



**ALTERNATIVE APPROCHES TO LIVELIHOOD
ENHANCEMENT AMONG RURAL COMMUNITIES
VILLAGE GHATA, GURGAON, HARYANA**

**Annual Project Report
July 2009**



advit foundation

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1. BACKGROUND

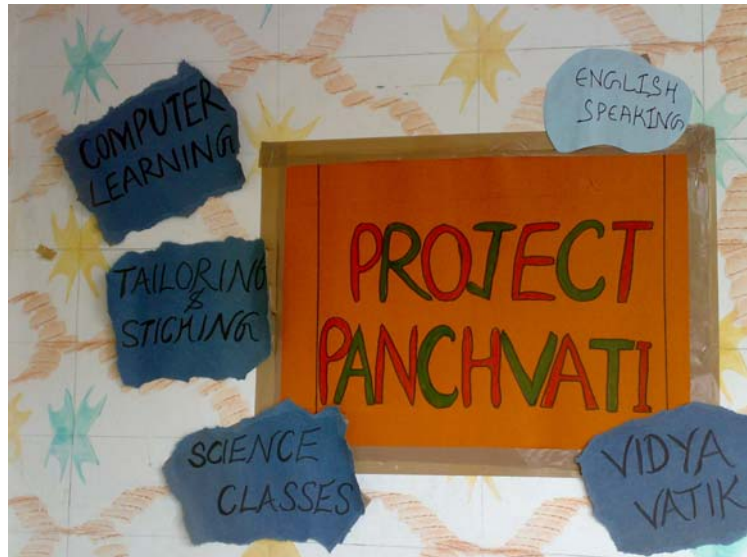
One Resource Centre in Gurgaon, Haryana, India focusing on addressing the educational, cultural, and personal needs of children and young people from rural communities. The programme's central strategy is fostering peer involvement.

Advit is providing a platform for learning – **Project PANCHVATI**.

The activities include:

- Computer learning
- English speaking
- Science concepts
- Tailoring
- *Vidya Vatika* - Learning place for the non school going children

There are more than 40 children coming to the Centre. Four regular teachers and a group of 4 volunteers spend time teaching at the Centre.



2. PROJECT UPDATE

Learning is Fun

One Resource Centre for learning located in village Ghata with 60 children and 4 teachers and 4 volunteers .



The library – A place to explore through books

In the morning is the informal school, *Vidya Vatika*, housing 40 underprivileged children whose parents are busy working for the upkeep of the neighbouring posh houses as maids, sweepers, small shop owners, construction workers. There is a streamlined curricula that is followed to teach. A library with workbooks and a number of educational tools have been developed and put together for learning. About 20 children aged 4-7 are taught the formal concepts of colour, shape, size, numbers, and are introduced to pre-writing and pre-math

concepts. There are activities designed to foster for the physical, intellectual, and creative growth of the children. In addition, children ages 8 to 12 are taught basic reading, writing, and numerical skills.

In the evening it houses more than 40 lesser privileged children who come to learn computers, english, science maths and stitching. Art and craft workshops are organised regularly. They are either dropouts or going to village schools.

The programme's central strategy is fostering peer involvement through volunteer teaching. Classes are held 6 days a week except Sundays. Market linkages are being sought for the tailoring unit and art and craft products. The



Paintings with natural colours

Resource Centre does not have running courses that will provide certificates or diplomas. Instead, the centre aims to expose the computer illiterate to the possibilities that open up when the computer is used as a tool of learning.

Creative Space

Giving the children a creative space is important to bring their imagination to life and to develop inspiration, wide ideals and an active imagination which may constantly lift the child to a higher and finer level. Children are naturally curious and creative. At the art and craft sessions children use waste material that can be recycled to make new products allows them to utilise their creativity and imagination to the fullest.

Activities

Computer training: Our goal is to provide children with a meaningful environment where they can learn computers through hands-on activities, experiences and interesting lessons. To accomplish this we intend to prepare Theoretical and Practical study material and software that could be disseminated for replicability.

Programmes for special needs children: At Advit Resource Centre we are exploring the option of creating similar opportunities for physically and challenged children.

Science Club: At the centre with volunteers we have set up a science club for the children availing the facilities of the Centre. This initiative is to provide these children experimental knowledge of science and know about how-to.

Workshops: Workshops are conducted on issues concerned to the underprivileged children and women empowerment.

Environment awareness Programme: Yet another initiative of Advit Resource which is in the pipeline and would be starting as pilot project first.

Advit Resource Centre has enabled the following.

- A small library
- Remedial and computer education for children and youth and installation of curriculum based software..
- Non-formal education
- Effective waste management and sensitization on cleanliness and personal and public hygiene.
- Training in English and Hindi to acquire reading skills
- Home Science classes in Cutting, Tailoring, Arts and Craft.
- Painting competitions
- Summer workshops in computer education, arts and craft, science concepts, English conversation etc.
- Exhibition cum sale of handcrafted items
- Programme for volunteers



Volunteers At Work – On Terrace of the Centre





Cricket Game In Progress
– Young volunteers and students
of Advit Centre

