

**Feedback on the utilization of your donation, as received from Seva Mandir**

**Transaction number** : TRN-0001612274/TD-0001655849  
**Transaction date** : 24-Mar-2011  
**Name of the donor** :  
**Purpose of donation** : Support Non Formal school education for  
25 tribal children for one month  
**Units** : 1  
**Amount** : INR 2500

**Beneficiary Details:**

25 children and the teacher in losing Dhana NFE

**Brief Description**

**Given below:**



Dear Mr. Khan,

Greetings from Seva Mandir!

Thank you very much for your kind support to us. We would like to communicate our heartfelt thanks to you for your generous contribution. Your donation of Rs. 2,500 would be used for the NFE in Losing Dhana village for the month of May 2011.

Before, I talk about the project you are supporting I would like to share with you some changes that happened at Seva Mandir recently.

Our ex Chief Executive Ms. Neelima Khetan has stepped down on March 31st. She has spent 25 years with Seva Mandir and the last twelve years as the Chief Executive. The organization excelled during her time and with her leadership marked a number of achievements. Though she has left us due to our constitutional norms, we are very

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happy to have her as our Trustee on Seva Mandir Board. Her continuing association with Seva Mandir is very assuring for all of us.

Ms. Priyanka Singh has taken over as Chief Executive of Seva Mandir from April 2011. She has spent over thirteen years with Seva Mandir heading Education and Health program and leading Badgaon Block (a geographical unit for our work). She has a post graduate degree in rural development from the same institute as Ms. Khetan did. She is very capable and a great person to work with. With her deep understanding of issues in rural development and support from all our friends like you, we are very much looking forward to seeing Seva Mandir keep doing its good work in the next years to come.

At this point of time, we all look for your continuous support and faith for many more years of working together.

### **Rural Schools of Seva Mandir:**

Around 30% children between the age group of 6 to 14 are out of school in Seva Mandir's work area. This situation is a result of State's poor distribution and quality of education, poverty and rural communities' lack of easy access to quality education that will empower them to lead more fulfilling lives. With support from our donors we run 205 single teacher rural schools in remote rural areas. The teachers are from within the villages and receive many training to educate the most excluded children (who otherwise work at home/labor). The pedagogy used is of innovating and child centric. Children after graduating from these schools join Govt. schools (a study shows their retention rate is about 80%) and they often outperform of other children who did not attend a rural school in the past.

Watch a video of an NFE: <http://sevamandir.org/videos.htm#leaving>

Currently we have 200 NFEs that reach 5000 children every year. The NFEs or Shiksha Kendras, in remote villages provide access to quality education to children between 6 - 14 years old, who are deprived of schooling. Children are out of school for two main reasons. One is the lack of supply of good education and the other is extreme poverty because of which children are forced to work. Often both the reasons work together.

The NFEs offer education upto class 3 with the initial foundation of reading, writing and mathematical abilities. The NFEs are often single teacher schools and most teachers are local and none of them have had any formal training in teaching children. The average academic qualification of teachers is from class 8th to 12th. Even though the teachers have not had much academic training, due to Seva Mandir's investment in their capacity building, the students of the NFEs much outperform the children of the other government and private schools. These schools are run in a space normally made available by the community.

Consistent and concerted efforts are made to improve and maintain the quality of education provided by NFEs like improving the physical structures, using diverse learning materials, regularly building teachers' capacity, inculcating an interactive and child-centered pedagogy, and building community participation. Emphasis is laid on helping children to think, interact, question and form concepts on their own, all aimed at creating a joyful and stimulating learning environment for children.

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The learning afforded in the NFEs develops their basic literacy and academic skills, enabling them to grasp better and even study on their own. In a recent study done, 84 % students who had passed from NFEs were found to be still in schools even after 3 years. These kinds of retention rates are certainly far ahead of normal retention rates in government schools.

A small story of the NFE you supported is enclosed for your kind referenece. We hope you find this feedback useful. Once again a very big thanks to you for all your support and we hope you will be able to visit us someday.

With warm regards,

Deepti Ameta,  
Program in Charge Resource Mobilization  
Seva Mandir, Udaipur  
[www.sevamandir.org](http://www.sevamandir.org)

**Story:**

Losing Dhana village does not have a government school in its proximity. Children have to walk 1-2 kms in order to reach the only government school in the village. In the rainy season the condition gets worse, the roads get blocked and as a result of this, children are unable to attend school regularly. Therefore, the village community proposed to open an NFE in the village, which was consequently opened in 2004. Presently there are 22 children enrolled at the center, including 11 boys and 11 girls. The NFE is run by a local teacher, Premlata, who has studied till class 8th. She teaches children with a lot of care and attention, making sure that the environment is child friendly and comfortable.

Among these 22 children there is one child named Sanu (changed name) who is 10 years old and is at the level of class 3. He is very interested in reading, writing and drawing. He makes beautiful pictures.

Another child, called Mitul (changed name) who (12) got enrolled at the NFE in 2010. He completed 5th standard from a government school in Losing Dhana but could hardly recognize any Hindi alphabet or count upto 20. After being at the centre for two-three months, he is now able to identify all the alphabets and read small words and can count until 50. His parents can also see the difference and are very happy about the fact that their child is now able to read and write.

The English teaching program was started at this center in April 2009. The level of the children in English has increased a lot since then and the children are enjoying teach their new subject English.

**About Seva Mandir:**

Seva Mandir operates in the southern part of Rajasthan. The work area encompasses 626 villages and 56 Urban Settlements.

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Our mission is to make real the idea of society consisting of free and equal citizens who are able to come together and solve the problems that affect them in their particular contexts.

**Seva Mandir focuses on:**

- 1) Enhancing people's capabilities for self-development by working for improved literacy levels, better health status, and sensitization against oppressive gender relations.
- 2) Creating sustainable improvements in the livelihoods base by revitalizing natural resources base of communities and
- 3) Strengthening village institutions by creating an alternative paradigm of power structures and community interactions that reinforces the positive forces of cooperation, transparency, equity, justice and responsible citizenship.



Ms. Priyanka Singh (Successor to the Chief Executive)



Ms. Neelima Khetan (The ex-Chief Executive - Seva Mandir)

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