

## Impact of Building as Learning Aid (BaLA) in the schools in the block

District: **Bahariya, Prayagraj**

State: **Uttar Pradesh**

### BACKGROUND / PROBLEM STATEMENT

The Bahariya block in Prayagraj district faced significant challenges in terms of school infrastructure, teaching resources, and foundational learning support. Poorly maintained classrooms, lack of modern tools, and limited teacher training opportunities negatively impacted the learning environment and outcomes. Recognizing the need for a comprehensive approach to improve educational infrastructure and pedagogy, the district administration partnered with private stakeholders and implemented a series of interventions under the Aspirational Districts and Blocks Programme.

### KEY INTERVENTIONS

1. Renovation of the UPS Karnaipur School building, including toilets, classrooms, and installation of Bala (Building as Learning Aid) painting, through PPP with Mosaic, Krishi Jyoti, and Sehgal Foundations.
2. ICT labs installed in 42 schools.
3. Teacher training and support for foundational learning.
4. Solar energy systems installed in schools to ensure reliable electricity.

### IMPACT

The interventions have significantly transformed the educational experience in Bahariya. Renovated classrooms now provide better lighting, ventilation, and seating, creating a conducive environment for learning. Teachers are more motivated and effective, while student attention and classroom engagement have improved. Enrollment has increased, driven by improved infrastructure and community trust. Bala paintings have further enhanced visual learning, promoted interactive engagement, and supported inclusive education by using multilingual and child-friendly visuals. The transformation has not only improved academic outcomes but also fostered a more welcoming and child-centric school climate.

### LESSONS LEARNT

The initiative underscored the importance of child-centered learning through active participation, play, and creativity. Bala techniques proved particularly effective in encouraging exploration and discovery. Teacher capacity-building was essential—educators trained in using Bala materials and creative pedagogy showed improved teaching outcomes. Community engagement also played a vital role in sustaining infrastructure improvements, while ongoing monitoring and feedback mechanisms ensured continuous progress in learning outcomes and student well-being.

