

Proposal for Teaching Learning Material Support to Aragamee School

Introduction

Aragamee School provides quality education for First Generation school children from poor tribal families in the remote Block of Kashipur in Rayagada district of Odisha. Rayagada is part of the KBK (Kalahandi Balangir Koraput) region known for its poverty and underdevelopment. The 8 districts of this region have some of lowest literacy rates in India, with the literacy rates for girls being even lower. Thus Aragamee School provides education only for girls.

Over the years, Aragamee School has demonstrated an effective model of education for first generation school children, which helps them read and write with confidence by the time they are in Class III. This is almost breakthrough, as across the country reports indicate that reading levels are dismal even in higher classes specially in the rural areas for a very large proportion (almost 50%) of the children. Reading and writing is the foundational skill on which all school learning is based. In the tribal regions, reading and writing is a major hurdle in school learning. This proves to be a disincentive, with children either dropping out, or being pulled out of school at the least excuse.

Aragamee School's success in bringing about tangible learning outcomes in the early grades has attracted much attention and parents from villages near and far want to send their daughters so that they can get a good education.

The Challenge

Catering to the demand of the local community, is a challenge. The admissions in Aragamee School have more than doubled over a period of just one year. This necessitates more teaching learning material, and more expenditure for mid-day meals, as also teachers.

The crucial and immediate need is sufficient TLM, as without basics like slate and chalk, and notebooks and workbooks, children will not be able to learn.

Aragamee's method is also proximated on well-designed workbooks that take children through fun and creative exercises, removing the boredom of rote memorisation, and engaging the child's attention and interest to learn by doing. Workbooks combined with training also provide a road-map for teachers to guide the child through the challenging and difficult first year of school learning. As the First school goer in her family, the child has little academic support at home, and all school learning depends on the teacher. The teacher thus has to be skilled and resourceful to address this need of the child. A well developed workbook helps the teacher guide the child through the initial stages of learning, as also provides ideas which the teacher can use.

A second edition of the workbook 'Kau Dake Ka' has to be printed to cater to the increased admissions this year. Designed by Aragamee the Kau Dake Ka workbook has been able to address many of the problems teachers face when teaching first generation school children. The second edition of the book will also address the issue of multi-lingual classrooms, helping children with different mother tongues other than the state language also learn effectively.

Teaching supports like picture, word and story charts, flash cards, etc. are also required to facilitate teaching.

Objectives

- ◆ Supply of teaching learning material to 100 poor girls to help them develop the basic skill of reading and writing;
- ◆ Facilitate teachers efforts for teaching early grade first generation school children through supply of teaching material and appropriate workbooks,
- ◆ Designing and printing of workbooks to address multi-lingual classroom situations

Proposed budget for TLM to Agramee School:

Expenditure	Unit	No. of units	Unit Cost	Cost
Teaching Aids	Schools	1	25000	25000
Learning Material	Students	100	500	50000
Designing Workbooks	Artist	1	15000	15000
Printing Workbooks	Students	100	100	10000
Total Cost				100000

Request for Funds:

As Agramee School runs completely on charity, we request contributions to help us to raise this amount for supply of TLM to the students to provide quality education for poor tribal girls.

To know more about Agramee and Agramee School please visit our website: www.agramee.org