

Association for Rural Community Development (ARCOD)



Annual Report – 2022 – 23

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Foreword

I have a great pleasure in presenting this Annual Report of Association for Rural Community Development (ARCOD) for the year 2022 - 23. The year 2022 – 23 was yet another fulfilling year for ARCOD. However, we also faced challenges and innovative ideas to overcome them. ARCOD continued to serve the deserving communities for their development.

Mr. K.G. Murali's association with ARCOD has been a great pillar of support for ARCOD and Children of Krishnaigri.

I strongly believe that this report would help to understand the activities and other special programs & events carried out by ARCOD during the year 2022 – 23.

1. India Literacy Project
2. Childline India Foundation
3. Luminous Power Technologies Pvt. Ltd
4. Saint – Gobain India Pvt. Ltd
5. Microchip Technology (India) Private Limited

I hope you would enjoy reading this report. I thank you in advance for your valuable time. Please give us your feedback on this report to help us improve our work.

Thanking you,

With Best Regards,



V R Keshavraj
Secretary / Executive Director

25/09/2023

Rayakottai

About ARCOD

Association for Rural Community Development (ARCOD) is a not for profit organization registered under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975 at Krishnagiri in 1988. ARCOD has the following registrations:

S N	Details of Registration	Reg. No	Reg. Date	Valid Till
1	Registration of Society under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act	3/1988	11/01/1988	-
2	Under Section 12 A of Income Tax Act	AAAAA1356J23CH01	24/07/2023	31/03/2026
3	Under Section 80 G of Income Tax Act	AAAAA1356JF20091	24/09/2021	31/03/2026
4	Foreign Contributions Regulation Act	075870024	05/02/1993	31/03/2027
5	NGO Darpan	TN/2009/0003037	-	-
6	Guide Star India	191	-	-
7	CSR Registration	CSR00000569	05/04/2021	-

Vision

The vision of ARCOD is social, economical, political and health empowerment of Rural Poor, Dalits, Adivasis, Marginal and Small Farmers Women and Children in its operational areas.

Mission

To facilitate a conducive atmosphere for sustained growth and development in rural productivity in the area of agricultural and allied industries by developing skilled and motivated human resources by working with children, adolescent and youth of both sexes.

To facilitate the development of child friendly educational institutions by advocacy and lobbying along with the linkages between the sponsors and the government educational institutions for quality education.

To work with the rural poor, women, children, adolescents and youth, HIV/AIDS infected and affected women and children, women in sex work in rural areas of Krishnagiri predominantly and in other districts of Tamil Nadu.

Governing Board Members



Mr. P. Chandrasekar, President is a cheerful Chartered Accountant by profession practicing in Chennai for the past 40 years; he is also known for his humour. He was the Auditor for ARCOD till the year 2002. Later, he became a board member and elected as the Chairman subsequently. While serving as Honorary Secretary of National Association for the Blind, Tamil Nadu State Branch, Joint Treasurer of Guild of Service - Mary Clubwala Jadhav Girls' Higher Secondary School and Seva Samajam - Girl's Home and the Vice President of Tamil Chamber of Commerce, he is also actively contributing to other social welfare organizations in various capacities.



Mr. S. Senthilkumar, Vice President is an enthusiastic member in the board. He is running a Human Resources Agency in Chennai. He is serving the board since 2009.



Mr. V R Keshavraj, Secretary is the founder of ARCOD known for his style of leadership, a Post Graduate in social work from Madras School of Social Work has more than 40 years of professional experience in development sector with multi sectorial expertise.



Ms. C. N Prasannakumari, Treasurer is lawyer by profession; she joined ARCOD as a staff in the year 2002 and inducted in the board later in the year 2010. She is currently looking after CHILDLINE Project. She has expertise in the field of HIV / AIDS and Children.



Dr. Josephine Joseph, Governing Body Member is an independent development consultant based at Bengaluru. She is serving the board from 2016.



Mr. K. Ananth, Governing Body Member is a Development Professional working with International Donor Agency. Mr. Ananth started his career in ARCOD after completing his graduation. He has vast development experience in grassroots and international organizations.



Mr. P. Rajagopal, Development Consultant is a senior development professional with over 4 decades of experience in the development sector. He is expertise as a trainer in Personality Development and Process Facilitation for Development Organizations.

General Body Members

Mr. D.G. Venkatesan, Pharmacist	Mr. B.V. Balaji, Entrepreneur
Ms. Shanthi Sivamurthi, Entrepreneur	Mr. Sujay, Entrepreneur
Ms. Nagalakshmi Subramani, Entrepreneur	

The following activities were carried out during the reporting period.

Facilitating Quality Education for Children

PUP schools and Anganwadi attendance monitoring:

Attendance of 30 PUP school students and 75 Angawadies were monitored during the reporting period. The Community Organizers made 345 attendance monitoring in PUP schools and 566 attendance monitoring in Anganwadies. These data updated in ILP collect application regularly.



School Management

Committees: The project team organized two rounds of SMC meetings in all the thirty schools. During the meetings the staff team emphasized the roles and responsibilities of the members of SMCs and motivated the SMC members to attend the meetings regularly. The Community Organizers met the SMC members through one to one or a group of SMC members and ALMSC members and explained about the importance of taking nutrition foods, preschool education and primary education of children. The team covered 698 SMC members and 791 ALMSC members during the year. Some of the members were visited more than 2 times by the staff team.

10th and 12th Results:

The staff team collected the data on the 10th and 12th results from High schools and Higher Secondary schools in Thally, Kelamangalam and Shoolagiri blocks. The Following table shows the class wise results.

S. N	Class	No. of Schools	Appeared			Passed			Percentage (%)		
			Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1	SSLC	57	1624	1904	3528	1204	1684	2888	74%	88%	82%
2	HSC	18	1212	1393	2605	924	1229	2153	76%	88%	83%
Total			2836	3297	6133	2128	2913	5041	75%	88%	82%

Career Counseling Sessions

After the publication of the results of 10th and 12th standards, the staff team met 1300 students who were going to join colleges and Polytechnic colleges and provided Career Guidance and



Counseling on higher studies through a small group and one to one. 145 Career Guidance and Counseling sessions were conducted in schools during the reporting period. 13150 Students attended these sessions. We guided the students on the options on the courses and colleges available during the sessions, they were given information on the different courses, colleges and fee structures by the staff team. We used Holland code test, displayed the career guidance and counseling chart and CSM mobile application. The Following table shows the class wise Career and Counseling session attended student details.

Class	Counseling after Result	Holland Code	Chart	CSM App	Total
9	0	2724	1695	545	4964
10	596	2208	1641	459	4904
11	0	231	715	371	1317
12	704	403	476	382	1965
Total	1300	5566	4527	1757	13150



Life Skill Training

Life Skills Education Sessions were organized for government school pupils studying from 6th to 8th standards during the year 2022 - 23. Lecture, Group Discussion and Group Activity methodologies were used in Life Skills. Totally 4265 students benefited in these programs.

The following 10 skills prescribed by the World Health Organization were taught to the students.

1. Critical Thinking
2. Creative Thinking
3. Decision Making
4. Problem Solving
5. Effective Communication
6. Interpersonal Relationship
7. Coping with Emotions
8. Coping with Stress
9. Empathy
10. Self-Awareness



Lecture, Group Discussion and Group Activity methodologies were used apart from games / fun activities.

Mobile Library

Like the last year, the project team brought books to the villages this year too. The Library in charge staff guided the students to read the GROW BY method books. The students were called

to a common place in the villages, the staff team guided them to read the books. This helped the ILP team to assess the Reading Level of the students. Through this mobile library our team covered totally 1486 students.

Learning Level Assessments

Learning Level Assessments were conducted in 40 schools during the months of August and September 2022 for the students studying from 3rd to 9th standards for all 5 subjects. 4383 students participated in these assessments. We developed subject related questions for the assessment.

The following tables show the summary of results of the assessments:

Class Wise Grade

Class	Total	A	B	C	D	A %	B %	C %	D %
3	311	13	84	80	134	4.18	27.01	25.72	43.09
4	342	8	67	109	158	2.34	19.59	31.87	46.20
4	368	0	22	92	254	0.00	5.98	25.00	69.02
6	863	1	69	168	625	0.12	8.00	19.47	72.42
7	797	5	61	152	579	0.63	7.65	19.07	72.65
8	796	9	135	249	403	1.13	16.96	31.28	50.63
9	906	0	21	84	801	0.00	2.32	9.27	88.41
Total	4383	36	459	934	2954	0.82	10.47	21.31	67.40



The Second Learning Level Assessments were conducted in 40 schools during the month of February 2023 for the students studying from 3rd to 9th standards for all 5 subjects. 4397 students participated in these assessments.

The following tables shows the summary of results of the second assessments:

Class Wise Grade

Class	Total	A	B	C	D	A %	B %	C %	D %
3	314	24	108	94	88	7.64	34.39	29.94	28.03
4	343	6	65	96	176	1.75	18.95	27.99	51.31
4	352	0	41	147	164	0	11.65	41.76	46.59
6	874	8	100	205	561	0.92	11.44	23.46	64.19

7	817	25	100	139	553	3.06	12.24	17.01	67.69
8	800	52	108	176	464	6.5	13.5	22	58
9	897	7	24	69	797	0.78	2.68	7.69	88.85
Total	4397	122	546	926	2803	2.77	12.42	21.06	63.75

Though it was expected, the results of these assessments were shocking to note that almost all the children were in grade D except a few in C. It shows the level of loss of learning in the children due to COVID 19 and effort needed to build back the learning of the children.

Reading Level Assessment:

First round of Reading level assessments for Tamil and English were done for 835 students in 6 schools during the month of September 2022. This assessment helped the staff to find the status of the students and make them to upgrade the next level of studies. Second round of Reading level assessments for Tamil and English were done for 1182 students in 10 schools during the month of February 2023. This assessment helped the staff to find the improvement of the students comparing previous assessments.

Scholarship to students for Higher Education

We went for Home visits for 18 students and selected 12 students for ILP scholarship for the academic year. We discussed about their marks, goal setting, and future exams during the Home visits. Total scholarship amount of Rs. 1,20,000/- (Rupees One Lakh and Twenty Thousand) for the year 2022 - 2023 was transferred to the bank accounts of 17 Students in the month of October 2022. The review meeting for the scholars organized on 29th October 2022 at the premises of ARCOD, Rayakottai. We discussed about their marks, goal setting, and future exams. 17 students participated in this meeting.

National Day Events (Sports and Drawing Events):

The project team organized Competitions on Drawing, oratorical, Essay Writing and different sports for the Children to mark the celebration of important National Days. Prizes were distributed for first, second and third to the students of 95 Schools. 3828 Students participated and 955 prizes were distributed. These competitions enabled the students to participate in various activities. Some of the Girl students from Thally and Kelamangalam blocks participated in Zonal level Kabaadi matches in Denkanikottai educational district held on 24-08-2022.



Live Science Experiments

The students studying from 6th to 8th standard in 32 schools from Kelamangalam, Thally and Shoolagiri blocks of Krishnagiri District covered. The science kit of India Literacy Project



provided to the above mentioned 32 schools. The science teachers from these schools had given orientation on using the science kit provided. The teachers facilitated the experiments with the support of ILP staff to 1227 students. Science Fairs were organized at the school level in all the 32 schools. The students were motivated to participate in these science fairs and do

experiments. A total of 1096 students participated in the Science Exhibition and all the students were honored with prizes. The better performing students were honored with special prizes.

Promotion of Education – Luminous Advanced Mentoring Program

The project was initiated in the year 2018-19 with the support of Luminous Power Technologies Pvt. Ltd. The objective of LAMP is to promote education among rural students and make them champions in life. The following activities were carried out during the reporting period.

Career Counseling Sessions

The LAMP team conducted one to one career counseling sessions during 22nd to 24th June 2022 for 1st batch scholars from GHSS, Berigai, Uddanapalli and Immidinayakanapalli after publication of their 12th standard results and motivated the scholars to join higher courses. Parents were also present during the sessions.



Selection of New Scholars (4th Batch)

In order to select the scholars for the year 2022 – 23, the data on the students studying 9th standard from Government Higher Secondary Schools of Shoolagiri, Enusonai, Madagondapalli, Bodichipalli, Kundumaranapalli, Kelamangalam, Uddanapalli, Haleseebam, Berigai, Immidinayakanapalli,



Rayakottai and Hosur were collected by the team. As per the criteria, 75 new scholars were selected from Berigai, Hosur and Rayakottai for the project this year.

It was decided to select the scholars from Government Higher Secondary Schools, Hosur and Berigai. 93 students studying 9th standard were identified and informed about the process of selection to become scholars. 126 students from Berigai, Hosur and Kelamangalam wrote the entrance examination which included all 5 subjects for a maximum of 100 marks. Following the entrance examination, the project coordinators visited the home of the students. The total No of students identified, written entrance examinations, and selected for the project are given in the following table:

S N	Name of the School	Total No of Students in 9 th Std	Date of Entrance Exam	No of Students Written Entrance Exam	No of Students visited	No of Students Selected
1	GHSS, Berigai	39	25-07-2022	37	37	25
2	GGHSS, Hosur	248	26-07-2022	43	43	25
3	GBHSS, Hosur	230	-	-	16	13
4	GBHSS, Rayakottai	96	-	-	19	12
5	GGHSS, Kelamangalam	52	27-07-2022	46	-	-
Total				126	115	75

In August 2022, the project coordinators visited the home of the students and had discussion with the family members to assess family background and their interest on their child's education as per our LAMP criteria. These visits for selecting new batch in the year 2022-23. Finally, we selected 75 scholars from the following schools:

Name of the School	No. of Scholars
GGHSS, Hosur	25 Girls
GHSS, Berigai	25 Girls
GBHSS, Hosur	13 Boys
GBHSS, Rayakottai	12 Boys
Total	75

Challenges in Special Classes

Due to pandemic reflection, Government of Tamilnadu announced that there was no permission to conduct regular classes in school campus. So we decided to conduct classes by online only. Doubt clarifications sessions were done by the Project Coordinators.

Follow ups of Career Guidance

The 1st batch 12th standard 86 out of 100 scholars passed out in the year 2021-22. Career guidance gave to the 69 scholars after their results and the follow ups made by the team. After that it was known that 86% of the scholars joined higher education as follows:



Course Joined	No. of Scholars
NEET	1
B. Pharm	2
BA	7
B.Com [CA]	2
BE	11
B. Sc	25
B. Sc [Nursing]	1
B. Sc [Optometry]	1
BCA	5
BPT	1
Diploma in Nursing	19
Skill Training	11
Total	86

Special Classes

Special classes are conducting by the Project Coordinators and Part time teachers from 26th August 2022 in the school campus after the school time for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th batch scholars who were studying 9th, 10th and 12th standard. A total of 403 sessions during the period from August 2022 to March 2023.

Induction Program for 4th batch New Scholars

The Induction Ceremony for 4th batch LAMP scholars was held at Hotel Sri Gowri Shangar, Hosur on 23rd November 2022. The selected scholars from Berigai, Hosur and Rayakottai Higher Secondary Schools participated with their parents and Headmasters. Ms. K.P. Maheswari, Krishnagiri District Chief Educational Officer was the chief guest of this program. Mr. Y. Adisaya Kumar, AGM – HR, Luminous, Hosur and Ms. Muktha, Senior Manager – Procurement,

Luminous, Hosur also participated in this program along with their other team members. LAMP Aluminis were participated and shared their experiences in LAMP and also welcomed the new scholars with their dance performance.

Formation of Alumni of LAMP Scholars

The 1st batch scholars selected in the year 2018 – 19 passed out after the 12th standard in the year 2021-22. These students joined higher education in various courses at different colleges. We thought the scholars should be in touch with us. ARCOD organized them on 10th December 2022 to share their experience in LAMP. And also shared their first day in their college. Some girls shared that if they would have not joined in LAMP, they would have been forced to marry by their parents after their SSLC. Some girls shared that the LAMP has given them the courage and boldness to face the challenges from the society. They thanked LAMP and ARCOD for giving this opportunity. Mr. Adisaya Kumar, AGM – HR, Luminous and Mr. Vijay participated and gave their suggestions to them.



scholars. During the year, 2 such assessments were conducted.

Periodical Assessment

Periodical assessments were conducted for the scholars to monitor the progress of improvement in the academic performance of the

Home visits

The follow up visits by the Project Coordinators were made in the months of February and March 2023. They met the parents of the scholars to assess their involvement in the scholar's education.

Workshop on Career Counseling

It was planned to conduct a workshop on Career counseling – Phase I for the LAMP scholars of GHSS, Uddanapalli and Haleseebam studying in 10th & 12th standard. It was held on 25th December 2022 at ARCOD Namma Veedu, Rayakottai and facilitated by the team of Agnoshin technologies Ltd. Chennai. The sessions started with various topics like soft skills, the importance of improving skills, explanation of various courses in arts and science stream. The team facilitated on boldness in life, achievers in our surroundings especially in our family.

Career Counseling – Phase II was conducted on 11th February 2023 for 10th Std & 26th March 2023 for 12th Std with the support of ARCOD – India Literacy Project. The sessions started with Visual Holland Code Test and the scholars understood the various groups in 11th Std.



And for 12th standard, the marks scored by the 1st batch scholars and what they liked during career counseling sessions and after the results what they joined in different courses. The scholars understood the reality of the situations during selection of the courses. They knew the importance of scoring good marks for higher education. The facilitator also shared the list of Government and Private colleges in Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri districts to the scholars. The facilitators mentioned



about the courses nearby the scholars locations and explained how the selection process will be in colleges and Institutions of Technology.

Sensitization workshop for boys



It was planned to conduct the workshop on sensitization for the boys of GHSS, Berigai. It was held on 29th March 2023. It started with sound game activity. The facilitator wrote animal sound in a paper and the students picked a paper and they did a sound what was in the paper. They did very well and realized their skills and expressed with happiness. After that team building activity conducted by the facilitator. And also facilitated on self-awareness, empathy and sympathy.

Workshop on Menstrual Hygiene

Workshop on Menstrual Hygiene conducted by the team Sachhi Saheli from October 2022 to March 2023. In these workshops, they focused on menstrual cycle, duration of periods, symptoms of puberty, managing periods, menstrual products and 5P Pouch with various activities and used technology.



Workshop on Environmental Awareness

Workshop on Environmental Awareness conducted by Green Dream Foundation and they focused on the topics plantation, different types of pollution, waste segregation, recycle and revival, e – waste, plastic management and global warming. Certificates are provided for the activities done by the students.



Visit by Impacto

A team from Impacto, New Delhi visited the working area from 24th to 26th March 2023. During the visit, they interacted with School Head Mistress, School Teachers, LAMP Teachers and 25 scholars (11 passed out and 17 on going) to understand the impact of the project.



Children of Krishnagiri

Children of Krishnagiri is an initiative to started in the year 2010 to support the children infected by HIV in Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri Districts. Later in the year 2021, the Center for Excellence (CfE) was established with the support from various corporates. During this year, ARCOD – CfE brought 225 already existing children and young adults under our handholding support. 5 more new cases added during this year.

Boys -113

Girls - 117

New cases added - 5 Children

Interventions and Outcomes:

Over All Objective: To provide better quality of life for HIV infected children and young adults.

Specific Objectives:

- Ensuring better health, nutrition, personal and menstrual hygiene.
- To ensure adherence to ART.
- To accompany and refer sick immediately to hospitals
- To provide education opportunities
- To develop leadership and personality
- To provide career guidance support
- To guide them for appropriate livelihood support.

Activities planned and implemented:

- ✓ Summer camps
- ✓ Quarterly holiday camp
- ✓ Half yearly holiday camps
- ✓ Regular one to one coaching on Sundays at ARCOD, Namma Veedu and at filed level, Block level meetings for children and young adults (YA)
- ✓ Health education workshop for 2nd line ART, sick, weight loss, low CD4 and high viral load children and YA.
- ✓ Care givers workshops
- ✓ Support for education for students studying in schools and for graduation (books and notebooks, materials, fees, shoes etc...)
- ✓ Competitive exam coaching (still going on), some have written TNPSC exams.
- ✓ Best performers awards given and celebrated
- ✓ Medical emergencies were attended to, surgeries done, hospitalization and medication supported
- ✓ 24 of them were taken to hospitals during this year for sickness and given treatment.

- ✓ Married HIV young adults meeting, reference to GH, reference and meeting with pediatrician and gynecologist and follow-up with new born done.



- ✓ Provision of opportunity to be with other children in workshops of climate change, environment challenges and in career guidance.
- ✓ Uniforms were supplied for 11 deserving students.
- ✓ Independence day, Children's day sports day and other cultural events were organized
- ✓ Students were distributed with certificate folders.
- ✓ Women's day celebration was done with several learning and entertaining activities
- ✓ Gender workshop was done for girls and boys together
- ✓ 3 of the seniors were trained, given online coaching by TVS for recruited in banks and other places.
- ✓ Students were sponsored for competitive exam coaching classes.
- ✓ Students were placed in diploma in agriculture technology course.
- ✓ The CfE girls and in addition the boys were given career guidance and admitted in Graduation
- ✓ Nutrition kits were distributed throughout the 12 months to 185 -200 infected.
- ✓ New case identification was done - 5 children aged between 2.5 to 12.
- ✓ Continuous ART adherence follow-up has been done with house visits

- ✓ A girl child was supported for football tournaments
- ✓ A girl who completed 12th has been sponsored for NEET exam coaching



- ✓ Online Spoken English classes have been initiated
- ✓ “Valaikappu” was done for 9 pregnant young mothers (seniors of CoK) and after delivery post- natal care and child care were given by organizing meetings and visiting GH, Pediatrician and Gynecologist.
- ✓ Job placements done.
- ✓ Gender workshop was held for 40 young adults (boys and girls) cutting across all themes adding up to being HIV infected.

Outputs / Outcomes achieved:

- ❖ Increase in life expectancy and quality of life for infected children. (Unfortunately we lost 2 boys progressing to AIDS stage due to prolonged illness despite our effort to medical support.)
- ❖ Increase in confidence level of all especially infected orphans and children with single parent
- ❖ The redesigned customized Nutrition kit (student an individual friendly) ensured increase in consumption of the contents:
 - Small packets of Peanuts and fried grams, single packing of peanut jaggary balls and fried gram jaggary balls, nuts and dry fruits, fruits in below 10 year old kits, protein powder for 2nd line, sick and loss of weight children (25 of them), moong dhal and naattu sakkarai. Increased nutrition, better immunity and absorption of ART drugs, less likely to become sick.
- ❖ More than 90 % drug adherence
- ❖ Better understanding of HIV, on ART, CD4 and Viral load
- ❖ Change in perception of the disease
- ❖ Moving on to pursue higher education
- ❖ Provision of “safe space “(Namma Veedu CfE) for sharing and growing.
- ❖ Better academic performance
- ❖ Improvement in personal hygiene
- ❖ Increased confidence among infected girls
- ❖ Increased knowledge on mother to child hiv transmission.
- ❖ 185 - 200 infected children and young adults received nutrition kits for 12 months and showed improvement in health, less number falling sick frequently.
- ❖ 144 given support for education, 19 in 12th std, 23 in 1st year, 20 in 2nd year, 16 in 3rd year of graduation, 6 in Post-Graduation and the rest are in school. Children and YA were supported for education and are studying.
- ❖ 14 students were supported for special coaching and 4 have got into Bank jobs. 3 joined ICICI bank and one joined Karur Vaysya Bank, yet one more joined a construction business having completed his Civil Engineering.
- ❖ Children passed out of +2 due to coaching classes. (One dropout brought back).
- ❖ One girl has become District football player and given support.
- ❖ Couples were given counselling, 11 of them delivered babies, antenatal and postnatal care given, resulted in healthy babies.

As planned the project addressed the Sustainable Development Goal Nos – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10.

Promotion of Farmer Producer Companies

ARCOD has been promoting 3 farmer producer companies with the support of NABARD. Vetri FPC based at Anchetty

Exposure Trip

ARCOD organized a one-day exposure trip to Cheyyaru Farmers Producer Company Limited, Cheyyaru on 17th August 2022 to understand the functions and business activities of the FPO. A two days training on the preparation of business plan and Organic Farming was also organized during 18th and 19th August 2022 at Center for Indigenous Knowledge System (CIKS) training centre Sukkankollai, Vedanthangal. Board of Directors and Lead Farmers from Yermunai FPO and Pasumai Boomi FPO participated with enthusiasm in this program.

Training cum Exposure

ARCOD organized a two days training program during 7th and 8th December 2022 on Value Addition of vegetables for Tomato, Coconut, Bittergourd, Chilly and Tamarind for BoDs and the Lead Farmers of Yermunai FPO and Pasumai Boomi FPO at Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore.

Business

Yermunai FPC is involved in procuring vegetables from farmers and selling to the Canteen of TATA Electronics Private Ltd after sorting, grading and cleaning.

Pasumai Boomi FPO has setup an input shop. The shareholders and other farmers are availing the facility in the shop.

Restoring Promise of Water

Background

IITFORIIT based at Bangalore approached ARCOD for taking up Lake Desilting Initiative in Krishnagiri. The objective of the initiative is to remove silt from Community Lakes and apply it to farming lands of farmers to improve soil fertility. A team from ARCOD visited Chintamani, Karnataka where the project was going on to understand the work. Later, the idea was taken by ARCOD. IITFORIIT facilitated a linkage with TITAN Industries. TITAN agreed to support 2 modules (20000 CuM) in Nagamangalam Lake of Kelamangalam block and Salamarathupatti block of Mathur block in Krishnagiri District.

Project Scope and Work Done

The project scope planned was to desilt 20,000 CuM of silt by Mar 31, 2023 across Nagamangalam Grama Panchayath in Kelamangalam block and Salamarathupatti Grama Panchayath in Mathur block of Krishnagiri District. This was done involving the farmer community, thereby benefiting the farmers who take the silt, and adding surface water capacity of 20 Crore Litres that benefits the community. Against this plan, during the reporting period desilting of 3,828 CuM was completed in Nagamangalam lake.



Impact Created

This has created a benefit of 0.38 Crore liters of capacity in the lake. Additionally, 26 farmers benefited from taking the silt via 1276 tractor loads. The silt was applied on their lands which total to 23.16 acres of dry land and 53.12 acres of wet-land. The following image helps to understand the impact.



Future Plan

Additional demand has been sourced to complete the remainder of the project. ARCOD is also planning to initiate the Desilting Activity in Arakonam taluk of Ranipet District with the support of Asian Paints Ltd. Preparatory work is done in Arakonam, a consultative meeting with the local NGOs was held on 11th March 2023 at TASA Office Arakonam to identify the community Anchors. ARCOD will lead the project as a Program Anchor.

Krishnagiri Childline

Childline Project is supported by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Govt. of India through Childline India Foundation (CIF), Mumbai.

Krishnagiri Childline is operational since 2012. ARCOD implements Childline in the capacity of Collaborative Organization. The CHILDLINE team has been involved in creating Awareness on Childline Services in the district since its inception. The calls through the Helpline No. 1098 are received through the Central Call Center at Chennai. Then CCC team passes on the information to the district team. The District Childline team intervenes accordingly. The following activities were carried out during the year 2022 – 23.

Child Protection Committee Meetings

Childline is a member of District Child Protection Committee. The meeting of this committee was held on 9th October 2022 at Krishnagiri. The staff team of Childline are members of Block level Child Protection Committees. 4 block level meeting of these committees held during the year.

Childline Se - Dosti Program

Se Dosti is a weeklong event organized at the national level during the children's week to create awareness on Childline and its services. The following events were organized as a part of Se Dosti Program:

Suraksha Bandhan & Signature Campaign: The campaign was organized at the Collector Office Campus, Krishnagiri on 15th November 2022. 26 children participated and knot the Suraksha Bandhan to the District Collector, The Superintendent of Police and other district officials. A signature campaign was also organized where all the participants declared them as Childline Friend and signed. 44 adults also participated in the event.

Competitions: The drawing competition was organized on 22nd November 2022 as a part of the Se Dosti Program in Panchayath Union Primary School, Billikkal Village, Urigam Panchayath, Thally Block. 23 children actively participated in the competition and drawn pictures.

Public Awareness: The events were organized across the district during the week to mark the Children's week and create awareness for the public on Childline, child rights etc. A rally of the children was organized in association with the Districts Legal Services Authority, Krishnagiri on 14th November 2022. About 90 children took part in the rally and tied Raksha Bandhan to the officials of the various allied departments.

Open House

Open House program is an awareness program conducted once in a month. This year the villages to conduct the program were chosen based on the vulnerability of child related issues during preparation of City Action Plan. 12 Open House programs were organized in such vulnerable

villages in a common place during the year. Entire Childline team was involved in organizing these programs. Various cultural events, sport activities and quiz programs were conducted for the children during these awareness programs. These awareness programs were designed to highlight the issues pertaining to children like Child Marriages, Children dropping out of school, Children involved in begging and online classes.

Awareness Programs

Awareness is a part of routine work in Childline to make aware the general public of the functions of Childline apart from addressing the interventions. Following awareness campaigns / programs were organized during the year.

During the program information on Childline and its services was disseminated through cultural programs, pasting stickers, group discussion, and issue of notices etc.

Intervention

CHILIDLINE received 1482 calls during the year and intervened in 571 cases for the following categories. The other calls were not needed intervention.

S.No	Category	No of cases
1	Medical	4
2	Emotional Support and Guidance	106
3	Protection from Abuse	295
4	Referral to services	89
5	Shelter	9
6	Sponsorship	68
Total		571

Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture

A concept note was submitted to Azim Premji Philanthropic Institute (APPI) in the year 2021 to promote Sustainable Agriculture. The Institute considered the concept positively and requested ARCOD to submit a detailed proposal on this. ARCOD also prepared a detailed proposal and submitted. A team from APPI made a series of appraisal visits to ARCOD and its working area to understand the proposal and the need of the farmer community. The project was sanctioned for a period of 3 years from April 2023 to build the capacities of 1750 farmers on Sustainable Agriculture practices in 32 hamlets in Kelamangalam block of Krishnagiri District. The process helped ARCOD to reflect on the past experience with Farmers and build vision for the future course of action.

Friends of ARCOD

One of the well-wishers of ARCOD Mr. Arulbalan Subramani from Rayakottai and his wife Ms. K. Maheshwari took efforts to register a legal entity in the name of “Friends of ARCOD Inc.” in the United States of America. Friends of ARCOD Inc. was incorporated as a Charity in the month of March 2023. A bank account is also opened for the entity with Bank of America. This would help ARCOD to mobilize resources from the USA. The individual sponsors in the USA will get tax exemption for the donations to ARCOD.

Visitors to ARCOD

Amagi: A team from headed by Mr. Prasad, Amagi, a cloud solutions company based at Bengaluru visited ARCOD on 26th January 2023. The team appreciated all the efforts of ARCOD for the development of communities.



TITAN: Mr. Prakash and Mr. Vairavel from TITAN visited ARCOD on 10th May 2022 as a part of appraisal visit for the Desilting Project. They also visited Nagamanagalm lake.

Events

Anniversary & Pongal Celebration



The 35th Anniversary of ARCOD and Pongal Celebration were held at ARCOD – Namma Veedu, Rayakottai on 14th January 2023. Board members, staff team and guests gathered for the celebration. They reflected on the past and floated ideas for the future of ARCOD. Earlier, the gathering celebrated Pongal in the morning.

Staff Team Building

A team building exercise was done to improve team spirit among the staff team during 28th and 29th May 2023 at Yelagiri Hills. The team was involved in reflection of the experience and building vision for the next 5 years of ARCOD.

Thank you Walk

Mr. K. G. Murali walked from Bangalore to Rayakottai (75 KMs) on 9th October 2022 to express the gratitude to Team Microchip for their support to upgrade the Center for Excellence. The Children of Krishnagiri and team of ARCOD joined him from Athipalli. The children enthusiastically walked along.

Recognition

ARCOD was recognized for the contribution towards ensuring health of the TB patients. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu gave a Certificate of Appreciation to ARCOD.



6. Board Meetings

3 Governing Body Meetings and 1 General body meeting were conducted during the reporting period.

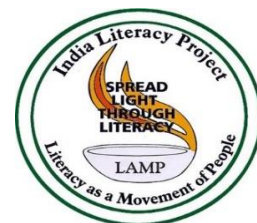
Our Auditors

M/s Ezhil & Raj
Chartered Accountants,
Chennai

Our Bankers

Indian Overseas Bank, Krishnagiri
Indian Bank, Rayakottai

Our Donors



Acknowledgement

I extend heartfelt thanks to the District Administration headed by the Collector and other district officials of Education, Health, Social Welfare and Police Departments, banking officials, District Child Protection Unit, Child Welfare Committee, ICDS, and all Taluk and Block level officials of the district for extending their support in implementing our projects successfully.

I also extend the heartfelt thanks to all the institutional and individual donors for their continued support. I thank our auditors for their support and guidance. I also thank all the friends and well-wishers of ARCOT for their inputs.

I would like to place on record the support and cooperation extended by the Board of ARCOT is commendable as always. As I used to mention, ARCOT is fortunate to have a committed, well qualified and experienced staff team. A big applause to the team for their commitment.

V R Keshavraj