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**Srividyaashram School**  
March 2008 Asha Update & Request for funds

Bobby Rao

## 2001 to present: Summary

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- 2001: Purchased 36,000 sq.ft. of land ->built 4 class rooms
- 2002, June: inaugurated the LKG and UKG classes with 47 children.
- Everything was given free till they passed out of the Primary School - books, note books, tuition, uniform, midday meal, karate lessons, excursions et al.
- Over the years 2002-2007, higher classes were started one by one every year.
- By June, 2007, **SRIVIDYASRAM NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL** was fully established and made functional.
- It now has
  - >20 class rooms
  - >An audio - visual room with CDs
  - >A stage to hold cultural shows
  - > A computer lab with 16 computers
  - > A library with over 1000 books
  - > A play ground & play area for the tiny tots .

## Present and Future

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### ➤Current:

- Children come from 35 villages
- 4 school buses to bring in the kids
- Lower-KG, Upper-KG, Standards 1 to V.
- 20 teachers.
- Total students=377 ; Male =222 ; Female = 155 ; Age Range 3 to 11

By June, 2008 ,

- the School will add STANDARD 6.
- with a teacher strength of 24 and
- student strength of about 400 - 480.
- The teacher : student ratio will be 1 : 19 , as against the national average of 1 : 70.

## SRIVIDYASRAM SCHOOL PROGRESSION

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>GRADES</b>	KG (U+L)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	47	94	130	183	325	377	~450						

•\* SUDDEN Jump in student population due to absorption of students from another school (located in an adjacent township) that was destroyed in a fire. Many parents wanted their kids in Srividyasram since it is rated as the best school in the district (and the local Govt. officials requested)!

Asha contribution:  
 \$10,500

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 \$5000

# Present Nursery and Primary School building- completed and fully functional

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## Classrooms etc.



# Morning prayer and Playground



## High School Building ..in progress (Feb 2008)

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## 2008-2009 Infrastructure Activities undertaken by the school

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High School – Lab/ <u><b>Class Room</b></u>	\$ 18,000/ <u><b>\$11,500</b></u>
High School – School Bus	\$ 16,500
High School - Computers	\$ 11,000
Primary School - Books	\$ 6,150
High School – Equipment	\$ 2,650
High School – Furniture	\$ 1,125

## 2008 Funding Request from Asha-CNJ = **\$11,500**

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- While the needs are many in 2008, Srividtyashram school would like to request funds for at least one class room for 2008, which costs \$11,500.10
- Between 2008-2013, classes from grades 6-12 will be added sequentially to keep pace with children progressing from earlier grades. It is expected that by 2013, funds permitting, the high school will be fully functional,
- Asha-CNJ provided \$5000 in 2006 for partial class room building funds and \$10,500 in 2007 for a full class room building.

# Quality Of Education

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- ❑ What is being taught, learned, teaching methods etc:
  - ❑ Languages, Science, Math, Social-Sciences, Art/crafts, Sports/games etc
  - ❑ Frobel system, widely used in Montessori schools and the best schools in the world.
  - ❑ 5 Cycle tests, 2 Terminal exams + routine monitoring by teachers
  - ❑ Yearly excursions (2-3) and fun events.
  - ❑ 25 computers currently + audio-visual room+ library (donated by Cognizent, TVS-Lucas + other corporations)
  
- ❑ Teacher training:
  - ❑ 20 teachers currently, more being recruited each year, from local towns.
  - ❑ Intensive initial training in Chennai by expert panel (ex-teachers/educators, psychologists etc.)
    - ❑ Grammar, Phonetics, Syllabus setting, breaking down into small units, question paper setting, Composition/comprehension writing/reading, Spoken English skills, Language to be used with children.
    - ❑ Personality development, Yoga, Effective teaching, mentoring, audio-visual aids etc.
  - ❑ Yearly training and continuous in-house training via CD's, Videos, reading material and on-campus training visits by experts.
  - ❑ Teachers visit other institutions and spend time to learn and absorb skills.

## Highlights of a typical day

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- 7:15 A.M-8:30 A.M: School buses leave to get 300 children from 30 villages.
  - 80 children are dropped by parents/walk/cycle.
- 8:35-8:45: Drop bags in class rooms and pray at the temple.
- 8:45-9:00: Assemble for morning prayers.
  - Pranayama, Special messages, prayers, anthem etc.
- 9:00-9:10: Water plants (Grades 3 to 5 kids)
- First Period: ENGLISH class by CLASS TEACHER
  - follow up on morning prayers with any clarifications. (Total 9 periods)
- 10 minute break after 2 periods: Biscuits
- Lunch (3 batches): (1) Pre-KG at 11:45 and leave school after lunch around 12:30 (dropped back by school buses)
  - (2) LKG/UKG children (sleep from 1:15-2:35 – 2 periods)
  - (3) Grades 1-5 and teachers + games till 1:15
- 4:00 P.M: School closes. Sing national anthem and dropped back by buses.

# TYPICAL CLASS TIME-TABLE for CLASS-5

CLASS TIME TABLE FOR STD - V FOR THE YEAR 2007 - 08

CLASS TEACHER: MRS PRIYA CHANDRAN

DAY	1	2		3	4	5		6	7	8	9
TIME	09:00 - 9:40	9:40 - 10:20	10:20- 10:30	10:30 - 11:10	11:10 - 11:50	11:50 - 12:30	12:30 - 1:15	01:15 - 1:55	01:55 - 2:35	02:35 - 3:15	03:15 - 3:55
MON	ENG	MATHS	B	TAMIL	SCIENCE	SOCIAL SC	L	ENG	SCIENCE	GAMES	G.K
TUE	ENG	MATHS	R	TAMIL	SCIENCE	SOCIAL SC	U	MATHS	AUDIO VISUAL	III LANG	LIBRARY
WED	CYCLE TEST	CYCLE TEST	E	TAMIL	SCIENCE	SOCIAL SC	N	ENG	TAMIL	KARATE	KARATE
THUR	ENG	MATHS	A	TAMIL	SCIENCE	SOCIAL SC	C	MATHS	TAMIL	IM/VEDA	GEN. ASSEM
FRI	ENG	MATHS	K	TAMIL	SCIENCE	SOCIAL SC	H	MATHS	SOCIAL SC	ENG	D&P/A&C

## Socio-economic background + Other highlights

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- Parents illiterate agricultural laborers with seasonal work.
  - Salary ~ Rs. 1000 p.m.
- So kids are charged a very small tuition fee. Others are given scholarships [max fees is < Rs 1800/year for grade 5, min =0].
- Other local schools:
  - 1 balwadi (12 kids below 3 years), 1 Govt. school (60 kids in 5 grades, 1 teacher (!) and 2 black boards only), 1 Panchayat primary school (2 kms away), 1 english medium primary school (2 kms away, expensive).
  - Secondary schools : Two about 3 kms away across 2 rivers and an English medium school 7 kms away.
- Travel distances 0-8 kms from 35 villages (4 buses). 80 kids dropped by parents (walk/cycle), rest use school bus.
- Health/vision checks for villagers
- Special festival activities for local villagers (Kolam, Open houses, Rangoli competitions, dance/dramas etc..)

## Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular activities

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- Republic day, Independence day, Teachers day, Birth days of accomplished Indians, Special Puja days etc: Educate kids on the significance of the day, history, customs, culture, tell stories of important events and historical figures etc. March past, Anthem, VIP visits/speeches, Competitions for kids and Villagers.
- School annual day: A big attraction for villagers since kids put up an entertainment show.
- Sports day: Races, karate-demonstrations, drills, march-past etc. etc. + prizes.
- Science exhibitions: Kids put up posters, build models and explain it to the villagers. (astronomy, physiology, anatomy, physics, biology etc)
- Excursions: 3-4 per year
  - Bird sanctuary, places of worship, dams, picnics