

An Appeal to Help Children and Women in India



VSEI Special Bulletin

VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO EDUCATION IN INDIA, INC. (V.S.E.I.)

A nonprofit, tax-exempt organization working to help education in India



P.O. Box 713 Hartford Connecticut 06142 USA Web Site: www.vsei.org Email Address: vsei@ntplx.net

We often need to remind ourselves that there are many in the world who are less fortunate than ourselves and deserve our help. In this Bulletin, we appeal to you to help projects in different parts of India -- for assisting needy children, for the upliftment & empowerment of women, for the special education and training of disabled persons, and other similar projects.

We would appreciate it if you can look through this and help to the best extent you can A Response Panel is enclosed. We also request your assistance in bringing this to the attention of other people.

Would you like to make a difference ?

..... In the life of a Child ? In the life of a village ? In the life of a community ?

Even as an individual, you can make a difference, if you resolve to do so.

- . You can help a needy child in India towards a better life, and the knowledge that someone cares.
- . You can help promote women's education in India, and help women realize their full potential.
- . You can help disabled children to grow up to be self-reliant and an integrated part of society.

There are many in the world who are much less fortunate than ourselves, who deserve our attention and help. VSEI (Volunteers in Service to Education in India) provides you opportunities and mechanisms for helping such people.

What does V.S.E.I. do ?

VSEI (Volunteers in Service to Education in India, Inc.) is an organization which helps children in India in the context of education. We work by contacting interested groups and schools and taking up work on education-related projects. VSEI is nonprofit and non-political. VSEI has 501(c)(3) income-tax-exempt status; donations to VSEI are income-tax deductible.

VSEI started in late 1968. Our projects in India assist different aspects of education, including the following:

- (a) Vocationally-oriented education; (b) Science Teaching Improvement; (c) Women's Welfare Programs;
 (d) Education/Training of Disabled persons; (e) Teacher-training Programs; (f) VSEI Scholarship Scheme;
 (g) VSEI Sponsor-a-Child plan; (h) Literacy programs.

We give here summary information about selected VSEI projects in different parts of India, which will give you an idea of the types of projects we assist, and the kinds of help they need .



Women in a class in Delhi Foundation of Deaf Women



Teaching a Mentally Disabled Child (Villupuram, TN)



Teaching & Training Mentally Disabled Children in Mumbai



Computer Education Workshop for teachers in Bangalore



Training Women for Livelihood -- CCDT, Mumbai



Children in Dhanket Bidalaya (near Kolkata)



Children in Outdoor Class in rural school near Baroda

Glimpses of VSEI-Assisted Projects in India



Rural Project Training for Animal Care, near Madurai, Tamil Nadu



Testing a Hearing Impaired Child (Hooghly, WB)

INFORMATION ABOUT SELECTED V.S.E.I.- ASSISTED PROJECTS IN INDIA

We give below summary information about selected projects, and request your help and support for these and other projects.

Blind Persons Association (BPA), Mumbai & National Association for the Blind (NAB), Mumbai: BPA's schemes include Scholarships, Home Teaching & Counselling, and vocational & employment opportunities for the blind. A current focus of BPA is the "Home Teacher Service", which addresses needs of the many blind people who must be directly assisted in their own communities. **NAB's** major effort is in educating & training blind persons in its programs in different parts of India; VSEI has been helping NAB in this for the last 4 years. VSEI's earlier assistance to NAB included equipment for teaching & developing new materials, Computer Education, and the use of text-to-speech software for blind persons.

CCDT (Committed Communities Development Trust), Mumbai: Through various programs, CCDT has helped women and children in marginalized communities in Mumbai to develop their potential and become self-reliant. VSEI has assisted CCDT's programs for helping families affected by HIV/AIDS, their Vocational Training & Income generation programs for disadvantaged women, and their programs for educating and caring for children..

Education & Training of the Hearing Impaired: VSEI has assisted this since the 1970's – starting with K.L. Institute for the Deaf in Bhavnagar (Gujarat), and a Higher Sec School for deaf children in Chennai (Tamil Nadu). Later projects have included the Delhi Foundation of Deaf Women in New Delhi, the Welfare Society for the Deaf & Retarded in Hooghly (West Bengal), and the Shastri School for the Deaf and Dumb, Bangalore.. VSEI has assisted them in their children's education programs and vocational training schemes for different age groups, in providing equipment such as Speech Training Modules, Hearing Aids, and equipment & facilities for Classroom Group teaching; and in providing services for testing and evaluating children..

Rural Women's Empowerment & Development Project ("Gramica"), Shivanahalli, near Bangalore (Karnataka):

This new long-term project, starting with two villages, addresses needs and issues such as (i) Needs in Literacy and reading programs for adults and children, (ii) Vocational training (Including computers) and Employment training, (iii) Decreasing gender inequities that limit women's education, health and employment opportunities; (iv) Enabling women to complete education at least up to Secondary school, and providing them access to higher education; (v) Maternal and public health issues. This program has the objective of the overall development and well-being of the women in the rural community.

Education of Urban Disadvantaged Children in Kanpur (U.P.) : In 1985, a group of young people in Kanpur formed the organization "Prerana". In 1987, they started Prerana Shishu Vidyalaya for the children of laborers; every year they increased the scope of its activities. They now have two schools, with many different activities. VSEI assists them in their basic needs and in their new programs.

Assistance to Rural projects in Different Regions : Several VSEI projects have assisted rural schools. Examples are:

- (i) Vocational projects for helping rural youth in Madurai Dist (Tamil Nadu) under the leadership of SEVA ;
- (ii) Rural projects near Kolkata (W. Bengal) managed by Dhanket Bidyalay Gram Unnayan Samity, which include Vocational training for women, science education for children, and assistance with books & educational materials for children;
- (iii) Empowering disadvantaged women through a self-employment program in a rural area in Villipuram Dist (Tamil Nadu);
- (iv) Programs in rural/tribal areas in Angul, Deogarh and Dhenkanal Districts in Odisha -- for rural & tribal people, with special attention to literacy programs for girls, vocational training of women, and the care, development & protection of children;
- (v) Shree Mevli Vidyalaya in village Mevli outside Baroda (Gujarat), in its science teaching, computer educ, and vocational programs;
- (vi) Rural schools in Ashtamichira and Pazhookara in Trissur Dist, Kerala .

Education of Disabled persons : In addition to the above, VSEI has assisted education of blind, deaf and multiply disabled persons at the Blind Welfare Council, Dahod (Gujarat); programs for the mentally disabled at Sulabha School, Mumbai; ICMH (Indian Council for Mental Health), Mumbai; and Vidyasagar in Chennai, Famelndia & Dharithree Trust in Bangalore; and programs of ARMDS for helping CP/MR children in Villipuram Dist, Tamil Nadu.

VSEI Scholarship Scheme and VSEI Sponsor-a-Child Plan: In the Scholarship Scheme, needy, deserving children are given scholarship awards, to help their basic educational needs. In the Sponsor-a-Child Plan, a sponsor can help support the education & upkeep of a needy child. We invite well-wishers to establish scholarship awards for needy children, and / or to sponsor children.

Assistance following Natural Disasters : VSEI provided assistance for the longer-term needs for Uttarakhand after the disastrous floods in mid-2013.

To CONTACT VSEI: Call (860) 233-5684 or (413) 585-0167 or (845) 359-8175 or (703) 754-8095 or (401) 353-5967 or (803) 419-0011 or (317) 848-8847, OR email vsei@ntplx.net. We also invite you to visit the VSEI Web Site www.vsei.org .

We Request Your Response

AN APPEAL TO HELP DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN & WOMEN

[We would appreciate it if you would fill in & mail this sheet, with your generous tax-deductible donation, to:
VSEI, P.O. Box 713, Hartford Connecticut 06142. Thank you.]

Yes, you can count on my support toward helping deserving children & women in India !

I am herewith enclosing my tax-deductible contribution of

___ \$ 1000 ___ \$ 500 ___ \$ 300 ___ \$ 100 ___ Other (\$)

Name Tel. No.: (Evening) (Day):

Postal Address:

Email Address: Date:

[Please make checks out to "Volunteers in Service to Education in India, Inc." or just VSEI; you will be sent a receipt.]

[Please note that VSEI is a 501(c)(3) organization, and your donation is Federal Income Tax deductible.]

___ I am willing to help in VSEI's work of getting support for its projects. Please contact me about this.

___ I would like to become a member of VSEI. Please send me the relevant information. [Note: This is on the Web site.]