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Synopsis

The present mainstream educational system was introduced in India in the mid-nineteenth century. Over the next century, it almost completely replaced earlier educational institutions. Earlier, been a wide network of small village schools— pathshalas, gurukuls and madarsas. ‘One village—one school’ was the norm in various parts of the country, up to the early nineteenth century. A large number of such schools—reportedly 100,000 in just Bihar and Bengal around 1835—were kept alive by local support (William Adam 1835, in Dharampal 2000). Indigenous education was replaced by an alien and rootless system, deliberately set up, as articulated by Lord Macaulay (1835), to *‘form a class who interprets between us and the millions we govern; a class of persons, Indian in blood and colour, but English in taste, in opinions, in morals and in intellect’*. Despite the transfer of power in 1947, Indian schools continued in the same mould. Today, we have a large association of government schools in the country, and an increasing number of privately run institutions. Yet, the basic format remained unchanged; a large number of our schools today are based on a plagiaristic, mechanistic model. Schooling thus tends to reinforce social inequalities—class, gender and caste. The setup is centralised and bureaucratic, teachers distanced from students and mostly doing a job, while the schools act as delivery points for a set curriculum and content. Few students who pass out of these schools love to learn, since they associate learning with boredom and pressure.

One of the solutions for this less effective education system is alternative education system with which students can learn from nature and the peer groups. It is collective learning approach from various recourses available in the nature as well as from where ever they get to interact. Alternative education is an upcoming and demanding education and learning approach all over the world and India. The main aim is to cultivate and motivate inborn abilities and tastes of the kids. The predefined syllabus of normal schools may squeeze the time and knowledge of the students in a stipulated framework. Alternative

Blurb

This book is to about establishing a Griha Shiksha Kendra (GSK) which is an Innovative Model of Education based on Self-Learning/Home-Schooling concept with curriculum framework focused on Sustainability and Pedagogy based on “Whole Universe is our Class Room”.

The demonstration centre of GSK was set up at Bhopal and was inaugurated on 14th December, 2019. This centre has been established as a model activities and facilitation centre to provide an opportunity to self-learners to address several issues faced by them such as lack of socializing and guidance, outdoor activities, books, mentors etc. and to facilitate creation of communities and their replication.

The centre also fulfils the need for Non-formal education of children who are already undergoing the formal education through schools.

The centre has additional objective of providing practical training on the concepts of sustainability and sustainable life style. The centre is also meeting the Goal-4 of UN Sustainable Development Goals-2030

To get regular updates and to participate in the discussions please visit and like our Facebook public group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/368999793937113/> and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SustainableEducationAtHome/>. GSK also has WhatsApp groups for kids and parents who are exploring self-learning / home-schooling.

**Author
Bio**

66 years old, Sunil is a mechanical engineering graduate and a BEE Certified Energy Audit. He has over 44 years of experience in HVAC, Air Pollution Control, Energy Conservation, Efficiency, Renewable Energy, Sustainable Development and education. He has been promoting several ideas and innovative concepts.

His interest to mainstream the concepts of sustainability led him to develop the idea of establishing Griha Shiksha Kendra at Bhopal (GSK) as a facilitation centre for self-learners and non-formal education focussed on the concepts of sustainable development.

Presently, he is based at Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh). He can be contacted on Mobile 7739802112 or email: sunilsolar@yahoo.co.in