

The Shirpur Vishwa Mandal
Serashram
Shirpur, Dist. Dhule, 425405
Maharashtra State, India
July 21, 2004

Dear Mr. Chidambaram,
On my monthly visit to Mumbai & Xavier's College
Fr. Fraser gave me a printout of your Email sent on
July 3, 2004 ("Shirpur project. moving ahead...")
Thank you! Please don't take amiss my turtle's reflection.
I wanted to write this letter with the tools at my
disposal. It's not flattering to always depend on Fr. Fraser's
Email in Mumbai at Xavier's College. Let's take up the
points you raise:-

SITUATION IN SHIRPUR - Then & Now.

12 years ago we began the children's educational programme
imagining that Zilha Parishad (Gont.) schools would improve.
That they would retain more learners and achieve their goal
of imparting formal education. So our Supportive educational
systems concentrated on mere literacy + numeracy so that
the learner would enter the formal system after initia-
tion ~~to~~ our supportive process.

Today, I fear, the Gont. Schools (whether urban or rural) are
still caught up in the struggle of relevance: whether it be
the irrelevancies of a standardised syllabus, the mother-
tongue* issue, the divorce of formal education from any pro-
ductive educational approach, the absence of Community
linkages. (* State language versus local mother-tongue)

Hence the approach we are taking in the PALAS edu-
cational programmes assumes greater relevance. We are
generating answers to the questions of rural + tribal
education. We are developing new syllabus that re-
lates to the environment and the skills required to
improve living conditions. We are approaching the
learner's Community as well with programmes that
motivate and develop technique for Sustainable Agri-

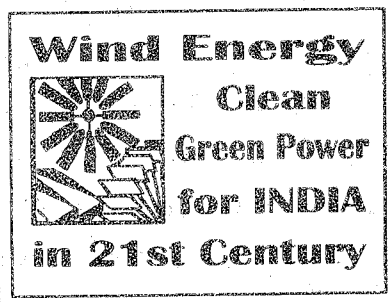


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दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

भा प्रसु / I S P - 2006

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
 Sender's Name and Address:-



Fr. Godfrey D' Lima
 The Shripur Vishwa Mandal
 Sevashram
 Shripur, Dist. Dhule 425405
 Maharashtra State, INDIA

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
 No Enclosures Allowed

पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

the outcome of our 12 year old efforts on the one hand
 to find some learners making progress in formal edu-
 action-but more, we have more communities involved
 in developmental activities as mentioned before:-
 credit groups, micro-watered, organic compost, seed
 treatment + peat control, health awareness, AND literacy
 HARD COPY OF SWMS CHARTER:- Sure, I'll send you soon
 the Memorandum of Association
 FCRA CLEARANCE:- Along with the above I'll post you
 the too.
 PROPOSAL OF SHANMUGA K S V BASHREE. Since I don't
 think they sent us a copy of the proposal they sent to you
 leave email their copy to FR. FRAZER. After that we'll modify
 WE WELCOME A VISIT.
 That's all for now.

asking forward - fr. Godfrey D' Lima