



The Retreat's
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VIEWPOINT

August - September 2021

TRAINING IN VILLAGES: MOTTUR & MELUR

Training in Nursery and Organic Kitchen Garden was conducted by Shevaroyhills Tribal Development Institute (STDi) a wing of SPS India Foundation, The Retreat – Yercaud on 09th August 2021 at Mottur, Yercaud. The main objective of this training program was to create awareness on importance of organic kitchen garden; nursery plantation method and preparation of organic manure. There were more than 20 participants. They took part actively and learned the techniques. Fr. Selvakumar, the Director of STDi welcomed the people and gave the orientation. He insisted on the importance of having the organic kitchen garden. Mr. Marshal instructed the people on preparing the Organic Manure – Panchagavya. He then enlisted the uses of it and the history of its invention. Mr. Ramesh presented the ways and the methods of propagating plants. Fr. Wilson, Eco club director, concluded the training by conducting the evaluation and thanking the beneficiaries. All the participants were given 30 grow bags to initially begin propagating the plants. tation.



Shevaroyhills Tribal Development Institute (STDi) is involved in creating eco consciousness among the tribals of Shevaroyhills. In its process, training was conducted in Melur on 11th of August 2021. STDi always insists among the people to venture into organic farming. Its director, Fr. Selvakumar an orientation to the beneficiaries by presenting the need to begin organic farming and the success stories of organic farmers. Mr. Marshal trained people to prepare organic manure and its effects. Mr. Ramesh, the field staff of STDi, explained the method of earning through propagating plants. He insisted to propagated plants and promised that STDi will buy the plants from the people and market them. Fr. Wilson, the eco- club director, conducted the evaluation and pressed the need of the hour to step-in in organic farming.



FORMATION OF CHILDREN'S ECO-CLUBS - 12 SEPTEMBER 2021



The Retreat, Yercaud, situated at Shevaroys Hills, was given the mandate of forming 3 children's eco-clubs for the quarter April-June 2021. Due to the pandemic locked down, the hills were under locked down till the end of the month of August 2021, therefore, the activities were resumed only in the beginning of the month of September. We chose Guntur, Theppakaadu and Tank Pudur for Children's eco-clubs for this quarter. As we planned, so we formed one children's eco-club each in each of the above mentioned villages on 19 September 2021. Prior to formation, children were given orientation and awareness on protecting nature and environment by animators and coordinator.

PAST PUPILS OF DON BOSCO SALESIAN PROVINCE OF TIRUCHY

St. John Bosco, the Father and founder of Salesian congregation had a special place of Past Pupils. His past pupils became his collaborators and members of the congregation that he founded. This year is the Sesquicentennial year for the past pupils movement started by Don Bosco. Hence, the Salesian Province of Trichy has conducted Sesquicentennial jubilee celebration on September 18th, 2021 @ Don Bosco Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Thanjavur. Past pupils from all the Salesian houses participated in the event. The Past Pupils of the Sola Tribal Children's Home (SOTCHO) loving known as SOLA ILLAM participated in the event with great enthusiasm. All the past pupils were proud that they have been helped and assisted by the Salesian and the formation that they received in the home has shaped them to live in the society. One of the past pupils, by name Mr. Neelamegam received second prize in Essay competition conducted in the province level and brought honour to our Unit. Let Don Bosco's legacy continue to spread all over the world.



CLEAN-UP DRIVE - 19 SEPTEMBER 2021



The Clean-up drive was organized by the Children Eco-clubs (Guntur, Theppakaadu and Tank Pudur) along with the Community Eco-club (Guntur) on 19th of September 2021. Guntur and Theppakaadu Children's Clubs cleaned the surrounding of the village temple and the meeting place of the village panchayat respectively. While the Tank pudur Children Eco Club had the Clean-up drive in the major streets of their village on 19th September 2021.

SPS INDIA FOUNDATION PLANTS SAPLINGS IN YERCAUD TALUK IN COLLABORATION WITH GOVERNMENT

On September 28th, 2021, SPS India Foundation, The Retreat – Don Bosco, Yercaud, in collaboration with Yercaud Taluk government officials organized a massive tree planting programme in different Panchayats such as Manjakuttai, Nagalur, Yercaud town, Valavandi and Semmanatham. The SPS INDIA FOUNDATION and government officials selected the empty places in five Panchayats to plant the saplings. Our prime focus is to achieve ecological development and reduce the effects of global warming in the Yercaud region. From our REO Nursery, we supplied 500 varieties of saplings to the government officials for the tree plantation. This tree plantation was organized with a lot of effort and love towards the environment. The participants of this programme were officials of Yercaud Taluk, the Retreat – Don Bosco Fathers and village people from five Panchayats. The government officials and village people appreciated The Retreat - Don Bosco's initiatives towards greening the environment and thanked us for the contribution of saplings. This programme has created a great awareness in the hearts of all those who have participated and witnessed this event.

