

Title of the case study:

Education & IT Literacy Initiatives:

- Provide Quality Primary to Secondary School Education to underprivileged Children in Cyient Adopted Government Schools
- Developed National Digital Literacy Centres and Upgraded the NDLM's into CDCs with an aim to provide high-quality digital educational resources to underprivileged students and also digitally literate the community

Basic information:

- Location (specific site, if applicable): Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy & Medchal Districts of Telangana, Mysore, Noida, and Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh
- Brief background: In India most of the Primary to Secondary School Education is through Government Schools, the schools are lacking basic necessary infrastructure and Information and Communication Technology facility.

In reality quality education is not even within the reach of the underprivileged children. Even today, a large segment of students in the states, especially children from disadvantaged and the SC/ST community are struggling to get quality education through government schools and have not even been qualified with SSC to attain eligibility to secure jobs.

There is also a challenge in increasing new admissions and reducing dropouts in Government Schools. Most of the children from low socio-economic background discontinue education due to financial and social reasons and due to lack of basic amenities like sanitation and WASH facilities most of the Girl Child stop attending schools after attaining the age of puberty.

With this backdrop and keeping in view the objective of Cyient Foundation to achieve long-term, holistic development of the community by facilitating access to quality education, Cyient Foundation has started adopting various government schools to make government schools the preferred place to learn by providing various educational aids, ICT facilities, Qualified teaching staff, clean sanitation facilities for the girl child, mid-day meals and providing infrastructure support.

Cyient Foundation aims to improve the quality of education and reduce the drop-out rates by supporting education of underprivileged children through adopted schools. Adopting schools primarily for benefit of children belonging to economically weaker sections of society

Cyient Foundation had developed Cyient Digital Centres (CDC) in Adopted Schools, Community Centres and Village Panchayath offices with an aim to achieve IT Literacy / Digital Literacy in our community. Through CDC's we are providing access to digital literacy to more than 35000+ citizens living around the centres. We are Digitally Empowering Neighbourhoods

- Time period of the case study: The study is the academic Year 2023-2024 (for the FY2024)

Details of the case:

- What are the issues or challenges were faced?

Government Schools lack the basic facilities, Girl Child admission percentages are low due to poor / lack of sanitation facilities. The attendance and pass % of children is low due to lack of parental communication and teachers' interventions.

Infrastructure issues:

- Most of them do not have proper infrastructure like classrooms, black boards, drinking water, toilets, and sanitary facilities.
- The school environment is so suffocating that the students are dissuaded from attending the classes which is why the dropout rate is also high.
- Over 50% of the government schools in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh States do not have electricity or playgrounds.
- Lack of Computer labs, Science labs and libraries to strengthen quality education in higher secondary schools.
- The secondary and higher secondary level government schools do not have adequate capacities, so the net enrolment falls, especially girls, sharply beyond the primary level.

The challenge and major concerns related to the Girl Child in India is quality education and protection. With a number of families that fall below the poverty line, young girls and women become the unfortunate targets. As we can see the reluctance of the Girls in attending schools is a cause and symptom for the vulnerability of girls and the nativity factor.

Internal constraints refer to problems associated with the school system, content, curriculum, medium of instruction, pedagogy, academic supervision, monitoring, and teacher-related problems.

Poor quality of education:

- Several reports suggest that nearly 70% of students studying in government schools are ill-equipped to learn in the class they are admitted to.
- Poor teaching experience, High student-teacher ratio, inefficient learning methodologies, and poor infrastructure, thus driving parents away from government schools.

Teaching issues:

- India is also dealing with a scenario of significant teacher vacancies, which are to the tune of almost 60-70 per cent in some states.
- Teachers' professional development is a very weak area in government schools.

Lack of ICT Skills / Digital Skills:

- India is also dealing with digital divide and most of the adults in the rural and urban communities were not digitally literate. As a part of Digital India Mission, making the Indian communities are skilled with IT Literacy is a challenge.

- What was the approach taken to address these challenges?

Cyient having the background in designing systems and solving complex problems, through Cyient Foundation bring in several experiences and deploy technology-based solutions to make the existing education infrastructure more equitable, more effective.

Cyient had initiated School Adoption initiative with an objective is to develop a system that is conducive to learning. Our school adoption initiative was started in 2007-08 with 2 government schools with 850 children. Currently, Cyient Foundation supports 32 Schools with 20,941 children. The initiative is undertaken on continuous basis and support shall be extended on long-term basis.

Cyient Foundation with support from the CSR Volunteers and Implementation Partners conduct intense study on the gaps and issues. Adopt the Government Schools in and around Cyient Facilities and Cyient Adopted Villages.

Infrastructure Support:

- Built and provide additional infrastructure facilities like classrooms, black boards, drinking water, toilets, and sanitary facilities.
- Provide child friendly atmosphere by promoting greenery and open-air circulation and develop sports and games facilities to reduce the dropout rate.
- Restore the electricity and develop Computer labs, Science labs and libraries to strengthen quality education in higher secondary schools.
- Develop additional ICT (information communication technology) infrastructure and establish Cyient Digital Centres and Cyient Digital Libraries.
- Promote girl child enrolment by providing additional clean sanitation facilities and additional safety by building compound walls and stop the open defecation.

Quality of education:

- Provide necessary teaching aids, teaching materials and provide qualified supplementary teaching staff (Cyient Vidya Volunteers)
- Innovative teaching by using Digital Infrastructure (Cyient Digital Centres) and provide quality computer faculty.

Some of the key interventions in our adopted schools:

- 1.Developed necessary infrastructure including compound wall, classrooms, labs, and digital libraries and not only for satisfying teaching needs, but also for sports and co-curricular activities.
- 2.Facilities like clean sanitation, drinking water and electricity provided in all the schools. Built and Maintain Toilets and ensured separate sanitation facilities to Girl Child.
- 3.We provide Notebooks, Uniforms, School Bags and Examination Kits to all the students.
- 4.We also provide Nutritious Food Supplements to the children to prevent malnutrition in the children.
- 5.Our schools are having adequate ICT infrastructure, Internet connectivity and full-time computer teachers appointed by Cyient Foundation.
- 6.In our adopted schools, we maintain Teacher Pupil Ratio at 1:30 and the Classrooms Students Ratio at 1:40 by appointing Qualified Teaching staff called “Vidya Volunteers” and building additional classrooms.
- 7.Education provided in our schools are holistic and integral touching upon physical, emotional, and aesthetic development in addition to academics, through our Cyient CSR Volunteers interventions.

8.Special emphasis had given on teaching of Science, Maths and English. And providing bridge-courses for the weak students after school hours through “Vidya Volunteers and Cyient CSR Volunteers”

9.We had ensured the school curricula include the material/items that inculcate leadership qualities, team spirit, participation abilities, development of soft skills and ability to deal with real life situations through Volunteering Activities.

10.Physical Education and health check-up are introduced in our schools by conducting periodic Eye Check-ups, General Health Check-ups, and free consultations.

11.We had developed a state of art Digital Libraries for students and teachers, and the Digital Libraries are given access to community to conduct National Digital Literacy Mission courses L1 and L2 after schools ours (after 3:30 PM)

12.We had given additional emphasis on medium of instruction English including local language teaching & spoken English.

13.All our adopted schools had appropriate pace setting activities so that schools in the neighbourhood can benefit and provide employment in schools to the children parents as Watch & Ward, Security Staff or Aya/Attender.

14.Our Schools having innovative approach in using pedagogy, optimum utilization of Atal Tinkering Labs and our Cyient Digital Centres

- What was the benefit of the initiative?

Cyient involvement in making the adopted government schools a preferred place to learn, developed the adopted schools in to Model Schools by providing infrastructure and facilities of the same standards at par with Kendriya Vidyalayas / Corporate Schools and with stipulations on student -teacher ratio, ICT usage, holistic educational environment, appropriate curriculum and emphasis on output and outcome.

1.Developed necessary infrastructure including compound wall, classrooms, labs, and digital libraries and not only for satisfying teaching needs, but also for sports and co-curricular activities.

2.Facilities like clean sanitation, drinking water and electricity provided in all the schools. Built and Maintain Toilets and ensured separate sanitation facilities to Girl Child.

3.All the schools’ children are provided Notebooks, Uniforms, School Bags and Examination Kits.

4.Also provide Nutritious Food Supplements to the children to prevent malnutrition in the children.

5. Cyient Adopted schools are having adequate ICT infrastructure, Internet connectivity and full-time computer teachers appointed by Cyient Foundation.

6. Cyient adopted schools, having Teacher Pupil Ratio at 1:30 and the Classrooms Students Ratio at 1:40 by appointing Qualified Teaching staff called “Cyient Vidya Volunteers”.

7.Education provided in adopted schools are holistic and integral touching upon physical, emotional, and aesthetic development in addition to academics, through our Cyient CSR Volunteers interventions.

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Special focus on the Girl Child: Specially designed girl-child care, separate toilet for girls, one female teacher in each shift and special sensitization campaigns through Cyient volunteers have been put in place to encourage parents to send their daughters to school.

Cyient Foundation Activities to improve the new admissions and reduce the dropouts:

Cyient Associates volunteer to conduct various meetings with children, parents, and the local community in bringing awareness on education and its social impact for a child's future.

Volunteers conduct career guidance programs to show sustainable earning sources to the children after completing their SSC.

Provide nutritious food supplements and supply snacks to the children who attend the extra classes to keep them agile.

- Please indicate if there are any specific quantitative KPIs or measurable indicators that demonstrate the value created/ outcomes of the interventions.

Our Achievements: Impact Assessment "Girls Advocacy and Digital Empowerment Foundation"

Overall Dropout reduced to 4% in our adopted schools and Girl Child Dropout reduced to 3% in our adopted schools.

0% Open Defecation in the schools and 0% malnutrition in the schools.

Girl child literacy increased to 88% around the communities, 100% Utilization of Cyient Digital Centres and the Courseware.

75% of Parental communication in Children performance by periodic parent teacher communication.

Overall SSC pass has increased to 88.5%.

CYIENT

FOUNDATION

Cyient Foundation

Plot 11, 4th wing, Software Units
Layout, Infocity, Madhapur,

Hyderabad, Telangana – 500081

CSR Reg. No: **CSR00004617**

NGO DARPAN: **TS/2021/0287481**

When we adopted schools in AY08

*SSC Pass % was 33%

*Overall New Admissions were at 13%

* Overall, Girl Child enrolment was at 19%

In the last 5 years

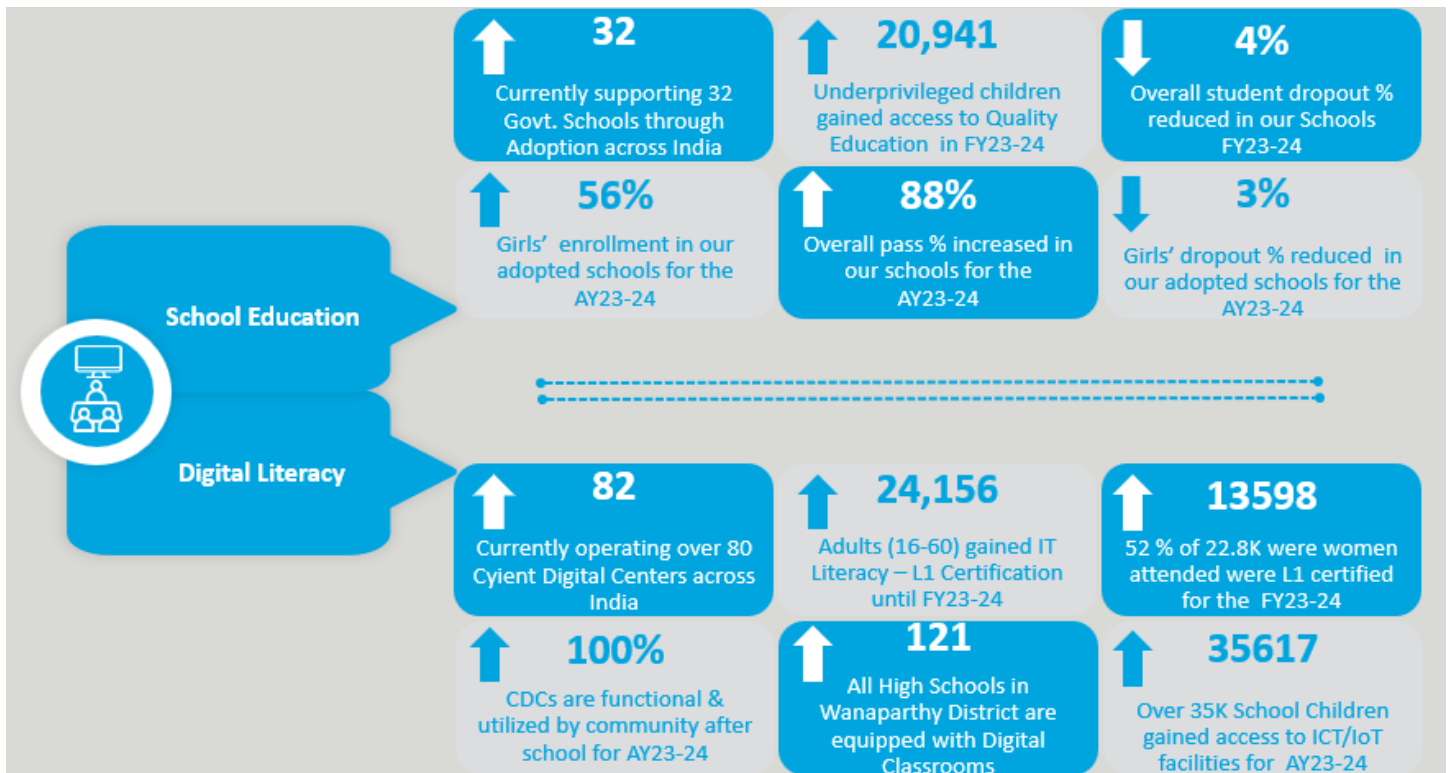
*Overall SSC Pass % has increased from 82% to 88.5%

* Overall New Admissions % has increased from 19.5% to 24.5%

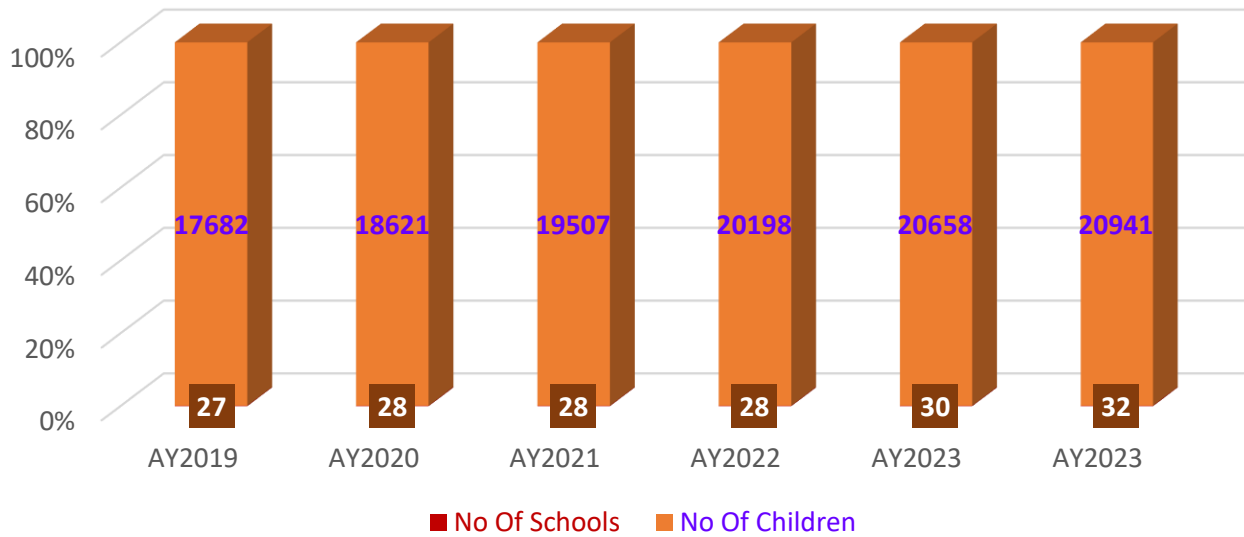
* Overall, Girl Child enrolment has increased from 52.0% to 56.6%

AY08 – Cyient Adopted 2 Schools with 850 Children

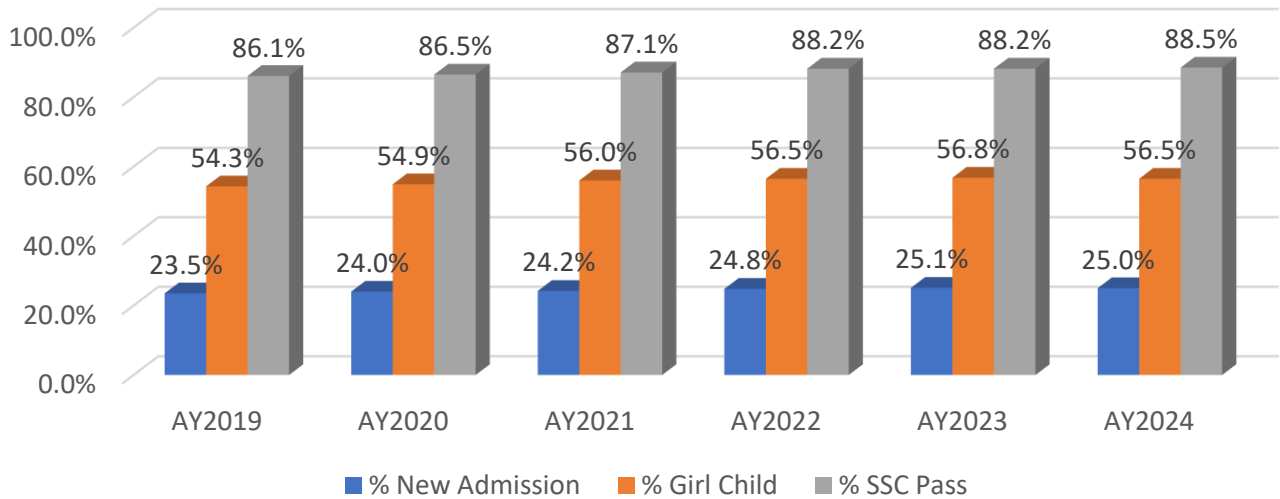
Currently Supporting 20941 Children in 32 Adopted Schools in and around our facilities located in PAN India.



Year on Year - Schools & Children Strength



Year on Year - Girl Child % and Pass %



Developed and operating 82 Cyient Digital Centers (CDC's)

- **Over 35000 community people including children were given access for IT Literacy**

We developed Cyient Digital Centers (CDC) in our Adopted Schools / community centers.

Our Involvement: Through CDC's we are providing access to digital literacy to more than 35000+ citizens and children living around the centers. We are Digitally Empowering Neighborhoods

Highlights:

- Currently Developed 82 Digital Centers and around 13598 Adults (Women) age from 16 to 60 years are used the facility in the current FY 2023-24.
- As on date over 24156 adults participated and certified L1 Program from our CDC's.
- School Children and their parents gained access to these CDC's which is unique in nature of learning.

Impact Assessment:

- Overall, 52% of Non-IT Literacy Adult women participating in IT literacy trainings.
- 81% of Adults / Students found IT education useful and helped them in using and accessing E-Governance of Govt. Of India / State
- All the CDCs are functional across the district with 100% of community utilization.

Business Processes:

- Appointed an Implementation Agency to conduct IT Literacy Trainings
- Using the National Digital Literacy Mission content in training L1 and L2 courses.
- Appointed qualified computer faculty to train the students and community.
- MIS for Attendance, Exams and Certification

Photographs:

- A picture depicting the benefits received / illustrative image of the activity/support provided.
- Note: No selfies, pictures at public places, etc. make sure the picture is professional keeping in mind the purpose of reporting

