

VIVEKANANDA RESURGENCE FOUNDATION

(Regd No. 38284 of 2000)

AG- 17, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi- 110088

Telephone: +91-11-27478956

E mail: jdchoudhry @yahoo.com

To
The Co-ordinator,
Asha-Munich, Germany.

Sir,

Vivekananda Resurgence Foundation (VRF) is trying to unfold itself to serve the interests of neglected section of the society, particularly the children of unskilled and semi-skilled labourers who are living in unhygienic slums, which is our own creation. We seek your cooperation as your organisation is helping so many movements in the country.

Vivekananda Resurgence Foundation (VRF) was registered with Registrar of Societies, Delhi (India) on 18th December, 2000.

The main Aims and Objects of VRF are:

- ▶ To impart education to the slum children at the primary and secondary level.
- ▶ To set up charitable hospitals and medical centres for basic health care for the poorer section of the society.
- ▶ To set up industrial training institutes for imparting technical training to unskilled and semiskilled workers by seeking affiliation and recognition from competent authorities.

MANAV VIKASH KENDRA – A preparatory school for first generation learners

Wazirpur Industrial Area in northwest Delhi is now a well established small scale industrial area specialising in manufacturing stainless steel utensils and other commodities. It has market throughout the country. Some lakhs of workers are daily working here as unorganised labour and in the new phase of 'insecurity of workers', there is no law to protect their interests. Most of the workers are mainly migrants from other states who had to leave their hearth and home due to poverty are fighting day and night just to live in sub human condition.

VRF on December 1st, 2002 started a preparatory school in one these Jhuggi Clusters (**C-35, Satsang Colony, Wazirpur Industrial Area, Delhi-110052**) with around **40 students**. The school is located in a jhuggi cluster in a small room paying annual rent of around Rs 2400. It is very difficult to accommodate more students, so either we have to run another shift or we require more space to run another section. Already the demand is from 20/30 additional students for fresh admission.

We intend to prepare them for admission to neighbourhood Municipality schools, so that they get education to compete in life. The parents prefer to keep the child at home to look after smaller brethren, as both the parents go to job. As the school is in their residential complex, they find it profitable to send them to this school. During the last one year, we convinced the guardians to send around 20 students of this school to Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) school and till to-day there is no drop out.

Our teacher Ms. Bhagawati Brahman passed her MA (previous) from Jabalpur University in 1988 and joined us with a consolidated salary of Rs 1200 per month for her work for 2 and half hours daily. Her husband is worker in the unorganised sector with irregular job. In Delhi this is very small amount, but we can't afford to pay more. We have an assistant to arrange water and to keep the room clean and pay her around Rs 400 per month.

Thus our monthly bill, to give some lessons to the hapless children and develop their confidence so that they are attracted to school education come to around Rs 1800 per month or annually around Rs 24,000/- As I have suggested, the demand is growing and guardians are finding such schools beneficial to them, we have to hire another room.

Now when we started the school, we approached the local Association of Industries for financial help, they always promised but for unknown reasons we have not yet received any help. During the last one year we spent around Rs 30,000 to 35,000 to run the school including some renovation expenditure of the school. Another Rs 10,000 to Rs12,000 has to be spent for making entry to the school more convenient and risk free. Till to-day the school runs from donations contributed from members of the Governing Body of VRF.

Thus in brief our **annual budget** stands as following:

Rent	=	2, 400 @ 200 pm
Teacher's salary	=	14, 400 @ 1200 pm
Helper's salary	=	4, 800 @ 400 pm
Materials (Chalks, books, copies)	=	4, 800 @ 400 pm
Total	=	26,400 (in rupees)

In short we face the following challenges:

1. To find out a permanent Center for the Children of Manav Vikas Kendra who are mainly first generation learners.
2. To involve parents in the process of man making education bringing in dimension of life skill. Mothers whose children attend this school have to learn how to write their name atleast and this will be taken up as a priority item within short time.
3. To make class room transaction child centered, enjoyable for each child so as to draw the best in the child.

Sir, I have tried to bring to your notice how our organisation is trying to inspire some of our brothers and sisters who feel neglected in our own created 'modern' society. We

wish you good luck and thank you for the concern that you have shown for the fellow countrymen. All of us are grateful for your commitment.

With best wishes.

Sincerely Yours,
Sd/ J. D. Choudhury
Secretary