

Dalit Empowerment Project

On 19 May 2013 (Pentecost Sunday), PMC launched the Dalit Empowerment Project (DEP) in partnership with OM India to build an English-medium elementary Good Shepherd School (GSS) in Nawapara, Chhattisgarh (Central NE India). The initiative was in response to the Holy Spirit's call for PMC to "extend our tent" and be a blessing to the marginalised, indigenous poor in Asia.

OM India, having established more than 110 GSS throughout India, had acquired 2 acres of land in Nawapara for a new school. The aim is to grow the initial enrolment of 25 students and establish the school as a platform to serve the villages in the surrounding areas, providing care for the suffering, empowering the women through vocational skills training, teaching basic hygiene and providing English education for the children. OM India hopes that a church will be born once a small group of children begin to study there.



Prem Dande led in morning devotion before school starts

In 2012, 25 children were attending the Good Shepherd School Nawapara at this temporary site.

At the invitation of OM India, PMC leaders visited Nawapara and prayed over the site of the school in August 2012. It was decided that our partnership with OM India will be long term as with our earlier mission field adoptions. Inputs from PMC in the initial years will mainly be financial support as the school is being built. Once the school is established, there will be opportunities for PMC members to be directly involved in children's ministry and outreach to the villages.



Raymond Low praying over the land and the construction team



In Nov 2013, Ps Kai Ming led a team to lay the cornerstone of GSS Nawapara

"The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners." Isaiah 61:1

By 2 April 2013, the Local Conference had given its approval for PMC to embark on Phase 1 of the building project which includes the cost of the land, foundation and 5 classrooms. The subsequent response from PMC members and friends was overwhelming.

In November 2013, Ps Kai Ming led a PMC leadership team to lay the cornerstone of GSS Nawapara and the building of the school commenced soon after. By June 2014, the school building was completed in record time and the building of the school's boundary wall commences.



**Praise the Lord!
By June 2014,
Good Shepherd
School in
Nawapara is built
and fully paid for!**



Jeevan Lal inspecting the boundary wall of GSS Nawapara

As Phase 1 of the DEP account draws to a close, we praise God for appointing godly people in contractor Jeevan Lal and OM India Community Development Officer Prem Dande, who had shown unwavering commitment and dedication to ensure a well-built school. Currently about 100 children are studying in the school. We also rejoice and thank God for your obedience and generosity in empowering and loving the Dalit community in Nawapara. May you continue to pray for them and keep them in your hearts.

Going forward, PMC is preparing a mission team to visit Nawapara from 21 - 26 November 2014, to paint murals on the walls of the GSS Nawapara classrooms. We are also planning to send another team to participate in the inauguration of the GSS Nawapara in early March 2015. Please contact audrey@pmc.org.sg if you would like to participate.



What a joy to see Dalit children enjoying English medium education in a new school

And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."

Matthew 25:40