

Minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2007

ETH HG F 33.5; 19.00 - 21.00

People attended: Srinjoy, Kirti, Indraneel, Anurag, Vishwa

Agenda:

1. KGBV (Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalay) discussions
 2. IAB food event
 3. Cricket matches
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KGBV (Kirti)

1 lakh = Rs. 100,000

This was a discussion continued from the last meeting to discuss the possible partial funding of 2 KGBV schools (Mathura and Pratapghad) to the tunes of 7000 CHF. Kirti uploaded all the documents in the datastore and people were asked to go through that before the meeting. Shyam and Agomoni were not able to attend the meeting and hence sent their opinions via email.

Agomoni' concerns (email):

- There is still a confusion about how many years the girls will stay in KGBV schools. The documents stated as one year which is very less time for them to get used to and to put them back in the normal school.
- Can the gender discrimination in the schools be avoided by putting all the girls in a schools rather than in a co-education school?

Shyam's concerns (email)

- This project has to be weighed against small projects like the recent proposal from Fr. Godfrey, from Dhule. Small NGOs find it difficult to get the funding but this KGBV can go ahead with or without our support.
- The main focus for us in this project should be to help the drop out girls and not working with the Govt.

Kirti: The school is for 3 years for the girls and then they are put in the regular school. The document about KGBV where in it is mentioned that girls will stay for one year is wrong. In one other document it has been modified.

Indraneel: This can not be wrong as it is mentioned twice in the same d

Kirti was asked to get the clear picture and send these queries to Mehar Singh.

Indraneel: The point that has to be considered while funding any projects is whether the money will be used properly or not. And with this project it seems that the money will go to the right hands, like in other projects.

Srinjoy: The questions raised by agomoni and shyam was that, this project has not been considered very carefully and not got the same attention/discussion in the group as compared to other projects. Hence we have to discuss this project more! But this should not be the only concern we should have. We should not always look to projects which we start from scratch and work towards that. We should also look in to projects which have come up on their own or with other funding and may be we should be part of that as well. With respect to that KGBV is a good project.

Vishwa: There are already 10 schools running in rented buildings by MS, how are they progressing? and why MS and ashwa want to build 2 model schools instead of one? They could have worked on one model

and then shown to the Govt right?

Kirti: The MHRD team visited the 10 classes and gave good report. Also they mentioned that the KGBV schools in other places (not run by MS) which are running in the building constructed by 20 Lakh budget of the Govt are in a bad shape with respect to sanitation, bedding etc. Moreover, the idea of MS and Asha was to construct all the 10 classes allocated to them with the new design (35 lakh per class). But they did not have sufficient funding and hence will build 2 schools (instead of 10). Whether we decide to fund or not, the construction of these two classes (according to the new 35lakh plan) will begin soon.

One point was cleared in the meeting that after the process of KGBV:

1. MS will identify land
2. Govt will release money to buy the land
3. Once land is acquired, MS will ask Govt to release the money for the Building, which is 20 Lakh.
3. MS will start the building
4. For the 2 classes MS will start according to the new plan (35 lakh) with the hope that Asha chapters will pool in to fund the extra 15 lakh.

So that means if we decide to fund the project now or not, the construction will anyway start, according to the new plan (35 Lakh). If for one of the school the funds are not enough then they will build only that part of the building which is necessary and can be built with the money they have.

After much discussion it was decided that we will NOT commit to this project as of now. But once the Govt money is released and the construction of the buildings will start, then we will see the progress of the whole project/idea and then think of funding or not. If the project needs money at that stage, then we can ask either all our donors to specifically donate to this project to raise 7000 CHF or we can organize some special events to raise the money.

Kirti has been asked to convey this message to Mehar and others in the KGBV team

IAB food event:

Vishwa asked if any one is interested in going there with an Asha stall. Srinjoy said he can go and probably Anurag as well. Kirti said she can prepare some stuff and send there, she also had an idea of getting some Samosa from a friend of her and selling there.

Since most of the food items is already planned by other participants we have to come up with a unique idea. The easiest is to have samosa and chai or some kheer (Anurag can prepare that).

Vishwa will look in the list of participants and the timing and will inform the group about what can be prepared.

Cricket matches:

Nitesh proposed that about 20 people can watch cricket matches in his home and collect some money for "ASHA". The idea was welcomed by the people attended provided we do not disturb their family and we are not too loud after 10:00 pm. It was also decided that we should send the time table of the matches to our close friends and Asha people and if they are interested in some matches then we make a list of people and what matches they want to see and send that to Nitesh in advance so that he has an idea how many will be there. Vishwa has taken this responsibility.

Minutes prepared by Vishwa