

**Half Yearly Report (July 2006-December 2006)
of Welfare Activities undertaken by
Amba Foundation at its Centers in Delhi, India**

Education Center Activities:

The Children attending the education center are in the age group 4-15 years. Majority of the children are school going while some of them have never been to school and only attend our Center.

The new session after the summer break started with the visit of Andreas and Pascal from Noon.ch who visited the Centres in the first week of July and interacted with the children about what they do and their dreams and aspirations. And the session ended with the visit of Dominic and Sabina from Noon.ch in December who met the children, staff and volunteers of Amba.

At our Education Centre the children are divided into different classes according to their age and competency level. They are taught Hindi, English and Maths .

Each teacher has 15-20 children in her class who she teaches for 2 hours every day. But teaching them is not a simple task- they have short attention spans, are easily distracted and even a small group of children have varying levels of intelligence and understanding. So, we intercept book study with sessions of art and craft and dancing and exposure to computer learning.

During the period July to September the teachers concentrated on spelling and grammar and lessons in maths. In between, the dance group were taught a folk dance and the older boys were made to prepare a small play/skit in English to help them improve in English speaking and understanding. The children performed the dance and play at our Independence Day celebrations in August and were much appreciated for their performance.

During the period September to December, the teachers concentrate on making the children study according to their school books and give them weekly tests. The interesting thing about tests is that if the children are informed that say, tomorrow they will be tested in their maths lesson, they all stay at home making some excuse or the other. So the teachers never tell them in advance and take small surprise tests of the children. To give them a sense of achievement, small prizes are given to children who perform well in these tests.

In November a quiz was organized and an essay writing competition for the older children. The smaller children had a drawing competition which they always enjoy and participate in enthusiastically. During this period the children made a lot of paintings which were used for our greeting cards and gift bags made at our Centre.

In November, our Organization was invited by the YMCA to participate in a two day festival for children. This is a popular event and children from 36 NGOs' in Delhi participated in it. Our Volunteers Neelam and Archana along with the teachers helped the children prepare a group dance, a play with a social message, face painting and various other competitions for children in the age group 11-14 years. 16 children from our Centres participated in this festival. The children were very excited and prepared well for all the competitions. In fact our Organization won the overall team Trophy and the children won a lot of individual prizes in each performance.

The year as always ended with a picnic organized for the children in December. This is an event the children really look forward to. In fact even our irregular students attend school every day in December so that they do not miss the picnic.....

Various places of historical and tourist interest in the city are discussed with the children and they are encouraged to shortlist and decide the programme for the picnic.

In the last week of December two bus loads of children were taken for a day long outing to the Lotus Temple and Qutab Minar in Delhi. After visiting these monuments the children enjoyed themselves in a park near Qutab Minar where they rolled and played in the sun and at the end of it were given lunch.

15 years old Salma has never been anywhere outside her locality. The picnic was her first outing and it was like a dream come true for her.... She saw new places, traveled in the bus, danced in the park and even won a prize in the games played there.

Reshma and Himanshu enjoyed the swings the most and Asif and Manoj enjoyed rolling down the hill in the park. For all the children it was an enjoyable and memorable day for them.

Profiles of some of our students:

Salma is a 15 year old girl who is unable to go to regular school since she helps her family make paper bags to earn a living. Her father met with an accident some years ago and is unable to get any employment. Salma along with her mother and other sisters make paper bags for more than 10 hours in a day to meet the expenses of the family. The Amba education center is her only avenue to learn how to read and write and enjoy the pleasures of childhood. Although she is the oldest in her group she is a diligent and regular student.

Sachin belongs to a family of Kumahars', these are people who make earthen pots and make a living by selling their wares at roadsides and near railway stations. However his parents have many dreams for their children especially 15 year old Sachin who goes to regular school and also attends classes at our centre. He is a bright student and especially enjoys the English and computer classes. He is called Butterfingers by his teacher since he is always dropping things from his hands.....

Rocky is an 11 year old student at our Centre. Always smiling and with a naughty glint in his eyes he is always up to mischief in his class. Coming from a family of 7 brothers and sisters he is the youngest and loves playing football. His mother works as a housemaid while his father has a casual job in a cable firm. His elder sister looks after him while his parents go out to work. He really enjoyed himself at the picnic and implores his teacher to take him for one every month.....

Sweeti is a 10 year old girl who lives in her grandmothers' house since her father deserted her mother some years ago. Her mother does casual labor to feed and bring up her children. However, Sweeti is a very distracted child and is the joker in her class .In spite of her teachers' best efforts she has not shown much improvement in her studies. However she loves dancing and performs very well in the dance group. Here too she is a handful for the teacher and is always out to distract the others in the class.....

.....

Health Center Activities:

For the period 1st July 2006 to 31st December 2006, a total of 4483 patients have been treated by our doctor at the health center/dispensary. The patients come from poor communities living in urban slums around our Health Centre and are treated for a variety of diseases such as fevers & infections, bronchitis, allergies, liver ailments and aches & pains.

In addition a number of women and children were observed to be suffering from anemia. To address this problem over 100 children and pregnant women were identified around the Centre and were given weekly dose of Folic Acid/Iron tablets for one month and also de-worming medicine. In addition the women were advised on nutrition and how to cook food so as to increase its nutrition value for their family.

Some of the case studies of patients is given below:

Vishal, a 10 year old student at our Education Centre was weak and often fell sick. One day while at our Centre he suffered a seizure and fainted. His mother was immediately called and he was taken to our health centre. The doctor gave him first aid medicine but advised the mother to take him to the nearby hospital for complete check up and treatment. The child was diagnosed to be suffering from epileptic attacks for which he was treated and is still on regular medicine. Our Organization not only helped his parents bear the cost of his treatment but also gave him tonics and nutrition supplements to gain his health.

Salma a 15 year old girl living in the nearby slums always complained of weakness and lethargy. She was unable to concentrate in her studies and felt listless. She was diagnosed by

our doctor to be suffering from Anemia and was given Iron tablets for one month and also de-worming medicine. She is feeling better now and her parents have been advised to take her to the government dispensary for follow up and regular doses of Iron tablets for at least another 2 months.

Description of Expenditure incurred (July 2006 to December 2006) from the Donation received from Noon.ch Organization.

Total Funds received in July 2006

Rs. 1,21,364/-plus unspent balance of previous tranche

Rs. 5336.85/- .Total funds available Rs.1,26702.85/-

Rent (electricity charges due)	Rs. 22680/-
Stipend paid to teachers	Rs. 25354/-
Doctors' Honorarium	Rs. 27000/-
Medicines	Rs. 24556/-
Picnic	Rs. 13651/-
Postage	Rs. 300/-
Notebooks	Rs. 5545/-
Stationery	Rs. 5807.50/-
Total	Rs.1,24893.50/-
