

## **Site Visit Report for Manigal, Kottur**

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I am volunteering in Manigal Project for the past 4years. I have been following with project teachers of Manigal Kottur during this pandemic period from April 2020 onwards. I make it a point to meet the teachers once a month in person to get feedback on teaching and the progress of the students of Manigal projects in addition to regular phone feedback.

On 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021, I made a visit to colony along with the project teachers to interact with the Manigal students. First we met Pooja and Beulah of Class 5. They both are attending online class with Ms. Sridurga regularly. As encouragement, Sridurga gave a personal used smart phone for Pooja to continue her enthusiasm to study. Next day was her birth day, so gave her some biscuits.

We met the other children. Children didn't look neat and clean like they were in school. There were loitering without care and proper engagement. We enquired why some of the children were not attending online classes. They said that they do not have cell phones. We encouraged them to join other children who have cell phones. We met the older children of the family and asked them to monitor the younger ones. We collected the worksheets from the students who have completed them. We gave biscuits to the other students.

Teachers shared information about the groups that they are teaching and the lessons they managed to cover. Sivasakthi, Pooja, Beulah of 5<sup>th</sup>. Vasudevan of 4<sup>th</sup> Vasu, Meera of 2<sup>nd</sup> are regular, while others are irregular. Ramya of Class 6 continues to work with primary teachers. We met the parents of some children who were not regular and asked them to send their children for online classes.

Mrs. Geetha Natarajan had been teaching the High school gypsy students. Santhosh, class 10 child was given a mobile phone and Laptop by the school. Online classes have been going on from August 20 onwards. Mrs. Geetha is coordinating with Santhosh for day to day learning. She is using both online classes and personal meetings to motivate him.

School teachers are in constant touch with Mrs. Geetha telling her to teach specific topics to Santhosh, where he is lacking. Vignesh, Harikrishnan, Vennila, Trisha, Manikandan in 9<sup>th</sup>std are also being taught online daily by Mrs. Geetha.

The project teachers said that they had been coordinating with the school teachers, children and parents and ensured that all collected their textbooks and rations from school regularly.

Enquired about the tuition classes that Mrs Uma maheswari in the colony. Chitra, Joseph, Usha, Rishi, vishali, Pooja, Ishwarya, Beuala attend her classes regularly. She said she is teaching from the textbooks and covering some portions. She is also using flash cards, picture books and worksheets.

On my way back visited the corporation school and met the school teachers. The project teachers are coordinating with the teachers, children and parents and are ensuring that they collected their books and rations from school.





