

SEVA TRUST

SOCIAL REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN OF MIGRANT QUARRY WORKERS

Project Summary Report (August 2012 –July 2015)

Background information:

Allmost all the children of mine/quarry workers either never go to schools or being a school dropout or child labor at their tender age. The children are denied access to basic education due to various socio economic and cultural reasons. Considering the pathetic living conditions and denial of basic rights of children of quarry workers and the lack of access to education a project was envisaged, to serve the educational needs of the migrant children at Daneshwar. **The prime aim of the project is to facilitate sustained education of the children of quarry workers who are school drop outs and non-starters.** After visiting more than seventeen mines, finally, Daneshwar mine/quarry was selected as many migrant children were living without education.

A Social Rehabilitation Program for Children of Migrant Quarry Workers had been implemented in a remote village Daneshwar in Boondi district of Rajasthan. The project was financially supported by GEW Foundations & Fair Childhood, Germany and monitored by XertifiX – Germany represented by its CEO Dr. Walter. The project had been implemented since August 2012 and successfully completed by July 2015.

The Beneficiaries

The project was planned originally to benefit 65 children who were living in Daneshwar village (Tapri) a settlement area of mine workers in Boondi district. **By the end of the project period the project served more than 95 children.** All the parents of the children, more than 30 illiterate women and more than 60 mine labors are considered as the secondary beneficiaries as social Development activities such as Women Groups, Adult Literacy program, labor education and Hand Work trainings were conducted for them.

Project Objectives

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

Core Measures Implemented

- Education Center for 60 children of migrant quarry workers at Daneshwar
- Health care program for children of quarry workers
- Social development activities for women in Dhaneshwar village

Summary of the programs implemented:

The Labor Education Center was an alternative school maintained exclusively for the children of migrant mine workers. The center functions from 9 am to 3pm with various learning activities. There were two sections one for 4-6 age group and the other for 7-14 age group. A baby section was maintained to look after the siblings. Children learnt Basic English, Hindi and Mathematics through activity based learning methodology as per Government's curriculum. Necessary learning materials were given to the children and teaching materials to the teachers. To develop the over-all personality of the children extra-curricular activities including games were encouraged. National Days were celebrated by the children with colorful events.

Nutritious Noon Meal was provided to all the children primarily to reduce malnutrition and all the children who attend the center were given School Uniforms and dress materials.

Medical care was provided to all the children and their parents involving the Government health care facilities, to address the health needs of the children periodically.

Community Service: More than 60 mine workers were enlightened about their 'Rights' as mine workers and the mine workers community was sensitized about "Child Rights" and helped to get Adult Literacy (20 women) Handicraft Training (15 women) and many families were helped to Government schemes. It was organized a **Public Hearing** on child abuse and violence against children. **Housing plots** were organized for migrant quarry workers from the state Government.

Results

1. On an average, 45 children are regularly attending the school.
2. Average School attendance is 90%
3. Children developed interests in coming to school regularly.
4. All the senior Children learned to read, write and have been prepared to join mainstream schools
5. 10 students have successfully completed the Government exam and joined the mainstream schools
6. 11 children, who have never been to schools, have started their schooling with us
7. The children learned new behaviours
8. Children talk about child rights
9. Children's day time starvation is prevented

Unintended outcome of the project:

- A model for Good quality education to mine workers children had been established.
- 10 children have rejoined the mainstream schools
- The project team owns land and a building as a sign of sustainability
- A Tribal lady and daughter of a mine worker had been promoted as Teacher

Staff: The project was managed by a small team of staff consisting of a Head Teacher, Female Child Caretaker, Community worker and Part time Cook.

Visitors: The school has the privilege of having the following well-wishers, friends and donors as visitors: Mr. Ulrich Thöne – GEW, Germany, Mrs. Ingrid Sehrbrock – Chairperson, XertifiX, Mr. Benjamin Pütter – Vice Chairperson, XertifiX, Mr. Steffen, Fair childhood, Dr. Walter Schmidt – CEO, XertifiX, Ms. Döring – German Embassy, New Delhi, Dr. Yogesh Dubey – Chairperson, NCPCR, Ms. Mamata Sharma – National Commission for Women.

Conclusion and Gratitude

It is not merely a project, it is indeed an experience with tribal and migrant children, in fact a transformation process initiated in the lives of the marginalized children in the remote village Daneshwar. The initiative need to continue some more time until it has established a footing of its own. The project team is committed to sustain the good work. **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 and hope for a future collaboration the completion report is submitted.**