

Conference Call Minutes

Date : Monday, February 21st, 2011 (Austin) / Tuesday February 22nd, 2011 (India)

Attendees : Vijaybhai (Project coordinator, Asha Samajik Vidyalaya, Reoti)
Kumar Abhinav, Ganesh Krishnamoorthy (Project stewards, Asha Austin)

1. Funding

- The first disbursement for 2010-2011 was sent on December 2nd 2010
- Due to the fund-raising situation in Asha Austin, there may be a potential reduction in funds that can be disbursed for 2011 and beyond
- Vijaybhai was informed of this situation and he mentioned that there would probably be no change in the school's budget for 2011-2012
- The funding amount from Asha Austin for 2011-2012 will be determined after donors renew their pledges and Asha Austin has a final donor count. ASV will then be informed of the budget for next year

2. Teacher Training and Updates

- Trainers from Ekalavya center in Kanpur may come to the school (either to Ballia or Kaithi) to train teachers in the month of May and June
- They will look at the teaching methods used by the teachers and suggest improvements where required
- The trainers can only visit the school in May after the Ekalavya center closes for the summer vacation
- No progress has been made in finding a new teacher for the school
- Mr. Lalji, one of the teachers who left the school last year, may come back to Ballia in the June-July timeframe as his training is now near completion
- He was enrolled in a government scheme that pays INR. 10,000 for a one year computer-training diploma course
- His examinations will be done by March and April and if he is interested the school may recruit him again as a teacher

3. Health Check-up

- A medical check-up camp will be organized in the first week of March
- Doctors from the local government Primary Healthcare Center (PHC) will be conducting the camp
- The center was under construction and is now fully functional
- This was an initiative from the PHC doctors themselves
- The medical check-up will be conducted for free (cost borne by the government) and any medicines, if required, will also be provided by them at no cost
- If the required medicines are not available for free, the school will purchase them for the students from the market
- There are three doctors in the PHC
- The teachers from the school take the students to the PHC whenever they fall ill
- Vijaybhai expects that such periodic health check-ups by the PHC doctors will happen regularly in the future

4. Miscellaneous updates

- Vijaybhai has sent the marksheets for the mid-term examinations via email. These will be emailed to the donors
- A school picnic will be organized on 25th February to a freedom fighters' memorial
- It is a memorial for all the freedom fighters from the town of Ballia
- It is still under construction and it is located near a lake