

SOCIETY OF GRAMA VIKASA SARADI: TATTABANDA
Quarterly Report (April to June 10) on Education Programme

Location: Upper Primary School at Kovilapalem village and Primary School at Gadabapalem village in Visakhapatnam District, AP

Supported by: Asha Knoxville and New River Valley Chapters, USA

In the very beginning of April, students were very busy preparing for their final examinations. To the end of April they completed their examinations and got the result without any delay from the school. All were subsequently promoted to the next classes. S.Chandra Sekhar and E.Girija wrote class VII examination conducted by the District Education Board at Chodavaram High School which is situated 30 km away from our school through Seethayyapeta High School. They got very good marks in the examinations.

The two former students of GVS, Vanthu Devi and Vengali Nookaratnam from Kovilapalem village who were students of GVS till their VII class, were shifted to the Government School in Seethayapeta for their further continuation of studies in their VIII class. But due to lack of financial support, both of them had to leave the Government School and work as laborers for a few days in order to have their daily livelihood. It was then that GVS found the situation of these both and had a counseling session with them and their parents so as to give them moral support and assured the girls financial support for their studies and both the girls went through their VIII class examinations successfully. Presently they are in class IX at the same school.

SUMMER VACATIONS

Students, though they were undergoing their examinations, they were in their own excitement about the summer vacation that followed their result. As soon as they got the result they were really super excited to have their very loving summer vacation that is from 25th of April to 7th of June. ‘Don’t you think students have a lot of fun in their summer vacation?’ yes they do have a lot of fun. But a really great and interesting

summer awaited them this year. GVS planned a very great summer which included so many activities such as climbing trees, which helped them climb high standards in life, collection of forest products which was a real great fun for the students, basket weaving, from which they learnt to weave their lives successfully, hunting practices, helping parents build houses, preparing leaf plates, and many other life building activities with the help of their own surroundings and environment. The children enjoyed themselves in their summer vacation with all their friends around and this was a successful ‘all together’ activity. How nice is it to have an awesome and a mind-blowing summer like this? In fact this was the one of the most successful summer.

LITERACY CAMPAIGN

Kovilapalem, which is situated next to the school, has almost everyone as an illiterate except for one or two members. And this would be one of the most wonderful activities in summer for the students to educate their parents. Students were very happy to teach something to their parents and so also the parents ready to accept it from their student teachers. The parents were so illiterate that they don’t even know how to write their name in their own language. But the student teachers were there to make it possible. This project attempted by nearly 25 students in which almost parents of 13 students showed it possible that the student teachers can make anything possible. The parents of these 13 students at last got a little well through their education while the others are still in their progressing stage, but will soon make it through the education. This was an achieved success by the students in a period of one month. The students made it possible what the government was not able to do it perfectly. The students showed what is right, ‘Nothing is impossible.’

And coming to one more of the activity performed together by both students and teachers that they did just before the schools reopened. It was rally done in the neighboring 5 villages highlighting the advantages of education and how stressful it would be to earn a living in the future if the student were a dropout now. This was an enthusiastic rally and became a very much mind supporting rally for almost all the dropouts in all the villages.

This almost enabled 13 students to enroll themselves again in their respective schools. This was one more achieved literacy rally.

ADMISSIONS

Two students from Kovilapalem School who had successfully passed in their VII class public examination with flying colors had been joined in two different residential schools, one in Kotthakota and the other in Kasturibha School at Ravikamatam for their further studies in class VIII. 9 students of Gadhabapalem School had been enrolled in different government schools in different classes.

The process of new admissions was under progress in the month of June at the schools in Gadhabapalem and Kovilapalem.

SYLLABUS

There was no new syllabus taught to the students in the month of April as the previous syllabus had to be revised for the upcoming examinations. The students were thoroughly revised with their previous syllabus. The teachers went through the new syllabi in the month of June for a new session of classes. The teachers taught the students, the new introductory classes for the first few weeks of the new class in order to introduce the class to the concepts of their own class.

MEETINGS

The Vidhya committee comprising the members to monitor the school activity, that is the parents, GVS team and the other villagers undergo a meeting every once in a month. The other meeting is the parent teacher meeting which also takes place once in a month in Gadhabapalem and Kovilapalem. In both these meetings the common problems of the students, the problems related to the maintenance of the school premises, ways to bring about a sense of regularity in the irregular students, problems related to the behavior of students are discussed.

Along with these meetings there is an additional teacher's review meeting for all the teachers. The review of the last two weeks and the lesson plans for the upcoming two

weeks is discussed in this review meeting. The implementation of the decisions taken in the above mentioned meetings is planned.

KITCHEN GARDEN

Keeping the diet of students in mind, the teachers planned a kitchen garden in which all the varieties of vegetables are grown naturally. The students and teachers together look upon this garden and take good care of it. The bore-well donated by the Asha, Mumbai helped the GVS to grow the kitchen garden successfully. The majority of the crop products during these 3 months were pumpkin, brinjal and ladies finger. This garden had proved very useful for the students to learn something from gardening and it also looks upon the natural diet of the children.

There was a teak plantation made around the school compound premises by the students. The students with the help of the school attainer and the teachers put in a lot of effort to bring up this plantation. This was again one of the important summer time activities done by the students. They, at first planted the roots of the teak trees, watered them everyday and took very good care of them. They also safeguarded them from the cattle. Through these activities on a daily basis the children themselves are getting well with the plant diversity within their region and getting most of their lessons from their daily activities.

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

As said 'Health is wealth', this is rightly seen at our school. At our school the students get supplementary nutrition that is the peanut sweets and the eggs on a daily basis. They are provided with these for every 5 days in a week. They also are benefited from the kitchen garden. They are provided with this food completely cooked or boiled in the school premises. There is nothing to be called mal nourishment here in our school, rather say well nourished students and a well nourished school.

TEACHING AIDS AND STUDENT MATERIAL

A list about the requirements of the teaching aids and students material for the next academic year was prepared. The list was then discussed with the parents. The

preparation and the discussion of this list took place in the month of May. The material was then purchased in the month of June. In the same month the material was distributed to the students by their parents in conducted meeting.

FACILITATION AND COUNSELLING

In the neighboring 11 villages, the students going on for further studies do require the certificates of caste, income, and nativity. But going through this process of gaining these certificates became a burden and a great difficulty for the students and the parents' as well. The difficulty level of getting these certificates is forcing the students to leave their studies and search for another alternative. But now the GVS has looked upon to facilitate the following certificates to the concerned students. Presently, with the help provided by GVS 19 students have gained the certificates and are successfully going through their studies. GVS had made it possible of whatever the students and the parents perceived as a difficulty.

The students who are going to face their higher classes are presently in a dilemma, what to choose as a career course. Their parents, who guide them really don't know what a nice course means and what is a nice choice for a bright career, they lack the knowledge of a career point course. The parents mostly guide them in a wrong way forcing them to take a course which is not very useful for the child's career. But GVS, in the last 3 months came forward to counsel almost 38 students about the career point courses and helped them make a choice for a greater and a brighter future.

Meetings had been conducted once in a month for the last 3 months in 11 villages. These meetings were based on the established Vidhya committees and the parents for the proper functioning of the government schools. There were also regular meetings with the committees for the proper functioning of the Anganvadis.

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