

JHAG CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

prem pathshala

School resumed on the 1st July after the summer holiday break.

Prem Pathshala and I-India staff met with the local villagers Jhag and surrounding villages on a "Village contact drive", encouraging parents who live 'below the poverty line' to enrol their children. The admission process was completed and the school resumed at full capacity.

A group of students enjoyed an excursion to Jaipur "Kanak Vrindavan" picnic spot and some visited the Ravindra Munch Theatre to enjoy a drama production.



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prem pathshala evening classes

Thirty children currently attend Prem Pathshala after hours, when the other children have left for the day.

The School on Wheels bus collects and returns the children to encourage participation. The curriculum is designed differently for the eighteen boys and twelve girls from the nearby Bgariya community. It includes basic Hindi, English, maths (counting, addition, subtraction etc) and personal hygiene and sanitation. I-India's ultimate goal is for the children to be mainstreamed into formal education.

The children receive clothes, a nutritious meal, health care and they have an opportunity to play. The Bgariya community is a mobile slum situated in Jhag Village. The majority of the community is employed in farming, construction work and selling toys, balloons etc. The children have never before received any education as their families require them to work as labourers, shoe shiners and other poorly remunerated occupations to earn about 100-200 Rps per month (about \$2.50 - \$5.00). Some children are bonded to farm owners, charged with caring for the animals and other farm work.



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girls' shelter home and health centre

Construction commenced in July on the second shelter home in the Jhag Children's Village, funded by Street Child Project in Singapore.

The first shelter home is at capacity with 52 boys now living in the home. Upon its completion in early 2009, it was decided that I-India would utilise it for boys who were in their care, living in rented premises in the Jhag Village. There is a great need to provide a safe and nurturing home for young girls that I-India rescues from the streets, as their girls' shelter homes in Jaipur are at capacity. There has been a concerted campaign to raise funds in Singapore for this second shelter home.

Thirteen local villagers have been employed in the construction of the home and the health centre has been generously funded by a lady in Singapore who wishes to remain anonymous.

The foundations and walls on both the shelter home and the health clinic are complete, with the roof slab to be poured shortly.



Girls' Shelter Home

Health Centre

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volunteers and visitors

Supporters from England, Ireland and Hong Kong were warmly welcomed by I-India's directors and the children and staff of The Jhag Children's Village.

Aisling Caniffe, Antonia King, Grace Meade and Katie Tobin from Ireland, and Nikita Jain from Hong Kong, volunteered their time and energies to work with I-India's Jhag Children's Village children. They distributed new clothes amongst the children which created much excitement and delight.

Mr Pinder and his family from London visited, following a very successful and enjoyable fundraising event. A Quiz Night was organised by Achim Vogt which raised GBP 7,500.00. There are high hopes that Achim will set up an organisation in London to support I-India's work.

