

STAND ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR OF 2017-18

Rev. Dr. Sahayaraj, S.J., the founder Director of STAND assumed the new Director this year. STAND activities for the academic year 2017-18 was started with the Orientation programme to both staff and students on 27th and 29th June 2017. The theme for this year was “Clean villages and Green Villages”. To make the theme concrete a quick survey questionnaire was prepared to collect the details of beneficiaries in the villages who are eligible to get the Toilet scheme of the Central Government. The report and the survey questionnaire were then given to the District Collectorate through whom many of our people received toilets to their families. An opportunity came from the initiative of the Collector to join them in the river Thamirabarani cleaning. Accordingly on 23rd September 2017 around 600 students of STAND along with College NSS were taken to the assigned spot of the river and our students enthusiastically joined hands in cleaning river Thamirabarani which is the life source for the people of this region. In this way our motto of the year CLEAN and GREEN villages was thus implemented.

With the help of MCA student Mr. Ramanathan a website for STAND has been created this year. Students of MCA along with Mr.Arockiaswami the contact staff deserve our appreciation for bring out the website. From this year the report of each department has been stored on line in the website. Each department has been given a user name and a password for this purpose. This is another major activity in the history of STAND to go online.

Handling arrear students used to be a very challenging activity every year. This year this was easily solved by sending them on common projects. Apart from joining Thamirabarani River cleaning, students also cleaned the Hockey Ground of the college and a few of the reaming arrear students went to the AIDS rehabilitation centre run by the brother of the Sacred Heart congregation.

With a renewed spirit students and staff this year plunged into new initiatives to address the livelihood issues of the villagers. Two women were identified to get two new stitching machines from the Students council one rupee scheme. Department of English Shift II generated fund to purchase ten goats and distributed to the deserving people in their adopted Kattapuli village with the promise that the first yield should be given to the next ten identified beneficiaries in the village and the cycle should go on till all the families in the

village get one goat each. Commerce Shift II department adopted Alangulam Village students, distributed country chicken to the poor women to educate them to stop using broiler chicken; Chemistry Shift II adopted Pethaniya students had a real lab to land experience this year when they demonstrated the preparation of some of the chemical based home used products like washing and bathing soap making, phenol for cleaning toilets, perfume for spray and balm making for relief from head ache. Students learned the know how in their labs and demonstrated them in the villages giving all the details of chemical ingredients, their available places with price details.

The villagers learned the art so quickly and some of them even wanted to become entrepreneurs in some of the items. MCA students distributed CLF bulbs one each to all the families of their adopted village through fund raising. Shift II Chemistry students identified a place in their adopted village and converted that into a mini library supplying books from their efforts. They also distributed cotton bags to each of the families and collected plastic waste from them. These are some of the highlighted activities of students this year apart from their regular activities. The details of those activities and the number of beneficiaries are given below in a table form. STAND proudly announces its Silver Jubilee next year with a focus of contributing concretely for the economic upliftment of the poor. Many meetings with the staff and village women have been conducted to get their valuable suggestion for next year jubilee celebration.