

## Meeting of the Education Support Group

### Work done so far

The Education Support Group (ESG) was formed in July 2021, as part of the National Coalition on the Education Emergency. One of the primary objectives of the ESG was to create and curate a resource repository of resources to support school education departments in school reopening. These resources comprised different models of educational interventions that were continued around the country by community-based organizations, innovative learning resources that had been created as well as models for teacher support, teacher preparation and use of digital learning methods. While we started with the objective of creating resources for state education departments to take up, many of us working with various education departments also got involved in supporting the educational resumption processes that began in many states by Oct-Dec 21. With various periods of school closures, by and large schools remained opened in the last academic term of the 21-22 academic year and now schools are well into the current academic year.

### What is needed now?

Across the country, schools have reopened and different state education departments have begun different initiatives to resume education after the disruption. While there is an acknowledgement of the learning gaps for children, there are not many models of how to address these learning<sup>1</sup> gaps. Re-orienting back to offline classes involves addressing several issues like loss of learning, having lost the skills of learning, including socially appropriate and responsible behaviour, parental attitudes, teacher attitudes, emotional distress endured by children and detoxification from the widespread use of the digital medium. On the other hand, the mainstream education discourse has largely focused on learning outcomes and even more narrowly, the use of digital technologies and methods for supporting the achievement and measurement of learning outcomes.

There is a need for a space for educational discourse to address these and several other issues affecting the educational recovery process – through resources, awareness building and capacity building. We hope that the ESG can evolve into such a space.

### How can we possibly do this?

The following are some suggestions for how this shape can evolve into a collaborative space for supporting and learning from each other, as well as to influence the state education processes.

- i. Continue the curation of the educational resource repository – publish as many resources as possible comprising lessons, games and songs, assessment models and so on (click here for the [repository](#))
- ii. A conversation space for sharing experiences, challenges and resources through online meetings/ webinars – these will be organized by specific topics
- iii. Creating and sharing of a bi-monthly newsletter; amongst the group members but also to inform education initiatives in their respective areas
- iv. Advocacy in mainstream media and other educational fora about the current challenges in education

To discuss these as well as other ideas, as well as define ways of taking this work forward, we would like to convene a virtual meeting of all the members on **August 17<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)** between **5.00 and 6.30 pm**. We hope you would all be able to make it. We will also be reaching out to you to collect details of work done by you/ your organization/ your state for us to be curating and publishing on the repository.

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<sup>1</sup> As far as we know Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Delhi and Karnataka have come up with some programs to address the learning gaps.