

Vision:

“BSAC is committed to empowering marginalized communities to lead a dignified life”

Mission:

To provide and empower Children, Young Adults and Women (whatever is suitable) by,

- Providing access to reach and attain the quality education/Higher Education/Vocational Skills and Empowerment programs.
- Promote & Protect Child Rights, Gender Justice in all levels
- Empowering the youth as a Community Leaders
- Fostering a society where everyone has equal opportunities and rights.

Mental Health Workshops

This quarter, we conducted a range of workshops focusing on mental health awareness and community well-being:

1. Special Workshops: Sessions on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), depression awareness for Anganwadi workers, and violence/drug abuse prevention provided vital insights for the community.
2. Community and Child-Focused Input Sessions: Topics like healthy relationships, managing emotions, and the importance of early intervention were discussed, equipping participants with tools to build emotional resilience.



Reminders



Mental Health Festival: "All is Well"

This vibrant community festival in Vyasarpadi brought together over 150 participants from all walks of life. Through puppet shows, skits, cultural performances, and creative workshops, the event sparked open conversations about emotional well-being. The festival's goal was to normalize mental health discussions and foster a supportive community culture.

Innovations in Education and Skill Development

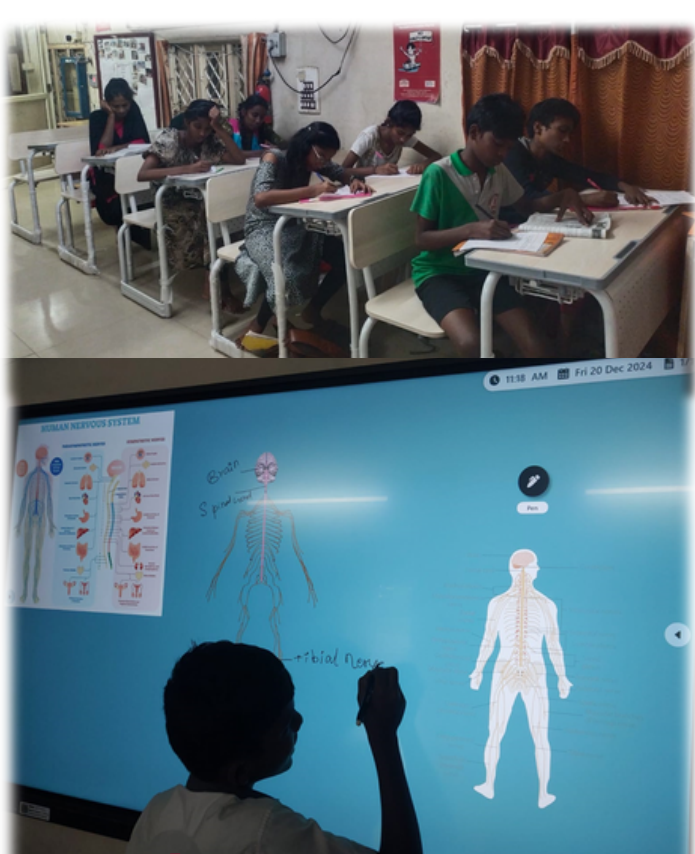
We made strides in improving learning and extracurricular opportunities:

Smart Board Implementation: Enhanced interactive learning for children attending our coaching classes.

Skill-Building Activities: Western dance and carrom classes provided avenues for creative and recreational growth.

Collaborations: The Sanchari Volunteer Group conducted special training sessions for students in grades 6 to 12, covering skill development topics.

Celebrating their 10th Anniversary, the Sanchari group hosted competitions for our children and distributed gifts, creating cherished memories.



Youth-Led Initiatives: Empowering the Next Generation



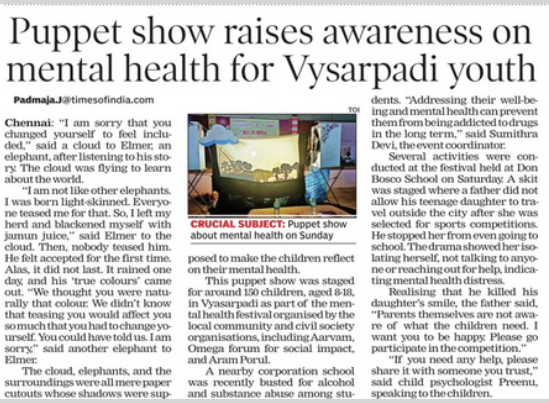
Our past beneficiaries are stepping forward to inspire and uplift the community through:

Like-Minded Youth Forum Formation: A platform to foster collaboration and community support.

Mission: To empower youth as role models actively driving social change.

Impact: Mentorship by past beneficiaries for current participants promotes a culture of continuous community growth and improvement.

Advocacy and News Coverage



Vysarpadi's railway tracks turn loo

Two Toilets Nearby, Both Inaccessible

Chennai: Every day, groups of Gandhipuram residents head to the Vysarpadi Jeera railway tracks around 2pm, furtively glancing around — not to board a train without a ticket, but to relieve themselves. This has been their reality for the past 30 years.

While these residents have toilets inside their homes, they remain unusable due to the lack of a proper sewer line. "Men go below the track, and women go above," said Munusamy, a daily wageer. He added, "They usually avoid mornings and nights to stay safe from snakes and crowds." However, this precarious practice exposes them to the risks of train accidents and public health hazards caused by open defecation.

When TOI inquired about public toilets, residents pointed to two facilities nearby, both inaccessible. "One has been shut for more than three years. The other is functional but locked, with a GCC contract worker controlling the key and charging ₹3-5 per use. He's often unavailable," said Sandhya, 24. She added, "If we refuse to pay, we face verbal harassment." On Friday, TOI found the operational toilet locked, with no worker in sight.

Women face even greater challenges, lacking a safe place to change sanitary napkins during menstruation or to wash and bathe due to the absence of sanitation facilities. Pointing to a hole in the road connected to a stormwater drain, residents said, "This is where greywater from washing and bathing goes. We've submitted multiple petitions for opening the toilets and constructing a sewer line," said Munusamy.

Tondiarpet GCC zonal officer G Saravananurthy promised an inspection and resolution. Metrowater's Tondiarpet area engineer K Namachivayam said Gandhipuram will be connected to a sewer network under the Vada Chennai Valarchi Thittam, with work scheduled to begin post-monsoon.

HC acts on substance abuse in GCC school

Initiated Suo Motu PIL Based On A TOI Report About A Corporation School In Vysarpadi

Tamil News Network

Chennai: Madras high court has initiated a suo motu order of a TOI report on substance abuse among school children and the lack of basic amenities at a Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) School in Kalyanspuram in Vysarpadi, and has initiated PIL proceedings.

The first bench of acting Chief Justice D Krishnakumar and Justice P B Balaji, which initiated the PIL, proceedings on a news report published in TOI dated Aug 23, directed GCC to file a status report on the actions taken to address the issue within two weeks.

The TOI report — titled "Substance abuse new order in out of order GCC school; students have to buy water to drink; toilets, lab a mess" — brought to light how a Class IX girl drank a bottle of beer in her classroom and got high to celebrate her birthday. A couple of days later, three Class X boys were caught smoking beedis on the school campus, which they sourced from a bunk shop near the school.

The report further highlighted the lack of basic facilities on the campus and how students are compelled to daily pool ₹20 to buy a can of drinking water for each class.

The school, which has 375 students, lacked clean toilets, water, and a proper facility to dispose of used sanitary napkins. Two sections of Class XII were accommodated in the biology lab, while the physics, chemistry, and computer labs remained locked, the report said.

It further highlighted the free availability of a banned tobacco product, Cool Lip, inside the campus and its use among the students.

The suo motu plea was initiated to direct the authorities concerned to inspect the school campus and take immediate steps to ensure drinking water and toilets, maintenance of labs, and all necessary infrastructure.

It wanted the court to direct the authorities to take strict action against people selling tobacco items in and around the school and to direct the authorities to conduct counselling programmes for children to address behavioural problems.