Key Facts on Education Status in TN

- *Over 50% of children drop out of school by 9th standard*
- *Only 32% of women and 39% of men have completed 10th standard*
- *63% of small schools do not have sufficient teachers for number of students*
- *52% of schools do not have a usable toilet and 20% do not have facility for girls*
- *68% of children in class five cannot read a class 2 text book in Tamil*
- *75% of class VI children cannot do division*

Project implemented by Kalanjiyam Trust www.kalanjiyam.org

Reducing Drop outs in Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu Foundation Pilot Project in Kancheepruam

Committed to improving education for all children of Tamil Nadu

TAMIL NADU FOUNDATION

Approach of TNF Project

- *Providing infrastructural improvements*
- *Providing para-teachers to improve learning*
- *Providing computer education*
- *Extracurricular programs, such as music, drawing and yoga;*
- *Bring hygiene and sanitation facilities, with running and drinking water*
- *Improve the nutrition status through supplementary nutrition*

Impacts of TNF Pilot Project

- Every child is enrolled and attending school
- Children's school regularity has increased from 36% in 2009 to over 70% in 2011
- Children are keen to learn, they come dressed neatly, wearing slippers and with understanding of personal hygiene
- All children are moving on to 6th standard and continuing to finish upper primary
- Children's learning outcomes have improved.

Shanthi, SHG member, Ozhavetti

'My husband is a coolie worker. In the previous years, my son never used to study after coming home though I would ask him to study. Now after TNF project has come he voluntarily takes his books and studies. He now wears slippers everyday and goes to school.'

Shantha Kumari, coolie worker, Zameen Endathur

Three teachers could not manage, due to the high school strength. It is very useful to have one para-teacher from TNF project. My son did not know to write a phone number before. Now he is doing arithmetic well and able to read the paper, We thank TNF project for making this possible.'

T. Kirthika, Vth standard, Zameen Endathur

'I used to take leave for 2 days a week. But after TNF project aunty has come, they encourage students who do not take leave by giving incentive like note, pen, pencil, etc. Nobody takes leave unnecessarily now in our school.'

'We now have toilets and drinking water in our school;, before we had to run home or go to the fields. The girls now have private toilet and most of all the toilets are clean!.'

Aruna, 4th standard, Ozhavetti

'By doing yoga exercise, our mind becomes quiet. We learn songs, our voice becomes better. Learning to draw, we are getting interested to draw. Not only this, these activities give us an opportunity to participate in competitions and win prizes.' .

A Sathyakumari, *Teacher at Panchayat Union School, Kizhakaandai Village*

'We thank the TNF project for providing para-teachers for our school in the last three years to assist our teachers. We depend on this support to make sure that our children are coming to school and learning as they are supposed to be.'

'The extra-curricular programs have a lot of impact on the children and this is main reason for the increased regularity among our school children.'

'The most popular program is the computer education that is introduced by TNF project, which is not available in primary schools. We teachers are also using this to our advantage and developing our skills on using computers in general and to aid in teaching.'

P. Kalki, Vth, Ozhavetti

'Previously I and others used to come to school late. Now we come by 8.30 daily. Previously the teachers came late to the school, but this has changed now.'

'After TNF project has come, I am punctual in coming to school and enjoy being with my classmates.'

D. Manikandan IVth, Zameen Endathur

'My parents did not teach me the habit of wearing slippers. TNF project has explained the problems caused by not wearing them and gave slipper-stands. Due to this, all students want to wear slippers and we neatly stack them on the slipper stand.'