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Project completion report of "END CHILD LABOUR IN STONE QUARRIES AND PROVIDE EDUCATION TO GIRL CHILDREN AT RIS K"

Report From Oct 2020 to Sept 2021

PROJECT SYNTHESIS: IRDRP is continuing the Stone quarries child labour project for the other three years (2018-2021). Mainstream all children (both boys and girls) in the age group of 6 – 14 years into the main school studies and enrol 100% school enrolment at the end of 2021. IRDRP will continue to give convenient education centers, Non formal education or Private studies to all the children of quarry areas in the age group of 5 to 18 years through educational classes in the next three years. There will be special focus to slow learners and Rehabilitate senior children in the age group of 14 – 18 children into their vocational skill empowerment.

1. SCHOOL ENROLMENT:

List out all eligible children under 5 years of Age: Due to COVID 19 situation schools closed down and classes went on online mode. Parents were not interested to admit their children into private schools and pay lot of money as school fees. Since the school closed for physical classes and only through online mode, parents didn't show much interest to admit their children into private schools. All parents enrolled their children into Government schools. So our role of enrolment made very easy and did more enrolment.

Another reason also was "All Pass" system during COVID 19 Government declared all students pass from 1st standard to college studies. All pass system motivated students as well as parents to enrol even drop out students into school. Students who discontinued from college also enrolled into college by paying their arrear fees. There was an issue of Transfer certificate(TC), Once fees paid only private schools issue Transfer certificate, so school planned to collect all fees from the parents and issue TC, to avoid this the Government ordered a new GO that T.C was not required for admission into schools till 8th standard. So it helped us to enrol all dropped out children into schools. We enrolled 67 children into Government school.

2. VARIOUS CHILDREN ACTIVITIES:

2.1 Tuition Classes: We continued our tuition classes regularly with following COVID 19 rules and regulations – sanitation, social distancing, and wearing mask.

Naduveerapattu Tuition Center : Here 43 Children are studying, among them 20 girls and 23 boys.

Melathur Tuition Center: By seeing the performance and activities there was increase of 54 children admitted in Tuition center Out of it 22 Boys and 32 Girls.

Pazanthandalam Tuition Center: Pazanthandalam Tribal Tuition center we enrolled with 28 children and continuing the education.

<u>Supplementary Education Center</u>

1) Nadauveerapattu
2) Melathur
3) Somangalam

<u>Convenient Education Center</u>

1) **Pazanthandalam**
2) **Dharkast**

Convenient Education Center helps the children to study in their free time to think critically, and learn to understand life and life skills.

- Teach them to practice meditation
- Impart them environmental education, community cleaning and health and hygiene
- Provide them training on folklore and fine arts
- Encourage them to cultivate the habit of savings
- Disseminate awareness on child rights, value education
- Expose them to develop leadership skills, team work and personality through workshops and trainings.

3. PROVIDED EDUCATIONAL SUPPORTIVE MATERIALS

We distributed Educational supportive materials to 180 children, We gave notebooks, pencils, pen, eraser, sharpener, lunch box, pencil box to all children who are studying in our various education programs.

We also provided Educational kits to all our new convenient Education center students also. We gave 87 Educational kits to children studying in our Convenient Education Centre. Children were happy to receive it. It helped them to continue their studies.

4. SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATION IN 3 VILLAGES:

IRDRP had three Supplementary classes in three villages, Purpose is to strengthen the children education skills and learning skills. It is also very important to follow up them regularly to prevent the drop outs. We enrolled all school going children into our supplementary Education centres. Teacher helps the children to do their homework, clarifying the doubts of children. Apart from school studies other extracurricular activities and games also taught to the students.

5. CHILDREN CONVENTION ON NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020

We organized one day Children convention by inviting all children from our Centers. This was onducted in our Vanankkam Training center on 17th Feb 2021. All center students asked to participate in the program. About 180 children participated in the convention. We discussed about the present National Education Policy 2020 and told about the merits and demerits of the bill. We split into five groups and asked to discuss about their personal views of understanding about the policy.

The new education policy must provide to all students, irrespective of their place of residence, a quality education system, with particular focus on historically marginalized, disadvantaged, and underrepresented groups. Education is a great level and is the best tool for achieving economic and social mobility, inclusion, and equality. Initiatives must be in place to ensure that all students from such groups, despite inherent obstacles, are provided various targeted opportunities to enter and excel in the educational system.

We also did few dance and singing competitions. We distributed prizes to all children.

6. CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION :

On 14th Nov 2020 we organised children's day celebration in our Training center. We invited all children and gave gifts to all children. Some children did dance programs and singing songs and enjoyed the day happily. Dr.Irudaysamy spoke on children's education and their right to education. He pointed out 22 rights of children as per the convention of child rights in a simple way. There was a debate organised with children on topic of " Reason for school drop out" their perspective and reasons. They told that family income was the main reason for drop out and school environment both physical facilities and attitude of the teachers was the main reason for drop out. Examination and failure, low marks and comparing children in front of all students also reasons for dropout.

7. CAMPAIGNING FOR EDUCATION FOR ALL

We organized March 2021 " **Education for All** " campaign among tribal communities. Since the tribal communities are excluded in their education due to various reasons like income, employment opportunities, social exclusion in the society, they are outcaste. We launched campaign to advocate them first and create self-awareness on importance of education and make them to realise the importance of education. We issued printed phamlets and street theatre programs in their social gathering. We reached one lakh tribal communities in this campaign.

8. CAREER GUIDANCE PROGRAM :

We organised Career Guidance program on 12th July 2021. In all our centers there are 32 students completing their 10 and 12th standard. They need to understand their interest and goal to achieve in life. We invited them and talked various courses available after 10th standard and 12th Standard. Like agriculture, fisheries, allied health studies. Now the Government also introduced various certificate courses like Lab technician, COVID 19 sample takers, Management of home care etc.,

9. INDEPENDENCE DAY OBSERVATION IN MELATHUR

Independence day was observed in Melathur village by inviting all children on 15th Aug 2021 We conducted various competitions and gave out prizes. Students dance, singing songs, speech, poetry telling etc., they showed their talents to the community. Parents also admired by seeing their performances.

10. STUDENTS RELAX THERAPY :

Due to COVID 19 schools and cities were under lock down. Children don't have time to relax, or fun with other children. They get stress and loneliness feeling. Hence we organised fun games in the evening in their respective villages. Conducted few games, skill building games, etc It helped the children to come out from stress and created healthy environment.

11. PARENTS MEETING:

We invited few parents from all our working villages to get the impact of our programs. We framed few questions and asked them to write their feedbacks. Questions like how you rank our education program activities in their villages – tuition center, supplementary class and convenient class. Attitude of teachers in the class, improvement of children education, and other activities, Feedback on school education materials.

90% of them appreciated our Education programs very useful in building the children knowledge, read and write skills.

94% of them marked our centers helped the children to do their home work and clarify any doubts which parents could not do it.

92% of them shared that attitude of teachers were good and friendly nature

89% of them told that supply of Education materials helped the children to feel equal to all students in the class in the school. No inferior complex that the other children were in the class use good bags, pen , notebooks and our children also equally had them by the support of IRDRP Trust through PPI.

12. LITERACY DAY OBSERVATION:

This year we observed the International Literacy Day on 5th Sept 2021 as well as Teachers Day observation. We invited Melathur Tuition Students to Vanakkam Training Center, Asked them to talk on Why Literacy is very important? If not literate what would be the problem. Girls shared their views if we literate we would get good job, good income, good status in the society. If we go outstation we could read bus names, train station details. Students gave small gifts to teachers.

Conclusion: We thank you People Progress in India for supporting our stone quarry children Education project by eliminating child labour in dangerous jobs. Project helped 300 children to get quality education and support them into decent education, skill development, and soft skills.

We are very thankful to entire team of People Progress in India for supporting 6 years in Children education program in Stone quarries. It changed many children future into a better life.

Date: 9th Sept 2021

Place: Chennai 600 047

Managing Trustee