

India Literacy Project



Annual Report 2005- 2006



The year 2005-06, has been a full and rewarding year for India Literacy Project, both in the range and quantum of work done and the results achieved. In its multiple roles of providing scholarships to children pursuing high school education, promoting volunteerism, working towards strengthening 'back to school' initiatives, and facilitating education for the underprivileged children, ILP made a distinctive contribution.

SCHOLARSHIPS- PURASKARA

All children have a right to education, a happy childhood and balanced development- but the truth remains that several children still work to support themselves and their families. Education has evolved as a key intervention in releasing children out of work situations. Elementary education (to 7th standard) being almost free in government schools these children continue their education until 7th standard. Further, incentives such as free uniforms, mid-day meals, textbooks etc. also help in ensuring that these children do not drop out due lack of financial resources.



Puraskara - 2005

However, high school education (8th through 10th standard) still continues to be out of reach of many these children. Families find it difficult to meet the costs of school fees, books, uniforms, commuting expenses to the nearest school. In many cases children, especially girls, are forced to drop out of school and return to work to supplement their family income. At the same time, the growing Indian economy is creating a need for a larger cadre of educated and trained workers with a minimum of high school and technical education. Realizing the need for scholarships for such children, ILP has designed *Puraskara* – a need-based scholarship initiative to assist children from poor socio-economic background to pursue their middle and high school education.

This year ILP expanded its scholarship program to cover 29 children in Bangalore, Davangere and Raichur. As per the criteria of our scholarship program, all the children come from poor socio-economic backgrounds, were working children or

school dropouts. All of them are now in high school pursuing their 9th and 10th standard education and doing reasonable well in their academics. Two of the boys from Bangalore have been consistently scoring more than 80% in their school examinations. This year 7 children who completed their 10th standard exams have received partial support towards continuing their education.

Resources for the scholarship program were mobilized from Hewlett Packard ISO, Diksha trust and individual donors.

WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH

A Career Guidance Workshop for Commerce Students

ILP organized a career counseling seminar for students pursuing the commerce stream, on the 28th of August 2005. The seminar had 5 sessions: Corporate Finance, Banking, Insurance, Accounting BPOs, Chartered Accountancy. Representatives from Corporate Sector organizations in



What else do we need to further our academics...A group discussion in progress



A representative from MetLife Insurance talks about Careers in Insurance

Bangalore such as Hewlett Packard, MetLife, Ravi and Associates gave an overview of the career paths and options available in each of the areas indicating the kind of skills needed for the same.

A Study Skills workshop for High School Children

With the help of the Promise Foundation, ILP conducted a day long study skills workshop and a personality development session were conducted for high school children on the 1st of October 2006.

Consultation for Interventional Strategy in the East Region

ILP - USA has been supporting literacy and education initiatives in three states: West Bengal, Orissa and Bihar over the last 10 years. While considering the regional distribution of initiatives ILP has a small presence in the eastern states of Bengal and Orissa i.e. 6 projects at present. In the last 8 years the East region has seen

substantial developments in terms of human resource development and Infrastructure and also changes have taken in the socio-cultural, economic political spheres and attitude too have changed among communities.

Keeping in mind the developments at the national level with regards to universalization of primary education, the Sarava Shiksha Abhiyan and the regional socio-political and economic differences, ILP has felt the need to develop a East region perspective and strategy for the two states. A East Region Workshop was facilitated by ILP on the 16th and 17th of December at Tarakeshwar in West Bengal.

Mr. Victor Tauro, India Coordinator and Mr. A L Rangarajan, Trustee – ILP , India Trust attended the workshop. The outcomes of the workshop are being used to define the India strategy for ILP.

STRENGTHENING CHILD LABOUR REHABILITATION INTERVENTIONS

Over the last decade, child labor interventions in India have followed a focused approach, using Education as a preventive strategy towards elimination of child labor. UNICEF supports many child labor programs in partnership with the State Governments and some in collaboration with bilateral aid agencies. The largest intervention in India is the National Child Labor Project (NCLP) managed by the Ministry of Labour – Government of India.

Central to these rehabilitation interventions, are short-term schools for released child laborers and "out of school" children. These special schools are also called 'bridge centers', and are temporary in nature intending to 'bridge' from a child from "out of school" state to "mainstream" schools. They are managed by Non-Governmental Organizations, who receive financial and non-financial support from donors, State Government or the Central Government. The main objective of these 'bridge' schools is preparing children with the necessary competencies and capabilities for enrolment to the mainstream schools.

Regular monitoring of children progressively, both in bridge schools and after mainstreaming becomes, therefore, crucial. It is also essential to capture information on the profile of children and their families.

Currently although a monitoring system exists, records are unevenly collected at district level, mostly on paper form, and there is no system to analyze them. The paper-based records don't lend themselves to quick analysis. Further there is no follow-up of the child once mainstreamed.

"Back to School Information on Children" BASIC is a tool developed by ILP with the help of volunteers from HP-STSD in Bangalore. The requirements for the tool were defined by UNICEF coordinators in Gulbarga, Magadi and Davangere and further refined during the first year of piloting in the UNICEF project areas.

After a demonstration on May 14, 2005 to the Director, Ministry of Labor- Govt of India, Labour Secretary - GoK and the Labor Commissioner- GoK, it was felt that



Arun Serrao, consultant and Training Coordinator for BASIC, gives an overview to Dharwad NGOs

tool holds potential to become a monitoring and tracking tool for the NCLP. The tool is now being enhanced to meet the needs of the NCLP system. Three NCLP districts in Karnataka were identified for the pilot and an orientation and training for all the stake holders in the 3 districts was carried out.

The pilot phase has collected more than 5000+ records of children in the 5 districts of Karnataka where it was implemented. The learnings from the

pilot suggest a need for wider action with support from departments of labour and education.

Towards a National Child Tracking System

A National Consultation was held on the 11th of November 2006 to demonstrate BASIC and to assess the potential of using it as a comprehensive tool for the NCLPs. Based on the discussions in the consultation, ILP conducted a study with support from UNICEF and the Ministry of Labour, GoI, to assess the customisation requirements in scaling 'BASIC' to create a National Child Labour Tracking System (CTS). ILP with support from UNICEF has enhanced the tool and is piloting it in 7 districts of India in the National Child Labour Projects.

Besides creating a database of children in the NCLP schools and tracking their progress through the rehabilitation process, -the tool is expected to improve the quality of monitoring and review of the NCLP schools.

Promoting Volunteerism

Pratibha Mitra- A Volunteer Mentor Initiative

In line with its goal to promote volunteerism and link the NGO sector with skilled volunteers from corporates, ILP has designed a unique volunteer programme, called Pratibha Mitra. A derivative of the 'big brother-big sister' program, the initiative has been customized for the Indian setting. It matches an adult volunteer with a meritorious student from poor socio-economic background. The student being a first generation learner needs guidance and academic assistance. This is provided by the mentor. Each mentor spends on an average 2 hours per week, with his/her mentee and counsels the mentee on time management, accessing information from the web, assisting with subject level questions.

The program that began as a pilot in July 2005, has shown potential. We have 20 employees from Motorola, HP, Cognizant, Infosys and IISc actively volunteering in the program.

In the year 2006, we expect to scale the program to cover 60 volunteers and students.

Special Science Classes

Under the leadership of Mr. R. Sastry, a veteran ILP volunteer, Ph. D. student volunteers from IISC and Chitrakala Parishat, went from school to school, spreading the word on Prerana's - Prathibha Poshak scholarship for meritorious children from poor socio-economic families.

A special science class was conducted every Sunday on the IISC campus for the children receiving the Prathiba Poshak scholarship.

Community Service Hours with United Parcel Service (UPS)

ILP organized a Community Service Hours for employees on the United Parcel Service in Bangalore, Hyderabad and Jaipur on the 22nd of May 2005 and 23rd October 2005. The UPS employees in Hyderabad volunteered their time in the motivational centers of the old city of Hyderabad, making posters and monoprints

with the children from the lower socio-economic neighbourhood. The Bangalore UPS volunteers traveled 5 hours to a village called Harapanahalli in the Davangere district of Karnataka. They spent an interesting time with the children in the special bridge school for rehabilitating child laborers. Together with the children they created educational material for teaching mathematics and Kannada in a fun way. The UPS volunteers in Bangalore also painted a pre-primary centre located in the Nandini Layout area.

The Jaipur volunteers spent the community service hours at a Bal Mela in Farkiya, Ajmer. They planted some trees around a school in the village.



Hyderabad



Ajmer



Davangere

Project Funding

ILP provided financial support to Janachetana, an NGO in Raichur to run a 'bridge school' for working children. Project support was also given to an organization called IPDP for electrification and teaching learning material for a bridge school and a pre-primary centre in Bangalore.

In the next first quarter of the next financial year, ILP will extend support to non-formal education centers in Keonjhar, Orissa and towards 8 education centers for children of migrant workers in Jhunjunu, Rajasthan.

Pre-Assessment and Monitoring

ILP-USA continued its financial support to 20 organizations in 8 states of India. ILP Trust in India conducted interim reviews of projects supported in Orissa, Delhi, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. ILP India identified potential areas of intervention in the Tuticorin region and a list of NGOs were short-listed to send in their proposals.

Networking

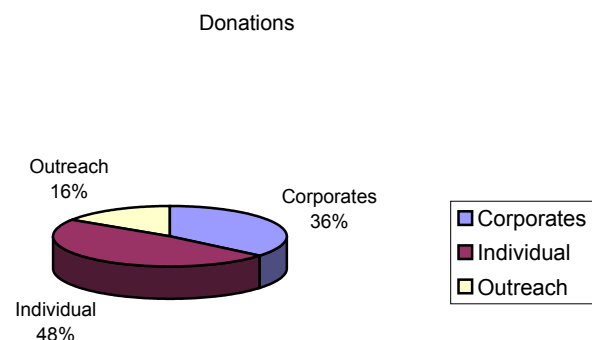
ILP continued to actively participate in local networks: Campaign Against Child Labor-Karnataka (CACL-K) and the Donor Agency Network.

ILP attended the 1st Karnataka Social Watch Consultation organized on September 14th and is a member of the Core Committee. ILP has been part of the process to prepare a budget analysis on the education expenditure in Karnataka. The report is expected to be released in June 2006.

Financials

In the year 2005-06, ILP received a total of Rs. 15,66, 058. A little less than fifty percent of this was in the form of grants from the Government of Karnataka and UNICEF towards the deployment and specifications of a Child Tracking System for child labour education interventions.

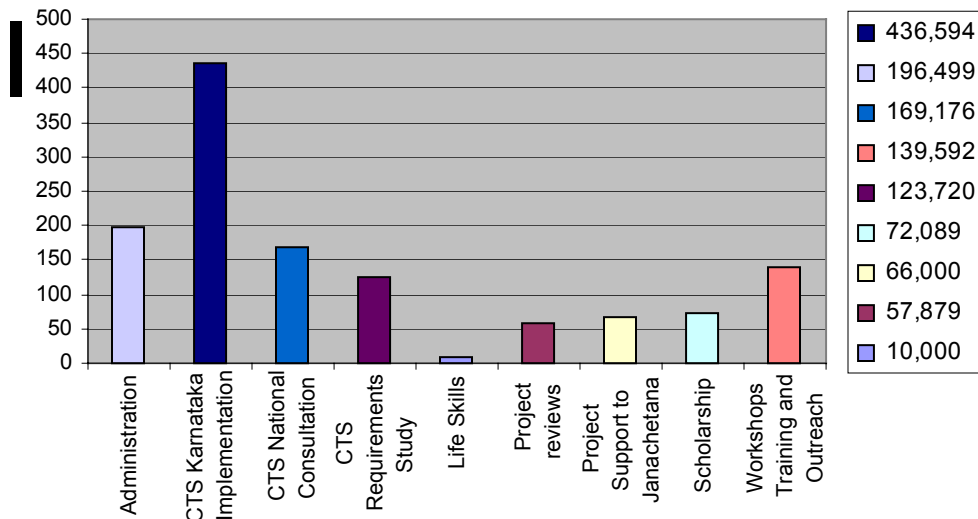
Around Rs. 8.28 lakhs, (a little more than 50% of the income) was raised from local contributions from corporates and individuals. A break-up of the Donations shows that individual contributions formed 48% of the donations, contributions raised from outreach activities at companies formed 16% of the pie.



On the Expenditure side, the implementation and study of the child track system were the major programs implemented by ILP; 57% of the entire payments were

towards these programs. Workshops, training and outreach formed 10% of the total expenditure.

Distribution of Expenditure



Our Major Grant Partners in India

- Hewlett Packard ISO, Ltd
- Diksha Trust, Bangalore
- IRUS Software, Bangalore
- UNICEF, Delhi
- Department of Labour- GoK

ILP India Plans for 2006-07

- Expansion of Puraskara - the scholarship initiative to reach 100 children
- Roll out of BASIC - the Child Tracking System in 7 districts
- Strengthening and expanding Prathibha Mitra - the Student-Mentorship program in Bangalore to cover 80 children
- A book donation campaign
- A Slum Reading Room Program
- The Hyderabad chapter

Board of Trustees - India

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Sindhu Naik	Secretary
Ramakant Jawalkar	Treasurer
Vijay Raghavan	Trustee
A L Rangarajan	Trustee
R. Sastry	Trustee

Our Auditors

Ashok Kumar Prabhashankar & Co.

Chartered Accountants

First Floor, Business Point

Business Point

Brigade Road

Bangalore ; Tel:080-2224124; 080-22237045

Our Bankers

Housing Development Finance Corporation Bank

Kasturba Road

Bangalore.

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Annexure – 1

List of Projects in 2005-06

Project	State	Description
Adivasi Vikash Samity	Orissa	Education to non-school going and dropout children in tribal areas in Barbil mines belt.
Arulu	Karnataka	Overall improvements in Government Schools in Kamthana Gram Panchayath
Center for Action, Research and Peoples Development	Andhra Pradesh	NFE Centers for “out of school” children and “balwadis” for pre-school children in 10 villages
Chetana Foundation for Social Awareness, Research and Development	W.Bengal	Functional adult literacy including need based vocational training and business development
Janachetana	Karnataka	Residential bridge school for working children
Kruthi Social Service Organisation	Andhra Pradesh	Non-formal Education(NFE) centers for tribal children
Mahita	Andhra Pradesh	Literacy for women & bridge schools for children
Paraspara Trust	Karnataka	Womens Empowerment through Adult Literacy in the slums of Bangalore
Shikshit Rojgar Kendra Prabhandak Samiti	Rajasthan	NFE centers for 5-16 year olds who have been deprived of school/educational facilities.
Sneha	Karnataka	Strengthening primary schools - 40 schools in the Kudligi taluk
Society for People's Research, Environmental Affairs and Developmental Service	Andhra Pradesh	Special classes and tuition centers for children in 11 villages of the Chittoor mandal
Social Action With Your Assistance	Delhi	Non-formal education for slum children + adult literacy for adolescent girls, supplementing funds from the SSA
Social Awareness For Integrated Development	Andhra Pradesh	Non-formal education centers for migrant laborers in drought torn area
Social Work And Environment for Rural Advancement	Rajasthan	NFE Centers for remote and left out groups.
Society for Integrated Development of Himalayas	Uttaranchal	Elementary school with an innovative syllabus. This year's support will go towards preparing a quality curriculum
Socio Economic Education and Development Society	Karnataka	Residential bridge school for working children
Tea Trust	Tamil Nadu	NFE center for child laborers in brick kilns
Volunteers Association for Rural Reconstruction and Social Action	Orissa	Adult literacy for women
Women's Coordinating Council	W.Bengal	Non-formal Education for 43 children and adult education center for 20 women.

Please join us...

Thanks to the financial and non-financial support of individuals, corporates, government departments and donor agencies, ILP has been able to accomplish its activities this year. All of you have been playing a part in helping children realize their right to education and making India a vibrant nation. But we have a long way to go, and so much more to do. And together we can, if we pool our resources.



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