

 *Virtual Site Visit*  
*March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022*

# Bhoomiheen Sewa Samiti



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*Project Steward*  
*Aditi Agarwal*

## **Attendees:**

*Asha Seattle Volunteers: Aditi Agarwal, Katie Hudson, Srijan Chakraborty, Jyoti Gawade, Amol*

*Project Partner: Lalit Uniyal ji*

*Krishi Audyogik Vidyalaya participants: Various students from primary, middle, and high school, Sri Jai Ram ji, Sri R.A. Vishwakarma ji, Ms. Pooja Gupta ji, Ms. Phool Chandra ji, Ms. Ranu Mishra ji, Ms. Tanu Tiwari ji, Shri Nathuram Prajapati ji, Ms. Prem Sudha ji, Ms. Radha Singh ji, and other students we met during zoom virtual visit.*

## **Issues:**

Due to technical difficulties the visit was not streamed live on Facebook as earlier planned nor was it saved.

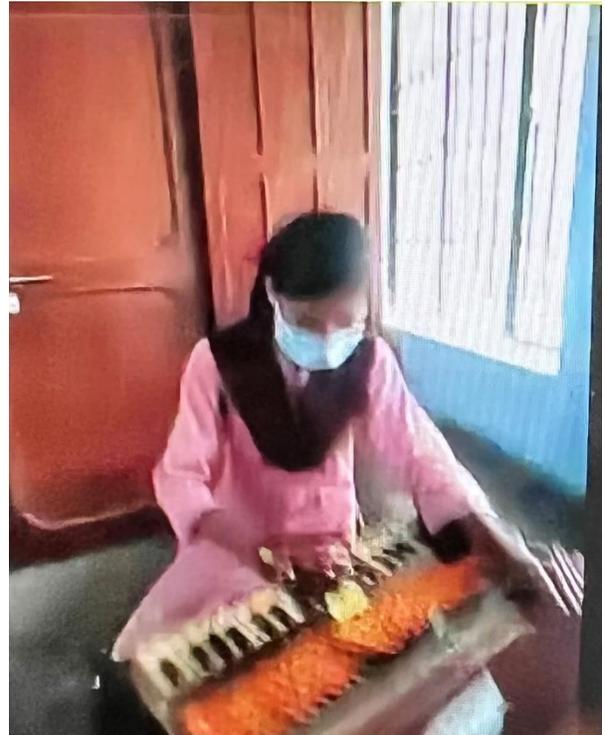
The call started with Aditi going through the agenda and then Lalitji proceeded with giving a brief background on how he started this organization.

"The Society's primary aim is the upliftment of the poorest and most oppressed sections of the society. Landless laborer is at the bottom of the economic ladder, and Dalits are at the bottom of the social ladder, which puts landless Dalits at the bottom of both the social and economic ladders."

Bhoomiheen Sewa Samiti is a voluntary service society, primarily focused on services at the Aau village in Uttar Pradesh, India.



*Music room and music demonstration*



First Graders learning Hindi alphabets



Pooja ji started the tour of the place by walking up first to the primary school. She mentioned they have about 6 teachers and currently about 172 students in the primary section. She took us virtually to the primary section and showed the play area for the kids. As she walked in, grade 1 was having the class. They were learning Hindi alphabets. She took us to the music room where the music teacher told us about the instruments they teach and even played a song for us. A student of class 7 was called to play harmonium and Casio and when asked she mentioned that she really likes music and has been learning since grade 2. Pooja ji then took us to the terrace and showed all the trees growing in the area as well as the buildings adjacent to it. She also showed us a bunch of cycles that Lalitji mentioned that kids love learning biking and that is one of the things they look forward to during play time. Pooja ji and Lalitji mentioned how academics is focused on before lunch and after lunch kids are mostly taught all activities like music, play time and other specials. They have about 18 cycles now and generally have

no more than 35-36 kids in one class. During covid that number has gone down. The classes started back up in September but at a time only half a class comes to school per the current guidelines. She said that the number of kids in class 3 are the least currently, but other classes have decent numbers who have returned.

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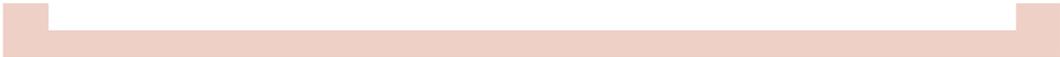
Then pooja ji took us to the place where they hold vocational classes. She showed us the rooms that hold classes on sheet metal, electronic repair, computer classes, tailoring, and beauty. We were able to talk to computer class teachers. One of the teachers, Ms. Tanu Tiwari, just joined three months back while the other teacher had been with the school for about 4 years. The teachers mentioned they focus primarily on introducing fundamental computer knowledge for kids like Microsoft word, excel, power point presentation as well intro to google search engine and email. Primary section has a separate computer for primary kids to learn basic use. A student from 10<sup>th</sup> grade we talked to mentioned he really likes computers and math. He is looking forward to studying ahead. We were able to witness grade 10<sup>th</sup> girls learning tailoring as well as class 9<sup>th</sup> girls learning beautician course. Lalitji mentioned that the girls really enjoy learning both. The beautician course teacher, Ms. Radha Singh, showed us around all the various tools and products they use.



The two girls who are in 12<sup>th</sup> at Attara tehsil and preparing for nursing school also came to talk to us for the virtual site visit. They have exam on March 24<sup>th</sup>. One of them still loves tailoring and does it to make her and her family's clothes when she gets time. They are currently finishing her 12<sup>th</sup> and then plan to attend nursing school in Jhansi. School is currently helping them financially with tuition for the exam and plans to help support them in the nursing college fee too.

Pooja ji then took us where they do vermi-compost and we talked to Shri Nathuram ji, and he showed us the process and that the kids specially 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> kids learn the process. They do mushroom planting during winter which is a success in general and so is the pure organic compost that they make. Pooja ji then took us to see the pond that hosts 3 types of fishes. The area was all lush and green and had several different fruits and vegetables being grown. We even saw the meal that was being prepared by the cooks for the kids. The middle school kids' meal is funded by government aid, but the other sections are fed by the organization.

Pooja ji also took us to see the middle school and high school section. We talked to two girls in grade 6. They had been with the school since they were in grade 1. They mentioned how they enjoyed learning different subjects and extra-curricular activities. She then took us to the library for this section that was filled with books which kids can check out for home starting from class 6<sup>th</sup>.



Towards the end we also talked to the two teachers who had been with the school for a very long time. One of them was the English teacher who mentioned that with covid it had been hard but now kids are coming back, when asked about school last year. He teaches English mainly but also helps with other administrative things as needed. Towards the end, we also talked to two kids. The girl was in 8<sup>th</sup> and the boy in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. The boy mentioned how computer was his favorite subject along with Math and the girl really liked music.

The call approximately lasted a little over 2 hours where we virtually went around the whole campus.



Girls in 9<sup>th</sup> grade learning Tailoring



Cooks preparing mid-day meals for kids





8<sup>th</sup> grade student at the school



Teachers attending the virtual visit call



Vermi-Composting



Pond



6<sup>th</sup> grade class in session



Computers at computer lab



Library at Primary section

All the pictures were taken during the call.