

Teaming up to uplift the village

Youth Club, Hewan, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh shows the way

Jagriti Yuva Mandal, Hewan, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh a youth club affiliated Nehru Yuva Kendra, Shimla conducts plantation drives to safeguard community's forest reserve, use ecotourism to create jobs and facilitate construction of basic social infrastructures such as Youth Club building, play ground, health clinics, construction of link path, training and education centers in coordination with concerned development Departments.

“Prior to our initiative, this village though geographically very close to Shimla was far away from what you call a developed world. Lack of basic infrastructure along with lack of concerted efforts was the main impediment in the development process. To add, lackadaisical approach of authorities did nothing for the upliftment of the village”

- Sh. Geeta Ram
President of the Youth Club

Today, the village is a popular attraction for tourists. In the year 2012, it received 3000 visitors and generated an amount of Rs. 4.50 Lakh for the development of the village.

“Eco-tourism has created environment for income generations for the villagers particularly those who are otherwise not engaged in gainful employment especially youth who are also part of the youth club.

This obviously has changed the development scenario of our village”

- Ram Swaroop
Senior Member of the Youth Club

The Village Panchayat also granted Rs. 1.5 Lakh fund for the construction of Pucca Rasta (from Link Road to village). It has further contributed to the economic development of the village making it self-sufficient and creating jobs for the youth; thus sustaining their livelihoods.

Besides, the economic activities, Youth Club is also conducting various programmes such as plantation drives, blood donation camps, cultural activities, sports events on regular basis and thereby helping the community to contribute towards social well being on voluntary basis and participation in the development process. Apart from this, a few prominent members of the village community have contributed in cash and donated land that has been used for the construction of Youth Club Building and

Play Ground for the youth as well as hub for organizing various cultural and other community events.

The youth club was created in the year 1995 and later upgraded by the Nehru Yuva Kendra, Shimla as Youth Development Centre in the year 2005-06. With the seed funding provided by Nehru Yuva Kendra Shimla, the Youth Club also purchased basic amenities such as utensils, furniture which is also available on relatively cheaper rent for use by the local community. This has added to the regular income of the Club and benefitted the communities at the same time. Seven years later, the youth club has capitalized on its experience and is successfully manning the day-to-day affairs of the village; contributing towards the overall development of the village. It has created core committees and delegated

responsibilities to each member. The community members also coordinate with local PRIs and participate in the development process as they get to choose the members of the committees through a transparent voting process. The club has been exemplary in so many facets be it empowerment of community, ensuring sustainable development, democratic governance as well as safeguarding their environment.

A NYKS-led initiative that has brought together governments, civil society, businesses and grassroots organizations to highlight local efforts to reduce poverty through sustainable use of environment and tapping the youth power in taking concerted efforts for the development and economic upliftment of the village.

TCS Training NYK, Virudhnagar, Tamil Nadu

A majority of youth 'dreams' of a comfortable life with all the basic amenities at its disposal. But, in the absence of an opportunity of training and jobs, many of their dreams seldom come true. Some are even forced to resort to malpractices and adopt irresponsible behavior after being marred by the vaulting living expenses and the innate desire to fulfill their dreams.

NYK, Virudhnagar, Tamil Nadu realised the condition prevalent and shares the belief that providing employment is the key to a peaceful, developed society. NYK, Virudhnagar, in this regard organized an Employment Training and Skill Enhancement Programme in collaboration with TATA Consultancy Service (TCS), to impart basic training to graduate youth. Fortunately, Tamil Nadu is one of the six states that is organizing such a training.

The training was aimed at honing the Communication, English, Presentation, Computer skills of the trainees. It also focussed on Personality Development, Corporate etiquettes and Management. It is an assets in ones qualification if one has a stronghold over all these areas of training and that too imparted by an established name of TATA. This indeed was a life time opportunity for

these young budding job seekers.

A total of 100 hours of training was provided to around 40 trainees in the premises of Srividya College of Engineering. The trainees were selected from a pool of 200 through interview based on TCS criteria. After the completion of the training, a participation certificate was awarded to those trainees who successfully passed the assessment test and had 100% attendance. The TCS has even agreed to recruit some of the trainees based on their performance in a separate process that will include written test, HR, TR, and MR interview. However, at present the future appears bright for the the trainees and NYK with its initiatives expects to contribute and change destiny of those unemployed.



Inauguration of the Employability Training - District Collector, Shri. T.N.Hariharan, Zonal Director, Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry Zone, Shri. S. Sathees, Srividya College Chairman, Lead Bank Manager, DYC, Shri. V. Robert James, TCS Trainer, Shri. Pushparaj are seen.