



ANNUAL REPORT FY 2016-17

BEDROC Child Development Project-4126

Annual Program Report FY 16-17

BEDROC CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT-4126

BEDROC-CHILDFUND, INDIA- PARTNERSHIP

BEDROC and ChildFund India partnership programme is providing an integrated child development programme in Nagapattinam & Karaikal Districts since Nov 2015. This programme is implemented in 18 villages covering 655 families during the year.

BEDROC Child Development Project aims at providing better future to the children who are Deprived, Excluded and Vulnerable (DEV). Based on the guidelines given by Child Fund India "Theory of Change" concepts, BEDROC designs various activities and programs to address various issues and problems of children living in the intervention area.

BEDROC has initiated many efforts to address the issues of children, families in the fishing communities in the intervention area and there are still further issues which require attention and suitable interventions. Through consistent development and empowerment approach, BEDROC has made the following impact in the lives of children, their families and communities during the year 2016-2017



EDUCATION

Program Goal:

Children transiting from elementary to higher education

Project Objectives:

Improvement in the status of children continuing their education from Elementary to higher level

Target locations and groups:

18 villages in Nagapattinam and Karaikal district

Impact Group:

424 enrolled children from the age of 6 to 16 under LS2 & LS3 (male – 169 & female –255) and 76 non enrolled children.

Target Group:

- SMC Members
- Teachers
- Community Leaders
- Members from SHG
- Education Department
- SSA, CWC & Child Line
- Social Welfare Department
- Like minded NGOs

RATIONALE:

- According to 2011 census, Nagapattinam district has a population of 16,16,450 with a sex-ratio of 1,025 females for every 1,000 males. The district has recorded the literacy rate of 83.6%, higher than the State literacy rate (80.1%). It is one of the coastal districts in Tamil Nadu. BEDROC is implementing the Child Development Project in 18 villages. Among the 18 villages, 13 are fishing villages. Though there are 891 elementary schools, 185 middle schools, 83 high schools and 79 higher secondary schools in the district, as per the ASER report, there are 1.3% of children from the age of 6 -14 are out of schools in the district and in our working area 3% are

out of school (90), even though the govt makes compulsory promotion till 8th grade. Under LS 3, 48% children have dropped out in our working area.

- This has affected the transition from primary school to higher in which young children move from a small, self-contained classroom to a large, more heterogeneous school with increased expectation of independent academic performance and less teachers' scaffolding. We are well aware that this move from primary level to higher level brings with it changes that can have positive or negative effects on students, hence transition to higher education is a social and academic turning point for adolescents.

Through this project we are aiming at reducing the dropout ratio in the district and help the children to continue their education.

The following are the main causes for the students dropping out from the schools and demotivating them to move from primary to the higher level of education.

- ***Students struggles in studies:***

The influence of education and its power to transform society is an undeniable fact. Realizing this, Right to Education Act (RTE) 2009 has been passed aiming to encourage the education and bring more children to school. Unfortunately, the larger gamut of education quality and its pedagogical aspects was neglected. The 9th Annual Survey (2013) on Status of Education conducted by Pratham Education Foundation in all States brought to fore the quality of learning by reading, writing and basic arithmetic skills of I to VIII Std., students has got worse particularly in rural areas. The findings of the survey with regard to rural Tamil Nadu shows that 52.6 % of the children belonging to I to VIII Std., had the ability to read text, 36.2 % read letters and words and 11.2 % did not know even a letter. As per ASER 2008-2014- 70 % Children in Standard V in private schools and 50% in govt. schools can read Standard II level text.

These students whose are struggling with studies and not able to perform well in exams. They are reluctant to continue their education. They are very much scarred on the sarcastic comments of their friends. It heavily affects the children to move from primary to higher level.

- ***Low Learning Levels:***

Since compulsory education is part of the education system till 8th standard, no one bother about the learning level of children till 8th standard. Once the children enter in to the 9th grade they realize the basic requirement of education (read and write). Hence addressing the issue at early part is very important and so there is a need for age appropriate skill on reading, writing and in doing the calculation in Mathematics are very much important;

The parents are also not in a position to counsel them to continue their education. This attitude leads the children to remain at home rather than continue their education. The secondary data collected from the pre funding questionnaires, Bharathi NGO clearly gives the pictures of the present status of children at Nagapattinam who struggle to read and write in their vernacular language-

The low learning levels of the students do not allow the children to compete with the other students. In addition, there are significant changes in the peer group with concerns about social acceptance often causing a loss of self-esteem, falls in academic performance and raising anxiety and depression levels and as a result, they get dejected and depressed and remain at home rather than going to school to continue their education.

Grade	Girls	Boys
Grade 4	45%	60%
Grade 5	45%	60%
Grade 8	40%	55%
Grade 9	35 %	40%

- **Poor Economic Condition:**

As per the report on SSA, in Nagapattinam the drop out ratio in primary is 0.95% and in upper primary 1.40%. In the recent CV S 8 survey we have identified 58 drop out children in our enrolled category and among them 9 are from LS 2 and 49 are from LS 3. Among the drop out children 28 are girls and 30 are boys. 21 children have dropped out due to economic condition, 15 girls want to help the mothers. Out of 30 boys 21 are engaged in fishing, because they are sent for fishing to support the family. Due to the economic situation in the family, the children are asked to take care of the family and they stop with the minimum level of education without any aspiration for the higher studies.

- **Gender Discrimination:**

Across India, girls face discrimination of being born as 'girls'. This leaves them at the bottom of the social ladder in terms of access to rights and development. In the fishing community in Nagapattinam, the parents wish to send their children especially the boys to higher studies rather than the girl children. This is due to the perception they have towards education. According to them, higher studies are not at all needed for a girl who is going to look after the kitchen and other household activities. In some families, they wish to get their daughters to be settled once they attain puberty. According to the census 2011, the literacy rate of boys 89.8% whereas for girls 77.6%. The gap of 12.2% is a clear indication to show how female children are denied of their education.

Major programmatic intervention and Achievements

- **Identification of children who are struggling in studies in 18 villages.**

Assessment and baseline survey had been conducted in 18 villages through CRC centers for 392 children with the help of ASER tool. We have identified 21% of the children were not able to read and write in their own language. To reduce this rate of weaker students, special coaching on reading and writing was given to those children based on their academic activities.

Methodology/Process/response:

Special coaching on reading and writing was given to children in the CRC every day for 30 minutes by the remedial class teacher. In the special coaching, various activities conducted such as reading newspaper, storytelling, dictation words and vocabulary reading and writing. Material for coaching like vocabulary books, dictionary and story books were given to CRC. Children were participating with lot of interest in this type of activities. Remedial teacher and CRC incharge conducted test in reading and writing among the children weekly once. This process clearly indicates the development of children's reading and writing skill.

• Remedial classes at CRC

Remedial teachers were appointed in 7 CRC to take remedial classes for children at CRC after school hours. 252 LS2 enrolled and non-enrolled children have regularly attended the classes at CRC.

Methodology/Process/response:

- Curriculum was developed based on their academic subjects with the help of HM's and teachers
- Capacity building training was given to all remedial teachers by specialist teacher
- Special coaching was given to the children depends on their academic performance in each subjects.
- Weekly test was conducted in all their academic subjects by CRC in-charge and Remedial teachers. Student's performance in the test was recorded in the progress report and shared with their parents.
- Once in a quarter, Remedial teachers tracked the progress report and reported the student's performance in the review meeting.
- Through this process we could see the children's performance in upward in their studies.



- **Career guidance and counseling support provided for children in 10th and 12th standards**

Career guidance and counseling support program was conducted in BEDROC office on 29th Sep 2016 for the enrolled children in 10th & 12th standards. 102 enrolled & 14 non-enrolled children have participated in the program. The program agenda was about self-motivation/how to face public exams without fear/Time management for the preparation of exams. Our Coordinators conducted all the sessions through group activities and fun way method.



- **Question bank to 10th & 12th standard students**

In the continuation of career guidance and counseling support program, we had provided question bank to 10th standard on 29th Sep 2016 and an another program on Distribution of Question Bank to the 12th students was organized on 13th December. It was a joint venture of Excel Engineering College from Namakal and Vision Global Empowerment from Trichy. Two faculties from the College came to BEDROC and they distributed the question bank to 12th standard students. And they explained the various courses available for the higher studies. This program gave them an idea to proceed further after 12th.

IMPACT OF CAREER GUIDANCE & QUESTION BANK PROGRAM

- ✓ *95 enrolled children had written 10th public exams, 91 out of 95 passed the examination with good marks.*
- ✓ *52 enrolled children had written 12th public exams, 49 out of 52 passed the examination with good marks.*
- ✓ *We proudly say that 48 enrolled children who had attended the career guidance & question bank program got more than 75% marks in their public examination.*

- **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF LITERACY** was celebrated by BEDROC on 8th Sept in three villages. The children were motivated to be an instrument and they taught the elders in the villages to write their names. This campaign brought smile on the faces of the elders and it made them to say good bye to thump impression. They felt proud of themselves because they wrote their names. It was indeed one of the happiest occasions both for the elders and to the children.



"VIDIYAL" Children's cultural troop is one of the initiatives taken by BEDROC, Nagapattinam. The trained students performed a cultural program at Keelapattinacherry and Samanathanpettai Govt. Middle school during the International Day of Literacy on 8th September. They highlighted the importance of being a literate in a family and in the community. The message was clearly brought out through street play.



- **Awareness creation on importance of education of girl children**

BEDROC took effort in creating awareness on the importance of education of girl children in Nagapattinam District. Stickers were printed out for this campaign. All these beautiful words in the stickers were written and composed by the children themselves at the Child Resource Centers. BEDROC felt proud in releasing those stickers during the program on distribution of question bank to the 12th students. Some of the girl children were given an



opportunity to receive those stickers and it was a fitting occasion. They were pasted at the door steps of each house and Child Resource centers. We hope the message will change the attitude of the parents and the community people.

- **Arts and sports meets/competitions held to provide holistic development**

Sports day was conducted at 7 CRC villages for LS2 & LS3 children. 310 LS2 and 151 LS3 children have participated in the program. Many events were planned by the children themselves. They all actively participated in the events and really enjoyed the day. All the children who participated in the event got participant prizes.



List of Villages and number of Children Participated:

S.NO	Village Name	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Thideerkuppam	62
2	Boothangudi	60
3	Chandrapadi	69
4	Keechankuppam	70
5	Keelapattinacherry	60
6	Nambiyarnagar	69
7	Samanthanpettai	71
Total		461

- **Orienting Teachers on promoting child friendly learning environment** training was conducted on BEDROC. 15 members (HM's and teachers) have participated from Nagapattinam block schools.

Mr. Balasanmugam and Mr. Manimaran, teachers from Govt. Schools facilitated the training.

