

In the year 1976 Lt. Baba Amte & Dr. Prakash Amte felt the need of formal education as a major means to bring the Tribal in mainstream. With this aim Lok Biradari Ashram School(a completely residential school) was started . For the first 10 year the efforts were unnoticed by the state and media but later the school was recognized by the state.

Today the school has completed 37 years ,the progress though slow has been far more than anticipated.

Today the school boasts of 7 M.B.B.S. doctors several Ayurveda doctors , engineers, advocates, teachers and nurses and others holding respectable jobs. They hail from a community a generation where clothing and settled farming was unknown.

We have been fortunate to be associated with ASHA Zurich for the past years. The financial assistance has helped us to establish stability for the expenses.

The report of various school activities from 16th October 2011 to 15 April 2012 is as follows.

23rd December to 26th December is the annual celebration of our school. This was celebrated in an unusual way through a scientific fun fare. All the students participated with zeal and enthusiasm. The idea was that the students will exhibit their skills and knowledge before their parents who are illiterate and ignorant making them proud of their children.

All the students had done some or the other project according to their abilities and age. Below are some photographs of the numerous various projects done.



These students had depicted the 'The stone-age man'. Making and shaping his instruments and weapons themselves. The subjects were selected by the students themselves along with the teachers guidance.



A very small turbine, just enough to ignite a LED but big enough to ignite ignorant minds!!



An innovative dish made from wild flowers called 'mahua'. These flowers are traditionally used to make only liquor, but our students have invented that tasty *gulabjamuns*, *puran-poli* and sizzling *wadas* can be also made!!!

Every year the students through their collective labour, build something for the school. We call it **Asset Addition**. This year the students decided to build a community hall, which would be traditional and serve modern necessities. The tribals have such a community hall in every village which serves this purpose keeping the same theme in mind the students built an octagonal "Ghotul" or community hall. The architecture, engineering and final execution was done exclusively by the students with teachers acting as a support system.



15 students from our school were selected for state level championship. They fared well but most of them were disqualified at national level as they were upset with the sudden change in culture, most of them did not have shoes and so were disparaged at the event.



Villagers coming from far-off too visit the scientific fun-fare.

Apart from the above we provide the below facilities to our students.

3 meals- special attention is given to the dietary nutrition received.

Milk - 1 glass full.

Uniforms – 2 sets for each student.

Bedding - complete set including warm blankets for winter.

Stationary- Complete Study material, Pen, pencil, colours, lots of paper and craft material especially for the lower grades.

Sports – all athletic games, badminton, volley-ball, cricket and a modest gymnasium.

Apart from school activities , a ‘Photo and Craft Exhibition’ is also organized in different cities. The main aim of the exhibition is to create awareness amongst the urban dwellers about the project and the tribals. The exhibition is widely received especially by small children who in turn insist that their parents also see the exhibition. Tribal art and craft is preserved and a market is created for their products. Owing to huge demand for traditional bamboo articles, we have set up training and production centers in 7 villages, where the tribal are provided with additional income and also help in preserving ancient art and culture.



