

## SEVA TRUST

### SOCIAL REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN OF MIGRANT QUARRY WORKERS

#### ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

(September 2013 to August 2014)

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Project Title</b>	Social Rehabilitation Program for Children of Migrant Quarry Workers in Rajasthan.
<b>Project Location</b>	Dhaneswar village in Boondi District, Rajasthan.
<b>Project period</b>	August 2012 to July 2015
<b>Reporting Period</b>	September 2013 to August 2014
<b>Target Group</b>	50 Children of migrant quarry workers
<b>Financially Supported by</b>	GEW Foundations, & Fair Childhood - Germany.
<b>Project goal</b>	Elimination of Child labour and universalization of education for children of migrant quarry workers and rehabilitation.
<b>Measures Planned</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. School for children of migrant workers</li><li>2. Health care program for quarry workers children</li><li>3. Social development activities for women in Dhaneshwar village</li></ol>

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

For all the children of quarry/mine workers, 'Migration' of their families still persists as a serious problem. As sited in the previous report, all most all the children of mine/quarry workers either never go to schools or being a school dropout or survive as a child labor at their tender age. The children are denied access to basic education due to various socio economic reasons. In order to facilitate the education of children from migrant quarry workers families and to give them the opportunity to experience of good schooling an effort was initiated with aim to facilitate sustained education of the children of quarry workers who are school drop outs and non-starters.at Dhaneswar by socially motivated people.

The project is financially supported by GEW Foundations & Fair Childhood, Germany and has been implemented since August 2012. The following is a narrative progress report for the second year of the project from September 2013 to August 2014.

NOTE: As instructed by the Government Officials here in after the school will be called as Labor Children Education Center

### **Beneficiary Children:**

The project is being implemented to benefit 65 children who are living in Dhaneswar village (Tapri) a settlement area of mine workers in Boondi district. Out of 65 children identified in the age group 4-18, only 55 children have joined the school and they are the primary beneficiaries. The rest 10 had refused to come to our school as they are already in their 15<sup>th</sup> year and preferred to go for work.

The parents and the village women are the secondary beneficiaries as social Development activities such as Women Groups, Savings, Adult Literacy program and Hand Work trainings were envisaged for them.

During the year under review (2013-2014) 12 children have migrated to other areas and few families migrated into the village and their children joined the school. As per the registration records and attendance register of the school 50 children are on roll. Among them 12 are in the age group of 11-14 and the rest 38 are in the age group of 4-10. Additionally, 5 siblings of the children also came to school along with their elder ones.

## **THE PROJECT**

### **Project Objectives**

1. The children of migrant quarry workers get access to education and healthy childhood
2. The children of quarry workers will be protected from the exploitations and evils of child labor
3. The quarry workers will be sensitized on labor rights and child rights
4. Children of quarry workers will be prevented by dropping out from school and continue education wherever they live.
5. Getting improved access to health care services and health education

### **Measures Implemented**

- School for children of migrant quarry workers at Dhaneswar
- Health care program for children of quarry workers
- Social development activities for women in Dhaneswar village

### **School for children of migrant quarry workers (Labor Children Education Center)**

The primary and core activity of the project is running an alternative school for the Children of migrant quarry workers. Accordingly, by the help of GEW – Germany – Fair Childhood – Germany, a Labour Children Education center (school) is managed at Dhaneswar since August 2012. There are 50 children registered and being helped to experience their schooling.

**Day to Day Functions of the School:** Like a formal school the labor children school also starts at 9 a.m. and closes by 3.30 p.m. and as in any other regular school, teaching and learning takes place.

A syllabus is followed which was prepared by the Project Teacher based on the guidelines given by the Education Department of the Rajasthan State Government.

The children were divided into two sections according to their age,:

Section A – 3-5 age group (more of a play group). There are 34 Children on roll

Section B – 6-14 age group (formal school pattern-combined classes for all children). There are 16 children on roll

In Section A – the younger children are taught alphabets in English and Hindi, rhymes, games and social habits.

In section B - the children are taught English and Hindi languages, basic Mathematics and General Knowledge. More detailed syllabus is maintained by the teacher. The focus of the school is to instill interest in the minds of the children on education. Equal importance is also given to social behavior development through various social activities.

A normal day in the school starts with a Prayer for about 10 minutes which is being led by the teachers and till 11.30 a.m. classes. At 11.30 children will have Lunch and from 12.00 till 2 p.m. general classes and the last hour from 2.00 to 3.00 pm children are engaged in playing games.

#### **Time Table:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
9.00 - 9.15 a.m.	School Prayer
9.15 – 10.15 a.m.	First Hour class (English)
10.15 – 11.15 a.m.	Second Hour class (Hindi)
11.15 – 12.00 noon	Lunch Break
12.00 – 1.00 p.m.	3 <sup>rd</sup> hour class (General knowledge)
1.00 – 2.00 p.m.	4 <sup>th</sup> hour class (Social)
2.00 – 3.00 p.m.	Extracurricular/Games

Regular school attendance of children, profile of children and progress record for each child are being maintained.

From the initial stage the school is being conducted in a rented building.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

Once in a week children are given value education and talent building exercises. Sub committees are formed to help the children to develop right perspectives and talents.

- A. **Child Protection Committee** – 3 members (Responsibilities: works against child labour, motivating children to go to school, identify drop outs and help)
- B. **Child Health Committee** – 3 members (Responsibilities: taking care of cleanliness in the school and in the village, personal hygiene of children and health education to prevent diseases)
- C. **Child Development Committee** – 3 members (Responsibilities: works for the 4 rights of the children)
- D. **Food management Committee** – 3 members (Responsibilities: test the quality of food distribute food to children)

In each committee, there are 3 or 4 children, taking responsibility to speak about specific roles. Children are sensitized about village problems, drinking water issue, health problems, etc., and they are motivated to do whatever they can in the school and in the village. Such initiatives are facilitated by the Care Taker of the Center. They meet the Surpanch/ Head of the village to talk about water and sanitation issues.

### **Teaching Methodology**

Participatory learning methodologies are adopted. Personal or individual attention is given to all children. Teachers personally involved in helping children. Periodically, once in a month tests and assessments were being conducted.

### **Books and Note books supplied**

To motivate the children and to give them the feeling of the schooling, note books (copies), a medium size school bag and necessary stationeries such as pencils, rubber, sharpener, writing pads and a fancy pen are given. As per the need copiers are supplied again and again at least thrice in a year. The distribution of books, note books and school bags attract the children to be in school regularly and gives a feeling that they are not deprived of learning materials to continue their schooling. All the identified 50 children were all the assistance. Teachers use teaching manuals, text books and Guides.

### **Mid-day Meal for children**

By the generous help of GEW and Fair Childhood, all the children who attend the school are given mid-day meal between 11.15 -12.00 p.m. A weekly schedule of menu is made available accordingly, lunch is provided. It is being cooked every day and served to all the children coming to the school.

<b>Days</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
Monday	Kichadi (Mixture of Dal and Rice)
Tuesday	Geer (Mixture of Sugar, Milk & Rice)
Wednesday	Spice Gram, Channa, Onion, Chapathi
Thursday	Halwa (Solid Sweet), Sugi, Wheat powder, Sugar & Ghee
Friday	Poori and Sabji/Aloo
Saturday (Half working day)	Fruits and Biscuits

### **Celebration of National Days**

To keep the children in par with other school going children all the National days such as National Independence day, Republic day have been celebrated at the school. In addition to sensitize the children on their rights Child labor prevention day and Human rights day were observed. In such events the local leaders were invited and the children perform cultural programs. The local leaders guide the children as per the situations.

### **Health/Medical Care**

In order to attend the health care needs of the migrant quarry workers families the project staff arranged medical care camp using the existing government health care program. The government nurse is visiting the center twice in a month and spend more than one hour to do medical examination of all the children in the school. Wherever necessary, the nurse provides simple medicines, also advices the parents to take care of the children according to the ailments if any.

### **Parents Meeting**

The staff team once in a while gathered the parents and discussed with them about the importance of education to their children and the role of the parents in motivating and sustaining the interests of the children in education.

### **Project community services**

The Residential Care taker of the School has been assigned to work with the migrant quarry workers community to avail all their entitlements from the government. Accordingly the following services were provided.

The following are the on going activities:

### **Ideal mine workers families**

The residential care taker of the school has started an Association of “ideal mine workers families” with an intention of enabling the community members to be sensitive to child rights, and workers’ rights and to follow certain norms such as preventing child labor, encouraging children’s education, etc. The families appreciate such initiatives and participate in the deliberations.

### **Self Help Groups**

Self Help Groups for Mine labourers have been formed (10 nos) and regular group meetings are conducted.

### **Handicraft training**

Organized training on Handicraft such as knitting and mehendi for village women.

### **Adult education**

The female teacher is encouraged to give literacy training to the illiterates in the community.

### **Government schemes**

The migrant families are informed about and educated about various Government schemes such as insurance of laborers, care of Silicosis patients, election and voter ID etc. Linkage has been established between workers and Primary Health Center/hospital.

### **Human Resource (Staff)**

The project is managed by a team of 3 staffs as follows:

1. Head Teacher
2. Female teacher
3. Residential Care taker
4. A part time cook

The details of staff and their qualification had been given in the previous report. The English Teacher had resigned from the organization since February 2014 and a new teacher Mr. Pramod had been appointed since August 2014. Meanwhile, more than three persons were appointed but they refused to continue as the school is situated in a remote place. However, the school was continued, never stopped and managed by other two staff. The present teacher is coping with the demands of the school.

### **Monitoring:**

The project was monitored periodically and appropriately to achieve the purpose for it was started. Mr. Rajnath visits often and guide the staff on all the activities of the school.

### **Results**

1. Children developed interests in coming to school regularly.
2. On an average, 45 children are regularly attending the school.
3. Average School attendance is 90%
4. All the senior Children learnt to read, write and prepared to join mainstream schools
5. 11 children, who have never been to schools have started their schooling with us
6. The children learnt new behaviors
7. Children talk about child rights
8. Children starvation is prevented
9. All the children are given 2 sets of uniform, 5 notebooks each and all stationaries

### **Challenges/ Observations**

The attitudes and perspective of parents about their children's education persist further as some parents still not interested in sending their children to school. This cause lots of absenteeism in our center.

The parents prefer to take their children along with them, whenever they go for family functions in relatives' places that very much affect the children's schooling and their learning process.

One of the major concerns is the ill health of children and become major cause for dropping out from schools.

### **School Building Program:**

It is heartening to record the concern of the "Fair Childhood" to provide decent and quality atmosphere for the poor children to continue their education. The Fair childhood had helped financially in collaboration with German Embassy to construct a school building on a common land with sanitary facilities. The School building construction had been completed and the school is shifted to the new building in July 2014. It will be formally inaugurated in November 2014 in the presence of Fair Childhood and XertifiX Officials.

## **Conclusion and Gratitude**

The beneficiary children and their parents are very grateful for the generosity and kind help of GEW and Fair Childhood and XertifiX- Germany. With a deep sense of gratitude we submit the report.