



Madhya Pradesh

Students: 1000

Surrendra Paul Gramodaya Vidyalaya, is a comprehensive education institution and plays a key role in the development of Chitrakoot and the adjacent villages in Madhya Pradesh. From 1991, we as partners to the Dindyal Research Institute, an NGO, in taking forward the literacy part of their mission are witness to the transformation of this hitherto poverty ridden region.

Bharat Pathak, General Secretary, Deendayal Research Institute which runs the School says, "The Planning Commission has identified Chitrakoot as "most backward district" along with Satna. Deendayal Research Institute has taken up an area of about 50 km in radius where we are running a self reliance campaign in 500 villages with the date for target achievement now revised to August 15, 2010.

When we started in 1991-92, there was no education facility here and Surrendra Paul Gramodaya Vidyalaya has been established by Hon'ble Nanaji Deshmukh, with the help of Apeejay Surrendra Group, in the name of Surrendra Paul ji, renowned industrialist who had love and affection for India and was committed to nation building. With classes from pre-primary to the 12th standard, Surrendra Paul Gramodaya Vidyalaya, Gurukul, Ramdarshan, Entrepreneurship Development Center are spread across 20 acres of land. Class room design is made such that each child gets equal attention from the teachers and absorbs well. Besides the qualitative education, School has NCC, NSS, Scout, Red Cross etc. The parents are poor and cannot afford fees or sending their children to school.

Therefore the school has four vehicles which bring children everyday from their homes in remote villages in about 20 km radius to school and drops them back. As per current government policy there should be a school every 3 kms but we have seen while there is one, often with a teacher, children merely go there to eat the mid-day meal and don't really learn much. So Surrendra Paul Gramodaya Vidyalaya takes mobile Labs to these children so that they can do their science / geography projects. Often these kids too are brought to the Vidhyalaya for exposure .

The School gives them training in as many as 100 trades in all classes from class IX- XII. During this time, every month the students have professional training in the trades as well. For the students who cannot join full time classes, the School also has taken the center of NOS (National Open School) , so that these children can also fulfill their dream to study. Our purpose is to bring the children from these backward areas into mainstream. Our vision is to make them so physically and mentally strong, so self reliant that never have to open their palms to beg for alms."