

# **MONTHLY REPORT OF THE SHIRPUR VISHWAMANDAL SEVASHRAM**

(Received via email on August 13th, 2008)

PROJECT P.A.L.A.S. (From JAN 2008 to JUNE 2008 – 6 monthly report)

## **I The PALAS Programme In Shirpur District, Dhule**

The first half of the Palas Shirpur educational programme, for the year 2007 - 2008 was completed successfully. Additional 8 learning centres were added in the interior areas near the foothills of the Satpuda range of mountains bordering Madhya Pradesh on the Maharashtra side of the border. The adivasi children attending the learning programme were on the rise. Their teachers being from their own community were easily able to overcome the language barrier in the process of teaching. Their parents continued to support their children's effort and offered their monthly support nominal fee to the teachers. Free class room space continues to be made available in each of the villages by the community itself.

Supervision of the classes was regularly carried out. Efforts continue to meet parents in the villages where classes are conducted and to discuss with them the progress of the learning programme.

## **II Positive Gains in the Second Six Months**

The network of PALAS learning centres was continued successfully into the first half of the academic year in 2008.

1. The teaching aids, learning materials for the children, were continually made available to the learning centres as and when required.
2. Monthly trainings of the teachers where senior Resource Persons continue to help the new recruits to acquire skills in communication.

3. Additional 8 Classes were Added to the already existing 26 classes..
4. Parents' contribution to the classes was fairly regular in cash, kind, or service to the programme
5. Parents' Days were begun to be held in the learning centres in which children displayed their skills and learning.
6. Mr.Dilip Kuwarsing Pawara, did well in his new post of being a Supervisor cum Trainer.
7. Monthly in-service sessions for the training of the new teacher's continued as usual.
8. Introduction of the new learning materials for English that have been designed by Fr. Godfrey and a team of educators and media professionals is slowly developing the taste for learning among the adivasi children.
9. Kishorebhau joins Fr. Augustine from June onwards, in replacement of Assisbhau to assist in the continuity of the work at Shirpur.

### **III Drawbacks that needed attention**

The fresh team of Fr. Augustine and Assis put in all their efforts to improve the quality and outreach of the programme.

1. The only capable teachers in some of the centres were young women who were recruited early this year. They made slow progress in adopting the teaching methods they were taught during the training as in comparison to the senior and experienced male teachers.
2. It was easier to reach the teaching aids to the classes in time as compared to the monsoons.
3. The children's attendance at the classes continued to fluctuate. This is more due the seasonal migration that usually take place during the summer, due to the fact that the families have very little or no grain left to survive and hence migrate to seek employment opportunities in the State of Gujarat and other neighboring States

### **IV**

#### **Month**

Jan

#### **No. of Classes**

26

Feb	26	
March		34
April	34	
May	34	
June	00	

## **V Contribution of Parents**

An average monthly contribution of Rs.5 per child in cash or kind (farm products) was made by parents to the teachers.

Total amount collected from JAN to JUNE = 7700.00

This amount is the peoples contribution given to the teachers. In a way it speaks for itself, making explicit that the parents want their children to get educated and live a dignified life.

## **VI Expenses on the Project for the First Six Months (JAN to JUNE 2008)**

### SR.NO.

### **PARTICULARS**

01.01.08 TO 31.06.08

1.  
LEARNING EQUIPMENT  
1,500.00
2.  
LEARNING MATERIAL  
2,049.00
3.  
POSTAGE AND STATIONARY  
558.00
4.  
SOFTWARE AND STATIONARY  
6,173.00
- 5.

SUPERVISION AND ANIMATION  
29,980.00

6.  
TEACHER'S STIPEND  
1,12,170.00

7.  
TRAINING CAMPS  
4,750.00

8.  
TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT  
20,655.00

**TOTAL**  
**177835.00**

\* We have had a total number of 2 camps upto JUNE. We received help from other local sources to sponsor some of these camps. That is why the amount on camps appears low.

[SR.NO.](#)

PARTICULARS  
01.01.08 TO 31.06.08

1.  
Amount received in 2nd installment  
1,60,276.00

2.  
Balance carried over from the 1st installment  
+ 44,276.00

3.  
Total available amount  
**2,04,552.00**

4.  
Amount spent from Dec to June  
– 1,77,835.00

5.

Total

**26,718.00**

## **VII The Way Ahead**

As this report is being sent to ASHA Zurich we have moved ahead in the new academic year and restarted the PALAS classes in June. We now have 34 classes which are functioning well.

Sincerely

Fr. Augustine and Kishorebhau,  
The Shirpur Vishwa Mandal Sevashram,  
Date: August 13, 2008.