

Virtual Site Visit Report- Shaaron Special School

Site Visit Date- 12th September 2021

Site Visit Method- via zoom video call.

Attendees

Asha Toledo- Krishnakant Patel Sreenath Samudrala Ganesh Iyer ,Advaith Vijayan

Shaaron School- Prema T (Principal)

Summary

- (1) Since school is not open due to Covid the teachers are visiting the houses of the children 1 to 2 days a month to help train the parents to manage the children. According to miss Prema, children's situation has deteriorated due to discontinuity from the school. At least one girl has become very violent and difficult to manage at home. They are constantly offering the support they can. The parents are also very eager to send the children back to school. Further the parents are visiting the school once a month to collect health kits given by the Remington foundation. Asha Toledo volunteers suggested that the school uses this forum to educate the parents about vaccination. Also offered any support from Asha if required as this is essential for school to start again.
- (2) Then we discussed the two proposals submitted by the school (1) For Teachers salary, Physiotherapist salary and drivers salary and petrol for 65000 per month- 7,80,000 Lakh/year. (2) For Kitchen construction from a mud shed earlier to a pakka kitchen and store room- 7,90,000

lakh. Miss Pream mentioned that they have already spent ~5 lakh for bore well and basic kitchen construction. Video of school construction was shared by whatsapp. This was funded through personal loan from friends and family and some left over funds from last year. When they were asked which proposal was more urgent she said they were both equally important. Kitchen because it needs to be completed before children come to the school and salary from a sustenance perspective for the year. But if she had to pick one, the kitchen was immediate because it needs to be completed before children come to the school. She also mentioned that if Asha was funding the salary it could subtract 1.4lakh from that amount because the money given last year for occupational therapist was not spent due to Covid. Also she was ok with not funding the physiotherapist as she is on maternity leave currently. Asha requested Miss Prema to send the audit reports for review at the earliest and she agreed.

- (3) The team was strongly concerned about the schools dependency on Asha funding year on year and there is a need for the school to find other funding sources. This message was strongly conveyed to Miss Prema. She acknowledged the fact but expressed her inability to find alternate sources other than a cement company and Remington foundation. However their contributions were very menial as compared to Asha's contribution and not continuous. Asha Toledo conveyed that starting next year our contribution may almost stop and the school needs to make a conscious effort to change their situation. This message has been conveyed to the School in the previous years as well and no major break through has been made. We also agreed to support the school in their efforts to write proposals etc to find alternate sponsors. A decision could be taken at the end of the year on how we should continue to support school after accounting for all efforts made.