

Q1. What is ASHA KIRAN?

ASHA KIRAN – A ray of hope is the name given to the Child Development initiative to send 1,00,000 out of school children back to school. Under Child development program children from vulnerable communities who have never been enrolled to any School or have been dropped out of school, are send back to school after required brushing up. The objective is to facilitate these children’s access to mainstream state funded primary / elementary schools.

Q2. Who are ASHA Kiran Children?

Children between age group 7 to 14 years, who

- have never been to school
- are not attending school but nominally enrolled, irregular, laggard or absent for more than 45 days without informing the school

Priorities to be given to following socially vulnerable groups:

Children from socially and economically disadvantaged and vulnerable communities like children of migrant workers, victims of child labour practices, tribal communities and children in need of care and protection etc.

Q3. What are the activities undertaken in ASHA KIRAN project?

- Identify children as per Asha Kiran criteria.
- Bring these children to intermediary centre and provide necessary supplemental education to improve their learning abilities.
- Evaluate learning ability; prepare the children to bring their learning abilities in their age appropriate level.
- Enrollment /re-enrollment and regularization of children in local Govt. or Govt. aided schools.
- Counsel and encourage the parents to send their children to regular formal schools.
- Monitor the attendance of the children in schools for 3 to 6 months after Enrollment /re-enrollment in Govt. schools.

Q4. How is the program implemented?

ASHA KIRAN initiative is being implemented by grass-root NGOs across country. Non - Governmental, Non-Profit Organizations working in the field of child education are engaged by RILM to implement the project. These organizations are registered under Societies Registration Act/Trusts Act/Companies Act or similar such legislation and as per RILM guidelines.

Q5. How these organizations are selected?

Partnership proposals from NGOs are received through open advertisements in various channels and also through Rotarians and its affiliates' recommendations from across the states. These proposals are reviewed at desk level. Short listed organizations are visited by RILM staff members. After completion of all appraisals National Committee (Child Development) approval of the NGO is required before signing of MoU. A MoU is signed between RILM and the organization to formalize the agreed plan of action. At this point organizations are requested to collect details of the identified children in stipulated format.

Q6. What is the role of Rotary Club in ASHA KIRAN project?

A Rotary Club can

- Sponsor as many Children they want @ ₹3,000/-.
- Support RILM in finding right NGOs to work in ASHA KIRAN.
- Visit NGOs to validate the identified Children.

Q7. How ₹ 3,000/- is spent?

The money is not paid as admission or school fees. The money is spent over a period of six to twelve months to prepare and enroll the child in school. Some of the budget items are:

- Salary of teacher / social mobilizer at intermediary center.
- Educational materials to children.
- Center running cost.
- Monitoring cost of RILM

Q8. Is this a onetime payment?

This is one time payment and you shall not be required to pay for the same child again. If you wish to donate again, the funds will be utilized in sponsoring a new child.

Q9. How can I sponsor a child?

You can sponsor a child by contributing ₹3,000. You can pay through:-

- NEFT/Cheque / Demand Draft in favour of **"Rotary India Literacy Mission"** and send it to RILM office.
- You can also pay online at www.rotaryteach.org

RILM office address: Rotary India Literacy Mission, Skyline House, 145 Sarat Bose Road, Kolkata – 700 026.

Q10. Can I sponsor more than one child?

Yes. You can sponsor as many children as you want.

Q11. Is there any tax benefit?

Yes, the donation to ASHA KIRAN is eligible for deduction under section 80G. No cash donation is eligible for tax benefit.