



The Educational Project and the Solar-School in Lingshed

In times of dynamic global change, which is slowly but surely also reaching Ladakh, the non-profit society FRIENDS OF LINGSCHED stands by the village of Lingshed. The FRIENDS OF LINGSCHED are an Austrian team which has been committed to the region on a voluntary basis since 1994. The goal of the society is to provide sustainable long-time aid by means of educational programmes. Together with the local population the FRIENDS OF LINGSCHED built a solar-heated school in the year 2000, financed by donations. The planning and administration for this project was conducted by the architect Christian Hlade. The construction of the school set the foundation in Lingshed for the development of a sizeable educational centre, which nowadays includes the school, teacher accommodation and a boarding home. These buildings and their maintenance as well as the payment of the teachers are funded by the Indian state.

The solar school which the Austrians erected has experienced a quite varied history in the past 8 years:

It was used as a school, housing, a boarding home and also as a place of assembly. The solar school has now, in order to secure its sustainability, become independent. The citizens of Lingshed have decided upon the following usage:

In summer the school is used as accommodation for teachers and their families as well as pupils and no lessons are held. In winter the school is used, as has been the case so far, for winter time education which continues to be financed by FRIENDS OF LINGSCHED. The winter time instruction takes place during the months of December, January and February; a time during which the state schools have holidays.

The FRIENDS OF LINGSCHED finance the following educational projects:

- winter time education
- winter time education in 6 villages near Lingshed
- winter time education in the regional capital
- school books and educational materials suitable for children
- environmental education
- sponsorship for school children and students

Further information can be found under:

www.lingshed.org

FRIENDS OF LINGSCHED
Liebmannweg 16
A-8301 Lassnitzhoehe
Austria - Europe

Summer 2008

