



## The New LEED Annual Report - Project - Perungudi

### 1. Area Description

Perungudi is a wide spread slum mainly displaced underprivileged community from various parts of the city due to various development programs. This urban slum is located nearby Perungudi railway station and it exists for more than 50 years. This area is surrounded with water bodies, which makes people prone to water related diseases. The local name for this area is “Kallukuttai” with density of the population is 10000 (Approximately) with number of Families is 2500 (Approximately). Housing of the family is Mixed of Huts & Concrete building 70 % - huts, 30% - small concrete building built mostly with waste materials from broken down buildings which is reused.

This area has 8 big streets, 1Km from Railway Station, 1Km from Kandhanchavadi bus stop and 1 Km from Perungudi Mass Rapid Transits System (MRTS) Railway Station. This area has no proper basic facilities such as roads, toilets, water, schools, colleges, hospitals and medical shops. Most of the houses are huts made of recycling materials. Majority of the people are working in an unorganized sector such as construction, domestic maid, housekeeping, security agency etc. Illiteracy, alcohol addiction, unemployment and child marriage are some of the social problems in this area.

#### a. Basic services available in the community

- Most of them have Family Ration Card, Voters Identification card and Electricity connection
- No legal land document or ‘Patta’ for the land/house
- No announcement from Central / state government for destruction or rehabilitation process
- Thasildhar office (Assistant collector & Executive Magistrate (Class II) revenue administrative officer holds court related to land, Tax and revenue matter) is located in Thorrapakkam.

#### b. Educational Services

- ‘Asha Nivas’ (NGO) runs a Balwadi (pre-school) School
- Chennai higher secondary School Perungudi 2Km from The New LEED
- Chennai Higher Secondary School, Taramani 3km from The New LEED
- St. Anthony’s high school (government aided), near TANSI (Tamilnadu Small Industry Corporation) Nagar, Velachery 2.5km from The New LEED
- Colleges and Polytechnic Institutions - Velachery, Tambaram and Kelambakkam nearest the Guru Nanak College is 5 km from The New LEED

#### c. Health Services

- Velachery hospital, near Taramani IIT its 2.5km from The New LEED
- Private hospitals located in Velachery (2Km from this area)
- Government Hospitals – Kilpauk Medical College,
- Rajiv Gandhi General hospital central,
- Government hospital in Royapettah and Triplicane
- Thorrapakkam Government hospital , near Jain College Bus stop 5km from The New LEED

#### d. Sanitary Situation of the area

- Have one common toilet with usage charge Rupee 1 per head.
- Only few houses have individual toilets with individual septic waste tank.
- Have facility of metro water supply twice in a week which is sold illegally for Rs 600 for one Tanker, Rs 3/- for one pot maximum 5 pots allowed per family. This water can be used only for drinking and cooking purpose.
- There are presences of domestic and industrial garbage in the area.
- No government support to dispose the garbage.
- There is no proper roads or streets and becomes very difficult to during raining, even a small rain streets fills with filth and dirty water.

#### e. Economic Situation of the people

- There is a presence of Government supported self help group giving loan with interest.



Most of the men get daily wages or weekly wages in construction work, some of them are auto drivers / taxi drivers

- Most of the women are house maid workers and some of them are home makers.
- No vocational activities for women, and there is no self employment
- No small scale businesses.
- Very few shops selling provision, electrical products and tea shops which are in the main street near to railways station.

## **f. Political situation**

- No other local welfare organization
- Corruption in purchasing or selling of lands which has no proper land documents.
- People living in the area are of mixed of different caste and community with various political party affiliations also people from other parts of India stay in the area.

## **2. Project area**

The new LEED trust had conducted need assessment in this area and selected particular area “Thiruvalluvar Nagar”. This small area is consist 800 families. The people in this area live in very bad living conditions compared to other area. The main problems are improper streets and drinking water facilities which makes the people to depend on private water suppliers.

The present place which is been used for the activities is a rented place with 3 rooms and kitchen and toilet with electricity, but no tap water. The rooms are used for library cum discussion room, tailoring room and computer training room is been set up and need more resources to start the activities. Due to lack of place and non available place and staffs for the purpose is not helping to start up other activities for children. Skill development and family development programs are been conducted in the area with more interests.

## **3. Programs at Perungudi**

### **a. Skill Development Training Program (SDTP)**

The poor women realized the fact that to improve their economic condition it is necessary to obtain some technical skills or some alternative income generation programs. They show interest to learn new skills which could be easy to grasp and fetch employment opportunities. They could utilize the time which they are spending every day without any aim or purpose and by that they would enable themselves to earn a stable income.

#### **1. Tailoring Centre:**

During the baseline survey and need assessment, It was identified that the majority of women are interested in learning tailoring. More interest been shown by women who are separated, widow and women who want to support the family and also women who have difficult family. Tailoring classes for women in Perungudi has started in the month of June with 6 women students and it had grown to 15 women and getting trained on 8 tailoring machine, cutting and hand stitching and hand embroidery. This training will enable them to learn a new skill and to help them to become self reliant. This project helps to improve the flow of money throughout the year for families. Women could come out of shell and have a chance to share their knowledge and experience with others. It is a short term certificate course. At the end of three months of training program, certificate will be distributed to the participants.

LEED could link the trainees to the export company by inviting the people who need tailors for their work. The trainees who have interest to start a tailoring shop would be encouraged and those who are not in a position to go out of their home would also be benefited by stitching their cloths and save the money.

#### **2. Basket making :**

The women showed interest in income generation programs with many group of women showed interest in learning basket making and training program were conducted with the association of “The Varnajalam” – a fair trade shop with 13 members participating in the training program that are regularly supplying the basket and



earning their wages. The group now consists of 20 women who are earning an average income of Rs.3000/- per month who are mostly single mothers, widows, women with difficult family situations, with partially visually challenged and family with economical disability.

## **b. Activity program - Computer Training and Library for the Youths and children**

The main objective of this program is to engage children in purposeful activities which would allow them to grow personally and academically. This computer training program would train children to know the basics of computer, the syllabus is framed especially for slum children to make them computer friendly. Computers are considered as elite learning and a dream for slum children, this program allows children to utilize their leisure time conservatively. This program aims to support poor children above the age of 10 yrs who are less privileged to get trained outside.

Earlier days computers were used by elite group and were a dream for slum people, as this field has good scope all the schools offer computer as allied subject. This computer program would make children involve in computer based activity, the children can learn and share their ideas related to computers, children have limited practical exposure in their computer practical classes, and this program allows children to know better to handle systems. This is a short term course for one month where maximum children would benefit in the area. Computer training courses outside are costly and unaffordable for urban poor children, this computer training would really benefit the poor children in a greater extent.

### **Scope of the program**

LEED introduces computer program to make children involve in better actions. Children get mentally affected due to familial disputes when they are at home. This program is designed for children to make use of the time during evening in a better way. Children who study in government schools have less opportunity to know about computers, special concern would be given for poor children.

### **Computer syllabus**

- Windows
- Keyboard handling
- Parts of the computer
- Microsoft word
- Usage of icons
- Network
- Internet Explorer
- Computer Virus

The program is especially designed for slum children in English and Tamil, the instructor would teach the children in Tamil to make them understand better about computers.

The Library program was started after understanding that there is no library for the children in the area the library for the youths and children were started with the help of well wishers who sponsored around 150 books which are arranged in the library unit. The books includes general knowledge, moral stories in English and Tamil, autobiography of leaders, comic books, books related to psychological problems, dictionary, Thirukural, yoga, meditation many other interesting books to motivate children to practice the habit of reading books daily.

Students spend about 2 hours after coming from school for reading. Some students feel that the pictures are very useful for them to understand about the topics. Students felt happy and expressed that the library unit would be useful for them to develop their knowledge.



## **c. Family Development Program (FDP)**

Family Development Programs which is supported by InterAide has started in the month of June 2011. The Team consisted of Coordinator Program Mrs. Sendhamarai Selvi, with 11 Social workers. The team is dealing with 309 families, starting with observation visit for 40 families and the interventional process during month of August 2011.

Family Development Program team periodically reviews in the meeting which is conducted by Coordinator Program Ms. Sendhamarai Selvi and social workers present family case histories. Ideas and suggestions were shared with Chairman Mr. Elijah John Mathew and Mr. Jerome, InterAide manager for the selection of families for the next social worker and about Documentation of FDP families for the month, home visits made to the selected FDP families.

## **d. Community Kitchen**

Most of the families skip food and the children and single earning member family suffer most as it was found in the study conducted by the team for which Coordinators and staffs had organized food feasts at Perungudi center to promote the community kitchen in many occasions. In community kitchen food were prepared and sold to the community people especially for needy families & tailoring candidates at subsidized price. The program was successful with the help of well-wisher who sponsor such occasions.

## **e. Medical camps and Awareness Program**

Awareness programs for the children, adolescent, youth and women groups on various topics like, health, hygiene, communicable & non communicable diseases, child rights, women's rights, Blood Donation, alcohol and drug addiction, environment etc. The purpose behind the program is to make the people aware of their rights, duties, availability of welfare schemes and treatment on health issues, importance of timely medical help and proper understanding of medicine were very poor among people living in slum area and the people lack basic health facilities as the area where people live inhospitable environment and have high chance to get affect with serious communicable diseases. By understanding the health situation of the people The New LEED have planned to conduct several medical camps and Voluntary Blood Donation Camp, Medical Psychiatric and Counseling, de-addiction and family counseling with the voluntary support from doctors of NGOs and hospitals.

One of such camp is Eye Camp which is been organized with the help of Sankara Eye Hospital, Pammal – Tambaram.

## **4. The New LEED Staff Team**

### **a. Mrs. Devi Manigandan**

She has four and half years of experience in Counseling, human behavior, research, organizational management, Mental and community health, psychiatric social work, life skill training and had been worked in hospitals and NGOs before joining The New LEED Trust on December 2011. She is Coordinator Administration and handles Staff management and office administration.

She is currently pursuing MBA (HR) in IGNOU – 2010, Completed M.Phil. (specialized in social work) in Bharathidasan University at 2006-2008, Completed Master of Social work in Madras University specialized in Medical & Psychiatry at 2004-2006, Completed Bachelor in Arts in Sociology in Madras University at 2001-2004. She stays in joint family of her husband. Her husband Mr. Manigandan V. is doing business in readymade garments.

### **b. Ms. Sendhamarai Selvi L.**

She has four and half years of experience in NGO as Community Development, Counseling, human behavior, and community health. She has worked in various NGO's and hospital before joining The New LEED Trust on



January 2011. She is Coordinator Programs and handles Family Development Program as coordinator and programs in Perungudi centre.

She has completed in M.Phil. In Social Work (2006-2007) Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, Master of Social Work, Stella Maris College Chennai (2004-2006) specialized in Community Development, Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. She stays with her parents and brothers. Her father Mr. Lenin Raj S. who is retired Indian Railway employee and mother a home maker and brother who is studying in school.

**c. Mrs. Anthoniammal I.**

She stays with her children and husband Mr. Injaye V. was living in Andaman and Nicobar Island from her young age and returned to Chennai and has 22 years of experience as tailoring teacher. She had joined The New LEED Trust on May as Tailoring Instructor in Skill Development Training department.