

Asha Chennai

SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDENTS - SUPPORT A CHILD (SAC) PROJECT

History

Asha Chennai scholarship project started in 2000. A lot of the funding came from the Princeton chapter of Asha US for the initial 2 years. In 2002, with Asha code AA, the project came to be known as Support A Child, where individual donors came forward to sponsor students' education. Since then, there has been steady increase in # of students under this project and equally steady increase in # of donors/donations. Year after year, the project is streamlined more and more. We had supported 133 students in the academic year 2014-15. This academic year (2015-16), we will be starting the AN series for students under Support a Child project.

How we work

A Focus Group comprising of Asha volunteers meet periodically and plan events for the year. Students are selected for scholarship by the Focus Group and a Home Visit is made by a person appointed for the same to ascertain the correctness of facts given in the scholarship application. Once we are fully satisfied with the facts, we disburse the amounts to the students in 3 installments in order to monitor/review their academic performance and give them some counselling. We also try to understand their needs and help them. Last year, we helped a few students learn English at In-a-Word Center for Languages and also arranged Math Remedial course.

Report for 2014-15

Announcement was made on Asha website as to when and where the scholarship applications would be issued. We received over 200 applications and managed a massive crowd. 39 new students (AM series) were selected for scholarship in this year. We had the approval to provide scholarship for 130 students in general category and 10 in special category. However we selected 129 in general category and 4 in special category. A limit of Rs 10000 for the academic year for class 1-10 students, Rs 15000 for class 11 & 12 students and Rs 18000 for college students were set and disbursed accordingly.

Scholars overview – Statistics:

	GIRLS	BOYS	TOTAL
CLASS 1-10 (40%)	29	24	53
CLASS 11-12 (23%)	16	15	31
COLLEGE (37%)	33	16	49
	78	55	133

Scholarship project financial status for the academic year 2014-15

Donations received : \$24229 = Rs 1453740

Rs 158000

Total Rs 1611740

DISBURSALS:

1st installment paid to 133 students : 835734

2nd installment paid to 115 students : 619423

3rd installment paid to 85 students : 136029

3rd installment still to be paid : 100000 (to outstation & absentees)

Total : 1691186

Proposal for 2015-16

This academic year, 2015-16, we will be starting the AN Series for the new scholars who will be selected for scholarship. Announcement was made on our website and Scholarship applications were distributed to students on Sunday, 28th June 2015 at Raga Sudha Hall. Approximately 125 students turned up and 110 applications were issued. Considering the fact that there will be 11 outgoing scholars and we have 7 vacancies arising out of last year's approved number of scholars, this academic year, we can take only 17 students. Proposal is sought to take an additional 10 students this year in the general category, thereby increasing the number from 130 to 140. No change is proposed in special students category which is 10.

Existing Guidelines:

- 1 All students from Class1 to Class10 will be paid a maximum limit of Rs 10000
- 2 All HSC students will be paid a maximum of Rs 15000
- 3 All college students will be paid a maximum of Rs 18000
- 4 An additional Rs 5,000 for college students may be sanctioned for English language improvement and computer skills required/ suitable for the line of study.
- 5 Every effort will be made to help and support rural scholars as per earlier guidelines. However, should there be less eligible scholars from the rural sections the students from the urban section can be chosen within the numbers approved.
- 6 A total # of 130 students from the general category and 10 from the special category (differently abled children) has been approved by the Focus Group.

Proposal is sought to increase the # no of scholars from 130 to 140 in general category. No change in special category is proposed which is currently budgeted 10 but actual is only 4). If this is approved, we can take 27 new scholars in AN series. (11+6+10)

Considering the fee structure in most schools, proposal is also sought to increase the scholarship amount for class 1-10 only from Rs 10000 per year to Rs 12000; class 11 & 12 from Rs 15000 to Rs 17000 and for college students from Rs 18000 to Rs 20000.

BUDGET FOR 2015-16

	Budget 2014-15	Actual 2014-15	Budget 2015-16
#of students	140	133	150
Scholarship to students (academic year) Financial year	19,50,0 00	16,91,18 6 15,82,24 8	24,20,0 00
Travel Expenses reimbursed to students for disbursal	15,000	9720	14000
Data entry, Filing Photocopying maintaining file conveyance for home verification Malliga's salary Total	50,000	0 7767 35500 43267	55,000
Administration - Bank charges Postage refreshments during disbursement stationery/Xerox conveyance Others Total	30,000	7169 9813 2591 1870 1000 22443	33,000
Contingencies	10,000	0	10,000
Spoken English	30,000	15,00 0	30, 000
TOTAL	20,85,000	17,81,616 16,72,67 8	25,62,0 00