

I. Education

Promoting Elementary Education in Urban Resettlement (PEEUR) initiative has been undertaken to improve the accessibility and retention of vulnerable, marginalized and disadvantaged children in school going age, especially girls, in mainstream schooling system. The project also focused on building awareness on child rights among community, school and learning, exploring and engaging themselves in creative activities. Though, the trust has been on skills through reading, writing and verbal expression, we also try to give them exposure to art and craft, theatre, music and sport under the supervision of experts.

The PEEUR scheme has been running at Narela and Holambi Kala situated at North West Delhi with collaboration of TDH, Germany. Baliga Trust has long lasting resolve of uplifting the marginalized and disadvantaged section of society. The experience of PEEUR initiative during last three years is encouraging. We have succeeded in implementing most of our plans effectively and in a very short tenure our learning after starting this initiative especially has helped girls students as admitting and retaining was a great challenge. In this regard, the awareness building campaigns and advocacy programmes had paid rich dividends. Now parents in these localities are more aware towards the education of their wards and they started taking it as one of their main priorities. Our endeavor of providing support to improve the living condition of the marginalized group of society by educating them to participate in economic and political spheres of main stream society has gained momentums.

The special interventions included:

- Enrolling 3-5 year old children in the early childhood intervention (ECI) centre to prepare them for entry into the mainstream system if education from grade I at the appropriate age of 5/6 year.
- Providing remedial coaching classes for school going children in the primary grades, especially those at risk of dropping out due to poor academic performance.
- Creating awareness on child right among children as well as parents and community as a whole.

To achieve the set objectives the Trust undertook quite a good number of advocacy initiatives and consultations with parents for active participation in children`s education and for their social and mental development. To make it operational, the Trust has formed community watch groups, children groups (Shristi Baal Adhikar Group, H. K. Nai Uddan and Lakshya Baal Adhikar group , Narela), NGO Alliance and networking group and have placed representatives from the Trust to Vidyalya Kalayn Samiti (VKS). These groups meet monthly and discuss issues related to sanitation, cleanliness, social welfare, health and education. We are now in the process of organizing School Management Committee (SMC).

Major Achievements:

- Number of at risk children regularly benefitted in different subjects the Remedial Education Center: around 250.

- Number of at risk children retained in respective schools through Remedial Education Center: 250
- Number of children mainstreamed into regular schools through the Remedial Education Center: 33
- Total number of children mainstreamed: 59
- Number of Child Rights group formed and their total number:04
- Number of Community Watch Groups formed and their total members: 4
- Number of Teachers training programs organized: 2+2
- Number of Exposure visits organized: 3(over 150 children)
- Number of interface/public meetings/Dharna participated/ organized:5
- Number of Alliance to work together for local issues: 4
- Number of schools where PEEUR Team members are Participating in VKS/SMC: 4

Other Activities:

Children Rally (March) to Sensitize residents of Hollambi Kalan & Metro Vihar on issues of sanitation, health & hygiene, environment proper garbage disposal. On 25th December, 2013, an awareness rally was organized by the children groups at resettlement colony of Hollambi Kalan. Altogether 150 children assembled at the centre of Dr. A. V. Baliga Memorial Trust at Hollambi Kalan to participate in the rally. Children rally was organized to sensitize the community on issues of sanitation, health & hygiene, environment & proper garbage disposal. Childrens’ march passed from every nook and corner of the resettlement colony of the Metro Vihar & Hollambi Kalan. Children displayed existing issues in the community through placards. During rally children collected garbage lying in the open & properly disposed off in the covered dustbin. Even members of the Community Watch Groups of Hollambi Kalan were also present. Children of the remedial centres, member of the children group took part in it. Members of the Children Group of Narella also gave their solidarity by participating in it. Children rally was culminated at Police post, Hollambi Kalan.

Annual Sport Day for Children at Hollambi Kalan: Dr. A. V. Baliga Memorial Trust organized Annual Sport Day for children at Hollambi kalan. 160 children participated in it. Following mentioned events were successfully organized like 100 m race, 200m race, kabbadi, Kho-Kho, Bora (Jute) race. Children of remedial centre, members of the children group & and children from the community participated in it. Members of the Community Watch Group and Alliance Partner NGOs also present. Shristi Baal Adhikar Group.



Sports Day at Holambikala



Children’s Rally

Meeting of the Community Watch Group (CWG), Narella

On 11 December, 2013 a larger meeting was convened by the Community Watch Group of Narella. A large meeting was held at the Narella Basti Vikas Kendra. Community Watch Group actively participated in it in which 85 women participated in it.

Balwadi:

The ECCE intervention focused on 3 to 5-year-old pre-scholars to encourage their social, emotional, physical and mental development. The objective of the intervention was to prepare them for mainstream education according to RTE norms, and also to relieve older children from sibling care to make it possible for them to attend school/learning centers. Altogether **5 Balwadi centers** were run this year - in Narela and Holambikala

Over 150 children were enrolled in the centers, and of these 71 children were mainstreamed into regular schools, thanks to TDH, Germany, India Program again for their support to run two such centers for pre school preparation of children.

Learning Through Art:

This unique initiative of the Baliga Trust, supported by the Integrated Village Development Trust (IVDT), UK, provides an opportunity to underprivileged children to enjoy learning through arts and crafts. Expert artists are engaged to facilitate the learning process with a holistic approach. The major components are traditional paintings such as Madhubani and Kalighat, and papier-mache craft.

This was continued through this year as well.

Continuing Education Program and Adult Literacy:

Education and empowerment are interlinked. Therefore, the Trust feels that economic empowerment has to be accompanied with educational empowerment if it is to have a lasting effect. Continuing education centers together with vocational training - one each in Narela and in Mangolpuri, and libraries were also organized for those who attained basic and post literacy levels. A functional literacy program encompassing over 150 women at a time backed this. Support was received from the Bani Jagtiani Trust and the Raja Ram Mohun Roy Memorial Trust in this endeavour. These women are encouraged to use the library, which was earlier set up under the aegis of the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation at Narela and by the Trust at Mangolpuri to ensure that their reading and writing skills are further honed by practice and continuous use. The program benefited over 250 women of the respective communities directly and its outreach covered over 10,000 people.

This programme continue with this year as well and is being expanded in the next year.

Community Library:

Community libraries that were set up in three project areas have been working as **knowledge centres** as well as **information windows** for the community. To bring about a learning society and to promote a reading culture, the Trust continue to runs three community libraries – one each in Mangolpuri, Narela and Holambikalan. Over 2400 books in BVK Narela, over 1000 books in Holambikalan, and over 3000 books in BVK Mangolpuri have strengthened the libraries. Daily newspapers and monthly magazines are also provided in the libraries. The number of library members has been increasing every year. Apart from reading of books, regular creative inputs are used such as story telling, discussions and drama. Discussions on storybooks and surroundings are also a regular activity of the library. **Library committees** have been constituted in all the project areas. These continued as 2013-14 also.