

## **Evaluation of 'HELLO ENGLISH' programme implemented by SSA Kerala**

**2016-17**

### **Introduction**

The confidence level of learners in using English has gone up considerably. The learners across the state have started writing English in the form of stories, poems and other language discourses. By and large general proficiency of teachers has also improved. The gap between the required and existing level of language proficiency of the learners need to be bridged. Learners should get optimum meaningful exposure to English. But most of the teachers especially at the primary level, find it difficult to evaluate the quality of language produced by learners in their class. To enhance the standard of English among our learners SSA Kerala with the support of SCERT and IT @ school has launched a programme named 'HELLO ENGLISH'. The programme focuses on improving the quality teaching and learning English in primary classroom across the state through empowering LP school teachers in the state in the government and aided sector . The main objective of the programme was to enhance the quality of English language teaching and learning in primary classes and to make the learners proficient communicators in English and to use the language effectively for academic and real life purposes.

The 'HELLO ENGLISH' training module and process were designed to impart interesting and engaging learning strategies that go beyond the textbook and involve the students in the language, thereby making them proficient in English. For instance, interactive learning methods such as storytelling, role play, Total Physical Response, dramatization, miming and choreography are employed to encourage student involvement, interaction and self expression. Interactive story telling in the classroom is one of the key components of HELLO ENGLISH. The HELLO ENGLISH programme assisted the teachers to impart knowledge, skills and attitudes that the teacher had imbibed during the training to the effective teaching learning to the effective teaching learning process in the classroom.

## **Objectives of the study**

- To analyze the programme design in terms of the intended objectives of the programme.
- To assess the quality of resources and materials used in training and to analyse different stages of the programmes.
- To assess the effectiveness of the programme in terms of realizing the objectives of the programme.
- To identify the challenges faced by the system and the stakeholders during different phases of the implementation of the programme.
- To suggest feasible recommendations for further improvement of the project HELLO ENGLISH.

## **Methodology**

### **Method**

Survey method was adopted for the study.

### **Sample of the study**

It has been decided to choose Lower Primary schools, Upper primary, Attached Lower Primary Schools and High Schools as samples for the study. The sample intends to have male as well as female teachers who handle classes from I to IV from government and aided schools. Two districts were randomly selected from each of the three regions namely south, middle and north: total 6 districts Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha, Idukki, Thrissur, Palakkad, Kasargode. Three BRCs were selected from each district. Twelve to fourteen schools were randomly selected from BRC by considering rural, urban and government/aided sector. A total of 36-42 schools in each district have come under the study.

### **Tools used for the study**

- Questionnaire for RPs and teachers
- Interview schedule for Headmaster
- Class Observation Schedule

### **Statistical Techniques employed**

- Percentage analysis
- Bar diagrams
- Pie-diagrams

## **Findings of the study**

- It is found that only 32% of teachers found attending the training programme worth their time.
- Only 39% of teachers were of the opinion that the pace of conducting activities and sessions in the training programme was excellent.
- The reading materials provided in the training programme was reported to be excellent by only 31% of the teachers.
- It is found that only 25% of teachers found the role play for speaking very much interesting .
- Only 44% of teachers found that conducting games as part of the training programme was extremely useful.
- Only 42% of teachers who have attended the training programme are of the view that different ways of storytelling were extremely useful.
- Only 18% of teachers could find Wordle, a vocabulary activity included in HELLO ENGLISH extremely useful.
- It is found that 28% of teachers found the session Reflection and planning is useful.
- The ability of learners to comprehend the story is 77%.
- 50% of the teachers are found to be good in overall classroom performance.
- It is found that 47% of learners plan supportive activities to be used at home by parents for enhancing learning of English and try to communicate it to the parents.
- It is found that only 47% of Headmasters had developed an action plan for conducting HELLO ENGLISH training programme in their school.
- It is found that most of the Headmasters (91%) expected a tremendous progress in the teaching learning processes in their institutions.

- It is found that to publicise and improve HELLO ENGLISH programme 77% of schools used the structures like SRG,PTA,CPTA,PEC effectively.
- It is found that majority of the headmasters (70%) made it sure that the materials and resources needed for the HELLO ENGLISH programme were at hand.
- It is seen that the documentation of the activities and students progress were properly carried out only by 60% of the headmasters.
- It is seen that the presence of trained teacher had influenced majority (81%) of the remaining teachers of the school.

### **Suggestions**

- New strategies for the process of writing, editing and the integration of ICT need to be included in the module of the HELLO ENGLISH Programme.
- Training to improve the communicative skills in English need to be provided.
- More guidelines to prepare teacher talk for different classroom situations are to be incorporated in the module.
- Need to provide opportunities for the parents to observe the teachers' classes.
- Sufficient fund is expected for the conduct of English Fest in connection with HELLO ENGLISH.
- Need more support from the part of the parents.
- Teachers need further empowerment in the content transaction