

Deoghar District Administration, Jharkhand
Hiring of NGO Partner for Implementation
Of
Science Learning Program,
Science Learning Centre and Lab on Wheels
In Deoghar District

Terms of Reference

1. BACKGROUND:

Deoghar is a district in the state of Jharkhand, known for having several Hindu temples and places of historical and cultural significance in India. In 2006, the Indian government named Deoghar one of the country's 250 most backward districts. It is one of the 21 districts in Jharkhand currently receiving funds from the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme (BRGF)¹. Naturally, this means that the quality of education in the district is poor and children's learning levels are low. In India, current teaching practices revolve around rote learning rather than hands-on learning and this problem is further magnified while teaching subjects such as science that require innovation, creativity of thought and experiential learning.

To address this gap in teaching and learning science, the District Administration of Deoghar has shown interest in setting up a Science Learning Centre. The following proposal expands upon the suggested program approach.

Through this intervention, the aim will be to:

- Create a stimulating and engaging learning environment for children for exploring Science.
- Develop a spirit of inquiry among children and community.
- Exhibit, popularize and to link Science in everyday life.

2. SCIENCE LEARNING CENTRE IN DEOGHAR

To create an environment of activity-based science learning and create a larger impact on local communities, the District Administration of Deoghar envisions the establishment of a Science Learning Centre. This Centre will be equipped with models, apparatuses, etc., where workshops and interactive sessions will be organised with children and the local communities. The Centre will reach out to schools and villages in its vicinity.

3. ADMINISTRATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE

As part of the proposed intervention in Deoghar, a Science Centre will be constructed by the District Administration. The District Administration seeks support from a Non-Government Organisation (NGO) with experience in the field of science education to be entrusted with the following responsibilities:

- Planning and designing of the Centre, keeping in mind its purpose for science learning activities. Architects can be consulted if required.
- Administration of the centres will be carried out by a team of 5 personnel. The NGO will recruit and appoint candidates as required.
- The NGO will be responsible for training all personnel, monitoring program activities and ensuring that project timelines are followed.
- This centre will be used as an operational base for the program, with the following activities being conducted by the NGO with support from the Deoghar District Administration, both inside and outside the centres:
 - Science workshops with children
 - Community engagement activities
 - Engagement with other schools
 - Engagement with school teachers, local govt. officials, etc.

¹ The Backward Regions Grant Fund has been designed by the Government of India to redress regional imbalances in development by way of providing financial resources for supplementing and converging existing developmental inflows into the identified backward districts.

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/efeatures.aspx?relid=79312>

4. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

The proposed intervention will commence in August 2017 with the total duration of the program being 3 years, i.e., 2017-20. As described above, the core activity of the program will focus on activity-based learning and learning outcomes will be determined accordingly. The NGO will be responsible for implementing the work that will be carried out both within as well as outside the centre. The broad framework of the program will be as follows:

- The focus group will comprise upper primary school students, i.e., Std. VI to VIII children.
- In schools where the program will be implemented workshops will be organized. The program will thus only be rolled out in schools which have upper primary standards.
- In the Science Centre, workshops will be conducted with children who regularly visit the centre from neighbouring communities.
- It is expected that the activities will be carried out in 20 villages on a regular basis through the year.
- As a part of outreach efforts, activities like workshops and interactive science fairs will be conducted in a minimum of 15 schools, over the span of the year.
- In the first year of the intervention, the district administration will depute personnel to work in the fully operational Science Centre with the NGO team. In the long term, this would help build the program's sustainability such that when the NGO team moves out of the intervention area after the proposed period, the local government and community are well equipped to follow the same approach and ensure that science learning remains exciting and interesting to children.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1 Selected NGO

- Supporting the District Administration with planning and designing the Centre in accordance with local guidelines and with the NGO's own knowledge and resources
- Carrying out the following program activities according to the above mentioned timeline:
 - Location mapping and surveying
 - Facilitating activities such as science workshops in the Science Centre and Science Fairs and workshops in identified schools and villages around the centre
 - Carrying out community engagement activities including setting up libraries in select villages
 - Training of Personnel
 - Regular monitoring and assessment of the program
 - Setting up Science Centre with models , equipment and a library
- Timely reporting of all program activities and funds utilized. Reports will be shared on a mutually agreed upon schedule/timeline.

5.2 DEOGHAR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

- Obtaining permission for the NGO to carry out the program in the block of Deoghar, in schools and communities
- Obtaining permission for schools to organise field visits to the Science Centre
- Identifying an appropriate location for the Centre
- Building a permanent Science Centre along with an outer campus and science park with specific models, having a total area of 2500 sq. ft.
- Purchasing the required furniture and fixtures for the Science Centre
- Setting up the infrastructure for the centre, including water, electricity and other basic facilities
- Releasing payments in accordance with the mutually agreed upon timeline

6. NGO QUALIFICATIONS

- At least 10 years' experience in developing and implementing interventions focused on education, specifically in science education.
- At least 5 years' experience in working with rural communities.
- Prior experience of working in the state of Jharkhand.
- Proven ability to work closely with Government Departments and coordinate with diverse entities.
- Availability of qualified resource persons to lead and guide the proposed work and train recruited personnel.
- Ability to ensure field level organization is achieved as required.

7. PROGRAM BUDGET

A detailed budget outlining all costs including construction and setup of the Science Centre, payments regarding travel, training, personnel salaries, teaching material and content, etc. deployed through the NGO, will need to be submitted to the District Administration and mutually agreed upon. Payments will be released to the NGO according to a timeline which will be mutually agreed upon. The NGO will be required to submit records/reports of utilization of funds received.

Detailed Project Report of Lab on Wheels

We have been Working on the Lab on Wheels project for the past 6 months. With the help of HIL's CSR funds we have already run this on a pilot basis for 10 days with the help of a Pune based NGO ([http:// www.vidnyanvahini.org/](http://www.vidnyanvahini.org/)) in 10 schools here. I am attaching files related to this. The outcome in terms of learning experience and excitement among teachers and students was just wonderful. There is no doubt about its functioning and fruitfulness. In a small period of 10 days it touched a massive 6000 students. Hence as of now it is only the funds that is stopping us from moving forward.

We are writing this project report in terms of net funds required and possible earnings in future. This earning will help in covering miscellaneous expenditure if any.

A) FIXED COST

SL.No	ITEM
1	Vehicle Tata starbus (With Modification/Insurance/Registration)
2	Apparatus Physics
3	Apparatus Chemistry
4	Apparatus Biology
5	Dress and Apron for Satffs

B) RECURRING COST (5 YEARS)

SL.NO	ITEM
1	Chemicals, Slides, Wires, maintenance etc.
2	Salary of 3 teachers
3	Salary of technician
4	Contingency
5	Salary of Driver, Maintaince of Vehicle