



End of year report

2015 Project

LOTUS FLOWER TRUST

- A. AMBEDKAR ARDARSH PRIMARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL,
BERINAAG, UTTRAKHAND, INDIA
- B. RAM TIRTH FANYA VIDYALAYA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL,
RAMPUR, DEHRADUN, UTTRAKHAND, INDIA

The funds provided to your organisation for the current year by TFWA Care were donated following the approval of the TFWA Management Committee and board. Among the prerequisites for funding by TFWA Care are transparency and accountability. We would be grateful if you could send us a brief summary of the project, the objectives achieved, problems encountered, impact on the local community and indicators of the project's success. We will share the report with the Management Committee at the end of year meeting.

Please do not hesitate to report on the project's successes as well as any aspects that did not go according to plan. This serves to provide a greater understanding of the challenges and issues encountered by the communities on whose behalf your organisation is working. Any quantifiable indicators will also be helpful in your report.

Thank you.



Project details

1. Please summarise in a few words the project supported by TFWA CARE, including the principle objectives and duration.
 - A. Ambedkar Ardarsh Primary/Middle School, Berinaag:** Over a period of two years TFWA Care has funded a much needed extension to this remote school. The building is now complete and will be opened by the TFWA President, Erik Juul-Mortensen, in November of this year. The aim of this project is to build more facilities for the school and upgrade the classrooms as well as increasing the numbers from 185 to 250 boys and girls, with an emphasis of girls.
 - B. Ram Tirth Fanya Vidyalaya Junior High School, Rampur:** Over the same period as project **A**, this much needed extension to a very poor school has been completed and will also be opened by Erik Juul-Mortensen in November of this year. Currently there are 220 pupils in the school, mostly girls from very poor families and this will grow to 250/300.
2. What activities were carried out within the scope of the project over the course of the year?
 - A. Ambedkar Ardarsh Primary/Middle School, Berinaag:** Over the past 2 years local builders and labourers have completed the construction adding four extra classrooms, a Community Hall and additional toilets. A large water tank has been installed. This has been a particularly difficult building to erect because of the tight area in which the builders had to work. Also all the materials were not available locally so had to be brought in over a two day mountainous drive.
 - B. Ram Tirth Fanya Vidyalaya Junior High School, Rampur:** Four very large classrooms have been built, one of each for music and science, a store room, as well as new toilets for boys and girls. The building has been constructed in such a way that five further classrooms can be added on the roof. The new classrooms are now in use.

Evaluation

3. Has the project been successful? Please outline the success factors for each objective as well as the challenges encountered and solutions adopted to overcome them.

Members of the Lotus Flower team have visited both the projects on a number of occasions whilst the building work was in process and were very pleased with the standard of construction. The teachers and children in both schools were very excited about the new facilities. The only problems faced by the builders were the

remoteness of the projects which in the case of Berinaag meant long journeys to transport materials to the construction site. This is an issue on many of our projects and the extra cost of transport has to be taken into account when finalising budgets. The remoteness also causes problems with visits but the Trust is lucky to have associates who keep their eyes on the projects progress for us. But the CEO does visit each project at least twice a year. Close contact with the managers of the projects is kept by email.

4. Did the work accomplished this year help you learn lessons that will benefit future work?

From the UK management point of view no problems were experienced that we had not dealt with before. Perhaps though, instead of funding two projects over two years it would have been better to fund one each year because it is difficult to curb the natural enthusiasm of the Indian project managers who want to rush off and try to complete the building in one rather than two years. They did have to be held back.

Sustainability

5. How has the project had a positive impact on the community/ies at the core of the project and what will be the long term benefits? Please explain if the project has helped empower the beneficiaries by providing greater autonomy.

The children from both schools come from very poor backgrounds. In Berinaag they are from families who live in the forest villages and have to travel long distances to school each day. In Rampur the same applies with children coming from the local slum areas and from remote villages. Both sets of parents are uneducated but the thirst for knowledge from their children, particularly the girls, is quite extraordinary. When talking to them about their futures their first priority is to go on to higher education. Then they want to go on to careers in teaching, medicine and engineering. It is a well known fact that the way out of poverty is education. By providing extra accommodation in these two schools, it will ensure the children do have a chance to get out of the poverty trap.

6. Will the project continue in the future or is it now complete? Will further funding be required in the future to complete the work? Please indicate if the initial funding request was a multi-year project. ** (see footnote)



Once officially opened in November, the Trust will have completed both these projects. However, we will continue to visit the schools to see how they are progressing. There is no requirement for any further funding for either of these projects. Both projects could have possibly been completed in one year.

Finance

7. Please provide a summarised breakdown of how TFWA Care funds were utilised for the project.

A. Ambedkar Ardarsh Primary/Middle School, Berinaag funding:

TFWA Care donation: £34,770.27 – 10% for Administration Costs £3,470

The balance of £31.330,27 was used to: employ labour, fund transport, and to purchase all building materials including bricks, steels, stone, cement, roofing materials etc. Included in this figure were the project management costs.

B. Ram Tirth Fanya Vidyalaya Junior High School's funding:

TFWA Care donation: £37,271.55 – 10% for Administration Costs £3,727

The balance of £33.544.55 was used as for Ambedkar Ardarsh Primary and Middle School.