MEENA PROGRAMME

Meena is an imaginary role model for girls. Meena is a girl born in an illiterate poor family who discontinued her studies due to family problems and then persuaded education and became a useful citizen of the nation. Meenaprogramme is first initiated in south Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Srilanka) by UNICEF during 1998. In India first initiated in Uttar Pradesh where the literacy rate of women was very low. Meenaprogramme is being implemented in EBB blocks since from 2008-09. After analyzing the data regarding the achievement of Meena groups in the blocks, education department appreciated the task of Meena groups and the programme is extended to non-EBB blocks during 2010-11 and the programmewas conducted in all the districts during 2012-13 also.

Meena clubs includes the selected 5th to 8th standard children of the school. The members of the meena club has been part to mainstream OOSC children. They organized the jathas, visited the homes of out of school children and convinced the parents. They also visited the Home Based centers and shared the joys with CWSN child. They also had been the part of Kishori training. It promotes and facilitates girls education through active participation of the children in school activities. This programme provides an opportunity for girls to

- Exhibit and blossom their hidden talent,
- Acquire effective communication skill and life skills and there by moulding as worthy members of the society.
- The activities organized under this programme enable the children to orient themselves to get education continuously by overcoming the hurdles.
- The Meena teams are rendering their services in bringing back the OOSC to mainstream.

Functions executed by MEENA TEAMS are,

- Meenamela`s at School and District level.
- Mainstreaming the OOSC children
- Preparing local handicrafts.
- Helping the needy children
- Visiting home based children
- The members of Meena team counseled the parents of Out of School Girls.
- Created awareness in community particularly the parents of Out Of School Children.
- They also acted as nodal team in creating awareness among parents on evil practices like child marriage, Dowry system and Girls problem through skits and dramas.
- Organized Meena Puppet Show.
- Role play on different themes related to the issues of gender, girl education, social evils, etc.
- Conducted Mehandi Competition, Rangoli competition and Cycling competition.
- Sessions on Effective use of school library.
- Created pressure among the parents of the dropped out/never enrolled girl child by persuading the members of family /SDMC/GP/TP/ZP.
- Participated in remedial teaching.

**Few Programms organized by MEENA Clubs**

- Organization of different programs in school like world Environment Day (June 5th), World Day Against child labour practice (June 12th), Teachers day (September 5th), Meena day (September 24th), Special Enrolment Drive (After June 25th), National Festivals like Independence Day, Republic Day, Children with Special Needs day (December 3)

- Creating awareness in community and children on the various issues like child marriage, dowry system, superstitions etc. through street play, drama, dance, songs etc.

- Participating in house to house visits of Out of school children and making efforts to bring them back to school.

- Participating in Gram Sabha Children Court

**Progress of Meena Clubs during 2012-13**

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Meena Club children during plantation in Udupi District
A skit by Channagiri block students on Child labour under MeenaMela Program

A skit by Channagiri block students Showing Help line Numbers

A skit by Davanagere south block students under MeenaMela Program

A skit by Davanagere North block students regarding Child marriage under MeenaMela

Meena members performing cultural activities at Shimoga on 13/02/2012

Meena members performing cultural activities at Sagar on 22/12/2012

Meena children of GUPS Ajjavara, Sullia of Dakshina Kannada district MeenaMela in GUPSGandhinagar, Dakshina Kannada district

Meena training conducted at cluster level Mangalore city of Dakshina Kannada district
Meena Programme in Gups, Manchi, Bantwal

Meena Programme of Munch in Gups, Kabaka

**Meena Programme at School Level**

Activities of Meena Manch in Gups, Suribailu, Bantwalof Dakshina Kannada district