# A 'Block' community of learning approach to teacher professional development-Role of ICT



Theme 4 – ICT in Teacher Professional Development (TPD)

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## Teacher Professional Development

- TPD Need for CPD
  - Changing contexts, new challenges
- Role of ICT
  - Creating and learning
  - Connecting and learning
  - Community of learning (COL)
  - Mitigate limitations of traditional teacher forums
    - Geographical (space) and temporal (time) barriers

## Block COL (with ICT) – Bengaluru South 3

- 3 year program DIET Bengaluru South and IT for Change with teachers from 16 Government High Schools
- Similar geography / contexts in a block
  - Urban (poverty, migration)
  - Challenging home environments
  - Easy distractions
- Common academic challenges
  - Limited home support, foundational learning
  - Multiple linguistic backgrounds
- Similar administrative challenges

## Community of learning processes

- Block level workshops
  - Mathematics, Science and Kannada teachers, 2-3 times a year
  - Head teachers
  - Acquiring digital capacities
  - Sharing digital integration work from school
  - Workshop locations across schools
  - Formal and informal interactions (voluntary participation, more ownership)
- Peer learning
  - Mobile phone based 'always on' interactions
  - On and off-list interactions, phone calls
- Nature of interactions in the COL
  - Mutual respect, empathetic space, sharing resources and seeking help
  - School achievements



## Community of learning processes

- School level interactions
  - Working with students through digital demonstrations, lab activities









tor information to all interested https://www.physicsexperiments.in

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#### **Rekha 9th Block**

How to write Table of any two digit number?

For example Table of 87

First write down table of 8 than write down table of 7 beside

8	7		87
16	14	(16+1)	174
24	21	(24+2)	261
32	28	(32+2)	348
40	35	(40+3)	435
48	42	(48+4)	522
56	49	(56+4)	609
64	56	(64+5)	696
72	63	(72+6)	783
80	70	(80+7)	870

This way one can make Tables from 10 to 99.

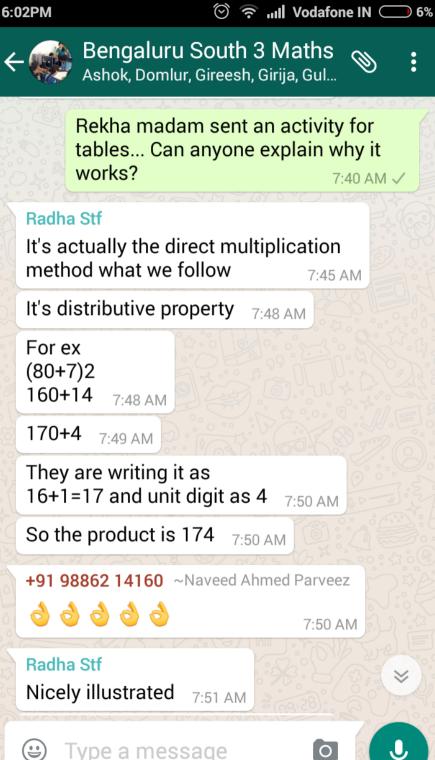






 $\times$ 

#### **Continuity** of learning using **Whatsapp** And **Emails**









## Benefits of the block COL - Peer Learning and mentoring - CPD

- Building familiarity with using ICT tools
- Sharing of innovative ideas and responses to address classroom challenges
- School achievements
- Exploring and experimenting beyond the text book
- Posting problems, questions and quizzes for other members to respond
- Sharing news / information relating to their work including academic and administrative aspects.
- Resources created by them
- Planning block level programs

### Benefits of the block COL

- OER Sharing
  - Foundational materials
  - Assessments / worksheets
- Working towards the humane teacher
  - Relationships amongst teachers
  - Respecting diversity
  - Providing mutual support and encouragement
- School communities of learning spawned

## Challenges

- Varying interest levels
- Existing work load
- Critical thinking development, time consuming, easy resource sharing and use, a challenge
- Balancing between being too lenient and too strict on 'irrelevant posts'

## Suggestions for a block COL

- Building similar forms for teachers teaching all curricular areas.
- Moving beyond the current focus on subject-content learning, to larger issues of secondary education – gender, adolescent education (counseling, life skills)
- Bridging the school and community of parents / local community
- Need to connect across subject COLs to bring in common concerns of education.
- Block level COL should include the educational officers and teacher educators
- Block level important events and discussions should be shared across in the state level COLs for wider dissemination.
- Block COL should connect high school teachers to higher primary teachers, for mutual learning, mentoring and support.