

06/22/2021 Meeting Questions

Washing Power Initiative

Q. What is the cost and what is the selling price?

A. Costs - Rs 36/kg to manufacture. Selling it at about Rs 55/kg at retail and Rs 43/kg for wholesale

Q. Are the products biodegradable? How is it manufactured?

- Materials are all safe and biodegradable. Formula for washing powder - caustic soda, scent, salt, (formula similar to Tide)
- 5 women work for 1 day and make 500 kgs
- This is a part time job for the women.

Q. How much are they able to sell?

- Total market they are targeting is about 3000 families with 5kg/month, so about 15000 kgs/month
 - ⇒ 2000 women from SHG
 - ⇒ 300 KSK
 - ⇒ 250 children + daily workers

COVID-19 Status

Q. What is the impact in the villages? Who is it impacting? What about deaths?

- Cases have reduced quite a bit.
- 35-50 age group was hit in the second wave
- Deaths have also substantially reduced - Mehdiganj - 50 deaths in 2 weeks, Nagepur - 20 deaths in 2 weeks

06/29/2021 Meeting Questions

Q. What is the purpose of online English classes when the children were coming to school?

A. Schools are not operational but online classes are allowed. Children will be called in groups and will use projector to teach the children. Byju has hired teachers for online classes and they are ready to start tomorrow (07/12/2021)

- Grade 6, 7 and 8 classes are being online
- Trying to get people used to this technology in preparation of the future
- English is not the strength of the teachers
- Offline classes will be held as they were done last year
- Children will have to assemble for online classes right now
- Teachers are surveying how many children have access to smartphone and internet

Q. How many children are added every year? How are they admitted?

- 20-25 children join every year

Q. What do the children do after Grade 7?

- Class 8 is being added this year. Next year children will transition to private/government schools and are okay to travel distances. Basics is strong enough for them to manage on their own.

Q. Which AID chapter supporting SHG? Is the SHG support a one-time or multi-year support?

A. AID Hartford. They are involved for three-year effort but will be renewed annually. They are focusing on COVID. They approved project in December about Rs 18 lakhs. Sent budget in June-2020 and money received in December. They sent Rs 5 lakhs to be used from January 2021. Laptop, camera and new sewing centers were established.

They also sent more support for relief in second wave - Rs 17 lakhs last week. Medicine and doctor support for the van for 6 months. Supporting medicine kit and nutrition kit for SHG women. Working to add oxygen cylinder to the health centers. Doctor, nurse and medicine supported for one of the health centers. Will share their budgets.

Money received through Asha Trust.

Most relief has been done using Asha money and local fundraising. Local support is not accounted through Asha Varanasi and mostly received through donations in kind.

- People are sending things in kind
- Crypto Relief sent about 500 ration kits and interested in supporting 500 more kits
- Caritas India providing medicines and supporting volunteers and sending some ration kits

Q. Washing powder initiative: how are the profits utilized/distributed?

- Right now, the profit is not being distributed but is being used for capital expenses and raw material. Paying the women who work on the initiative.

Q. How are the funds raised locally for Covid-19 relief or Van proposal treated?

- Answered above

07/06/2021 Meeting Questions

Q. Kishori Kendra: Understand miscellaneous expense of 5k

- Office furniture and stationery – books for attendance, reporting registers, registration registers

Q. Fund utilization

*** Why is the construction expense higher by 2 lakhs?**

- Budget was made was made for tin shed, but later it was decided by teachers and volunteers in consultation with Vallabhji to make the classrooms with cement and concrete.

*** Why are the wages for SHG/Kishori Kendra lower by 2 lakhs?**

- Big difference - salary increments happen in December but approval is made in April. Would account for difference of about 10%
- It is possible for salary for SHG to have been accounted under AID support from January – March. Will check with the accountant on that.
- Will share the fund utilization report from AID in the future

Q. Find out about Audit report for Asha India

Q. What is their reserve funds?

- Will have to check how much is left as of March 2021.

Q. What is their plan to continue education?

- Answered in the previous question as part of 06/29 meeting