



Asha
for Education

Bringing hope through education

VARUN Site Visit & Mid-Year Report

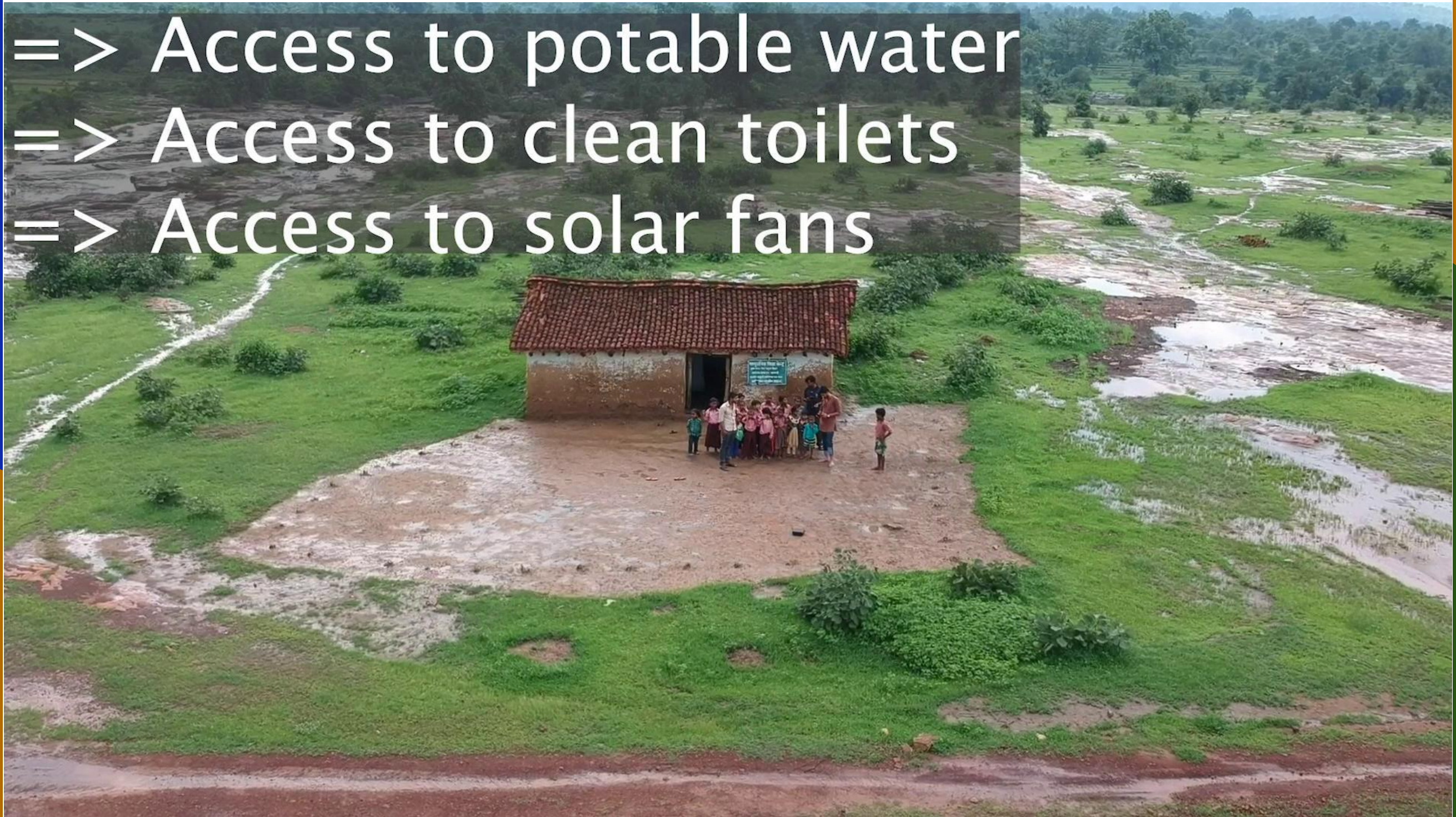
August 5th - 8th, 2019

Suhas Satheesh

suhas.satheesh@gmail.com

Video Summary

=> Access to potable water
=> Access to clean toilets
=> Access to solar fans



<https://photos.app.goo.gl/syKLEWky3Zk7vCmt9>

Location & Background

- Asha SV funding since 2003
- 9 centers across Chandauli and Sonbhadra districts of U.P., 1 in Bihar
- All schools are **informal centers** in isolated forest villages of 40-50 families
- Road access: Only Shahpur
- No water, no electricity, toilets under construction
- Used to be naxal affected, not anymore; heavy CRPF presence in Naugarh



Leaders On Ground

- Dr. S. P. Singh
 - ◆ PhD in agriculture
 - ◆ Co-founder of VARUN
 - ◆ Spent all his life at VARUN
 - ◆ 60+ years old, failing eyesight

- Ram Krit
 - ◆ Right hand man for Dr. Singh
 - ◆ 31 years old, B.A. degree
 - ◆ Student of VARUN
 - ◆ Main administrator for VARUN

- Ramesh
 - ◆ Long time VARUN employee [?]
 - ◆ 3rd most important person
 - ◆ No education, but skilled



Dr. S. P. Singh

Ram Krit

Ramesh

Aurawatand



Jhariyawar



Bhaganda



Shahpur



सामुदायिक शिक्षा केन्द्र
कांठार - किलाई प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र, कामगारों के लिए
अन्य केन्द्र एवं प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र
प्रशिक्षण - आवाज, दूर, दलाली, उच्च
मार्ग - कानूनी सम्बन्धित पत्र मसल
उपनिवेश (VARUM)
स्थान - गाम-ताहपुर, नौगढ़ - चन्देरी

A group of approximately 20 people, including three men and about 17 children, are posing for a group photo outdoors. They are gathered under the shade of a large, ancient tree with a thick, gnarled trunk. The group is arranged in several rows on a rocky, uneven ground. In the front row, two men are seated on the left and right, with several children sitting between them. Behind them, more children and two standing men are visible. Many of the children are waving their hands at the camera. The background shows more greenery and trees. The overall atmosphere is cheerful and community-oriented.

Dhobahi



Nandana

Piranchua



Bhitari





Baluhiya

Nauvanar



Food & Nutrition

- PDS is working well, good supply of rice and wheat
- Farmers grow 1 vegetable using old agricultural practices
- Huge variations in rainfall year after year - 2019 has been terrible so far
- Children are visibly underweight



What Should We Do?

- In some ways, the problems in the area are beyond Asha's capacity to solve
- We need to make peace with providing temporary relief until govt steps up
- We should invest more in RTE/RTI/awareness programs for the benefit of locals
- We **MUST** address some immediate needs: water and toilet cannot wait for govt intervention
- We must fund social entrepreneurship programs for at least a selected few



Immediate Need

One-time cost

ITEM	COST/UNIT	UNITS NEEDED	COST [\$]
Water pump	700	5	3,500
Solar lamp + fan	600	8	4,800
Toilet	60	8	480
TOTAL			8,780

Recurring cost

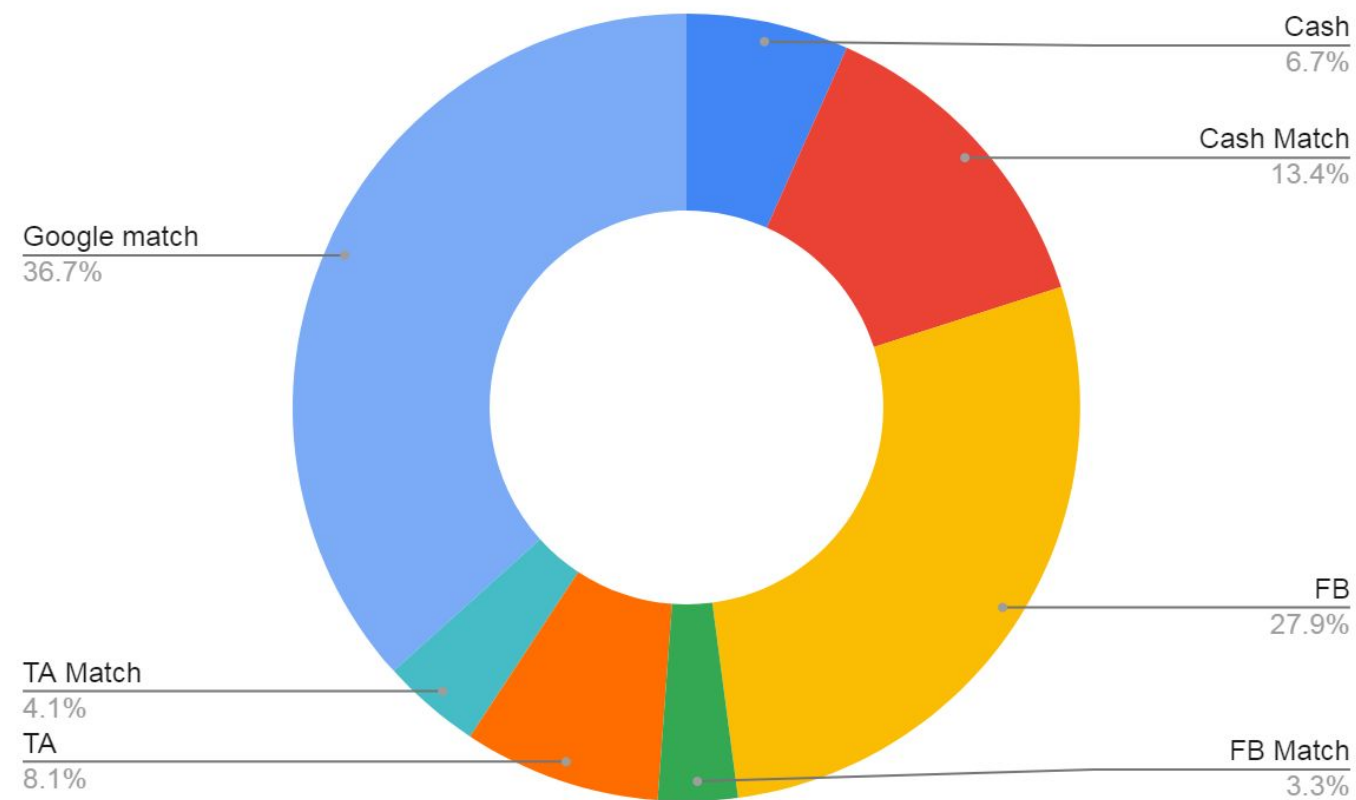
ITEM	ANNUAL COST
Salary Increase	5,000
Additional Teacher	700
Ramgarh Center Rent	350
TOTAL	6,050

One-time cost

Girls Hostel in Naugarh - \$35,000



Personal FR For VARUN ~\$25,000





Thank You!