## COMPUTER LITERACY PROGRAM

 Progress Through Innovation

COMPUTER LITERACY PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED

## Computer Literacy Program

Project Location of CLP \& SCR
Parenthesis indicates number of CLC \& SCR in each Districts
(Number)-Number of CLCs in District
$\uparrow$ (Number)-Number of SCRs in District
圆 (Number)—Number of Associated Centers in District

INDIA (West Bengal)

> BAY OF BENGAL

Total Number of CLC- 258
Total Number of SCR- 155
Associated CLC- 97


# Computer Literacy Trogvam for the Underpmievieged Qrogress through innovation 

Computer Literacy Program for the Underprivileged (CLP) started in 2004 with a mission to empower the underprivileged students in rural Bangladesh through computer literacy. The focus was on bridging the "digital divide" that exists between an underprivileged student in rural Bangladesh and a student from an affluent family in the nation's capital, not to mention with a student from a developed country. Making computers and basic training in computer usage available were identified as the key first steps towards that end. The program started establisfing Computer Literacy Centers (CLCS) equipped with computer hardware, software, and peripherals and run by teachers who were given proper training and instructional materials. The program certainly has come a long way with now some 350 functional Computer Literacy Centers (CLCS) in rural Bangladesh with more than 90,000 computer literate graduates getting into institutions of higher education or work force.


Innovation and adaptation have played key roles in CLPP progress. Access to the Internet as soon as it became available in the CLC locality was made a priority so that the center can be digitally connected to the wide world of information and knowledge. Computer Teaches Everyday Engfish was added in 2009 from the realization that working proficiency in English is key to communication in these days of globalization. Next innovation was the Smart Class Rooms (SCRs) initiative aimed at introducing the underprivileged students in Bangladesh to the revofution in education and mode of instruction brought about by recent advances in computers, as welf as, in information and communication technologies. To start with, in a SCR students are Cearning Science, English, Geometry and Geography using Locally prepared CDs that combine sight, sound and animation projected on a large screen monitor. SCR program started under a Private Public Partnership (PPP) Initiative of Bangladesh Government, and subsequently received support from the British Council in Dhaka. Today there are 155 SCRs operational in 43 districts and over a hundred thousand students got opportunity to enhance their learning experiences attending SCRs. It is heartening to note that the CLC and SCR models inspired simiFar undertakings by the Government.

The progress to date has 6een made possible by individual donors like you; center sponsors; organizations such as, Bank,Asia, British Council in Dhaka, Standard Chartered Bank, philanthropic organizations, such as, Imdad-Sitara Khan Famify Foundation, $\mathcal{N A B I C , ~ S p a n d a n ~ B ; ~ a n d ~ p h i l a n t h r o p i s t s , ~ s u c h ~ a s , ~ I f t e 反 h a r ~ \mathcal { H o s s a i n , ~ }}$ Mufit Rafman and others.

More recent developments, such as, Digital Bangladesh, Multi-media class rooms and other initiatives of the Government bring new opportunities and challenges. CLPP contributed to these developments through pioneering computer literacy training, developing and implementing the SCR concept, as well as, training 588 CLC teachers and 616 SCR teachers. Over the years the cost for basic computer literacy training for a student has gone down and stands at ~\$6 now. We lookforward to help bring our education system to the digital age through developing and adapting new contents for SCRs, assisting teachers prepare for teaching relatively 'difficult subjects', and making the learning experience more interesting, interactive, enjoyable and effective for students. We like to dream of a digitally connected, productive and prosperous Bangladesh. Come, dream with us.

From virtual to real, through computers to prosperity, we will empower the underprivileged youths of Bangladesh to enter the realm of hope by crossing the digital divide

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## Tonight k keynote speaker

Iq6al Z. Quadir is the founder of Grameenphone and Gonofone. He is also the founder And current Emeritus director of the Lagatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the founding co-editor of Innovations: Technology, Governnace, Globalization, a journal published by MIT Press. He is also a former fellow and lecturer of John F. Kennedy School at Harvard University.

Quadir was 6orn in Narail, Jessore, Bangladesh. He moved to the United States in 1976 and Cater became a naturalized V.S. citizen. He passed his Secondary School Certificate from Jhenidah Cadet College, Bangladesf. He received a B.S. with honors from Swarthmore Colfege (1981), an M. A.
(1983) and an M.B. .A. (1987) from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsy(vania.

Quadir served as a consultant to the World Bank in Wasfington, D.C., (1983-1985), an associate at Coopers of Lybrand (1987-1989), an associate of Security Pacific Merchant Bank (1989-1991), vice president of Atrium Capital Corporation (1991-1993), and founded Grmeenphone in Bangladesh during 1993-1999. He served in the management and on the Board of Grameenphone during 1996-1999.

Quadir's vision, which was deemed radical at the time, was to create universal access to telephone service in Bangladesh and to increase self-employment opportunities for its rural poor. In 1993, Quadir started a New York-based company named Gonofone (Bengali for "phones for the masses"), which Cater became the Caunch-pad for Grameenphone. Currently the Cargest telephone company in Bangladesh with over fifty milfion subscribers, Grameenphone provides telephone access to more than 100 milfion rural people fiving in 60,000 villages and generates revenues close to $\$ 1$ bilfion annually. With infrastructure investments of more than $\$ 1$ bilfion, Grameenphone is providing ceffular coverage throughout Bangladesh.

Quadir's vision of a Carge-scale commercial project led him to organize a global consortium involving Telnor, $\mathcal{N}$ Norway's leading telecommunications company; an affiliate of micro-credit pioneer Grameen Bank in Bangladesh (winner of the $2006 \mathcal{N}$ Nobel Peace Prize); Marubeni Corp. in Japan; Asian Development Bank in the Philippines; Commonwealth Development Corp. in the United Kingdom; and International Finance Corp. and Gonofone in the United States. He attracted these investors by complementing his vision of connecting all of Bangladesh with a practical distribution scheme where6y village entrepreneurs, backed by micro-loans, could retail telephone services to their surrounding communities. In fact, Quadir coined the phrase 'connectivity is productivity' to explain the unique impact of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs), particularly mobile telephones, in improving economic efficiency.

Grameenpfone's success has been Cauded as a model for a novel approach to improving economic opportunity and connectivity and empowering citizens in poor countries, through profitable investments in technology. According to Economist Jeffery Sachs Grameenphone 'opened the world's eyes to expanding the use of modern tefecommunications technologies in the world's poorest places.'

From 2001-2005, Quadir served as a fellow at the Harvard's Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, and at the Center for Business Innovation at Cap Gemini Ernst \& Young (now Capgimini). As a lecturer, he taught graduate-level courses on the effects of technology in developing countries at the John F. Kennedy School at Harvard University. Quadir subsequently moved to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where in 2007 he founded the Lagatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship.

Wharton Alumni Magazine selected Quadir for its list of 125 Influential People and Ideas. In 2011, he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Swarthmore College and the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from Case Western Reserve University. The 2007 book If You Can Hear Me $\mathcal{N o w : ~ H o w ~ M i c r o l o a n s ~ a n d ~ C e l l ~ P h o n e s ~ a r e ~}$ Connecting the Worlds Poor to the Global Economy by Nicholas P. Sullivan showcases Quadir's innovative work in Bangladesh. The BoP Global $\mathcal{N e}$ twork and the University of Vermont's School of Business Administration presented the inaugural 2015 Base of the Pyramid Lifetime Achievement Award to Iq6al Quadir in recognition of his far-reaching insights and his persistent efforts to put ideas into action and to help others pursue similar goals.

## Tonight ts panelists



In 2013, $\mathcal{N}$ afis Jamal sold his company MoPu6 to Twitter. He served as CTO and VP
 acquired by Google. From Stanford, he has received B.S. in EE and physics, an M.S. in $\mathcal{E E}$ and stepped out of his $\mathcal{P h} . \mathcal{D}$. in $\mathcal{E E}$ to pursue his career. He is now based in $\mathcal{N} \gamma C$ but plans to return to the Bay Area in a few years.

$\mathcal{N a y e e m} \mathcal{H}$ ussain is a natural leader and entrepreneur with a decade of industry experience. He has spent his career focusing on capital raising, corporate development/strategy, and financial analysis first at Prudential Financial and then at Loral Space \&L Communications. Nayeem brings his skill set and a strong passion for tech as the CEO of his current venture, Keen Home. At Keen $\mathcal{H o m e}$, $\mathcal{N a y e e m ~ d i r e c t s ~ f i r m - w i d e ~ v i s i o n , ~ 6 u s i n e s s ~ d e v e l o p m e n t , ~ s t r a t e g i c ~}$ partnerships, capital raising, and investor relations.
$\mathcal{N a y e e m}$ has entrepreneurial experience as the founder of $\mathcal{N} \mathcal{Z} \mathcal{N}$ Investments $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{L} C$, a real estate investment holding company focused on acquiring and renovating distressed properties. $\mathcal{N a y e e m}$ is also a Program Leader and Fellow of the Startup Leadership Program, a selective global training program and lifetime network for outstanding founders and innovators.
$\mathcal{A n}$ avid sportsman, traveler and investor, $\mathcal{N a y e e m}$ relishes a challenge and is fueled by fis curiosity.
$\mathcal{N a y e e m}$ holds a B.S. in Finance and Economics from the Pennsylvania State University and an MBA from the $\mathcal{N}$ ew York University Stern School of Business, where he was a class leader.

## Smart Class Rooms Take Off

## Swapan Kumar Gayen and Ananya Raihan

## In the beginning

Since 2004, Computer Literacy Program for the Underprivileged (CLP) has been establishing CLCs predominantly in rural educational institutions in Bangladesh with a mission to empower the underprivileged students through computer literacy as well as information and communication technology (ICT)-aided education [1].Five years ago CLP and Dnet embarked on a pilot program to establish 100 Smart Class Rooms (SCRs) and 100 Computer Literacy Centers (CLCs) over three years in rural secondary schools under a Private Public Partnership (PPP) Initiative of the Government of Bangladesh [2]. The goal of CLP’s SCR initiative was to introduce the underprivileged students in Bangladesh to the revolution in education and mode of instruction that has been set in motion by recent advances in computers, as well as, in information and communication technologies (ICT). The ICT-mediated revolution that is transforming the educational landscape worldwide has two salient features. First, democratization of education - making information, books, and other educational contents accessible in any remote corner of the globe that is digitally connected. Second, a paradigm shift in instruction and learning from listening to lectures to multi-media presentations that combine computers and voice, pictures, animation, music, words, video, simulation and databases enabling students to comprehend contents and concepts better than listening alone.

## SCR concept and implementation

Transition from traditional to the ICT-based instruction and learning requires three key elements: infrastructure and hardware, content, and trained teachers. In the context of rural Bangladesh, the SCR initiative addressed these requirements with the limited resources available from the PPP support matched by contributions from sponsors. Majority of the PPP-supported SCRs were established in secondary schools with existing CLCs so that the computer-related resources of the CLCs could be leveraged. In schools without CLCs, both CLC and SCR were established concurrently. Every SCR started with a 32-inch or larger LCD monitor/TV with dedicated power supply and back-up solar power, a set of four educational CDs for contents, and a
 laptop computer. As trained teachers are key to the success of any educational undertaking, four teachers from every school with a SCR received detailed training conducted by Dnet in Dhaka. In the initial phase of development, lessons in a SCR focused on four subjects: General Science, Geometry, English, and Geography. The contents are available on above-mentioned educational CDs prepared by local experts to ensure students' familiarity with linguistic and cultural underpinnings where relevant. The CDs bring together sight, sound, and animation to be played on the laptop and projected on the widescreen monitor giving the students an exposure to multimedia learning. With time, some enthusiasts among teachers started developing their own content. Some efforts went into downloading selected contents from the Internet and translating those into Bengali for classroom use. Together, the instructional materials made available for SCRs not only enable quality class room education for the student, but also serve as useful training tools for teachers. In a much smaller scale, the contents component of SCR initiative may be viewed as complementary to that of the
celebrated Khan Academy [3] which provides web-based contents that an individual can use for self tutoring, while SCR contents are for class room use. However, this distinction is tenuous at best, because the contents available from Khan Academy may be adapted by proficient teachers for class room instructions as well.

The PPP Initiative culminated in the establishment of 30 SCRs in 2011, 30 in 2012 and 40 in 2013. Subsequently, British Council in Dhaka sponsored 50 SCRs and individual donors sponsored another 5 SCRs. These 155 SCRs are spread over 43 districts of Bangladesh. To date, 92 female and 528 male teachers have been trained and over 100,000 students took advantage of the program.

## A step towards assessment

The SCR Initiative enjoyed favorable reception as soon as it was launched. Schools with large student population asked for more SCRs, there were consistent requests for more contents, in some cases school administration came up with maintenance funds; all of which are indications that the community found SCRs valuable. As the SCR Initiative completes five years and 155 SCRs are operational, the need for a more quantitative assessment of the efficacy of the project and how it is perceived by students, teachers, school administration, and parents or guardians was felt. Dnet took a first step towards that assessment by conducting a survey [4] of SCR teachers. What follows next is an overview of the key results of that survey.

For the assessment survey, Dnet conducted a telephone interview of 139 teachers randomly selected from 155 SCRs. These teachers are among the 620 that received training for and are involved in SCR instructions. A questionnaire consisting of 13 questions regarding the operation and maintenance of SCRs; opinion of students, teachers, school administration and parents towards multi-media instruction; support from the headmaster and the school management; as well as, questions about what more is needed (e.g., instructional materials, establishment of more SCRs) was drawn out. Teachers responded to the set of questions and made recommendations. Key survey results are summarized in the Table 1, and some general observations are outlined below.

Table 1. Summary of the SCR assessment survey

| Question | Response (\%) |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes | No | Some |
| Do you use the SCR on a regular basis? | 71 | 6 | 23 |
| Are you confident in keeping SCR equipment functional? | 78 | 2 | 20 |
| Is there interest in establishing additional SCRs among school <br> administration? | 83 | 2 | 15 |
| Does the school administration provide financial support for <br> maintenance/repair of SCR equipment? | 62 | 16 | 22 |
| Is there interest in instruction using multi-media content in a SCR among |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ Students? | 96 | 1 | 3 |
| Teachers? | 71 | 6 | 23 |
| Parents/ Guardians? | 56 | 4 | 40 |
| School administration? | 86 | 1 | 13 |
| Is there a need for more multi-media content in SCRs? | 94 | 0 | 6 |

The teachers seem to make wide use of SCR and associated multi-media contents in their classroom instruction, with $71 \%$ using regularly and $23 \%$ some of the times. The $6 \%$ that never use the resources cite lack of time and preparation for not doing so. The teachers are in general confident in their abilities to
maintain and operate the SCR equipment, and to support new SCRs in their institutions. Equipment in SCRs seem to be operating well, only 41 teachers out of 139 mentioning minor problems with battery (17), solar-power operation (13), laptop (5), LCD monitor (3) and HDMI cable (3). It is to be mentioned that there is a dedicated team at Dnet who takes care of both hardware and software related glitches promptly. The survey indicates that interest in SCR and multi-media instruction is highest among students (96\%), followed by headmasters and school management (86\%), teachers (71\%) and guardians (56\%). However, when it comes to providing funds for repairing or replacing a piece of equipment that is not functioning properly, the interest of school administration drops, with $62 \%$ being supportive, $22 \%$ supportive some of the times, and $16 \%$ never supporting. Paucity of resources is given as a reason for not coming up with repair and/or replacement cost. This finding indicates that there is a need to work closely with the school administration about the importance of proper maintenance. The teachers were almost unanimous (94\%) about the need for more multi-media content for their SCRs. Some teachers stressed the need for contents for every subject in the school curriculum, and some mentioned developing instructional materials on their own for use in their SCRs.

While a more comprehensive study of the efficacy, current limitations, and future possibilities of the SCRs will be needed, this preliminary effort provides a window into how the SCRs are starting to induce a paradigm shift in the mode of instruction and learning in rural Bangladesh.

## Making marks

It is heartening to look back at the evolution from computer literacy training to smart class rooms and the associated developments that have taken place in the country. When the Computer Literacy Program was initiated in 2004, the focus was on making computers and computer literacy training available to underprivileged students. To that end CLCs were established mostly in educational institutions and in some community organizations. Each CLC was equipped with at least four working computers, a printer, and ancillary equipment, and software. Two teachers from every school were trained and provided with a teachers manual, a curriculum to follow, and instructional materials (which later culminated into an attractive manual "Esho Computer Sikhi"). This integrated model and self-contained strategy proved effective, compared with the performance of the 'one school one computer' model prevailing at that time. Subsequently Bangladesh Computer Council introduced CLP comparable program in more than 5,000 schools in 2010. There were other initiatives that followed the CLP approach.

## Changing landscape

The 'Digital Bangladesh' initiative launched by the government in 2009, was a watershed in taking the country to the digital age. A number of steps taken by the government facilitated penetration of computers in public and educational institutions. Another noteworthy plan of the government is to introduce "multimedia class room" in more than 27,000 secondary schools. Advances in mobile phone (including smart phone) technology and tablet PC have made some aspects of learning how to use computer more intuitive. The need for effective multi-media contents was felt even at the inception of SCRs, and was further reiterated by the above-mentioned survey. These developments and needs present new opportunities and challenges. Designing innovative approaches will be necessary to ensure progress.

## Looking ahead

In the area of contents, there are quite a few opportunities that one can tap into. Teacher-generated materials would be an excellent source for contents. CLP volunteers discussed the possibility of a webbased depository along the line of Wikipedia for making the contents available, where those may be reviewed by the wider community and become useful resources. The Khan Academy website mentions availability of tutorials in Bengali, which may be adapted for use in the SCRs. A US charitable organization Agami (www.agami.org) has launched a program to translate Khan Academy content into Bengali. There are wonderful online classes and courses available in English from renowned universities, such as, MIT, Harvard, Stanford and others. One would expect that some intellectually curious and
adventurous students will use the digital connection in their SCRs and CLCs to avail themselves of those resources.

One envisions two immediate next steps in the development of the SCR initiative; first, helping teachers be well-prepared for classroom teaching, in particular when teaching relatively 'difficult subjects;' and second, making the learning experience more interesting enjoyable and effective for students. A first step in teacher preparation would be to adapt current best practices in effective teaching overall, and those for specific "difficult subjects" and make those accessible to teachers. In the area of teaching and learning through engagement and entertainment, an initial step will be to show a pre-selected engaging video on a topic in science (such as, An Inconvenient Truth (a documentary on global warming), Particle Fever (a documentary on the discovery of Higg's Boson), history (such as, episodes from Foundations of Eastern Civilization), literature (such as, Apu Triolgy by Satyajit Roy) followed by a teacher-moderated lively discussion. The merits of the effort include: providing an engaging and entraining learning environment; fostering listening and comprehension skills; imparting knowledge and building awareness through entertainment; and sharpening communication skills through participatory discussions. Gamification of learning that attempts to capture a learner's interest and motivates the learner to continue learning as the elements of an engaging game does may be the next approach to adapt.

It should be noted that both CLC and SCR started as "proof of principle demonstration" on the part of CLP and Dnet. The models, in some form or other, were eventually adopted for wider use. Such making progress through innovation will continue to be CLP's working philosophy. To sum up, what started out as "a small step" for CLP and Dnet may turn out to be a "giant leap" towards digital education in Bangladesh!

## References

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5. Karl Kapp, Lucas Blair, and Rich Mesch, The Gamification of Learning and Instruction: Game-based Methods and Strategies for Training and Education. John Wiley \& Sons (2012).

Dr. Swapan Kumar Gayen is a CLP volunteer and a professor of Physics at the City College of the City University of New York. Dr. Ananya Raihan is the CEO of Dnet .


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Some of the CLCs established in 2005-2014 need computer replacements.

Your pledge of $\$ 300$ and our match of an additional \$100+ will enable us to replace a computer in your name.


## Pace of Technical Advancement over Time



## Computer Literacy is Critical for Success in Information Age

Computer literacy is defined as the knowledge and ability to utilize computers and related technology efficiently, and understanding how computers work and operate.

- Computer literacy is considered to be a very important skill to possess
$\checkmark$ Employers want their workers to have basic computer skills
$\checkmark$ Workers who are computer illiterate may be frozen out of the job market
- There is a divide between digital haves and have-nots



## Computer Literacy \& Broadband Access Enables Business Velocity



## Education Leads to Faster GDP Growth

Large Population supported by good Education translates to faster GDP Growth


## Khan Academy - Promoting Online Education

- A non-profit established in 2006 by Salman Khan
- 10 million users per month
- 33000 lectures with 464+ million views
- Salman Khan named as a Presidential Ambassador for Global Entrepreneurship (PAGE) by president Obama in 2014
- Classes accessible in Bangladesh on Physics, Chemistry and Biology.


## Mobility Enabled Computer Literacy



## New Convergence

## Mobilize Everything \& Maximize Productivity



## Network Traffic Enablers

Powerful Mobile Computing Devices

Fast, Ubiquitous Wireless/Wireline IP Networks

Cloud Infrastructures



## Mobile Device Evolution Driving Data Growth

Legacy Mobile Devices

- Phone Calls
- Email
- Limited Web Browsing

Today's Mobile Devices

- Complex Applications
- Streaming Video
- Extension of Office PC
- Smartphones, Branded Computing Devices, and Emerging Devices

Telecoms are experiencing unprecedented mobile Internet growth ..
50,000\% increase in mobile data traffic on AT\&T's national wireless network from Jan. 2007 through Dec. 2013


## Bangladesh: Strong Growth in Mobile \& Wireline Broadband Subscribers



Internet Subcriber Trend


## We Have a Critical Role to Play

## Our Opportunity:

Accelerate growth \& improve quality of life through computer literacy.

## Our Challenge:

Mobilize resources and extend education opportunities to under-served \& remote areas.

## The Upshot:

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# My Visit to Computer Literacy Center at Shanuhar 

Mohammad Farooque

I had the opportunity to visit the Computer Literacy Center (CLC) at Shanuhar, a small village in the district of Barisal. Recently, I have been visiting Bangladesh during the year-end holiday season. During my last visit in December 2014 through January 2015, I stayed in the city of Barisal for a few weeks to spend time with my mother. Shanuhar Village is approximately an hour and a half by car from Barisal. So, I could easily fit a visit to the Shanuhar CLC in my schedule, even though the law and order situation and sporadic incidence of violence was not ideal for travel.

The CLC is located in Shanuhar Madhyamik School, Shanuhar, Ujirpur, Barisal. Dr. Sirajul Huq, a nephrologist from central New Jersey and his wife Sajida Huq sponsored the CLC and it was established in February, 2007. Even though Dr. Huq settled down in the United States over half a century ago, he fondly remembers his memories of growing up in Shanuhar. The school started as a primary school in the 1920s and was upgraded to a high school by Dr. Huq's father late Alhaj Meseruddin, who himself was a school teacher. Dr. Huq wanted help local underprivileged youth to be computer literate and get connected to the modern learning tool. This CLC and other financial support that the Huqs have been providing to the school are telling reflections of their love and caring for the place and presents an excellent example of how expatriates can help the land they sprang from. The day I visited Shanuhar CLC, the school was closed for December holidays. I was fortunate to meet the Computer Teacher, Headmaster, a few guardians and some students from nearby homes. A photograph of a section of the school with some of the people I met is shown here. Everyone I talked with expressed their deepest gratitude to the sponsor as well as the Computer Literacy Program (CLP) for providing them with access to a modern education technology. They proudly pointed out to me that when the Shanuhar CLC was
 established in 2007 the well-known BM College in Barisal just had one computer and Barisal Zilla School had none!

The Shanuhar CLC has produced $\sim 600$ computer literacy graduates to date. Per the present Bangladesh Secondary School Curriculum, computer learning in Grades Seven and Eight are compulsory. Mr. Asim Kumar Ojha, the primary computer teacher was trained by CLP. He told me that the Shanuhar computer lab is now used for holding the mandated computer classes delivering both theoretical and hands-on training. A photograph of the computer teacher with two of the four computers is shown here. Mr. Ojha also told me that the familiarity with computers among the general students from
 around areas experienced a positive change. When the CLC was first started, it was considered a wonder object and students would come just to observe it. Now, some of his students even have computers at home. This is probably a reflection of the overall progress in Bangladesh in narrowing the 'digital-divide' between the youth from the cities and their peers in the villages. I was very happy to find out that Mr. Ojha sometimes uses these privileged students who have computers at home and are already knowledgeable in the technology to teach his peers in his class. A CLP pilot program in 2014 has revealed that peer-to-peer teaching is more effective than the formal classroom teaching by a computer teacher.

The Shanuhar CLC started with four preowned desktop computers in 2007. Since then the sponsor donated another desktop through CLP and the Bangladesh Government added one laptop and a projector. The laptop is permanently placed in the Headmaster's office for use by teachers, as well as, for official communication with the School Board, Education Department and other administrative activities. One of the four starter computers was reported to me to be malfunctioning and beyond repair. The computer lab needed another computer to maintain expected operations. When I shared my findings with the sponsor, he gladly pledged funds for a replacement. I mentioned before, the Shanuhar computer lab also has a projector furnished by the Bangladesh Government. The projector is used for delivering some class lessons using the CLC computers. The CLP program has recommended to the sponsor that to maximize the benefits of this modern concept of multimedia education, he may consider establishing a Smart Class Room (SCR) developed by CLP and operational in many CLCs.

I found the progress made by the Shanuhar CLC heartwarming, more so from the expectation that this was not an isolated story, but a typical example of how the CLCs that the Computer Literacy Program has established may be helping change the educational landscape in rural Bangladesh.

Dr. Mohammad Farooque is the President of CLP and a chemical engineer who recently retired from his position as the Senior Vice President /Discipline Fellow of the FuelCell Energy, Inc. in Danbury, Connecticut.

Established CLCs and SCRs and sponsors (as of July 2015)

| SL | Center Name | District | Start Date | CLC/SCR | Sponsor |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Hazi Kashem Ali Degree College | Sadar, Mymensingh | Mar '05 | CLC | Mr. Nasim Ali, Princeton, NJ |
|  | Hazi Kashem Ali Mohila College | Mutkagacha, Mymensingh | Mar '05 | CLC | Mr. Nasim Ali, Princeton, NJ |
|  | Bagerhat ML Collgiate School | Amlapara, Bagerhat | Apr '05 | CLC \& SCR | Ms. Lubna Kabir, Bridgewater, NJ |
|  | Mukul Niketon High School | Sadar, Mymensingh | Mar ${ }^{\text {O5 }}$ | CLC \& SCR | Dr. Zaki Hossain, Long Island, NY |
|  | Uddipon Bador-Samsu Bidda Niketon | Baitpur, Bagerhat | Apr '05 | CLC \& SCR | Ms. Shamsun Nahar, Marlboro, NJ |
|  | Amla Sadarpur High School | Amla, Kushtia | Apr 05 | CLC \& SCR | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
|  | Goal Gram College | Goalgram, Kushtia | Mar '05 | CLC | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
|  | Khukni High School | Khukni, Sirajganj | Jun '05 | CLC \& SCR | Mr. Amzad Khan, Edison, NJ |
|  | Kadambari High School | Kadambari, Madaripur | Jun '05 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. Swapan Kumar Gayen, Marlboro, NJ |
| 10 | Farha Madhomik School | Komrail, Khulna | Jun '05 | CLC | Dr. S.K. Bakar, New York, NY |
| 11 | Mirzanagar Touhid Academy | Subar Bazar, Feni | Jun '05 | CLC \& SCR | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 12 | Barashalghar Union High School | Baroshalghar, Comilla | Jun '05 | CLC \& SCR | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 13 | Baruahat High School | Baruahat, Rangpur | Jun '05 | CLC \& SCR | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 14 | Mamun Smriti Public High School | Chantia Bazar, Jamalpur | Jun '05 | CLC \& SCR | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 15 | Parkhidirpur Secondary School | Parkhidirpur, Pabna | Jun '05 | CLC | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 16 | Shologhar AKSK High School | Shologhar, Munshiganj | Jun '05 | CLC \& SCR | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 17 | Babrijhar High School | Babrijhar, Nilphamari | Jun '05 | CLC | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 18 | Ghagotia Chala High School | Chala Bazar, Gazipur | Jun '05 | CLC | Mr. \& Mrs. Zia Uddin Ahmad, Monroe, NJ |
| 19 | BL High School | Amlapara, Sirajgonj | Jun '05 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. A. A. Chowadhury, Portsmouth, VA |
| 20 | Laskardia Atikur Rahman High School | Laskardia, Faridpur | Feb 06 | CLC \& SCR | Drs. Shah \& Anisa Yunus, Pittsburgh, PA |
| 21 | Bhaterchar D A Mannan Pilot High School | Bhaterchar, Munshiganj | Jun '05 | CLC \& SCR | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 22 | McPherson Public Library | Sadar, Bagerhat | Feb 06 | CLC | Dr. Monira Haque, Edison, NJ |
| 23 | Khaikara High School | Khaikara, Gazipur | Feb 06 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. Taher U. Akhand, Glastonebury, CT |
| 24 | Kurigram Girls High School | Sadar, Kurigram | Feb 06 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. KBM Zaman, Cleveland, OH |
| 25 | Banna Kandi N.M. High School | Bannakandi, Sirajaanj | Feb 06 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. A. A. Chowdhury, Portsmouth, VA |
| 26 | Karihata High School | Karihata, Gazipur | Feb 06 | CLC | Mr. \& Mrs. Zia Uddin Ahmad, Monroe, NJ |
| 27 | Rasulpur Basirun Nessa High School | Rasulpur, Tangail | Feb '06 | CLC | Dr. Emdadul Haque, Florida, USA |
| 28 | Maharajpur High School | Maharajpur, Chapainawabganj | Feb '06 | CLC | Dr. Waled H . Chowdhury, Bethpage, NY |
| 29 | North Bengal Medical College | Sadar, Sirajganj | Feb '06 | CLC | Dr. A. A. Chowdhury, Portsmouth, VA |
| 30 | Panchani High School | Panchani, Chandpur | Feb 06 | CLC | Mr. Mohammad Zafarullah, San Jose, CA |
| 31 | Nadir Hossin Girls High School | Kashba Najail, Rajbari | Feb '06 | CLC | Dr. Faizul Islam, Houston, Texas |
| 32 | Nasirkote High School | Hazigonj, Chandpur | Feb 06 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. Sultan Alam, Holmdel, NJ |
| 33 | Adhunika Bangladesh Society | Azimpur, Dhaka | Feb '06 | CLC | Adhunika Bangladesh Society, Dhaka |
| 34 | M.A. Karim Bahumukhi High School | Hinga Nagar, Tangail | Feb '06 | CLC | SpaandanB, San Jose, CA |
| 35 | Kazi Jalaluddin Bahumukhi Girls High School | Sadar, Sylhet | Feb '06 | CLC | Dr. Nasreen Rab, Bangladesh |
| 36 | Ekuria High School | Ekuria, Gazipur | Jun '06 | CLC | Mr. \& Mrs. Zia Uddin Ahmad, Monroe, NJ |
| 37 | Shahaber Bazar High School | Shahaber Bazar, Sylhet | Jun '06 | CLC | Drs. Zaman, Hossain, Ahmed, Hicksville, NY |
| 38 | Rifayetpur High School | Rifayetpur, Kushtia | Jun '06 | CLC | Dr. A. K. Azad, East Greenbush, NY |
| 39 | Barura Govt Girls High School | Barura, Comilla | Jun '06 | CLC | Dr. Monowara Begum, Tappan, NY |
| 40 | Tarail Pilot High School | Tarail, Kishoreganj | Dec '06 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 41 | Malkhanagar School \& College | Malkhanagar, Munshiganj | Dec '06 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 42 | Shanuhar M. A. High School | Uzirpur, Barisal | Feb 07 | CLC | Dr. Sirajul Huq, Wall, NJ |
| 43 | Shahid Hasan Foyez Girls High School | Haripur, Kushtia | Feb 07 | CLC | Mr. Rezbul Chowdhury, Arlington, MA |
| 44 | Montijar Rahman Mia Girls High School | Shailakupa, Jhenaidah | Feb 07 | CLC | Ms. Shahreen Quazi, Boston, MA |
| 45 | The Old Kushtia High School | Haripur, Kushtia | Feb '07 | CLC | Mr. Rezbul Chowdhury, Arlington, MA |
| 46 | Brahman Baria High School | Sadar, B. Baria | Feb '07 | CLC | Mr. Salahudin Shahriar, Mechanicsburg, PA |
| 47 | Paschim Banskhali Upakulia College | Banskhali, Chittagong | Apr '07 | CLC | Dr. Mahtuz R.Chowdhury, Uniondale, NY |
| 48 | Shailan Surma High School | Dhamrai, Dhaka | Apr '07 | CLC | Dr. Dalilur Rahman, Flemington, NJ |
| 49 | SURAVI | Dhanmondi, Dhaka | Apr '07 | CLC | Dr. M. Hussain, Monmouth Junction, NJ |
| 50 | Shalkuria High School | Nabangonj, Dinajpur | Jul '07 | CLC | Mr. Muhit Rahman, Los Angeles, CA |
| 51 | Setabganj Pilot High School | Setabgonj, Dinajpur | Jul '07 | CLC | Mr. Muhit Rahman, Los Angeles, CA |
| 52 | Panchagar Bisnhnu Proshad Govt. High School | Sadar, Panchagarh | Jul 07 | CLC | Mr. Muhit Rahman, Los Angeles, CA |
|  | Hasara K.K. High School | Sreenagar, Munshiganj | Jul '07 | CLC | Dr. Rashid Hasan, Minneapolis, MN |

Established CLCs and SCRs and sponsors (as of July 2015)

| SL | Center Name | District | Start Date | CLCISCR | Sponsor |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 54 | Boro Basalia High School | Sadar, Tangail | Aug '07 | CLC | Dr. Emdadul Haque, Florida, USA |
| 55 | South Satara High School | Chagalnaiya, Feni | Jul '07 | CLC | Mr. Tazin Shadid, Redmond, WA |
| 56 | Darbeshgonj High School | Kachua, Chandpur | Apr '07 | CLC | Dr. Serajus Salekin Quaderi, Marlboro, NJ |
| 57 | Satkania Golam Bari High School | Satkania, Chittagong | Jul '07 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 58 | Mehandigonj Muktiodhya Sangsad | Mehandigonj, Barisal | Jul '07 | CLC | Mr. Tazin Shadid, Redmond, WA |
| 59 | Coronation High School | Sadar, Bogra | Feb '08 | CLC | Dr. KBM Zaman, Cleveland, OH |
| 60 | Garda A.F. Mujibur Rahman Secondary School | Sadar, Faridpur | Feb '08 | CLC \& SCR | Drs. Shah \& Anisa Yunus, Pittsburgh, PA |
| 61 | Shila Roy Chowdhury High School | Sadar, Jessore | Feb '08 | CLC | BUET Alumni, Houston, TX |
| 62 | Gorpara M.L High School | Sadar, Manikganj | Mar '08 | CLC | Dr. Humayara Islam Khan, Bangladesh |
| 63 | Ranigonj Mohila College | Ghoraghat, Dinajpur | May '08 | CLC | Mr. Muhit Rahman, Los Angeles, CA |
| 64 | Loka BL High School | Nababgonj, Dinajpur | May ${ }^{\prime} 08$ | CLC | Mr. Muhit Rahman, Los Angeles, CA |
| 65 | Daudpur BL High School | Nababgonj, Dinajpur | May '08 | CLC | Mr. Muhit Rahman, Los Angeles, CA |
| 66 | Nageshwari D.M. Academy | Nageshwari, Kurigram | May ${ }^{0} 8$ | CLC \& SCR | Mr. Shaju A. Shahjahan, Pepper Pike, OH |
| 67 | Shayestabad Girls High School | Sadar, Barisal | Feb '08 | CLC | Hossain Trust, Dhaka |
| 68 | Chunati High School | Lohagara, Chittagong | Mar '08 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 69 | Adhunagar High School | Lohagara, Chittagong | Mar '08 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 70 | Padua A.C.M. High School | Lohagara, Chittagong | Mar '08 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 71 | Sayed Habibul Haq High School | Sadar, Kishoreganj | Feb 08 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 72 | Hazi Golam Hossen Girls High School | Tarail, Kishoreganj | Apr '08 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 73 | Rajdia Avoy Pilot High School | Sirajdikhan, Munshiganj | Apr '08 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 74 | Palla Mahabub Adarsha High School | Chatkhil, Noakhali | Apr '08 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 75 | Bhimpur Technical School \& College | Chatkhil, Noakhali | Apr '08 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 76 | Liton Computers | Ashulia, Dhaka | May '08 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 77 | Ispahani High School | Keraniganj, Dhaka | May '08 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 78 | Dinarpur High School | Nabiganj, Habiganj | Sep '08 | CLC | Mr. A.M. Chowdhury Mukul, NY, USA |
| 79 | Borogangdia High School | Daulatpur, Kushtia | Sep '08 | CLC \& SCR | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 80 | Nasirkote Shahid Smriti College | Hazigonj, Chandpur | Apr '08 | CLC | Dr. Sultan Alam, Holmdel, NJ |
| 81 | Khandal High School \& College | Parshuram, Feni | Apr '09 | CLC | Dr. Suprasad Boidhya Roy, Princeton, NJ |
| 82 | Abu Taher Dakhil Madrasha | Shibchar, Madaripur | Apr '09 | CLC | Dr. Belayet H. Choudhury, USA |
| 83 | Shuryasen Orphanage | Wazirpur, Barisal | Apr '09 | CLC | Mr. Muhit Rahman, Los Angeles, CA |
| 84 | Sree Sree Pronab Math | Nazirpur, Pirojpur | Apr '09 | CLC | Mr. Muhit Rahman, Los Angeles, CA |
| 85 | Nageshwari Adarsha Pilot Utcha Balika Bidyaloi | Nageshwari, Kurigram | Apr '09 | CLC \& SCR | Ms. Sharmin Shahjahan, Pepper Pike, OH |
| 86 | AK Khan-UCEP Kalurghat Technical School | Chittagong | Apr '09 | CLC | 1-K Foundation, Bangladesh |
| 87 | Jamalgonj High School | Akkelpur, Joypurhat | Apr '09 | CLC | BUET Alumni, Houston, TX |
| 88 | Nagarkanda Degree College | Nagarkanda, Faridpur | Jun '09 | CLC | Drs. Shah \& Anisa Yunus, Pittsburgh, PA |
| 89 | Bagmoniram S.K. City Corporation Girls High School | Sadar, Chittagong | Apr '09 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. Monowara Begum, Tappan, NY |
| 90 | Dalta Rahmania High School | Ramgonj, Laxmipur | Apr '09 | CLC | Mr. Zafar Ullah, San Jose, CA |
| 91 | Ambarkhana Girls High School | Sadar, Sylhet | Feb 06 | CLC | Dr. Ahmed, Mr. Ahmed, Dr. Hussain, PA/NJ |
| 92 | Two Star Computers | Daulatpur, Kushtia | Apr '09 | CLC | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 93 | Bagmara High School | South Sadar, Comilla | May '09 | CLC | Mr. Pavel Rahman, Toronto, ON, Canada |
| 94 | Kasba T.Ali Degree College | Kasba, B. Baria | May '09 | CLC | Dr. Toufiq Ali, Bangladesh |
| 95 | Hemnagar Shashimukhi High School | Gopalpur, Tangail | May '09 | CLC \& SCR | NABIC, USA |
| 96 | K. G.H.F Mowkhali United Academy | Paikgacha, Khulna | May '09 | CLC | NABIC, USA |
| 97 | Kalipur Ezharul Hoque High School | Banshkhali, Chittagong | May '09 | CLC \& SCR | NABIC, USA |
| 98 | Noor School | Sujanagar, Pabna | May '09 | CLC | NABIC, USA |
| 99 | Suapur Nannar High School | Dhamrai, Dhaka | May '09 | CLC \& SCR | NABIC, USA |
| 100 | Chagaldhara High School | Sariakandi, Bogra | Jun '09 | CLC \& SCR | NABIC, USA |
| 101 | Bishnapur A. R. High School | Sadar, Gaibandha | Jun '09 | CLC \& SCR | NABIC, USA |
| 102 | Khorda Kamarpur High School | Sadullahpur, Gaibandha | Jun '09 | CLC \& SCR | NABIC, USA |
| 103 | Habibpur Secondary High School | Wazirpur, Barisal | Jun '09 | CLC | NABIC, USA |
| 104 | Aoliabad High School | Madhabpur, Habiganj | Jun '09 | CLC \& SCR | NABIC, USA |
| 105 | Islamabad Girls Orphanage | Chittagong | Jun '09 | CLC | Ms. Farhat Khan, Chittagong |
| 106 | Hajipur Secondary School | Sadar, Magura | Apr '10 | CLC | ICNEWS, Austin, TX |


| SL | Center Name | District | Start Date | CLC/SCR | Sponsor |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 107 | Dr.Imdad and S. Khan A A T P Primary School | Natore | Apr '10 | CLC | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 108 | Kanutia A Ala High School | Mohammadpur, Magura | Apr '10 | CLC | Principal Latifa Khatun, Bangladesh |
| 109 | Baramchal High School and College | Kulaora, Moulvibazar | Apr '10 | CLC | Mr. Azadur Rahman (Tareque), USA |
| 110 | Fatema Sangstha School | Bhartkhali, Gaibandha | Jun '10 | CLC | Mr. Muhit Rahman, Los Angeles, CA |
| 111 | Khondker Abdul Mazid High School | Ullapara R/S | Jun '10 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. Sufian Khondker , New York, NY |
| 112 | Gouripur Subal-Aftab High School | Daudkandi, Comilla | Jun '10 | SCR | Mr. Abdus Sikder, North Bellmor, NY |
| 113 | West End High School | Azimpur, Lalbag, Dhaka | Jun '10 | CLC | Sentrana, USA |
| 114 | Jahanara Girls High School | Amla Sadarpur, Mirpur, Kushtia | Sep '10 | CLC \& SCR | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 115 | Brotee Regional Office | Tanore, Rajshahi | Sep '10 | CLC | NABIC, USA |
| 116 | Botiabhanga High School | Gabtoli, Bogra | Sep '10 | CLC \& SCR | NABIC, USA |
| 117 | Khajuria High School | Faridgonj, Chandpur | Sep '10 | CLC \& SCR | NABIC, USA |
| 118 | Kamlapur High School | Sadar, Kushtia | Sep '10 | CLC | NABIC, USA |
| 119 | Mirpur High School | Kumarkhali, Kushtia | Sep '10 | CLC \& SCR | NABIC, USA |
| 120 | Laboratory School | Sadar, Mymensingh | Sep '10 | CLC | Mr. ATM Masood, Winnipeg, MB, Canada |
| 121 | Al-Hera Public School | Savar, Dhaka | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 122 | Amirabad Jonokalayan Girls High School | Lohagora, Chittagong | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 123 | Ashulia Rotary School | Ashulia, Dhaka | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 124 | Baghia High School | Konabari, Gazipur | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 125 | Konabari M A Kuddus High School | Konabari, Gazipur | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 126 | Talepur High School | Keraniganj, Dhaka | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 127 | Ichapura High School | Malkhanagar, Munshiganj | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 128 | Mostafa Begum Girls High School | Lohagora, Chittagong | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 129 | Munshiganj High School | Malkhanagar, Munshiganj | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 130 | Rohitpur High School | Keraniganj, Dhaka | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 131 | Shahid Ahsanullah Master High School | Tongi, Gazipur | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 132 | Shahpir Pilot High School | Lohagora, Chittagong | Feb '11 | CLC | Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh |
| 133 | Talgachia Deshanterkati High School | Betagi, Barguna | Jul '11 | CLC | Chicago Halaka Party, Chicago, IL |
| 134 | Harish Chandrapur High School | Chirir Bondor, Dinajpur | Jul '11 | CLC | Family of J.U. Ahmad, SpaandanB, Austin, TX |
| 135 | Shekandordi A.M. High School | Palash, Narsingdi | Jul '11 | CLC | Dr. Fazlur R. Chowdhury , Bardonia, NY |
| 136 | Ratandia R.K High School | Kalukhali, Rajbari | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Md. A. Rahman Sarkar, Dhaka, Bangladesh |
| 137 | Ghorashal Pilot High Scool | Ghorasal, Narsingdi | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. Mushfiqur Rahman, Melbourne, Australia |
| 138 | Siddikia Begum Girls High School | North Matlab, Chandpur | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. Abu Masud, Wichita, KS |
| 139 | Badartuni High School | Hizla, Barisal | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. M. Abidur Rahman, MI |
| 140 | Muladi High School | Muladi, Barisal | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. M. Abidur Rahman, MI |
| 141 | Patharghata High School | Mirzapur, Tangail | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Mr. Mohammed Saleh, R.Ph, Merrick, NY |
| 142 | Satarpara High School | Daulatpur, Kushtia | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, Saratoga, CA |
| 143 | Maijhati High School | Gouripur, Mymensingh | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Tahsin Askar \& SpaandanB, Austin, TX |
| 14 | Pirkhain Moulana Asraf Chowdhury High School | Anwara, Chittagong | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. F. K. Shariff, Canada |
| 145 | Union Krishi High School | Patia, Chittagong | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. F. K. Shariff, Canada |
| 146 | Kanudaskati Nalbunia High School | Rajapur, Jhalakathi | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. Ali Ahmed, Chicago, IL |
| 147 | Jamal Uddin High School | Dhamrai, Dhaka | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Sentrana, USA |
| 148 | Yakub Ali High School | Boalmari, Faridpur | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Family of S. Haque \& SpaandanB, Austin, TX |
| 149 | Tofail Ali Technical School and College | Nabinagar, B. Baria | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Mr. Md. Saifuddin Khalid, Denmark |
| 150 | Mirkamary Ideal High School | Ishwardi, Pabna | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Mr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Dhaka, Bangladesh |
| 151 | Kushumpura High School | Patiya, Chittagong | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Mr. Idris Sultan, Dallas, TX |
| 152 | Maliara Mahira Mahirahi Khaine High School | Patiya, Chittagong | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Mr. Idris Sultan, Dallas, TX |
| 153 | Manasha High School and College | Patiya, Chittagong | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Mr. Idris Sultan, Dallas, TX |
| 154 | Ankur Society Girls High School, Nasirabad, Chittagong | Nasirabad, Chittagong | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Mr. Ali Ahmed, Chittagong |
| 15 | Amardesh Residential High School, Gaibandha | Saghata, Gaibandha | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Mr. Mahbubur Rahman, Dhaka |
| 15 | Banga Bandhu Bidya Niketan | Mirpur, Dhaka | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Sentrana, USA |
| 157 | Purba Jurain Adarsha High School | Jurain, Dhaka | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Sentrana, USA |
| 15 | Harisangan High School | Belabo, Narsingdi | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Sentrana, USA |
| 159 | Shonaimuri High School | Sonaimuri, Noakhali | Jul '11 | CLC \& SCR | Drs. N. Chowdhury and I. Jahan, Chicago, IL |

Established CLCs and SCRs and sponsors (as of July 2015)

| SL | Center Name | District | Start Date | CLC/SCR | Sponsor |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 160 | Shahid Moulana Kasimuddin High School | Sadar, Pabna | Jul '11 | CLC | Mr. Shahriar Ahmed, USA |
| 161 | Hazera Talukder Balika Bidyalaya | Bauphal, Patuakhali | Jul '11 | CLC | Mr. Dulal Talukder and SpaandanB Austin, TX |
| 162 | Japan-Bangladesh Friendship High School | Surma, Sylhet | Jul '11 | CLC | Rotary Club of Dhaka, Bangladesh |
| 163 | Kadambari Union College | Rajoir, Madaripur | Jul '11 | CLC | Dr. Swapan Kumar Gayen, Marlboro, NJ |
| 164 | Rays Hope Orphanage | Savar, Dhaka | Jul '11 | CLC | Mr. Tahsin Askar \& SpandaanB , Austin, TX |
| 165 | Shahid Rowshan Ali Khan College | Bashail, Tangail | Jul '11 | CLC | Mr. Hamid Reza Khan, USA |
| 166 | Arjuna Mohsen High School | Buapur, Tangail | Jul '11 | SCR | APW, Canada |
| 167 | Bilkis Mosharrof High School | Daudkandi, Comilla | Jul '11 | SCR | Abdus Sikder, USA |
| 168 | Hi Care School | Dhanmondi, Dhaka | Apr '12 | CLC | Md. S. Haque Memorial SpaandanB Austin, TX |
| 169 | Camellia Duncan Foundation School | Kulaura, Moulvibazar | Apr '12 | CLC | Fahad Khalil and SpaandanB Austin, TX |
| 170 | Dr. Abdul Quader Dakhil Madrasah | Pangsha, Rajbari | Apr '12 | CLC | Ashfaq Hossain, USA |
| 171 | Pashdona Sir K. G. Gupta High School | Sadar, Narsingdi | Jun '12 | CLC | Kamal Debnath, Australia |
| 172 | Katirhat Girl High School | Hathazari, Chittagong, | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Rina Akter, USA |
| 173 | Barkal Abdul Hai Anwara Begum Girls High School | Chandanaish, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | A. Wazed Mahmud, M.D. USA |
| 174 | Mahamuni Anglo Pali High School | Raozan, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Mr \& Mrs Alauddin Chowdhury, USA |
| 175 | South Shucipara Union High School | Shahrasti, Chandpur | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | M. Islam, Q. I. Kumar, A. Islam, USA |
| 176 | Jangal Khain High School | Patiya, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. F. K. Shariff, Canada |
| 177 | Liakot Ali High School | Kasba, B. Baria | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Dr. Toufiq Ali, Bangladesh |
| 178 | Banigram Shadhanpur High School | Bashkhali, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC | Idris Sultan, USA |
| 179 | Kalarpul Hazi Md. Omra Mia Chowdhury M.L High School | Patiya, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC | Idris Sultan, USA |
| 180 | Khalilmir High School | Patiya, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC | Idris Sultan, USA |
| 181 | Kartala Belkhain Mahabodhi High School | Patiya, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC | Jewel Chowdhury, USA |
| 182 | Katirhat High School | Hathazari, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Mohammed Osman Ghani, USA |
| 183 | Mashikara High School | Dabidar, Comilla | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | M. Rahman, R. Islam \& M.Rahman, Singapore |
| 184 | Adarsha Madhyamik Vidyalaya | Sadar, Kustia | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | N. K. Paul and A. M. Khan, USA |
| 185 | Khamar Para High School | Gopalpur, Tangail | Jun '12 | CLC | Dr. Nuran Nabi, USA |
| 186 | Satirpara K. K. Institute | Sadar, Narsingdi | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | DC, Narsingdi, USA |
| 187 | Ideal High School | Sadar, Narsingdi | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | DC, Narsingdi, Bangladesh |
| 188 | Nanupur Aboo Sobhan High School | Fatikchari, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC | Steve Asif Faruque, USA |
| 189 | Nandina Model Academy | Sadar, Jamalpur | Jun '12 | CLC | Khalil Family and SpaandanB Austin, USA |
| 190 | Latifa Siddiqi Girl's High School | Shitakundo, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Shams Siddiqi, USA |
| 191 | Dhanpota High School | Jhikorgasa, Jessore | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Ahsan Kabeer \& SpaandanB Austin, USA |
| 192 | Talbaria Bahumukhi Secondary School | Sadar, Jessore | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Iftekhar Rahman and SpaandanB Austin, USA |
| 193 | Bauphal Adarsho Uchcho Balika Biddyalaya | Bauphol, Patuakhali | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Tahmina Akhter, USA |
| 194 | Krishna Gobindapur High School | Sadar, Chapainawabganj | Jun '12 | CLC | Ashfaq Hossain, USA |
| 195 | Chalkjhagru High School | Sadar, Chapainawabganj | Jun '12 | CLC | Golam Morshed Osmani, Hridoya Bangladesh |
| 196 | Bauphal Model Maddhyamic Biddyalaya | Bauphol, Patuakhali | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Tahmina Akhter, USA |
| 197 | Ranihati Multicultural High School | Shibjong, Chapainawabganj | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Yasmeen Ali, USA |
| 198 | Hasandandi M L High School | Chandanaish, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC | Nizam Uddin, USA |
| 199 | Quaish Burichar Shomolani High School | Hathazari, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC | Nizam Uddin, USA |
| 200 | I E S School | Uttara Model Town, Dhaka | Jun '12 | CLC | Sahana Farid, USA |
| 201 | Bauria G K Academy | Sandwip, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC | Golam Rasul Chowdhury, USA |
| 202 | Ayesha Obayed Girls High School | Sandwip, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC | Golam Rasul Chowdhury, USA |
| 203 | Alinagar High School | Sadar, Chapainawabganj | Jun '12 | CLC | SpaandanB Austin, USA |
| 204 | Chandpara High School | Chowgacha, Jessore | Jun '12 | CLC | Ahsan Kabeer \& Tahsin Askar, USA |
| 205 | Patibila Hazi Shahjahan Ali High School | Chowgacha, Jessore | Jun '12 | CLC | Ahsan Kabeer \& Tahsin Askar, USA |
| 206 | Captain Shamsul Huda High School | Sitakundo, Chittagong | Jun '12 | CLC \& SCR | Shams Siddiqi, USA |
| 207 | Sonavori Model High School | Rowmari, Kurigram | Jun '12 | CLC | Rezwanul Kabir,USA |
| 208 | Atrai High School | Atrai, Naogaon | Jun '12 | CLC | Quamrul Mina, USA |
| 209 | East Jalabari Adarsha High School | Swarupkathi, Pirojpur | Jun '12 | CLC | UTBSA, USA |
| 210 | Begum Sufia Model High School | Kaliakoir, Gazipur | Jun '12 | CLC | Daughters of K. Banu, Srifoltoli, Bangladesh |
| 211 | Martha Linderstorm N. J. Begum Gilrs H. School | Tangail | Jun '12 | SCR | Ahsan H Mansur, Dhaka, Bangladesh |
| 212 | Dhakeshwari Mills High School | Bandar, Narayanganj | Jul '12 | CLC | British Council, Bangladesh |


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Established CLCs and SCRs and sponsors (as of July 2015)


# Collaboration with British Council Enhances CLP 

Md. Shahidur Rahman and Dr. Fida Mehran

Computer Literacy Program for the Underprivileged (CLP), USA and its Bangladesh partner Dnet are implementing various ICT based education programs in remote areas of Bangladesh since 2004. Computer Literacy Program (CLP) and Smart Classroom (SCR) are the two major initiatives. CLP promotes knowledge and usage of computers and information technology among the underprivileged youth especially secondary school students in Bangladesh. As of March, 2015, 354 Computer Literacy Centers (CLCs) have been established in 56 districts under CLP and more than ninety thousand students ( $49 \%$ female) completed the 40 hours hands-on basic course in computer. SCR promotes ICT-based interactive learning materials among secondary school students and implements a model of learning through a digital classroom. As of March 2015, 155 SCRs have been established and 616 teachers were trained and over a 100,000 students had the opportunity to attend SCRs that enhanced their learning experiences.
The successes of the CLC and SCR programs attracted attention from the British Council (BC) Bangladesh, an international organization working in 110 countries for cultural relations and educational opportunities. BC started collaborating with Dnet in 2012. BC promoted CLP initiatives through establishing 50 SCRs and 15 CLCs; and introducing an English and ICT After-School Club program in five of the CLP sponsored schools. Importantly, a British Council sponsored SCR and CLC impact evaluation study conducted by an external evaluator has confirmed the positive impacts of the SCR and CLC programs on learning of Science, Math, Geography, and ICT. This article provides an overview of these and related collaborations with British Council.
British Council first joined hands with Dnet to implement its program Connecting Classrooms. One of the seven projects within Connecting Classrooms is to foster students' global citizenship skills through online or offline initiatives. As per the BC model, the teachers from 65 schools were trained first, who taught the students. Accordingly, Dnet training unit trained 1074 teachers on the topic. Another project, "Introduction to International Learning" that is delivered via an online platform, was also facilitated by Dnet training unit to the same teachers from 65 schools. While working with Dnet, BC learned about the CLP projects and went on to sponsor 50 SCRs and 15 CLCs in schools selected from those participating in their Connecting Classrooms program.

To assess the performance of BC sponsored SCR and CLC projects, an impact study was conducted by an independent external evaluator ${ }^{1}$. For this study 12 secondary schools with SCR were selected as BC project schools, while another 12 neighboring secondary schools without SCR as control. The study also selected 6 secondary

[^0]
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Md. Shahidur Rahman and Dr. Fida Mehran

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[^1]schools with CLCs as project schools, while 6 neighboring secondary schools with no CLCs as control. The study findings, summarized in Table 1 through 4, are indicative of significant level of achievement among students from the project schools with the SCR and CLC facilities compared to those from control schools in Science, Mathematics, Geography and ICT skills.

Study 1: Three different tests on Science were given to grade VI, VII, VIII students from both project and control schools. Each test was scored on a scale of $0-33$. Table 1 illustrates the mean scores achieved by students from control and project schools taken both pre and post lessons. Project School students improved science score significantly compared to control schools confirming the positive impacts of the SCR model.

Table 1 Comparison of science score (control vs project schools)

| Science Achievement (total score 33) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mean/Composite Average Score |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Control |  |  |  | Project |  |  |  |
| Girls |  | Boys |  | Girls |  | Boys |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \text { Post } \\ \text { lesson } \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | Post lesson | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | Post lesson | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | Post |
| 9.7 | 10.1 | 10.33 | 11.2 | 12.2 | 20.13 | 11.13 | 17.9 |

Study 2: A similar test out of total 15 points was given on Mathematics to grade IX students, which also showed a difference between project and control schools (Table 2). Project schools class IX students showed improvement over those from control schools.

Table 2: Comparison of math score (control vs project schools)

| Mathematics Achievement ( Total score 15) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mean/Composite Average Score |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Control |  |  |  | Project |  |  |  |
| Girls |  | Boys |  | Girls |  | Boys |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c} \hline \text { Post } \\ \text { lesson } \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Post } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c} \hline \text { Post } \\ \text { lesson } \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Post } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ |
| 2.3 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 2.4 | 6.4 | 3.7 | 6.6 |

Study 3: A similar test on Geography given (out of 26 points) to Class IX students showed significant improvement of geography knowledge of project schools compared to the control schools.

Table 3: Comparison of geography score (control vs project schools)

| Geography Achievement ( Total score 26) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mean/Composite Average Score |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Control |  |  |  | Project |  |  |  |
| Girls |  | Boys |  | Girls |  | Boys |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Post } \\ \text { esson } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | Post lesson | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Post } \\ \text { essono } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | Post lesson |
| 3.5 | 5.7 | 5.4 | 5.4 | 4.5 | 11.8 | 5.1 | 11.4 |

Study 4: Evaluation was done on ICT skills acquisition by grade VI, VII, VIII and IX students from both project and control schools. The total score was 35 for the test. The score was quantified by assorted functional skills in these sections: Basic Skills, Paint software, Word Processor application, Spreadsheet application, Presentation application, Internet, e-mail etc. The average achievement of the boys and girls of project schools were found to be significantly increased, while the results in the control group showed varied and insignificant results in aptitude.
The impact study showed, the SCR and the CLC make a significant impact on learning level. Interestingly, in all instances, the data tend to indicate that the girls are gaining slightly more knowledge from the training than the boys. However, the sample size is not sufficiently large to draw any definite conclusion.

Table 4: Project school students’ overall ICT skill improvement

| ICT skill achievement ( Total score 35) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mean/Composite Average Score |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Control |  |  |  | Project |  |  |  |
| Girls |  | Boys |  | Girls |  | Boys |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Post } \\ & \text { lesson } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | Post lesson | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | Post lesson | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pre } \\ \text { lesson } \end{gathered}$ | Post lesson |
| 3.0 | 7.4 | 6.2 | 8.8 | 5.9 | 20.9 | 10.4 | 22.9 |

After achieving the objectives of aforementioned program effectively, British Council proposed Dnet to carry out another program that would benefit the rural students. Accordingly, Dnet launched another program with British Council, called- English and ICT in After School Club in 10 centers, 5 RITC (Rural Information and Technological Centers) all in different


## Major CLP patrons



We applaud all our patrons



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| Kadir | Nowreen |  |  | Mahmood | Subrina | Neptune | NJ |
| Kalam | Muhammed | Plano | TX | Mainuddin | Mohammed | Lodi | NJ |
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