



Protecting Child Rights



Education for All

M Venkatarangaiya Foundation

Annual Report 2011-12



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Introduction

M Venkatarangaiya Foundation is a rights based grass root level development organisation registered as a trust in India in 1981. MVF has been actively involved in elimination of child labour through universalisation of education and has so far mainstreamed over 1 million children from work and in to full time formal education till they complete class 10.

Over the years we have evolved strategies for successful mainstreaming of children, many of which have been proved to be universally replicable.

M V Foundation has also been instrumental in creating forums in every village we work for the protection of child rights and acting as sentinels. We have also brought over 1500 government school teachers together under the banner of Teachers Forum for Child Rights. This is unparalleled in the history of the country where government school teachers are now fighting for the rights of each and every child.

Similarly, some of our strategies notably the Residential Bridge Course Camps which are instruments of change which help in mainstreaming older children, who have been out of the school system for longer periods of time, have been acknowledged and accepted by the Government of India.

We have so far, in the 20 years of our work, been able to mainstream over 1 million children from labour to school. Many of these children have gone on to finish graduation and are actively pursuing jobs in various fields. The impetus given by our campaign has inspired them to take up further education.

Over 50,000 children have passed out of our residential bridge course camps. We have so far been able to make over 1500 villages child labour free. These are the models on which many organisations, governments and countries have modeled their campaigns against child labour.

The Stop Child Labour Campaign, which is an initiative of Hivos, FNV, SKN, CONCERN and others in Europe has acknowledged our strategy and asked us to initiate similar programmes in over 10 countries in Africa and Latin America. We have been actively providing technical support to this campaign for creating child labour free zones in the respective countries for over 5 years now.

Mission

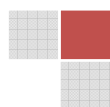
To abolish child labour and to ensure universal education for all children.

Vision

To build a social norm in favor of children's right to education and against child labour.

To ensure that all children continue in school without any disruption until they reach class ten.

To strengthen capacities of all the public institutions and departments to take care of children and their right to education as mandated in the Right to Education Act 2009.



Need for Action

Being out of school and denied the right to education, children are compelled to join the labour force resulting in vulnerability, marginalization, exploitation, impoverishment, and gross violation of human rights. It is important that children enjoy their right to education. At the same time, school going children face challenges in terms of overcrowded classrooms, inadequate physical amenities such as water, toilets, playgrounds, delays in issuance of textbooks, school fees and uniform and also insensitivity, even discrimination and are often subject to insults and corporal punishment. There is also the problem of over-reporting of children's enrolment in schools. Indeed, it is important that children also enjoy their rights in school.

At the level of the State, lack of institutional capacities of the education system to support a child's continuance in schools without any disruption, over centralization and insensitivity of the schools to the challenges faced by the first generation learners are some of the factors that push children out of school. At the societal level, an atmosphere that tolerates child labour, child trafficking and child marriages and even justifies these practices as inevitable because the families are poor has an impact on perpetuation of violence on children and denial of their basic rights including right to education.

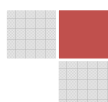
The passing of the "Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education" (RTE) Act in August 2009 makes it obligatory for the State to ensure that every child enjoys her/his Right to Education in a school as prescribed in its Schedule. It makes it mandatory that all barriers are addressed in the best interests of the children. More importantly, it assigns the role for Gram Panchayats and the School Management Committees as local authorities to monitor and implement to some extent the RTE Act.

It is against this background that MVF initiated programmes to ensure that children enjoy their Right to Education in full measure and as mandated in the RTE Act 2009. It also took up a social audit on the implementation of the Act.

Before



After



Highlights and Achievements in a nutshell

MVF provided consultancy on the implementation of RTE Act to the Government of AP UNDER its SERP/SHG Groups programme in 40 mandals/blocks of 10 districts. The direct result of this training was the emergence of 800 resource persons at the Mandal level and 8000 village level resource members from among the village education sub committees. This programme was managed and monitored by the SHGs.

In collaboration with the Labour Department, MVF created child labour free zones in Secunderabad. MVF also involved local business houses and the FAPCI. Elocutions and essay competitions on child labour were also conducted for school children.

MVF continuously involved gram panchayats, NGOs, SMC members and the community in their campaign for the implementation of the RTE Act through trainings, exposure visits, workshops and also by providing posters and pamphlets. An action group for the RTE Act was formed which actively participated and provided valuable inputs in the formation of the State rules. Several public hearings were conducted on this issue. The programme in Dhar, MP and Vaishali, Bihar was also launched during this period.

MVF actively participated with the government in their campaign against domestic child labour in the twin cities and was also involved in rescuing and rehabilitation of such children.

MVF collaborated with the NCPCR on the social audit conducted in AP. MVF also conducted trainings and exposure visits for the Bal Bandhu team from areas of civil unrest.

MVF conducted a campaign against corporal punishment and child marriages.

An alumni meet of over 3000 former child labourers who have successfully completed their education up to various levels through the efforts of MVF was conducted in Jan 2012 for a sharing of experiences.

Conducted a national conference on orphans where their issues were highlighted. The most important outcome of this was the simplification of the issue of the orphan certificate.

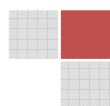
Programmes

'Enabling Implementation of the Right to Education Act through Involvement of Gram Panchayats, School Management Committees and Local Communities'.

This programme was taken up in seven mandals of Ranga Reddy namely Shankarpalli, Chevella, Pudur, Vikarabad, Marpally, Dharur, Shabad and two mandals of Nalgonda District i.e. Penpahad, Arvapally during 2011-12.

The overall outcome of the action during the year has been quite positive and encouraging. There have been improvements in community participation in the form of Gram Panchayat review meetings and formation of Sub-Committees.

There were three significant developments during the year. The term of the Gram Panchayat came to an end in August 2011 and outgoing Sarpanchs and MPPs gave way to Village and Mandal Special Officers respectively. 235 SMCs were also formed during November – December 2011 in line with guidelines issued by the government. CRPF members were encouraged to associate with the SMC so that they could contribute further to school development.



Over 1000 petitions were submitted from the various mandals to the NCPCR, the DEO, the RVM, the MPDO, the MEO and Sarpanchs in the context of school infrastructure development, non implementation and violation of the RTE Act.

Achievements as result of petitions submitted

- ◇ Bore wells have been drilled in 6 schools of Marpally and Dharur Mandals
- ◇ Toilets and urinals have been provided in 74 schools of Marpally, Dharur, Arvapally and Penpahad Mandals
- ◇ Compound walls have been built in 9 schools of Marpally, Arvapally and Penpahad Mandals
- ◇ Minor repairs have been effected in 12 schools of Marpally Mandal and 2 kitchen sheds have been constructed in Penpahad mandal
- ◇ Textbooks have been supplied in 4 schools of Marpally mandal
- ◇ Uniform has been supplied to children in 10 schools of Marpally mandal
- ◇ Budget for TLM has been released in all 48 schools of Marpally mandal
- ◇ Drinking water facility has been provided in 2 schools of Dharur mandal
- ◇ 9 new classrooms have been sanctioned in schools of Dharur Mandal and 15 classrooms have been sanctioned in schools of Arvapally mandal
- ◇ Attendants have been posted in 4 schools of Dharur mandal and part of their honoraria is being paid from the school grant
- ◇ 18 school buildings have been constructed in Penpahad mandal

191 orientation/training sessions involving over 9000 stake holders were held for various groups on the RTE Act, State Guidelines for SMC formation and child rights.

'Quality Improvement in Primary Education in Nalgonda District'

MVF has been implementing an intervention to enrich the schooling process in 226 schools in 9 blocks of Nalgonda District with support from Axis Bank Foundation.

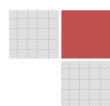
The main objectives of the programme were

Develop the primary school into a proper learning centre i.e. based on the principles as enshrined in the national curriculum framework designed by the National Council for Educational Research and Training.

Monitor the learning levels of every child and evolve appropriate responses through teachers, schools and their actions for helping children learn.

Encourage extracurricular activities such as sports, games, music, library and so on.

Summer Schools were held in 66 schools to sustain children's interest in education, promoting the habit of reading among them and ensuring their participation in all spheres of activity. Nearly 3900 children benefited from these Schools. 247 Summer Libraries that were run during the



summer reached out to 12350 children. 206040 books were read in all. Orientation sessions were held for 333 volunteers in charge of these programmes. Annual Day was celebrated on a grand scale in 64 schools.

A 13-member PET forum was also formed to promote children's physical development. Remedial classes were held for children in 40 schools. 375 issues of four-page magazines were published to enable children to express themselves. Children also utilised school libraries during their spare time and participated in a wide range of extracurricular activities such as writing stories, drawing sketches and quiz competitions. 302663 library books were read and 97764 stories written. The children also drew 138048 sketches. 38835 children took part in quiz competitions in addition. Outreach activities taken up as part of the campaign include community meetings, rallies and dissemination of IEC material. SMC members were also oriented on their roles and responsibilities.

'Monitoring Children's Right to Education under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act.'

M V Foundation has taken up this programme in the following areas Nawabpet, Parigi and Tandur Mandals in Ranga Reddy District and Dhane and Holagunda Mandals in Kurnool District under authorization from the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights to carry out activities as under:



Activity wise Outcomes

Publicity and Awareness

2050 titles of RTE Campaign Pamphlet disseminated

50 copies of a pamphlet against corporal punishment distributed per village

5 Campaign Posters on Corporal Punishment and the provisions of the RTE Act released

218 petitions submitted to key elected representatives and officials in the context of violation of the RTE Act

50 rallies held with 4474 people to publicise and educate community on the RTE Act

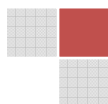
198 community meetings convened with 6601 participants

23 Gram Sabhas held with 1787 participants

Social Audit

Two rounds of visits each taken up in the schools in all blocks for social audit by the social audit team consisting of SMCs, parents, youth, VOs, GP members and social activists.

Presentations on the outcomes of the visits made in 2 and 3 villages of Tandur and Parigi blocks respectively to the village level Gram Sabha.



District and Block level Shiksha Samvad

Block and District level Shiksha Samvad conducted during Nov, Dec 2011 and Feb 12 with over 250 people in Tandur, Nawabpet, Parigi and Kurnool.

Enumeration of out of school children

Baseline Survey conducted in Ranga Reddy and Kurnool Districts. There were totally 778 children (335 boys and 433 girls) who were out of school. Of these, 315 children (143 boys and 172 girls) were mainstreamed into schools.

Other activities



District and Block level orientation sessions held for 125 SMC members on the RTE Act in Vikarabad, Ranga Reddy District, 223 SMC vice-chairpersons at the block level in all 3 blocks of Ranga Reddy District and Holagunda Block of Kurnool District and village level orientation sessions on the RTE Act for 310 SMC members from Dhone and 210 members from Holagunda. Orientation of 10 volunteers and 880 children from Kurnool District on the RTE Act.

Gatevanampally village of Nawabpet Block declared child labour free. 8 children shifted from private to government school in Balkatur, Tandur block.

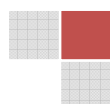
Campaign for girl child rights – HAQ Centre for Child Rights

MV Foundation adopted 4 blocks in 2 districts of Andhra Pradesh with the objective of demonstrating a viable model to address child marriage through strengthening legal and State mechanisms. A baseline survey was taken up in all 4 blocks to assess the role played by stakeholder groups in the campaign. Block and village level Child Marriage Prevention Committees were also formed with officials and community groups to support the campaign. Meetings were held with religious heads and other stakeholder groups to involve them actively. Posters and pamphlets with a strong message against child marriage were also disseminated among community groups. 127 adolescent girls were also oriented on their rights and on legislations enacted for them.

Replicability - Our interventions in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar

Bihar SKN

MVF is conducting a programme for streamlining the implementation of the RTE Act in 10 Panchayats of Vaishali District, Bihar. This campaign was taken up with more than 12000 participants to educate the community on the provisions of the Act. Rallies with over 9000



participants were conducted for spreading awareness on the RTE Act. Teachers' Day and National Girl Child Day were used as occasions at the block level on 5th September and 24th January respectively for this purpose.

MVF conducted motivation camps for out-of-school children to build their interest in education. They were engaged in a wide range of recreational activities and oriented on the importance of education. Recreational visits were organised for children to expose them to the world through education around them.

2952 children were enrolled in school due to an intensive mobilisation drive taken up at the beginning of the new academic year. 186 children also attended Residential Bridge Course camps during the year. The volunteers were also in constant touch with nearly 1300 children. The presence of 7032 irregular children in school was monitored on an ongoing basis. 4168 children were also followed up for the exams. Weekly headcount exercises and door-to-door visits were taken up as part of this effort.

Madhya Pradesh - Hand in Hand

This project is being implemented in 18 rural Panchayats and one municipality of Madhya Pradesh. 478 meetings were held with approximately 4000 members. Response to this effort has largely been positive and community groups have begun to take active part in the campaign. They also submitted 38 petitions to officials in the context of child right violation and school development. A special drive was taken up in Panchayats with high incidence of child labour. 687 irregular and other out-of-school children were followed up to school in this manner. 290 children were enrolled in school through the school enrolment drive and 275 children followed up through the involvement of 60 CRPF members.

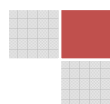
52 boys and 30 girls attended RBC during the year. Training sessions were organised at the district level for 85 members of the CRPF to enhance their capacities to contribute more actively to the campaign. 23 review meetings were convened by the Gram Panchayat to keep track of the functioning of local institutions. 15 Sarpanchs submitted petitions to the government demanding buildings for Anganwadi Centres. Orientation sessions were organised for 140 Panchayat members on the RTE Act. 3 cluster level sessions were held for 85 SMC members. A project level workshop was also held for 90 members in addition to 2 cluster level sessions for 31 members.

Conferences and Workshops Conducted

Training sessions and exposure visits were conducted for members of the Bal Bandhu teams from Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar and Maharashtra on the implementation of the RTE Act.

A workshop was conducted with African partner NGOs in Uganda for replicating best practices of MVF in the creation of child labour free zones in their countries. MVF also played an important role in conceptualizing an international conference on 'Child Labour Free Zones'.

Conducted awareness raising meetings with various German teacher unions in different cities of Germany and shared our experiences with them on the issue of child labour.



The Alumni Meet 2012

Amrutha. Former girl child labourer. Works for TV9 as Cameraperson.

Amrutha. *The story of Amrutha, 23, a camerawoman with TV9, a news channel, is no different. She has been working for three years and is a well recognized face in the media circuit. Quiet and soft spoken, Amrutha, who is from Bilkal village, Marpalli Mandal of Ranga Reddy District, was very young when her mother died and her father remarried. She never went to school till she was 12 years because she was pushed into working as agricultural labour. She worked in the fields from dawn to dusk for a petty sum. She worked under scorching heat, with blistering sore feet dug into the marshy land; she did the sowing, weeding and harvesting. After working in the fields she was burdened with the monotony of work at home cooking, fetching water, carrying siblings and doing all the domestic chores.*

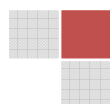


During one of the motivation drives, MVF volunteers identified her and approached her family and told them about the benefits of education for children. After listening to them, Amrutha told her father she wanted to study. Her father was initially reluctant to send her to school but finally relented and the MVF volunteers then admitted Amrutha in the residential bridge course camp for girls in Aloor village. She soon studied hard and took class seven examinations from the camp and was mainstreamed into class 8 in the local government school. She stayed in the residential social welfare hostel run by the government and continued her education till class ten. During this period MVF supported her with the required notebooks, text books, stationery and clothes. In a similar fashion she completed Junior and Degree College and joined as a trainee with TV9. During the training period MVF supported her and TV9 paid for her hostel.

I am where I am thanks to education and the motivation and support of MVF, she says. Amrutha loves reading books. A good badminton player in college, she was thrilled to record on camera badminton queen Saina Nehwal both on and off the court for TV9.

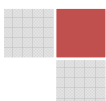
An alumni meet was organised by MVF on 21st Jan 2012 to mark the twentieth anniversary of the launch of its child rights campaign. Over 3000 participants from the community, NGOs,

Funding Agencies, Corporates, Teachers, Government Officials joined the alumni in recollecting their journey from labour to education and employment with a difference.





This event also served as an occasion to showcase the organisational intervention to the Union Minister of State for Rural Development Mr.Jairam Ramesh, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Mr.N.Kiran Kumar Reddy, Smt.Shantha Sinha, Chairperson NCPCR, Shri.T.Vijay Kumar IAS, Mr.John Hogan COO Broadridge, and key government officials and donor agencies.



M.Venkatarangaiya Foundation
Consolidated Financial Statements 2011-12

in Rs.

Fiscal Year Ended 31st March	2012	2011
Support/Revenue	Rs.	Rs.
Grants in Aid		
Foreign Funds Programs	21,249,363	41,157,789
Local Funds Programs	41,835,811	36,421,561
Donations, Interests and Other Receipts	4,944,907	865,1590
	<u>68,030,081</u>	<u>86,230,940</u>
Expenditures:		
Foreign Contribution Programme	29,032,007	35,050,337
Local Programmes & Other Expenses	42,608,233	39,697,251
Depreciation	924,139	263,316
	<u>72,564,379</u>	<u>75,010,904</u>
Surplus (Deficit) Expenditure Over Revenue	(4,534,298)	11,220,036
Surplus (Deficit) brought forward from previous year	17,581,022	6,360,985
Less: Prior Year Adjustment	1,028,811	
Balance Carried Over to Balance Sheet	<u>12,017,913</u>	<u>17,581,022</u>

Balance Sheet

in Rs.

Fiscal Year Ended 31st March	2012	2011
Assets	Rs.	Rs.
Fixed Assets	3,045,318	1,871,266
Fixed Deposits	28,767,615	32,493,811
Investments	100,000	100,000
Cash & Bank Balances	19,831,848	19,449,055
Advance to Beneficiaries	593,259	593,259
Current Assets, Loans & Advance	0	450,723
	<u>52,338,042</u>	<u>54,958,114</u>
Liabilities		
Corpus Fund	864,850	864,850
Institutional Support Grant & Revolving Fund	33,795,000	33,795,000
Winrock India International - Loan	1,034,000	1,034,000
Surplus (Grants to be Spent)	12,017,913	17,581,022
Current Liabilities	4,034,856	786,400
Other Payables	591,423	896,843
	<u>52,338,042</u>	<u>54,958,114</u>

As per our report of even date

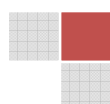
For **RAMANATHAM & RAO**
FRN : 2934S
Chartered Accountants

for **M.Venkatarangaiya**
Foundation

K.Sreenivasan
Partner - M.No. 206421
Date : 26-09-2012
Place: Secunderabad

M. Krishnamurthi
Managing Trustee

M.R. Vikram
Treasurer Trustee



MVF thanks all its Donors and Partners

MVF's programme has been supported by the Government of India, The World Bank through SERP DPIP, Government of Andhra Pradesh, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights(NCPCR), NABARD, UNDP/NORAD, UNICEF, IPEC-ILO, HIVOS, European Union, Catholic Relief Services, Hand in Hand, Actionaid India, JRD Tata Trust, Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, APF, Broadridge Financials, Qualcomm and Hyderabad Round Table – 8 and other individual donors.

Contributions to MVF are exempt from tax under Section 80(G) of the Income Tax Act. MVF has permission to receive donations from abroad under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act

M Venkatarangaiya Foundation

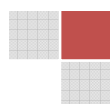
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MVF has an uncompromising position on abolition of child labour in all its forms, even as it perceives 'every child out of school as a child labourer.' Propelled by a set of non negotiable principles that guide the programme, its one point agenda is to ensure that no child works and all children go to schools as a matter of right.

THE NON-NEGOTIABLES

Charter of Basic Principles for Emancipation of Child Labourers

All children must attend full-time formal day schools.

Night schools or part-time education centres are unacceptable.

Any child out of school is a child labourer.

The definition of child labour encompasses every non-school going child, irrespective of whether the child is engaged in wage or non-wage work, or whether he/ she is working for the family/others in a hazardous or non-hazardous occupation, employed on a daily wage or on contract basis or as in bonded labour.

All labour is hazardous and harms the overall growth and development of the child.

There must be total abolition of child labour.

Any law regulating child work is unacceptable.

Any justification perpetuating the existence of child labour must be condemned.

Arguments about the 'harsh reality of the family, poverty, necessity of children's earnings for the family, lack of interest among parents, poor quality of teachers and schools, irrelevance of education in providing employment, loss of relevant skills among educated children and so on... are all anti-children and go against their real development.