

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 the number 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 2015-2016. This academic year (2016-17), we will be starting the AO 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 counseling. We try to understand their needs and help them.

Report for 2015-16

Announcement was made on Asha website as to when and where the scholarship applications would be issued. We received over 125 applications all in person. 30 new students (AN 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 12000 for the academic year for class 1-10 students, Rs 17000 for class 11 & 12 students and Rs 20000 for college students were set and disbursed accordingly.

Scholars overview – Statistics:

	Class 1-10	Class 11&12	College	Total
GIRLS	29	09	40	78
BOYS	28	13	14	55
TOTAL	57	22	54	133

FINANCIALS:

Amount required to meet the education expenses of above 133 students was Rs. 2063000. However we received donations only to the tune of Rs. 1281660 (\$ 18964 ie Rs 1232660+49000). We had to manage the disbursement with our buffer funds as well.

Disbursement details are as follows:

First Installment paid to 133 students	: Rs 958420
Second installment paid to 133 students	: Rs 673354
Third installment paid to 133 students	: Rs 153427
TOTAL	: Rs 1785201

PROPOSAL FOR 2016-17

This academic year, 2016-17, we will be starting the AO 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 June 12, 2016 at Raga Sudha Hall. Approximately 85 students turned up along with their parents and 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 18 new students.

EXISTING GUIDELINES

- 1 All students from Class1 to Class10 will be paid a maximum limit of Rs 12000
- 2 All HSC students will be paid a maximum of Rs 17000
- 3 All college students will be paid a maximum of Rs 20000
- 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.

NEW PROPOSAL:

Proposal is sought to use the services of Technocrat – an organization that identifies the potential of the students and connects them to the courses that the government offers with job potential. It offers career guidance until they become gainfully employed. They help the students in finding the job in the government sector. They have several sponsors. We are negotiating with the organization for a reasonable fee and once it is done, we will pick up deserving students from our list of scholars and help them build a strong career.

BUDGET FOR 2016-17

	BUDGET 2015-16	ACTUAL 2016- 17	BUDGET 2016- 17
#of students	150	133	140
Scholarship to 140 students for the academic year 2016-17	24,20,000	17,85,201	64*12000=768000 31*17000=527000 44*20000=880000 21,75,000
Travel Expenses reimbursed to students for disbursal	14,000	9,110	12,000
Data entry/Filing,Xerox/maintaining file conveyance for home verification Malliga's salary Total	55,000	3013 4,420 ??? ?	5,000 6,000 ????
Postage Tea/Refreshments for volunteers stationery/Xerox conveyance Others Total	33,000	3,132 3,815 3,013 1,940 0 12,000	4,500 5,500 5,000 3,000 1,000 19,000
Contingencies	10,000	--	1,000
Spoken English	30,000	0	30,000
Career counseling (Technocrat etc)			2,00,000
TOTAL	25,62,000		22,48,000*

***Excluding Malliga's salary allocation for SAC project**