

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

HCL-F Supported SOCHARA WASH Project



FOREWORD

The SOCHARA team has continued our community works this month in great hopes and enthusiasm. This month, our Bangalore team continued the black spots cleaning activities and monitored the Sanitation block construction works. The team conducted Need Base Assessments in 14 schools of Anekal Taluk regarding minor infrastructure repair works.

Through active involvement with the Anandapuram and Mayabazar community, the Bangalore team also conducted awareness campaigns on the need of safe drinking water, cancer and a door to door campaign on waste management. The team also took up the issue of non functional street lights in Anandapuram and Mayabazar and approached the Bescom (Electricity Supply) on the repairs of the same, ensuring the safety of the community.

The Chennai Team continued with our Waste management awareness programmes in 3 Police clubs in Chennai city. The team conducted need based assessment in 10 schools in the Chennai city and the experience gave us a picture of sanitation practices and the infrastructure challenges.

The team also conducted Menstrual Hygiene awareness activity in one of the Police Clubs, opening up dialogues and discussions on puberty and its various aspects. With further support from the communities themselves, the Sochara Team is looking forward to more learnings and relations!

Srilakshmi
Training and Research Assistant,
SOCHARA, Chennai.

ACTIVITIES

- 31 Black-spots cleaned in Mayabazar and Anandapuram, Bangalore
- Conducted 10 Cancer Awareness Programs in Anandapuram, Mayabazar, Bangalore
- Repaired Street lights at 4 Locations in 2 project communities
- Door to Door Awareness on Waste Management - Covered 1200 households
- Ensured availability of Safe drinking Water to 450 Houses in Anandapuram community
- Conducted Household survey of 750 households in Anandapuram
- Need Based Assessment - 14 Schools in Bangalore
- Created Whatsapp group for monitoring of Waste collection
- Follow up of R.O Plant repair in Project Schools
- Need Based Assessment - 10 Schools in Chennai
- Waste Management Awareness games conducted in Police Clubs - 3 in Chennai
- Menstrual Hygiene Awareness in Police Club - 1 in Chennai
- Attended HCL-F 'Power of One' Meeting in Chennai

BUILDING STORIES FOR TOMORROW

Dr.Judyangel, Sri Lakshmi

Team SOCHARA HCL- F Chennai conducted Waste Management awareness programmes for children in 3 police clubs in the month of February 2021. We started out by enquiring about their basic knowledge on waste segregation and waste collection regimes in their community. The reiterations of the messages helped it to be better ingrained in the minds of the children and also ensured active participation without missing the fun elements. We also discussed various health issues faced by the students regarding personal hygiene and initiated a conversation on recycling ensuring the children that we would have a discussion on the same in the coming workshops.



The team also conducted Menstrual Hygiene awareness activity at Chintadripet Police club. The session contained rapport building games and queries on their interests, likes and dislikes, through which we initiated a dialogue on puberty and periods. We sat together creating safe-spaces for girls and conversed about pubertal changes and the science behind it. As the activity progressed, the team also talked about the process of menstruation using visual aids, sanitary products they use and the hygiene practices that need to be followed during that time. On the whole, the session was interactive and the team was happy to hear the learnings shared by the children at the end of the activity.

OF TAPS AND TOILETS

Sri Lakshmi



Team SOCHARA HCL- F Chennai conducted Need Base Assessments in 10 schools in the city of Chennai. The Assessments primarily focused on the WASH related Infrastructure needs in the schools. The survey journey was an eye opener to the team in terms of on ground realities of sanitation and management in the city's most populated schools. The schools were lacking proper maintenance of sanitary blocks and we identified the need for better awareness amongst the children on personal and sanitation hygiene and the resources available. We observed there is a need for menstrual hygiene and awareness amongst the girls in the school and such discussions shall be initiated to break away the stigmas and taboos concerning menstruation. We are looking forward to more interactive sessions to bring about change and develop a healthy attitude towards life as such.

HCL-F POWER OF ONE - PARTNERS MEET

Dr. Judyangel

SOCHARA team member Dr.Judyangel participated in the meeting conducted by the HCL Foundation team at the Ambattur campus to 'Strategize Power of One - Volunteering program'. More than 30 partner organizations gathered, briefed their work, shared progress, and learnings. Many organizations showcased the contribution of volunteers in their work areas and even highlighted the need of volunteers to further support their community based works. The HCL Foundation team also apprised the partners to create avenues like setting up stalls, posters and exhibits to display their community engagement programmes as a way of encouraging HCL-F employees to choose and get associated with any of the thematic areas of their choice. Overall, it was an enriching experience to exchange our viewpoints and learnings from each other.

MARCHING TOWARDS SAFE SANITATION

Mallesh KM

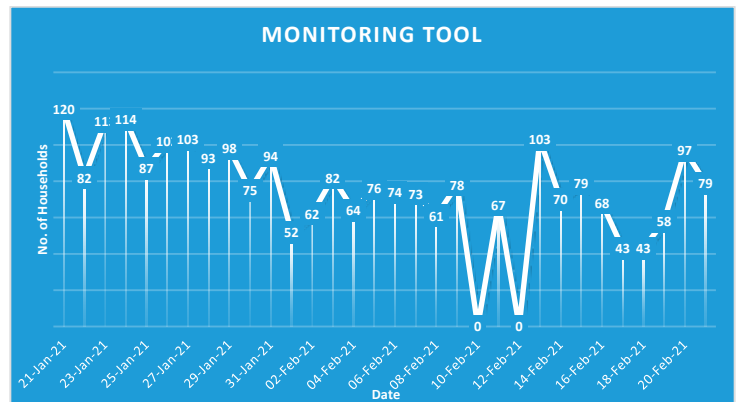


We are one step ahead in creating a bright future for our children embarking on the necessity of better infrastructure for safe sanitation in schools of our community. As a part of our objective and on the basis of the information gathered, we have initiated the construction of a new toilet in Thimmaraya Swamy School under School infrastructure development. The construction is duly monitored and the toilet walls are being adjoined by creative wall paintings containing messages on safe sanitation practices for the children. The school administration expressed their gratitude for the team's work and we are planning for an inaugural ceremony of the sanitation block soon. Our team also visited 14 Schools in Anekal taluk and conducted need based assessments on the sanitation blocks.

TOOLS FOR TOMORROW

Prahlad IM

As the Mayabazar community takes the leadership and ownership of a clean and green community, Whatsapp group has been created including our team members and the community members for monitoring the waste collection and updating the progress of the households in waste segregation. As a part of our cleanliness drive this month, the sanitation workers cleaned 31 black spots in Mayabazar and Anandapuram community with effort by our field team in coordination with BBMP. Our team also conducted door to door awareness on Waste management and created the awareness about Waste collection and disposal, benefitting around 1200 households in the month of February.



this document is verified and confirmed by BBMP supervisor and we have been implementing this tool primarily in the Mayabazar community. The graph represents the Number Of households who disposed the waste in the garbage collection vans.



DRINKING WATER CONNECTION AT MAYA BAZAAR AND ANANDPURUM

Prahlad IM

Safe and clean drinking water is an important determinant of Health. Around 450 families from the Anandapuram community have been facing the issue of contaminated drinking water as the source was being polluted by the sewage water. Our team member Ms.Parveen Taj along with 15 community members took up this issue and visited BWSSB office with the water sample, explaining the difficulties faced by the communities. After regular follow up from our team, the BWSSB team visited Anandapuram community and cleared the blockage from 9 manholes and the issue was resolved in 4 days.

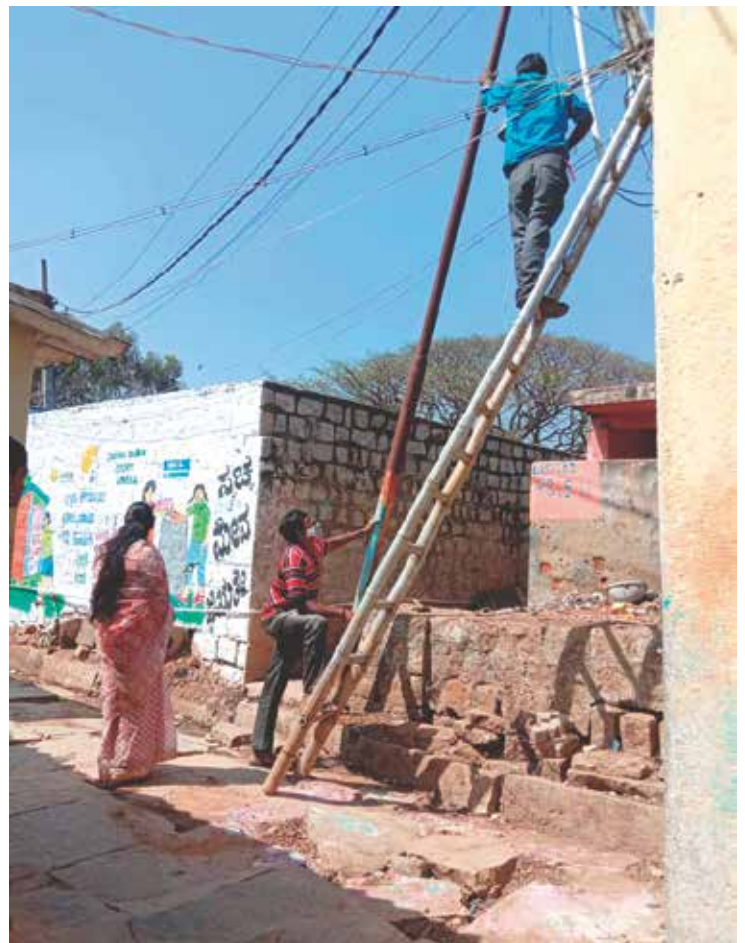


LIGHTING THE LAMPS OF AWARENESS

Mallesh KM

During our work with the communities, we came across few other challenges in the day to day life of the communities. This month, the Sochara team took up the issue of non functional street lights in Anandapuram and Mayabazar and approached the Bescom (Electricity Supply) on the repairs of the same.

Through this intervention, 4 street lights were installed in 2 project localities. On 28th January, Bescom people visited Mayabazar and installed the street lights near the public toilet at Mayabazar community and on 12th February 2021, the Bescom team visited Anandapuram and installed street lights ensuring the safety of the community.



Newsletter Designed by-Saranya-Graphic designer,illustrator

📍 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