

ASSAM

The M.V.Foundation started working in 9 blocks in 9 districts of Assam in 2002 by providing technical support to the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan of the Government of Assam. The resource persons helped in setting up bridge course camps in each of these blocks. Children were identified and mobilized for the residential bridge course camps, teachers were trained and systems such as review for teachers and children, meetings with parents, involving the local community in the running of the bridge course camps were introduced.

The programme now is being taken up by the CRPF in Dhubri, Moregaon, and Karbi Amlong districts. Surveys of children attending schools and out of school children have been conducted in all these areas through local youth volunteers. They are following up with children studying in the RBC run under the SSA, ensuring that children do not drop out of schools, and have organized school level meetings of the Village Education Committees. Contacts have been established with the All Assam Bodo Students Union and they are being oriented to take up child rights as their core agenda.

The lack of a cohesive policy for social mobilization to bring out of school children into schools, lack of physical infrastructures and even school teachers and bridging the gap between the RBCs and the schools under the SSA continue to pose a challenge.