

Project Initiation Document

Project Framework

a) **Mission of Prayas**

Prayas, a national level non-profit voluntary organization, set up in collaboration with Delhi Police, Delhi School of Social Work (Delhi University) and the Shramik Vidyapeeth, Ministry of Human Resource and Development, with the specific objective of rehabilitating marginalized and deprived children, visualizes a nation where every child goes to school, or is provided with holistic treatment including health care and shelter.

b) **Areas in Need of Improvement**

Prayas believes in encouraging community participation as a result of this we appoint educators from the community itself, the minimum qualification required being a graduate or 12th passed. Being from the community they understand the children's needs better and even children find it easier to interact with their educators. And in order to achieve our aim of imparting quality education, comprehensive and refresher trainings of the educators is needed from time to time. The teachers who are the points of contact with the children need to be trained in various aspects of curriculum details, pedagogy, teaching learning methodology, record maintenance etc. along with the changing scenarios so that they are well equipped in delivering their services efficiently.

We also need to develop new and innovative Teaching Learning Materials which suits the needs of all the categories of children, which Prayas serves.

c) **Proposed Activity**

In an endeavour to realize the goal of enabling marginalized children to realize their Fundamental Right to Education in India, Prayas is currently running 110 Alternative Education Centres. The children (age 6 - 14 years) attending such centres are mainly out-of-school children who either have never been to school or are dropouts. Most of the teachers are from the local community itself and have very basic educational qualification and skills. Therefore Prayas from time to time has been organizing need-based training programmes for these teachers to upgrade their skills and improve quality of education in our centres. This Project will further strengthen our endeavour to provide quality education, through training provided to teachers.

This project will also document the past experiences and provide framework for future course of action. It will function as a training centre for the continuous up gradation of the skills of the teachers and other staff in pedagogy, child psychology, curriculum etc. Along with these one of the primary objectives of this will be to expand the educational programme to cover as many out of school children as possible to achieve the target of education for all by 2010.

Through the training we hope to further develop curriculum, train teachers, produce teaching learning material, monitor the progress of the children, mainstream them into the formal setup, provide vocational training, counselling, health care etc.

- To build the capacity of teachers, counsellors, partners of Prayas through training programmes on the various facets of education and life skills.
- To develop a standard set of teaching learning aids for use in Alternative education for internal use and sharing with other NGOs.

Training – Skill and knowledge up gradation of teachers is essential to keep them up dated and aware of the latest thoughts, practices and know how in the field of education and child

welfare. Experts from respective fields will be invited to conduct these trainings. The following topics will be primarily covered:

- a. Curriculum
- b. Pedagogy
- c. Child Psychology
- d. Community Involvement
- e. Social issues
- f. Monitoring systems

Teaching Learning Material . The teaching learning aids used and honed over the past years will be standardized with the help of field staff and resource persons and brought out as a comprehensive kit with instructions for use. These will be based on the experiential and joyful education model that assigns equal importance to the child in the learning process. Aids will be developed for all subjects .Hindi, Math, English and Environmental Sciences. The teaching aids will include activities, songs, role-plays and other activities and not just physical equipment. Major emphasis will be on use of locally available resources to make the teaching aids.

During eighteen years of experience through its grass-root projects, Prayas has come to realize that the problem of disadvantaged children in India can best be handled through a multi pronged programmatic approach, by providing alternatives through education and occupational skills and through community participation.

The teachers, who are the points of contact with the children, will be trained in various aspects of curriculum details, pedagogy, teaching learning methodology, record maintenance, developing appropriate teaching aids, community interaction etc. The initial workshop will be followed by periodic refresher sessions.

Outcomes (measurable)

S. No	Main Activity	Outcome
1.	Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 days training Programme in a year • Training Modules on pedagogy, child psychology, social issues, inclusive education • Need Assessment of Teachers . internal and external
2.	Teaching Learning Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and dissemination
3.	Resource Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up of a reference library . a collection of educational philosophy, theory, practices and experiences.
4.	Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each training documented and disseminated to cover a wider audience • At least one comprehensive documented and disseminated in a year

d) Supporting Agencies

For its existing activities, Prayas has collaborated with or enjoyed the support of several individuals and organizations, conscientious citizens, private trusts and foundations and the business corporations who have also chipped in various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India and of NCT of Delhi are regular project partners.

In order to enhance quality, competence and character of teachers, we believe that they should be provided quality training and academic/resource support.

Various National level organizations specializing in various subjects will be taken to assist in training, organizations like-

- The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is an apex resource organization set up by the Government of India. They will provide academic and technical support for improvement of education.
- The National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) is the apex national institution of educational research, training, and consultancy. Its core activities include: training educators, research in education planning and administration, providing consultancy services at national and international conferences.
- The District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) will help provide us with academic and resource support. DIET will provide training to the teachers focusing on a child centered and an activity based curriculum, making education a joyful, innovative and satisfying learning activity rather than a system of rote, cheerless and authoritarian instruction. They conduct Pre Service as well as In Service Training to Teachers, along with Resource support (extension/guidance/development of materials, aids, evaluation tools etc) which is provided.
- Directorate of Education which endeavours to provide free and compulsory education to all children up to 14 years of age.

These institutes are storehouses of immense knowledge and experience that will be tapped for the benefit of all. The knowledge and experience of other organizations and independent experts involved in training and community mobilization will also be taken.

e) Objectives to be Achieved

- Short Term

- To bring about changes in the quality of teaching and learning of alternative Education centres.
- To build the capacity of teachers through a recurrent training programme on the various facets of education.
- To document education learning experiences and disseminate this information in the form of publications.
- Greater involvement of the parents and community in demanding quality education for their children.

- Long Term

- To develop a set of teaching learning aids for use in Alternative education for internal use as well as sharing it with other NGOs.
- Creation of a cadre of trained NGO personnel in working for at-risk children
- Children mainstreamed through Alternative Education Programme will be better equipped to enter the formal school system.
- Creation of a forum of interaction and problem solving, comprising of parents, community members, schoolteachers and principals and government officials.
- Dissemination and greater prevalence of the methods to tackle the needs of at-risk children leading to over a period of time a reduction in the numbers of at-risk children.

f) Project Rationale

Over these many years Prayas has worked in collaboration with NCERT, NIEPA and various experts in the field of education on curriculum and pedagogy to evolve an effective model of alternate education. Some of the experiences of Prayas in the field of education are .

- 110 Alternative Education centres across Delhi and other states providing education to marginalized out-of-school children

- A Community based effort to Universalize Elementary Education in Urban Deprived Communities including Mainstreaming of 11-14 year Children. an innovative and experimental project sanctioned by the department of Elementary Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development saw Prayas impact 4500 children in 5 locations of Delhi. The project combined bridge courses for dropout children with remedial education for class VI students to strengthen elementary education.
- Prayas REACH Project . Prayas has been chosen by REACH India, a unit of USAID to build the capacities of six grassroots organizations in quality education service delivery for vulnerable and at-risk children. The sub grantees are running 60 learning centres catering to the needs of 4500 out-of-school children.
- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan . Prayas is a member of the governing Body of UEE (Universalisation of Elementary Education) Mission in Delhi. It is running 75 learning centres catering to the needs of 3000 out-of-school children. Prayas is also running 10 centres in Motihari and Samastipur each, as part of SSA.

There is an urgent need to have a central resource centre that will compile and consolidate the invaluable work done so far. This project will enable us to create a **Resource cum Training Centre** which will document these past experiences and provide framework for future course of action. It will function as a training centre for the continuous up gradation of the skills of the teachers and other staff in pedagogy, child psychology, curriculum etc. The centre will also develop monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to fulfill the set objectives and targets of the educational programme. Along with these one of the primary objectives of the centre will be to expand the educational programme to cover as many out of school children as possible to achieve the target of education for all by 2010.

The centre will also produce research and advocacy documents on fundamental right to education, children's rights, street children etc

This project has been long overdue due to lack of resources and funds. This project would also help in bringing out reference materials which would help other organisations to benefit from the expertise and experience of Prayas, which has been enriched over the eighteen years of its functioning.

g) Target Group

This project aims to address the wider audience and create an impact on all the stakeholders in ensuring quality education to all the children. The teachers who will directly benefit from the training and will not only be better equipped in imparting quality education to the children but will also act as master trainers in carrying forward the training to other teachers. The Teaching Learning Materials developed, will also be of internal use as well as sharing it with other NGOs and hence a wider number of beneficiaries can be covered.

Implementation

- a) **Proposed date for commencement of project** - 1 July 2006
- b) **Timescale for implementation** : 1 year (1-07-2006 to 30-06-2007)
- c) **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

For the successful implementation of this project, experts from the fields of elementary education, training, child welfare, monitoring systems will be associated in all stages. A comprehensive annual report will be provided at the end of project. A time line will be developed to monitor the progress of all activities. Experts from the field of education will evaluate the progress of the centre at the end of the project.

Person(s) Responsible: Mr. Naushad Khan, Senior Manager Education, Prayas Delhi.

Budget Summary

Item	Local input (INR)	Total Cost (INR)	Grant sought (INR)
Training 20 days	40,000	80,000	40,000
Development of TLM Material	5000	25,000	20,000
Documentation	25,000	25,000	0
Honorarium to Senior Research Officer	44,000	1,44,000	1,00,000
Honorarium to Research Associates	48,000	1,20,000	72,000
Administrative Expenses Stationary, conveyance, telephone and other over heads	60,000	60,000	0
Total	2,22,000	4,54,000	2,32,000

INR 1 = € 58 (approx) therefore INR 2, 32, 000 = €4,000

Contractual Agreement

Suas Educational Development will offer 100% support (as per budget above) in advance, and will expect to receive a full project report, inclusive of all appropriate receipts and invoices, within 30 days of completion of the project.

Signed:



Suas

Rajib K. Haldar
Executive Director, Prayas