

CHINTHANA FOUNDATION, AJJAMPURA
Progress Report on
Promotion of eco-friendly schools and environmental education for
Children Project
July 2019 to July 2020

Introduction:

CHINTHANA FOUNDATION have continued the effective implementation and monitoring of the project “**Promotion of eco-friendly schools and environmental education for Children**” in the field at 05 schools (Arabala, Garagadahalli, Nandipura, Muguli and Bankanakatte Schools) in Ajjampura block with the support by PPI, Seattle. This report reflects about the progress of this project activity in detailed for the period from July 2019 to July 2020. The project is also received a well cooperation and support from the school children, teachers and relevant stakeholders.

Activities done so far:

The following activities were initiated and effectively implemented under this project during the period from July 2019 to July 2020.

1. Fencing including barbed/mesh wire:

The established fencing line with barbed/mesh wire and stone pillars are still good and working better in Arabala, Garagadahalli, Nandipura, Muguli and Bankanakatte Schools. Though, we have made up-keeping of this fencing line and strings. Now the fencing is aligned well, more tighten and stronger. Similarly, we have monitored the fencing line from time to time. This has ensured safe fencing line and it is helped to protect the 1275 planted trees from unexpected attack from animals and outside people. All these trees are growing well without external disturbance.

2. School tree plantation:

During the time of monsoon and rainfall, again we have planted trees in school plantations with the active participation of school teachers, children and SMC (School Management Committee) members. They all were orientated on the need and importance of tree plantation programme. Children were also introduced each tree plant and understood its benefits during this event. Thereafter, with the active participation of school teachers, children, SMC members and villagers, we have planted **1275** tree plants such as Mango, Sapota, Guva, Gooseberry, Neem, Pongamia, Jamoon, Jackfruit, Cherry, Coconut, Hebbevu, Teak and Soap nut in school plantation. All the plants were planted followed by pit digging according to the technical planning. Later on, the further maintenance and caring responsibilities of tree plants made oriented to SMC members, teachers, children and villagers. All these planted trees are growing well. The good rain in the last year is also helped them a lot to grow well. The children and school teachers are caring, protecting and watering these plants to ensure further sustainability. Besides, the CHINTHANA team is also making continuous monitoring visit and caring for each plant.

3. Earth work:

To full fill the plantation activity, the necessary earth work like pit digging, planting and pit filling was properly done for all the planted trees as per the technical planning with utilization of local labour, tools and equipments. This has helped for the further growth of each plant.

4. Distribution of tree plants to school children:

Additionally 250 plants distributed to 50 students those having own lands or kitchen garden of their parents. With proper orientation each child received 5 plants such as sapota, mango, coconut, guava and jackfruit and planted in their front and backyard with the support from their parents. Children are happy to look these new plants are slowly growing in their house premises. They are spending time with them like caring and watering every day.

5. Mulching through coconut fibrous husk

The strategy of mulching through coconut fibrous husk was done for planted 1525 tree plants. This has retained the required water to plants for longer periods and enhanced the growth of each plant.

6. Soil and moisture conservation:

To ensure proper soil and moisture conservation, we have formed a water percolation pit with the size of 30 feet length, 20 feet width and 3 feet dept in the down part space of the Garagadahalli school campus. This bigger water percolation pit has conserved the soil erosion and fully stored with water during the last rain. Besides, the one more percolation pit with the size 4 feet length, 4 feet width and 4 feet dept is exists. The excess over flow of water always comes from the existing water tank stored here and supplied to planted trees.

Simultaneously, 150 number of percolation pits were formed in all 05 schools. These pits were fully filled during the last rain and the stored water supplied for the tree plants after the rainy season was over. The birds and other relevant species were also accessed the water from here. Besides, these pits were cleaned during the summer season. The stored rich soil excavated and applied to the growing tree roots. This activity not also increased storage capacity of these pits but also conserved and utilized the fertile soil within the land itself.

7. Manuring

To enhance the growth of 1525 planted trees, the organic manure (cow dung & Jeevamrutha liquid) have been supplied to the roots of these planted trees. In total 08 tractor loads of cow dung and 02 tractor loads of silt from the tank applied to the school tree plantation land. The fertility of the soil is getting improved and tree plants are also slowly growing well.

8. Establishment of Kitchen garden (in addition)

In addition to the proposed project activities, the team of CHINTHANA FOUNDATION and school children have developed the kitchen garden units in PPI supported 02 schools (Arabala gollarahatti and Garagadahalli). Similarly one more kitchen garden was developed

in Basavapura School. The various vegetables like beans, chilly, green leaves, tomato, lady finger, bitter gourd, ridge gourd and radish have grown here and these vegetables added to mid-day meals. The kitchen garden development is still going on with the active participation of school children. The existence of kitchen garden have consumed the vegetables by children with the value of Rs.4,500 in each school till now.

The programme team of CHINTHANA FOUNDATION has continued the effective implementation of all the project activities in 05 school tree plantations. At the same time monitoring of fencing, watering, caring, providing manure and protection measures are timely initiated for the sustainability of all trees planted. So far all the trees are growing well. The project is also received a well cooperation and support from the school children, teachers and relevant stakeholders. We have built build good rapport with school authorities and SMC members. We will continue our monitoring measures to care for all the trees planted.

Reported By:

Secretary,
Chinthana Foundation.