

“Linking Young Muslim Girls with Education”

Through National Institute of Open Schooling

At a glance

However the proposed project has been designed on the basic premise that not only does the state have the responsibility towards providing quality education to all children, it is also the best placed in term of resources and reach to fulfill the responsibility. The proposed interventions therefore have been planned to supplement and complement the effort of the Government.

The specific intervention would include 1) providing two condensed courses Centers for 14 - 22 years old dropped out young Muslim girls to build the basic competence in them for appearing in class tenth/twelfth. 2) Providing vocational Training in Block Printing/painting at each center. 3) Awareness programmes on health, education, legal rights and carrier building through meetings and workshops.

* Basti Khawaja Meer Dard is mainly a Muslim Community based urban slum situated in the central District of Delhi. There are 5000 households approximately with a total population of more than 30,000. Although the area is located very near to the central Delhi but it is backward from all aspects Majority of families are either daily wage earners or engaged in petty business. Because of low literacy level among the community, their attitude towards education particularly for girls is not favourable. Hence the children take to earning at a very early age. Children's enrollment to school is very low. Because of socio- cultural beliefs, the girls become the most vulnerable group. Parents, due to their orthodox attitude seldom agree to send their adolescent girls to schools. Rather, they prefer to marry them off at a very early age. There is a strong influence of religious leaders in the area.

People still refer the quacks during health problems. The area is very congested and status of sanitation and hygiene is also very poor.

3. Objectives of the project

- 200 Muslim school dropout girls are mainstreamed into regular and higher studies.
- Young girls are aware of their rights and they stand against gender based disparities.
- Positive attitude is built up amongst community members towards girl children education and their overall well being.

4. Activities Planned

The proposed interventions have been planned to supplement and complement the effort of the Government towards its mission of education for all by using a comprehensive multi-pronged approach to ensure out-of- school girls join mainstream education.

The project will be implemented in Basti Khawaja Meer Dard in Delhi.

The specific interventions would be following:

b) Extra curricular Activities :- To develop skills of the young girls, classes would be held on block printing and painting. External resource persons and vocational trainer would be engaged. Discussions on health, legal rights, career building would also be part of the process. The main idea behind is to make them aware of their rights and develop interest for better life options.

c) Parents- Teachers Meetings: This initiative would also aim at motivating parents to support their daughters' education. Considering

that parents play a key role in deciding future prospect of their girl children, the project team will work intensely with them so that their support is obtained . This will be done through regular parent – teacher meetings and individual counseling sessions. Teachers will hold regular monthly meetings with the parents to apprise them of the developments and to encourage their participation in the programme. The main purpose of the meeting will be to motivate the parents and address their apprehensions, if any.

e) Collaboration with other agencies :

The other collaborations that the project will seek to develop will be with agencies which will supplement the project interventions with specialized inputs for the participants. Linkages will be built-up with following organisations:

- 1) Collaboration with CEDPA for extending their 'Better Life Options' programme for young adolescent girls participating in the project. This collaboration will give an opportunity to the young girls to develop understanding and skills, which will help them to cope up with anxieties of adolescence.

5.Expected Outcome :

- 200 dropout young Muslim girls (14-22 year old) mainstreamed into formal education through NOS.
- Academic performance of 200 dropout girls will improve.
- The girl children and young girls would be aware of their rights and they will move towards taking up better carrier options .
- Enhanced support at the community and the family level for girl children's education.

- Role models for the younger children.

**Casule information on LMGE in partnership with Terre des
Hommes, Germany India Program
for the period - July 2006 – December 2009**

A. The project duration July 2006 – June 2009.

Total number of enrolled Muslim girls – 200 (XII-73/X-127)

B. Project area – Basti Khwaja Meer Dard

C. Total registered with NIOS – 200 – (XII-73/X-127)

Total passed in all subjects – 173 till Dec 09

Expected to pass in all the subjects through compartmental in the month of April 2010 – Altogether 27 old enrolled girls are appearing in 1/2 papers in compartmental examination scheduled to be held in the month of April 2010.

Mini Library

The aspirants has been using the mini library at their centers regularly for reference books as well as for their over all perception development. Different educational chart papers, some of which are made by the students, are also being used in teaching process. Which is very much students friendly.

Vocational Training: Apart from academic coaching and activities, we are also providing some creative vocational training such as in Block Printing, painting, Cutting & Tailoring that is integral part of our project. As a Result of it, some products of art works were made by the aspirants which we put into exhibition / co-operative Melas as and when organized.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Apart from the 'Better Life Option Program (BLOP) which is a regular feature of the project, the girls had been also taking part in the focus group discussion on health and hygiene under the leadership of Ms. Bushra Khan who is trained for it by YWCA and CEDPA.

Internal Monitoring and In-house Meeting

Both of the Centers are monitored by regular visits by the Coordinator. We also organized monthly staff meetings, which facilitated an exchange of ideas, strategies and provided a platform for joint planning. During the internal meetings the following points were discussed.

- **Community participation in the project** - As no other intervention apart from the project in the area so community mostly involved in the PTA meetings and a little with the workshops. The facilitator made home visits to the houses of working parents who could not attend the Parents Teacher meetings. During the last phase of the reporting period, we are trying to involve them with Mahila Panchayat through the networking with a nearby NGO.
- **We have also organized two Self Help Groups in the designated area for the active participation of the female community members of the area.** Though it is in early stage but participation level of the community increased.
- **Maintenance of records** - We also focused on reporting and maintaining records during our internal meetings with the project team. It also provided an opportunity for transferring skill among the teachers, especially on lesson planning.

Activities beyond the Classroom:

Training/workshops/meetings/public hearing/rallies:

Rally on International Women's Day: The enrolled girls took part in the rally organized by National Federation Of Indian Women on 8th March 2008.

Training and Workshops: The enrolled girls participated in **5 workshops/training** during the reporting period on confidence building, adolescent Rights, gender issues and legal rights, domestic violence, Impact of

Indo- US Knowledge on Food security and one reorientation workshop on street play with a theme on campaign against female foeticide.



A Two days workshop was organized at Basti Vikas Kendra, K/L Block, Mangolpuri Resettlement Colony on 18-19. 01.2007 especially designed for confidence building and personality development of Adolescent girls. The Resource Person Mr. Manjul Bharadwaj successfully made the participants to think about themselves, their rights their personality. Again on 02.04.2008 the workshop was organized at Raja Ram Mohan Roy Memorial Trust.

- ◆ 16 girls participated in the workshop on " Muslim Personal Law" organized by Delhi Commission for Women and Sur Nirman Education and Cultural Society at Balak Mata Center, Pul Bangash.
- ◆ It is very remarkable that this team of trained aspirants performed the play in different areas of Delhi, especially in Northwest district of Delhi. Altogether ten shows of LADLI (a play on campaign against female foeticide) were organized during the reporting period at Narela, Dilshad Colony, Safdar Hashmi Marg, Jamia Hamdard and at Pul Bangash.
- ◆ Remarkably, the LAADLI shows were also organized for Chartered Accountant students and Management students. Some management students also

performed in the same way for the enrolled girls. A joint workshop was organized on the issue of female foeticide at Raja ram Mohan Roy Memorial Seminar Hall.

- ♦ All the girls also participated in the celebration of birth anniversary of Aruna Asaf Ali, the great freedom fighter, philanthropist and founder of the organization.

Parents teacher meeting is the quarterly integral part of the project and some times we organized it once in two months or even monthly. Issues discussed in the meetings:

Self Help Groups

Examination fever and role of family members

Behavioral changes in enrolled girls

Domestic violence

Performance of students

Fear of demolition of tenements

Admission in the centers

Registration with NIOS and required documents.

Regular presence in center.

Glimpses through lens









