Projects
under taken by HIMWATS

Himalayan Water Service
Tatha Vikas Avam
Paryavaran Sanrakshan Samiti
1) Adopt –a – School

A unique program has been undertaken by HIMWATS to provide quality education and health care to children (age group 6 to 14 years) from economically weaker sections. At present, 7 Govt. Primary/Middle Schools come under the HIMWATS Umbrella. In this program, efforts have been made in these schools to provide the following through continued grant from AFE (Si Valley) since 2005:

i. 5 Class rooms, 5 teachers

Started in Kulethi School in 2005 through approaching MPs and Sarva Sikshya Abhiyan, 7 rooms and 4 verandahs are now available for classes, Library, Science equipment, Science demonstration, Principals office, Kitchen and Separate bathrooms for girls and boys.

ii. Volunteer Teachers

Educated unemployed youth are selected from neighboring villages as teachers after a rigorous process of written and oral test. Out of 53 such volunteers who worked for Savidya, 20 are still working for Savidya in 2011. The rest moved to better jobs with higher salaries after having worked in the adopted schools.

iii. Physical Training Instruction through trained teachers

Started in 2005 in Kulethi, a trained part-time teacher was kept to train the children in Physical training daily. Kulethi and Girls Middle School Dungra Sethi have been provided such facilities

iv. Medical Examination

Compulsory health check-up, essential inoculations and food supplements were started in 2005 in Kulethi and later in other adopted schools. The children in the adopted Primary schools and the middle schools have been inoculated for Hepatitis –B and other age appropriate vaccines. The children are provided de-worming medicines and food supplements (calcium and Liv-52 in 2006-07 and thereafter multivitamin tablets and Liv-52 in 2007-08) for a period of 90 days in a year.

v. Music teachers and associated instruments

Started in 2005, part-time music teachers are helping children in cultural activities, in the Primary Schools. The Harmonium, Dholak, Tabla and other Musical Instruments along with Supplementary articles, e.g. dresses for the cultural programs in addition to the normal uniforms, have been supplied. Depending on the availability in nearby locations, music teachers have been provided in two adopted schools.

vi. Games & Sports

Swings and sports activities (both indoor and outdoor) were started in 2005 in the Kulethi Primary school and the Subhash Nagar primary schools. These facilities have been extended to other adopted schools as well. Provision for Volleyball, Basketball, Tennis, Cricket and other sports have been provided.

vii. Educational Kit Distribution

With the benevolence of Dr. M. M. Pant Pro-VC (Retd.), IGNOU, kits containing class appropriate essentials for improving Handwriting (with pencil box), Drawing books, diary, Geometry box, Dictionary, Mini Essay writing book, color pencil packets were given in 2010.
viii. **School Bags and Notebooks**
In 2011, a total of more than 3100 notebooks with geometry boxes inside school bags were given to the students of classes 3rd, 4th and 5th.

ix. **Uniforms to give them self -confidence**
Started in 2005 with a grant from ASE Si valley, Full uniforms and the dresses for cultural programs in the Kulethi School have been provided to boost self confidence and encourage cultural activities in the schools.

x. **Provision of Rain Coats and Umbrellas**
In order to encourage students to attend the classes even on a rainy day Savidya has taken this step. In the session 2007-08 the children’s of the three adopted schools were provided with rain coats (up to Class 5) and umbrellas between classes 6th to 8th, including in the primary School Subhash Nagar.

xi. **Alumni List (for Primary and Middle Schools)**
The Alumni are the greatest long lasting products and Assets of an Institution. Universities like Stanford and MIT have the largest and the most sustainable Alumni Network. This concept is being introduced in our schools and should help in the long run of the schools.

xii. **Evaluation of Schools**
On the basis of norms set by Sarva Sikshya Abhiyan, the evaluation and rating of schools has to be performed every year in order to provide relative grading to the schools.

xiii. **Houses in Schools**
The concept of houses such as Raman, Tagore, Mother Teresa amd Madam Curie has been introduced in order to facilitate Inter House and Inter School Competitions.

xiv. **Navodaya Training**
SSA envisages no-route learning. The Jawahar and Rajiv Navodaya Entrance Examinations are based on this theme. Special outside classroom coaching during winter vacations is provided to the Class 5 students. 3 students in 2010 and 6 students in 2011 have been selected from these schools.

xv. **Clean Habits**
The children in the three schools were provided polish and shoe brushes to keep their shoes clean. During the Health camp and general Examination, a team of Doctors from Sushila Tewari Hospital and Medical College in Haldwani presented a DVD. This DVD emphasized how the children could keep themselves clean as it is essential for their health. Tooth brushes and tooth paste were also provided to the students.

xvi. **Olympic Style Medals**
To emphasize the significance of games and sports, the adopted Govt. Primary and Middle Schools have been given medals each of Gold, Silver and Bronze Olympic Style medals in 2008.

xvii. **Celebration of Birthdays**
Since 2010, the birthday of each child is celebrated in school
Over the years, the no. of children who come under the HIMWATS umbrella have increased. From one school in 2004, Savidya has now adopted 7 schools in the district of Champwat.

Savidya has been able to provide competent faculty (volunteer teachers) to the 7 adopted schools in order to improve the quality of education. Since the no of Govt. teachers are not enough to cater to these children, Savidya has tried to gradually increase the no. of volunteer teachers in these schools.
SUPPORT THROUGH (SAVIDYA) HIMWATS ASHA FOR EDUCATION (AFE) -  

AFE has been the main supporting agency since 2005 when they adopted primary school Kulethi with a grant of 2.77 lakhs. The grant increased every year and peaked in 2008-09 to 20.5 lakhs adopting 8 schools. 

This has continued with diminished input in 2009-10 but the grant hasn’t been received in 2010-11 owing to the savings done through various discounts in purchases made for students, volunteer teachers, trainers and inspectors, free office accommodation and other local support.

Facilitating FFE Scholarships

The Students for Higher Education after High School are getting Foundation for Excellence Scholarships from Santa Clara through the involvement of Dr. H.D. Bist as the coordinator and 5 of our members working as facilitators (Dr. K. K. Pande, Dr. G B Bist, Mr. R. D. Joshi, Kamalesh Rasyara, Mrs. Gita Pant) of FFE.

Starting in 2006 from 5 students, this year (2011-12) Savidya has facilitated 21 FFE scholarships of Rs.25000 pa for 4 years for medical and technological students in neighboring institutes.

Scholarships after class VIII (Giribala Pant and other scholarships)

It has been observed that < 5% of the children admitted in class 1st reach class 10th. To overcome this problem Savidya started the Giribala Pant scholarships on merit- cum - Means basis. They started with 10 scholarships in 2006 and increased gradually in the subsequent years as shown below:

Additionally, 5 Savidya Scholarships, 13 Harish Chandra Smiriti Scholarship, 1 Murlidhar Shashtri Scholarship, 1 Smt. Durga Tripathi Scholarship, (Basanti Pant and Haripriya Pande Scholarships) were awarded this year. All these scholarships were or Rs.1000 each and were given to students of Class 9 and 10.

In 2011 32 students + 3 students were awarded Maximum of Rs.60, 000 per year to average Rs.10 per student out of the interest through ‘Corpus Grande’ FDR of Rs. 15 lakhs put in fixed deposit in Savidya.
2) Library and Learning-by –doing

One Learning and Science Resource Center (LASRC) has been established in the Kulethi School with effect from Feb 2008; with above two aspects specifically. More than 2500 children and local residents have been benefited till today. The two aspects being emphasized are:

i) The Rotating Library:

Presently there are more than 3000 books in this library. The books are helpful for the use of the Children from class nursery to class 10th and beyond. Books have been provided for the use of adults, senior citizens experts in various fields and for all other stakeholders in villages. Some of these books have been donated by donors like Prof H D Bist, Prof M. M. Pant, Department of Science and Technology and Dept of Adult education Dehradun. The library caters to the needs of 7 adopted schools by rotating the useful books for children in a systematic fashion.

ii) The Science Resource Center:

As per the request made by Dr H D Bist, the building of the Science Resource Center has been constructed with a grant given by Capt Satish Sharma at a cost of Rs 6 lakhs. 120 experiments devised by IIT Kanpur under the guidance of Professor H C Verma are used for the training for “learning by doing” after the IIT Kanpur teachers held a training for the teachers, the Manager and Curator of the science Center between May 6th – 15th, 2008. The students of our adopted schools, other schools near Champawat (Govt. and private) are using the center for learning. The first demonstration of the impact of learning by doing was shown on the National Science Day, Feb 20 2008.

This is a unique feature in Uttarakhand – Learning Science by Doing- and has become one of the star attractions of our program like those for Sikshya Sopan in IIT Kanpur, for the benefit of the children around schools in Champawat.

The Center is being revamped every year by novelties from open market, IITs (Kanpur & Chennai), etc.

In 2011, the center, through the AFE funds, was provided a COMPAQ (Presario) laptop and a Public Address System for mobile Presentation in addition to a printer for general use in the center.
3) Siddha Jagran Seva Samiti Program

Siddha Jagran Seva Samiti Program (SJSS), has been envisaged to create an awakening and interest in the local community about issues like education, health (esp. children's health), behavior and attitudes (esp. of children), children's rights, duties of the grown-ups, responsibilities for social justice and all round development in the villages on micro-plan basis.

Activities undertaken under SJSS

i. Tree Plantations and Nakshatra Batika Concept

Through a post facto grant of Rs.25000 from UCOST (Rs 15,000 for plantations and Rs. 10,000 for publication), we have succeeded in preserving all the planted trees by associating one student, his class teacher, Principal, Guardian and local/public representative with each tree. This concept has been very successful.

ii. The National Science Day (NID) and World Environment Day (WID) celebration

Since 2008, Savidya introduced organizing NSD on Feb28 every year by inviting distinguished scholars from adjoining academic teaching & research institutions. Since 2011, we have distributed the activities with basic responsibility for local knowledge club members. Four sessions are held on this day:

**Session 1:** Visit of invitees to the Learning & Science Resource Center

**Session 2:** Visit of invitees along with the Local Knowledge Club Members and Savidya teachers to all the 7 schools, GIC, GGIC, Navodaya & Degree College in Champawat

**Session 3:** A combined plenary session and other activities including Science Exhibition by students, Science Quiz, Science Fare, Drama, etc. Our Annual Magazine Samarika is released on this day

The WID week was celebrated in 2011 for 5 days with similar session as on NSD. Additionally, a workshop was held on Jan 5th.

iii. Empowerment of Guardian by activating Parent Teacher Association & School Management and Development Committees (SMDC)

Since 2011, the RTE puts the responsibility of running the Primary and Middle Schools on SMADC. Savidya has arranged regular meetings of all the members of SMADC to claim Govt. approved privileges of schools from the administration. Reminders are being sent to the Govt. for fulfilling the differences.
4) Teachers Training Program and Knowledge Club Chapter in Champawat

The teachers appointed by Savidya are qualified to do the work for which they are appointed. However, they need specific training for the education of the children in the elementary schools. For this purpose, regular 3 weeks training programs were conducted in Champawat in 2008 and 2009 for around 20 Savidya teachers. After 2010, we have introduced a concept of “On the Job Teachers Training and School Inspection Program” in school for Savidya teachers. The retired intellectuals from around Champawat have been encouraged to make a “Local Chapter” for Knowledge club. Willing members of this club are requested to go to each of the adopted schools and sit in the classroom of the trainee teacher. The deficiencies of teachers are pointed out in and outside the class appropriately.

Several teachers have been benefited from the program to become better teachers.

5) Vocational Training

The youth in the hills and adjoining plains go to far away regions in the country to get menial jobs as they cannot continue their education due to family monetary conditions or other reasons. For this purpose vocational training was started in Saraswati Shishu Mandir school, Haldwani providing i) Computer Training, ii) Dress designing and stitching and iii) Doll making. This gave them confidence to earn their livelihood by standing on their feet.

6 computers, 10 sewing machines and several other items for food processing have been purchased from Savidhya for the training.
DO YOUR BIT – DONATE FOR A CAUSE

Our NGO is ‘Income Tax Exempt’ as per rules for Donations(to academic institutions).

• You can donate to make our efforts self sustaining. This can be done by becoming a **sponsor, mentor, sustainer, supporter or well-wisher** by donating a sum of Rs 50,000, Rs 20,000, Rs. 10,000, Rs 5,000 or Rs 2,000 in kind, cheque/Demand Draft or cash.

You can make your donations via Cheque/Demand Draft in the name of ‘HIMWATS’, Payable at ‘Haldwani’ and send to the following address:

14/35, G. B. Pant Marg
Near PWD Guest House
Haldwani,
Uttarakhand, Pin - 263139

• You can also transfer the money online to the

Account Name – HWSTVAPSSSU; Account No 11178424017 (in rupees); 11178424028(in foreign currency); Branch – SBI, Haldwani; Branch No - 646

• You can also send advertisements for publication in our yearly magazine ‘**Savidya Smarika**’. The charges are:

  o Back Page Rs 10,000, Back Inner Page: Rs 7,500
  o Inner Front Cover: Rs 7,500
  o Full, Half & Quarter Pages: Rs 4,000, Rs 2000, Rs 1000

Where will your money go?

• Volunteer Teachers who are the unemployed educated youth currently teaching students of our adopted schools at an extremely low price.
• Facilities to students – Books, stationery, uniforms, kits, sports equipment
• Books for the Library
• Equipments for the Science Resource Center
• Scholarships to deserving students
• Medicines and First Aid kits
• Cataract operations to Senior citizens

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