

Meeting Minutes for Asha Chennai on 22nd March, 2020

Meeting held on Sunday, 22nd March 2020 by Teleconferencing.

Decisions are highlighted in blue.

Following volunteers were present in the teleconference (courtesy Freeconferencecall.com)
Bhaskar, Kasturi Easwaran, Paripoornam, Rajaraman Krishnan, Sriram, Sundaram R and Venkat.

1 . Ratification of Minutes of the February, 2020 Meeting

Minutes of the monthly meeting held on 16th February 2019 .were unanimously approved.

2 . Miscellaneous Updates

2.1 Pearl Bhaskar informed about the acquisition of an office space for Pearl Project in Kaythar near the bus stand at a monthly rent of Rs 2,300 (Room 15x20 with WC) an advance of Rs 10,000. Adequate funds are available in project buffer for this expenditure. This will be suitably incorporated in the Budget figures of the coming years.

2.2 Tulasi Due to difficulties such as positioning staff, not being able to fill the vacancy of computer teacher and cancelling Annual Day functions etc there is a surplus of Rs 5.5 Lakhs out of funds provided by Trimble. This figure may even go up due to prevailing uncertainties caused by school closures etc. Paripoornam, Venkat and Rajaram sat together and decided on a plan of expenditure from this surplus as follows:
a) for essentials like computer accessories (to fill the gap arising out of recent donations of laptops by Ford) Rs 70,000 ,
b) teachers' Excursion Rs 57000,
c) For Books and cupboards for 5 schools Rs 22500 x5 = 112500 and
d) for making Playground in Gangavaram Rs 75000 thus totalling Rs 3.15 Lakhs.

2.3 Computer Distribution : Computers donated by Ford and Glovis were distributed successfully to the schools covering all projects before the school closures. Asha Hardware Engineer Muthu did a tremendous job of organising the logistics single handedly and in a short time. [As a token of appreciation of the meritorious work done it was unanimously decided to grant Muthu a one Time Bonus of Rs 5000 for this outstanding work.](#)

2.4 Sangamam Rajatalab : Fortunately the planned visit of teachers from Rajatalab could be cancelled before the travel restrictions came into force due to Covid 19. On contacting Asha Austin it appeared that they were sanguine about their continued support to Rajatlab.

3. Compensation in case of Accidents : Recently Vanitha a teacher was involved in a scooter accident as she was coming to the school , she got injured and the scooter was also considerably damaged. In view of such accidents which arise in the course of and arising out of employment general guidance lines for granting leave and compensation were discussed. [It was decided in such accident cases it was decided to grant upto a maximum of two weeks paid medical leave and compensation upto a maximum of Rs 5000 if the cost of repair is beyond the claim settled by Motor Vehicle Insurance.](#)

4.COVID Panning

4.1Fund Raising :

The emerging situation created by the spread of Covid has rendered most plans uncertain. Since this is a pandemic and America is also seriously impacted there may be fund raising issues. Asha Chennai will forward emails and be in touch and it is inevitable that things are likely to be delayed.

4.2 Keeping Teachers Engaged

Necessary instructions have been given to Asha teachers to work from home during the lock down period. Detailed instructions have been given regarding Mapping work, searching the net and finding sites with useful contents for inclusion in our Kanini App etc Lead teachers Radhika and Nadiya are following them up with our teachers. It was also decided to call for weekly reports on work done from teachers. Stewards may also oversee.

4.3 Disbursement of Salaries for March, April and May were voted with the proviso that

- 1) March will include conveyance component
- 2) where 20 days are reckoned for conveyance reimbursement there will be no addition of conveyance for April salary but will be added for May salary and
- 3) where 22 days are reckoned for conveyance reimbursement the conveyance component will not be added for May salary

4.4 Asha Impressions and Right Start

All work related to Asha impressions should be continued without let up. As for Right Start a call could be taken after April 20th

5.Covid 19 Emergency Fund

It was unanimously decided to create a Covid18 emergency fund with a corpus of Rs 1,00,000 to support staff and children should the need arise.

6. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the participants.