

**Report on Refresher Training and Support Visit
Shree Saraswati Model Higher Secondary School
Janakpurdham, Dhanusha**

Purpose of visit: To conduct refresher training and provide support to the program school

Date: December 20-22, 2011

Venue: Shree Saraswati Model Higher Secondary School, Janakpurdham

Team:

1. Kamana Regmi: Trainer, OLE Nepal, Sanepa, Lalitpur
2. Subir Pradhanang: Engineer, OLE Nepal, Sanepa, Lalitpur

Participants:

S. No.	Teachers	Subjects
1.	Ms. Gayatri Mallik	Nepali (Grade 5), English (Grade 4)
2.	Ms. Gita Rimal	English (Grades 6, 7), Nepali (Grades 6, 7, 8)
3.	Ms. Rama Rimal	Math (Grade 4), Science (Grade 4)
4.	Mr. Shankar Kumar Das	Math (Grade 3), English (Grade 5)
5.	Mr. Udaya Yadav	English (Grades 6, 7), Nepali (Grades 6, 7, 8)

Summary:

A team of trainer and engineer from OLE Nepal visited Sri Saraswati Model Higher Secondary School in Janakpurdham, Dhanusha from December 20 to 22, 2011 to conduct refresher training, and update laptops and server at the school. A total of 5 teachers participated in the refresher training which mainly revolved around operating *E-Pustakalaya*, use of *E-Pustakalaya* in the classroom, and other functions such as chat, download, copying, creating files, on the XO laptop.

Day-wise Description of the Training:

Day 1: December 20, 2011

Due to sudden announcement of a week-long break for schools by the Dhanusha District Administration Office (DAO) owing to cold wave in the Terai region, the observation of classes of teachers with the students, and providing feedback to them could not take place as initially planned.

Apart from this, the postponement and delay of flights to Janakpur due to strike and weather respectively meant that the OLE Nepal team could reach the school only in early afternoon on the day of the training. Because of all this, the training schedule had to be modified.

On the first day of the training, only two teachers, Ms. Gita Rimal and Ms. Gayatri Mallik, were present. We came to know that a lady teacher, Ms. Sunita Mishra, had already left for Kathmandu the previous day, and another teacher, Ms. Rama Rimal, could not attend due to back ache and bed rest. The team found out from the two teachers about their requirement:

- a. Operating *E-Pustakalaya*

- b. Use of *E-Pustakalaya* in the classroom
- c. Other functions such as chat, download, copy, create files etc.

Day 2: December 21, 2011

The second day of the training saw participation from all the five teachers though Ms. Rama Rimal joined only after a phone call from the principal. The day's program was briefly joined by the principal in the morning session.

Although the teachers told us that they had been using *E-Paath* with students, we had our doubts and decided to make the teachers try out some *E-Paath* activities only to find that they had very little idea even about the basics of opening *E-Paath* and running it. Ms. Gayatri Mallik was the only teacher who seemed to have some knowledge about running *E-Paath*. Nobody seemed familiar with teachers' notes and lesson plans. Nevertheless, the lady teachers showed interest on taking home the hard copies of teachers' notes provided for the school by OLE Nepal. At the end of the *E-Paath* session, again the ladies said that the session made a lot of things clear to them admitting that they did not know so much.

The second half of the day focused on the access to and the use of *E-Pustakalaya*. Teachers were quite interested in *E-Pustakalaya*. They said that they were not confident and had not used it at all after the first training. Some time was also spent on teaching them how to update *E-Paath*.

Both the computer lab as well as the *E-Paatis* (term used in Nepali for XO laptops) looked like they were hardly used. The laptops were packed in suitcases and were not charged properly, in spite of being informed about the training well in advance. The battery of each *E-Paati* would run down after ten or fifteen minutes and always a new one had to be used. Most of the laptops had brown patches on the screen.

The day ended at 4:00 pm deciding to meet at 10:00 am the next day. Our request for arriving early was strongly rejected with the excuse that it was hard to leave home early in the cold weather.

Day 3: December 22, 2011

On the third day, the teachers showed interest on how to use line chat, download books, copy them on pen drive and copy back from pen drive to *E-Paati*, and update *E-Paath*. As OLE team was heading back to Kathmandu in the afternoon, the team left the school after the morning session with a promise from the teachers present that they would definitely implement what they had learnt in the training. It, however, remains to be seen whether it would actually happen.

Observations:

1. The overall impression the OLE Nepal team got was that neither the computer lab nor the *E-Paatis* had been used. The reason being that the laptops looked brand new and the teachers' lack of knowledge on the use of *E-Paath*. Teachers also said that they had never used other activities that were installed in the *E-Paatis*.
2. One good thing to notice was that furniture had been made ready for *E-Paati*-integrated teaching-learning in the computer lab as per the principal's promise in the last visit.

Annex I

Pictures of Training in progress:



Fig.1



Fig.2



Fig.3



Fig.4: Group Photo of trainers and participants