Jagriti - background


- 20 schools run 7-8 mos
- Largely cater to migrant worker kids
- AID supports 5 other similar schools run by them & Mala find provides mid-day meal
- Jagriti has ongoing challenge that migrant workers are in Kanpur for ~7-8 months and most don’t return back to same place next year disrupting/curtailing kid’s education
- EK Kadam is a partial remedy
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WClEgMqdsX0
Jagriti - background

• Large number of migrant seasonal workers: agricultural sectors and construction activities
• entire family lives in hutments/temporary sheds at the construction site and brick kilns
• children of school going age are deprived of normal schooling and just remain at worksites
• run errands for all and sundry and slowly get prematurely inducted into workforce
• girl child has to take care of the infants while parents are at work and assist the family in household chores
• workers associate schooling with upper classes feel that schooling is necessary only for those jobs that are in any case not available to them.
• Reaching the School to these unreachable is the aim of Jagriti.
Apna Skool

- a place for learning in an enjoyable mode
- inculcate individual and national pride and societal responsibility as integral part of their education
- effort is made and caution taken not to generate fear in children towards study
- children absorb the content of a normal school year curriculum in the truncated (on account of migration) average six to eight month period.
- Reading, Writing and Arithmetics (traditional 3 R's)
- many extra curricular mind-broadening activities, such as Songs and Dances, Artwork, Dramatics, Story telling and Poetry recitation, Sports and Games etc..
- nutritious mid day meals, basic health needs in the form usual immunizations, vitamin supplements and medical referrals
- School uniform and Shoes, Sweaters during winters and School supplies, such as Text books and Copies.
- insist on them being neat and keep their environment clean
Apna Skool: Challenges

• Village school does not accept students joining in the mid-year and there are administrative hurdles to be overcome.
  – RTE might help, legislation for Compulsory Education till 14 years
  – But in village schools children remain totally neglected as no teacher wants to attend them. The children find themselves out of sync with the school either in terms of the level, or in terms of the methods of instruction. School may appear either boring or fearsome. It results into the dropping out of these children from the schools.

• Continuity is lost as migrant workers do not necessarily return to the same worksite or same works contractor
  – having a network of Apna Skools at many locations, past two years with mixed results
  – supplementary instructor cum monitor to provide personal attention through some one familiar with the strategies for learning developed at Apna Skools

• temptation for the older children to enter the workforce and become wage-earners
  – Apna Skools try to introduce older children to various vocational options and work with organizations such as Jan Shikshan Sansthan
  – not the main objective of the concept of Apna Skool.
Poem written by Apna Skool student Arti

Published in Chakmak (May 2010 issue), Science magazine for children, an Eklavya Publication.

आखिर क्यों…

मैं एक दिन बाजार गया
वहाँ एक आदमी ने मुझे कारा
फिर में गोल-गाढ़े की दुकान गया
वह भी मुझे कारने लगा
फिर एक दिन में समसे की दुकान गया
वहाँ उसने भी मुझे कारा
फिर में एक घर में गया
वहाँ उसने भी मुझे कारा
आखिर लोग मुझे मारते क्यों हैं?
क्योंकि मैं एक कुत्ता हुँ।

—आरती, पौंच्य, धामीखेड़ा, उ. प्र.
Questions from prev discussion

Q: Where are the workers from?
A: Bihar and some from UP

Q: Do we talk to AID about these projects?
A: No, not the stewards. Meena met the AID Portland steward of Jagriti and she wanted to talk to Asha steward.

- If RTE takes off, these schools will be in trouble
- Jagriti is looking for April 2011 to March 2012 funding.
- We have funded till 2010 Dec.
Questions from prev discussion

Q: Jan 2011 to March 2011, they don't have any expense?
A: They want to sync the funding cycle from Jan-Dec to Apr-Mar and that is why they are trying to move to April 2011 to March 2012

Q: Did Saurabh do the site visit last year?
A: Yes

- The 2 schools which are permanent work better because the children come regularly while the rest of the 18 schools are not permanent. These 18 schools do their best to teach children.
Questions from prev discussion

Q: What is Asha Seattle's involvement? They have sent a good bit of money in Jan 2010.

• 1. Asha Seattle's money is for Jagriti's another project namely 'Swami Vivekanand Vidyalaya, Lodhar'

• 2. The last grant from Asha for Jagriti's project 'Apna Skools' was received by Jagriti in Dec 2009. This was in response to Jagriti’s request for the period April 2009-March 2010. Since the money was received late, it was spent (after getting the consent from Asha) during Jan 2010 - Dec 2010.

• 3. They can manage till March 2011 and the present proposal may be treated as a request for April 2011 to March 2012.

• 4. A small request from Prof Pranab: If the present proposal is granted, the money should be sent before April 2011. Even a consent letter towards this will work. They need to plan well in advance.
Big Picture on Funding

1. Asha (SV) for 20 centers (amt approx. Rs. 12,00,000)
2. AID for 5 centers (these centers are different from the 20 centers in 1 above) (approx. Rs. 3,50,000)
3. VSEI, Canada (scholarship for some older children) (approx. Rs. 21,000)
4. Mala Foundation (Nutrition for kids, these are additional food provided in some of the centers) (approx. 2,00,000)

In addition to the above, they receive some local donations (of the order of Rs 1,00,000). This amount is used towards provision of chappals, transportation and sometimes the emergency medical expenses).
09-10 budget

• See pdf file
2011-2012 budget

• See doc file
Additional Info

• Please note the followings:
• The proposal (2009-2010) was meant for April 2009 to March 2010. However, the money was received in Dec 2009.
• The total amount received by Jagriti was Rs. 13,30,253.22 (after conversion).
• The majority of expenses (teachers training, health camp, uniform and winter clothing, conveyance etc.) will be during October-November.
• The earlier grant by Asha was for Jan to Dec 2010. It is inconvenient for Jagriti as the financial year is from April to March.
• In view of this, it is requested that the proposal of Jagriti, if granted, should be for April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012.
• We are using the black boards in the Brick kiln and most of them get damaged but we try to save as many as possible.
• Mala foundation is helping only for our mid-day meal programme.
• AID helps us for 5 centres and these are not included in the proposal to Asha.
• From VSEI Canada, we are getting small amount to support scholarship for some older children.
• We may agree to reduce the expenses involved in 1. black board; 2. teachers resource material to 50% in view of the fact that we may be able to recycle the previous year's material for next year.
• The tri-monthly report will be sent to you shortly.