

## Site Visit To Aadarana Home for Boys: 10- July 2010

Sheena, Giri and I have noticed the following on our site-visit to Aadarna Boys Home and Viklanga Kalyan Vedika on the 10th July, 2010.

**Notes:** Basic amenities at Aadarna - Place is decent enough to accommodate 36 children. Children seem to be happy with food they get. Aadarna girls is based out of a flat at Saroor Nagar. Apparently all kids show remarkable improvement (spoken english) and signs of getting needful education. Most of the students have scored well (>75%). Mr. Madhav Rao takes care of both the Aadarna home for boys and Girls. His mother is the care-taker at girls home, though.

### + Issues for kids

Number of boys - Aadarna is supporting a decent no. of needy children considering the space available. The overall number, 36, hasn't increased since last year. There are six new joiners and six (mostly college going students) have left. General trend is that college going boys shift to other orphanages cos of better facilities.

- Acc. to Mr. Rao, the other homes have better infrastructure, are decently spacious with proper bedding material, have domestic helps, regular water supply and subsidies from government (free land) or educational support. Aadarna has no help/staff at the moment for lack of funds. Children manage the entire thing (from cooking to washing vessels) on their own. Also, there is water scarcity and a water tanker needs to be called for quite often. Purity of water is an other concern.

### Solutions/suggestions

- Need to support a helper's salary to cook and carry house-keeping act.
- Children have one pair of uniform. They wash, dry (iron) the same to wear it next day. Propose to buy an other pair. Money spent and to be spent is detailed below.
- Need volunteers to teach spoken English after school hours. It should be considered of prime importance.
- Old cycles, sports items and story books can be given to kids. They show interest in reading.

Particulars	Amt. Spent	Proposed expense
School/College Fee	62,300	
Books		
	24,920	6,000
Ties & belts		
	1,840	
Uniform		10,800
Domestic Help (annual)		30000
<b>Total</b>	89,060	46,800
<b>Grand Total (INR)</b>		135,860

### Concerns on accounting front:

+ Accounts at Aadarna - Collected all the receipts for Rs. 89060. We observed, just like the last year, some sort of lack of transparency in accounting. For instance, as we all know Asha's donation isn't considered in Aadarna accounts as 'income' and is spent at the schools directly. Giri for uniforms et al., yet we have the same expenses under the head 'books, fee, uniform etc.' accounted for as 'expenditure' in Aadarna accounts books.

The break-up of donation and monthly flow of funds are practically impossible to be tracked. Reason being, apart from company and NGO donation, there is a good sum raised from house

-to-house donations and by references. This has to be looked at! The current year accounts weren't avbl. Giri shall visit on some other day to scrutinize the same.

Also, the inspiration to have own school (likes of NICE) and a few of the above issues has encouraged Mr. Rao to have his own school/ infrastructure. As rightly pointed by Amar and Pavan in their last mail about Aadarna, Mr. Rao along with Mr. Santosh Reddy (Nexus Engineering College) and a few more have contributed Rs. 44 lacs towards purchase of land. They would need another 30 lacs (aprx) for construction, which is turning out be quite difficult. Mr. Rao says he hasnt contributed any amount towards the same. Both Mr. Rao and Mr. Reddy take the roles of Chairman and President respectively for the proposed set-up. This new venture will capacitate many more needy/orphans and support their education as well.

**It is due to Mr. Rao's effort that the schools/colleges have given a fee waiver to all the students. His effort to keep up the students spirits, manage donations, employ a lot of effort to raise funds is applaudable.** The glitch here, as we hear from acquaintances, is that most of the funds are diverted from the boys/girls home to the new project. Hence, even after having donors to the school frequently, Mr. Rao has been asking Asha and a few more to donate for both boys and girls. This is also apparent from the talk that one has with Mr. Rao.

Having no staff/maid is an act of cost-cutting.

We need to have a clear talk with Mr. Rao on the following and raise this as a matter of immediate concern after the current year accounts are available.

#### **Viklanga Kalyan Vedika (girls):**

This is a home for blind and is run by Mr. Subhash, who is also a visually challenged. He works with Andhra Bank and devotes his income (Rs. 32,000) to the home. He raises funds from his office colleagues and acquaintances. But, eventually isnt able to spare time to promote himself amongst the NGOs and raise funds to the amount needed. The girls, 20 in number, are a mix of partially blind, totally blind and normal. As mentioned in Giri's earlier mail that they are in dire need of funds and live out of a hall and kitchen.

There are many success stories from vkv. I guess Mr. Subhash has been instrumental in educating and training girls (crafts) to a great extent that the girls can now work and be independent. AFAIK, in the past, there have been 32 vkv girls married and settled. The girls there are all praises for Mr. Subhash, who has been solely instrumental in their training in braille system and motivating them to be own their own. They have a help who takes care of cooking.

We propose to support this organization. The glitch, that vkv cannot maintain accounts, can be overcome by donating the items personally like we do at Aadarna. Fee expenses are too pity but the other day-to-day expenses, proper lighting (partially blind can see in full light), arranging for recorded subject based audio cassettes and food expenses, we assume, can be taken care off by collecting the bills from the shopkeeper.

There is also a vkv boys distanced 50 metres from vkv girls.