

Meeting minutes for Asha Chennai on 12th & 13th June, 2021

Minutes of the meeting held via google Meet on Saturday 12th June at 6 PM and Sunday the 13th , June 2021 at 9.30 AM

Following were logged in and participated as indicated in the two sessions.

Anitha 12th & 13th

Bhaskar 12 & 13 th

Kasturi Easwaran 12th & 13th

Paripoornam 12th & 13th

Rajaraman Krishnan 12th & 13th

Ramakrishnan 12th

Sriram VS 13th

Sujatha Raman 12th & 13th

Sundaram R 12th & 13th

Venkataraman 12th & 13th

Venkat Nataraj 12th & 13th

Usha Bhaskar 12th

0. Ratifications

0.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2021 were ratified unanimously.

0.2 Ratification of online polls held between March 2021 till date.

The following eight online polls were held between March 2021 till date and were ratified unanimously.

- a. Loan to Murugan Field Level Coordinator Pearl Rs 50,000
- b. Allocation and launch of Project Arogyam for Nutrition at Rs 4.14 Lakhs
- c. Loan to Sangeetha Asha Teacher Thulsi Rs 50,000
- d. Special Loan to Radha Gowri Asha teacher Sangamam for Medical Emergency Rs 20,000
- e. Loan to Radhika Asha Lead Teacher Rs 40,000
- f. Loan to Sulochana Asha teacher Sangamam Rs 30,000
- g. Loan to Madhumitha Asha Teacher Sangamam Rs 25000
- h. Covid Relief Rs 97,000

1. Updates on Account Status

Ramakrishnan updated the status on the following

IT Sec 80 G Approval. It is in final stages and is expected in a week. Resident Donors can be informed that Exemption under 80 G is available in respect of donations made to Asha Chennai or its projects. Ramakrishnan suggested in the case of resident individual donors a proforma filled with details like Name, Address, PAN number, Mobile Number and Email ID of the donor should be obtained from the donor...

CSR registration with MCA (Ministry of Company Affairs) is complete and potential donors making donations under CSR can be suitably informed.

FCRA account has been opened by Asha India Varanasi at SBI Newdelhi Main Branch as required under the rules. Funds from foreign donors are being credited to this account for eventual transfer to Asha Chennai account..

2. Project Manigal Proposal review.

Usha Bhaskar presented the proposal which were unanimously approved with following changes. It was agreed that over a period of 4 to 5 years pay parity should be achieved across all the projects. Necessary adjustments could be made in respect of the senior teachers in the Manigal project. [Accordingly the budget proposal for Rs 12,68,900 was approved in respect of Manigal project.](#)

3. Loan to Staff

Rajaraman stated that one teacher has applied for a loan of Rs 1,00,000 for construction of house. He also pointed out that her mother who lives with her is Govt. teacher. All things considered, it was decided to approve the grant of a loan of Rs 50,000 to her which is the maximum limit we are giving these days for non-emergency and non-Asha-Required loans. [Eight members voted in favour of this loan and one abstained.](#)

On Sunday 13th June

4. Update on Bringing Common Elements Across Govt.school support projects

Venkat and Bhaskar had put together a list of common items on a google sheet their required numbers and rates which could be a guide while preparing the budgets. Among the things that we provide for the government schools projects the following were identified as essential items -- Stationery materials, sports materials and mats. The following were identified as non-essential items -- annual day expenditure, Maths/English /Science kits and Black board painting. Note that this is not a judgement of the importance of these items. But a way to slice it so that decisions regarding allocation can be made consistently across projects. Also to be noted is that some of the schools also have alternate sources for these kinds of items. [This was approved unanimously at the meeting.](#)

Project stewards were requested to identify Essential and Non Essential items and send the same to Sundaram. Sundaram will scrutinise the same for consistency to facilitate the budget allocations for 2021-22 to be taken up in the next meeting.

5. Project Thulasi Proposal Review and vote

Paripoornam referred to the discussions in the previous meeting and presented the revised details of budget proposals for 2021-22 and also the actuals of the previous year. [The proposals for total expenditure of Rs 25,86,100 for 2021-22 were unanimously approved.](#)

6. Project Sangamam Proposal Review And Vote

Venkat referred to earlier discussions on the details of items of expenditure of the budget for 21-22 and presented the revised requirements. [A budget figure of Rs 84,00,000 was unanimously approved for expenditure for the year 2021-22.](#)

7. Asha Scholarship Proposal Review And Vote

Venkataraman presented the figures of requirements of funds for the Scholarship Project for 2021-22. After discussion [an Expenditure of Rs 22,08,000 was unanimously approved for 2021-22.](#)

8. Update on Project Arogyam

Bhaskar mentioned that a new nutrition project, modest in scale, has been launched under the aegis of Asha Chennai. This is to alleviate the misery of school children who have been deprived of noon meals due to school closure for over a year now. Thanks to a donor from the USA donating the full \$6000 required for this project, we have been able to start in a small way covering about 6 Schools in sangamam (Tiruvallur) and 5 schools in Pearl (Thoothukudi).

9. Project Poorna Vidya Proposal Review and Vote

Sriram presented revised details as per discussions in the previous meeting and proposed [a budget expenditure of Rs 15,31,500 for 2021-22 which was unanimously approved.](#)

10. Project Pearl Proposal Review and vote.

Bhaskar presented the details of requirements of funds for Pearl Project for its fund requirements for 2021-22. [A budget expenditure of Rs 30,17,000 for 2021-22 was unanimously approved.](#)

11. Teachers Training

Rajaram furnished details of training programmes carried out for Asha teachers in Science by Apoorva and Computer Science by lead teacher Kumari. Schedule of Maths training by Meena Suresh was delayed but would be carried out as planned. Venkat reported that 4 hours of intense training in English was given by our volunteers Usha Rao, Sriram and Ramakrishnan and mentors based in the USA Krishnan, Meena Krishnan and Sudhakar. Possibility of intense training sessions during school breaks in May, September and December would be actively pursued.

Training in spoken English to Asha Chennai scholarship students is also being pursued with limited success. Some initial enthusiasm shown by Volunteers from Trimble is not being sustained.

12. Teacher Evaluation Test

Rajaraman set out the plan for Teachers's evaluation test on 26th Instant. Teachers can opt for in person test or online test. He shared the details of the performance matrix used for determining variable pay rise which included gradation in the ensuing test.