

BHOOMIHEEN SEWA SAMITI – ANNUAL UPDATE 2016-2017

1) Please give a class wise break up of number of students (from pre-primary to high-school).

Class	No. of Students	Boys	Girls	Scheduled Caste children
0 (Pre-primary)	22	02	20	10
1	36	13	23	20
2	36	12	24	16
3	40	13	27	18
4	37	13	24	19
5	32	09	23	15
Total Primary & Pre-primary	203	62	141	98
6	36	15	21	27
7	34	16	18	12
8	27	13	14	14
Total Middle School	97	44	53	43
9	20	09	11	08
10	19	08	11	05
Total High School	39	17	22	13
Grand Total	339	123	216	154

2) How many teachers are there in your school (specify break-up in pre-primary, primary, middle and high-school)? Please mention if these positions are supported by Asha, by government funding, or other sources.

Class	Teachers	Trainers	Other staff	Total
Class 0 (Pre-primary)	01 part time (classes end with mid day meals) Supported by Asha		3 part time cooks for both pre-primary and primary school , as required by the state government. (Every cook is the mother of a student of the school.) (Asha)	
Primary	05 Supported by Asha	01 Music Teacher (Asha)	01 peon (Asha)	
Middle School	05 Government-aided	01 clerk (govt-aided) 01 Sheet Metal Trainer (Asha)	01 peon (govt-aided) 01 peon (Asha)	
High School	06 (including 2 computer teachers) (Asha)			
Computer Teachers for classes 9 & 10 For classes 1 to 5	02, as above (Asha) 01 (Asha)			
Vocational / other Trainers		01 for tailoring (Asha) 01 for beauty culture (Asha) 01 for agriculture and mushroom production		

		(Asha) 01 for sheet metal work (only for Middle School as already indicated above) (Asha)		
Other Staff (at Headquarters at Allahabad)			01 clerk (does not know English, so I have also to work as an honorary clerk of the Society) [A friend once remarked, 'Chote station ke station master ko saara kaam khud karna padta hai.'] 01 peon 01 accountant (part- time) All supported by Asha	

3) *How was the school attendance last year? What do you know about the primary reasons for kids not attending school? Is there a difference between boys and girls in terms of attendance?*

Class	Attendance Percentage
0 (Pre-primary)	62%
1	71%
2	70%
3	79%
4	82%
5	71%
6	82%
7	85%
8	71%
9	76%
10	86%

In general, it seems that the attendance of girls is better than that of boys.

4) *Any trends / changes that you see in the community within the last year? Are there any that are affecting the school in a positive or a negative way?*

- i. Despite Aau being a very backward area, women here have awoken to the great importance of education. They make efforts to make sure that their children go to school regularly. The attendance has improved and dropouts have become rarer, though old habits die hard.
- ii. After years and years of struggle, there is much greater acceptance of the school. One can see signs of growing faith in us. Students who come from other schools are typically very weak. Sometimes these are boys or girls who have passed the 8th in a government school and wish to join in the 9th. We advise them to join the primary section for a few months to enable them to

learn the basics (the 3 R's). Earlier, there would be a lot of resistance both from the student and the guardian. But now they are generally willing to accept our advice.

5) What were the highlights of last year? What are some things that went well for the school?

The growing confidence of girls is one of the highlights of last year. On Children's Day (14 Nov 2016) our Chief Guest was a lady Professor from a Central University (the University of Allahabad). This lady Professor (Dr Neelum Saran Gaur) is also an author. She was highly appreciative of the girls, and lauded their smartness and dynamism.

Village women too have become active. We have an annual function called Mothers' Day. It is a very informal and noisy function. It consciously works to bring together two separate institutions, the school and the family, since both exist for the village child.

In agriculture, the cultivation of the highly popular fodder crop *berseem* has boosted our earnings and brought us closer to the villagers. In addition, we are also experimenting with the production of *masalas* (spices).

6) What are the primary areas that need improvement in the school in your opinion?

Education (including vocational education) should be free up to High School.

We need better salaries for our teachers.

Teacher development programme needs to be reinvigorated, especially for Hindi and social studies.

The school's privet hedge, which marks the boundary of the school, needs to be gradually upgraded.

7) What are your focus areas for the next year? Things that you want to work on both in terms of the school and outside.

Within the school, our focus areas are (i) constant improvement of academic studies, and (ii) diversification of skills.

Outside, we visualise greater intimacy with the village, especially village mothers.

8) What is your vision for the school in another five to ten years? How do you see leadership developing to make that vision a reality?

The school would provide quality academic education with the help of motivated teachers who would be growing in subject knowledge and teaching skills.

The school would be a hub of a much larger set of skills (or trades) for the students. A balanced mix of sound academic education and skill development would increase the options for students.

9) Anything else that you would like to tell us?

Your continuing support is vital for our project.