Skills Training Advancement of Rural Societies (STARS) Forum

Monthly Status Report

Issue: 2 **August 2026**

- **RICVE updates:**
  - **Teachers training at Nandurbar and Dantewada**
  - **VE lab set up in progress in 40 schools**
  - **Student baseline test**
- **STEM Education updates**

A] Research and Innovation Center for Vocational Education updates:

Teachers training at Nandurbar and Dantewada

A 1ST batch of residential teacher-training programme on the implementation of *Kaushal-Bodh* (vocational education Grade 6-8) was conducted from 3rd to 5th August 2026 at Pabal. Total, 30 teachers from Nandurbar district participated in the training. They got training for doing projects in the three work-form Life form, Material & Mechanics, and Human Service The trainee also visited IBT schools @ Nighoj.

Teachers training at Dantewada (Chhatisgarh): Teachers training programme for porta-cabin schools in Dantewada district was conducted from 19th to 21st August 2026 at Godre Porta Cabin school Dantewada. The training was attended by 60 teachers from 22 schools (17 porta cabin + 4 Kastubha Gandhi Balika Vigyanlaya+ Sapano Ki Shala). Mr. Pramod Thakur (District Education Officer, Dantewada), Mr. Rajendra Pande (Nodal Officer, POTA cabins Dantewada) guided teachers in implementation of koushal bodh as per NEP policy in an inaugural session.





Teachers training at Dantewada (Chhatisgarh): Teachers training programme for porta-cabin schools in Dantewada district was conducted from 19th to 21st August 2026 at Godre Porta Cabin school Dantewada. The training was attended by 60 teachers from 22 schools (17 porta cabin + 4 Kastubha Gandhi Balika Vigyanlaya+ Sapano Ki Shala). Teachers learnt skills of kitchen-garden (Lifeform), home & automation & PVC pipe shoe racks (Material & Mechanics), advertisement & basic-health practices (Human Service) projects. Mr. Pramod Thakur (District Education Officer, Dantewada), Mr. Rajendra Pande (Nodal Officer, POTA cabins Dantewada)

guided teachers in school-based vocational education implementation as per NEP policy in an inaugural session.





VE lab set up in progress in 40 schools

The work of establishing 'vocational training' lab in schools of Nandurabar started from 10th August. Out of 20 schools, lab installation work for 10 schools was completed with installation of hand-tools & working table, electrical & basic farming & food processing equipment.

Students baseline-test: The work of conducting a student base-line test for experimental & control schools started with finalization of expert agency (Syllable Edu). In August, the team started working on designing a base-line test toolkit (OMR based questionnaire) as per Kaushal Bodh subject curriculum goal, learning outcomes and targeted competencies. The tool is tested to test its applicability & difficulty level in 3 IBT schools in Pune district. Based on the results, work started for the further refinement of the baseline tool for Nandurabar & Dantewada schools.





Student baseline test

The work of conducting a student base-line test for experimental & control schools has started. We have engaged with third party expert agency (Syllable Edu). In August, the team started working on designing a

base-line test toolkit (OMR based questionnaire) as per Kaushal Bodh subject curricular goals learning outcomes and targeted competencies. The tool is tested to test its applicability & difficulty level in 3 IBT schools in Pune district. Based on the results, work is started for the further refinement of the baseline tool for Nandurbar & Dantewada schools.



Highlights of students learning activities:

Students from Salumbre, Waghera, Wai, Shivali, and Tulapur schools worked on Rakhi-making project as part of their vocational education. The students got an opportunity to apply their skills to a real-life task and respond to community needs with this project. Through this initiative, students prepared and supplied Rakhis, generating services worth Rs. 34,700/-. The activity helped students develop practical skills such as planning, material selection, designing, product making, quality checking, teamwork, and time management. They also gained experience in working together, completing orders within a given time, and maintaining product quality.





Students from Tung School installed 8 tube lights in their school as part of their vocational education activity. The students used their practical electrical skills to complete a real requirement of the school. The activity helped students learn about wiring, electrical connections, safe use of tools, and installation procedures. They also developed teamwork, problem-solving, and confidence by completing the work themselves. The activity resulted in community service of Rs. 1,960/-.



We are thankful to Schaeffler India CSR program – HOPE, TATA Technologies, TATA TRUSTS, The Prabhu Trust for their financial support and encouragement for implementation of school-based vocational education programs in Maharashtra & Chhattisgarh state.

B] STEM Education updates

Jharkhand State

Team visited 18 schools from Khunti, Ranchi, Dhumka, East Singhbhum and West Singhbhum districts. They conducted several activities such as DC torch, Straw Fluit, Paper Electronics, Shoe rack making etc. We plan to conduct STEM education mela towards end of November.

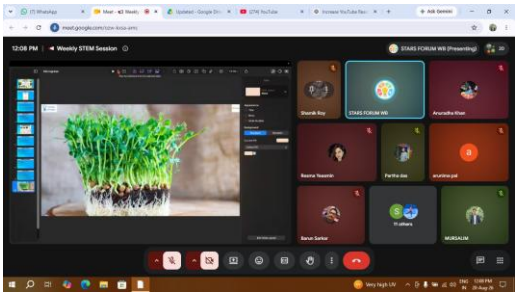




West Bengal State:

In the month of August, team worked on Video review and documentation. We are in process of finalising project report and deliver video content as this is last month of the project.

Last session of STEM online session was conducted on 20th August. Teachers from 100 schools participated in the session.



C] Other titbits:

- STARS Forum's new office in Pune is operational now. Address: STARS Forum, @ Chiplunkar Bhavan, Shastri Road, (near Poona Hospital), Pune. The office will be helpful in co-ordination of RICVE activities.

- We are in process of finding new trustees for the trust. We have shortlisted a few members and Chairman Mr. Nadkarny is talking to each one of them.

(Work at STARS Forum is supported by: La-Foundation, UNICEF, TATA Technologies Pvt. Ltd, TATA Trusts, Schaeffler India, The Prabhu Trust, Vigyan Ashram and many individuals and foundations).

Photo Gallery:



Akolekathi, Nandurbar Lab Setup



Students of PMS KGBV, Dhumka, Jharkhand



Omerga Block School Teachers visit at Pabal



Anjrle-Students learning to prepare Kharta



Teachers training at Dantewada



Discussion with HM for timetable