

VIVEKANANDA RESURGENCE FOUNDATION
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PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR THE YEAR 2010-11

Vivekananda Resurgence Foundation looks back to 2002 December, when its 'Man Making Education' dream unfolded its tiny wings through Manav Vikas Kendra (MVK). It is now known to all that this school is located in one of those recognized slums of North West part of capital of the country, where around 5000 unskilled workers of the unorganized sector of all religions and castes are forced to live due to illiteracy and poverty in inhuman condition in filth and squalor. In this area there are many small scale industries but everything is messy: no record of employment, no wage agreement and so on. No labour law, even then Life flows on as in rest of the country...

Manav Vikas Kendra started in December 2002 and gradually brought back to school the children of this slum who were forced to loiter on the streets and gradually gained confidence and after 8 long years we are trying to provide the essential need of a child to learn and to enquire through interaction with fellow children and a learned teacher supervisor. There are many Nursery schools for children every where who can pay very high fees but for children who can not afford to pay and their parents remaining outside their home on work, any attempt to look after the interest of such children is the primary responsibility of any civilised society. We started with around 30 students in 2002 and now we had in September, 2010 around 32 students, though there were 47 students on role on 31.3.2010. We have no clear understanding why number of children is fluctuating from year to year. It was 50 and 60 respectively in 2008 and 2009 and went back to 32 in September 2010 as it was 30 of 2002. What we can guess is that the families who live here on rent and work in the unorganised sector, generally pay annual visit to villages in April-May for cultivation work some of them may return after the festival season is over in October end. Other important cause of this fluctuation may be that life in Delhi is very very costly specially during last two years (inflation in food items is sky high around 14 to 15 percent per annum) and unemployment in the unorganised sector is the highest. So if some job is available in the villages, they prefer to stay back, than undergoing hungry days and nights in Delhi.

TABLE I

	Enrolment in MVK	Admission in Municipal school
2009-10	47	08
2008-09	60	28
2007-08	50	18
2006-07	40	15

We thought that more students will be sent to formal schools when they would return from villages in July-August, 2010, but the wait was meaningless. Out of these 8 students admitted to formal schools: 2 were in class II, 3 each in nursery and class I.

When Dr. Niti visited the school this year in April, there were two volunteers from Asha Zurich who also visited the school and that day happened to be holiday in neighbouring schools. Naturally there were huge number of school students of the area around MVK(Chocolates and biscuits were distributed), on enquiry we found that all of those children were ex-students of MVK and now attending various classes in schools. Naturally we were very happy to see their faces full of gratitude and respect. Same experience we had when in December, 2009 we went to organize coaching classes. We thank Asha Munich for the opportunity they created for the children of this particular slum. If we continue our efforts, definitely this slum of Delhi will be full of educated citizens of this country

II

The average child attending school is naturally suffers from malnutrition. We introduced mid- day meal project, initially it was for 3/4 days per week, now it is given in all the 6 days in a week. If we can give them combination of tasty and nutritious food, it will really help them. Last year it costs the organization around Rs 14000. We are going to introduce complete check up of each student by qualified medical practitioner twice in a year. This will start from November, 2010, after Diwali. We have made some provision for next year's proposal.

We continued with distribution of two sets of civil Uniform and one sweater to each student and added to it one set of tooth paste and tooth brush so that they learn some hygiene. It attracted attention of many parents and from this year we shall add distribution of some quantity of washing soap to clean the clothing. Last year school Uniform cost the organization Rs 25000.

We started taking the children out of their slum to different historical places in the city so that each child gets some questions in his or her mind, how a town looks and what are these beautiful buildings. Traveling in a bus together is also quiet exciting for these kids.

In India coaching before Board examination is normal and specially for children in Hindi medium Govt. schools, many of whom are found weaker than their counterparts in public schools. It is not to score very high marks, but just to get pass marks one requires regular coaching specially when parents can't help. We started coaching arrangements in December, 2007 for students of Class X only in one subject—Math. and the result was encouraging. This has to continue and may include English. There is a feeling to start coaching of class for students appearing in class IX exam. because many fail in this school exam. and have to discontinue their study. We intend to do that from this year. In 2007-08, 7 students underwent coaching but only 4 students could pass the examination. In 2008-09, out of 3 boys and 5 girls who appeared in class X exam., all of them passed the exam and one of them got 84 percent marks in the Board Exam in Maths. In 2009-10 we got 7

students and majority were girls and all of them secured good marks in Board Exam. Students and their parents are all happy with the result.

III

More to do

For the first time the Chairman of MVK, Prof. R.H.Das took enough pain to prepare a detailed plan and programme what to teach and how to teach the students. Our teachers are following the syllabus and the feedback from teachers and students is quite encouraging. The Governing council of VRF is grateful to Dr. Das.

In the above paragraphs we explained how MVK is trying to fulfill the educational need of small children of this colony. There is need to do some supplementary activities.

1 We are starting a Medicare centre and two qualified doctors have agreed to visit the school and examine each student twice in a year and prepare their individual medical report. This will start after the festival season is over.

FINANCING OF THE PROJECT

Funds for the Project are collected only from voluntary donations and not from state, because that is slow and cumbersome. Table II shows the funding position for last 4 years

Table II
FUNDING OF VRF

Year	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07
Total Expenditure	1,36,200	1,22,000	91,000	61,000
Received from				
Asha, Munich	1,17,641	1, 18,654	49,682	70,200
General Reserve	1,11,948	61,917	17,368	nil

The above picture shows how ASHA, MUNICH is helping VRF in its mission to convince slum children to come forward to start skill development through elementary education. In 2006-07 VRF failed to use the entire fund received due to factors beyond its control. However, with permission of ASHA, Munich surplus fund was utilized next year. Next point to note is that Indian IT Act allows only 15 Percent of fund received in any year to be transferred to General Fund after meeting all expenses. That is why we find in 2008-09 substantial funds at the disposal of VRF and in emergency this may be used to bridge the gap.

Proposal for 2010-11

VRF started MVK in December 2002 and we are all grateful to ASHA, Munich for their continuous help and personal guidance during all these years. Each member of ASHA, Munich who visited our children all these years encouraged them to continue their study.

For the year, 2009-10, we requested ASHA, Munich to contribute only half of our total requirements, because we thought that we shall generate enough resources from within the country! We approached various chambers of commerce in India to convince their members to sponsor some programme of MVK. Corporates have social responsibility too. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) sent a delegation to visit Manav Vikas Kendra in May, 2009 and we were told later that they don't have any unit around our school who can help our children. One of the branches of Canara Bank in Delhi came forward to help us with some financial donation. However, we are sure MVK has earned public credibility in all these years and will be financially self-sufficient in next one or two years. We give details of our Budget proposal for 2010-11

Table III

Actual Expenses of 2009-10 and Proposal for 2010-11

Heads of Expenditures	Actual for 2009-10	Proposal for 2010-11
Salaries	60334	70,000
Rent	14400	15000
Dresses and Bags	24983	30000
Mid-day meal	14011	25000
Academic Tour	2272	5000
Teaching aid	3000	5000
Repair and Maintenance	4470	6000
Medical exams and treatment		
Expenses	NIL	20000
Others	3000	5000
Total	127470	1,81,000

Explanations:

Salary includes salary of 2 teachers at Rs 1600 per month.

Salary of existing helper at Rs 500 per month

Salary of 2 tutors for coaching Math and English to class X and class IX students for 3 months.- Rs 20,000

Mid-day meal-- Cost of biscuits etc has gone up and per head expenditure will be about Rs 2.5 against Rs 2.0 per day last year.

Last year ASHA, MUNICH paid around 100 percent of the total expenditures like previous years but as it was received in January 2010, we paid expenses for three months—January to March. This year we have unspent balance on 31.3.2010 of Rs 72000 out of Rs 117000. We shall request you:

1. to give us written permission to use the unspent amount of Rs 72000 for 2010-11

2. This year we shall request you to sanction around Rs 70,000 only so that the total is around Rs 1, 40, 000.

We propose to spend in 2010-11 around Rs 181,000.

Our limitation is that the organization is full of highly qualified people, who served the country in many important areas, but due to age factor their mobility is restricted, even then they are serving to their best of their ability. Younger generation from middle class families busy for betterment of their individual life is to be convinced why they need a healthy neighbourhood. The long term advantage to educate children living in poverty and filth is to equip them to acquire knowledge and professional skill to improve their living condition and compel the civil society to provide them with all modern social infrastructures including safe drinking water and sanitation. We may call many human beings living with us as anti social, but we may forget the responsibility of the civil society to give them proper value oriented education when they needed it Most in the early stages of life. We have not missed the bus, still there is time to work unitedly to improve the quality of human life in India in general and in Delhi in particular.

Dr. N. Bhattacharya
2.10.10