

**2014**

*Voluntary Institute for  
Rural Development  
(VIRD)*



## [COMPLETION REPORT]

*Submitted to*

**Volunteers in Service for Education in India**

## Background

Enhancing educational status of any area takes a long time, needs meticulous planning and collaborative efforts. VIRD has been active in this segment of human development as a mandate. It is not only about enhancing literacy but also about sustain the impact over a long period so that the one generation is educated leading to minimization of number of illiterates. Accessibility to school, connectivity, infrastructure etc. is considered to be the large constraints in getting an entire generation educated. In consideration of these facts, VIRD, in association with Volunteers in Service for Education in India (VSEI), a USA based philanthropic organization opened an elementary school in Poipani village of Deogarh district in Odisha, India. VSEI agreed to VIRD's proposal to support a part of a large initiative to educate the children.

This project was partially developed based on the past experiences of the organization, (VIRD), who had worked on community development, Awareness generation, primary health and education support projects in Angul and Deogarh Districts.

Below are the facts which motivated VIRD to formulate the project:

- Low Female literacy rate in the district.
- Poipani is predominantly inhabited by the tribal community
- The school dropout rate (predominantly prior to completion of primary level) among the girls is very high
- Indifference of the teachers
- Lack of community involvement due to lack of awareness and parental pursuance

As a measure to fulfilling the objectives, the intervention was started last year to which VSEI substantially contributed. The contribution was expended to procure some teaching and learning materials, capacity building of the teachers and enhanced salary to one teacher, procurement of sports materials etc.



## Location

The project is being implemented in Poipani village under Reamal block of Deogarh district in Odisha. The village is predominantly inhabited by the tribal and dalit community. The communication facilities to the village are fair weather. Connectivity in other sense (telecommunication etc.) is also poor.

## **Present interventions**

### **Capacity building of the teacher:**

The teacher underwent 2 different Training of the Trainer (ToT) programmes. Earlier she was trained at different organizations/ institutions such as OPEPA, PECUC on elementary education. This year she was trained on teaching in a joyful atmosphere.

### **Parent – Student Interface**

This was a continued activity, targeting to educate the parents and elicit their involvement in the entire process. During the period under report three events were organized. The basic component of the event was to make the parents and the students interface on a common platform, so they have a in depth insight into the problems the students are facing in studying while they are in the homes.



### **Provision of TLM**

Like previous years, this year the programme was provided with teaching learning materials (TLM); Teaching materials for the teacher and learning material for the students.

## **Lessons Learnt**

The children belong to tribal community. The home atmosphere is not conducive to studying environment.

Limited sources of livelihoods force these children to assist their parents in their regular income generating activities.

As these children are first generation learners; retention is a bit slower.

**We are attaching the financial statement against the contribution made by Volunteers in Service to Education in India**

**Namita Satpathy**  
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