

Continuing to share and learn: Pilot teachers instigate language club

Change does not always come spontaneously; it needs inspiration and motivation. English in Action (EIA) has generated enthusiasm among the teachers of Lalmonirhat, one of the most remote areas of EIA's implementation during the pilot phase.

This is the story of a group of teachers who, with inspiration from the EIA strapline 'Changing learning, changing lives', have ignited themselves to do something for their personal and professional development, as well as for their learners. After successfully completing the EIA pilot phase work, 16 English teachers from 12 different High schools have formed an 'English Language Club' with the aphorism 'Sharing learning and teaching'. According to one club member, "...from cluster meetings, now we know how important is to reflect on our work with our peers... in fact, through sharing our teaching experiences we can enrich ourselves as teachers and this will help our students, too." This peer support group meets every alternative Friday each month. In the club, the teachers are now engaged in different kinds of activities, such as practicing language games, discussing challenges and



successes, and so on. The Head Teacher of Collectorate Collegiate School supports the initiative and has encouraged the group to use a classroom in a school for the club. It is important to mention the person who first dreamt of the Language club and has continuously kept in touch with me to make it happen. He is Mr. Probir Kumar Biswas, Senior Teacher of Bangladesh Railway Govt. C P High School, Lalmonirhat, whose constant endeavor has inspired not only EIA teachers but also non-EIA English teachers to get together for this club.

I'm happy and very proud to be connected with this initiative and to be a part of a group of teachers who are motivated learners. Together, the members of this new

English Language Club are now dreaming of creating successful English classrooms in as many schools as they can in Lalmonirhat upazilla.

As EIA has finished the two-year implementation period of the pilot phase, the scaffolding has been done. It is now time to see how much of the concrete has been reshaped. Let's hope for the best! Let sharing, learning and classroom change continue to change lives.

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2012