

Sairam Dear Brothers and Sisters

You are receiving this note due to your interest in the activities of Swami in His subtle form. Many of you attended the satsangs held in the U.S. in June. Arvind, Jennie, Sundar, Shelly, Divyogi and I wanted to give you all a brief update on the projects started then and a few other important pieces of information.

Please understand that as of now, there is no organization. These projects are not part of any organization. We are just a group of Swami's devotees who are doing our best to follow His directions and to live our lives according to His teachings. There is no hierarchy or "structure". Swami has simply asked different devotees to undertake several projects in the U.S. and abroad. We are working together to follow His directions.

Under Swami's direction, several small groups were set up to do a first phase on several projects including the "Ideal Village Project", the "Guru Vikas" program and the establishment of a spiritual retreat center/ashram in the U.S. These small groups were to do the initial research and begin development of the projects at which time the information would be shared and available for other input, Q & A, and participation. We are at that point now.

If you do not want to receive any future mailings, please simply respond to this email with a "no" and we will remove you from the list. You may feel free to share the information contained with anyone you wish.

So a bit more on each of the projects....

**1. The Ideal Village Project.** At the Science for Society conference held in Encinitas on June 21<sup>st</sup>, Swami directed His devotees to begin a project He termed the Ideal Village Project. It consisted of an initial phase wherein we would provide energy, clean water, medical care and education to the selected village in India. This is a pilot program being watched by a number of organizations and corporations who will duplicate it when successful. Swami directed that the initial project should be in place by His 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

To understand the need and impact of this particular project, all one need to do is to consider the demographics of India. India occupies 2.4% of the world's land area but supports over 17.5% of the world's population. At the 2001 census 72.2% of the population lived in about 638,000 villages and the remaining 27.8% lived in more than 5,100 towns and over 380 urban agglomerations. Consider that in the vast majority of these villages, education, medical care and even safe drinking water is scarce if available at all. While the government of India and many social service groups have tried to deal with this need, little has been accomplished.

Swami brought together 75 top scientists, educators and philanthropically oriented individuals to develop a plan to deal with this issue on a scale that is much larger than anything ever attempted. While the pilot is small, the potential impact is great. What we are learning in this beginning process will allow us to scale the project to a much greater number of villages while providing a template for other organizations that want to do similar service.

The initial plan was developed by the Science for Society attendees with Swami's direct guidance. It includes designing and outfitting a bus that would become a multi-function mobile clinic and school as well as a source for pure drinking water and energy. Additionally, the education program and curriculum had to be developed along with selecting the most needed medical services. Further, the energy and water purification systems needed to be designed and built.

In order to "customize" the project to the village initially chosen, a small group from Science for Society went into the village and spent time with the residents and leaders. They conducted a specific needs assessment that became the foundation for this pilot. Swami advised us to do that so that we were working with the villagers as brothers and sisters rather than coming in as strangers with our own idea of what was needed.

The four small groups designated by Swami on education, healthcare, energy systems and providing clean water have been working tirelessly to develop each aspect of the project for implementation at the next level and are close to a "go".

By Swami's grace and with His inspiration, the first bus chassis has been ordered and the coach is being designed to house all the necessary equipment in the most efficient manner. Swami has named this project SAIWHEELS. It stands for **S**ocietal **A**dvancement & **I**mprovement by **W**ater, **H**ealthcare, **E**ducare, **E**nergy, **L**ove & **S**ervice.

Currently we are dealing with the logistical side of the project, securing the necessary funding and ensuring that all will be completed by the end of October. Swami has allowed us to have individual and corporate sponsors for this very specific project. In addition to the chassis and coach, we are purchasing air conditioning, solar panels, batteries, medical equipment, computers, books and other educational needs, water purification system, etc.

Swami has directed that Sai Global Mission (a U.S. 501c3 non-profit) be the coordinating group for this effort in the U.S. Sundar Kamath is the overall coordinator for this project.

Keep in mind that the Ideal Village Project is a pilot program which will be replicated in other countries as well as in approximately 30,000 villages in India. A project of this magnitude will be conducted under the auspices of a number of different groups. It is a huge "game changer" that will alleviate suffering all over the world.

We have decided to maintain absolute transparency on this and all projects we undertake in His name. There is more information on this project available including the budget and a presentation oriented towards corporations and other organizations. Please let us know if you want to see these documents and we will pass them along. We didn't want to make this update too long or technical.

The timeline is very tight as we have weekly milestones that must be reached to have the bus ready to present to Swami prior to Birthday. If you would like to participate in this project or have questions please contact us at [saidarshanus@yahoo.com](mailto:saidarshanus@yahoo.com).

2. **Guru Vikas**- Swami told us that we could no longer be content with educating students but rather that we needed to train more teachers. The concept is that if we train 10,000 students in character

education we impact them and any that they interact with. If we train 10,000 teachers and each works with 1000 students over the course of their service, character education reaches 10 million students and those they come into contact with. Accordingly, He directed that a Guru Vikas program be put into place.

Swami has personally selected twenty-nine devotees from around the world and will meet with them in the first ever Guru Vikas conference which will be held shortly. The U.S. has been blessed to have five delegates for this major event. This is the first step in expanding this program on a worldwide basis. We will send out more information on this project after the initial event.

**3. The U.S. Ashram-** Swami announced that He would build an ashram in the U.S. He then gave further instruction that the initial phase will be oriented more towards a spiritual retreat center and the U.S. center for the Guru Vikas program. Swami gave very specific instruction as to where it will be located (between San Clemente and Encinitas, California) and described what it will look like-Ocean View, Ocean Breeze and a row of trees.

The group He assigned to the task has looked at over 15 sites and has found one that might fit the requirements and is currently exploring the possibility of purchasing it as it is currently not on the market. Swami has directed that Divine Will Foundation take responsibility for this project. We will keep you informed as more progress is made.

There are many other projects going on worldwide including 2 new hospitals in India, one in Africa and new schools as well as a number of new ashrams. We hope to bring you updates in the near future.

Namaste  
David Cornsweet