

# Site Visit report of Parivaar MP

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We (Mahesh Kumar and Mayank Kumar Shukla) visited Sri Ramkrishna Vivekananda Seva Kutirs run by Parivaar Education Society in Dewas District of Madhya Pradesh (MP) on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

## How did we reach?

We first reached Indore from Kanpur (Distance 700 KMs) by train at 9.30 AM on 13<sup>th</sup> March. We travelled by road from there to Seva Kutir situated at Jabalpur village, Tehsil Kannod, District Dewas, MP (Distance from Indore 115 KMs). We reached there at 12.30 PM. Siddharth Parmar, Chief Coordinator Parivaar, MP and Golu, Field Anchor Parivaar, Dewas district were with us during the visit. **We visited 5 Seva Kutirs run in following villages Jabalpur, Eklera, Bargaon, Umar and Sandrani.**

## Background of the organisation

Parivaar started its work in Madhya Pradesh in 2017. The plan was to start day boarding (education cum meal programme) for children in the age group of 4-14 in selected pockets of deprivation and malnourishment in tribal districts of Madhya Pradesh. These centres having between 70 to 130 children are named Sri Ramkrishna Vivekanand Seva Kutir. 175 such centres are in operation. At these Kutirs' more than 15000 children are getting meals, breakfast and dinner along with supplementary education and life skills over morning and evening shifts (around 6 hours of engagement) daily except Sundays all around the year. The organization is planning to start a residential school by June 2020 and to increase the number of Seva Kutirs to 225 by the end of 2020. At present these centres are being run in 5 districts Chhindwara, Sheopur, Sehore, Mandla and Dewas. The organisational



structure is as follows Chief Coordinator, Field Anchor (District), Cluster Coordinator (5-6 Centres), Teachers and support staff.

### 1. Seva Kutir, Village Jabalpur, Tehsil Satwas, District Dewas

The village is situated in the Vindhya mountain range and the total population is around 600. The communities living here include Bhil, Gond and Bhilala tribes. Nearest public transport and Primary Health Centre is 7 KMs away. The Seva Kutir is being run at the house of a local villager. When we reached classes were in progress. The students were divided into three groups. First group Class KG to IInd, Second group Class III-V and Third group Class VI-VIII. 110 students are enrolled at the centre and during our visit nearly 60 were present. All the students are also enrolled at the



nearby government-run school. There are three teachers at the centre Mansaram, Nanoram and Dharmendra and three cooks. We met cluster coordinators Vijay and Sandeep with teachers. The house was neat and clean with drinking water and separate toilet for girls and boys. During our interaction with students, they responded with enthusiasm. Some of the students recited poems in Hindi and English, solved Maths problems and shared their learning's.

## 2. Seva Kutir, Village Bargaon, Tehsil Satwas, District Dewas

The village is situated in the Vindhya mountain range and the total population is



around 1700. The communities living here include Bhil, Gond and Bhilala tribes. The Seva Kutir is being run at a concrete house of a local villager Dal Singh. We were welcomed by students with flowers and greetings in English on reaching there. Students present in the class recited a prayer 'Jai Maa Sharada'. During our interaction with them, we asked them about the meaning of the prayer and gave

them some maths problems to solve. 120 students are enrolled at the centre and during our visit nearly 25 were present. All the students are also enrolled at the nearby government-run school. There are three teachers at the centre Jam Singh, Mahesh and Kailash and three cooks. Cluster coordinators Vijay and Sandeep were also present. We had lunch here and discussed with them about how the village community is involved in running the centre.

## 3. Seva Kutir, Village Eklera, Tehsil Khategaon, District Dewas

The village is situated in the Vindhya mountain range and the total population is around 1200. The communities living here include Bhil and Gond tribes. The Seva Kutir is being run at the concrete house of a local villager. When we reached the library class was in progress and students read a story each from their books and two students



recited a poem each in English. The students were divided into three groups. 126 students are enrolled at the centre and during our visit nearly 75 were present. All the students are also

enrolled at the nearby government-run school. There are three teachers at the centre Girdhar, Shikha and Satish and three cooks. Cluster coordinators Vijay and Sandeep were also present.

#### 4. Seva Kutir, Village Umar, Tehsil Satwas, District Dewas

The village is situated in the Vindhya mountain range and the total population is around 1300. The communities living here include Bhil, Gond and Bhilala tribes. The Seva Kutir is being run at the mud house of a local villager Lilabai. On reaching there we got the opportunity to interact with parents of the children studying at Seva Kutir. We asked them about the impact of the Seva Kutir on their children. We also interacted with children and made them learn some maths tricks. We also visited the kitchen where the meal was being prepared.



123 students are enrolled at the centre and during our visit nearly 60 were present. All the students are also enrolled at the nearby government-run school. There are three teachers at the centre Narsingh, Radhakishan and Bhairon Singh and two cooks. We met cluster coordinators Vishnu and Kailash with teachers.

#### 5. Seva Kutir, Village Sindrani, Tehsil Kannod, District Dewas

The village is situated in the Vindhya mountain range and the total population is around 1500. The communities living here include the Bhil tribe. Three different groups of the students study at three different places nearby. The 1st group Class KG to II at the house of a local villager. 2nd group Class III to V at the



Panchayat Bhawan and 3rd group Class VI-VIII at the government school building. Total 103 students are enrolled at the centre and approximately 65 were present during our visit. All the students are also enrolled at the nearby government-run school. There are three teachers at the centre Maya, Rekha and Santara and two cooks. Cluster coordinators Vishnu and Kailash

were also here. Students invited us to play colours on Rang Panchami, we asked them about the significance of the festival and why it is celebrated. We also gave them a task to create and tell us an imaginary story. The learning methods were more interactive in comparison to other centres. Vishnu and the teachers briefed us about some of them. We met the owner of the house Nanoram where first group of students study. The students were learning to identify English alphabets when we reached there. We also interacted with the students at the Panchayat Bhawan.

### **Opinion and suggestions:**

The centres are being run in remote areas which are not easily accessible. Most of the students are tribal and malnourished due to poverty. We felt the teachers are not well trained thus hampering the quality of education. The course material also needs to include ways to impart knowledge through playful means. They can also explore ways to work with government schools this may lead to better participation and long-term impact. The Parivaar is working to solve the twin problems of malnourishment and quality of education in these areas. However, we felt that they need to evolve a mechanism to figure out whether the desired result is being achieved in these two areas. As far as the government schemes are concerned, they are helping the community in getting Aadhar cards and Ayushman Health cards. In the long run, they are planning to start the residential school for the children in the area. They also plan to enrol the students who complete education till Class VIII in government-run schools and hostels. From the 'Asha for Education' perspective we need to look at the long-term impact through our participation when they are planning to have 225 centres by the end of the next financial year.

Photos Link: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/CM4eqcowSSTNkLpi9>



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