Site visit Feb 27th, 2020



Project Steward

Vandana Mallempati, Austin, TX

The site visit was conducted by Vandana Mallempati in Visakhapatnam on Feb 27th, 2020. We arrived at 9 a.m just when the kids were at their assembly. There were 5 kids leading the assembly. One of the kid read the Headline News for the day which included politics, sports using braille.



After the news were done, they sang prayers and went to their respective classes holding each others hands.

The kids in the schools are mostly blind or visually impaired. Inspite of their disabilities they have done extremely well due to careful attention given by their teachers. Recently at the Andhra Pradesh State level sports meet held in Dec 2019, they won 15 gold, 4 silver, 4 bronze medals and also won the best State level "marching" award.









The kids have won numerous awards in both academics and sports as shown below in the school display boards.

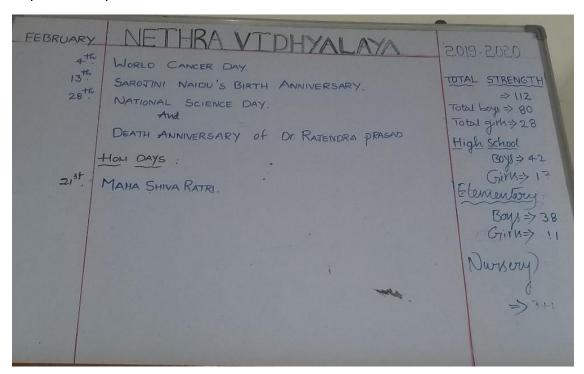






The school is very well run by experienced teachers and trustees. They are quite aware of the happenings around the world:

There are a total of 112 kids of which there are 80 boys and 28 girls from $1^{st} - 10^{th}$ grades and 4 boys in nursery.



The distribution of the kids in each class are as shown below:

Strength	Particul	Vidyalay lars 2019	20 Revise	d
Class	on 2/th A	August, 20	Total	
LIASS	Boys 6	2	8	
1	5	1	6	
11	7	1	8	
V	10	6	16	
1	10	1	11	
1	7	5	12	
11	5	2	7	
	10	3	13	
	9	2	11	
	11	5	16	
and Total	80	28	108	
		Boys	Girls	Total
hary Strength		38	11	49
Pary Strength Indary Streng Sery:	eth:	42	17	59
Andary Streng		3	1	4
nd Total		83	29	112

The timetable for the kids is as shown below. Each class is about 40 mins. The kids have two 40 mins sessions before their morning break. Then they have two sessions before they break for lunch. They have again four 40 mins session in the afternoon with a break after two sessions.

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	F		10.10-	10 10 10 50-		Stam I.I.stiam		11.40mm 13.20pm	1.2 70pm	1:20pm - 2:00pm	2.00pm - 2.40pm	2 50pm	3 School - 3 Stigmen 4	10-
		=		,									7	
			EVS	ENGLISH		M. BRAI	LLE	MATHEMATICS		BRAILLE	TELUGU			
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	par .		ENGLISH BRAILLE			AGA THERAA	rics	TELUGU		BR - M, TU, W MD CS - TH, F, S	EVS		VALUE EDUCATION	GAMES "
	IN		ELUGU	CS - M, TU, W FM BH - TH, F, S		EVS G.P		BRAILLE		MATHEMATICS ATR	ENGLISH			
	v		HEMATICS ATR	TELUGU		ES - M, TU, V PM BS - TH, F, 1	, 5	EVS PSR		ENGLISH	BRAILLE			
	vi		ENCE	VALUE EDU.	B R C A	CS - TH, F, S		SOCIAL	LUNC	TELUGU	MATHEMATICS , AA		HINDI	ENGLISH
L		TELL		MATHEMATICS 478	Č.	ENGLISH	B	R. READING	H	HINDI	CS - M,TU.W pm MATH - TH, F, S ETR	×	SOCIAL	SCIENCE
VIII	P	HYSI	cs	ENGLISH		SOCIAL		HINDI		BIOLOGY	MATH - M, TU MS SOC - W SE CS - TH, 7, 5		MATHEMATICS	TELUGI
Ox		NDI		PHYSICS		TELUGU	MA	THEMATICS		SOCIAL	ENGLISH		BIOLOGY	CS - M, Tu, PM M - Th, F NA SOC - S
	SOCI					MATHEMATICS		NGLISH		BIOLOGY	TELUGU		PHYSICS	M - TU, V MO CS - Th, F

Most of the kids live in the dorm upstairs. The girls and the boys live in different dorms. The lunch is prepared by two women:



The schools installed railings as shown below for the safety of the children with the money left



over since Asha paid salaries for 7 teachers.

Installation of the railings was ~INR 2.5 lakhs. They also bought a new device to help the younger children learn Braille. It is called as: Annie



Annie is the world's first Self learning Braille literacy device for visually impaired.

This device gives step by step instruction in English, Telugu about braille learning which makes it easier for the little kids to learn. https://www.thinkerbelllabs.com/annie

The schools bought 6 of theses devices @ 60K per device.

The school teachers did a demo of the device and it seemed very easy.

I did get to talk to the principal and the trustees who agreed to send me a list of asks for the next year. Sent them a reminder to send me the list. Also have asked them to send me the funds utilization in the format similar to other Asha projects and have sent them the sample too. Waiting to hear back from them.

COVID-19 situation – The students were sent home on March 19^{th} . The classes for 1^{st} - 9^{th} grades will start after summer break sometime in June. The 10^{th} grade students will return to take their board exams once the government has declared the date.