

# NEWSLETTER

*HCL-F Supported SOCHARA WASH Project, Bangalore and Chennai  
September 2020*



## ACTIVITIES

### AWARENESS PROGRAMS

- 12 AWARENESS PROGRAMS ON COVID-19
- 12 LIQUID SOAP MAKING WORKSHOPS
- 2 MASK MAKING WORKSHOPS

### COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- 12 MEETINGS TO INFORM ABOUT ANAEMIA AND TUBERCULOSIS AND THEIR LINKAGES TO HYGIENE
- CLEANLINESS DRIVE IN ANANDAPURAM AND MAYABAZAAR

### FIELD VISITS

- TO 24 SCHOOLS IN BANGALORE
- TO 12 SCHOOLS AND 7 POLICE CLUBS IN CHENNAI

### STUDY

- PREPARATION OF CONCEPT NOTES FOR STUDY TOPIC BY DR. RADHIKA AND MALLESH
- BACKGROUND NOTE ON POLICE CLUBS IN CHENNAI PREPARED BY DR. JUDYANGEL AND TEAM

## Foreword

*By Mallesh KM*

I am happy to introduce the September 2020 edition of HCL-F supported SOCHARA WASH project newsletter.

In our continuous pursuit of supporting the communities in Mayabazar and Anandapuram, we experience many challenges. But we are committed to have impact and this newsletter highlights some of the activities we conducted in the month of September 2020.

In the month of September 2020, our team conducted multiple community meetings through which they spread awareness regarding WASH, with focus on its linkages to health. We continued with COVID-19 awareness programs, liquid soap making training programs and mask making workshops for community and sanitation workers. We got bleaching powder sprinkled in Mayabazar and Anandapuram with the support of the local municipality. On occasion of Teacher's Day on 5th September we sent greeting cards to teachers of our project schools in Bangalore and Chennai to convey our appreciation of the hard work they do.

This month we kick started activities in Chennai. The Chennai team conducted field visits to the project areas. Since this is our first year in Chennai, we have started building rapport with the project partners and are excited to start conducting activities soon.

## TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

*by Radhika Kaulgud*

5th September is the birth anniversary of a great teacher Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and is celebrated as Teacher's Day in India. It is an important day for the teachers as well as the students as it is celebrated to acknowledge the challenges, hardships, and the special role that teachers play in a student's life.

Teachers are an integral part of our project and have whole heartedly supported us in all the activities we have conducted in the schools.

This year due to COVID-19 pandemic situation we could not plan any celebration of Teachers Day. Hence, as a token of our appreciation and express our gratitude for the role that they play in the lives of students, we sent greeting cards to teachers working in the schools which are a part of the SOCHARA WASH project.

It was well received by the teachers and head masters of the schools. They were happy to receive this token of appreciation from the project team and have assured us of their continuing support. We truly value the role they play as an important stakeholder of the project without whom we will not be able to reach out to the school children.

## CLEANLINESS DRIVE

*by Radhika Kaulgud*

During our field visits to Mayabazar and Anandapuram localities we have observed garbage dumping in many places. So, with the support from BBMP (local municipality) we have started a cleanliness drive in these localities. In Mayabazar we requested BBMP health inspector Mr. Chidanand to get the areas cleaned and the sanitation workers supported the SOCHARA team by cleaning these areas. Later with the help of volunteers from the community we put bleaching powder (disinfectant/germicide) in the cleaned areas. In Anandapuram Mr. Venkat, the health inspector too supported us in the activity and we followed the same process. Our field coordinators supervised the activity in both Mayabazar and Anandapuram.

In the coming months we plan to involve the community members to keep their surroundings clean. We will be planning activities to inform the community members about the importance of keeping their surroundings clean and the ill-effects of unclean surroundings on health.

*"Community Health is a process of enabling people, to exercise collectively their responsibility, to their own health and to demand health as their right."*

## CHENNAI UPDATE

*by Dr. Judyangel*

HCL- F supported SOCHARA WASH project, Chennai team initiated field visits to 12 project schools and 7 boys and girls police clubs.

The purpose of these visits was to locate the listed project areas and introduce the team to the respective in-charges. The team also discussed with the police club members and the school authorities about WASH related infrastructure requirements for students and planned for awareness programmes in these field areas.

In this course of action, the team has identified that each police club has a scout master and teachers, managed by the inspector of the police station located in the particular area. These clubs provide a learning space outside school for students and offers facilities like private tuitions conducted by the teachers of the club and also engage students in sports activities which they otherwise cannot afford.

We met and interacted with the scout master in the boys & girls police clubs and the Headmaster/Headmistress in the schools and received good response from them. The school principal introduced the teachers in-charge to plan for awareness programmes once the schools re-open. Scout masters have also committed to support in the activities discussed with them. Both the scout masters and school authorities have agreed to share the infrastructure/repair work details needed in their premises.

Following the discussion, along with the scout masters, in each police club, we have identified a location for toilet building. Also, in the schools, we have identified the areas in need of WASH related repair works along with the school authorities. During this conversation, we also interacted and with the other HCL-F partners in the respective project areas.

As a way forward, detailed situational analysis will be performed. Subsequently, identification of resource persons followed by WASH related infrastructure building and repair works will be planned and processed in the project areas.

***" Community Health Approach is a democratic, decentralized participatory, people-building and people empowering activity"***





*Newsletter Designed by Dr. Radhika Kaulgud*

Contact Details : Society for Community Health Awareness, Research and Action-  
SOCHARA

No 359, 1st Main, 1st Block, Koramangala,  
Bengaluru -560034, Karnataka, India

+91-80-25531518

[www.sochara.org](http://www.sochara.org)