PREVENTION OF SCHOOL DROPOUT

Sam Kannappan P.E
Co-Chair
IDCA Second South Regional Conference
Houston, Texas
May 6, 2012

Education status in Tamil Nadu

- Over 50% of children drop out of school by 9th standard
- Only 32% of women and 39% of men have completed 10th standard
- 63% of small schools do not have sufficient teachers for number of students
- 20% of the schools do not have toilet facilities at all for girls and 52% of the schools do not have usable toilet.

Education status continued

- 68% of children in class 5 can not read a class 2 text book
- 75% of class 6 children can not do division

Approach of TNF Project

- Adopt six panchayat union primary schools
- Provide infrastuructural improvments
- Provide para-teachers to improve learning
- Provide computer education
- Introduce extracurricular programs: music
- Bring hygiene and sanitation facilities, with running and drinking water

Approach of TNF Project continued

- Improve nutrition through supplementary nutrition
- Provide free transportation for upper primary/high school

Impacts of TNF pilot project

- 300 students in 6 schools benefited per year
- Every child is enrolled and attending school
- School regularity increased from 36% in 2009 to 70% in 2011
- Children are keen to learn with understanding of personal hygiene

Acknowledgement

- Kalanjiyam Trust, Tamil Nadu, India
- (data presented are from Kalanjiyam Trust publication implementing Tamil Nadu Foundation pilot project)
- Tamil Nadu Foundation USA Inc
- Ms.S. Manmathadevi, Executive Director, TNF Center, Chennai
- Dr. Padmini Nathan, Co-Convener, TNF 37th Nation Convention, Houston