

REPORT OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY OF

“Construction of Hostel for Tribal Boys at Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama,

Narainpur, Chhattisgarh”

**CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) PROJECTS PERIOD FROM
2012 – 14**

Rail Vikas Nigam Limited CSR Project

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1. CSR: A Historical Perspective

The concept of CSR in India is not new, the term may be. The process though acclaimed recently, has been followed since ancient times albeit informally.

The term CSR itself came in to common use in the early 1970s although it was seldom abbreviated. By late 1990s, the People, Planet and Profit (3P concept) was fully recognized; people and institutions across all sections of society started supporting it. This can be corroborated by the fact that while in 1977 less than half of the Fortune 500 firms even mentioned CSR in their annual reports, by the end of 1990, approximately 90 percent Fortune 500 firms embraced CSR as an essential element in their organizational goals, and actively promoted their CSR activities in annual reports (Boli and Hartsuiker, 2001).¹

1.2. CSR: Definition:

There is no fixed definition for CSR and can be comprehended differently by different people. Some perceive it to be a commitment of a company to manage its various roles in society, as producer, employer, customer and citizen in a responsible manner while for others it is synonymous to Corporate Responsibility (CR) or Corporate Citizenship or Social Action Programme (SAP). Of late, the term has also been started to link up with Triple Bottom Line Reporting (TBL) which essentially measures an enterprise's performance against economic, social and environmental indicators.

There are several theoretical definitions for CSR. CSR is a link to sustainable development: businesses feel that there is a need to integrate social, economic and environmental impact in their operation; and CSR is a way to manage business: CSR is not an optional add-on to business, but it is about the way in which businesses are

¹Corporate Social Responsibility - Towards a Sustainable Future, A White Paper, KPMG IN INDIA

managed.

1.3. DPE Guidelines and National Corporate Social Responsibility Hub

The Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) under Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises has introduced the CSR Guidelines in March, 2010 for the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) to commit themselves to the concept and practical implementation of Corporate Social responsibility. The revised guidelines of DPE (effective from 1st April 2013) pertaining to CSR looks deeper into the matter of Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility. Under these guidelines, the CSR interventions are required to be thoroughly and scientifically researched and on this basis the intervention programmes have to be formulated and implemented.

In order to accomplish this, a National Corporate Social Responsibility Hub (NCSR Hub) was created by the DPE at Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. As per the revised DPE Guidelines 2013, the NCSR Hub has been mandated to fulfill following broad objectives-

1. Nationwide compilation, documentation and creation of database;
2. Advocacy on concepts;
3. Research on subjects including publishing of research papers/articles/concept papers on specific issues;
4. Preparation of Panels of implementation organization/monitoring and valuation agencies;
5. Promotional Activities, including production of short films, printing of brochures, pamphlets etc.;
6. Act as a Think Tank – Being carried out;
7. Organizing Conferences, Seminars, Workshops- both national and international;
8. Setting up a National Data base;
9. Any other matter pertaining to CSR and Sustainability as entrusted to it from time to time by the DPE

The NCSR Hub has undertaken numerous research studies which include Needs Assessment, Impact Assessment and Proposal Evaluation. The objective of these studies is to fine tune the existing policies and structures in place and also recommend possible areas of intervention with regards to CSR. The Hub has been proactively engaged in empanelling implementing partners and has so far created a database of 350

organizations. To conduct several activities related to capacity building, mindset changing, empowerment of women and children, health awareness and preventive measures, the Hub recommends credible civil society organizations to the CPSEs to engage with. This helps the CPSEs to collaborate with credible partners and undertake CSR activities in needs based areas found as per the respective study.

1.4 Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL)

Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), a wholly owned PSU under Ministry of Railways, is aware of its responsibilities towards society and strives to achieve it. RVNL's commitment to meet its obligation towards social and environmental affairs gets reflected in form of their CSR Policy, and CSR Five Year Action Plan (2012-2017). Again, the broad areas covered under their CSR activities along with importance on deprived, underprivileged and differently abled persons under CSR Five Year Action Plan's speak about RVNL's focus and highly refined thoughts on societal commitments.

However, RVNL's vision of emerging as most efficient rail infrastructure provider with sound financial base and global construction practices for timely completion of projects may get impeded in view of recent mass awareness and happenings mainly relating to land acquirement and displacement. Hence, giving further impetus to its on-going CSR programmes, RVNL has proposed a project for providing hostel facilities for tribal boys in the one of the most backward and trouble prone districts in its MOU for the year 2012-13.

The proposal comes under RVNL's Thrust Areas (health and education) and Strategic Initiatives (include up-gradation of infrastructure) and action plan wise fall under Medium to Long Term Projects (between 2-5 years). The project proposes to supplement the existing facility in the project area.

1.5 Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narainpur

The Ashram has been serving this remote area since 1985 through various activities with special emphasis on education, health, and livelihood. The Ashrama was started at the

behest of Mrs. Indira Gandhi; the then prime minister during her Belur Math's visit in 1984 to uplift the condition of masses of this inaccessible region. To make inroads into this region and carry developmental works, the Government of Chhattisgarh also provided a tract of 67 Acres of land to establish the Ashram. Since then, various government sponsored developmental schemes are being implemented by this Ashram. Thus, the Ashram has been immortalizing the ideals of Swami Vivekananda since inception and has entered into the hearts of Abhujmarias. Ramakrishna Mission has been serving a majority of this area panning in 4000 sq km.

A residential school in this (backward) region offers a great scope and opportunity to the tribal children of nearby areas who otherwise are forced to take up manual unskilled works either in the local area or to a migrated place to support their family.

CHAPTER 2: CONSTRUCTION OF BOYS HOSTEL

2.1 Provision of Construction of Boys hostel at RK Mission, Narainpur:

A Model Residential School, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Vidyapeeth (from 1st to 12th class) is being run on Public school pattern in the base camp of RK Mission at Narainpur exclusively for the Tribal students, giving them maximum facilities, all free (the tribal students are provided free accommodation, food, stationery, uniforms, medical facilities, etc.), with value based education, to ensure their all-round development, to make them physically strong, mentally agile, culturally enriched, to imbibe in them a spirit of independence and pride so that they can stand on their own and proudly join the main stream of the nation. The present student strength of the school is 1150 of which 75% of the students are from the Maria community, a Primitive Tribe Group.



With the rapid growth of number of students, there was a need of boys' hostel as the existing facility was not proving to be sufficient. The rooms were over-burdened as the numbers of students staying were more than the capacity. This was also hampering the quality life of the students, education, and their well-being.

In the same context, RK Mission submitted a proposal of Construction of Hostel Building for boys to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited.

RVNL gave the proposal evaluation task to National CSR Hub and the Hub established the need of the hostel after visiting the site and meeting all the stakeholders after which RVNL accepted the proposal and took it up as a project to strengthen the infrastructure facilities of RK Mission to support them in their mission.

There is a peculiar factor to keep in mind that RK mission not only provides the education but is engaged in the holistic development of a child and that too completely free of cost. There is no hidden cost related to any aspect of RK Mission activities. This is really important factor because people of Abhujmad are still disconnected from the outside world. There are no government facilities in Abhujmad



because of the conflict between Government and Naxalites. RK Mission is the only organization working for the education, health and PDS supply for the people of Abhujmad.



There is also no other school around this area due to which the strength of the school is increasing day by day. According to the Principal of the school, after construction of the hostel there is relief for the students as now students stay according to the capacity of a room.

Observations:

- There are 5 hostels in the campus of RK Mission out of which 4 are for boys (including one RVNL hostel) and 1 is for girl children.
- No other organization works in that area other than RK Mission due to ongoing tension between Naxalites and Government.

- According to the head of RK Mission Narainpur, PDS scheme is also run through RK Mission by Government.
 - There are 6 feeder schools of RK Mission in Abhujmad area to provide primary education to children and after primary education students get admission in Narainpur School for further education. |
 - RK Mission takes a student from the class of first and motivates them to pursue education till senior secondary level; they do not give admission to any student in middle levels.
 - As per the students, all the material like books, uniforms (1 Hostel dress, 1 School dress, 1 prayer dress and 1 sports dress), shoes (1 pair of sports shoes and 1 pair of school shoes) are provided by the organization to the students.
 - According to the Head of RK Mission, the construction of the hostel was started in June 2012 and it was finished on December 2013.
 - The budget for the construction of hostel was 3.76 Crores but because of price rise and other unavoidable factors, additional 44 lakhs were invested to complete the work. This was reported to RVNL by RK Mission and RVNL supported RK Mission with its board's approval.
 - There are 66 rooms in the hostel constructed by RVNL. Every room accommodates 4 students. This hostel accommodates senior secondary students.
 - Currently there are 123 students residing in the hostel. However, it is planned for 280 students and one warden in charge with three warden assistants in the hostel.
- Future needs:**



According to the head of RK Mission, Narainpur, there is a need of a Semi-open auditorium in the campus. RK Mission organizes annual sports meet in which all the

students participate from feeder schools also. This turns the crowd in huge number with less space so they want to construct a well-planned and spacious auditorium for which they require fund.

Conclusion:

The support extended by RVNL to RK Mission Ashram, Narainpur, was really needed as there was an acute demand, as the hostel facilities will provide access to quality and value oriented education to these tribal boys and thus, provide a sound platform for mainstreaming of these children and to facilitate in meeting the Millennium Development Goals for achieving universal primary education to the underprivileged primitive tribes of backward district of Narainpur of Chhatisgarh state. The area is disturbed due to clash between Government and Naxalytes, so it is very difficult to work as an organization there. RK Mission is the sole organization which is working in that area, no other organization is working around due to the disturbed situation. Even Government scheme like PDS is run by RK Mission in the area.

It is commendable that RVNL understood the need of the mission and took it forward by constructing the large size and spacious hostel which is serving tribal population in their development.