

2022 – Priority to education

Letter n° 44 - July 2022

Back to School – Fondation Vonisha



Child reciting the alphabet with his classmates

It's back to school time! Objectif France Inde, Dream India Network and Vonisha Service Foundation are pleased to announce that St. Ignacius with the Back to School project has started welcoming new students.

This project is the result of close collaboration and total dedication of the Vonisha Foundation to the welfare and development of children from migrant and marginalized communities.

Despite the difficulties encountered during the Covid crisis, the success of the previous project encouraged Vonisha Foundation to provide full education for the children. A closed down school was rented and refurbished to accommodate all the children in the Bridge School and Back to School programme.

The project has provided access to free quality education for 200 children aged between 5 and 14 since the beginning of June. In the near future, 250 of them will be able to enter St. Ignacius School.



Buildings of St. Ignacius School



Children having fun on the school swings

These children live in extremely precarious conditions, often in tents, and are not eligible for schooling because they do not know the local languages or have the necessary administrative documents to enter a public school.

Instead of studying, the children were either busy doing household chores, taking care of their younger siblings, or wandering the streets.

At St. Ignacius School, the education is adapted to each child and the teaching is done in English to give them a better future.

OFI and DIN have been closely involved in the creation of this school, which provides a less expensive education than public schools and where the teachers will accompany the pupils over the long term until they reach higher education.

St. Ignacius School is intended to welcome all children from migrant families without distinction. Some renovation work and the purchase of furniture and school equipment are still to be carried out.



Adopt a Teacher & Construction of New Classrooms – SEVAI

“Adopt a Teacher” is a programme aiming to provide a good quality education in English to the disadvantaged children in Bichendarkoil School. Learning English language will motivate the children to speak English without hesitation and build confidence in them. Under this program, OFI will support salaries of two skilled teachers.

OFI is also funding the construction of 3 classrooms and a toilet block here (newsletter n°43). The construction work has been progressing well and the classrooms are almost ready. The project will benefit 125+ children mainly from the migrant community.



Picture of the new building

Project Education - Running cost for 10 ABC Schools



Class photo with the students

The project Education is the continuation of the last years Project “Education during the Pandemic”. Given the situation arising from the Pandemic, this project aims to promote and continue with School Education for rural children in West Bengal.

This project is specifically to address the operational cost of educating 1 500 Primary School Children of age group 3-11 years in 10 schools situated in the backward areas. In the last 2 years, OFI has constructed 6 extra classrooms in this project.

Women & Environment

Femmes & Environment is a Skill Development and livelihood program for the Economic independence and Self Reliance of rural women in the coastal villages of Nagapattinam, Karuvi and Vedharajapuram in Tamil Nadu. Under this, 100 SHGs will be created with 1500 women, 150 women will be trained in tailoring, and a drinking water pump will be installed. OFI promotes awareness about environment and women and will renovate a water tank with more than 200 acres of land for cultivation by women.

Since a year, OFI has renovated 9 tanks with 3 NGOs (SEVAI, GRAMIUM and ISSAI) which helped irrigate and cultivate 1 800 acres of land.



Graduation ceremony

Sponsor a child's education

We are seeking your support to sponsor children to continue their education. Click [here](#) to find out more and make a donation.