Education in India – The current state of Government run schools

Majority of Indians are the products of Government schools. These schools are cornerstone of the Indian educational system, accounting for 70% of Pre-Primary and Primary Schools and Secondary Schools. At a country level, still nearly 300 million people in the age group 7 years and above are illiterate in the country. 42 million children in the age-group 6-14 years, do not attend school. Only 47 out of 100 children enrolled in class I reach class VIII, putting the dropout rate at 52.79 per cent. Today, as many as two-thirds of those eligible for secondary and senior secondary education remain outside the school system. The gross enrolment rate for elementary education in 2003-04 was 85%, but for secondary education, the enrolment figure stood at 39%. In the state of Andhra Pradesh, Only two out of 10 children in Class I go on to Class X. In Karnataka alone, there are an estimated 2.5 million children who are not enrolled or dropped out from schools.

Education in India - The glaring truth

Education makes a world of difference as education and a thirst for knowledge can never be taken away, and by providing an individual with the skills, tools and desire to help them, they can affect positive change for the rest of their lives. As the education level of the population increases, it enjoys better health, lower birth rates, increased life expectancy, higher per capita income, the ability to participate in our global economy and increased gender equality. Given that the positive effects of education persist across so many standard indices of quality of life, we along with many others firmly believe that investment in an individual's education is the most effective way to help them in the long-run. Investing in a school or adopting a school is one of the best ways in which communities can help in fostering relationships with schools.

How CENTAD can be of assitance to the cause

School Adoption Programme, a targeted program developed by CENTAD focuses on identifying and solving problems which affect the quality of education and which the school and the government may not be in a position to remedy without external assistance. Importantly, the programme provides an opportunity to become actively involved in increasing and sustaining the quality of public education.

Objectives of 'School Adoption Programme'

The primary objective of School Adoption Programme is to transform the rural, semi urban and urban Government schools into model Schools so that they are on the same level as the best schools in the cities terms of quality, facilities, infrastructure and performance. We strongly believe that through School Adoption Programme we would be able to offer the following benefits to the schools under adoption:

- Improved school-community relations
- An improved corporate image
- Better quality education
- More educated workforce

Criteria for adopting schools under 'School Adoption Programme'

- The school should be located in the backward areas or tier 3 cities
- The school should be operational for at least 1 year
- The school should have a minimum 50 children
- It should have its own building
- It should not be getting funds from any other agency or source
- The school should have classes at least till 7th standard

Process for adopting schools under 'School Adoption Programme'

• Step 1 – Identification of Schools

- Identification of different schools which can be adopted to convert them to model schools
- Preparation of Priority Matrix for selection of schools
- Priority Wise selection of schools

• Step 2 – Formation of a decision making group

- Formation of Model School committee with a representation from Centad, school management, Parents committee and other local
- Preliminary talks with school management and parents committee about our idea of adoption

• Step 3 – Detailed plan of improvement

- o Make school improvement plans to make the school a model school in 3 years
- Reach a consensus on the improvement plan with school management and parents committee and finalise the plan

• Step 4 – Implementation of Plan

- o Delienation of responsibilties between available and outside resources
- Staffing of key resources for plan implementation
- o Signing MoU with the Government for partnerships / implementation / resources
- O Tying up with alliance partners and contracted agencies

• Step 5 – Checking Project Effectiveness

- o Evaluation on quantifiable goals through proper feedback mechanism
- Achieving self sufficiency

Components of 'School Adoption Programme'

'School Adoption Programme' will comprise of the following activities for the schools adopted

• Asset and Infrastructural Improvements to the school

- Construction and renovation of existing building
- o Provision of equipment and furniture

o Providing computers/funding for computer training of students

• Improving the other school facilities

- o Provision of water and toilet facilities to the school separately for boys and girls
- Strengthening of Laboratory and Library
- o Developing of playground/provision of play materials
- o Provision for developing school garden, fencing or compound wall
- o Providing nutritional food as mid-day meals to children

• Skill and other development of resources

- o Training of teachers to improve quality of teaching
- o Training of students to develop various skills, leadership, etc.
- Encouraging vocational job oriented activities as part of co-curricular activities

• Enabling financial assistance to the school

- o Giving merit scholarship to eligible students
- o Sponsoring students/ teachers for educational visits/sports meets
- o Sponsoring cultural, literary and scientific activities in the school

Ongoing Projects

The schools currently adopted under SCHOOL ADOPTION PROGRAMME are

Project 1

Level	Primary Education
Name of Institution	Government Higher Primary School (GHPS)
Standards	1 to 7
Total No. of Students	120
Village	Gosikere
Taluk	Challekere
District / State	Chitradurga / Karnataka
Year of Adoption	MoU signed in 2014
	Improving school facilities
	To make provision for books and lab equipment
Assistance Provided in Stage I of Project	Skill and other development of resources
Suger or respect	Deploying teachers to impart quality education.
	Provide computer training for students
	• Training of existing teachers to improve quality of teaching.
	• Training of students to develop various skills like leadership, etc.

Assistance Provided in Stage II of Project	Asset and Infrastructural Improvements
	 Electrification/continuous power supply Providing tables and chairs for teachers and students Renovation of Existing Building
	Enabling financial assistance to the school
	Giving merit scholarship to eligible students
	Sponsoring students/ teachers for educational visits/sports meets
	Sponsoring cultural, literary and scientific activities in the school
	Enabling school health program / nutrient support
Implementation	Solely implemented by CENTAD with no partner institutions

Project 2

Level	Primary Education
Name of Institution	Government Higher Primary School (GHPS)
Standards	1 to 8
Total No. of Students	150
Village	DoddaberrenaHalli
Taluk	Challekere
District / State	Chitradurga / Karnataka
Year of Adoption	MoU signed in 2014
	Improving school facilities
	To make provision for books and lab equipment
Assistance Provided in Stage I of Project	Skill and other development of resources
	Deploying teachers to impart quality education.
	Provide computer training for students
	• Training of existing teachers to improve quality of teaching.
	Training of students to develop various skills like leadership, etc.
	Asset and Infrastructural Improvements
	Electrification/continuous power supply
	 Providing tables and chairs for teachers and students
Assistance Provided in Stage II of Project	Renovation of Existing Building
	Enabling financial assistance to the school
	Giving merit scholarship to eligible students

Sponsoring students/ teachers for educational visits/sports meets
Sponsoring cultural, literary and scientific activities in the school
Enabling school health program / nutrient support

For more information please contact us on centad@centad.org