



Asha for education  
Zurich Chapter  
an action group for basic education in India

Asha Zurich  
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February 19, 2004

To:  
Father Godfrey D'Lima  
Director  
The Shirpur Vishwamandal Sevashram  
Dhule District, Shirpur - 425405  
India

**Subject:** Questions raised in the meeting held on February 3, 2004.

Dear Father Godfrey:

It was indeed a pleasure talking to you today. I am listing the questions below. Like you already mentioned, the questions are not in the form of criticism but only an attempt by our members to understand the situation better. As a group, we really appreciate the work done by people like yourself and many others in various parts of India. We hope that we can partner with you and help your work in a meaningful way.

**General questions**

- 1) Is Vishwamandal Sevashram, Dhule (VSD) a registered organization? Does it have a board of Trustees? Does it have FCRA clearance?
- 2) What are the current sources of funding for VSD, how much and for what purposes? What is the annual revenue of VSD?
- 3) Is there any attempt at systematic inculcation of Christian values and beliefs in the tribals?
- 4) Where is Anand Sadan located vis-a-vis VSD (Shirpur)?
- 5) It seems that the requested funding is for on-going activities. If so, will the funds only allow for an easier, more efficient implementation of the current work or will it also raise the quantum of intervention?
- 6) Will any attempt be made to make the Government teachers do their job? Attempts such as writing letters to newspapers, government offices etc.
- 7) What is the total area of coverage of the project? 25 sites how far apart?

**Budget related questions**

- 1) Annual teacher's exposure trip: Can any examples of previously conducted tours be given? Locations etc.?
- 2) Why have the 6 workshops on agricultural development been included in the proposal as otherwise the proposal is about primary education?
- 3) Are the 6 workshops planned at 6 different locations such that the attendees will be different? Who will be the resource person?

- 4) The teacher's salary is very low (Rs. 525/month). Will it be enough to motivate them?
- 5) Funding for office supplies: How does VSD manage its requirements currently?
- 6) What happens after 3 years? (In the sense of a funding agency, will there be a lasting impact after we fund for three years)
- 7) What kinds of regular reports can we expect from VSD? What would be the deliverables of the project?

Best regards,

Chidambaram Narayanan  
Coordinator  
Asha Zurich