

Monthly Newsletter

October 2025

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Raising the Bar: Strengthening Academic Foundations Across Districts

Raigarh's Young Learners Take the First Step Toward Nipun Bharat

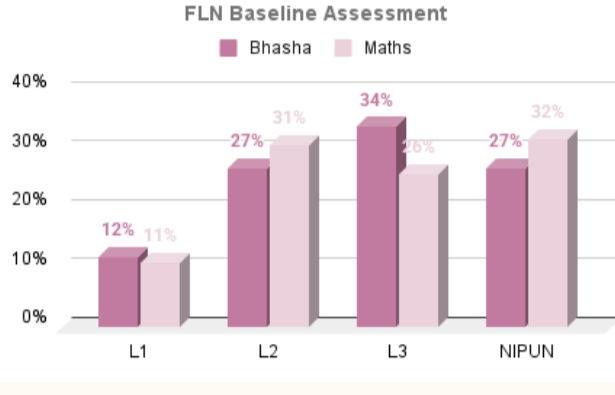
- The FLN Baseline Test for Classes 1–8 was successfully conducted across Raigarh district, assessing students' learning levels in Language, Math, and English. The results reveal that 46% of students have already reached the "Nipun" (proficient) level, while others are on their journey through early learning stages, showing strong potential for targeted academic support.
- As part of this effort, OLF conducted the FLN Test for 39,800 students, generating over 1 lakh+ data points through the analysis of 658 OMR sheets, ensuring that every data point contributes to deeper insights. This analysis will help the district identify learning gaps, design focused interventions, and strengthen foundational skills among young learners.
- Language performance stood at 47% Nipun, Math at 55%, and English at 38%, highlighting both achievements and areas for growth.

Gadchiroli Students Shine: Scholarship Test

- In Gadchiroli, 16,053 answer sheets from the district's scholarship examinations were scanned and analysed, offering a detailed snapshot of 5,437 students' learning across Classes 5 and 8.
- Class 5: 4% of students scored above 75%, while 43% fell in the 40–59% range, showing steady foundational understanding. Around 33% scored below 40%, signalling the need for additional academic support.
- Class 8: 8% of students scored in the 60-74% range, and 37% scored between 40–59%, reflecting encouraging trends in upper primary grades.
- This in-depth analysis by OLF will help Gadchiroli district identify learning gaps, plan targeted teacher support, and strengthen classroom interventions.

Strong Beginnings: Raipur Charts the Path to Foundational Learning

- Raipur conducted the FLN Baseline Test for Classes 1–5, assessing around 50,849 students' proficiency in Bhasha and Maths. The results revealed promising trends: 29% achieved foundational learning goals across both subjects.
- OLF supported the district by analysing the results, helping identify learning levels and areas for improvement. This data-driven insight will enable targeted academic support and strengthen Raipur's efforts to ensure that every child possesses the foundational skills.



In October, OLF conducted 12 academic programs: 6 tests across six districts of Chhattisgarh and 6 across six districts of Maharashtra.

Beyond the classroom: A Wave of Creativity

October saw a remarkable surge in non-academic programs, bringing stories, poems, and performances to life across schools.



Solapur's Progress

- **Storytelling Revolution** - What began in just 11 schools in September has now taken over 47 schools, where young narrators are weaving tales that spark imagination
- **Poetry finds its voice** - From a modest 7 schools to an inspiring 102, poetry recitation has turned classrooms into stages of rhythm and emotion.
- **Spoken English** - Spoken English sessions grew from 8 to 80 schools, empowering students to express themselves with clarity and flair.

Seoni's Creative Side

- In Madhya Pradesh's Seoni district, the Youth and Eco Club is thriving in 75 schools, nurturing leadership and environmental stewardship.
- Creative Writing is taking root in 37 schools, giving voice to young minds and fresh ideas.

Events that Unite and Transform

Nanhe Sitare — A Celebration of Confidence and Creativity



Hingoli, October 15, 2025

- The district-level grand finale of "Nanhe Sitare", a life-skills-based initiative jointly organized by the Zilla Parishad Hingoli and Open Links Foundation, concluded with great enthusiasm.
- The event wasn't just a competition; it was a platform for students to express themselves. After spirited school and block-level rounds, 22 finalists showcased their talents across four categories: Spoken English, Spelling Bee, Storytelling, and Poetry Recitation, divided into four grade groups (Classes 1–3, 4–5, 6–8 and 9–12). In total, 15 students were awarded for their outstanding performances.
- The event reflected the district's growing commitment to nurturing language, logic, and life skills, building not just bright students, but confident future citizens.

Yavatmal District Spells Success - Spelling Bee Competition

- The Yavatmal District Spelling Bee Competition buzzed with excitement as young wordsmiths from across the district took the stage to showcase their spelling mastery and confidence. Jointly organized by the Zilla Parishad Yavatmal and OLF, the event celebrated the joy of learning and the power of English language skills.
- ZP CEO Mandar Patki encouraged students to "learn from the core, correct spellings and clear pronunciations," calling it a life-long skill. He announced plans to expand the competition to all 16 talukas and invited over 2,200 schools to take part next year, setting the stage for an even grander challenge ahead.
- The Spelling Bee initiative marks a growing wave of innovative, tech-enabled teaching and learning in Yavatmal, proving that when learning is fun, success truly spells itself.
- A total of six students from Grades 4–8 were honoured for their exceptional performance in the Scholarship Test.



Shikshan Utsav: Celebrating the Spirit of Teaching

- In October, Shikshan Utsav marked a vibrant celebration of teaching excellence in Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh. Organized jointly by the Dhamtari District Administration, HSBC India, and Open Links Foundation (OLF), the event highlighted the growing momentum of the Acharya Vinoba Bhavne Shikshak Sahayak Programme.
- Collector Avinash Mishra praised *Team Vinoba* for their tireless efforts and lauded the event's impactful organization. He emphasized how the Vinoba App is helping the district build stronger connections among teachers and administrators, creating a culture of shared learning and innovation.
- During the ceremony, **3 leading clusters** and **18 outstanding teachers** were felicitated for their dedication to improving classroom learning across the district.
- The festival reflected how Dhamtari is embracing technology and collaboration to strengthen its education system. With continued support from the district administration and OLF, visible transformation in schools is well underway.

Our Impact in Numbers - People, Progress, and Programs

Reach: 36 districts | 60,245 schools |
1,96,478 teachers | 4.33 million students

Teacher Hours Saved (Oct): 2,603 Hrs

Administrator Hours Saved (Oct): 16,461 Hrs

Hrs

No. of programs completed in academic year '25-'26

Academic - 15 MH | 54 CG | 3 MP

Life Skills - Poetry, Reading, Storytelling,

Spelling Bee, Morning Assembly

Teacher Recognition - 2,150 Teachers

Recognized

Stage Events - 9



Impact Story

Vinoba App — From Technology to Transparency

– **Block Education Officer, Dhamtari**

"I am responsible for 375 schools. The truth is, without data, we cannot identify where problems lie, who needs guidance, or what's working well. The *Vinoba App* has become an essential tool in this regard. I no longer have to worry about collecting data from different sources; everything is available in one place, organized and easy to read.

Another important aspect is that many of our teachers are doing remarkable work, but earlier, they didn't have a platform to showcase it. Now, with *Vinoba*, they do. The app provides them a stage, where their work can be recognized not just at the block or district level, but across the country.

This change is truly significant."

"The *Vinoba App* has made district-level monitoring efficient and data-driven, no more assumptions or WhatsApp updates – all test and scholarship data is now in one place, saving time and ensuring transparency."

- **Vivek Johnson, IAS**

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