

Asha-kanpur] Minutes of Meeting Jan 5th 2014

Here are the minutes - details of Sankalp update follow it.
Best, Sharvari.

(1) The meeting started with a very brief discussion regarding solar powered table lamps of bought for the students Apna Ghar. They will be verified for their spectrum to make sure that there are no unwanted frequencies in it.

(2) Sankalp update was given by S. K. Iyer on behalf of Deepti. The details are given below at the end of the email.

(3) Update from Maheshji regarding the activities of Apna Ghar.

(a) Discussion regarding financial accounting and organization for Apna Ghar. The final financial protocol will be discussed and approved in an upcoming meeting. The aim is to make up a transparent, efficient and effective protocol so that, if successful, will not only benefit Apna Ghar, but also the model can be followed by other institutions that are starting out.

(b) Inauguration of Apna Ghar on 23rd Feb at 2:00 pm. Details to follow later. 42 kids also sponsored by Mala Foundation will be arriving from Pondicherry.

(c) Asha wide has a pot of "unknown" money to be equally divided into chapters. Asha Kanpur will send a request by the end of the month and the money will be probably utilized to buy a Van for Apna Ghar. Protocol for using the Van should be strict and will be discussed in another meeting.

(d) Website for Asha: any volunteers to design the Asha Kanpur website are welcome.

(4) Discussion in between SK Iyer and Maheshji regarding setting up of "recharging stations".

(5) Sharvari and Reema will look into English classes at Opportunity school.

Sankalp Updates-

the vocational training centre is now in smooth running.

the aim of the training that we are giving to the children is to make them useful within their household setup. this is contrary to the popular trend where they say that vocational training is to make the children capable of earning. we decided this because there are no placements for these children even if they are trained properly.

the areas of training that we are giving are-

1. basic kitchen work (which includes cutting and sorting vegetables, making sandwiches, bhelpuri, maggi, tea, coffee etc., preparing and packing mathri, washing utensils, serving tea and snacks etc.
2. very basic gardening
3. basic computer typing
4. basic electronic work (making switch board and its repairing)
5. basic stitching (so that they can mend their clothes)

all this is in addition to the academic work (out of total 7 children there, 3 are preparing for B level exam and 3 for A level exam from NIOS), games and art and craft activities.

we will be opening the admissions from 10th january when the school reopens after winter vacations. we were not taking admissions to the VTC till now because we wanted to workout everything and come to a point of smooth running. Also, most of the parents require conveyance facility which we could not provide.

the TATA MAGIC that was promised to us by LIC will be delivered in 1-2 days and we are planning to use this for transport at VTC.

since all of us were busy with VTC, we didn't organize the annual pre-diwali sale this year.

the civil lines centre is running smoothly as before.

regards,
Deepti.