

VIRMANI ADULT LITERACY PROJECT

Report for the year 2006

The Dhanpatmal Virmani Education Trust started a programme three years ago to try and educate the thousands of illiterate people, particularly women, in Delhi and nearby states.

We have set up adult education centers in the slum clusters where most of them live. These centers teach written and spoken Hindi through a computer based functional literacy software, developed by Tata Consultancy Services. Our target is to enable an illiterate person to be able to read and write Hindi in 90 hours.

At present fourteen Adult Literacy centers are functioning in and around Delhi. 242 women, 29 men and 263 children have so far benefited from this programme and learnt to read and write Hindi. 214 women and 142 children are presently learning to read and write Hindi in our centers.

The program has enabled the illiterate women to read a newspaper write letters, fill up a bank form and encourage them to send their children to school. The illiterate children have benefited by getting admissions into schools.

We propose to start 6 more centers during this year. We also propose to start vocational training in these centers and have started by setting up sewing machines in the centers to teach the women sewing and stitching.

The cost of running each center is Rs. 50,000/- US \$ 1,100 per year. This includes the salary of the person in charge of the center and the maintenance of the computer.

Many people have generously donated computers and sewing machines as also financed the cost of running a center. During the financial year 2005-06 the DMV Trust gave Rs. 2,97,603/- US \$ 6,700/- to carry the programme forward.

Our budgeted expense for running the centers in the year 2006-07 is Rs. 10,00,000/- US \$ 23,000/- as also we need more computers and sewing machines.

Our mission is to work relentlessly towards the upliftment of the economically deprived sections of society by operating 2 schools, the Adults Education centers and awarding scholarship to meritorious and needy students to pursue higher studies in colleges in India.

Encl. Donation form.