

Sep 15, 2019

Proposal for Funding of Sarvodaya Parivar Trust for Year 2018-19

1. Sarvodaya Parivar Trust (SPT) continues to serve tribals of South Gujarat on many fronts, as they have done for last 51 years. For education, SPT has the following activities, students and budget:

Summary: Sarvodaya Parivar Trust schools at Pindval & Khadaki		
Activity	No of students	Budget Rs 2018-19
Pindval Residential school for standard 1 to 8. All needs of students for teaching, lodging, boarding, health care, uniforms, educational materials, computers, extracurricular activities etc. are met by SPT.	215	4,265,000
Khadaki Residential school standard 1 to 8 with students enrolled in Government school. SPT gives supplemental teaching, provides substitute Teachers to Government schools. All needs of students for lodging, boarding, health care, uniforms, educational materials, computers, extracurricular activities etc. are met by SPT.	181	4,180,000
Zero class conducted at Khadki for KG students to prepare them to start learning in Gujarati as they are from tribal families with their mother tongue being Konkani.	30	Included in Khadaki expenses
Total students benefitted	426	8,445,000

**Funds requested by SPT are Rs 2,300,000 or 27.2% of the total budget.**

2. School budget for both centers for the year 2019-20 is Rs. 8,445,000 as against Rs 8,313,000 for the last year.
3. SPT has over 770 donors, who contribute towards the school budget and for other community developing activities. **Asha funds only a part of the total school budget**
4. Asha had funded Rs 1.975 million of the budget of Rs 8,313,000 last year. This year, SPT has requested for a contribution of Rs 23 lakhs out of the budget of 84.45 lakhs. NYC/NJ would have approved 10% increase over last year or contribution up to Rs 21.72 lakhs. However, due to resource constraints, NYC/NJ is proposing to contribute Rs 9.875 lakhs and it is **proposed that Asha Central contribute Rs 11.85 Lakhs**. Asha's contribution would be 25.7% of SPT's budget for education. The balance Rs 62.73 Lakhs or 74.3% of the budget will be from other small & large donors, 770 last year. SPT spends 95% directly for benefits of Adivasi and only 5% goes towards admin.
5. Both schools are located in remote tribal areas where over 95% of the population is tribal.
6. The Girls to boys ratio is 1.07 at Pindval, 0.89 at Khadaki or 0.98 overall. Gujarat state has a ratio of 0.92 in schools.
7. SPT also conducts other social services for soil, water & forest conservation, tree plantation, conducting groups marriages , check dam building, running a nursery for fruit trees & jungle trees
8. There are 19 teachers & 2 Principals between the two schools. The total support staff of cooks etc. is 7 at two schools. Students/ Teacher ratio is 21.5 at Pindval and 22.6 at Khadaki .

9. Khadki Center has 181 residential students. All students are enrolled in Government school but significant learning takes place at SPT due to frequent non-availability of teachers at the Government school. Several Non-Resident students (about 140) also frequently have meals at SPT, come for studies and are generally taken care of, except that they live with their families in Khadaki.

SPT has symbiotic relationship with Government schools. SPT provides, at a short notice, whatever is needed by the Government school, be it substitute teachers or meals for all kids if food for midday meals is not supplied by Government in time, or supplemental teaching Mondays to Saturdays, 2 to 3 hours /day. It is difficult for outsiders to visualize, but the cooperative arrangement works quite well. SPT has a focus on children and are willing to do whatever it takes for their welfare.

10. SPT does not take any aid from Government in view of avoiding corruption issues in these remote places and also to maintain independence from Government education dept.'s interference in all policies & activities of the school.
11. The demand for admission to SPT is very high among locals. The criteria for admission are to give opportunity to study at SPT to at least one child per family & to avoid discrimination against girl child for the good schools at SPT.
12. An experienced senior teacher with PhD has been appointed as in charge at Pindval School. He has initiated several programs to improve the learning at Pindval. The learning at Khadaki center, where Sujataben lives, has always been very good.
13. It is heart-warming that NGOs in the area collaborate & support each other. SPT & ARCH had mentored Kedi in its formative years. ARCH, an outstanding NGO that shares Kedi's campus near Dharampur, sends to SPT

their science teachers to conduct science experiments and mathematics. Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar, who moved to ARCH campus after retirement as Vice Chancellor of Gujarat Vidyapeeth is appointed as a Trustee and mentors SPT in many ways. Dr. Iyengar is also a visiting professor at IIT Mumbai

14. The Assembly hall at the Government School at Khadaki is completed under Sujataben's supervision and funds provided by SPT's donor. During my visit last year, the Principal of the Government school came to meet me and told me how grateful he is for the guidance from Sujataben and all the help from SPT. This is a rare from normally arrogant Government employees, who make salaries several times more than SPT employees.
15. SPT conducts many extra-curricular activities at Pindval and Khadaki. Overall development of the children is the cornerstone of SPT education. They also impart Gandhian values of self-reliance, minimalistic life style, pursuit of truth, equal respect for all religions, equality and dignity of labor. They nurture local culture and traditions while preparing children to face the modern India.
16. Khadaki center conducts "zero Class" for the pre-school children. These tribal children speak a language that is a mix of Marathi & Gujarati at home. They are taught to speak & understand Gujarati, which is the medium of instruction in Gujarat. Many students come from illiterate families and they need to be taught everything from hygiene to how to hold pencil or how to behave in a classroom.
17. Khadaki has started a pilot project to explore how to support the needs of the Government schools in remote villages in surrounding area. SPT will now help teachers in remote schools organize extracurricular activities, arrange for Library books, bring outside Resource persons to these remote villages etc. After assessing the success of the pilot, they will start serving these & other villages, who have enough teachers but not the resources to carry out extra-curricular activities to broaden the horizons of the students.

18. Detailed reports by SPT on activities and achievements of the year 2018-19 & detailed budget for 2019-2020 are attached.

19. Jyoti & I visited SPT on Feb 12 & 13, 2019.

20. I would appeal to Asha members, as in the past, to visit SPT and also send interns. It would benefit both parties. I will be happy to coordinate the logistics & communication.

Tushar Shah

Volunteer and Project Steward, Asha (NYC/NJ)