## **ANISHA**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



### 'ANISHA'

Kadambur, Oddaradoddi Village, Martalli Post, Hanur Taluq, Chamarajanagar District, Pin – 571 320, Karnataka State, India,

> Email: anisha.india@gmail, Mob: 91-9448872207 Website: anisha.org.in

#### **CONTENTS**

No.	Title	Page No.
1.	Introduction	3
2.	Children's Program	
	a. Agricultural Sustainability Through Children's Kitchen Gardens - KGP	3-17
	phase 2-year 2	
	b. Educational Support program	17-19
3.	Sustainable Organic Farming	19-21
	a. Organic Farmers Meeting	
	b. Women self-help group	
	c. Native Seed Bank	
4.	Activities at Resource Centre	21-24
	a. Residential Training for one government school students participated	
	in Kitchen Garden Project	
	b. Students Azim Premji University (APU) for Field Immersion	
	c. Nature Camp for special students	
5.	Maintenance of Resource Centre	24
6.	Anisha's Ambulance Service	24
7.	Visitors to Anisha	25
8	Conclusion	26-26

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

ANISHA expanded its program area from three panchayats to 20 panchayats of Hanur taluk with the objective of addressing the nutritional and food security of the people in these panchayats. For more than two decades, Anisha has trained thousands of farmers in organic farming, sourced new varieties of native seeds and produced in its resource centre, preserved more than 336 varieties of native seeds, and formed farmers and women's groups. Anisha has also been working on a sustainable organic kitchen garden among 34 schools in the region covering a total of 1603 students. These students' families have benefitted from the kitchen garden program in many ways. They were able to grow and consume chemical free vegetables, save money on purchase of vegetables, have earned an income by selling excess vegetables, have freely shared vegetables with neighbours, supplied produce for school midday meals, distributed native seeds to other students and families. Anisha has also organized many residential training camps for students on environmental education, and has taken women on a field exposure tour. Anisha was able to successfully achieve all the planned activities for 2023.

#### 2. Children's Program

#### a. Agricultural Sustainability Through Children's Kitchen Gardens - KGP phase II year 2

Beginning from 2023-24, ANISHA continued to work with the same 30 schools from last year. During the year, the Block Education Officer suggested adding four more schools to the Kitchen Garden Program, extending the program to 17 village panchayats of Hanur Taluk. A total of 1603 students from 34 schools ranging from 7<sup>th</sup> grade to 10<sup>th</sup> grade participated in KGP phase II year 2 from June 2023 to March 2024. As transfers of teachers and BEO take place every year, the newcomers from other districts may not be familiar with our KGP programs. So, every year in the month of May, it is a routine process to seek permission from the Block Education Officer (BEO) to conduct our KGP in government schools. A consent letter issued by the officer is circulated to all the schools to make them aware of our Kitchen Garden Program.

Anisha's resource team starts their work along with monsoons in June. The resource team visits all the target schools spread across the 17 panchayats of Hanur Taluk. These schools are located in the villages, away from the villages, on the main road, or in the forest.

Our first activity was holding a Pre-test for the 340 new students to determine their understanding and knowledge on organic kitchen gardens before our intervention. A test paper with ten questions about organic kitchen gardens was given to both new and old students. The new students scored less marks as compared to old students who are already in our KGP. Again, at the end of the program a post-test is given to students who scored less to assess their knowledge on organic kitchen gardens after our intervention. We can see the difference in their scores before and after our intervention and how our program has enhanced their knowledge on organic practices. However, the post-test is not given to old students as they scored high in the pre-test.

In the pre-test, out of 340 new students, 187 scored less than 6 marks and in post-test all the 187 students scored higher than 6 marks proving that 100% of the new students have gained

knowledge on organic kitchen gardens. The Table below shows the Pre-test and Post-test scores of children before and after Anisha's intervention.

Total 340 new students Pre-test			Post-test					Total				
Ten questions	1	2	3	4	5	Total	6	7	8	9	10	
Number. of students' scores	33	118	27	3	6	187	8	62	14	54	49	187

<u>Orientation:</u> The indoor half a day orientation was an audio video visual presentation of our previous years' kitchen garden experiences such as students working in the garden, preparing raised bed gardens, etc. A documentary film on the impact of chemical fertilizers and pesticides on human health was also presented. Printed photos of the schools and students garden, posters of soil and its nutrient requirements were also displayed. After the presentation, discussions were held on the benefits of organic practices and the impact of chemical farming, alternatives available for their organic kitchen garden and how it helps to improve their health and their environment.



Orientation by resource person
At K. Gundapur Government Higher Primary School



Hoogya Village Government Higher Primary School, Notebooks were distributed to record students' daily garden activities

<u>Demonstration</u>: After lunch, students were involved in identifying the pieces of land, preparing the beds and digging the required trenches for gardening. Demonstrations on the procedures to improve the soil for gardening were intensified. Teachers informed the students to source the required materials, such as, green and dry materials, farmyard manure and ash, for demonstration. In case of shortage, students contributed materials from their homes. The garden beds were prepared by layering the greens and dry waste, broadcasting ash and compost and finally covering with soil. After this, students sowed the seeds of radish, greens, okra and planted saplings of brinjal and tomatoes. Drumstick and curry leaf plants were also planted in the corners. It's a joint effort by the students, teachers, cooks and Anisha's team to develop the garden. The efforts put in last year was visible by the improvement in soil structure, and its moisture holding capacity was remarkable. It was indeed a lesson for the children about how persistent effort, even the worst of soils, would become fertile and give us yields.

During the demonstration, students also learnt organic methods of attracting beneficial insects to the garden, controlling pests, methods of pollination, hand pollination - how and when to do, how to save and conserve seeds for next season. Kitchen garden project emphasizes in improving the nutritional security of the underprivileged children both in farming and non-farming communities, by creating awareness on organic food and its importance to human health.





Demonstration

Students in the first and second year of the program started their gardens with the help of their parents and used the seeds that they saved from the previous season. New group of students could start the gardens only after Anisha's demonstration of the gardens at schools and with the seeds from its Seed Bank. Many new students took their parents' assistance to develop their gardens in the initial stages and also to fence it. We observed that, in the first year, most of the new students collected seeds from Anisha, at least two to three times as their seeds did not germinate since they did not follow the right methods of sowing. However, after a few visits by Anisha's field staff and the training, they followed the right method of sowing. We could see the children's happiness when the seeds germinate and grow into a plant, when they start flowering, and finally to see the vegetables ready for harvest. They feel proud and excited in sharing their garden experience. Our demonstrations helped the students to understand that plants need water, light, air, healthy soil and nutrients to grow and survive. Finally, they also learnt from where their food comes from and how it is grown and the importance of organic agriculture in their daily lives.

Out of 1603 students, 1506 students participated in KGP till the end of the project. For monitoring, we selected 340 students from the new group and an equal number from the old group of students. 93% of the selected students grew more than 10 to 25 kgs and above of

vegetables, and 601 students grew more than 5 varieties of vegetables. We were able to reach a target of more than 80% of the measurable indicators.

	Table showing the Measurable Objectives											
Out of Total 1603 students, only 1506 participated in the Kitchen Garden Program												
	Vegetable production level						Number of varieties of vegetables grown					
	(in Kilograms)											
	0 1-9 10-15 16-20 21-25 Above 25 Total					0-2	3-4	5-10	11-15	Total		
No. of students	0	4	189	196	69	147	601	0	4	315	282	601

The above data is collected from students' garden journals that were monitored by Anisha staff. 601 students produced more than 10 kgs of vegetables - pumpkin, bottle gourd, ridge gourd, butter sponge, okra, greens, tomato, brinjal, chili, climbing bean, winged bean, black bean, cluster bean, radish, and more. On average, each student produced 21.60 kgs of vegetables. Some plants, like bottle gourd, pumpkin, ridge gourd, butter sponge, field bean, black bean and climbing bean produced more quantities. Winged bean is a new variety introduced this year and its yield was less. The total savings of the 601 student families (both new and old groups) for the 10-month period is \$7446.46. Apart from consuming pesticide free nutritional vegetables, the average savings of each family was \$12.39. This year, the yields were good and the parents are delighted with their childrens' organic kitchen gardens.

Table showing varieties of vegetables harvested from the organic kitchen gardens of 601 Students from 34 participating schools

	KGP phase II Year 2	Quantity (in kilograms)	Market Price per Kilogram (in INR)	Total cost (in INR)
1	Bottle gourd	1,836	40	73,440
2	Pumpkin	1,632	40	65,260
3	Ridge gourd	1,447	60	86,820
4	Field bean black	1,614	50	80,700
5	Cluster bean	477.75	60	28,665
6	Greens	488.8	40	19,552
7	Okra	1,020	40	40,800
8	Tomato	836	40	33,440
9	Sponge gourd	405	40	16,200
10	Radish	1118	35	39,130
11	Brinjal	607	45	27,315
12	Winged bean	40	100	4,000
13	Field bean red	63	70	4,410
14	Butter sponge	365	60	21,900
15	Climbing bean	378	40	15,120
	Extra varieties grown by	students		
1	Bitter gourd	147	40	5,880
2	Beans	165	90	14,850
3	Snake gourd	138	60	8,280
4	Carrot	35	60	2,100
5	Chilli	66	50	3,315
6	Beetroot	72	40	2,880

7	Cowpea	11	40	440
8	Dal	13	60	780
9	Potato	8	30	240
10	Cucumber	5	40	200
		12987.35		5,95,717



<u>Siddarth proudly displaying harvest of ridge gourd from his own Organic Kitchen Garden</u>



8th and 9th grade students from Manegahalli Village Government High School - Ajay Kumar (with winged beans), Rachappa (with bottle gourds) and Prajwal (with bottle gourd and dried ridge gourd for seeds).



Government Higher Primary School 7th grade students Karthik from Kuratti hosur with their harvests of bottle gourds

#### **Student Garden:**



#### **Students Seed Savers:**

One of the most important learnings for students from the Organic Kitchen Gardens is to save seeds for next season. Students are trained to save seeds so that they do not depend on shops/others for it. We encourage students to cultivate this habit of conserving seeds for all seasons for self-sustenance. During the year, many students contributed their excess seeds to Anisha's Seed Bank. They also shared seeds with their neighbours, friends, relatives and schools. More than 5 varieties of seeds were saved by 556 students during this year, 87% of the students saved seeds for next season.

#### Students saved seeds

	Number of seed varieties										
1-4	5-7	8-10	Above 10	Total							
0	430	97	29	556							



Maheshwari and Kavya, 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> graders from GHP School, Kurathi hosur village conserved seeds of long and pot varieties of bottle gourds



Gowtham, Kiran Kumar & Kanakaraju, all 7th graders from KVN Doddi GHPS with their seed collection



Poornima M.T.Doddi saved 12 varieties of seeds



Divya, 7th grader from Halagapura GHPS showing the many varieties of seeds she saved.



Students contributed Seeds from their home garden to Anisha

#### Students contributed vegetables to their schools' mid-day meal program

Many students shared vegetables from their home gardens to their respective schools' midday meals programs. 573 kgs of fresh vegetables students contributed to their respective school's mid-day meals from their home garden, bottle gourd 173 kgs and 122 kgs of pumpkins are the highest vegetables shared.









Students contributed radish, ridge gourd, pumpkin, bottle gourd from home garden to school mid-day meals

#### **School Gardens**

The school garden provides hands-on learning experience for the students. It enhances their knowledge on the nutritional values of the food they consume and encourages increased healthy eating habits. Along with knowledge and skills gained in raising a healthy garden, we could also see a positive development in their interpersonal skills of coordination, cooperation and caring for others. It also encourages physical activity, learning science, improvement in attitudes, awareness of health and food, and improvement in eating habits of different types of vegetables.

We noticed that the students and teachers were very much involved in the school gardens. They fenced their gardens and protected them from the general public, poultry, cattle and monkeys. The Bylore village, Government High School located next to the forest tried protecting the garden by putting a temporary fence but was unsuccessful. But they did not give up their interest. They raised a garden on the terrace of the school building using rice bags as a growing medium and harvested okra, radish and greens. In 2023-2024, a total of 984 kgs of fresh organic vegetables were produced by the participating school gardens.







Chennalinganahalli Government High School Students harvested vegetable from school garden additional vegetables to midday meals program



Bylore Government High School Garden on terrace of the building



Watering canes distributed to school

#### **Awards for best gardeners**

At the end of the year, we collected the garden journals of all the 1506 students and in return each student was given a geometry box as an encouragement for participating in the organic kitchen garden program. It was a satisfying moment to see the students' broad smiles as they received the geometry boxes, a useful instrument for a student. This initiative increased their inclination to continue growing their gardens so that they could taste different and new varieties of vegetables like winged bean that they never saw or tasted earlier. The awareness of healthy and chemical free vegetables changed the attitudes of students.





KGP students proudly displaying their Geometry box prize

#### Attitude Test on Organic agricultural practices:

In all our organic Kitchen Garden Programs, Pre and Post attitude tests are conducted to assess their favorability to organic farming/kitchen gardens, and their awareness about the many ecological and environmental issues, benefit of organic farming/kitchen gardens. This year, at the start of the program, a pre-test was conducted for the 340 students (new group) of which, 302 students (89%) were favourable and the rest 38 students (11%) were disagreeing with KGP. Again, at the end of the program, a Post-test attitude was held for the disagreeing 38 students, with the same questionnaire, and all the 38 students strongly agreed with the organic KGP. So, we could see that their attitudes changed during the course of the project while learning about organic gardening.

A post-test was also conducted for the parents of the 340 new students (340) where everyone was favourable to the kitchen garden program. The questions were objective types and parents needed to check and mark their options. Some students helped their parents whenever needed in reading the questions and the options. We were surprised to see the students and their families' involvement in KGP. The parents expressed happiness that they

could consume fresh chemical free vegetables and saved money that was earlier spent on purchasing vegetables. They expressed that they would grow more varieties of vegetables. Some of the children also sold pumpkins at harvest festivals and earned some money. This year we saw a bumper yield and the families sold the excess vegetables to others. Hence, the parents are more interested in gardening along with their children. Even the teachers were favourable towards KGP. Overall, everyone is able to see the benefits of an organic kitchen garden.



#### Anisha Team Participated in parents meeting at the school

Anisha's coordinator attended the teacher-parents' meetings in the schools and shared about sustainable organic farming and organic kitchen garden programs. As most of the parents were aware of KGP, they also shared about their children's interest in KGP and their gardening work. They said that every day their children check the garden to see if the seeds germinated or not, are the plants flowering, is there any pest attack, and so on, they expressed that they are very happy to support their children in garden activities as the garden gives them organic and fresh vegetables for consumption. They said it was surprising to see their children never trashed vegetables from their food plates anymore. They also see many changes in their children's behaviour in a positive way. At least once a day the children talk about their garden with the family. Sometimes, children bring the first harvest of vegetables to the school's mid-day meals.



Sharing KGP in parents meeting

#### **Cluster lever meeting**

The cluster level meetings were held at five places. At least 10 students from each participating school were selected to represent and share their KGP experience. A total of 441 students participated in the 5-cluster meeting. After a brief introduction, students were divided into smaller groups to share their garden experience. And one representative from each smaller group will summarize the experiences in the bigger group. First the children reported on the problems faced in protecting their gardens from livestock and then moved on to share about the positive things about their gardens. It was very interesting to hear that many changes took place in the garden after the seeds were distributed to students. Initially, some of them were did not know how to sow the seeds, but now they are talking about growth, pests and plant diseases, how to solve them, how to hand pollinate if pumpkin is not seen in the plant, how to use the cow urine and ash to control pests etc. With this opportunity to share their experiences, they learnt several new things from each other about gardening. The solutions suggested to protect the gardens from livestock were to use their mother's old sarees as fence, putting lantana bushes around the gardens or planting curry leaf or moringa plants on the borders, etc. Finally, everyone accepted the idea of saree fencing which is easy to get from their mothers and relatives. The idea of saree fencing was implemented by many students.

At the cluster level meeting, several issues and plans to solve them were also discussed in detail. Solutions for stunted growth, ways to control sucking pests and how to retain the moisture when there is water scarcity, were some of the important points discussed.





**Students Cluster meetings** 

#### **New vehicle to support KGP**

Anisha has been working with school students in remote and interior villages for implementing kitchen garden projects. Many villages are not connected with any means of transportation. There are no buses or shared autos plying in these villages. Many schools are located far away and we have to cross the forest and face the fear of wild animals' attack to reach the schools. All these years, Anisha was hiring a car for its team to travel and to carry the training materials to the schools. This year, Anisha was fortunate to buy a new off-road vehicle with the help of Anisha's supporters. Entire team is happy that after working in the remote areas for several years, Anisha has its own vehicle to their aid.

Below is the picture of the new vehicle along with all farming tools being worshiped on Ayudha Pooja Day, a festival to clean, worship and give a day's rest to the tools. Anisha's team and their vehicles are also seen in the picture.



**Bolero Neo N10** 



Tools festival (Ayudha pooja) celebrated at Anisha

#### **b.** Educational Support Program

Many children from small and marginal farmers' families drop out from school after 7<sup>th</sup> grade as they cannot pay the high tuition fees charged by private high schools (grades 8th to 10th). In order to encourage these children to continue their education and not to enter the labour market, Anisha identifies them and helps them resume their education. This year, 33 children were supported to continue from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> grade and 3 students from 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. These 36 children's tuition fees, uniforms and other school supplies were provided by Anisha.

Anisha also supported the underprivileged students studying in government higher primary schools by providing them notebooks. 300 students from schools in Bidarahalli, Kadamburu, Anthoniyar kovil, Godest Nagar, Sandanapalya high school received these notebooks.



Books distributed to Kadambur Government Higher Primary School

In 2023, headmasters from Sandanapalya School identified three students who did not continue their education as their parents could not pay school fees and buy books. Anisha supported these students to resume school by paying tuition fees and with school supplies. Another boy was orphaned by his own parents after they both entered a second marriage and left this boy uncared. As a result, this boy discontinued school and stayed with his grandparents. Anisha supported him to continue his education. Some of the other reasons for school dropouts are alcoholic parents, separated parents, remarried parents, single mothers, landless families, earning members who fall sick, etc. Anisha identifies such children and supports them to go back to school.



Sponsored children

Anisha organized summer camps and exposure tours for these children. 36 students were taken for an educational and exposure tour to historical places like Somanathapuram, Talakad, Barachukki. These children were happy and enjoyed the tour. All the students are continuing their education supported by Anisha.



This year, our animators identified one 9<sup>th</sup> grade student from our Kitchen Garden Projects who were discontinued schools as their parents were not able to buy books. Anisha bought him books and helped him to return back to school.



Bylore High School Student

#### 3. Sustainable Organic Farming

In 2023, farmers ploughed and kept the land ready for sowing before monsoons. Fortunately, we also received early monsoons and that was helpful to carry out farming activities in time. As the land was already prepared for sowing, peanuts, along with various intercrops (pigeon pea, cowpea, field bean, castor, vegetables, Niger etc.) were sown. Unfortunately, millet and maize growing farmers could not sow in time in the rainfed land. So, the sowing was delayed for maize and hence did not get the expected yield. However, farmers who sowed millets had a good yield and sufficient fodder for their cattle. Due to delay in sowing in the millet fields, farmers lost the intercrops sown in these fields. Every year farmers lose their crops due to changes in the climate.

#### a. Organic farmers meeting

A two-day training on Nutritional Food Security Through Organic Agriculture was held and 52 farmers, mostly women attended this meeting in 2022. As a follow up, Anisha's staff visited the fields and gave farming tips to farmers wherever required. As a result, the changes in their farms were visible. Many of them started to collect cow urine and used it to control

pests. One farmer prepared panchagavya (organic fertilizer/pesticides) and used it in the maize crop, both for plant growth and pest control. He was very satisfied and shared his experience with other farmers. Hearing this, two women farmers collected panchagavya from Anisha and sprayed their field beans to control the bollworm and the chili crop to control curl disease. They were also satisfied with this Panchagavya. Many farmers continue doing organic farming.



Farmers meeting

#### b. Women Self Help group

The women's self-help groups are carrying out credit and saving activities. Women take loan from the Sangha during farming season, and repay it later. Anisha staff continue to help them in accounting and bookkeeping. These families are also active in our kitchen garden program and practice organic farming in their fields. This group was also taken for an exposure tour for 30 women during the year.

The women's group was taken to an agriculture mela at Suttur near Mysore. It was a great day for the women to come out of their village and enjoy themselves with their peers. Different agricultural models and medicinal plants were displayed. They identified many plants in the region that they never used as medicine. They learnt about the medicinal plants and their benefits. Women were interested in the one-acre farming model and expressed that they can also do it if there is regular water supply. Women expressed that the tour was helpful and learnt many things related to farming.



#### Women's group at the Agriculture Mela

#### c. Native Seed Conservation and production

One of the central activities of Anisha is conserving native seeds collected from different sources. Seed plays a vital role in agriculture and without seeds there is no farming. Most of the seeds are produced during monsoons. After the first rains, we plough the land and sow cover crops seeds. If there is no rain, we irrigate with sprinklers. After 2 months, the cover crops are chopped with a rotavator and mixed with the soil. Normally, three to four ploughing is done. If there is timely rain, sowing will also be on time. Otherwise, the sowing will be delayed. Before the start of the rainy season, seeds are selected for seed production and a germination test will be carried out before sowing. Small plots are sown for each variety as the space is limited for seed production.

During the year, we produced 165 varieties of seeds like millets, minor millets and vegetable varieties. Many varieties and a higher quantity of vegetable seeds are produced for distribution to the students and families of the Kitchen Garden Program. This year, the seed harvest was more than expected of all varieties of seeds sown. The seeds were harvested, dried and stored in the seed bank.

The students from KGP also contributed seeds to the seed bank. At present, we have more than 336 varieties of native seeds preserved in the seed bank. They are, 62 varieties of finger millets, 9 varieties of minor millets, 15 brinjal varieties, okra, tomato, chili, climbing bean, cluster bean, winged bean, snake gourd, bottle gourd, pumpkin, ridge gourd, butter sponge, bitter gourd, beans, oil seeds, to name a few.



Photos of seed bank

#### 4. Activities at Resource Centre

## a. Residential Training held at Anisha Resource Centre for one Government School students participated in Kitchen Garden Project

In December 2023, 28 students, three teachers and two parents from MT Doddi village Government Higher Primary School attended a 2-day residential camp organised at Anisha Resource.

The objective of this camp is to train the students on different aspects of organic gardening. On the first day, there were practical demonstrations on organic kitchen gardening methodology followed by a documentary film on environment and Anisha's kitchen garden project. At the early hours (5:30 am to 6:30 am) of the second day, all the children sat on the ground and silently observed the chirping of birds and sounds of various human activities as darkness surrendered to light. Then the group continued to move around the area for bird watching around the fence of Anisha's resource centre where a pathway is created for this purpose. The students saw many birds and butterflies while walking while the resource person explained in detail about residential and non-residential birds living in Anisha. Finally, they visited Anisha's seed bank. The students were surprised to see the seed bank. They learned more about our native seeds and their importance. Everyone was happy and interesting interactions took place in the seed bank. Students share about their garden, and how they are conserving seeds. All the students enjoyed staying in the tents and sleeping on the bed without any fear.

#### M.T. Doddi School students residential training at Anisha





Valli taking class for students at seed bank

#### b. Students Azim Premji University (APU) for Field Immersion

This is the third-year where students from Azim Premji University are visiting Anisha. Eight students camped at Anisha for a 2-week field immersion program. Prior to the start of M.A Development studies, the University sends the students to different NGOs to get firsthand experience of rural livelihood. Anisha schedules the activities for the students and coordinates with the different stakeholders like panchayat members, presidents, hospitals both government and private, cooperative societies and how they are functioning in the region. They also interacted with farmers, farm workers, stone cutters, tribal communities, self-help groups, to understand their livelihood.



Valli interaction with APU students

#### c. Nature camp for Special children

This is the first camp that Anisha organized for special children of different age groups. Parents and teachers were also present at this three-day residential camp. The children were

from Saadhya Special school from Tamil Nadu. Different activities were organized - nature walk, small trek to the hills, bird watch, watching sunrise and sunset, sleeping in village rope cot and seeing the stars and the sky in the night. The children enjoyed all the activities and it was a delightful sight to watch the parents and teachers' happiness too.

Teacher of Saadhya Special School expressed that they enjoyed their stay and the activities. She said the students learned many things at the camp. Especially their activities of daily living, attention and imaginary things are improved. She said, next time they will bring more children and parents. Special thanks to Deepak for his care.

#### 5. Maintenance of Resource Centre

The Resource Centre's solar panels, batteries, fencing, borewell, building, motor and other equipment are well maintained.

In 2023, the borewell had to be repaired multiple times due to shortage of underground water. The motor breaks down when it runs in dry conditions and we had to spend more on repairing it. Last year, we noticed moisture accumulating on the walls of the main building of the seed bank, meeting hall and library. In order to protect building an additional hall on the first floor using tile bricks and a sloping roof so that water runs down. And the remaining roof of the building was covered with buff sheets to avoid water seeping into the building. After this construction, we did not notice any moisture or leakages during the rainy season. A water tank was also installed adjacent to the main building. The construction is completed and the space is used for meetings and as a guest house. Below are the photos of the newly constructed hall.



#### 6. Anisha Ambulance service

Till February 2021 there was no ambulance in the region everyone was depending for ambulance from Kollegal for emergencies. In February 2021 Anisha's ambulance service started and saved several lives. During the year 8 people's lives was saved from cardiac arrest and accidents.

#### 7. Visitors to Anisha

- 17 students and a Professor from Washington University, USA visited Anisha to learn organic farming and local culture.
- 8 students from Azim Premji University visited Anisha for 15 days to know about Anisha and its work on rural livelihood and its stakeholders.
- Mr. Christian Boll & Mrs.Franzisha visited Anisha to learn about an organic kitchen garden project.
- TVS Academy, Hosur School came to Anisha for a 3-day educational tour.
- 28 students and their 3 teachers and two parents from M.T.Doddi, Government Higher Primary School, from Hanur Taluk, Chamarajanagar District, attended residential training to learn more about organic kitchen gardens and native seed bank.
- Saadhya, School for special children, from Tamil Nadu spent three days in Anisha's nature camp specially designed for special children.
- Anisha organized Teacher's camp for two schools i.e., Vagbharathi Vidya Samsthe, Hosahundi, Mysore along with Arivu School, Mysore 14 teachers were in this camp.
- TVS Academy, Tumkur School visited Anisha on a 2-day educational tour.

#### 8. Conclusion

This year, the kitchen garden project, seed conservation, farmers meet, women activities, educational support, additional four schools and with 80 students was planned, and achieved. This year, a 2-day residential training was organized for government school children. Teachers also volunteered to participate. Anisha is planning to bring more government school students for training in sustainable organic farming and to address the various environmental issues. We hope to do more training in future. Anisha resource centre is the backbone for its Kitchen Garden Program in supplying the required native seeds for distribution in time. The service of Anisha's Ambulance saved several lives. Anisha was successful in achieving all the planned activities this year.

#### 9. THANK YOU

We thank all the supporters of Anisha, who have been supporting us for several years. Without your support we were not able to continue and extend our work. Our sincere thanks to all the individuals and organizations for supporting Anisha.

## Anisha supporters from different institutions and individuals both international and national.

- 1. Helmer Family: Supports for 'Agricultural Sustainability through Children's Organic Kitchen Garden Project', general expenses of the resource centre and partly for purchase of four-wheeler.
- 2. Guru Krupa Foundation supported partly for Agricultural Sustainability through Children's Organic Kitchen Garden Project, Phase 2 year 2.

- 3. Schock Family Foundation supported partly for Agricultural Sustainability through Children's Organic Kitchen Garden Project, phase 2 year 2.
- 4. Susila Dharma Germany General maintenance and for repair work of the resource centre.
- 5. Susila Dharam USA- Educational support program for school children
- 6. Subud Woodstock, Susila Dharma Canada, Paul Family Foundation, Mrs. Marilyn Schirk, S D Netherland and Susila Dharma International Association supported to purchase four-wheeler for Anisha.
- 7. V Marck Foundation Received support for general Anisha's program



Thank you from Anisha