

Vaan Muhil

Annual Report 2022 -2023

Constitutional Rights Education Program for children

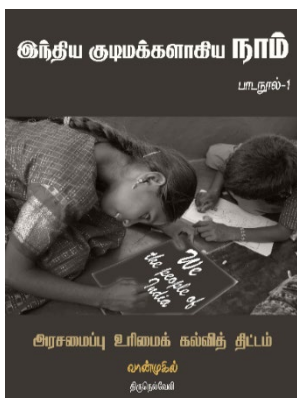
1) Orientation on Constitutional Rights Education Program for School Principals/HMs: A total of 300 school principals/HMs of Middle Schools, High Schools, Higher Secondary Schools, and Matric Schools attended a one-day orientation on Constitutional Rights Education Programs in the three states and the Union Territory of Puducherry.

2) One-day Training Programs on CRE for School Teachers in Three States: 15 one-day training programs were organized by the core team for school teachers from different parts of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry and nearly 300 teachers have been given inputs on Constitutional Rights and Values. Similarly, 50 school teachers in Karnataka and 50 teachers in Odisha have been trained in constitutional rights and values.



3) Distribution of Module -1 (We, The People of India) to all schools: Copies of Module -1 were distributed to all Principals/HMs during their orientation programs and to all school teachers during their one-day trainings. The participants were explained in detail about the design of the CRE program and Module -1, which is an easy-to-understand textbook for children with lots of illustrations, case studies, real stories, group exercises, pictorial presentations, quotes and facts, and provisions of Constitutional Rights and human rights laws. Copies of Module -1 in English version were also printed and distributed to the Matriculation schools in Tamil Nadu.

4) CRE program in 37 Government Schools, 10 AWC schools, 50 community clubs, and 44 residential hostels in Jhasuguda and Kandamal Districts in Odisha: Another milestone has



been achieved after the inclusion of 37 Government Schools (SC/ST Development Department) and 10 AWC schools in Jhasuguda district in Odisha, where school dropout ratio is on the increase. The state chief trainer established contacts with the district collectorate of Jhasuguda and obtained written permission to conduct two days of residential training for teachers of SC/ST residential schools in the district. The rapport building with the district collectorate, women child development department, DWO, and DSW in the district yielded desirable results in taking up the CRE program in these schools. The CRE program is effectively being carried out in 50 community clubs and 44 residential hostels in Kandamal district. The

headmasters and teachers were given proper orientation and training before starting CRE clubs in their schools.

5) Bringing out the Digital Format of CRE Module -1 in Tamil: The Project team engaged a team of Digital Curriculum experts to bring out the digital format of the CRE Module in a professional manner. All eight lessons have been digitalized and the form is very attractive to children. Some of the CRE teachers were involved in the presentation of the lessons in digital mode. Each of the lessons lasts for 10 to 12 minutes and the presentation is very creative.

6) Two days Follow-up and Intensive Residential Training for CRE Facilitators: Four two days of residential (follow-up) training were organized for CRE facilitators in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Two two-day orientations were organized for CRE facilitators in Karnataka and a two-days residential orientation program was organized for CRE facilitators in Odisha. These orientations and follow-up trainings were aimed at updating the CRE facilitators with additional inputs on concepts related to human rights and constitutional values and equipping them with methodology and practical tips to handle the sessions on the CRE module for children. There were sessions to get feedback from them about their ongoing programs and gather details of best practices, their learnings, concerns and challenges while organizing the programs in communities. These training programs also provided them space for learning from other facilitators and CRE clubs.



7) Regular follow-up of the CRE facilitators through weekly meetings and training programs: The facilitators felt the need for regular follow-up and acquired knowledge as well as skills to effectively carry out this program. Follow-up meetings were organized in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, Karnataka and Odisha at regular intervals. This helped them to effectively work on the project.

8) Two-day general orientation program for NGO partners and volunteers at Bangalore: A two-day general orientation program was held in Bangalore for NGO partners and volunteers from different parts of Karnataka and a total of 23 volunteers/facilitators participated in the program. Five NGOs (ELF, SICHREM, APSA, PEOPLE, Women's Association-KGF) from Bangalore, Devanahalli, Davanagare, and KGF sent their volunteers to the program and they were given orientation on basic concepts related to constitutional rights and values, fundamental rights, duties, directive principles of state policy, child-related laws and women related laws. The volunteers were explained about the composition of the CRE program and about the club activities.



9) PRE-Test on the knowledge level of Constitutional Rights among children in CRE clubs: A pre-test questionnaire in google format designed by the team on the CRE Program to get to know about the knowledge level, skill sets and attitude level of the participating children in CRE clubs at the start of the program, 15% samples were taken for the pre-test and a pilot was done to ensure the clarity in the content of the questions and proper methodology. The responses from the children were collated by the project team and this was useful to capture

the knowledge level of the children in CRE clubs in communities in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

10) Celebration of Constitution Day, 2022: Special celebrations were planned by the project team to meaningfully observe International Children's Day, Constitution Day, and Human Rights Day, involving all children in CRE clubs and CRE teachers in the schools across Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. State-level special effort was taken to highlight Constitution Day on 26th November 2022, wherein tens of thousands of school children, teachers, and parents read aloud the Preamble to the Constitution of India in groups, in classrooms, in communities, and in School Management Committee meetings. Mr.R.Sudhan, IAS, sent a circular to all 37,500 School Management Committees across Tamil Nadu to read the Preamble in their meetings on the previous day of the Constitution Day.



11) Submission of Memorandum by Children from CRE clubs to the Chairperson of SEP Committee: A memorandum was submitted by 25 children from three CRE clubs in Tirunelveli district to the chairperson of the Committee for the formulation of State Education Policy on 20th September 2022 in Tirunelveli, insisting on the inclusion of Constitutional Rights Education in the regular school curriculum in Tamil Nadu. This happened when the SEP committee convened a public meeting to collect opinions from the public and specific recommendations to be included in the New Education Policy for Tamil Nadu state, as initiated by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Similarly, the demand was insisted upon by different stakeholders including our partner NGOs in other districts also, when similar zonal-level consultations were organized by the SEP committee.



12) Drawing Festival for children in CRE clubs to celebrate the Constitution Day: A special drawing festival for children was organized to meaningfully celebrate the Constitution Day in 2022 and nearly 2500 children took active part from different parts of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Not only children from CRE clubs in communities but also children in schools (where the CRE program was initiated in 2022) actively participated in the drawing festival. All the participating children in the festival were duly recognized and given away certificates of participation.

13) Human Rights Day celebrations in CRE clubs in Karnataka and Odisha: Special events were organized in CRE clubs in Karnataka and Odisha by the respective partner members, involving residential schools and communities to meaningfully observe the International Human Rights Day in 2022. In Odisha, thousands of school students gathered to commemorate this historic occasion through a large human chain at Sailasree Vihar, Bhubaneswar. The gathering read aloud the Preamble of the Constitution of India and the special address by him highlighted the relevance of constitutional rights education in today's context and the role of the students in protecting and promoting constitutional values. In addition, essay competitions and painting competitions were held for the students in residential schools/hostels in Kandamal district and certificates of appreciation and trophies were awarded to the best performers.

Similarly, special programs, students rally and seminars were organized in different parts of Jhasuguda district to observe Human Rights Day.

14) Meaningful observance of Human Rights Day and 75th Anniversary of UDHR in Tamil Nadu:

The Project team initiated the yearlong celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights among the CRE clubs in communities. Special competitions were announced for college students in December 2022 to meaningfully observe the 75th Anniversary of the UDHR and to highlight the UN theme for the Anniversary, “**Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All**”. The college students have been invited to participate in the Short Film Competition, Memes Creation Competition, and Drawing Competition on the UN theme for the 75th Anniversary of the UDHR in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.



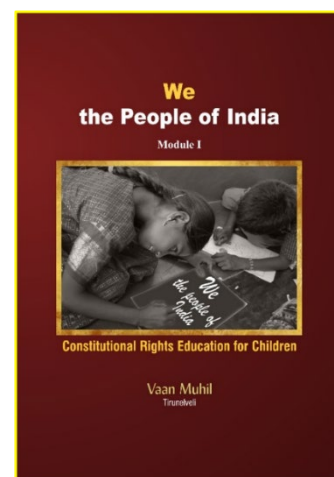
15) Field Visits by team members to CRE Clubs – After effects of the pandemic on children:

The project team organized field visits to interact with the children of the clubs and with the facilitators to assess the progress of the program and to work out proper strategies to effectively take the program further. During the field visits the team members could realize the huge learning losses among the children due to the long closure of schools during the pandemic and the children still find it difficult to read simple texts fluently and analyze the subject matters of their standards at ease. This situation also affects the efficiency of our CRE program among children in communities and schools and as a result of this, the speed at which the lessons in CRE Module were supposed to take off is very often slowing down.



16) Effective Online Coordination with CRE Club Facilitators and Matrons in Odisha: The state chief trainer and the Associate Trainer in Odisha have formed a separate WhatsApp group to coordinate all CRE club facilitators in the state and to interact with them with regard to the regular activities of CRE clubs. Regular follow-ups about their activities and exchanges of information among the facilitators are being done through this WhatsApp group. Another WhatsApp group has been formed to coordinate all the Matrons of residential hostels and teachers and regular information and updates are being shared through the WhatsApp group.

17) Printed version of English Module -1 distributed among Matriculation Schools: The printed copies of the translated version of Module -1 into English have been distributed to many Matriculation Schools in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry who show a keen interest in taking the CRE program in their schools. The teachers were also trained along with other CRE teachers in their respective districts before starting the CRE program in their schools.



18) Organizing State-Level Webinars and Workshops on Constitutional Rights and Values:

A series of Webinars were organized by the project team on specific themes related to Constitutional Rights and Values and the CRE facilitators and interested teachers participated in these webinars. The topics for the webinars include salient features of the Constitution of India, the relevance of the Indian Constitution in today's context, the highlights of the Preamble to the Constitution, core values of the Constitution (Principles of equality and non-discrimination, secularism, diversity, democratic polity, and social justice).



19) Increasing visibility of the CRE program in the Social Media Platforms: The core team has been consciously making use of the social media platform, so as to make it visible to different stakeholders/sectors about the ongoing programs of the CRE initiative. The CRE facilitators also take efforts to reach out to more people through Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, and other social media platforms in this regard.

20) CRE programs in hostels in Odisha: The Odisha partner took extra effort to organize training programs for hostel wardens in different places in Odisha and to initiate CRE programs in hostels.



The hostel students are actively taking part in all club activities and the Headmasters/Principals of the residential schools are very much cooperative with the hostel wardens and encouraging them to take forward this program in their hostels. The regular visits by Mr. Pradipta Nayak to these hostels strengthen the activities.

21) Meeting with the Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu:

The Core Team took extra efforts to meet the Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Dr.V.Irai Anbu, IAS, and briefly explained to him about Vaan Muhil's initiative of Constitutional Rights Education Program for children in schools and communities and handed over a copy of the printed module (We, The People of India), a copy of the bylaws for CRE clubs, along with the Teachers' Manual. He was very much appreciative of the initiative and personally referred the matter to the Commissioner of the School Education Department.

22) Follow up with the Commissioner of the School Education Department in Tamil Nadu:

The Project Team continued to strengthen contacts with the Commissioner of the School Education Department, Mr. K. Nandakumar IAS, through regular meetings with updates about the preparation of modules for the CRE program and the digital format of the same for the past two years. The printed module (We, The People of India), a copy of the bylaws for CRE clubs, along with the Teachers' Manual, were handed over to him and explained to him in detail about the



initiative across Tamil Nadu. His response was very positive and willing to take up the program in all government schools in an effective way.

- 23) Meeting with State level Officers/Secretaries in Tamil Nadu:** The Core Team met a number of state-level officers/secretaries to update about the CRE program in an effective way in the second half of 2022. The list of officers includes Dr.V.P.Jayaseelan, IAS, Director of Information and Public Relation, Ms. Pooja Kulkarni, IAS, Managing Director & CEO, Guidance Tamil Nadu, Mr. R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, Council for Leather Exports, Union



Government, Ms. Amudha, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Mr.R.Sudhan, IAS, SPD, SSA, School Education Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, Mr.K. Elam Bahavath, IAS, OSD for Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme, Government of Tamil Nadu, Mr.I.Leoni, Chair Person, Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation, Ms.Latha, Director, SCERT, Tamil Nadu

Text Book Corporation · Samagra Shiksha, Dr.V.C.Rameshwara Murugan, Additional State Project Director, Samagraha Shiksha, School Education Department, Mr. S Nagaraj Murugan, Director, Tamil Nadu Matriculation Schools, and Ms.Anitha, Joint Director (NSS), School Education Department.

- 24) Government Permission for CRE program in 100 Government schools in Odisha:** The State Chief Trainer and the Associate Trainer for Odisha took all possible efforts to obtain government permission from the School and Mass Education Department (S&ME) and wrote a letter to the Chairperson of the Odisha Human Rights Commission to pass an order to S&ME department for conducting CRE program in Government Schools in this academic year. Unfortunately, both the Principal Secretary and Additional Secretary of the department, who were very supportive of this initiative, were transferred to other departments. They also explore other possibilities to introduce CRE programs in government schools in Odisha.

Strengthening Workers' Collectives and Access to Social Protection benefits

1. Formation of Workers' Collectives in three blocks in Tirunelveli district

The facilitators have formed workers' collectives in 45 locations and in all the locations pre formation meetings were held with the workers in the communities and proper orientation was given to the workers as to the need of the Workers' Collectives and the direction of the same. The facilitators were oriented properly in the monthly review meetings and given clear instructions as to the content for the formation and the method they have to adopt for the formation of the Workers' Collectives. The IEC materials distributed among the workers were very useful in mobilizing them and to bring them together to the workers' collectives. The social protection benefits mentioned in the handouts distributed to them was the motivating factor for them to join the workers' collectives.

2. Monthly meetings for Workers' Collectives in Tirunelveli district

Workers in seven sectors took an active part in the monthly meetings. Initially, the facilitators took pains to organize these monthly meetings and slowly they regulated these meetings and many showed keen interest to attend the meetings. An average of 13 to 15 workers attends regularly these monthly meetings. The facilitators tried to explain the basic concepts relating to labour rights and social protection benefits to the workers and keep them updated about the registration status.

- 3. Village level awareness programs:** Village level awareness programs for the unorganized workers were organized in 15 villages in Valliyur and Nanguneri blocks in Tirunelveli district and a total of 1248 workers actively participated in these camps and out of these workers, 438 were men and 810 were women. They were given inputs on labour rights, social protection benefits and the need for organizing as workers' collectives, details about the unorganized welfare boards and the registration process. IEC materials on social protection benefits for the unorganized workers were distributed to the participants in the village level programs.

4. Registration / Renewal of unorganized workers in Tirunelveli district

A total number of 1848 workers have been registered and the project staff could achieve the target as per our original plan. This total figure includes both newly registered and renewal of membership cards into the Unorganized Welfare Boards in all the locations. Out of the total number of registration and renewal of workers, the major segment is from the construction sector (824), followed by conservancy workers (324), tailors



(268), transport workers (143), manual workers (100), domestic workers (96) and street vendors (93). Out of these workers (both registration and renewal), 533 workers are from backward castes, 471 are from dalits, 465 are from Arunthathiyars (mainly conservancy workers and domestic workers), and 379 are from the most backward caste. In addition to the registration of unorganized workers into the welfare boards, 7450 unorganized workers and 523 Migrant workers were registered to E-Shram Portal by our facilitators.

5. Filing of applications for accessing social protection benefits from labour welfare boards

Out of the total number of workers (1848) registered and renewed, 645 workers have filed applications for accessing social protection benefits from the welfare boards. Out of these 645 applications, 538 were for educational assistance for the children of the unorganized workers, 55 were for Pension for workers, 22 were for marriage assistance, 18 were for delivery assistance and 12 were for free housing. Most of the applicants are from the construction sector.

6. Select leaders to represent the workers (6 from each workers' collective)



Out of the 45 workers' collectives that have been formed in our working villages under this project, 43 have selected their own leaders to represent their collectives. An average of 6 leaders have been identified in each of the collectives and a total of 275 leaders from different sectors will represent the workers' collectives in the future. These leaders from each collective support the facilitators in organizing the monthly meetings and other cluster and district-level programs under our project.

7. Capacity Building for leaders of workers' collectives

Three capacity-building programs were organized for the leaders of workers' Collectives.



These leaders represented their collectives and from different sectors and received inputs on the functioning of unorganized welfare boards and practical ideas to access social protection benefits from these boards, besides the greater need for coming together as collectives in today's context to

fight for their rights. These leaders show a keen interest in strengthening of workers' collectives at the cluster and district levels.

8. Public Campaign on unorganized workers' rights



A public campaign was initiated by Vaan Muhil to simplify the online registration process into the unorganized welfare boards and the workers' collectives the matter was discussed in detail among the workers in all the meetings and the same was represented to the Joint Labour Commissioner in Chennai.

9. Interface with government officials: Rapport building with labour Department officials and District Legal Services Authority has been consciously developed during the project period. Their support has been helpful to the program staff and the workers in the registration process into the welfare boards and to avail social protection benefits for them. Three interface meetings were organized with the government officials as part of the programs and these meetings have been very useful. The program staff submitted a few key demands to the secretary of DLSA and to the Labour Department, mainly the challenges faced by the staff during the registration process.

10. District level consultations and Engagement with Govt departments and PRIs

Two one day district level consultations were held and representatives from 15 village panchayats (Panchayat Presidents and Vice Presidents), four Central Trade Unions, six Civil Society Groups, and three academics took an active part in the consultations. We had invited five panel advocates from DLSA and officials from Labour Department and social welfare department for our district level consultation.



11. State level campaign on ESI Rights for unorganized workers



physical meeting.

A two days state level physical meeting was organized on issues related to unorganized sector for state level networks and labour rights activists in Karur in August 2022 and subsequently in Chennai in Feb 2023. Three leaders from our Workers' Collectives could participate in the

Adolescent Empowerment Program and Strengthening of Community Support Groups

1. Function of Community Resource Centres in Virudhunagar district

- Awareness campaigns held on the importance of education by the CRC students and facilitators. As a result, have seen qualitative improvement in educational performances and a reduction in dropouts in most of the working villages and the Community Support Group has started Educational Fund in two villages by opening an account to address this trend of large-scale dropouts and following this. Other Community Support Groups are following it up with similar funds to support dropouts to re-enrol and address common issues.
- CRC students are actively involved in extracurricular activities like Yoga, Silambam, athletics, making paper arts and sports. Through these activities, their mental well-being, leadership skills and creativity have improved, and they are seeking solutions locally. Community-based, problem-solving capacity has improved. More than 15 children from our CRCs bagged prizes in district-level competitions A few- 7 children in sports category bagged prizes at the district level competitions.



2. Career Guidance Courses for Adolescent Girls and Boys

Four one day career guidance programs were organized at cluster level and inputs were given to the potential students on specific courses and rare stream courses available to students in different parts of the state and how to prepare for the competitive examinations to take part in governance. A total of 364 adolescents from all working villages benefitted out of these two one day career guidance programs.



3. Health Camps for Adolescent Girls

Nine one day Health Camps for Adolescent Girls were organized and totally 1098 Adolescent Girls benefitted through these one day camps in the villages. Out of them 24 were referred to the eye hospital for further treatment.

4. SMS campaign among adolescent Girls

As a result of the SMS campaign, a keen interest has been developed by the Adolescent Girls Groups and the weekly meetings were effectively conducted. Separate topics (importance of education, the use of smartphones and social media, changes during adolescent age, goal setting, sexual harassment, suicide, self-confidence and inferiority complex, important leaders and leadership and nutritious food and health-related issues) were given to the groups to discuss in the follow-up meetings. Able to reach out to 849 adolescent girls and 3300 parents and family members with this campaign, now it has become a regular feature that they started discussing social themes which deliberated in AGG in their families and able to see tangible changes in personal hygiene, nutritional locally and culturally relevant food intake, problem-solving capacity, courage to face and address if they confront abusive situations, breaking a culture of silence of social taboos-menstrual problems and sexual orientations etc and ability to cope with mental health and trauma.

5. Awareness building program at Schools

A series of awareness building program on child protection and provisions under POCSO Act have been organized in 32 schools in both the blocks and nearly 1250 children benefitted out of these awareness building programs. These children realized the importance of provisions of POCSO Act and child protection measures to be taken at different levels.



6. Village level and Federation of Community Support Groups at the Organization Level

- As a result of CSG discussions in Melathottiyapatty, seven drug addicts were sent to Rehabilitation Centre at Tenkasi, this has been proactively supported by Community Support Groups leaders. They have started to address these issues of drug addiction that increased during the pandemic and heavily impacted adolescents and youth in the district. 18 child marriages were prevented in working villages at initial stage and counselling was given to the children and their parents .
- 44 children were stopped from entering into child labour, as a result of continuous follow up and monitoring of CSG members and facilitators in the working villages Block Level CSG Federation meetings and General Body meetings at organizational level were held at regular intervals, once in a quarter. 74 CSG leaders representing all working villages actively participated in these meetings to work out strategies on taking up common issues



in the villages and to represent the villages collectively to the block and district level administration. Meaningful discussions were held among the participating group members on child labour issues, child marriages and child abuse, followed by screening of short films during the block level federation meetings. Collective

efforts are being taken by the leaders of block level federation and the executive committee members of Organizational Federation to address some of the village level issues by representing the communities to be officials concerned. A synergy has been created among the leaders and their interest in addressing these issues collectively was visibly seen in the general body meeting. Initial steps have been made by the staff team to strengthen CSG groups so that they can take responsibility to run CRCs.

7. Strengthening of Workers' Support Group in Virdhunagar district

Vaan Muhil facilitated the Workers' Support Groups to start discussing worker's rights



issues. This increased their solidarity and they were able to discuss the worker's issues, particularly wage discrimination. They started to actively engage with the management and labour departments as well as local authorities on these issues to gain solidarity for their demands. WSG demanded additional time for lunch

and tea breaks-thanks to their action, break time increased from 15 minutes to 30 minutes for lunch and 10 minutes to 15 minutes for tea break. Earlier mill supervisors had threatened workers not to speak but after WSG meetings were put in place, even they

have changed their attitude and are voluntarily now sharing the workplace issues and gaps with the group members.

8. Strengthening Village Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPC)

- VLCPCs have been effectively functioning, addressing crucial issues of child marriages, child abuse, and protection issues. As a result of this strengthening process, the VLCPCs have started addressing crucial issues of child marriages, child abuse, and safety issues. This sensitization process on child protection issues paved way for the need for a strong child protection structure at Panchayat level and Effective functioning of VLCPCs in all Panchayats in the working villages.
- One could see the rejuvenation that has taken place in the functioning of the VLCPCs and concrete strategies- display board in common space to disseminate critical info with complaint redressal mechanism, a monthly stipend of Rs 4000 for children who lost parents through DCPU and now VLCPC started getting applications- 6 children already applied for that, are being worked out toward child protection and child participation. Besides the children's representatives from our Community Resource Centres who participate in the VLCPCs do make a difference in the meetings, when compared with other children in the same village
- A good support from several VAOs and PRIs towards strengthening of VLCPCs and interest shown by these VAOs and PRIs has really boosted up our effort in this regard. Besides, a rapport building with DCPU office and child line has taken place
- VLCPC also has been active and sensitization process on child protection issues has paved a way for the need for stronger child protection structures at Panchayat level and effective functioning of VLCPCs in all Panchayats in the working villages. The role of Vaan Muhil in strengthening of VLCPCs has been duly recognized by the DCPU and this recognition from the district level agency has boosted up



9. Capacity building trainings for CSG and WSG Leaders in Virdhunagar district

Capacity building for the leaders of the Workers' Support Group leaders helped them very much and have a better understanding of Workers' Rights, the power of the workers' unity and the available legal mechanism for their

grievances. There was learning for the WSG leaders from the experiential sharing by the senior trade union leader of the district in the district. Unionization and call for broader

workers' solidarity have motivated the Workers' Support Group members and realized the need for collective bargaining and articulating demands.

10. Interface meetings with Government officials & Grama Sabha Meetings in Virudhunagar district

- Through regular Interface Meetings and Grama Sabha Meetings, a number of long pending issues / demands and basic amenities such as five connecting bridges among villages, resolving drinking water problems, street roads and drainage systems were provided as a result of follow-up by CSG members through interface meetings were addressed by the PRIs and revenue officers, such as repair of street roads, drinking water problems and drainage systems. As the result of our continuous efforts in the Grama Sabha Meetings and Interface meetings the unused well, which was unsafe and dangerous to children, was covered with protective walls and safely closed at Kongankulam.
- More and more participation of the members from CSGs, SHGs and AGs in the Grama Sabha Meetings has been very effective and they raise demands for better infrastructural facilities and more allocations of funds for the development schemes in their Panchayats. A couple of success stories are there as a result of enhanced participation in the Grama Sabha Meetings. It is really encouraging to note these positive grassroots changes mooted



by the leaders as a result of the training and facilitation of leaders. A few examples could be: Repairing of the library building and a new building was constructed for Panchayat, a new bathtub was constructed and repaired in the Panchayat Office at Achamthavirthan, Constructed Village Health Centre at Edayankulam.

11. Participation in School Management Committees in villages

The solid presence of the members from our CSGs, SHGs and some of the facilitators as parents in the School Management Committees (SMCs) and elected as the presidents and members of these SMCs is visibly seen through their contributions in the meetings and the follow-up. This is the result of the intense work on child protection and child participation done by Vaan Muhil during these years. The SMCs actively participated in the decision-making process and worked out development plans for the improvement of the Govt. Schools, will, in the long run, greatly help to prevent children from entering risky

employment and exploitative working conditions. SMC took up the infrastructural issues of schools-compound walls, and toilets, school space, quality of midday meals, any corporal punishment or classroom violence and abuse issues

The government high school in Edayankulam has been renovated and more infrastructural facilities have been handed to the school, as a result of the effective participation of CSG members in the School Management Committee and their effective coordination between the school management and the committee members. This is the good role model for the effective functioning of SMCs in government schools

12. Vocational training for interested adolescents

107 young women were completed vocational training in Computer Tally course and Tailoring-Embroidery, beautician course, and electrician course and entrepreneurial training making Artificial Ornaments. Thus, a large chunk of survivors and rural women have been prevented from entering into exploitative working conditions in textiles and spinning mills. Out of 107, 70 new individuals who earn a new income or start a business following vocational training.



13. Support for Micro Enterprises for deserving individuals

- Totally 35 deserving individuals have been supported to start a new business through accessing bank loans and financial assistance by Vaan Muhil (Idly Flour Making, Petty Shop, Vada- snack sales, Rice sale, Xerox Shop and Cloth Vending and Tailoring, Tailoring, oil vending and soap vending).
- With starting of small businesses through bank loans and our support, the individual beneficiaries were able to improve their personal income and their quality of life, besides, most of survivors (rural women) have been prevented from entering into exploitative working conditions.



- As most of the beneficiaries are women, the livelihood support programs initiated by Vaan Muhil has given them a sense of esteem and dignity in their life and they are able to stand on their own to some extent and this additional income contributed to the education of their children and prevented labour in undignified

employment. Accessing of bank loans and starting small businesses by the young women lead to economic development and livelihood security of these families.

14. Linkages to Government Scheme and Banks

2918 individuals benefitted through various government schemes and obtaining entitlement cards such as Aadhar Card, Pan Card, Physically Challenged Card, Smart Card, Voter ID, Unorganized Welfare Card, Birth, Community and Income Certificates, Old Age Pension, PMAY schemes, Poultry, Goat Shed and Social Protection Schemes.






15. Staff capacity building programs

A series of capacity building programs were organized for staff members on specific thematic areas such as Child protection, POCSO Act, Safeguarding and gender issues. Staff are being oriented at regular intervals with inputs on these topics.

16. Evening study centres for Arunthathiyar children in Tirunelveli city

Vaan Muhil organizes four evening study centres for Arunthathiyar children in Tirunelveli city corporation and conscious efforts are being taken to improve their learning outcomes (especially after the pandemic). Special like skill trainings have been organized to improve their communication, interpersonal relations, personality development and their reading and writing skills. Exposure visits have been organized for these children once in six months.

Our Sincere thanks to our Donors

-  MISEREOR, Germany
-  British Asian Trust, UK
-  Azim Premji Foundation
-  Norwegian Human Rights Fund
-  DASRA



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