

**Janhit Vikas Trust, Tara,
Post Barapada, Taluka Panvel,**

Dt.Raigad.

20th. May 2017.

ADA Report for Bhonga School Project 2016-17

1. The MAIN OBJECTIVE of the Bhonga School is:

Education helps people to stand on their own feet with self-confidence and dignity. As responsible citizens of this country, we must ensure that no seasonally migrating child is deprived of education.

This certainly is the reason why the Government of India has made education compulsory and free and it is pursuing this very seriously and trying to ensure that no child remains outside the school system.

This is why the Government has ordered all its schools to ensure that primary school going boys and girls accompanying their seasonally migrating parents are admitted to local government schools immediately and are also given their mid day meals. In spite of the fact that Education officers at the taluka and

district level are doing their best to ensure that every such child who migrates with his/her parents to Brick kilns, building work sites or sugar cane fields etc in search of work, there are migrating children who who do not like to go to the local Government school at the point of migration for the following reasons:

(a). All of a sudden everything is new for them. They are now, all of a sudden with better-of companions who have much better clothes etc. And with many other things. (b). They also do not feel welcomed by the local children.

I must admit that local officers and teachers are doing their very best to:

i. to welcome the migrant children. They do realize that once they become drop outs, it will be very difficult for them to get back into the system. Teachers are also being prepared even to give special tuitions to the migrant children.

ii. Our policy has always been to cooperate with the Government when sincere and good work is being done for the poorest. We try to persuade the children to go to the local

schools. we cater to those children who simply refuse to go.

iii. This year we started the Bhonga schools in the month of December 2016 after the usual survey of all the children who had migrated.

iv. The timings for the school were 10.00 am to 12.30 noon - adjustable in accordance with the needs of the place.

v. As the schools have good facilities we tried having one class with our teacher who is known to the children and the co-operation of the close by local school but that lasted for only three and a half months after which the children insisted on having the class in the brick kiln itself. This disturbed the whole rythm in another close bye brick kiln and the two classes folded up after three and a half months i.e. by mid march. So for the last month and a half, we had only three schools.

vi. Teachers were given special trainings and the children were given two exams to test their progress. In

one school the progress was not satisfactory enough.

vii. The close bye schools were ready to give the afternoon meal to the children attending the schools, but as the children were not keen on going to the village school we provided some eats/refreshments to the children every day with the help of some doners.

viii. We also invited all the children to our place in Tara on CHILDREN'S DAY in which they took part enthusiastically in the festival - paintings, games of skill, cultural items etc. etc. It was a memorable occasion for them.

We made arrangements of vehicles to bring the children and take them back.

ix. We catered to children who needed medical attention with the help of effective herbal medicines which we are propagating successfully.

x. Thanks also to some doners we were able to give each student a nice shirt and cap. The children were really happy with these clothes.

Please find below some more information of the classes and students enrolled in each class in 2016 - 17:

S.N	Location of School	Boys	Girls	Total
1	Dolghar	6	9	15
2	Barapada	4	12	16
3	Dolkhamb	7	11	18
4	Antora Phata, Pen	8	12	20
5	Antora Phata, Pen	10	14	24
	TOTAL	35	58	93

In case you need any further information, please let us know. I am trying to contact our Regent . Courses for the regents are arranged in the month of May

And he had to attend them. He has taken out some photos which we would like to send you so that you get a better idea of our work in the villages and the work with the Bhonga schools.

Fr. James Mascarenhas, S.J.