Asha for Education™

P.O. Box 322 • New York • NY 10040-0322 www.ashanet.org

6 MONTH PROGRESS REPORT

Please send fill out this form and send back to Asha for Education **within 3 weeks** from the time you receive this form. Thank you for your time and patience.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND MAIL IT TO:

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of the organization **Indic Society for Education and Development (INSEED)**

Organization description **Not-for-profit organisation**

Date of establishment **October 2007**

Contact person(s) **Sangeeta Shirname**

Phone number _____

Email **sangeeta.shirname@inseed.org**

Address **3 D, Tower C, Viceroy Park, Thakur Village,**
Kandivali (E), Mumbai – 400 101

Location (village/town)**Nashik**

Description of area **The area is located in Nashik and has people from varying socio-economic classes. The target group for the activity centre is children of house helpers.**

STATISTICS

Number of children currently enrolled in the project **27**

Ages of the children **3 – 13 years**

Standards taught **Not applicable (this is not a regular school)**

Number of boys **17**

Number of girls **10**

Number of teachers **6 (paid hourly basis/ part time or voluntary work)**

Number of MALE teachers **1**

Number of FEMALE teachers **5**

Current Teacher/student ratio **Not applicable**

Salary of Teachers 1. **Overall in-charge-(for the first four months)- INR 3500 per month,**
2. Craft and drawing instructor- INR 1000 per month, and
3. Other teachers are volunteers – no payment

School timings **09.00 – 12.00 and 17.00 – 20.00, weekend timings are as per the activities**

School days **Sunday – Tuesday, Thursday - Saturday**

Over all school attendance percentage **75%**

Medium of instruction **Marathi**

Economic background of the parents of the children **Low-income group and not too well-educated, mostly household helpers, and some children from middle class.**

Is the school in a rural or urban area **Urban**

Is it a residential school? **No**

How far away are the homes of the children? **Within walking distance**

How do the children get to school? **Parents drop them to the centre or they come on their own**

FCRA Number: **No.II/21022/94(0566-01)/2009-FCRA-III**

Below are some general questions regarding the project. Since your feedback is valuable to us, please make your answers as **detailed as possible**.

Please tell us the progress of the school in the **last 6 months** (usually from April to September of the current year based on typical April 1 – March 31 school year in India)

How do you think the school has improved in the **last 6 months**?

The INSEED Activity Centre is a new centre established on January 9, 2011. The activities include a library, computer and language learning, drawing/craft/music lessons and cultural development. We are also encouraging illiterate/semi-literate women (who mostly work as household help) to learn to read and write Marathi, using a program developed by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).

What are the problems you have faced in the **last 6 months**?

Too early to respond. We will share challenges faced by us in near future

How would you rate the overall effectiveness of this project over the **past 6 months**?

The response received from the children in the last one month is very encouraging. The class of children that attend the centre are such that they do not get to use library or computer facilities. One of our aims is to expose children to computers. Younger children are introduced to computers mostly through games and learning software. Older children are given training in Office applications. The craft lessons are meant to introduce environment-related issues to the children, by using recyclable material (as an example, making paper bags out of newsprint, which is then distributed to local shops so that the use of plastic bags could be reduced).

Please give examples of activities at the project in the **last 6 months**. Please give details.

1. **Computer learning**
2. **Mathematics learning through computer games**
3. **Language learning (encouraging women to read and write)**
4. **Craft and drawing**
5. **Handwriting improvement lessons (English)**
6. **Cultural activities**
7. **Story reading sessions**
8. **Library**
9. **Board games such as scrabble (to develop English vocabulary) and chess .**

Please explain how Asha funds were used in the **last 6 months**.
Asha funds were used for the following.

1. **Laptops: 1 new (INR 27280)**
2. **Desk, two chairs and study tables: INR 4150**
3. **Rent: INR 1500 per month (will be paid for months January-November, 2011)**
4. **Salary: INR 3500 per month (from January-March and then it will be increased based on the performance), INR 1000 per month (for craft and drawing instructor, January onwards)**

5. **In addition, INSEED has bought a used laptop for INR 10000. An old desktop is also used when power is available.**

Is there any other feedback you would like to provide to Asha for Education?

We have received Asha funds of US$ 2700 in July 2010. INSEED is providing contingency grant for books, a part of the rent, salary, and also local expertise on computers and education. To make this centre's activities sustainable we request the funding for the next year as well.

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Name: Sangeeta Shirname, PhD (Education)
Date: 02 February, 2011