India Library
Completion Report

Room to Read

Prepared for: Prue and Mark

With your help, Room to Read established a new library in India!

Project Location

CRC Timali,Narendra Nagar is located in Uttarakhand, which has with a population of 10.1 million people. Containing a mixture of plains and forests, Uttarakhand is rich with vegetation and supports strong agricultural and logging industries. Migrant farmers and day laborers comprise the majority of Uttarakhand's workforce and 40 percent of the state's population currently lives below the nationally-defined poverty line. A large percentage of the population lacks access to basic needs such as running water, shelter, and electricity, and consequently education has not traditionally been prioritized in many communities. Although Uttarakhand's statewide literacy rate is 80 percent, in rural regions this rate drops slightly to 75 percent, with women's literacy rates on average 18 percent lower than men's. The government has committed to improving the state's educational capacity and is excited to work with Room to Read to achieve improved statewide literacy and gender equality in education.

Library Resources Provided

The Room to Read Literacy team works hard to select the most appropriate and engaging reading materials to stock the libraries. Room to Read India's publishing staff work closely with the broader Literacy team to create and publish culturally relevant, developmentally appropriate, and gender-sensitive books for our libraries in India. Our published materials help supplement the books we purchase from Indian retailers and publishers. The books selected play a vital role in supplying students with relevant and engaging learning materials. Room to Read has provided the following books and other resources to this library:

- 865 local language books published by Room to Read
- 111 bilingual books
- 789 other local language books
- Book Display Racks; Display Boards; Educational Materials; Stationery

To ensure the long-term sustainability of the libraries, Room to Read seeks community and school co-investment from the very beginning of the project. One of the most vital contributions the school makes is to select one or two school staff or volunteers to serve as librarians. In addition, communities contribute materials for the library and participate in literacy activities that take place at the school.

Room to Read India involves families and communities in the life of the library in some of the following ways:

• Hosting a library launch event with teachers, school administrators, local government officials, parents, caregivers, and other community members to officially open the library.
• Celebrating International Literacy Day once a year with family and community member participation.
• Conducting reading events and competitions where students' reading skills and habits are celebrated with family and other community members.
• Hosting summer and winter reading camps for children to visit the library, use library materials, and check out books during school holidays.

Trainings

In India, Room to Read provides all librarians and teachers involved with our libraries with three days of training in the first year and two days of refresher training in both the second and third years of Room to Read support. These training opportunities build on each other, aligning training focus areas with the library's stage of development. The trainings also provide an opportunity for teachers and librarians to collaborate with one another and work through problems that have arisen during the year.

The India Literacy program also supports educators by providing coaching and program implementation feedback during monitoring and support visits that take place on average once a month over the three years of Room to Read support. The team assesses library quality using a rating tool, which evaluates the library's functionality across 19 indicators. Room to Read staff use these ratings to determine the frequency and type of support they provide to each school, and to assign extra support time for schools with greater needs. During these visits, our team oversees and supports the library establishment, provides additional support for topics covered in trainings, and encourages school management to promote the use of the library among teachers and students. Visits are conducted by Room to Read staff, school cluster and block coordinators, and field facilitators. In 2014, in addition to supporting teachers and librarians on conducting engaging library activities, the program focused on collecting data about our program that will help us to continue to improve our approach to developing students' reading habits.

Start Date	Length of Training	Training Topic*
5/22/2014	1.0 days	Book leveling; Creating a child-friendly environment; Engaging other teachers; Importance of libraries and reading; Library management; Library period and reading activities
11/17/2014	1.0 days	Book leveling; Creating a child-friendly environment; Engaging other teachers; Importance of libraries and reading; Library management; Library period and reading activities; Sustainability

Some trainings are provided for various groups of stakeholders (teachers, librarians, field facilitators, etc.) at different times. Because of this, the same training may be listed more than once.

CRC Timali,Narendra Nagar library will receive three full years of additional support from Room to Read, which will include books, additional training for the school teachers and librarians, support for family and community engagement, and regular monitoring and support visits.

Photos

Exterior view of the school building where the new library is located.

The interior of the new library.

A teacher reading to students.

Students reading together in the library.

A student enjoying one of the new books.

Children participating in an activity in the school library.

Students enjoying the resources now available in the school library.