

Kanchana Foundation

Empowering Through Education

Volume 1, Issue 1

Newsletter of Kanchana Foundation

1. June. 2012



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Kanchana Foundation adopts a rural school in India

On 8. February 2012, a Memorandum of Understanding drafted by the Department of Public Education (Government of Karnataka) was officially signed by Mr. Sundar Bhat Kanchana, the Representative Head of the Kanchana Foundation, thereby officially adopting the government school in Alanthaya village. By signing this MOU, the Kanchana Foundation will provide assistance to the school for the next 5 years.

A series of developmental programs are planned to empower the school. With immediate effect, the following resources are made available to the school:

- Kanchana Foundation is sponsoring two trained teachers, thereby increasing the total strength of teachers from 4 to 6
- A cheque of Rs.50,000 (Euro 800) was presented to the Alanthaya school for the development and progress of various school activities.
- The students were presented with about 110 eating plates and glasses to help serve mid day meals.
- The school was also provided with a new computer and a printer, with the aim of conducting weekly computer classes for the students.



- The Foundation will provide monthly training camp to the students' parents as a means of educating them in various topics- government schemes/ grants, health programs, agricultural schemes, girls education and health care etc.

The occasion was graced by Government authorities, school staff, parents, press reporters and locals.

It was a humble effort on behalf of the Kanchana Foundation by initiating a step towards achieving its aims by adopting an underprivileged school. Henry Ford once said, 'Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, and working together is success.'

Kanchana Foundation established in January 2010, is a charitable trust that promotes education as a sustainable means to empower underprivileged children. The foundation is set up in a small city- Puttur of southern Indian state of Karnataka. The Foundation believes that education is the means of ensuring a sustainable social and economic progress of rural India. Hence the focus is to provide quality education and also means to achieve excellence in education among children of rural and remote regions. The initial monetary source was largely based on the DAAD prize money that the founder Adarsha Kanchana won and a generous contribution from NIT, Hamburg.

Help us continue the noble work by generously contributing time, advice, monetary and material support to our Kanchana Foundation.

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A Profile: Government Higher Primary School Alanthaya

The Government Higher Primary School Alanthaya is located at the Alanthaya village, in one of the remotest regions of Puttur in India. Only about 40% of the village population (about 1056) are educated. Majority of them are manual laborers, while others depend on agriculture.

Prior to selecting this school, the Foundation conducted a detailed study about rural schools in Puttur and held several discussions with school teachers and parents to identify and pick out the school which deserved and needed maximum improvement and support.

The school imparts education from Classes 1 to 7, has about 102 students, out of which 60% of them belong to families below poverty level (less than \$300 income per year). Almost all the students belong to backward classes of the society (nearly 41% belong to Scheduled cast and Scheduled tribes)

The school has 4 government appointed teachers, among whom

one is the Head teacher, who handles the administrative aspect. The remaining 3 are effectively available for the job of teaching.

The Foundation is currently in a strategic partnership with this school.



The teachers and students of government higher primary school, Alanthaya

International Women's Day celebrated at Alanthaya school

On 8. March 2012, Women's day celebration went on in full swing at the Alanthaya School with the support of Kanchana Foundation. 'I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved.' said Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

The program was to be an exciting and memorable day to all those present. Various games were conducted for women, who took part with admirable enthusiasm and also received prizes at the concluding part of the program. The afternoon was graced by Rtd. Health inspector Mrs. Rosamma, who delivered

"Women's health was a topic which was of primary importance to the villagers but which had been so far ignored"

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Head teacher Ms. Annama PM distributed prizes to the parents

an inspiring talk on the importance of women's health, related myths and facts, and the role of good food and hygiene in a child's development. This was a topic which was of primary importance to the

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villagers but which had been so far ignored. Here, the traditional methods and beliefs concerning women's health care and hygiene have always taken precedent over modern and effective methods.

At the end of the day, those who attended the program were happy, well informed and went back with the hope of having more such programs in the near future. Our target was to begin with educating the womenfolk, because we believe that the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.

Photo Gallery



The day it all began– Kanchana Foundation's first step



Memorandum of Understanding was signed



With school staff and village administration



The first computer– A generous contribution to the school



Students gather to celebrate Kanchana Foundation's first step



Women's day celebrations at Alanthaya school



Enjoying a day's meal, as a part of Women's day celebration



The morning assembly



Study time



With a passion to learn



Students busy with various activities



A view around the school

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Editor's Note

The Kanchana Foundation works with an overarching goal to create and sustain initiatives to contribute to an 'educated' society through its project Vidya. "Education" was chosen as the primary domain of interest because of the direct impact and the large positive rebounding effect it has on different aspects of development.



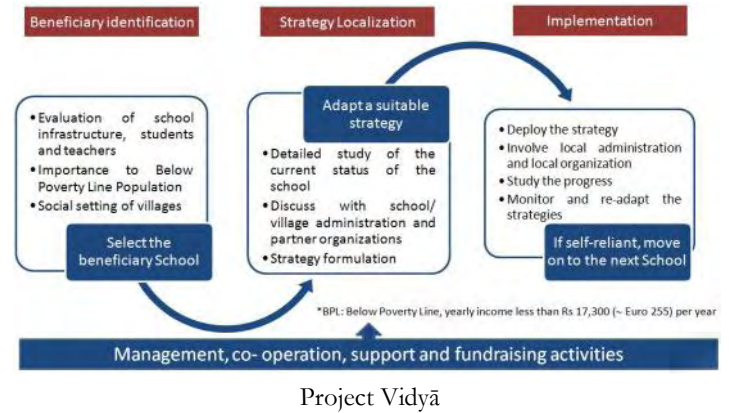
Dr. Aruna Bhat Kanchana,
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Underprivileged and marginalized populations are our identified target group and by adopting the Government school at Alanthaya village we hope that our intervention brings us closer to our goals. Co-related domains like health, nutrition, hygiene have also been recognized to have a critical bearing on education. We strive towards these areas too, recognizing their close knit influence on one

another. After enlightening talks on these subjects at the school premises on International Women's Day, which received an

overwhelming response by the students as well as their parents, we now march another step further.

Our belief is that parents and the society play an essential role in the overall development of a child's education. Our next step includes providing the students with school uniform, the school with basic lab equipment, setting up a library and organizing soft skill training to the students and their parents.



Help us continue the noble work by generously contributing time, monetary, material support and advice to our Kanchana Foundation.

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Kanchana Foundation wishes to thank:

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The foundation is registered under the Trust Deed registration number PUT-4-00200-2009-10, PUTD41 at the Office of the Sub-registrar, Puttur, Government of Karnataka, India. Recognized under section 80G of the Indian Income Tax act 1961 (K-130/80G/CIT/MNG/2012-13). Donations to Kanchana Foundation are exempted from income tax in India

www.kanchanafoundation.org