Lok Shikshan Sansthan(LSS) and Prayas

Site Visit Report
Budget Proposal for 2007
Minimum Wage Dharna Update

Site Visit Report by Raja Malkani – AID Donor

This is the LSS sign visible from the village's main road.



LSS Building

Here's the LSS office. It's a modest building that currently accommodates three volunteers, including Madhu.



Volunteers

Here are some of the volunteers.



Informal School

From there I took a motorcycle ride with Prakash (pictured above, standing) and Madhu to a makeshift school for students who don't attend formal schools. The picture below shows class about to begin.



Informal School

Here are some of the students.



Informal School

Madhu with the students:



The students shown in the previous pictures spend a lot of time at home working on the farm and performing other duties. Therefore, regular schools don't suit their schedules. Unfortunately, those students won't be eligible to attend high school since they'll never complete an official fifth grade class.

Formal School

The next two pictures were taken at a formal school nearby.



The number of boys and girls were approximately equal in this class, but in upper level classes (such as eight grade) there were clearly fewer girls.



Children who benefited from Summer Camp

And finally, here are students who made it through the fifth grade, and with the help of the LSS project, adjusted to life in the hostels and remain in high school.



A few final thoughts:

It was nice to hear about the success rate of this project. It's unfortunate that the program hasn't been successful with girls. The students seem to be hurt by a lack of educational content. This is especially true of the ones in informal schools, since they don't even have textbooks. Madhu doesn't seem to think that technology has much to offer, but I think the possibility of these students someday accessing online content through either a cell phone or computer is an exciting one. If students were equipped with a way to access online content, they could learn on their own. They could pick content that they find most interesting and relevant to them. They would no longer be limited by barriers such as work loads at home, or problems with living in the hostels.

Budget for 2007

The 2007 budget has following components

- Volunteer Cost
- Support Cost
- Travel to Delhi/Jaipur for Govt. policy implementations
- Solidarity programs and events
- Training and capacity building for Rural people and Community based organisation(CBO)

New Items

Budget for 2007 – (1)

Туре	Cost per month(Rs)	Total Cost per Annum(Rs)
Volunteer Cost		
Project Director	7500	90000
Field Coordinator	6250	75000
Supervisors	3*3750	135000
Support Cost		
Stationary	250	3000
Communication	1300	15600
Travel	2000	24000
Miscellaneous suppo	2000	24000
Implementation of	government's policy	
List of items	Per cost	Total Cost
Delhi Travel	1600 k.m X 5.50 per k.m=8,800	8,800
Food	100X5 personX5days=2,500	2,500
Boarding	100X5 personX5days=2,500	2,500
Jaipur Travel	800 k.mX5.50 per k.mX2=8,800	8,800
Food	75X5 personX5 days (twice in a	3,750
	year)= 3,750	
Boarding	100X5 personX5 days (twice in	5000
	a year)= 5000	
	Subsection Total	31,350

Budget for 2007 – (2)

Stationary	250	3000
		3000
Communication	1300	15600
Travel	2000	24000
Miscellaneous	2000	24000
Implementation	of government's policy	
List of items	Per cost	Total Cost
Delhi Travel	1600 k.m X 5.50 per k.m=8,800	8,800
Food	100X5 personX5days=2,500	2,500
Boarding	100X5 personX5days=2,500	2,500
Jaipur Travel	800 k.mX5.50 per k.mX2=8,800	8,800
Food	75X5 personX5 days (twice in a	3,750
	year)= 3,750	
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Boarding	100X5 personX5 days (twice in	3000
Boarding	a year)= 5000	3000
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Boarding	a year)= 5000	
	a year)= 5000	31,350
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AID Austin plans to support \$8700

Minimum Wage Update