Impact Assessment Report of

Shri Bhuleshwar High School Construction Project (Pune)

Prepared For

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
Mumbai

Submitted By

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Executive Summary

The physical verification reveals that all the construction work undertaken with the support of BPCL has resulted in creating a highly aesthetic and education friendly environment. With the construction of school buildings, the absence rate of students has decreased, and students are getting access to the potential environment for studies. As well as teachers are delivering the best results and educating the students in an educationally potential environment, which result in the growth of the student's performance. The appearance of the building validates the quality of construction work through the financial support of BPCL's Shri Bhuleshwar Shikshan Prasarak Mandal.

Physical verification of the Shri Bhuleshwar School, Malshiras established and run as a part of the Shri Bhuleshwar Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Malshiras, Pune registered as a trust, reveals that all construction work is completed and in place. 12 classrooms, 1 staffroom, 1 science lab room, 4 toilets, 1 bathroom, 12 urinals, and 1 hall has been constructed along with playground for the students.

Interaction with the staff of the school revealed that the village school located there is very backward due to the rain fed area. Because agriculture depends totally on the rain, and there are no irrigation facilities, most of the people from the area migrate to other places for work. Students of the school are mainly from agriculture labourer and labour families. This is the only school in the area otherwise, students have to-go-to Saswad which is 25 km away from the village. Students of the schools are from 18 nearby villages' range of 11 km from the school. This new building in the school helped the teachers to improve their pedagogy as well as deliver the right curriculum in given time. Significant growth has been seen in student performance now that the school is delivering good results, and significant growth has been seen in their performance.

The construction of the classroom are aim to provide potential environment for the studies. These classrooms have wide windows, concrete roofs, big doors, and blackboards which result in maintaining the educational and studious environment in all-weather condition. Construction of the toilet and bathroom is really helpful for the girl students during the menstrual cycle.

Interaction with the students revealed that the new building is very safe and provides them an environment to focus on their studies. The atmosphere of the school is helping them in achieving their educational goals. As well as the toilets and washing area are useful for maintaining hygiene and during school time. Now students love to come to the school and get an education. Students love to get an education in a digital classroom as they get exposure to computers.

During recess time they have a playground to play in a good space to have their lunch. Previous school building was very risky as it started abolishing. All the animals used to come inside the classroom and distract the students. During rainy days going to school was a horrible dream for the students as there was leakage in the roof and water get spilled through the doors inside the class students used to sit with utensils for leakage water. Drinking water facilities were not available in the school they have to take the water in a bucket from the well. Now due to all the construction work, students are happy and their concentration span on studies increased.

Interviews with the parents revealed that the new building is very helpful for all the students and we are happy with that. The previous school building was in abandoned condition and our children we are facing difficulties in attaining schools. The old building was the same building parents completed their education. Parents were also thinking of enroll their children in a different school but they didn't have that option as another school is very far from the village. This new building has given new life to the school and now their children don't face any challenges in attaining the schools and now they are coming to schools regularly.

It can be concluded that the financial support to Shri Bhuleshwar Shikshan Prasarak Mandal by BPCL for carrying out the construction of school building has resulted not only in creating more aesthetic appeal but also in increasing the overall quality of education in the school. New classrooms are providing a secure and education-friendly environment for the students which have increased the attention span of the students in the class. Drinking water and toilet facilities result in an increase in the girl student attendance in the school. Also, substantial growth in the studies and results of students has been seen.

Introduction

Shri Bhuleshwar Shikshan Prasarak Mandal was established in 1981 with the primary objective provides education. Malshiras village is a registration address and trust working in this village that is located in Purandar block of Pune district Maharashtra. This village is facing the draught every year and most of the population of this village depends on agriculture. Total 200 families reside in the village and because of the low irrigation facilities, most of the families migrate to other places for work. Z.P. Primary school from 1 to 4th standard was there in the village and students were getting primary education in the village itself. After the primary education for further studies, students from the village were going to Saswad which is 25 km far from the village for getting an education. At that time due to the poor transportation services most of the students quit their studies and girls were not getting an education. To solve all of these challenges Trust decided to open a school in the village. In 1981 they started school for 5th to 10th standard in the village to serve the community. In 1988 school got a grant from the government only for the salary of the staff. The rest of the things were taken care by the trust. In the beginning, they build only one room and started their school. After that from the grants and donation trust build 8 rooms. Currently, 337 students are enrolled in school and all the students are coming from 18 nearby villages.

The Objective of the Project

- To construct a school building for Shri Bhuleshwar High School to ensure that the children are exposed to a conducive environment and have ample space for studies.

BPCL has mandated SoulAce, a research and advisory firm operating in the CSR & Development Sector space in South Asia, to carry out the Social Impact Assessment of the above CSR Commitment to Shri Bhuleshwar Shikshan Prasarak Mandal. The present study is based on a systematic, objective assessment of the social impact created by BPCL support to Shri Bhuleshwar Shikshan Prasarak Mandal through field visits, interviews with key stakeholders of the Project, observations, and critical analysis were prepared. The field visit was undertaken by SoulAce Team on 22.03.2022 Extensive discussions with the key stakeholders of Shri Bhuleshwar High School, Malshiras were conducted prior to the visit to understand the nature of the project which aided in formulating the study instruments.

School Assembly

Research Methodology

Objectives of the Study

- To assess the direct / indirect impact of BPCL support towards the school building construction on the students & staff.
- To understand the previous condition & the challenges faced due to the non-availability of stable, safe infrastructure.
- To assess the consistency in the process of the project implemented together with fulfilment of stated objectives.
- To identify the gaps in the project identification, beneficiary's involvement, implementation of projects, and recommendations for improvements.

Research Design

Descriptive / Questionnaire-based research design has been used for the study to understand the various aspects of the project holistically and present them in this report.

Process Followed

Descriptive / Questionnaire-based research design has been used for the study to understand the various aspects of the project holistically and present them in this report.

Participatory observation / Physical verification:

The research team had visited the school building on 22nd March 2022 and observed the completed work in accordance with the details provided in the project document and the MOU signed between Shri Bhuleshwar High School & BPCL

Interview based:

Questionnaires were prepared in line with the mentioned project activities for Structured interviews with the trust members, school staff & students to understand their perspective regarding the project and its impact on them.

Focus Group Discussions (FGD):

The FGD was conducted with the teaching staff and members of the school trust to have a free-flowing discussion and bring out vital information regarding the project.

Coverage of the Study

The study covers detailed information of the implemented project by Shri Bhuleshwar trust of constructing a school building in their premises all the stated parameters mentioned in the project document were studied to have a clear understanding of their approach.

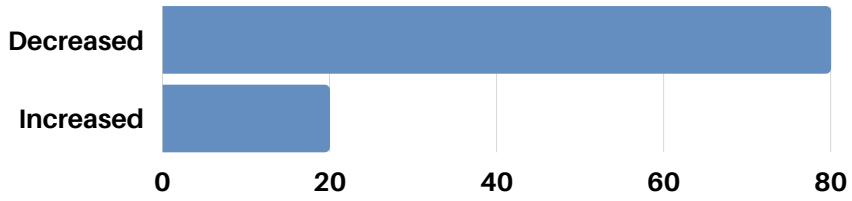
Need of the Project

Old School Building

- Small classroom with no ventilation
- Building was started breaking down
- No drinking water facilities
- No Toilets and Bathrooms
- Dipping roof
- Animals, Reptiles & Insects was living in the premises
- No playground
- Non-availability of blackboards

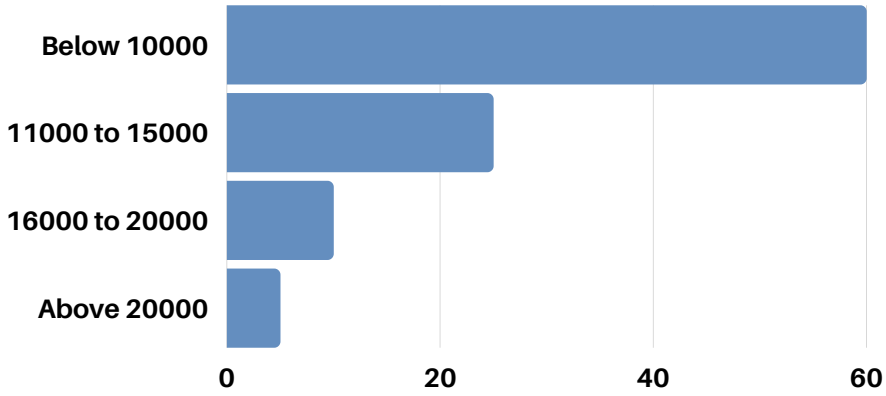
Findings

No. of children attending school prior to construction of new building



Before the construction of the new school building, the dropout rate of the school was high and as mentioned by the teacher Mr. Ramdas Wagh each year about 7-12 students used to leave and shift to other schools.

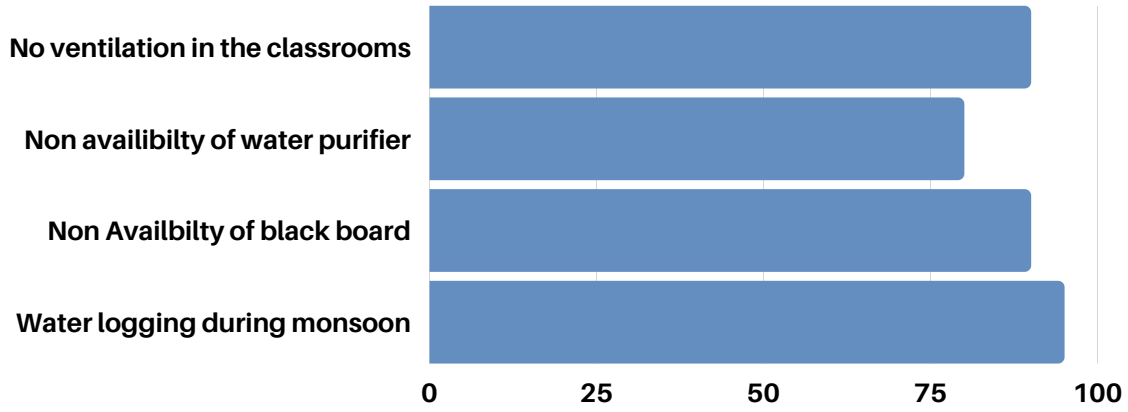
Annual incomes of the student house holds



During the FGD with the management staff of the school, the research team attempted to understand the profile of the students attending the school it was understood that the majority of the students belong to lower-income group families.

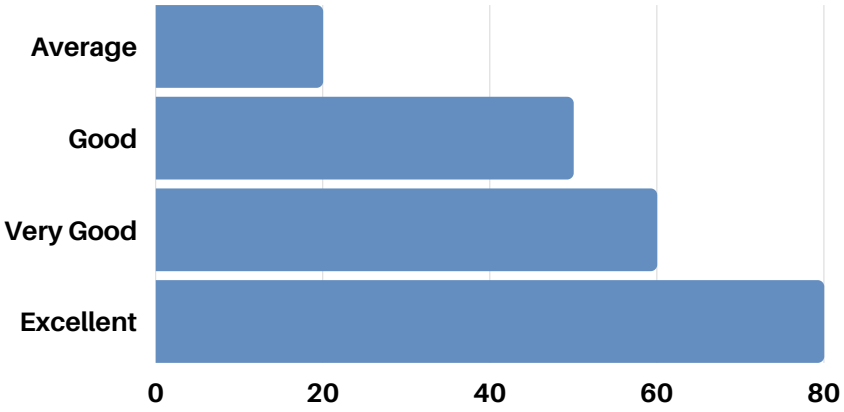
Drinking Water Area

Challenges faced prior to construction of new school building



It can be interpreted for the above graph that the old school was not capable to provide even the basic necessity to the children as it was mentioned by the students that they did not have blackboard, the visibility in the classroom was low and they had to go outside the school premises to a nearby well to fetch drinking water.

According to you how is the newly constructed building



As an independent research organisation we tried to understand the satisfaction level of both the school management and students, from the above graph it can be concluded that the overall satisfaction level is high which will surely help to bring in a positive mindset change in the mind of students, as well as their parents and their perspective towards the school, will change, eventually resulting in providing quality education to students.

Hand Washing Area

Other findings :

- The old school building was in poor condition and required renovation.
- Due to waterlogging & leakage of water during monsoon season the school authorities had to give holidays to students.
- The sanitation level of the school was very low.
- The girl students did not have a proper facility of changing rooms which resulted in absenteeism during their menstruation days.

Interaction with Students in Classroom by SoulAce Team Member

Testimonials

Interview with Mr. Mubarak Sheikh, Trustee

“Mubarak Bhai Sheikh, Trustee, Stated that “No one was helping for school building it was completely broke down and falling apart. The previous school was made it by old trustees from the donation. We were receiving donations for the repair of the old building but that was not working as the building was not in a state for the repair. As a trustee, I was meeting the donors and funders for help. I was worried about the building and student’s safety was my main concern. With the BPCL support, we were able to construct the building if there wasn’t support from the BPCL we were not able to construct this building. I and the whole trustees are very thankful to the BPCL. The support given by the BPCL is highly appreciable and because of this building, it increased splendour, quality of the education, interest of the students in the education, and mostly we are able to provide quality education to our students. This school is the heritage of our village. All the trustees, villagers, students, teachers, and parents are very thankful to the BPCL.”

Interview with Mr.Ramdas Shinde, Head Master

“Ramdas Vinayank Shinde, Head Master Says “I am working in the school for the last 30 years. I am the witness to all the transformation of the building and problems. Parents, teacher, and students were complaining every day about the building and facing challenges. I still remember the incident during the rainy season one day one snake from the roof fell on the back of a student during class. That day I was scared and since that maintaining safety was challenging for us. Running school during the rainy season was hectic for us sometimes we conducted classes in the temple. It was very challenging for the teachers to deliver the curriculum in class in a given time. Students were also facing difficulties in dealing with studies. But because of the BPCL’s support our school transformed and all the challenges got solved with this support. Now our school building is at no. 1 position in the block. We delivered the 100% result of 10th standard. Our student secured the 3rd place from the block in 10th standard. All this became possible because of this new building. On behalf of the staff, I am very thankful to BPCL.”

Mrs. Minakshi Agawane, Teacher

Minakshi Hansraj Agawne, Teacher Says "It was very difficult for me to maintain regular attendance of the students in the class. Girl students were not attaining school during menstrual days. The student has very less attention span in the class as the classroom environment was noisy and during rainy days it was very hard to teach the students. The whole female staff was difficult as there were no proper bathrooms for us. Students were facing physical and mental challenges during their studies. Drinking water was a big challenge for us we were using the water to drink from a nearby well and storing it in the drum. While teaching in the old classroom our voice was not audible to the students those were sitting at the end of room as the classroom was closed and clumsy. Currently, the new building helps me to reach out to all the students in the class. Students are attending school regularly as well as now paying attention in class. All the facilities in the new building are very good and provide a good environment for the students and teachers. Staffroom is really very good and helps me to interact with the student individually on their problems and difficulties. I am very glad about this new building and heartily thanks to the BPCL for their support."

Bathroom

Urinals

Interview with Mr. Vitthal Yadav, Father of Student

“Vitthal Yadav, Father of Tejasvi Yadav 8th std. Village: Killewadi says, “I completed my education from the same school now my daughter is studying. I enrolled my daughter in 5th std in the school and the building was the same I studied. The building was so old that I am seeing it from my childhood. The old building was dangerous for the students as that building was demolished and an old-style construction was not good for today. I had seen my daughter was not much happy while going to the school. Because of this new building now my daughter is happy and attends school regularly. I don’t have to push my daughter to go to the school. The new building is really helping all the students from the area to get quality education in a potential environment for growth. I am very thankful for this building to all the people behind this.”

Mrs. Asha Jadhav, Mother of Student

“Asha Ganpat Jadhav, Mother of Priyanka Jadhav 10th std. Village: Malshiras stated that “I was very afraid when I heard snake was found in the classroom. It was a scary thing for me to send my daughter to school. Every day attending school was challenging for her as there were no proper toilets. For using the bathroom she used to come home from the middle of school. Due to that, she was also not able to focus fully in school. Her father and I were thinking of enrolling her in a different school for her 10th but we didn’t had the choice as another school is far from our village. When I heard the news that school is constructing a new building I was very happy and my daughter is more than me. She started her 10th std in the new building and studied hard for her 10th now 10th exams are started and she gave her first paper of 10th and she was happy with her exam. This new building really helped my daughter to focus on studies and also she participated in sports. “My sincere gratitude to all those who helped us and gave us this new building.””

Student Shravani Yadav, 9th Std.

“Shravani Sunil Yadav, 9th std, Village Malshiras said, "I am studying in this school from 5th std. In the old building, there were no proper classrooms for us to study. Due to that, we were not able to study properly and our study was getting affected. The old school was built with mud and stones as the building was old and walls started to break down. Sometimes snakes were there in the classroom and the environment was not safe for us. But now in the new building, we have very good and clean toilets to use. The new classroom is safe and provide a good environment for study. I am very happy with our new school building"”

Meeting with the staff in HM Cabin

New School Building

Student Shruti Mulik, 9th Std

“Shruti Shriran Mulik, 9th std, Village: Tudkarvasti Says, “During rainy season previously classroom roof had a leakage and it was very difficult for all of us to attain class during the rainy season. So many times classes used to get cancelled in the rainy season. Due to that our teacher was not able to complete the curriculum in the given time. Also, old classrooms were small in the size and had no proper ventilation and there was darkness in the room, because of that it was difficult for us to concentrate on the studies. Now in the new building we don’t have to worry about any season classroom being safe and strong enough to handle every weather condition. New classrooms are big and have big windows it provides good ventilation and good light. Because of that, our teacher is able to complete the curriculum in time and we are able to revise and study more. Now in this building, we are also started doing group studies and getting more clarity on the chapters of the textbook. I am very thankful to all of those who were behind this.” ”

Student Karan Kamble, 9th Std.

“Karan Laxman Kamble, Std. 9th, Village: Mamachi Wadi Stated “Previous school building doesn’t have the proper classrooms and we were not getting the potential environment for the study. I was feeling shame to show my school to my cousin during the holidays. In the classroom there was no proper blackboard, the old blackboard was cement pasted on the wall and it was difficult for us to read whatever was written on the board. I used to go far from the school for the toilet because there were no proper toilets also. But now in the new classroom we have a proper blackboard and it reduced our difficulties in class. Also, I am happy with the new toilets and now no need to go far. And the best part is because of that we are getting enough time to play during the recess and we have playground in our premises. Since the new building is constructed, I am very happy and I showed my cousin my school on Diwali vacation. I have read the name of BPCL on the board near the office. They have supported us for the school. I am thankful and very happy with the support of BPCL.”

Student Aryan Gaikwad, 8th Std.

“Aryan Sarjerao Gaikwad, 8th Std, Village: Limbachi Wadi Says, “During summer attending school was very difficult for us because the rooms don’t have proper ventilation and we were used to feel very hot. The walls of old classroom were made with stones and those stones were started falling down we were always scared of the falling stone. I also saw Scorpio and snakes in the classroom. I used to feel very unsafe while sitting in class and was always cautious because of that I was not able to concentrate on studies and classes. Now in the new building I am not afraid to anything and there were no issues I am facing during any season. I can concentrate in classes now this new building change whole school environment and I am feeling like I entered in a new school. My gratitude to all of those who helped me in my studies.”

Branding of BPCL

OECD Framework

Criteria	Justification/ Arguments supporting or against the Criteria	Ratings
Relevance Is the CSR Project meeting the needs of the beneficiaries?	The project was conceptualised on the request of school trust. Construction of new school building. Construction of school buildings has been implemented to meet the needs of the beneficiaries. The project is relevant because the school has a new building and it has improved the quality of education.	●●●●●
Coherence Is the CSR intervention in line with other similar Interventions of the State or the Central Government?	One of the most important basic needs that can change the entire scenario is 'Education' and government running lots of Education Schemes. The CSR intervention is similar to the state and central government programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The project is also aligned with Sustainable development goals: Goal 4: Quality Education Goal 17: Partnerships to achieve the goal	●●●●○
Effectiveness Has the program met its objectives ? To what extent the expected result have been achieved ? Has it reached the Right Target Groups?	Based on the interactions with the stakeholders, the effectiveness of the project objectives is being fulfilled. It has reached the right targeted group. For many years, people have been witnessing problems like safety, water leakage, sanitation, etc. that affect the education of students. The intervention by BPCL addressed the challenges.	●●●●◐
Efficiency The extent to which the CSR Project delivers, or is likely to deliver, results in an economic and timely way.	The projects are efficient and have helped the beneficiaries in the following ways: 1. By providing a stable & safe environment Created positive mind set about the school	●●●●○

Index : 5 Points - Very High ; 4 Points - High ; 3 Points - Moderate ; 2 Points - Low ; 1 Point - Very Low

Criteria	Justification/ Arguments supporting or against the Criteria	Ratings
Impact What difference does the intervention make?	The school building caters to students from 18 nearby villages and is able to impact the students by imparting quality education.	●●●●●
Sustainability Will the benefits last?	The implemented projects are sustainable and have been handed over to the school trust for operation. This initiative has people's participation and has a sense of ownership amongst them.	●●●●●

Index : 5 Points - Very High ; 4 Points - High ; 3 Points - Moderate ; 2 Points - Low ; 1 Point - Very Low

Recommendation :

- Transportation facilities like school buses or vans can be provided as there are students coming from an approx. distance of 20 - 25 kms.
- A sanitary napkin vending machine can be installed in the school campus and menstrual hygiene awareness camps on for adolescent girls can be held.
- Provision of digital classroom to be made.
- A computer lab to be set up for hands-on operational experience to students.
- Upgradation of science lab to be done by providing equipment's to conduct experiments.
- Separate toilet blocks need to be constructed for girls/women staff.
- Construction of compound wall to be done.
- Awareness camps / Workshops on importance of education can be conducted with the parents of the students, which will help to reduce the dropout rate from the school.
- Solar panels can be installed on the roof of the school buildings, which will help them to reduce their expenditure on electricity.

Conclusion :

This research study concludes on the note that all the infrastructural work that was undertaken to be done by Shri Bhuleshwar Shikshan Prasarak with the financial support of BPCL, which has resulted in the construction of 12 classrooms, 1 staffroom, 1 science lab room, 4 toilets, 1 bathroom, 12 urinals, and 1 hall, as envisaged in the M.O.U. between both organizations has been completed in accordance with the best possible standards. Creating conducive environment for the students has also become possible due to the above support, which is helping the school to deliver quality education to the students. This has also resulted in an increase in the attendance of the students and the enrolment of new students.

Interaction with the school staff reveals that this new building has increased the overall quality of the education. This new building allows students to learn and deliver outstanding results as the environment is conducive for study. Students are now paying attention to studies as well as achieved some achievements in studies and sports also. Now students are engaging in sports and nurturing their sports skills. Along with this the safety and hygiene of the students is well maintained because of the drinking water facilities and toilet facilities in the new building. The building not only benefits the students' staff room, but it also allows teachers to sit and rest during recess and keep all of the books and reading materials. Also, it is revealed that during the pandemic, when labourers quit working and went back to their homes, villagers came forward to take care of the construction site. Villagers contributed as labour and monitoring work and they also took care of the labourers on the site during the pandemic. All the villagers have the sense of ownership of the school. Because of that during pandemic school got all the approvals from local authorities for construction work. Parents were not happy with the old building and they were not coming to the parents meeting.

Interaction with the students revealed that the new school building provides a conducive environment for studies. This school is the only viable option for them to do their studies, as they don't have any other school nearby to them. Students are also getting a chance to work on other skills to improve in sports and extracurricular activities. Students have stated that this school is helping them to improve their studies and perform well in the exams. For girl students, accessible toilets providing them safety and convenience during their menstrual cycle. Students are attending school regularly as it is more convenient and has a good environment for studies.

Interaction with the parents revealed that the old school building was so old that parents completed their own studies in the same building. The new building was very necessary for the school. Parents are now not looking for another school to enrol their children; they are now happily sending their children to the school.

The study reveals that all the students are come from economically backward families. School is the only option for such students in the area of an 11 km radius; otherwise, they have to travel 25 km far from the village. Girl student stopped coming to school during menstrual cycle because of the non-availability of the bathroom. Good quality construction has been done by the school, and construction work is also monitored by the SMC and villagers.

Thus, the study finds that the support for the construction of school buildings, along with the toilets and drinking water facilities, will go a long way in catering to BPCL's commitment towards society as manifested through its socially responsible initiatives.