

May 14, 2010

Dear Funders of Asha,

Subject: Funding of a school for tribal children in Tamilnadu, India

I am writing this proposal on behalf of the Managing trustee of the Basava Seva trust and will use the following format;

1. Brief introduction of myself.
2. Details of the Basava Seva trust.
3. The target population of tribal students
4. The project and budget
5. Conclusion

1. Brief Introduction

I would like to use this letter to briefly introduce myself and then relate my activities to those of the Basava Seva Trust (BST), for whom I am generating this short proposal and volunteers report. Mr. K.N.Savalappan (Chandra) is the Managing Trustee of the Basava Seva trust and the address of this trust is, A-6 Thally Hudco Colony, HOSUR - 635109, TN, INDIA.

My name is Vikram Cariapa and I am an Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, (EMAIL: vikram.cariapa@marquette.edu). I met Mr. Savallapan, through my uncle, Mr.P.M. Kariappa, who donated Rupees 5 lakhs for the School Building project. The commonality between Mr. Savallapan and me is that we are both engineers and both of us are intent on serving the poor. In my case, I was educated in Bishop Cottons School in Bangalore and then did my engineering in IIT Madras. I worked in BHEL, Tiruchy and then left for the US and became an academic. I make annual visits to my mother who lives in Bangalore.

I use my class as a vehicle to reach the poor. For example, I teach a course in Senior design. This is a two semester course for engineering seniors and involves multi-disciplinary groups of students who work on projects that are targeted to solve real life problems. The first semester is spent on developing and proposing a solution. The second semester is spent on making a prototype that solves the problem.

Some of the projects that we have successfully completed during the year 2009/2010 are listed below in the table ;

Project number :Title	Team size	Advisor
M 76: <u>Multi-Fuel Stove (Bio-fuels, Diesel, Kerosene, etc.) Costing Less Than \$5</u>	4	Dr. Hyunjae Park (hyunjae.park@marquette.edu)
M 77: <u>Snake Repulsion System for South India Costing Less Than \$5</u>	5	Dr. Vikram Cariapa (vikram.cariapa@marquette.edu)
M 78: <u>Snake Repulsion System for South India Costing Less Than \$5</u>	5	Dr. Vikram Cariapa (vikram.cariapa@marquette.edu)
M80: <u>Solar/Manual Driven Water Purifiers Costing Less Than \$10</u>	5	Dr. Vikram Cariapa (vikram.cariapa@marquette.edu)
M81: <u>Solar/Manual Driven Water Purifiers Costing Less Than \$10</u>	4	Dr. Vikram Cariapa (vikram.cariapa@marquette.edu)
M82: <u>Solar/Manual Driven Water Purifiers Costing Less Than \$10</u>	4	Dr. Mark Polczynski (mark.polczynski@marquette.edu)

As shown in the table, I am working on the development of inexpensive water purification systems and snake repellent system for a target audience of poor people in my home region of Coorg district in Karnataka state. The proof of the concepts has been established for these projects and I will be exploring the manufacture of working prototypes when I visit Bangalore in June 2010.

In the first week of January, 2010 however, I visited the village of Kodakirai (Tamilnadu) with an objective of verifying whether my projects that I had initiated would serve their intended audience. Some motivation for these these projects is shown by observing the target population for these project as shown below in photographs 1 and 2 respectively

	
<p>Photograph 1. Villagers collecting water from a tank in Kodakirai.</p>	<p>Photograph 2. Little girl who has just pulled a 20 lb. container of water from a well in Kodakirai.</p>

I am glad to state that I am on the correct track both with respect to the need for and the cost of my projects. The visit however, opened my eyes to the importance of what Mr. Savallapan and the Basava Seva Trust are doing. I could see an immediate need to inject money for the schools, water supplies, school books, childrens clothes, and much needed food. Some photographs taken during my visit show characteristics of the area but do not capture the abject poverty of the villagers who will need a massive injection of capital to transform their lives. Some more details of what I observed and what is already being done is detailed below.

2. Details of the Basava Seva trust.

Prime mover: Mr.K.N.Savalappan (Chandra), Managing Trustee,

Address: A-6 Thally Hudco Colony, HOSUR - 635109, TN, INDIA.

Phone numbers: 91-4344-265838 & 91-9442601936. ..

Email: ckanapur@yahoo.com

Trust characterisitcs: BASAVA SEVA TRUST with 9 TRUSTEES/BOARD OF DIRECTORS

During my visit, I met only Mr. K.N. Savallapan the Managing Trustee, Mr. M.C. Shivarudrappa (Director) and Mr. Kumar (Project manager). I could not meet the other trustees or managers.

3. The target population of tribal students

I visited three tribal villages in the space of one day. I left Bangalore at about 5 a.m., met Mr. Savallapan in Hosur and then travelled about 40 Kilometers to the first tribal village. In order to reach the village, we had to travel the last 7 kilometers on an unpaved ghat road, which is in my opinion quite an adventure. An immediate problem that I saw was the isolation of the village from civilization so in the long run; improving this dangerous road must be a priority.

Since my focus was the schools, I visited the three schools in this area and am showing photographs that give a reasonable picture of the whole situation. Photograph 3 shows the first village that we visited and this is a Scheduled tribal (ST) village.



Photograph 3. A view of the ST tribal village.

The houses are small, about 15 feet by 15 feet, and have electric power connections but the supply of electricity is typical of Indian power supplies.

Photograph 4 shown below depicts students who belong to this village, attending class. As usual, the girls seem to be the happiest and most articulate of everyone there.



Photograph 4 shows students in a typical classroom.

The class rooms about 10 feet square and badly lit, yet the students show a lot of interest. A consolidated group of students and teachers, who are dressed in pink colored clothes, is shown below in Photograph 5.



Photograph 5. My visit to the ST school in Kodakirai. I am on the 4th row and on the right. Mr. Savallapan is in the right foreground.

After visiting the ST school we went for about half a kilometer to what I call the upper-class school. Photograph 6 shows the upper class schoolroom with the 18 year old teacher.



Photograph 6. The upper- class school room with the 18 year old teacher on the right.

This school consists of 3 rooms in a building which is about 40 feet long by 15 feet wide. I then photographed their lesson plan and black board as shown in photographs 7 and 8 respectively.



Photograph 7. The upper- class, school room and a lesson plan.

The mathematics, shown below in photograph 8 is impressive for this age group of village children .



Photograph 8. The upper- class school room mathematics plan.

In summary, there are about 180 children of school going age - 5 to 14, in and around Kodakirai. The Basava Seva trust is trying to enroll all of them in due course. If the trust gives the children free food in the hostel, the attendance is very good, otherwise, they drop out.

4. The project and budget

Some broad details of the project are given below. I assume that Mr. Savallappan has provided more details about this project to you. The plan is to bring all students under one roof by July 2010. This planned building will house the school, hostel, clinic etc. and is located in the Basava Grukula Ashrama, in Kodakirai. It has been funded by a donation from MACMET India, & Deoji Trust of Kolkata with the patronage of Mr.P.M.Kariappa. At present, a 1 meter high foundation is ready and trusses for the roof are available as shown in photograph 9.



Photograph 9. My visit to the Basava Grukula Ashrama site building complex in Kodakirai. We are standing in front of the trusses. From left to right; a parent, Mr. Sivarudrappa (from the Basava Seva Trust), a grandparent, me and Mr. Savallapan.

At present, in the three schools, one Govt. teacher started coming to the Govt. school only from July 2009. The Basava Seva Trust takes care of all the other educational expenses. For example, the trust provides books, dress and other educational aids. The school children get mid-day meal free from the Govt. Until December 2008, the Basava Seva Trust was providing free breakfast & night meal to the children. Presently, they have suspended this hostel facility temporarily. When the new school building, is ready in July 2010, the Basava Seva Trust will restart their hostel and bring all the children under one roof.

This project focuses on the development and maintenance of a school for the tribal students. The table shown below depicts the details and costs associated with educating A) 50 students and B) 100 students respectively.

A. Budget for 50 students.

S.N	Particulars.	6 months budget	One year budget
01	Teachers –3xRs.1,500x12	Rs. 27,000.	Rs.54,000.
02	Helper - 1xRs.1,000x12	Rs. 6,000.	Rs.12,000.
03	Dress - 48 x Rs.200	Rs. 9,600.	Rs. 9,600.
04	Books - 48 x Rs.300	Rs. 14,400.	Rs. 14,400.
05	Games items	Rs. 2,500.	Rs. 5,000.
06	School day celebrations with prices	Rs. 2,500.	Rs. 2,500.
07	Educational Aids like black boards, chalk etc	Rs. 1,250.	Rs. 2,500.
08	Miscellaneous expenses	Rs. 1,250.	Rs. 2,500.
09	Total	Rs. 64,500	Rs.105,000

B. Budget for 100 students.

S.N	Particulars.	6 months budget	Next One year budget
01	Teachers –3xRs.1,500x12	Rs. 27,000.	Rs.54,000.
02	Helper - 1xRs.1,000x12	Rs. 6,000.	Rs.12,000.
03	Dress-100xRs.200	Rs. 20,000.	Rs.20,000.
04	Books.100xRs.300	Rs. 30,000.	Rs.30,000.
05	Games items	Rs. 5,000.	Rs.10,000.
06	School day celebrations with prices	Rs. 5,000.	Rs. 5,000.
07	Educational Aids like black boards, chalk etc	Rs. 2,500.	Rs.10,000.
08	Miscellaneous expenses	Rs. 2,500.	Rs. 5,000.
09	Total	Rs. 98,000.	Rs.146,000.

5. Conclusion

The visit concluded at 10 p.m. and though short was very intense and opened my eyes to the importance of what Mr. Savallapan and the Basava Seva Trust are doing. I could see an immediate need to fund their projects and I will continue my development of devices to help the poor. I was also quite impressed by what Asha is doing by reading your website, and I will attempt something similar in Milwaukee.

Thank you

Vikram Cariapa

(Volunteer)