

## **SOCIETY OF GRAMA VIKASA SARADI: TATTABANDA**

### **Quarterly Report (January to March 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**

#### **1. Syllabus:**

As per the prepared action plan (lesson plans) teachers completed their syllabus for these three months. Some students of class I to IV are not up to finished lesson plans level as they are slow learners but students of class VI and VII are up to lesson plans level which was completed by the teachers. Teachers found that they had to pay more attention on slow learners; they picked up 12 slow learning students from different classes for evening classes at their home in the village, and students are also having a lot of energy and interest on their studies. Every day evening students are going to the teachers' home for their clarification of doubts and combined studies together with other students. It is very interesting for the students as it is not only the students mentioned above who are attending the classes but there are also seven more students from other classes attending the classes.

Teachers started review of the lesson plans from the middle of March 10. By the end of March 10 there is a pre-final examination based on the overall review of the lesson plans.

#### **Students Information**

Here in the Kovilapalem UP School there are 27 students in classes I, II, IV, VI, VII. A student, S.Chandra Sekhar of class VI is at a level, that he is able to class VII; he is brilliant and is capable of doing Mathematics and other subjects of class VII. Teacher Subhasini assessed him in the month of January 10 and he had been promoted to class VII. Now he is getting ready to write class VII examination in the month of April 10. We don't have class III at Kovelapalem School as there are no students for this class. And at Gadabapalem School there are classes I, II, III and IV. The information about students at schools is as follows:

**Kovilapalem**

| <b><u>Class</u></b> | <b><u>Boys – Girls</u></b> |    | <b><u>Total</u></b> |
|---------------------|----------------------------|----|---------------------|
| Class I             | 4                          | 8  | 12                  |
| Class II            | 2                          | 1  | 3                   |
| Class IV            | 1                          | 7  | 8                   |
| Class VI            | 2                          | -  | 2                   |
| Class VII           | 1                          | 1  | 2                   |
| -----               |                            |    |                     |
| Total               | 10                         | 17 | 27                  |
| -----               |                            |    |                     |

**Gadabapalem**

|           |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|
| Class I   | 4  | 2  | 6  |
| Class II  | 3  | 5  | 8  |
| Class III | -- | 2  | 2  |
| Class IV  | 2  | 2  | 4  |
| -----     |    |    |    |
| Total     | 9  | 11 | 20 |
| -----     |    |    |    |

**Examinations:**

4<sup>th</sup> unit examinations were held in the month of February 10 and a pre-final examination was also held towards the end of March 10. There are no exams for classes I to III, and students are being assessed by the class teacher and she made a narrative individual assessment report. 80% of the students had reached a very good scoring mark in the examinations according to the teacher's assessment. All the students are getting ready for the final examinations which will be held in the month of April 10.

**National Adivasi Traditional Knowledge and Science Congress:**

An Adivasi child lives in the midst of learning through practice in which Science becomes an everyday part of life, without being conscious of it. Science takes forms

through social celebrations or superstitions, in cultural entertainment or sport, in dialogue with the spirits or in communion with the gods. One can experience science in their music or dance, with their headmen or guniyas (medicinal healers). There is astronomy, physics, medicine, mathematics. There is poetry, art, law and politics- all forms of science disguised through culture. Most of all there is a philosophy of life that surpasses material definitions.

But the Adivasi child goes through the experience of gaining traditional wisdom and practices without the tag of Science attached to it. But in the current education system, or mainstream education as we call it, this knowledge system is not given much relevance. To build a bridge between the Adivasi traditional knowledge and Science in the mainstream context, Samata found that there is a need to sensitize not just the Adivasi child but also bring the mainstream students into the fore.

With this as focus, Dhaatri, a Resource Centre for Women and Children of Samata (NGO), Visakhapatnam organised a national level Adivasi Children's Traditional Knowledge Congress from 21-23 February 2010 at Visakhapatnam.

10 students and two teachers (Mannedora and Gadhaba tribes) from both of our schools participated in the science congress. The students who had attended the congress had been able to learn the significance of tribal culture. The students divided themselves into about five groups to take part in different activities like



music, puppetry, documentation, pottery, and painting. It is not only the children who took part but it was the teachers who equally took part in education workshop (importance of education), and prepared some housing models, baskets, agricultural tools, etc...to be put up in exhibition stalls in the congress.

On the third day, finally there was a cooking session for all the schools in which each school had to cook a dish. Our students formed a group to cook up a delicious dish of 'Sajjakataka'. They also performed a play on their customs and culture in Gadhaba language.

### **Celebrations at Schools**

There was a celebration in these three months that is on the eve of Republic Day (January 26<sup>th</sup>).

### **Republic Day (January 26<sup>th</sup>)**

On the day of republic day there was a celebration which was organized by the students with the help of the GVS team. Almost all the villagers and some elderly people from the neighboring villages were present in the premises. The celebration was given a starting by hoisting the flag followed by a prayer song by the students. After the people settled down after the flag hoisting there was a speech given by the president of GVS telling the difference between the Independence Day and the republic day, why we celebrate these days, etc in order to make the students more knowledgeable about our democratic country. After a time the students and the villagers were given chocolates and sweets.

### **Social Skill (Sramadhanam)**

In accordance with the community activities the students are allowed to clean the surroundings where the villagers have failed to clean (shramadhanam). They also keep a track of the compost pit by collectin the garbage around the school premises and dumping them in the pit. This also helps the surroundings to be clean and the compost pit is serving good manure for the kitchen garden.



### **Special Classes for Class VII**

S. Chandrashekar and E.Girija are presently the VII class students. In order to teach them something more out of syllabus including the syllabus which may be useful for them the teachers are taking extra classes. They are preparing their best to perform well in the

upcoming public exams to be held at Chodavaram Government School from 15th of April 10.

#### **Former Students follow up:**

There was a get together with all the former students, now studying in the government schools for giving them some moral support about the upcoming examinations. There also was a discussion about how each one was preparing for the exams and how well they did that.



**Meeting with former students**

Vantu Devi, Vengala Nookarathnam, were two former students from Kovilapalem who were supposed to write the 8<sup>th</sup> class public exams but due to their family financial difficulties they were unable to pay the fee for the exam for which they stopped coming to the school and couldn't attend the public exam. After it came into the notice of the GVS team we had counseled them and their parents. We had taken care of their exams by paying the fee of Rs.500/- each. Presently they are attending the school too.



**Former students at SOS Bhimili**

GVS team also pays a regular visit to the two former students, Sreenu, studying in VII class and Shreya, studying in VI class in SOS, Visakhapatnam (Bhimili) who was joined there three years ago as they are orphans. There was a visit recently in February to SOS in order to interact with the children there and give them moral support.

#### **Teachers Training:**

Two teachers from both the schools attended the teachers training program conducted by samata in the month of January at Visakhapatnam for a period of seven days. There were classes for the teachers for the enhancement of the subject. They learnt many new

activities to teach the students. In the training program that took place the teachers prepared lesson plans for the upcoming three months.

### **Scholarships:**

21 applications are sent to the Government for the scholarships to students who are studying from class 9<sup>th</sup> to ITI. The following information is as follows:

|                |   |    |
|----------------|---|----|
| Kasireddypalem | - | 2  |
| Kovilapalem    | - | 11 |
| L.N.Puram      | - | 4  |
| Burugupalem    | - | 4  |

7 students who are studying different classes from 9<sup>th</sup> to I T I in various institutions from (L.N.Puram-4, Tatabanda-1, Sainagar- 1, and Burugupalem-1) 4 villages got Rs.600/- each as Janasri scholarship programme for half year

### **Nutrition / Health**

Health is of topmost priority at our schools as ever. The students are closely monitored for deficiencies and adequate steps taken on a regular basis to ascertain the well-being of the children. Details of vaccination and statistical records are maintained periodically.

As a part of nutrition, we are giving eggs and pea nut sweets to the children at 11.00 am every five days a week.

We are serving boiled vegetables and leafy vegetables twice a week, with the vegetables. We are getting from our kitchen garden. Yoga is being taught as a subject, it is going on a regular basis. 104 mobile medical van (free medical checkups from the Government) coming once on first Saturday of the month to the school. We are utilizing this service if the teachers and students have any health problems. And once in 15 days ANM visits the schools for checking of children.

### **Meetings**

GVS team is regularly conducting parents and School Committee meetings once in a month for discussing about progress and problems of the school and also conducting two meetings in



a month with School staff for work review and lesson plan.

## 6. Other Activities

- SGVS team had been to the Government schools in our villages with the help of SHG subcommittee members for knowing about the status of students in the schools. Government school teachers are regular and midday meal programme at Govt. schools is going on well without any annoyances as the subcommittee members from SHGs are monitoring the schools.
- Bleaching around ground well and bore well in 11 villages with the help of sub committees and Panchayat team.  
This is a regular activity of the panchayat and subcommittee.
- Vaccination at Anganwadi centers is a regular programme, third Saturday of every month, the immunization programme takes place at Anganwadi center for the children, pregnant and lactate women.
- On 7-2-10 pulse polio programme was held at Kasieddypalema and Kovilapalem villages. 0 to 5 years children 20 at Kasireddypalem and 10 children at Kovilapalem were vaccinated on that day.
- On 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of this month SGVS secretary K.Prabhavathi attended a training programme at National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, Southern Regional Centre, Bangalore on Sensitization Programme on Implementation of Protection of Women from Domestic Violence act 2005



**K.Prabhavathi**

**Project Coordinator**