



Asha for Education™

Site Visit Questionnaire

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Dear Volunteer

Thanks for conducting this site visit.

The following set of questions is only a suggested guideline. Some of the following questions may not be relevant or applicable to the particular project you are visiting, but please do try to answer as many of them as possible. Please note that Part sB & C necessitate that the information be gathered through conversations with the children and their parents, and not simply the group's teachers and staff.

Please feel free to attach any documents/photos you feel are pertinent to the project.

Thanks.

- Asha for Education

Date: Dec. 26, 13

Name of the Project: Nav Jyoti Rajatalab

Name of the Organisation Running the Project (if different): Lok Samiti

Was your site visit announced? Yes, it was planned

No, it was a surprise visit

| | Project Contact | You Name (Asha volunteer conducting the visit) |
|----------|------------------------|---|
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PART A: Particulars about the organization and its environment

1. What are the different focus areas of the organization? (give a rough estimate of the % of their total effort/funding)

Community development 25% Education 50% Health 25%

Other ___% (please specify) This is just a rough estimate of the whole of Lok Samiti organization done by me. Since they hire teachers, I believe it takes most of the budget, but also the schools. The school in Nagepur was being built constantly. The structure was done in working condition. Builders were finishing the layers (not paint, but some material to protect the cement structure) on the building every day. Lok Samiti coordinators told, the next stage is adding windows and doors to the rooms.

2. What is the administrative structure of the group (e.g. Board of Directors/Grassroots-based)?

Administrative structure seems to be non-formal. Nandalal Master works as the director, but coordinators I've met work very independently, fairly and are trusted by Nandalal. Every month a meeting of the coordination team is held to discuss and decide about future actions. Usually about 25-30 persons

3. Are there any other organizations working in the area providing any one or all of the services provided by the visited organization? (Briefly mention their names and their objectives)

| Organization | Objectives of the organization |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

PART B: The organization and the community it serves

(Information to be gathered from parents and children)

1. Approximately how many families live in the area? Nagepur 4000 people. Harzos 8000-1000 people. Mehdigang 10 000people

2. What do the parents do for a living? (Agricultural worker, Daily wage laborer etc.)

Majority is farmers and the second biggest group is weavers. This group is about 70%

3. At the time of enrolment, does the school ask for the names of both parents?

Yes

No, just the father's name

No, just the mother's name

4. How often do the teachers meet the parents?

Two times a month

5. How do the parents participate in the organization's activities? (e.g. by contributing their time, money or labor in the school's activities etc.)

Some parents give small amounts of money, grains or rice. If they can spare.

6. Are there any Government Schools in the area?

Yes

No

7. If yes, how far are the Government Schools from the community? 2 km**8. Why did the parents choose this school over the Government School?**

This is the nearest school, but also government school quality is lower. I've talked with adult people in Varanasi, who have gone to government school, that the level and everyday life in school is very bad.

9. When you visited, how many children were present in the class? 100

What is the regular class strength? 20

Comments: I've seen the morning ceremony at the school. My estimate is done roughly. After the ceremony children divided into different classes by age. For youngest children it is still the winter holiday. Total amount of children at school is 270

10. Do the children seem to enjoy coming to school?

Yes. Especially the young adults attending the evening classes 4:30pm-5:30 for english and computer lessons. Also the sewing classes seemed to be very pleasant for all. The atmosphere between students was good to each other and also the teachers.

PART C: Project particulars

(Information to be gathered from students and staff)

1. What is the mode of teaching in the school? (Check the appropriate choices)

A. Formal (State Board, Central Board etc.)

till what class?

B. Non-Formal Education (NFE)

do the students also attend formal school?

C. Vocational

D. Other . Please specify _____

2. If A (Formal), up to what grade(LKG, 5th, 7th etc.) does the school conduct classes?

Each class has atleast one teacher. Also the evening classes for young-adults, sewing classes for girls and literacy classes for young boys at evening time. I arrived during the christmas time and saw the half yearly exams. I was told that it was to test the skills of children and also the teachers skills. Exams are also done for the sewing classes that Lok Samiti organizes.

3. *If B (Non-Formal Education) how many of the children also attend formal schools in the area?*

If none do, does the project plan this for the future?

4. *If Non-Formal Education, does the organization create its own study material (books, games)?*
The event classes for young adults doesn't use any textbooks for teaching english or computers. I gave education by talking and asking questions, assigning short writing tasks. Students said they have done similar things before. I asked about games and students said they have done crossword-puzzles and other similar games. Some had textbooks, but none of the same course.

5. *If C (Vocational), what do the children do after they finish training?*

I'm not sure if this is the right answer for this. Navjyoti also organizes sewing classes for young girls. After finishing training they will eventually (some day) acquire a sewing machine and make clothes for themselves and their family.

6. *How many staff or volunteers are recruited from the community?*

How many of the staff are women? Rough estimate is half. All of the sewing teachers are women. For school teachers it's half women, half men.

7. *How many teachers have left the school in the past one year, and why?*

8. *How many new teachers have joined in the past year?*

9. *Does the organization train the teachers?* Yes No

If yes, how do they provide the training? They offer, or pay for specialisation education. Not for the actual teacher qualification.

10. *How much is the staff paid?* Depending on the work and time teaching. Teachers 2500-3200r per month. Coordinators 6600r

Is it on par with the salary paid to the staff in the Government schools? Yes No

PART D: Financial resources of the organization

(Feedback from the person conducting the site visit)

1. *Do you think the proposed amounts in the budget are reasonable?* Yes No Maybe

2. **Are all items covered in the budget?** Yes No Maybe

Comments: In my experience funds are used very wisely to different areas. For example the building of the school is not a primary thing, since it's almost done and money is a bit low. Still the finishing jobs are done plans for the future. The coordinators have a good sense where the money can be spend wisely, if there is money to be used. The wedding program, that aims for marriage without the dowry for the bride, could use more from the budget.

3. **Is there anything you think should be added or removed from the budget?**

Yes No

If you recommend any changes to the budget, please explain your reasons for this.

4. **Did you discuss the proposed changes with the project? If so, please describe their response.**

PART E: Comments

(Feel free to attach documents if necessary)

I'm impressed about the work done here. With small resourcers and skilled staff they perform huge improvements for the local area and people. The marriage programme without dowry of the bride, daliti education and awareness, and last but definetly not the least the education of the local population does results in big scale, but also for the future and the whole nation I hope. The marriage program will hopefully help the people get rid off the old custom of dowry, that is sadly destroying livelihoods of many families. I will attach further documents and pictures after my visit is done.