



## Empowering Children Through Digital Literacy: The Continued Learning Access Project (CLAP)

### Introduction

The Society for All Round Development (SARD), with generous support from HP and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), has launched the CLAP (Continued Learning Access Project) vehicle to empower children in Uttarakhand with digital literacy. This mobile educational initiative is equipped with 120 Chromebooks, each pre-loaded with content that aligns with the students' curriculum and syllabus.

To enhance learning outcomes, each Chromebook comes with a unique ID for every beneficiary, enabling the tracking of students' performance. The vehicle is also fitted with a GPS system, ensuring it can be monitored from any location.

The CLAP initiative was introduced in Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand, following consultations with NCERT and the State Institute of Educational Management and Training (SIEMAT). The project was ceremoniously flagged off from Raj Bhawan, Uttarakhand, by the Honorable Governor, the Minister of Education of Uttarakhand, the Director of NCERT, and the CEO of SARD.

### Objective of the program:

- Provide a new platform for children to enhance learning and comprehension of their syllabus.
- Increase interest in innovative studying methods among students.
- Create a techno-friendly environment that keeps students technologically updated and engaged.

### Key highlights

During the intervention of one year, CLAP showcased in many events and programmes organised in Dehradun and other parts of Uttarakhand.

### About The Launch:

The launch of the Digital Education Vehicle at Raj Bhavan, Dehradun, was a momentous occasion graced by the Honorable Governor of Uttarakhand as the chief guest. Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat, Honorable Minister of Education, Government of Uttarakhand; Prof. Dinesh Prasad Saklani, Director NCERT; Mr. Deepak Bajaj from HP; and Sh. Ravinath Raman, Secretary Education, Government of Uttarakhand, also



attended as esteemed dignitaries. This pioneering initiative, supported by HP and the State Academic Resource Center (SARD) under the Department of School Education, Government of Uttarakhand, aims to revolutionize education delivery across the state.

The Digital Education Vehicle represents a collaborative effort to bring quality education to remote and underserved areas of Uttarakhand. Equipped with state-of-the-art technology and educational resources, the vehicle will enhance learning experiences for students by providing access to digital content aligned with the curriculum. The event highlighted the commitment of all stakeholders to bridging educational gaps and leveraging innovation to empower students and educators alike. This initiative sets a benchmark for educational advancement in Uttarakhand, promising a brighter future through inclusive and accessible learning opportunities.



### Participation In Tech Fair:

On the 26th of September 2023, a significant event unfolded at the premises of the Azim Premji Foundation, where the Tech Fair organized by SCERT Uttarakhand served as the backdrop for the debut of a pioneering educational initiative - the CLAP vehicle. Coordinators from the CLAP vehicle project took center stage, elucidating the vehicle's innovative features and its profound impact on student learning.



The Tech Fair, a hub of innovation and educational advancement, provided an ideal platform for educators, officials, and stakeholders to witness firsthand the transformative potential of the CLAP vehicle. Amidst a bustling atmosphere charged with enthusiasm and curiosity, the coordinators meticulously detailed how this mobile learning unit enhances educational experiences for students across Uttarakhand.



Participants at the Tech Fair eagerly engaged with the CLAP vehicle's features, which include state-of-the-art multimedia resources, interactive learning modules, and connectivity solutions tailored to meet the educational needs of diverse student groups. The vehicle's adaptability and accessibility were highlighted as key strengths, ensuring equitable access to quality education across remote and underserved areas of Uttarakhand.

The event culminated in accolades from SCERT Uttarakhand and stakeholders alike, recognizing the CLAP vehicle as a catalyst for educational innovation and inclusivity. The initiative exemplifies a collaborative effort between government bodies, educational institutions, and private foundations to empower students through technology-driven learning experiences.

As the first contribution of its kind on the educational landscape of Uttarakhand, the CLAP vehicle's debut at the Tech Fair marks a pivotal moment in the state's commitment to advancing educational excellence and equity. It sets a precedent for future initiatives aimed at harnessing technology to bridge educational gaps and nurture the next generation of learners.

### Launch At Pujara Village, Saklana:



In November 2023, the groundbreaking educational program, initially launched earlier that year, achieved another significant milestone with its successful implementation in Pujara village, situated in the Saklana area of Uttarakhand. Spearheaded by the Society For All Round Development (SARD), this initiative represents a pivotal step towards enhancing educational accessibility and quality in rural Uttarakhand.

The program's deployment in Pujara village marks a strategic expansion aimed at reaching underserved communities with innovative educational resources delivered through a pioneering mobile learning unit. This vehicle, equipped with state-of-the-art technology and educational materials, is designed to supplement traditional classroom instruction and empower students with digital literacy and interactive learning experiences.



Under the stewardship of SARD, the operational framework includes the appointment of a dedicated digital coordinator and a proficient driver. These individuals play integral roles in ensuring the seamless operation and effectiveness of the mobile learning unit within Pujara village and its surrounding areas. The digital coordinator oversees the educational content delivery and technical support, while the driver ensures timely and reliable transportation of the vehicle to designated locations.

The launch event in Pujara village was marked by a ceremonial inauguration attended by local dignitaries, educators, community leaders, and enthusiastic students. The event underscored the collaborative efforts between government agencies, educational institutions, and community stakeholders to foster educational equity and empowerment in remote regions.

The successful launch in Pujara village reflects a shared commitment to leveraging technology for educational advancement, bridging digital divides, and cultivating a conducive learning environment for all learners, regardless of geographical constraints.

### School-Level Games with Clap:

CLAP's initiative to support staff in organizing school-level games has been pivotal for student development through sports. It focuses on promoting physical fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Staff underwent workshops and training for effective game organization and operations of sports events. Collaboration with external sports organizations enriched student experiences. The initiative increased student participation, improved teamwork, discipline, and resilience, and empowered staff with leadership skills, fostering a strong school community.

### Trainings With Teachers:

In response to the challenges posed by home exams, our CLAP Coordinator implemented a program to support school staff as invigilators or relievers, ensuring fair and secure assessment processes in a remote learning environment. The primary objective was to uphold academic integrity while providing logistical support and maintaining flexibility for students. Staff underwent rigorous training on exam protocols and technological requirements, equipped to oversee exams and address any issues promptly. Robust monitoring mechanisms, including virtual proctoring tools, were employed to ensure the integrity of assessments and mitigate academic misconduct risks. This initiative not only provided a secure assessment environment but also fostered a supportive framework where students felt reassured by the presence of familiar school personnel. The program's success was evident in its adaptability to external challenges, enhancing staff professional development in remote exam

administration, and laying the groundwork for future improvements in technological integration and training. Moving forward, the school aims to refine its procedures based on feedback and evaluations, continually enhancing its ability to deliver equitable and credible assessments amidst evolving educational landscapes.



### Self Defence Training with the Students:

In response to the critical need for empowering girl students with essential self-defense skills, our CLAP Coordinator initiated a comprehensive Girl Child Self-Defense Program. The primary objective was to



equip female students with practical techniques and knowledge to protect themselves in various situations. The program involved extensive training sessions conducted by certified self-sessions, ensuring smooth coordination and participation. They assisted in organizing logistics, ensuring a safe learning environment, and encouraging active engagement among students. The program emphasized not only physical techniques but also mental and emotional empowerment,

fostering confidence and resilience among participants. Feedback from both students and staff highlighted the program's positive impact on enhancing self-esteem and personal safety awareness. Moving forward, the school aims to sustain and expand the program, integrating it into the regular curriculum to empower more female students with invaluable life skills that promote their safety and well-being.

### Orientation Workshop at with DIET Staff :

During the winter vacations, the Digital Coordinator visited the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) in Dehradun to conduct an orientation workshop on CLAP (Collaborative Learning through Active Participation). The workshop aimed to introduce educators to innovative teaching methods using digital tools. The visit began with an overview of



CLAP, emphasizing its role in enhancing student engagement and learning outcomes through interactive digital platforms. Practical demonstrations showcased how CLAP integrates technology into the classroom environment, fostering collaborative learning and active participation among students.

Participants actively engaged in discussions on integrating CLAP techniques into their teaching practices to make lessons more interactive and effective. They explored various digital



resources and tools available through CLAP, designed to cater to diverse learning styles and educational needs. The workshop concluded with a Q&A session where educators clarified doubts and discussed implementation strategies. Feedback from participants indicated a positive reception towards integrating CLAP into their teaching methodologies, highlighting the potential for improved learning experiences in classrooms across DIET Dehradun.

### **The Republic Day Celebration:**

The Republic Day celebration at Government Inter College (GIC) Pujargaon was a vibrant and memorable event, orchestrated by the dedicated efforts of our Digital Coordinator. The day commenced with a ceremonial flag hoisting, where students and staff gathered in patriotic fervor. Following this, various engaging activities were organized across different schools under the guidance of the Digital Coordinator.

At each school, students participated enthusiastically in a range of activities such as patriotic song competitions, cultural performances showcasing India's diversity, and quizzes testing their knowledge of national symbols and history. The Digital Coordinator played a pivotal role in coordinating these events seamlessly, leveraging technology to connect schools virtually and ensure inclusive participation.

### **Summer Camp in Collaboration with ART:**

During the summer camp organized by the ART, digital coordinator had the privilege of contributing to the facilitation of digital interventions aimed at providing a technologically friendly environment aligned with students' syllabus. The camp was designed to enrich students' learning experiences through innovative digital tools and resources.

SARD collaborated closely with ART organizers to integrate digital technologies into the camp curriculum. This included setting up interactive sessions where students engaged with educational apps, online resources, and digital learning platforms that complemented their academic syllabus. The digital coordinator ensured that the technological interventions were not only educational but also interactive and engaging, fostering a positive learning environment. Throughout the camp, the digital coordinator provided technical support and various educational activities. Feedback from participants highlighted the effectiveness of these interventions in enhancing comprehension and interest in subjects.

## Challenges Faced:

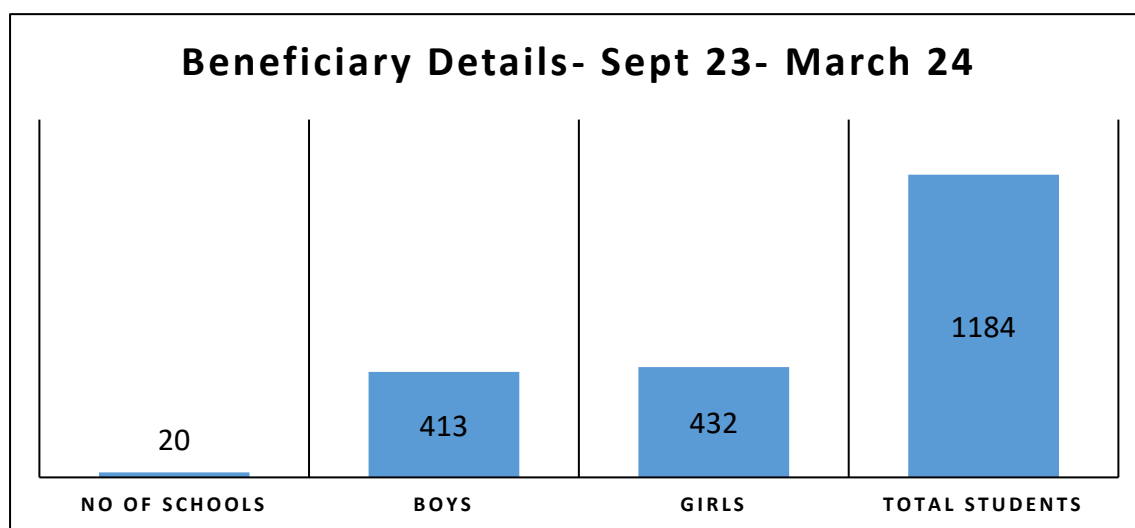
Initially, the CLAP vehicle covered 21 schools, reaching a total of 1,364 students. However, the per-child cost of operating the vehicle was quite high due to the relatively low number of students in each school. This issue was promptly addressed in discussions with SIEMAT and NCERT to find ways to optimize resources and enhance the program's cost-effectiveness.

The challenging conditions in the hilly regions of Uttarakhand further complicated matters, as they led to increased vehicle maintenance and higher fuel consumption. The reported strength of many schools was also lower than expected, contributing to the higher per-child cost. These factors were taken into consideration to improve the sustainability and efficiency of the CLAP initiative.

## Future Vision:

- SARD is planning to deploy the CLAP vehicle to selected blocks in Dehradun, in close consultation with the relevant department. As part of this initiative, teachers from the selected schools will undergo induction and orientation to effectively utilize the resources provided by the CLAP vehicle.
- A proper route plan will be developed in collaboration with SIEMAT and the department to ensure the vehicle reaches all targeted schools efficiently. This strategic planning aims to maximize the impact of the CLAP initiative and ensure that more students benefit from the digital literacy program.
- SARD is further in dialogue with a VR company so that we can think over to deploy VR also in CLAP.

## Beneficiary Details:



Sl. No.	School Name	Principal Name	Mob No.	Students Benefitted	School Strength
1	GIC Pujargaon	Anil Singh Bisht	8979175606	116	189
2	High Selwani	Madhvi Sharma	9997178715	90	90
3	G.I.C Maroda	Badoni ji	9412439974	167	263
4	Jr Hatwalgaon	Hema Rawat	9410197903	66	66
5	GIC Anandchowk	Mahendra Saklani	9412939816	126	183

6	RingalGarh	B. S. Rawat	9410584888	80	80
7	Primary Pujargaon	Shohni Aswal	9410728679	10	16
8	Primary Nawagaon	Pushpa Negi	9411393554	9	11
9	Primary Manjhgaon	Sudha Uniyal	9536385745	15	23
10	Primary Selwani	Mridala Badoni	9412312285	20	40
11	Primary Maroda	Nutan Chamoli	9997909889	25	39
12	Primary Lamkandey	Atar Singh Rana	8954182987	16	27
13	Primary Hatwalgaon	Satendra Singh	9720895863	39	54
14	Primary Mathiyangaon	Kavita Bahuguna	9557830214	15	20
15	Primary Rajchowk	Suresh Chandra Uniyal	9927069562	12	23
16	Primary Dadak	Rajesh Singh Bisht	9927101395	11	19
17	Primary Uniyalgaon	Kamlesh Thapa	8449954121	7	12
18	Jr Uniyalgaon	Reeta Pandey	9411575277	7	7
19	Primary Kalawan	Kushpal Singh Bhandari	8392867000	8	16
20	Jr Kalawan	Upendra Bahuguna	9012699572	6	6
			<b>Total</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>1184</b>

## Proposed School: in Fy 24-25

### Proposed Intervention: New Schools in Raipur Block, District Dehradun

We are proposing the establishment of new schools in the Raipur Block of District Dehradun. The proposed schools are as follows:

#### Primary Schools:

1. Primary Nanoorkheda
2. Primary Nalapani
3. Primary Sundarwala

#### Government Inter Colleges (GIC):

1. GIC Gujrada
2. GIC Saura Saruli
3. GIC Maldewta
4. GIC Nalapani
5. GIC Dwara

The final selection of new schools will be made in due consultation with the Education Department, Dehradun of Uttarakhand. This initiative aims to improve educational infrastructure and accessibility in the region.