

Parner tribal education program – MASUM

Report- 2015 and Budget-2016

Report of 2015: In 2015, we changed the focus of our education program in Parner from preschools to running support classes for school going tribal children so that they are able to sustain themselves longer in education. Pre-school children (0 to 6 years) in almost all the tribal hamlets in the block now go to *Anganwadi* or mini *anganwadi* run under the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS). During the survey of tribal hamlets conducted by us last year we had found two hamlets namely Ware-*vasti* and Ranmala where there were no ICDS centers. We tried very hard but could not find teachers in those or in neighbouring hamlets and therefore could not start pre-schools there.

We had to close Godsedara preschool in August. The teacher there had become very irresponsible about maintaining school timings and her absenteeism had also increased beyond reasonable limits. In spite of many warnings there was no progress in her conduct. We had to terminate her. We tried to find another teacher in that area, but couldn't find one. Therefore the preschool had to be closed. Currently there is only pre-school being run by MASUM in Mendoha hamlet.

MASUM had conducted a survey of children in tribal hamlets of the Parner block who dropped out of school. Details about the survey were given in the last report. After the survey, we felt necessary to start support classes to help the tribal students. Finding a teacher for support class was also a difficult task. We could not find teachers at 11 different places. Currently there are three support classes being run where we could find teachers as well as a suitable place.

The support classes are conducted four days a week (Thursday to Sunday) and for two hours a day. Though we motivate all the children to attend the class, our focus has been more on higher primary and secondary school students. The main objective of the support class is (i) to help the school going students in their studies so that they are able to sustain themselves in the stream of education and (ii) to encourage and help drop-outs to go back into the education stream.

Details regarding the ongoing support classes are as follows (October 2015):

S. No.	Hamlet	Starting date	Name of teacher	Total No. of children (From 1 st to 12 th Standard)	Average attendance
1.	Pardara	23 rd February, 2015	Dwarka Dudhawade	40 (including 26 primary school students)	22
2.	Borwak	6 th March, 2015	Goraksha Chikane	47 (including 28 primary school students)	13
3.	Kanher	16 th June, 2015	Prabhakar Aher	25 (including 8 primary school students)	10

A support class at Jambhulwadi was started in February but the teacher quit the job due to his personal problems. We couldn't find another teacher there.

To enhance the capacities of support teachers, four- day training was organized in June 2015.

Plan for 2016: In the year 2016, we wish to continue with the Mendoha preschool and the three support classes (mentioned above) in Parner block. We will try to open two more support classes, but seeing the experience (non-availability of teachers) of last year, we are not very sure about it. Therefore if we are able to start and sustain those during 2016, we would budge include these in the next year's budget.

As three classes started in 2015 are now running well, we plan to concentrate on quality of education in these classes. The strategy to improve the quality of teaching would involve a study tour of teachers to Shahada (Nandurbar district of Maharashtra) and Phaltan (Satara district of Maharashtra) where innovative methods of teaching have been used with tribal children in NGO run schools, and dialogue with school management committees (SMC) and parents in meetings.

The proposed Budget for the period January to December 2016 is as follows:

Items	Amount for one month/time	January to March 2016	April to Dec. 2016	Total
Honorarium: Preschool				
One part time teachers				
For January to March (1 x 1500)	1500	4,500	-	4,500
For April to Dec. (1 x 1700)	1700	-	15,300	15,300
One part time helpers				
For January to March (1 x 1300)	1300	3,900	-	3,900
For April to Dec. (1 x 1500)	1500	-	13,500	13,500
One part time field worker				
For January to March (1 x 6200)	6200	18,600	-	18,600
For April to Dec. (1 x 6700)	6700	-	60,300	60,300
Honorarium: Support Classes				
One D.Ed. teacher				
For January to March (1 x 2000)	2000	6000	-	6,000
For April to Dec. (1 x 2200)	2200	-	19,800	19,800
Two 11 th std. educated Teachers				
For January to March (2 x 1800)	3600	10,800	-	10,800
For April to Dec. (2 x 2000)	4000	-	36,000	36,000
Sub total				1,88,700
Project related travel cost:				
Monthly meeting at Ralegan: 3000 per month	3,000	9,000	27,000	36,000
Monthly monitoring visit: 3000 per month	3,000	9,000	27,000	36,000
Sub total				72,000

Aids, material and stationery Teaching aids, materials and books (2000 x 4 centers) (purchased once a year in June (start of new academic year)	8000	8000	Nil	8,000
Three days training for teachers & helper Travel (Resource persons): 2,000 Travel (Participants): 2,500 Honorarium: 12,000 (3000 x 4 days) Hall rent: 6,000 (1500 x 4 days) Lodging & boarding: 5400 (300 x 6 persons x 3 days)	27,900	Nil		27,900
Exposure Visit to Shahada/Phaltan 4 Days x 8 persons Travel + Lodging + Boarding	40,000	-	-	40,000
Dialogue/training with School Management committees (One day, once a year)	10,000	-	-	10,000
Grand Total (Indian Rupees)				3,46,600