

**Name of the Project:** 'Apna Skool' (Educational Project for the Children of Migrant Workers)

**Report for the period of:** April 1, 2007 – September 30, 2007

**Objectives of the Project:**

To provide education to the unprivileged children of migrant workers.

To provide nutrition to the children.

To provide an interesting and educative environment to the children.

To protect children from child-labour.

To provide health and hygiene awareness to the children and the parents.

To provide primary health care to the mother and child.

**Goal of the Project:**

This project attempts to reach to the underprivileged children of migrant labourers with education, intellectual and artistic entertainment and awareness of health, hygiene and social issues. Another endeavor is to provide nutrition to the children and to protect them from child labour.

**Implemented Activities**

Jagriti has been running about 15-20 Apna Skools every year. The number varies according to the season. The number of schools is maximum in the period of November to June as the brick kiln centres also function. With the advent of monsoon brick kilns closes down and hence the apna skools running there.

**Apna Skool as on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2007**

S.N.	Place	Type	No. of Children
1.	Kalra Brick field, Tatiyaganj	Brick Kiln	22
2.	Rama Hospital, Mandhana	Construction Site	24
3.	Tamsaha, Chaubeypur	Tribal colony	32
4.	Dhamikheda, Kalyanpur	Construction Workers Colony	70
5.	Panki, Kalyanpur	Construction Workers Colony	19
6.	Rawatpur	Construction Site	16

7.	Rave, Kidwainagar	Construction site	22
	<b>Total</b>		<b>205</b>

Three new centres have been started after 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007. These are Rama Hospital centre, Tamsaha school and Rave school at Kidwainagar. Rama Hospital is being constructed near Mandhana where large numbers of migrant workers are working. There is a colony of tribal people near Chaubeypur at Tamsaha who had migrated to Kanpur long back. Some of the workers at Kalra brick field opted to stay back at the kiln. So this centre is continuing uninterruptedly.

There were 19 Apna Skools running till June 15, 2007. All the brick kiln centres except Kalra brick kiln closed down with the coming of monsoon.

#### **Apna Skools as on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2007**

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>No. of Children</b>
1.	Kalra Brick field, Tatiyaganj	Brick Kiln	28
2.	Pandey B/F, Chaubeypur	Brick Kiln	25
3.	Nahar Kothi, Tatiyaganj	Brick Kiln	64
4.	Saran, Chaubeypur	Brick Kiln	22
5.	Mera, Chaubeypur	Brick Kiln	26
6.	Ankit, Chaubeypur	Brick Kiln	28
7.	New Jagriti, Chaubeypur	Brick Kiln	15
8.	Avon, Chaubeypur	Brick Kiln	42
9.	Badhavan, Tikara	Brick Kiln	28
10.	Murari, Tikara	Brick Kiln	23
11.	Deep, Bhauti	Brick Kiln	28
12.	RK B/F, Kasgawaon	Brick Kiln	28
13.	CBF B/F, Kasgawaon	Brick Kiln	22
14.	DBM B/F, Maharajpur	Brick Kiln	28
15.	Lodhar B/F, Lodhar	Brick Kiln	25
16.	Dhamikheda, Kalyanpur	Construction Workers Colony	80
17.	Panki, Kalyanpur	Construction Workers Colony	26
18.	Rawatpur	Construction Site	24
19.	Keshavpuram, Kalyanpur	Construction Workers Colony	17
	<b>Total</b>		<b>579</b>

### **Apna Skools in Hamirpur and**

**Bihar:** Like previous years, this year also Jagriti opened two *Apna Skools* at Bidhokhar and Banki villages of Hamirpur district. These were started in July 2007. Also we visited various villages of Nawada and Shekpura districts of Bihar from where most of the



brick kiln workers come. We opened a centre in one village of Shekpura district. These schools were opened with an aim to continue the education of some of the brick kiln children who were studying in *Apna Skools* during their stay in Kanpur.

**Admission to regular schools:** Two new students both girls from Dhamikheda Apna Skool have been admitted to a regular school in class VI. Six students have already been studying in the same school in class VII. Vishaal of Zarauli has got 2<sup>nd</sup> rank in his class by getting 89% of marks. He is now in class III. His fee has been waived by 75% by the school administration. Besides these children, about 12 children are being supported by Jagriti towards their study. They are provided with all kinds of educational expenses including tuition fees, books and copies, etc.

Some children from Kalra, Tamsaha and Murari Apna Skools have also been admitted to the nearby government and private schools. Sanjay from Rama Hospital site has been admitted to Class III in Pt. Acharya Kishoridas Public School Ramnagar Mandhana. Ashish is also studying in Class V in a private school in Tatiyaganj. Children from Pandey brick field namely Vishaal, Moni, Sanjay, Ritu (all in class III) and Sunil, Monu and Rahul (all in class II) have been admitted in Saraswati Education centre in Chaubeypur.

19 children from Kalra brick field have been admitted to Tatiyaganj primary school. They are studying in classes I-IV. Pushpa Ji (teacher of Kalra brick field) takes them to the primary school and also teaches there. All the children at Kalra Apna Skool are being provided with a meal after the class. Meal was started as the children were

facing with malnutrition. Daily rice, dal, chapaties and vegetables along with is cooked there.

Children from Tamsaha School also go to the primary school. All the 14 children who are going to the primary school are studying in class I. One of our supervisor Shri LK Shukla Ji teaches in the school. 8 children from Tamsaha Apna Skool are going to Junior government school at Chaubeypur.

Five children namely Vijay, Poonam I, Shobha, Anil (all in Class I) and Poonam II (class II) are being admitted to the nearby government primary school at Tikara. Now they are regularly going to the school.

All the children who are studying in the government schools are being provided with books, scholarships and mid-day meal at the schools. Two of our workers are teaching there for a couple of hours. This helps the children to learn faster in an enjoyable atmosphere. This was the result of our continuous effort with the education department to allow our teachers to teach in the primary schools.

**Interface with the Education Department:** Due to our regular visits to the Education Department at various levels and raising the issues of SSA at brick kilns and construction sites, some of the migrant workers' children have been admitted to the government schools and getting all kinds of facilities that other children are getting. Apart from it, two of our workers are permitted to teach at the government primary schools where children from the brick kilns have been admitted. This is a great success on our part as this is the first time that our teachers have been permitted to teach at the government schools. Such kind of experiment is only going on in Tamilnadu where the state government is working full collaboration with AID (Association for India's Development).

Also we have been raising the issue of implementation of SSA at all the brick kilns in Kanpur. Now they are going to implement the same at some of the brick kilns this season. We hope that it will be replicated to all the other brick kilns.

**Incentives (Nutrition, Books, etc.):** Children are provided with the education materials like books, slates, registers, pencils, etc. along with the educational toys which help efficiently in learning basic calculations and Hindi language (the local language). They are also provided with the sports materials like football, flying disk, ring, skipping ropes, balls, etc. All the children are provided with adequate nutrition every day. Nutrition includes Laiya, channa (both baked and sprouted), sattu, fruits and rusk in summer, while in winter in the place of sattu, molasses and groundnuts are given.

**Annual Day Programme:** Children of Apna Skools organised the Annual Day programmes on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2007 at Dhamikheda. Children performed plays, songs, dances etc. in an attractive manner. There were more than 200 spectators which included a sizable number from the neighbouring areas.



Another such programme was organized at a brick kiln (Nahar Kothi) on the demand of children. This was organized on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2007. A large number of brick kiln workers participated in the event. They were quite amazed by the colourful performance of their children which was unimaginable for them.

Children of Rawatpur Apna Skool also staged a cultural function at their centre on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2007. It was really very soothing to find pleasant smile on the face of the parents while enjoying songs and dances by their children.



**Training Workshop:** This activity is going on unabatedly. We have teachers' training workshops on the first Saturday of each month. Matters ranging from the teaching methodology, use of supporting materials and educational toys, problems faced by the teachers at *Apna Skool* are discussed. Research Fellows from IIT Kanpur have been participating in the workshop as resource persons especially for Mathematics and Science.

**Independence Day Celebration:** All the Apna Skools celebrated Independence Day with great enthusiasm. They unfledged Tricolour on the occasion and presented some extra-curricular activities. They also relished sweets on the occasion. Workers also participated in the programme at every Apna Skools.

**Library:** This activity is going on as usual. Every Apna Skool has a set of story books. Children enjoy reading or listening stories from these books. These are mostly pictorial books having stories from Panchatantra, Mulla Nasiruddin, Jatak kathayen, etc. Every set has some educational books also relevant for the children. The laptops and tapes provide an audio visual mode of learning. The children collect the news from their neighbor hood and bring out their news paper!

**Health related activites:** Going on as usual. We are now planning to provide Hepatitis B vaccination to each and every children apart from the regular vaccination.

**Vocational Training:** Tailoring class is being held at Murari Apna Skool as some of the workers are residing there continuously. 16 grown up girls are learning tailoring. This will enable them acquire skills that can add a supplementary income to their family.

Earlier Jewelry making and Mask making courses were organized at Dhamikheda apna skool. These courses were organized in summer



vacation. Children loved to learn it especially the mask making.

