for Non-residential mode and 6242-Fresh & 458 Continued OoSC learners] for Residential mode of Special Training.

Based on the district wise OoSCs, a coverage plan was prepared for age appropriate enrolment, providing of Special Training and mainstreaming them to the formal schools.

The enrolment drive programme was conducted to cover the 6 & 7 Years of age group in convergence with Community Participatory and Special Focus Group (CP&SFG) component.

Target, Covered, Mainstreamed in 2022-23:

Sl. No.	Intervention	Target	Covered	% of Coverage	Mainstreamed	% of Mainstreaming
1	Direct Enrolment/KGBV/RBS/CWSN	14878	12182	81.9	12182	100.0
2	NRSTC	65156	41846	64.2	34109	81.5
3	RSTCs	6700	4310	64.3	2008	46.6
Total		86734	58338	67.3	48299	55.7

Source: PRABANDH Portal as on 13.06.23

[3] Re-visiting & development of the learning materials as per NEP: Academic materials of Special Training viz. Sikhon Puthi, Individualised Education Plan, Readiness Package, Evaluation Work Book were revisited by SCERT, Assam to be aligned with the changes in textbooks and as per the requirement of the NEP. The review was done in workshop mode. Academic materials were provided in Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Hindi and English mediums.

[4] Pre-vocational training Programme: The pre-vocational training programme was conducted for the upper primary learners of NRSTCs.

Areas of Pre-vocational Training:

#	Suggestive areas	
01	Computer Typing	09 Shoe Repairing
02	Cycle Repairing	10 Making of Envelopes
03	Pottery making	11 Cutting and Knitting
04	Handicraft	12 Embroidery
05	Mobile Repairing	13 Fine Arts
06	Toy Making	14 Gardening
07	Preparation of Pakora, Momo, Ghugni, Potato chops, Potato chips etc	15 Packaging of goods
08	Making of raw papadsetc	16 Cooking & Kitchen Skills



[5] Teaching Learning Materials (TLMs): TLMs such as Wooden pencil, Eraser, Crayon, Sharpener, Wooden Scale, Plastic Pencil box, Drawing book and Exercise books were provided to the learners. Procurement and distribution of the TLMs were carried out at district level following SSA norms.

[6] Yoga Programme for RSTC learners: Yoga programme was conducted by the NGO named Art of Living. Total 457 learners were covered in 6 districts viz Barpeta, Chirang, Jorhat, Kamrup, Morigaon, & Sonitpur District.



[7] A one-day state level orientation on PRABANDH portal (OoSC part): One-day state level orientation on PRABANDH portal was held in December, 2022. Resource Persons were Shri Rajiv Mehra, Chief Consultant, TSG and Shri Adil Rasheed, Sr. Consultant, Access, TSG, New Delhi. Participants were state and district level officials (looking after Out of School Children) from Samagra Shiksha, Assam.

[8] Exposure visit within the district & Sishu Somaroh: Co-curricular activities were conducted such as Sishu Somaroh & exposure visits of learners within districts. Sishu Samaroh was conducted at centre/block/district level. The achievers in the Sishu Somaroh programme were selected for the exposure visit to the historical/museum/park/centuries/important institutions or places etc.



[9] Health Check-up programmes at Centre level with NHM: The health check up programmes were conducted in convergence with the National Health Mission (NHM) and Public Health Centre (PHC). The para-medical personnel were invited to the Special Training Centres for health check-up of learners. During this programme, awareness on health and hygiene was also imparted to all learners by the visiting team.



[10] Conducting of evaluation of learners of RSTCs & NRSTCs:

The education Volunteers conducted the evaluation of learners of RSTCs and NRSTCs prior to mainstreaming to the formal schools. The question papers were set in consultation with the DIET faculties of the districts.



Migratory Interventions:

[A] Operationalisation of Seasonal Migratory Learners [Non Residential]: This intervention operationalised for school going children whose parents migrate to various districts to earn their livelihood along with their children in the month of October/November every year. **Total 423 out of 429 centres were operationalised and covered 14659 out of 15002 learners** for 6 months [October to March] with 423 Education volunteers engaged for imparting lessons. Centres were opened in the vicinity of the worksite areas of **brick kilns [420 nos. and 3 stone quarries]**. Seasonal migration of families had been observed as the one of the major causes of dropout of children from Elementary education throughout the State.

[B] Intervention for Seasonal Migratory Learners [Residential]: During the seasonal period parents migrate to different districts to make both ends meet leaving their wards in the hostels so that their regularity to school doesn't get affected. Seasonal hostels were operationalised in Kokrajhar and Morigaon district. Students accommodated with free food and lodging until their parents return back home from the brick kilns and stone quarries. One Caretaker cum Store Keeper was engaged for providing logistic support of the centre.

Detailed status as follows:

Sl. No	District	Total target approved	Total learners covered	Total Centres Operationalised	Total nos. of Caretaker	Other staff
1	Kokrajhar	250	257	3	3	6
2	Morigaon	200	0	0	0	0
Total		450	257	3	3	6

Activities implemented under Residential & Non Residential Migration intervention:

[a] Tracking of Children after return from worksites: Prior to closing of worksites by the owners, closing ceremonies were organized at every centre with the support of Education Volunteers, District Quality Managers (DQMs) and District Programmer (Special Training). Once the worksites were closed down these learners were issued migration card from District Mission Coordinator (DMC). Migration card reflected his continuation of classes, achievement of competencies, detail information of centre she underwent Special Training etc.

[b] Survey of worksite areas: Survey was conducted in the month of December/22 & January, 2023. There are 1061 Brick Kilns and 267 Stone Crushers based on the data collected from the Commissioner, Labour Department, Assam. Planning meeting at district level, orientation of the surveyors at block level and printing and distribution of survey formats were carried out.

[c] Other activities such as Opening of centres at worksite areas, Sishu Somarogh programme, Pre-vocational training Programme, Teaching Learning Materials [TLMs], Art and drawing programme for learners, Observation of Special Days at Centre level, Health Check-up programmes at Centre level with NHM, printing of migration cards etc were implemented

SECONDARY LEVEL Intervention:

Under AWP&B 2022-23, it was proposed to cover 27, 443 Out of School Children of Secondary level age-group through Open Schooling. Accordingly, communications were made to Regional Centre, NIOS, Guwahati and Director (SSS). List of suggestive schools for accreditation as study centres was also been shared with NIOS. Communication was also been made to Ministry of Education. However, it could not be implemented. Again, it was also planned to cover the remaining 21,352 numbers under Prime Minister's Kaushal Vikash Yojana. Discussion was held with Assam Skill Development Mission. List of students had been shared with ASDM.

