Call with Nandlalji about Infrastructure Proposal - 09/19/2021

Q. How many rooms are in the Asha Center? How many floors? How many toilets?

A. There are two main buildings – one is an older building that is used as an office and there is a newer building that is used as the school.

School building has the following floorplan
- Ground floor has 4 rooms
- First floor has 4 rooms
- Second floor has 2 rooms and a hall area
- 5 toilets - 2 for girls and 3 for boys

Out of the 10 rooms the rooms are used as follows currently
- 1 room — sewing center for Kishori Kendra
- 1 room — COVID/ Primary Health Center
- 8 rooms — are being used for school

School has a total of 10 grades from LKG, UKG and Grades 1 – 8. Currently 2 of the classrooms are being shared between children from two grade levels

Old office building has 4 rooms - mostly for office related work on the ground floor
- 1 room — SHG field staff and Kala Manch animators office
- 1 rooms – used as office
- 2 rooms – used to store office related items and also a place for staff and other visiting guests to stay
- On the roof - there is a kitchen and small store room for the kitchen

New Construction will happen in the office building
- 2 more rooms will be added to the first floor. Two of the office related rooms will be moved to first floor
- COVID/Primary Health Center and Sewing center will shift to ground floor of this building
- 10 rooms from the school building will be used for the 10 classes
Q. Would it be possible to set up a virtual visit to see the school and the teachers?
A. Nandlalji said that this was a great idea and should not be hard to arrange. Should be able to see the health center and the schools, both of which start at 8am.

Q. Where is the nearest government health center? How does the PHC operated by you work in relation with the government health center?
A. There is no government health center in the village - none in a radius of 5 kms. Lots of people are benefitting from this initiative
- Providing health coverage for 10 neighboring villages
- Health center runs from 8am to 9:30 am – and will be ideal to see in the virtual visit
- People are not very trustful of the government health center and they often lack medicines

Q. What is the vision of the Asha Samajik Vidyalaya?
A. The idea is for ASV to provide
  • Quality education in the area
  • Be a model school for the area
The teachers teaching at the school and more disciplined about their work and are more committed to the children compared to teachers in the government schools. ASV wants to focus more on teacher training to improve the quality of education.

ASV has been conducting online classes with a group from Bangalore and the teachers and the children are both benefiting in learning better English

Ideally, we should not need private schools, but until government schools get better there will remain a need for interim solutions.