

Invitation for the Doon School Round Square Service Project at Dungri Village, Pauri Garhwal

Dungri Project

Uttarakhand is also known as the 'Dev Bhumi' or 'Land of God' because it houses various religious places that are regarded as the most sacred and propitious areas of devotion and pilgrimage.

Migration is a big problem faced by the people from hilly areas of Uttarakhand. Migration in the 1980's was the main driving factor for the Uttarakhand movement demanding creation of a separate state. Everyone hoped that the new state will get economic boost and attract industries leading to better employment and education opportunities in the hills but the focus has been on only plain districts. People are now settling in these plain districts (intra-state migration) for better opportunities. Main reasons of migration are lack of basic facilities in the hilly areas and desire of people to live better life.

Keeping these problems in view, the friends of Round Square who have worked in many international projects perceived an idea to work in Himalayas for local people. Mr. Manish Joshi an old boy was of great help in choosing the village, organising the land and other logistics for the service project.

They all came together to build the community Training Centre in Dungri village in District Pauri Garhwal so that in future this community centre can run some skill development programme for people of Dungri with the help of local government and Round Square. So far participants have completed basic construction of the community centre.

Here's the link to the video of Project Dungri - the work completed till now:
<https://www.facebook.com/manish.joshi3/videos/10215395624582866/>

Here's the link to the blog on Project Dungri:
<https://lemonaidindia2017.wordpress.com/>

Now we are inviting students of round square schools to participate in the regional service project between 1st and 9th April 2018. Following is the aim of this project:

- **The Dungri project (Phase -2)**

- Dungri village is a rural community in the Paidulsyun Patti (valley) of Pauri (Garhwal) District of Uttarakhand, 132 kms from Dehra Dun.
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- The Garhwal District is a highly literate one and often the youth find it easier to migrate away from their villages in search of jobs rather than stay near home and establish their source of livelihood. So severe is this migration that Garhwal is one of the 3 districts in the country which registers a negative population growth every year.
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- Traditional farming is on the decline as most of the land is non irrigated - in the form of small scattered fields and the literate population does not find farming to be an attractive enough option. Our focus therefore is on imparting of technical and semi skilled / skilled training, in order to encourage the local youth to start their own enterprises closer to home, and generate enough income so as to stop migration!
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- The Social service project Dungri village development project is to be undertaken by students of various schools in the first month of April, and primarily focuses on the following
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 - **(1) Dungri Community Center construction and completion**
 - **(2) Tree plantation and sustainable greening of the village community**
 - **(3) Cleanliness drive of Village and “Idgad” stream (the source of water for the entire valley)**
 - **(4) Skill development training workshop (the LED bulb assembly training)**
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 - **(1)Dungri Community Center construction and completion**
 - (a) Toilet Construction (total -3 units)
 - (b)Painting of the Community Center (inside and outside)
 - (c)Boundary construction (wire mesh, pipes and RCC posts) plus gate
 - (d) Toilet water fittings and supply (internal)
 - (e)Electric fittings
 - (f)Attic construction 30 ft x 7ft (2 stores and 1 sleeping room)
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 - **(2)Tree plantation and sustainable greening of the village community**
 - (a) Construction of Bamboo strip and chicken mesh tree guards (by the participants)
 - (b) Bamboo and other sapling plantation along the road (starting from Dungri)
 - (b) Development / Construction of garden near Community Center
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 - **(3)Cleanliness drive of Village and “Idgad” stream (the source of water for the entire valley)**
 - (a) Clearing of 2 km stretch of village stream of polythene and non degradable material.

- (b) Establishment of incinerator type trash cans in village
- (c) Interaction with school children and cleaning and whitewashing local schools.
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- **(4) Skill development training workshop (the LED bulb assembly training)**
- (a) Establishing a workshop cum training center inside Community Hall
- (b) Establishing a safe/ lockable workshop area (for equipment and electronic components)
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- In addition to the social work, the group shall be assigned tasks such as compiling project reports on village sustenance and employment, education, health, and economy, in addition to the evening entertainment and talent shows put up by the group members around a bonfire!
- During the duration of the social service camp, the group will be given a full day off as they will embark on a day picturesque trek known as the “Jhandidhar” or “Pauri ridge trek” followed by a dip in the “Idgad’ stream waterfall!
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Eligibility : students of age 13-15 years (grade 7 – 9), boys and girls are eligible to participate in this project.

No of participants : 6 students and 1 escort teacher from each school(I am expecting to accommodate maximum 45 students in this project)

Participation fees : Rs. 25,000/- each participants (including escort teacher) : This fees in from Dehradun to Dehradun which includes stay, all meals and transportation, some percentage of this fees will also be used to buy raw material for the project.

Stay : On arrival students will stay in a Hotel in dehradun(students and teachers will be sharing rooms, triple sharing for students and double for teachers, gender wise), and in work site students will be sharing tents (4-5 students in each tent), 2-3 teachers will be sharing tents.

Please confirm your participation by 1st March 2018, after confirmation, I will send other documents related to this project.

With all good wishes,

Ambikesh Shukla
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