

VIDYA MYTRI TRUST REPORT - June-2016 TO May-2017

This is the report of the work done by the trust for this year

Activities:

- 1) Residential learning centre.
- 2) Land purchase for VMT.
- 3) Government school supportive programme.
- 4) Outing and excursion
- 5) Summer camp
- 6) Documentation of educational materials.

Residential learning centre

Children show improvement in all the aspects. Initially children found discipline hard to follow, for example getting up at 5.30am, having bath and do shramadhan assembly and study time etc.

We had problems but now children understood value of it and now we see a change in them. They look more lively and happy and does all work whole heartedly with the belief, these will help them in later life.

Academically, in Kannada they are able to read and write, in mathematics they are able to understand basic concepts and now they use the text books. In other subjects also they are doing well. This when I went to the government school, the government school teacher told me, "these children are doing well" and asked me whether I could help the other children also. They also put our children in-charge of helping other children in their classes. Each child is given a group of 5 or 6 children to help.

In the centre they work as a group. There are fights but they are able to solve them positively. On the whole they are able to take care of themselves. They also take part in cooking, serving, taking sick child to the hospital, get their own things. One child is in-charge of their money. The money parents give them, they put it together and call it a bank and one child is in-charge of it. Another child takes the list of things the group needs, takes the money from the so called bank and gets them and settle the account correctly by themselves. Now I need not to take care of their personal things. They are able to do it themselves, but they inform me.

They are beginning to develop a responsibility and ownership feeling towards the centre. They take care of the place, they enjoy the gardening and it had a good yield this time. Tomatoes, carrots, bitter gourd, brinjal, lady's finger, chilly, cucumber, bridge gourd, snack gourd, bottle gourd, banana, palak, and now maze. There is a good crop of chrysanthemum which they sold for Dasara.

Using our methodology, we give each child individual attention – we observe each and every action of the child, their likes, dislikes, and their nature. We allow them to bring out their negative qualities without fear and then make them understand the consequences of their actions and how it impacts their lives and how to overcome the negatives. We also help bring out the positive qualities in the child and help strengthen them. This is a long drawn process, time and space is given to help the children bring positivity to their selves and become stable adults. The Centre will help inculcate the routine and discipline needed in developing a set of attitudes and values, which will shape them as individuals who will bring about a durable positive change in the community. But this is possible only when the children are away from their environment which is not very healthy.

Besides learning, gardening, cooking, they also show great interest in doing craft work. Our present parents have trust that the children grow better here. We are happy about it.

We are satisfied with our residential learning centre and we have confidence to take more children. There are children and parents who want this education, but at present we couldn't take, because of the accommodation problem.

Need for a safe and secure residential centre

After the examination the RLC children were sent home for holidays. We are in the process of buying some land from SAMUHA campus and build proper secure rooms for RLC children, for day school children age 3 to 5 years and for government school children's programs.

The present rooms are in bad condition and renewal at present will be a waste of money because of our new plan. The RLC children were told that as soon as the plan is ready they will be informed and they could come.

Land purchase for VMT.

In 25th May 2017 Vidya Mytri Trust percussed 100*120sq.feet land registered its own with the great support of wipro and Jomythri.

Finance: Wipro will provide financial support up to 35L towards this objective Wipro will release the payment in advance as a one-time grant on receipt of hard-copy request letter from VidyaMytri. VidyaMytri will submit an audited utilisation certificate for the amount received under this agreement.

Government school supportive programme.

Initially I started with one government school that is for girls school in Tavaragra. I took std1 and std2 and taught English for 3 days in a week. The teacher was co-operative and showed interest, I was satisfied.

This encouraged me to take 3 more government schools, one is government MHPS in Tavaragera and another one is HPS government school in Basvanna Camp, I just started work with these 2 schools. I feel satisfaction with government school teachers response. There is one more LPS government school in Narahari Badavane, which I will take after the Dasra holidays.

The children in all these schools are mostly about (70%) from backward and vulnerable communities.

So for we are working in 3 government schools teaching English to std1 and 2 for 2 hours a day. The total number of children in the program was 131, the teachers involved were 3.

I feel satisfied with the work done in the government schools. The children were motivated, attendance improved from 50% to 90% and the teachers also showed interest in teaching.

They applied the same method in teaching Kannada and Mathematics and got guidance from us. 2 children from the private schools came back to the government school.

And we got three persons trained to help me teach in the government schools and they show interest in the work.

Challenges:

Some of govt. school teachers did not know the aim of our RLC and objected the RLC children who attend government school taking part in cooking, gardening and cleaning in the centre. This created problem for us. Because we found the children's attitude towards these works changed.

Once we met the govt. school teachers and had meeting and explained the value of work they understood and supported. At present the BEO of this Taluk and the head masters seem to be co-operative and helpful.

Our main problem is getting young men and women who will work with commitment. We are exploring all the possibilities and we hope, we will be able to motivate some of them.

Outing and excursion

- 1) For 27 children std1 and 2, and 4staff. we had one day trip to Bellary and Hospet.
- 2) The 45children from government school std 4th to 7th children and 6 staff had an excursion for 4 days to five places in South Karnataka starting with Shivomugga and ending with Beluru and Halebeedu.

Summer camp

a) Summer camp:

We had a residential summer camp for 4 government school children in April 2017 for 25 days.

In this summer camp 10 volunteers. And 38 children were involved. The camp was held in the Samuha campus. The focused areas in the summer camp were.

- Community living – Learning to be sensitive to the needs of others in the group. Co-operate working.
- Identify their skills and encourage them to develop these skills.
- Learn discipline like- following the time table, getting up early morning, doing physical exercises, shramdhan- cleaning, washing, keeping place clean, learning to concentrate on the work they take up and do it with interest and complete it, taking responsibility for the materials.
- Develop self confidence in them.

In order to achieve these aims we provided the following activities – craft work, creative activities, quiz, cultural activity, and gardening. These activities made children lively, alert, and happy.

Documentation of educational materials.

We got the review of the manual, The Dawn of New Era from the Orient Black Swan. The corrected copy was we sent back on October 2016. The Orient Black Swan said they are eagerly waiting for the revised script.

Thank you,

Regards,

Prakash (on behalf of VMT)