

AIMS Project For Arul Jothi Vallalar Higher Secondary School

Arul Jothi Vallalar Higher Secondary School

Arul Jothi Vallalar Higher Secondary School is situated on the outskirts of Dindigul, Tamil Nadu. It serves students mostly from the nearby villages. The school has 646 students (all male) studying in grades 6-12. The school was started by a group of local volunteers and philanthropists to serve the poor and under privileged rural community that includes farmers, mill workers, and farm labourers. The villages served by the school include Sirumalai, Valakka Paati, Ponnagaram, Nallam Patti, Kullanam Patti and Veda Patti. The following is the address for the school:

Arul Jothi Vallalar Higher Secondary School,
N.S.K. Nagar, Natham Road,
Dindigul – 624 003,
TamilNadu

The school is served by 26 teachers. Average number of students in one class is about 30. The school is a government aided institution.

School Needs

Despite the best efforts from the locals, the Vallalar school lacks basic infrastructure such as toilet, desks and chairs in the classes, laboratory, library etc. All the students urinate on the ground surrounding the school. Though the school has around 150 students in the 11th and 12th grades, they do not have any laboratory for their Physics, Chemistry and Biology classes. Half the students in the school sit on the floor during the classes. The school is managed with damaged, donated furniture that they received from a local cinema theater.

Project Approval

The headmaster of the school submitted a request for 'Infrastructure Improvement Assistance' project proposal to AIMS. After carefully reviewing the proposal, AIMS approved the following on 12/7/2008.

- Provide a toilet for the students to improve the sanitary conditions around the school
- Provide 26 desk and chairs. Every desk can accommodate 4 students.
- Provide a laboratory materials for the 11th and 12th grade
- Provide 5 computers for the computer room so that the school can start a computer course

Project Budget

The project budget is presented below.

Category	Number of units	Unit Cost (Rupees)	Total Cost (Rupees)	Number of students benefiting
Toilet for students	1	115000	115000	656
Desk and bench for class rooms (11 th and 12 th)	26	3500	91000	200
Minimum lab equipments: Physics-Rs16605, chemistry- Rs 1798 and Biology-Rs 6562:	1	25000	25000	300
Desktop Computers for computer room (to be used by students from 10, 11 th and 12 th grades)	5	21750	108750	656
printer	1	7100	7100	656
Total			346850	656

Project Status- As of May 2009

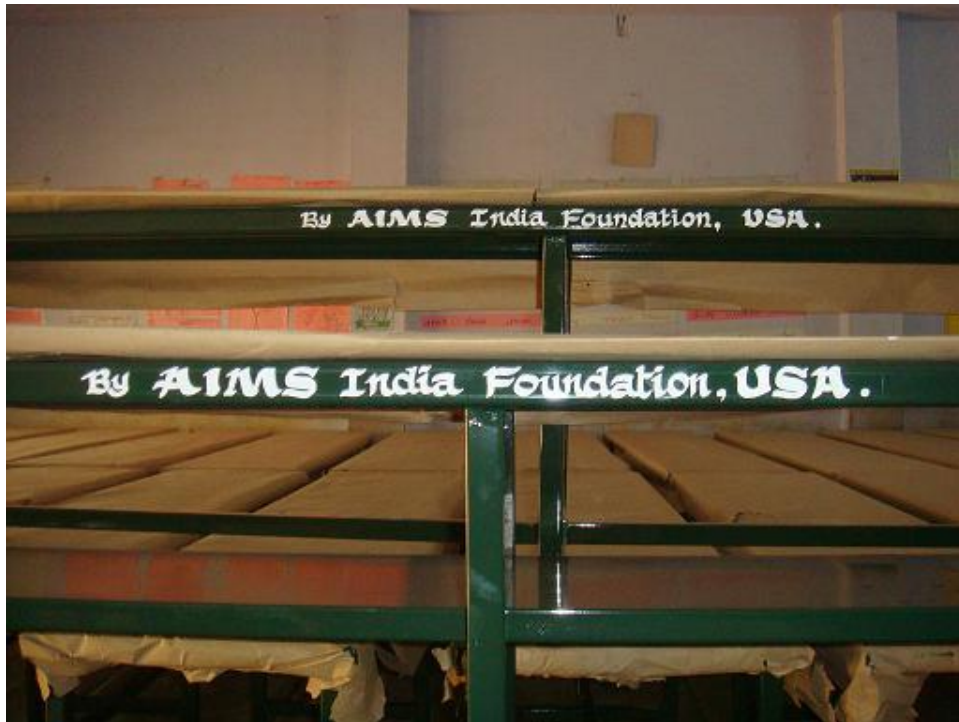
After the project approval, AIMS decided to fund the project in two phases. In the first phases the funds for the first two items above (Toilet and desk and benches) was released during Mar 2009. The total fund released during the first phase was RS 206, 000. AIMS asked the school to complete the construction of the toilet and the purchase of the desks within 45 days. The school has successfully completed both the

tasks in time. The photos of the toilet and desks are below.

Desks and Chairs-View 1



Desks and Chairs – View 2



Toilet



Toilet Inside View-1



Toilet Inside View-2**Project Status- As of Aug 2009**

After the first phase of approval, an amount of Rs 25,000 was released during July 2009, towards buying the lab equipments for Chemistry, Physics and Biology labs. The School purchased the lab equipments on Aug 24th. Ravi Rajaram visited the School on Aug 24th. School has released the toilet for the student's use and the chairs and benches are being used in the 11th and 12th standard class rooms. Ravi Rajaram also had a question answer session with the students. The students expressed great satisfaction about the facilities provided by AIMS. Ravi Rajaram explained about the Marathon program and the way the funds are raised here. The students and staff were surprised to hear the pains we take to collect the funds. The photographs of the lab equipments are shown below.

Physics lab Equipments



Figure 1 Chemistry Lab Equipments



Biology Lab Equipments



Coordinators

The local US coordinator for the project is Ravi Rajaram (rajravi2_99@yahoo.com). The India coordinator at the project town Dindigul is R.Krishnan Ph: (451)-2400289.