We talked to the project Coordinator Daliaji and we now clarify some of the questions/concerns raised by volunteers during the project discussion:

1) Why are there some specific religious festivals celebrated at the centre?

The festival celebrations are mainly done by local contributions and support. It just happened that the local community in and around Nizamuddin area supported festivals like Raksha bandhan, diwali and Christmas past year.

2) Does the school (St. Michael school) know about the situation of the kids and is there a possibility to waive the fees for these kids?

Navjagriti did try to get a waiver of fees from the school but it is doesn't seem the school is ready to waive the fees as the school's Delhi government assistance has reduced substantially and they have to charge a bare minimum charge of Rs. 100/- per child to fund the salaries and running of the school.

3) Why is the school van transportation cost been added in the budget for 12 months whereas, the schools run for 10 months?

The school van transportation has been fixed thru a private contractor who as leased the vehicles to the school. It seems that the normal norm of lease signing for school transportation is for 12 months even if the school runs for 10 months. Due to these norms, they have to hire the van for 12 months.

4) Roughly how many kids are there in the Nizamuddin area having similar problems/background to the kids at the centre?

According to a recent local survey performed by Delhi municipality there are about 350 kids in that area including the 50 children who are regular at the centre.

5) When Navjagriti approached NYC/NJ for funds last year why wasn't the chapter intimated an existing relationship with Asha (Stanford)?

It was purely due to the unfamiliarity of the Asha rules/norms. Project In charge, Dalia Ji approached NYC/NJ for funding for different aspect of the budget which was not covered by Asha Stanford.

Moreover, from now since Asha NYC/NJ is the primary chapter funding this project all forms of future funding/assistance will be intimated to the chapter.

Thanks,

Sayantan

Vasundhra