Azim Premji University

# Colloquium Series: The Child Friendly School Initiative journey – reflections from the field practice

Speaker:
Umashankar Periodi, Azim Premji Foundation

Date / Time:
April 19, 2012 - 3:15pm

Venue:
Room 307, Third Floor, Pixel B, PESSE Campus, APU

Abstract:
The Child Friendly School initiative of Azim Premji Foundation is an experiment to demonstrate a process of providing quality education on a sustained basis in a child friendly manner to all children in partnership with all stakeholders by building capacity and accountability. The initiative covers all the government primary schools of Shorapur block in Yadgir district of North East Karnataka.

A Note on the Speaker:
Umashankar Periodi, or Peri as he is lovingly called in the Foundation started his professional life as a tea sales person. Soon, he moved to the development sector. His versatility has been evident even in his contributions as a development practitioner. He has worked with Dr. Desmond D'Abreo in DEEDS Mangalore, building the capacity of the community based organizations, worked with Dr. Sudershan with the Soliga tribes in B.R.Hills, organizing the tribes in to Sanghas to fight for their rights.

Peri was one of the state core group of trainers who designed training for the facilitators and trainers of Total Literacy Campaign. He is the co-founder of the Karnataka State Trainers Collective which is a group specialised to train government and non-government agencies at scale.

Peri has been instrumental in designing a simple method of facilitating research – "Barefoot Research" to help grass roots level field workers to engage in research process. He is a Lecturer in School of Social Work, Roshni Nilaya, Mangalore where he teaches community work and communication to post-graduate students.

Peri started his journey in the foundation by piloting the 'Learning Guarantee Program' in Karnataka in 2003. Peri's contribution in the Foundation's work has been significant as a leader of the 'Child Friendly School Initiative' in Shorapur.