« Because it is our responsibility to allow future generations to live a more secure, happy & prosperous life, it is our role today to make sure every child receives a basic education, which will give him/her an equal right to freedom, opportunites and wellbeing. »





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## Treasure

FOR CHILDREN'S PRIMARY EDUCATION

Treasure is a registered non-profit organization based in Switzerland. It's aim is to promote and support children's primary education and health in developing countries and in regions affected by war, natural disasters and diseases.

# Children's primary education in Maharashtra, India

#### School in the village of Pomgaon

Pomgaon is a little village between Mumbai and Pune, in the state of Maharashtra. Children between 4 to 16 years old, from Pomgaon and different neighboring villages are to attend that only school.



#### Today

The school is state owned and the government pays teachers' basic fees. Children come from poor background. Parents are usually farmers. Children can often not attend school, as (1) they need to work in the fields with their families, (2) most families cannot afford to buy books, stationary, uniforms and shoes, for which no help is given by the government, (3) children from neighboring villages also have the transportation problem, (4) no meals or snacks are given at school, so families have that extra cost when sending their children to get a basic education.

#### **Current facilities**

Dormitories consist of halls and blankets. Safe and clean rooms are needed for the children. A bucket of water outside is the bathroom. Food facilities and water supply are very poor. A proper water tank is required to supply clean water and kitchen premises need to be installed. Electricity - a small solar system is used, which does not produce sufficient energy for proper light for all. Language - Due to the low salaries paid by the government to the teachers, Marathi is the only language thought in school, no English. Students who can attend the school do not get a good primary education. Premises are very basic: 5 class rooms, wooden desks and chairs, very poor hygiene with only one toilet, which is broken, therefore not useable.

### Needs

#### The school needs:

- Building and classrooms in proper condition. In which teachers have proper resources to give courses and children can study properly.
- Functioning toilets, drainage system & proper sanitation. The first step for a proper education in India is hygiene. Diseases, contamination and illnesses are widely spread in poor backgrounds. Children need to be protected from those and learn cleanliness.
- Clean and safe dormitory. Many children live far away and transport is either expensive or unavailable, they therefore need to sleep in the premises.
- Food facility. An equipped kitchen, with eating facilities is necessary. As with sanitation, children also need to learn about good nutrition.
- Proper electricity system. At the moment the school runs on solar power, which does not give the required amount of electricity and lightening to the school.
- Certified instructors to teach English. The language thought in the school is Marathi. English is widely spoken in the local services and industries. Therefore English is needed to allow children to progress themselves and their families, with minimizing the risks for them to end up in slums.

#### We need to raise \$35.000 for the above

Become member of Treasure, through an annual donation of CHF 300/ \$290 and receive our newsletters, informing and illustrating you on the progress of Treasure, indicating how donations are being utilized. Invitations to events and charitable dinners will also be sent to you. Also Support our actions by donating any amount of your choice.

