



ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2002 – 2003

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PRIME EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL TRUST

NO.9, GOUBERT STREET, KAMARAJ NAGAR, PONDICHERRY – 605 011

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CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION



When a group of philanthropist decided to bring into existence PEST (Prime Educational and Social Trust) in the year 2002, they gave me the privilege to be nominated its Chairman. Pest has been founded for serving the rural poor and the needy, with special focus on the empowerment of disadvantaged women and children. This very first year has been challenging but full of rewards, I appreciate the effort that all our personnel and volunteer staff put in developing and implementing the programmes. I would particularly and greatly thank the local communities for their active involvement and voluntary cooperation with our staff the results of our campaigning are showing through.

For the current year our programmes focused on health, education and child labour rehabilitation in the area of Nedungampattu village, Mugaiyur Taluk, Villupuram involving hundreds of participants. We have done a great work to strengthen our management skills and we are also committed to shape our programmes in order to be more and more connected with the community. Our aim is to get their involvement from the earliest stage in an integrated approach that will ensure lasting results. Our plans and challenges for the coming year are then connected with the above aims and I strongly believe that these results are at our reach.

S. M. ARASU

PROGRAMMES

We believe that people and especially children have the right to basic services such as health and education. This year commitment has been to help people achieve these rights and our eight programmes were based on them.

➤ HEALTH CAMP:

Health camps were organised at Nedungampattu village, Mugaiyur Taluk, Villupuram District where the 312 participants were screened and received treatments. We are thankful to the Medical Officers from St. Mary's Hospital, Othiyathur, Villupuram. The severe cases



were referred to Jipmer Hospital and for them, it was the first time they meet healthcare personnel and know about the health services provided to our community.

➤ CULTURAL PROGRAMS



Cultural programs were carried out in order to increase the awareness of villagers in many aspect of their life. They were designed to enhance the status of the individual in the society in which the lives and to provide them with the basic knowledge and skills for dealing in his relation with other and with the institutions. A team of 15 highly specialized operators in different areas was formed in order to convey the desired message to the rural poor. The programs were proven to be an eye opener and at the end the participants were able to master the most important aspects of their

rights and duties which are fundamental to his growth and purposive life in the greater society.

➤ CHILD LABOR REHABILITATION



A number of Child Labor Rehabilitation Programs were accomplished and as many as 56 Children were covered under the programs.

The children were relieved from their employers and the parent were also sensitised to the issue explaining them the importance of education not only for the aspects of knowledge and know-how but also for moral and ethical development, social equality, emancipation, good citizenship, democracy and national integration.

The children were guided to go through a non-formal education program in order to prepare them for the formal one.

In the same time the employers were addressed and were explained the dismal consequences of engaging children in labor work and the prevailing laws and the punishments they may undergo. The employers were also given special orientation to stop the child labour practices and to recruit the skilled laborers and persons with appropriate age.

➤ YOUTH CAMP

The effort of explaining the importance of being free and good citizen and the relevance of education for their realization as human being becomes meaningfully when people are orientated and taken through a process of empowerment that



allows them to build the necessary self esteem to develop realistic aspirations and ambitions knowing their strengths and areas of improvement.

In accordance, camps were organised at Periyakalapattu and Mr. N. Illamparithi was able to motivate the young participants to choose a suitable career of their own and the limit and resources were also considered.

The youth camps were very informative and thought provoking and the youth were able to think realistically about their future and we noted considerable changes among them.

➤ **MOTIVATION CAMP FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS:**

The special motivation camp for the school students were organised as follows:

| NAME OF THE SCHOOL | STUDENTS PARTICIPATED | RESOURCE PERSONS |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Local schools at Pondy | 344 | V. Murugan |

The camps were mainly organised to counsel the students on their educational and career choices.

The motivation seminars were very useful for the students at the end and they were able to realise why they should undergo the education and how education will be a stepping stone in their lives potentially capable of affecting many aspect of their life.

➤ **COMPUTER EDUCATION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN**



Computer Education for School children was planned and implemented by our organisation at Keezhpathupet. The students were taught the basic of computer education and even the children who could not even imagine the benefit of using a computer had completed the course successfully.

FORMATION OF SELF HELP GROUPS:

The women folk in the villages are motivated to form Self Help Groups. They were taught the importance of the SHG and the need. The Rules and Regulations were informed to them.

