



Social Capital

By
Vivekananda Kendra - Nardep



1. Independence day celebrations

72nd Independence Day was celebrated at Green Rameswaram office (Mohabeer Dharmasala). The event started at 10.15 AM with the prayer.

Before the Flag hoisting Green Rameswaram Yoga Students did a March Past and invited Smt.Thilagavathy, Inspector, Temple Police Station for hoisting the Flag.



Flag Hoisting by Smt.Thilagavathy, Inspector, Temple Police Station



Inspector, Sub inspector and other patriots standing for National Anthem

Students of Yoga class spoke about Bhagat Singh and Swami Vivekananda. Students also did complicated yoga postures as well as skits on Global Warming and Road Accidents. Everybody appreciated the performance.



Skit by Students



Tough Yogasana posture by a student of Yoga class

Bharathanatyam by Yoga Students

Yoga Students especially girls Performed Shiva Tandavam, Lord Rama Dance, Classical Fusion songs etc. which was appreciated by the gathering.



Classical dance

Guest Address

Smt.Thilagavathy, Inspector informed the gathering about importance of Indian Independence. Then Shri.Ashokan, President, Press Club and Shri.Nagendran also spoke on the occasion. Afterwards, students were felicitated by Shri.Hegdeji.



Smt.Thilagavathy, Inspector, Addressing the gathering



Felicitation by Shri.Hegdeji

2. RO Water Plant Feasibility Study – Social Mapping Exercise in Mankaadu

Mankaadu is part of the 19th Ward of Rameswaram Municipality. We have a strong presence in Mankaadu with 12 SHGs and three water bodies renovation done in the hamlet. In order to assess the Toilet and Water facilities in Mankaadu we did a social mapping exercise in the village. Co-incidentally Students from Nettur Technical Training Foundation in Tuticorin came to Rameswaram for a two days' camp. We took them to Mankaadu for this social mapping Exercise.

Social Mapping

Social mapping is an option to identify households based on predefined indicators relating to socio-economic conditions (e.g. status, skills, property, education, income, Sanitation, Water Sources etc.). This option therefore results in information about households' relative wellbeing, rather than an absolute assessment.

Orientation to the students

Before starting the exercise students were given an orientation about what we are going to do in the Village. We have also identified the Gatekeepers among the students. Gatekeepers is nothing but to control the crowd behaviour disturbing the mapping exercise.

Orientation to the villagers

We gave orientation to 10 SHG members as well as a few youths and elders in the village.

Initial reactions from the SHG Members were it is impossible to draw the entire map and all that. Then we said we will give a try and we facilitated them to draw the main road entrance with simple pictures. Initially only two ladies were involved in the process but once all the other saw something is emerging immediately all the above mentioned people started participating in the process. Different designs and other common assets of the village were also marked in the process.



Social Mapping



Social Mapping of Mankaadu

Our major purpose was to assess the sanitation and water facilities in the mankaadu village. We used different colors to demarcate the houses with different facilities. Houses with or without toilet facilities were marked with a tick mark or with Cross mark above the house with different colors.

When we fully finished this exercise everybody was happy with the outcome. Few corrections were also carried out by the village elders. The entire college students clapped and expressed their appreciation to the villagers. Then we all took pictures of the achievers along with the Map they have created



SHG members with the Rangoli of Mankaadu map



Social Map of Mankaadu with village elders



Students with Social mapping experts



Students with Village Elders

Findings of the Social Mapping Exercise

No of Households with Toilets	71
No of Households without toilet	84
No of Households with wells	91
No of Households without wells	64
No of Households with both facilities	52
No of Households with toilet and without well	19
No of Households with wells and without toilets	39
No of Households without any facilities	45

One of the major findings is that around 19 households are having toilet but without water facility and they are depending on the three common wells surrounding the Mankaadu village. Few of these households are getting water from Lorry to fill the water tank. They are charging good quality of water @ rate of Rs.250 to fill a tank.

Each of the household are taking at least two pots for drinking and cooking purposes in Mankaadu. Rs.10 per pot is charged. In some rare cases of around 10% of the population also gets Rs.5 per pot from little low quality water. If given this option of Community Managed RO water Plant it would be a big success story in Mankaadu. Through our student gate keepers, we also collected the individual household name along with the toilet and water facility marking.

