Time, Place and Date of Virtual Site Visit for BSPES
On Aug 14th, 2021, we had a video call with Vijay (board member), Rakesh Madam (principal), Ashok Khugshal (teacher), Ajay (teacher) & Akshay Bhole (Asha Boston) & Avdhesh Paliwal (board member). Since Asha hasn't been able to schedule a visit, this call will be a stand-in for the site visit.

Virtual Site Visit
The link to the video on Asha for Education’s Boston Chapter Drive is: https://drive.google.com/file/d/101j6DA6vhT5NmAzsXnxh2dqypw1h5qxn/view?usp=sharing

Staff Count and Payroll

- As of August 2021, BSPES reported 28 staff with a monthly payroll of INR 245,000.

Key Points of the Virtual Site Visit

- School open physically only for teachers since March 2020
- For academic year 2020-2021, students in 10th grade and 12th grade were promoted using score of prior grade exams

- Admissions open throughout the academic year
- In-person student count in school: 120
- Expected student count: 300
- Certain parents plan to enroll their children later in the academic year

- Students in grade 1st to 8th grade: online
- Students in grade 9th to 12th grade: in person in 1 shift
- BSPES staff plans to practice emphasize “social distancing” with limited capacity and separate rooms
- School bus initiative has been suspended since March 2020, because of pandemic and parents’ reluctance to pay transportation fees (leading to financial loss to BSPES)
- Staff count: 28 including 18 teaching staff
  - Includes administrative staff
- Concern that students may lose touch with the education system in their formative years
- BSPES staff cited the need of catch-up remedial classes because of lack of quality education
• Continued difficulty in imparting education because of lack of availability of mobile devices and connectivity
• BSPES is using the time to refine teaching technique for better content delivery in future:
  • Academics: Adapting and creating content for online teaching (example: creating PDFs)
  • Technology: Use phone to online classes, training to administer online test

• BSPES has received the FCRA renewal registration, and has received permission to operate the designated bank account.