PROCEEDINGS OF THE STATE PROJECT DIRECTOR RAJIV VIDYA MISSION (SSA) ANDHRA PRADESH, HYDERABAD

Present: Smt. V. Usha Rani, I.A.S.,

Proc. Rc. No.574 /RVM(SSA)/C8/2012,

Sub: AP RVM(SSA), Hyderabad - Engaging Community Mobilizers

(Vidya Volunteers) in identified Schools/Habitations which are in Low Retention and High Out of School Children in the Special Focused Group areas Viz; SC/ST/Minority and Fisherfolk communities - Particulars of Low Retention & High OSC Schools

called for - Reg.

Proposal received through mail on 17.12.2012 from Project Officer Ref:

RVM (SSA) Karimnagar district

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All the Project Officers of RVM (SSA) in the State are hereby informed that the Project Officer RVM (SSA) Karimnagar district has submitted the particular of Low Retention & High OSC Schools in the prescribed proforma for engage Community Mobilizers (Vidya Volunteers) in identified Schools/Habitations which are in Low Retention and High Out of School Children in the Special Focused Group areas Viz; SC/ST/Minority and Fisherfolk communities. The same proforma is enclosed for your ready reference.

Therefore, they are requested to follow the proforma submitted by the Project Officer RVM (SSA) Karimnagar district for engage Community Mobilizers (Vidya Volunteers) and furnish the particulars in prescribed proforma by 5 P.M on 08.01.2013 through E-Mail without fail.

Encl: Guidelines

Sd/- Dr. Y. Ali Akbar Bahsa

Dated: 05.01.2013

for State Project Director

To

All the Project Officers of RVM (SSA) except Karimnagar district in the State.

Guidelines for engage Community Mobilizers (Vidya Volunteers)

The Government of India enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act in the year 2009. The RTE Act came into effect on 1st April, 2010 with the primary objective of fulfilling the Constitutional mandate of free and compulsory education till the elementary level for all the children in the age group of 6-14 years. The RTE Act provides for the removal of all barriers to education for every child, regardless of his/her social, economic, religious, or physical background. Built on the twin foundations of equity and quality within a rights perspective, the RTE Act spells out the entitlements for every child and the duties of duty bearers which include the State, Teachers, Parents and Community.

There is high incidence of drop-out among SC, ST, Muslim Minority and Fisherfolk communities. This is due to long standing cultural and social prejudices and practices. In order to ensure that children from these communities access remain in and progress through education, it is proposed to appoint Community Mobilizers for the SC ST, Muslim Minority and Fisherfolk habitations. These community Mobilizers will provide the support that these children require in order to continue in and progress in education. Approximately 500 Community Mobilizers per district will be appointed for the programme. The modalities of operationalization of the programme are given below.

Selection of School/ Habitations:

- The programme will be implemented in approximately 500 SC ST, Muslim Minority and Fisherfolk habitations from each district.
- First priority will be given to those habitations which have lower rates of retention up to class 10 and higher numbers of Out-of-School Children in the age group 6 – 14.
- The selection of habitations will be based on the results of OSC survey.

Selection of Community Mobilizers:

- 1. As per the district need and availability of funds in Community Mobilization unit, Community Mobilizers will be selected per district.
- 2. 60% of the community Mobilizers in each district shall be women.
- 3. The selection of the Community Mobilizers shall be by a Selection Committee comprising of the Headmaster of the Habitation level school and 2 leaders/ members of the target community.

- 4. The selection and position of Community Mobilizers should be completed by 27.12.2012.
- 5. The eligibility criteria for the Community Mobilizer is as follows:
- 6. Age: Under 30 years of age.
- 7. Minimum Education: Intermediate/10th class pass.
- 8. Should be a resident of the habitation.
- 9. Should be from the community that is, SC in the case of SC habitation, ST in the case of ST habitation, Muslim Minority in the case of Muslim Minority habitation and Fisherman in the case of Fisherfolk habitation.
- 10. Community Mobilizers will work for 3 months i.e. from January to March, 2013.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Community Mobilizer:

The Community Mobilizers role is envisaged at three levels – Access, Retention and Progress. The responsibilities accordingly are at three levels.

Access:

- The Community Mobilizer daily meetings before prayer after the school, after participating prayer take list of dropouts, absentees, name list from H.M and visit the houses of the children in consultation with parents and they will bring back the child to the School.
- The Community Mobilizer will support the community in addressing issues of barriers to participation in school education these barriers may be physical or social. Accordingly, the Community Mobilizer will receive feedback from the children and parents regarding access issues and forward the complaints if any to the appropriate authorities and take necessary follow up action.
- The Community Mobilizer will keep track of the adequacy of and access to school infrastructure for the children of her community.
- The Community Mobilizer shall keep a list of Out-of-School Children and undertake the necessary mobilization and motivation activities with the parents and community to ensure that all children are in school.

Retention:

- The Community Mobilizer shall keep a list of all school going children in the community
 and ensure that they are attending school everyday and staying in school for the entire
 length of the day. Where absenteeism is observed she will make house visits to motivate
 the parents and the child.
- The Community Mobilizer wills liaison with the school authorities to ensure that children

from her community receive all the entitlements due to them such as uniforms, text books, midday meal, and other materials. She will also observe the delivery mode to ensure that the delivery of entitlements is done in a respectful manner that is non-discriminatory.

- The Community Mobilizer will keep track of children from her habitation who have migrated to ensure that they enrol in school in the destination place.
- At the end of the academic year, the Community Mobilizer will conduct motivation and mobilization activities in her habitation to ensure that children continue to the next class, up to class 10.

Progress:

- The Community Mobilizer shall follow up on the work done in school to ensure that the children have understood what is taught in the class and communicate the difficulties to the appropriate teachers.
- Where necessary, the Community Mobilizer will conduct remedial classes for the children from classes 1 – 5 to ensure that they are learning at the same pace as the other children. For this, she will work closely with school to know of the academic capabilities and difficulties of the children.

Trainings for the Community Mobilizers at Mandal level:

In order to ensure that the Community Mobilizers are able to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, they will be empowered with the following trainings:

- To bring back the absentees to the Schools
- RTE Act and its provisions
- Child rights Interaction with Parents Participating SMC Meetings.
- Using monitoring tools to monitor RTE compliance
- Recognizing sources of discrimination
- Conducting activities which facilitate inclusive practices in schools with technical support from organizations such as Khel se Mel, which are skilled in designing such activities and training Mobilizers and have already implemented this in Bihar.
- The orientation of Community Mobilizers shall be completed by 15.01.2013.

RVM (SSA) will develop and provide the necessary materials and aids required for the volunteers for mobilization and awareness rising.

Reporting Structure and Remuneration:

The Community Mobilizer will report to the SMC of the habitation level school and will be paid Rs. 2000/- per month.

Sd/- V. Usha Rani State Project Director