

Annual Report

of

ANISHA

April 2021 to March 2022



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Introduction

The second wave of covid-19 was very severe and hit the families hard. The spread of covid virus was faster than the first wave. Many people were admitted to hospitals and to quarantine centers - some recovered and some could not. On the other hand, people who recovered had post covid symptoms and serious health issues. It took months and even a year to come back to normal health. This was the condition everywhere and Anisha provided 24 hour ambulance service all through the pandemic by transporting covid patients to hospitals and quarantine centers. Anisha also supported the patients and families with counseling and food kits. This pandemic caused substantial loss to lives and livelihood.

Due to continuous closures and lockdowns, people could not get out for work and earn a living. The situation was pathetic. So Anisha mobilized funds for 3000 dry ration kits, masks and sanitizer for the very needy families. The entire process of identifying the beneficiaries, sourcing dry rations, packing and distributing the kits was carried out with the support of the community. School teachers, youth and women groups, local leaders and volunteers in the surrounding villages helped in this process. Small groups were formed to do every task and each group delivered their responsibility with utmost care and dedication.

Anisha also continued to work with farming communities, holding sangha meetings, visiting home gardens, managing seed production at resource centers and other related activities. School children suffered for almost 18 months. The schools were closed for longer durations. Some schools offered online classes which many families could not get access to due to lack of infrastructure for online classes. The elementary school children were affected severely to the extent that they forgot the basic reading and writing skills and so they dropped out of school. At this time, Anisha intervened and identified the dropout children. The students and the families were counseled and encouraged the children to resume schooling. Anisha's support to the community during covid was commendable.

1. Field Program

Organic Farming

With several years of Anisha's work in the field of organic farming, farmers who are part of Anisha's program were able to continue their farming activities on time. The year had good rainfall and there were more people to work in the farms as the families had returned to their villages due to covid and lockdowns. With proper planning for both Kharif and Rabi seasons, farmers could harvest two main crops and vegetables. There was additional produce saved in the families' food banks.

Students Organic Kitchen Garden Program

The Students organic kitchen garden program was very successful. Even though we could not regularly visit the schools/families due to covid, children continued to grow their kitchen gardens. They harvested varieties of vegetables, saved the seeds and generously contributed the excess seeds (about 600 grams) to Anisha's seed bank. We were able to source more than 6 varieties of seeds such as bottle gourd, pumpkin, ridge gourd, climber bean, bitter gourd and brinjal. The families are also actively involved in gardening, and many of them have started growing vegetables in their farms.

In 2016, Agricultural Sustainability through children’s Kitchen Garden project was inaugurated by Ms. Apsibha Rani, the then Chief Executive Officer of Chamarajanagar District. During the inauguration she had planted two fruit saplings at Kadambur Village Government Higher Primary School and those plants are now yielding lemons. The school is using these lemons in their mid-day meals program and the excess is taken home by the children. It was a great sight to see these plant yields.



2016: Ms. Rani planting the saplings



2021: children showing the lemon harvest



Top: Ponnachi High School students receiving momentos. The pictures of their gardens were enlarged and distributed as momentos. They were very happy to see their garden full of vegetables.

Left: Parents who supported their children in the kitchen garden showing the seeds saved for the next season.

2. Educational Support Program

The schools reopened during the year, and regular in-person classes were held from August. Due to covid, many families lost their jobs and there was no income. This affected their livelihood

and had a heavy impact on their children's education. Anisha intervened and was able to support 50 students to continue their education by aiding them with school fees, uniforms and school supplies. Apart from regular sponsorship in 2021-2022, Anisha also supported Government Lower Primary School of Goddess Nagar with 32 sets of uniforms, school bags, sanitizer and reusable masks.



GLPS, Goddess Nagar school children with uniforms sponsored by Anisha

Environmental Camp: After a break of 18 months, students were happy to take part in the one-day environmental camp. 52 students attended the camp. Deputy Conservator of Forest and a retired professor from Kollegal Mahadeshwara College were invited as resource persons for the camp. Student backpacks and fruit saplings were distributed to all the participants. The joy of being in the camp was visible on their faces.



Campers and Resource People at the campsite.

A story about the Environment Camp was published in Prajavani, a local Newspaper

ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಶ್ಲಾಘನೀಯ: ಡಿಸಿಎಫ್ ಸಾವಯವ ಕೃಷಿ: ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿ

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ವಾರ್ತೆ

ಹನೂರು: 'ಇಳುವರಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಕೃಷಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಸಾಯನಿಕ ಬಳಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಇಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಸಾವಯವ ಕೃಷಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅರಿವು ಮೂಡಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸಾಧನ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಶ್ಲಾಘನೀಯವಾದುದು' ಎಂದು ಮಲಮಹದೇಶ್ವರ ವಸ್ತದಾ ಮದರ ಉಪ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ವಿ. ಎದುಸುಂದರಲಿಂಗ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಮಾರ್ಕಳ್ಳಿ ಸಮೀಪದ ಕಡಬೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಾವಯವ ಕೃಷಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾವಯವ ಕೃಷಿ ಕಾಲಾ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದ ತರುಬೇಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರು ಮಾತನಾಡಿದರು.

'ಕಡಿಮೆ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿಕ ಲಾಭ ಗಳಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಇಂದು ಕೃಷಿಗೆ ಯಥೇಚ್ಛವಾಗಿ ರಾಸಾಯನಿಕ ಗೊಬ್ಬರವನ್ನು ಬಳಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಪರಿಣಾಮ ದಿನಗಳಂತೆ ತಿನ್ನುವ ಪ್ರತಿ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥ ವಿಷಮಯವಾಗಿ ಪರಿವರ್ತಿಯಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಇದನ್ನು ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಿಸದಿದ್ದರೆ ಇಡೀ ಭೂಮಂಡಲವೇ ಅಪಾಯವನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸುವ ಸಂದರ್ಭ ಎದುರಾಗಲಿದೆ' ಎಂದರು.

'ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಸಾವಯವ ಕೃಷಿ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ರೈತರು ರಾಸಾಯನಿಕ ಗೊಬ್ಬರದ ಮೊರೆ ಹೋಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಮಕ್ಕಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾವಯವ ಕೃಷಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅರಿವು ಮೂಡಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸವಾಗಿ ಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಶಾಲಾ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ, ಮನೆಯ ಹಿತ್ತಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ತಾವೇ ತನ್ನ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳನ್ನು ಬೆಳೆಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ



ಹನೂರು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದ ಸಾವಯವ ಕೃಷಿ ತರುಬೇಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಡಿಸಿಎಫ್ ಎದುಸುಂದರಲಿಂಗ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಬ್ಯಾಗ್ ವಿತರಿಸಿದರು

ವಂತಾಗಬೇಕು. ಬಾಲ್ಯದಲ್ಲೇ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಸಾವಯವ ಕೃಷಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮನವರಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಡುವುದರಿಂದ ಅವರಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯನ್ನು ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದು. ಇದನ್ನು ಮನಗಂಡು ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಸಾವಯವ ಕೃಷಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅರಿವು ಮೂಡಿಸುವ ಕಾರ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿರುವುದು ಹೆಮ್ಮೆಯ ವಿಚಾರವಾಗಿದೆ' ಎಂದರು.

ಇತಿಹಾಸ ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪನ ಮಹಾದೇವ ಶಂಕರವುರ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, 'ಸಾವಯವ ಕೃಷಿ ಬೆಳೆ ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ಬೀಜ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ಕಾರ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರತವಾಗಿದೆ. ಹಿಂದಿನ ತಲೆಮಾರಿನ ರೈತರು ಬೆಳೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ಬೀಜ ಇಂದು ಕಣ್ಮರೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಪುನಃ ಅವುಗಳನ್ನು ಪತ್ತೆ ಹಚ್ಚಿ ಅದನ್ನು ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸುವ ಕಾರ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ರಾಸಾಯನಿಕ ಮುಕ್ತ ಆಹಾರ ಧಾನ್ಯ ಕೃಷಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಮೂಡಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಸಂತಸ ವಿಚಾರ' ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಮುಖ್ಯಾಂಶಗಳು

- ರಾಸಾಯನಿಕ ಕೃಷಿ ಪದ್ಧತಿ: ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಅರಿವು ಮೂಡಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸವಾಗಲಿ
- ವಿಷಮುಕ್ತ ಆಹಾರ ಸೇವನೆ ಇಂದಿನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅಗತ್ಯ
- ಡಿಸಿಎಫ್ ಕಿವಿಮಾತು

ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ರಾಜನ್ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, '15 ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ದೇಶಿ ತಳಿ ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ಬೀಜ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಮಾರ್ಕಳ್ಳಿ, ಪೊನ್ನಾಚಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರ ಬೆಟ್ಟ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ 32 ಕಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 2,500 ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ 7 ದಿವದ ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ಬೀಜಗಳನ್ನು ವಿತರಿಸಿ ಕೈತೊಟ್ಟ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ' ಎಂದರು.

ಈ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥ ವಲಿಯಮ್ಮಾಳ್, ಉಪ ವಲಿಯ ಅಲಕ್ಷಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಶ್ರೀಧರ್, ಸೋಮೇಶ್ವರ್ ಇದ್ದರು.

3. Self-help group

Both women and men's self-help groups held regular fortnightly/monthly meetings to discuss their savings and credit activities. Due to covid and unemployment, members could not contribute to group savings, rather took loan from the savings for their medical expenses and farming activities. Anisha extended its support to the sanghas by providing 20 sheep, one for every member. After 6 to 8 months of rearing them, these sheep were sold and the proceeds were invested in buying baby lamb and the profit was spent on household needs. The members continued their kitchen gardens, used the yields for their families, saved seeds, and also distributed the surplus to other members.



Beneficiaries of sheep

Sadly, the Sangha lost one of its members due to covid. She was a regular and active member of the sangha. She was participating in all the meetings and programs. We pray for her soul to rest in peace.

4. Covid-19 Relief work

People were severely hit by the second wave of Covid-19. Many were hospitalized and many lost their family members. There was little or no income, and the families were struggling. To support them, Anisha distributed 3000 dry ration kits to the neediest families in the region.

It was challenging to procure and distribute these kits as there was shortage of food products in the market, increased prices, shortage of sanitizers/masks, travel restrictions and less manpower. Distribution was also delayed as many volunteers were affected by covid and could not come out to help. Aged and sick people could not collect the ration kits from the distribution centers. However, few volunteers helped to reach the kits to these families' homes on bikes/bicycles. With all these difficulties, we could somehow manage to distribute the kits to the beneficiaries.



Families receiving their dry ration kits at the distribution centers.



Case study: Ambika lives in Godestnagar village with her three children. First son is in 12 grade (Pre-University Course), 2nd son in 10th grade and 3rd son in 9th grade, all studying in Martalli. She lost her husband many years ago and she manages her family with her only income. She works in the farms during farming seasons and there is no income during non-farming seasons. Even after working in the farms during covid, she had to wait for 2-3 months to get her wages. She was affected by covid and had returned from the quarantine center worried about running the family. When the dry ration kit was distributed, she was very happy and said she need not worry about feeding the family for at least a month and the kit came in at the right time.

5. Awareness program on safety measures of Covid-19

Many Covid-19 awareness programs were held at the local village level and in neighboring regions. We discussed the precautionary measures, importance of vaccination and motivated people to get vaccinated. In many villages, people were not comfortable wearing masks, but they maintained the stipulated distance when meeting people. Cotton washable masks and sanitizers were provided to school students. Separate Covid awareness programs for the Youth were also held.



Youth participating in the Covid awareness program

6. Ambulance Service

There was no ambulance service in the region till 2021. Anisha ambulance service came in as a gift to the people of the region during these difficult times and saved many lives from covid infection. Rajan, one of Anisha's staff, was dedicated to transporting covid patients in and out of the hospitals and quarantine centers. Even when covid-19 spread was at its peak, Rajan was serving the community round the clock and had to be quarantined from his own family members for months together. The community applauds Rajan for his commendable service. His dedication and commitment to the people was noticed and Prajavani, a local newspaper published a story about Rajan's selfless service.

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ

ಕಡಬೂರು ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ ಆಂಬುಲೆನ್ಸ್ ಸೇವೆ

ನೋಂಕಿತರ ನೆರವಿಗೆ ಶ್ರಮಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ರಾಜನ್

• ಬಿ.ಬಿ.ಸವರಾಜು

ಹನ್ನೂರು ರಕ್ತಸಂಬಂಧಿಗಳೇ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಹಿಂಬದಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಇಂದಿನ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಹಾಗೂ ರಾತ್ರಿಯನ್ನೇ ಕುಟುಂಬದಿಂದ ದೂರವಿದ್ದು ಜೀವದ ಹಂಗು ಲೆಕ್ಕಿಸದ ಆಂಬುಲೆನ್ಸ್ ಚಾಲಕರೊಬ್ಬರು ಕೋರೋನಾ ಸೋಂಕಿತರ ಜೀವ ಉಳಿಸಲು ಶ್ರಮಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ದಕ್ಷಿಣದ ಮಧ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಇಲ್ಲಿನ ಜನ ತುರ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗಾಗಿ ಹನ್ನೂರು, ಕಾಮಗರೆ ಅಥವಾ ಕೊಳ್ಳೇಗಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಬರಬೇಕೆತ್ತು ಅರ್ಥವಾಗಿ ಸಬಲರಾಗಿರುವವರು ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ವಾಹನದ ಮೂಲಕ ಬರುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಆದರೆ, ಬಡವರು ನಿರ್ಗತಿಕರಿಗೆ ತುರ್ತು ವಾಹನ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಕನಸಿನ ಮಾತಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಇದನ್ನು ಮನಗಂಡ ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥೆ ವಲ್ಲಿಯಮ್ಮಾಳ್ ಏಪ್ರಿಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಆಂಬುಲೆನ್ಸ್ ಒದಗಿಸಿದ್ದರು. ಈಗ ಅದು ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಸೋಂಕಿತರ ಜೀವನಾಡಿಯಾಗಿದೆ.

'ಆರಂಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಂಬುಲೆನ್ಸ್‌ಗೆ



ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ನೀಡಿರುವ ಆಂಬುಲೆನ್ಸ್ ಜತೆಗೆ ರಾಜನ್

ಸ್ಥಳೀಯರೊಬ್ಬರನ್ನು ಚಾಲಕರನ್ನಾಗಿ ನಿಯೋಜಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ, ಸೋಂಕು ಕಾಣಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಂತೆ ಚಾಲಕ ಬರಲು ನಿರಾಕರಿಸಿದ್ದರಿಂದ ನಾನೇ ವಾಹನ ಚಲಾಯಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇನೆ. ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಯಾವ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಾದರೂ ಕರೆ ಬರುತ್ತದೆ. ನಾನೇ ಅವರನ್ನು ಕೊಳ್ಳೇಗಾಲ, ಕಾಮಗರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೈಸೂರಿಗೆ ಕರೆದೊಯ್ಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇನೆ. ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಪ್ರತಿನಿತ್ಯ ನಾನೇ ಹೋಂಐಸೋಲೇಷನ್ ಆಗಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಆಂಬುಲೆನ್ಸ್ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗಾಗಿ ಇಂತಿಷ್ಟು ದರ ಎಂದು

ನಿಗದಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಆದರೆ ನಮಗೆ ಕರೆ ಮಾಡುವವರೆಲ್ಲರೂ ಬಡವರೇ ಆಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಅವರ ಬಳಿ ಇಷ್ಟೇ ಕೊಡಿ ಎಂದು ಕೇಳಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಅವರು ಕೊಟ್ಟಷ್ಟು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು' ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ರಾಜನ್. ಸೋಂಕಿತರನ್ನು ಕರೆದೊಯ್ಯುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ರಾಜನ್‌ಗೆ ಮಗನ ಬಳಿ ಬರಲು ಆಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ಪತ್ನಿಕೆ ಕೊಠಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಚಾಲಕರಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ವಾಹನವನ್ನು ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ, ಇಂಥ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಹನವನ್ನು

ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಿದರೆ ಜನರ ಸಾವು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಲಿದೆ. ಜನರ ಸೇವೆಗಂದು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಮೇಲೆ ಅದು ಜನರಿಗೆ ಬಳಕೆಯಾಗಬೇಕು ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ಅನಿಷಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥೆ ವಲ್ಲಿಯಮ್ಮಾಳ್.

ಕೋರೋನಾದಿಂದಾಗಿ ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ ಲಾಕ್‌ಡೌನ್ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾರ್ಚ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇಂಟ್ ಜೋಸೆಫ್ ಹೆಲ್ತ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್ ಸಹಾಯದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸುಮಾರು 4 ಸಾವಿರ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳಿಗೆ ಉಚಿತವಾಗಿ ಆಹಾರದ ಕಿಟ್ ವಿತರಿಸಿದ್ದರು. ಈ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಕಾರ್ಯ ದಿಂದಾಗಿ ವಲ್ಲಿಯಮ್ಮಾಳ್ ಅವರು 'ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ಸಾಧಕರು' ಗೌರವಕ್ಕೂ ಪಾತ್ರರಾಗಿದ್ದರು.

'ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ' ವರದಿ ಪ್ರೇರಣೆ: ಹನ್ನೂರು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಆಂಬುಲೆನ್ಸ್ ಕೊರತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ 'ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ'ಯಲ್ಲಿ ವರದಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಗೊಂಡಿತ್ತು. ಇದನ್ನು ಗಂಭೀರವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಿದ್ದ ನಾನು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಒದಗಿಸಿದ್ದ ಆಂಬುಲೆನ್ಸ್ ಸೇವೆ ಈಗ ಸಾರ್ಥಕವೆನಿಸುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ವಲ್ಲಿಯಮ್ಮಾಳ್ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

The ambulance service is used during accidents, emergencies such as heart attacks, depression and anxiety. In principle, ambulance service is offered to all free of cost. However, Anisha recovers the basic costs towards fuel and driver's wages only from affordable families.

7. Seed production at resource center

Anisha's Seed Bank is growing every year. In 2021, we were able to multiply more than 300 varieties of seeds at our Resource Center. Due to continuous rain, the seeds that were ready for harvest started sprouting and that led to a loss of many varieties of ragi and vegetable seeds. However, the master seeds from the seed bank were sown in grow bags and thus we could multiply the seeds of those varieties. Though the varieties multiplied, the quantities were small this year. Students from the kitchen garden project also contributed to the seed bank. They gave us seeds like okra, climbing bean, bottle gourd, pumpkin, bitter gourd, ridge gourd, etc. Apart from donating, Anisha's Seed Bank also sells vegetable seeds.



Harvesting sprouted ragi at the resource center

8. Resource Center Development and Maintenance

The maintenance work at the Resource Center is an ongoing regular activity. The rainwater harvest tank, water pump, bore well, solar batteries and panels, and cows need routine care. Every year, the maintenance costs of solar fencing is increasing. So, in March 2022, a chain link fencing was placed along the solar fencing, and with this arrangement we can expect a reduction in the maintenance costs. The rain water tank leakage was also repaired and the tank is in good condition.

9. Students from APU

As part of the Field Immersion Program, students from Azim Premji University visited ANISHA for two weeks. The Field Immersion Program is a component of their field practice for the first semester M.A Dev students. The purpose of this visit was (a) To observe and reflect on the everyday living of rural Indian communities in their natural settings (b) To familiarize the working of local institutions, including community based institutions.

A 13-day schedule was planned for the students to get an insight on the rural livelihood and the functioning of the various local institutions. The program started with an introduction about Anisha's activities through audio-video presentations, visits to native seed production plots, and seed bank. This was followed by visits to government schools, private high schools, youth and children centers, government Primary Health Center, private clinics, meetings with Panchayat Development Officials, Vice President and members of Martalli Panchayat, Anganawadi staff, discussions with teachers, meeting individual farmers, observation and interaction with self-help groups, tribal villages, tribal residential school teachers, different communities like lingayat, SC and ST, Christians, and discussions with all levels of local leaders. Many students were unaware of the rural issues. Initially, it was hard for the students to understand the language and the rural region. However, they overcame this after two days and were actively involved in the activities.

They were interacting and asking questions with the different stakeholders and were sensitive to certain issues. Overall, the students were interested in learning and understanding the issues. It was a very well behaved and interesting group to work with.

We had the following two Feedback questions for the students:

1. What did you like the most?

Answers: We liked the plan and the structure of the Field Immersion Program. It was well executed. Hospitality was good. We had the liberty to choose and explore. There were no restrictions. We were treated as adults and freedom to decide for ourselves is appreciated. We could explore the different perspectives of various stakeholders and get a larger overview of the region.

2. What is your key learning?

The experience was overwhelming. It brought us out of the small bubble we live in. We are fortunate to experience how people lived with minimal facilities. One thing to take away is that we would try to get deeper into the problems before judging them or making our own conclusions by knowing things from a bird's eye view. The impact of chemical farming creates complex issues in terms of loss of natural diversity, deteriorating health and creating socio-economic inequalities.



Students in seed production plot at Anisha

10.

Conclusion

In 2021, till October we could not focus on field work as we were working towards covid awareness, relief programs, and ambulance service. After the schools reopened, we visited a few schools and discussed the progress of the student's kitchen garden. We also held discussions with the students on the covid safety measures. The educational support program is very helpful for the needy students. Most of our sponsored students are High School graduates and are currently

enrolled for teachers training, nurse training or studying in colleges/universities. Women and farmers are continuing their organic farming and backyard kitchen gardens. The APU students' field immersion program was constructive for our own learning too. Most of the time this year, we worked at the resource center in seed production and other related activities. All our activities are well connected with food security, conservation of native seeds, encouraging kitchen gardens, training in organic farming, student's kitchen gardens in schools, supporting self-help groups. The target is limited but the reach is widespread.

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