

Visit to Seva Chakra Samajam on 17th July 2006

By Kalyani Rajappa

I visited Seva Chakra and met with Lakshmi akka yesterday.

1. We went through all the receipts from Asha for the financial year 05 - 06.
 - + All receipts from Asha during this period have been used towards recurring (monthly) expenses
 - + Total - INR 6,82088.58
2. No of inmates in the home currently = 84 (2 new kids joined them in the last week)
3. I saw the new building that has been purchased
 - + The building is next door to the existing one
 - + Currently it is being renovated. (Painting & Cleaning)
 - + They are planning to break one wall and extend a room on the upper floor.
 - + Akka told me that kids do not leave a single chance to get into the new place and look around
 - + Till the time they get to keep the existing home, the new place will be used for
 - + School, Library, Indoor Games room (Carrom, Chess, etc)
 - + Computer Center (If they get additional PCs from any donor)



4. I was shown all the legal documents of the purchase

+ Asha Funds have been used upto 75% of the cost. The remaining 25% has been collected from other donor sources.

+ The total cost of the building on Stamp Paper - 40 Lac INR

+ Additional Expenses for completion of purchase - 2 Lac INR

+ Seva Chakra has withheld a payment of 1 Lac INR till the current owner submits all relevant documents.

This is expected to be completed in the next 2 - 4 months

5. I have captured on camera the main sections of the document (attached with email). Akka made me a Xerox copy of the entire set.

+ Let me know if you need the rest also in picture.

6. No loan has been taken towards the building. Akka explained that Salomi has mistaken and said it so during the conference call.

7. Funds provided by Asha under the head of expenses is just enough for food, uniform, etc.

For children attending higher classes, they have taken Education Loans. Details of these are furnished in the Education Proposal that Akka had forwarded to us earlier.

8. Question Raised - Why do we need uniform for kids studying within Seva Chakra -
+ Akka explained that the above was decided with the objective of creating discipline amongst the children

+ Otherwise in past, kids going out of the home to the mainstream have been found to lack the basics of

+ Cleanliness, Dressing Neat

+ Arranging books neatly in a bag and carrying to school

+ Safeguarding their belongings.

+ Around 40 kids are currently studying in house. School Uniforms, Bags & Pencil boxes have been purchased for this year

+ The same will be distributed when they start classes in the new building.

9. The initial project was laid with a funding of INR 1000 / month / child

+ Lakshmi akka asked if we can re-consider and raise the funding to INR 1500 / month / child.

+ This is keeping in consideration the rising cost of basic amenities.

+ They have 4 teachers in the home being paid INR 1500 PM.

10. The grown up children are expressing interests to take up basic computer training. The cost of each course would be around INR 1500.

+ The home has one working PC. If we can arrange for local volunteers to go and conduct training over weekend, we can save on this cost.

+ I will try to work with some of my friends in Chennai and see if that is possible

+ Please suggest if you have any thoughts on the above.