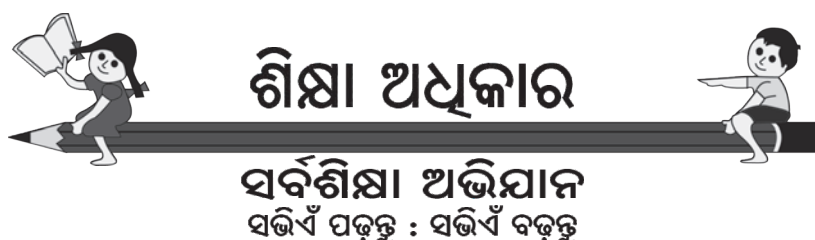


STORIES PAST AND PRESENT

Class - VIII



ଶିକ୍ଷା ଅଧିକାର

ସର୍ବଶିକ୍ଷା ଅଭିଯାନ
ସଭିଏଁ ପଢ଼ନ୍ତୁ : ସଭିଏଁ ବଢ଼ନ୍ତୁ

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PROGRAMME AUTHORITY,
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STORIES PAST AND PRESENT

Class - VIII

(Experimental Edition)

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PREFACE

The Govt. of Odisha has decided to strengthen the teaching/learning of English in Odia medium Govt. Schools. The English Language Teaching Institute (ELTI) has already prepared a handbook on teaching English at the primary level. About sixty thousand teachers have been trained with the help of the book, during 2016-2017 and each teacher has been provided with a copy of the book. Next, the ELTI with the help of SCERT and OPEPA has prepared this new series of textbooks in English from Class-III to Class-VIII based on sound principles of English Language Teaching and principles of pedagogy enshrined in NCF 2005. The books have been tried out with real learners and teachers. Necessary corrections have been made accordingly. I wish the teachers to read the introduction and notes for them provided in the books and teach the books accordingly. I also want the inspecting officials to go through the textbooks and supervise classes accordingly. The workbooks are carefully built into the textbooks. The teachers should use the books following a learner-centered approach and make learners do the tasks. They should correct learners' scripts and provide feedback. The Inspecting Officials are expected to supervise this regularly. Each textbook has also in-built tests to test the performance of both the learners and teachers. Language indicators for each class are also provided at the end of the book for the guidance of both the teachers and Inspecting Officials. This will help the parents to check the progress of their wards. Attempts are also being made to prepare similar text books in other subjects from the coming years based on these sound principles. But unfortunately, our attempts to strengthen teaching/learning through good textbooks failed to yield expected results due to wide spread prevalent of cheap bazaar notes (Meaning Books) prepared only with the motives of commercial gains. These books provide cheap ready-made helps by working out the tasks/activities thereby preventing students from getting/developing skills and restrict them from the pleasure of doing the workbook tasks/activities on their own.

I am sure, the new series will help our learners excel in all the four language skills of English ---- Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. I thank the Editors and the Reviewers for their sincere efforts in preparing the excellent materials. I also thank Dr. Manmatha Kundu, the Academic Adviser and Mr. Indramani Tripathy, the Director of ELTI under whose academic and administrative guidance the books were prepared.

Any suggestions for the improvement of the book are welcome.

Commissioner-cum-Secretary
Department of School and Mass Education,
Govt. of Odisha

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