

ESTD. 1944

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KASTURBA BALIKA VIDYALAYA

(Recognised & Aided by Government of Delhi & Affiliated to CBSE)

शिक्षण आयोग (योजना) समन्वयिका
कार्यक्रम सं. 283
दिनांक 18/01/13

Director (Plg.) MPR
Dy. No. 3736
Date 17/1/13

ISHWAR NAGAR,
NEW DELHI-110025
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Ref. No. 716

Dated 8.1.2013

Shyam Suri, IAS (Retd.)
Manager

Director (Plg.) MPR/TC,
D.D.A. Vikas Minar N. DELHI-2

Dy.No. L-353
Dated 21-01-13

Shri S.K. Srivastava
Vice Chairman, DDA
Vikas Sadan, Near INA Market
New Delhi-23

उपाध्यक्ष कार्यालय

कार्यक्रम सं. 139-A

दिनांक 9/1/13

शिक्षण आयोग (योजना) समन्वयिका

कार्यक्रम सं. 359

दिनांक 16/1/13

Commr. (Plg.)-I's Office
Diary No. A-402
Date 16/1/13

Commr (Plg.)
15/1/13

Subject:- Recommendations for amendments in MPD 2021

Dear Shri Srivastava,

ACCUSED

I understand that suggestions have been invited from the public on amendments to Master Plan of Delhi-2021. I am enclosing a note on suggestions from our school which comes in the category of Government aided school. The proposal contained in the note deserves a serious consideration from the competent authority. I will also be interested in giving a personal appearance and presentation before the Committee or authority who is considering this matter

Yours sincerely

With regards,

Shyam Suri

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(A) may be seen by Dir (MPR)

AC (MPR) (in meeting)
AC (MPR) (in meeting)

17/07/13
MSD ACCAR (MPR)
18/1/13

17/1/13
AD (PR) III

cc pl. keep it in concerned file & update.

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Dated

Note on suggestions for changes in Master Plan of Delhi 2021 Relating to buildings of senior secondary schools

This note contains our suggestions from the management of Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya, Ishwar Nagar, New Delhi- 110065 (briefly referred to as KBV in this note) on changes required in Master Plan 2021. The school comes in the category of Government aided school. It is a senior secondary school for girls. Although the supporting data is being given on this particular school, the sample data and the suggestions apply to all aided schools in Delhi. A brief note on the profile of the school is attached.

Background: There are 207 schools aided by Directorate of Education, Government of Delhi. These schools perform a very useful function in imparting primary, secondary and senior secondary school education to the children of Delhi. It is believed that at present about 1.5 lac children are studying in these schools. As per the law for all non-Govt schools, aided schools are also run by trusts and societies registered under Registration of Societies Act of 1861 on a non-profit basis.

Financial position of the school: Government pays 95% salaries in these schools and a part of other expenses. Since aided schools are required to pay salaries and all other benefits at par with Govt. schools the burden of salaries in the schools is very high, thus raising the share of the schools. In KBV, the expenditure on salaries in 2011-12 was Rs 1,64,06,647 of which the 5% share of the school came to Rs. 8,18,064. Since the rates of grants under other heads like electricity, water etc have not been revised for last many years and we do not get any grant under the head of building maintenance, the school suffers a large financial deficit in its accounts. The total deficit of the school in audited Income and Expenditure account for 2011-12 came to Rs.14,49,000. This has to increase year after year on account of annual increments in salaries of the staff and increase in the rates of utilities like water and electricity. We also run a hostel in the school which is meant for SC/ST students and is aided by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India. This has been in existence since 1944, the year the school was established. The rates of their grant have not been revised from 1998. We suffered a deficit of Rs.10,82,000 on the hostel account, taking our annual deficit for 2011-12 to Rs.25,31,000. This will continue to increase by at least 10% every year and by a much larger margin in the years of Pay Commission recommendations.

Means of meeting our financial needs: Aided schools are required by law to give free education to the students. We can not charge a tuition fee and take any money from the students under any other head. Taking capitation fee at the time of admission or taking building fund from the students is strictly prohibited. We are not allowed to carry out any commercial activity from the school premises. This is also prohibited by the land use restrictions from the DDA and the municipal bodies. Some NGOs are run by business families and some trusts may be rich and well endowed. We do not have figures for them, but we believe that about 95% of aided schools are struggling financially. In KBV, run by Harijan Sewak Sangh, we do not have any sources of income and the NGO does not have any funds whatsoever to support the school. Our only recourse is to raise funds by donations from the public. Any one living in India will realize that it is impossible to raise the amounts mentioned above from donations. We thus have an acute financial crunch which is seriously affecting the maintenance of infrastructure and efficient running of the school.

The important role of aided schools: Aided schools were mostly built in the period before 1960. It is highly unlikely if a new aided school would have come into existence over the last 30-40 years. This is mainly on account of Government policies of giving inadequate amount of aid to such schools and not undertaking any study to look at their financial

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viability. This is apart from the fact that it is highly unlikely if any NGO will have the funds or will be willing to spend them on the huge capital investment required to set up a new school. That is why only two kinds of schools have been set up in Delhi over the last 50 years-Government schools and fee paying public schools. The Government is thus missing on an excellent opportunity to use the funds and enterprise of the NGOs, already in the field of running schools and others who could get into this area, who could give quality education to young citizens of Delhi. Following the right policies, Government can stretch its limited budget to a much larger number of schools by encouraging aided schools, particularly if you take into account the capital expenses in setting up a new school. It is a fact that aided schools are providing a much higher quality of education to its students compared to Government schools. This can be brought out by an independent study if the Government would commission one.

The position of DDA for land use of schools: According to Master Plan of Delhi valid up to 2021, schools are not allowed any institutional or commercial activity from their premises. While framing this policy, the authorities considered only the academic aspects of the schools and did not take into account the financial implications of this matter. All aided schools are situated in residential areas or what have been designated as residential areas in successive master plans of DDA. The land in institutional and commercial areas will be too expensive for the schools. In any case most such schools came into existence before the DDA came into being. Our school was set up in 1944. The DDA has decreed by implication that our land use is "school" as a plan was approved for our school building on this plot by MCD in 1970.

Our recommendation: We are proposing that DDA should allow some area of the school land to be used for institutional/commercial use. It is now being allowed for residential plots of certain size. Hotels are being allowed to use 20% of their FAR for other commercial uses. Similar facility is being given to hospitals. This is being done to improve their financial viability which is considered a desirable thing for the economic development of the State of Delhi and to meet the needs of the community. Schools are performing a very important service for the community and their financial viability should be a highly desirable objective for the Government and its agencies. We are recommending that aided schools like ours should be allowed to use 20% of their allowed FAR for commercial purpose with some restrictions and variations of the allowed activities based on the width of the road. This will allow the existing aided schools to become viable and will allow them to improve their quality of educational services. This will also add to the pool of commercial/institutional space available in the city/state.

Aided schools like ours are mostly catering to students from poor families as most parents choose to send their children to public schools or Government schools. Reimbursement of fees of two children up to Rs.1500/- per month for Government and semi Government employees has further increased the enrollment of students in public schools. As our attached note on our profile shows, we at KBV cater to the poorest families in our neighborhood.

Need to augment our financial resources: Any improvement in our financial resources will certainly help us in increasing the quality of education being imparted to our students. We feel that the main difference in the quality of education being given by our school and the public schools which charge high fees from their students is the financial resources available to the public schools. If we had such resources, we could bring about significant improvements in our infrastructure and delivery of our academic inputs. This will bring about large benefits, including building of careers for life, for students from very poor families who are catered by schools like ours. (Please see the background of our students in the attached note on our profile). Since the Govt. can not or will not agree to give us large financial grants, they could help us by making the proposed change in the building rules for such schools.



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Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya

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A Profile of the School

Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya (KBV) is a girls senior secondary school situated in South Delhi in Ishwar Nagar, New Delhi-110065. It was established in 1944 by Harijan Sewak Sangh (HSS). The Sangh was set up in 1932 by prominent national leaders of India under direct guidance of Mahatma Gandhi, for removing untouchability and for upliftment of harijans including their education. Shri G.D. Birla was its President from 1932 to 1959, followed by other reputed Gandhians. Shri Radhakishen Malviya a reputed national leader and former Minister of the Central Government is our current President. The school was set up soon after the death of Mrs. Kasturba Gandhi to commemorate her memory and to provide quality education for girls from underprivileged families. It is believed that Gandhi ji was also present during the inauguration of the school which was performed by Shri C Rajgopalachari. Smt. Rameshwari Nehru was the first manager of the school and remained on this position for over 20 years. It has received very distinguished guests including President and Prime Minister of India in its past years. We were fortunate to welcome Mrs. Sheila Dikshit Chief Minister of Delhi in the school on 18 Nov.2010, when she came to lay the foundation stone of our new hostel building.

Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya comes in the category of Government aided schools under Delhi Govt. We have an affiliation with CBSE. The school has classes from 6th to 12th. It has about 650 girl students out of which about 200 live in the hostel. The hostel is only for Scheduled Caste girls and is aided by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. There are no fees for students for the school or the hostel. All operations of the school are run by Government grants given for specific purposes which leaves heavy deficits every year. Our current deficit in 2011-12 has come to about Rs.24 lacs, 14 lacs for the school and 10 lacs on the hostel account. The accounts of the school for the year 2011-12 had been audited by 15 July,2012. The deficit has to be met through donations as the school or the NGO do not have enough sources of regular income. The school is always going through a financial crisis mainly because we are unable to raise the required amounts of money through donations.

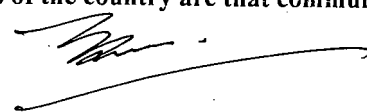
The school gets good results in the Board examinations. They have been in the range of 95% to 100% in both class X and XII for the last 20 plus years, actually 100% in X and XII in 2012 and in last five years. There are some issues with the quality of results and efforts are being made to bring about improvements in that field. The school only has Arts stream in plus two classes. There has been a demand for starting Science and Commerce streams for last 20 years, but we never had the funds for building class rooms and labs for them. We have been able to get funds from corporate social responsibility (CSR) budgets of Gail India and GMR Group and hope to start both Commerce and Science in 2013, which will give much wider educational and career choices to our students. We are thankful to them.

The school gets its students mostly from poor families in our neighborhood. Our school comes last in the priority of schools for parents. We get those students who can not afford private schools, even with the lowest fees, and mostly those who can not get admission in Govt. schools. Most of our students are thus from underprivileged socio- economic families with poor educational background. About 40% of our students come from scheduled caste families and another 15% are Muslims. About 90% may be from families where none of the parents has gone to college. About 80% come from families with income less than Rs.10,000 per month, the poverty level benchmark set by Delhi Govt.

We have been taking some new initiatives. We are concentrating on counselling of students for admissions in BA and in vocational courses and also give them active assistance in getting admissions. As our students come from very poor families, we have started a scholarship scheme for their higher education. Our other initiative has been to run computer classes for all our students which are free. And this is being done without any assistance from the Government. We are also strengthening our library and have set a very high budget for buying of books. We are taking innovative measures to improve the quality of results of our students starting from class 6 although we already have the best record among all aided schools in South District. We have some projects for sponsorship for such soft services.

The school does need a large amount of donations for its financial sustenance and to just about survive in its operations. We are not backed by an industrial house or a business family. The national leaders and philanthropists who started the school put in the initial effort and the funding and presumed that the community will look after its needs in the future. I think we the people and corporate companies of the country are that community.

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