Rehabilitation of 30 Government Schools Affected by Gaja Cyclone at Nagapattinam and Thanjavur Districts, Tamil Nadu

Renovation of Toilets
Providing Safe Drinking Water
Renovation of Handwash Stations
Providing Incinerators for Girls
Renovating the Class Rooms
Renovation of Kitchen Shed
Hygiene and MH Education

Date: 30.09.2019

Gramalaya – Tiruchirapalli
Nagapattinam and Thanjavur Districts, Tamil Nadu

Situation Outlay ::

On 16th November 2018 Gaja cyclone (a severe cyclonic storm) made a landfall on the coast of Tamil Nadu in the wee hours of Friday. The severe cyclone crossed the coast near Nagapattinam and Vedaranyam with a wind speed of 200 kmph, uprooting most of the coconut trees which is the main source of the agriculturists of the district.

The schools suffered heavy loss of losing all their class rooms, WASH facilities and kitchen meant to provide them Midday meal scheme. NSE Foundation, Mumbai extended fund support to Gramalaya for the rehabilitation of selected 30 schools in Thanjavur and Nagapattinam districts at a cost of Rs.3,20,000 for each school and the total project cost is Rs. 1,30,00,000/-.

Project Objectives ::

To restore the damaged WASH facilities such as toilet complexes, hand washing stations in selected 30 schools.
To restore the school buildings which were severely affected by Gaja cyclone in Nagapattinam and Thanjavur districts.
To counsel the students for the disaster preparedness and to concentrate on their studies.
To provide Behavior Change Communication for using and maintaining the repaired WASH facilities, hygiene education and Menstrual Hygiene Management to the students.

Pre Project Situation ::

Gramalaya having obtained the list of affected schools from the Education department, started the assessment works. The team of Gramalaya approached the selected schools and with the assistance of the school authorities, visited the affected infrastructures. The high wind velocity has created a very high damage. Roofs with sheets have been shattered. Old structures of the toilet complex have been completely fallen. Many of the schools were found with no hand wash stations. The cycle sheds with sheeted roof were completely ripped off. Most of the schools were more than 8 decades and had lots of trees around the school. Many of the trees were uprooted. The fallen trees were found strain all over the place. Damaged furniture and the tiles were found dumped in rooms. Rain water drains were all damaged. The negligence on the part of the teachers and non-teaching staff and the students were visible by the poor maintenance of the buildings and the toilets. Gramalaya team with the permission of the school authorities, invited Parents Teachers Association members to talk to them for the maintenance of the rehabilitated infrastructures. This had a very good impact as the PTA members felt their importance.
Brief Methodology and approach:

Gramalaya is implementing the Project with the involvement of six Health Educators on WASHMAN who are closely monitored under the co-ordination of a Project Co-Ordinator. Under this project, different stakeholders are involved to roll out the project initiatives, such as District Rural Development Agency, Educational Department, Health Education and others. Volunteers to motivate the rural community members for Behavioral Change Communication towards achieving the deliverables.

Project Intervention ::

Gramalaya team started the works by arriving at the following decisions. The school authorities were first met and Gramalaya’s works were explained. The budget for the works and the order of preference of works were explained.

Sanitation facility provision was given priority to provide safety to adolescent girls of the school and to avoid drop outs.

Incinerator facility was provided to girls toilets to dispose the soiled napkins in a safe manner. Many of the toilets were found packed with unsafe disposal of them and the result of toilets being clogged.

Hand Wash stations were repaired with a unique manner to match the students of different age. Waste water collection was provided with a soak pit or directing the water to the nearby vegetations.

Classroom flooring and roof which were found to be extensively damaged, were made to look new with suitable materials for sustainability.

Toilet complexes were differentiated by colours to identify separately for girls and boys.

All the toilets and urinals were floored and walled with tiles to be sustainable for longer years.

Hygiene education to all the students were given. Usage and maintenance of the toilets and their importance were taught.

Separate Menstrual Hygiene Management and Nutrition classes were conducted for adolescent girls and to the lady teachers.

Consent for the works to be done, Completion and Handover letters from the school authorities were obtained for record purposes.

Post Project Intervention ::

Regular monitoring by Gramalaya staff is ensured along with the Health education being provided.

The declaration of the school authorities about the increased enrolment of students by the attractive WASH facilities provided, were obtained and dedication of the amenities to the schools were covered by media to highlight the happenings.

The students avoiding usage of toilets before due to non-maintenance of them are now happy in using them and even initiating for the upkeeping of them with special water provisions.

The water connections are all provided with a concealed manner to avoid damages.
The details of the schools taken up for renovation work

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<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Schools</th>
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<td><strong>Thanjavur District</strong></td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Govt. High School</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Govt. Higher Secondary School</td>
<td>Pusphavanam</td>
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Overall impact in brief:

➢ The Headmasters of the schools are very interested to show the renovated toilets to the girls’ students for better hygiene and toilet facilities during menstrual days.
➢ The HMs are very happy that due to improved toilet facilities the student’s strength has increased from the previous years.
➢ The students have changed their handwashing and hygiene behavior by the continuous hygiene education classes taken by our TAs.
➢ The students particularly adolescent girl students are now feeling elated due to the proper toilet facility available to dispose off the used sanitary napkins in a proper way and dropout during the menstruation days become nil and the teachers are happy.
➢ The PT association has been actively involved and they have contributed by donating borewells, floor and wall tiles, kitchen flooring work, AC sheets for roofing, etc., They have also helped to remove the debris and old trees fell during the Gaja cyclone.
➢ The HM and PTA has been actively involved for the cleaning and maintenance of the Toilets and Hand Washing facilities due to the constant contact by the Technical Assistants.
➢ Our CEO Mr. Damodaran has been insisting on the “SUMO concept” i.e Sustainable Maintenance and Operation and we are all insist on this concept in all the 30 schools to have a clean and hygiene toilet.
➢ The PTA members has arranged funds, spread the news of repair and renovation works taken up by Gramalaya and NSE Foundation. They helped to give wide publicity and published in vernacular newspapers.

Innovative tools or approaches adopted:

➢ The project activities are implemented by the involvement of School AWASH committee from the beginning by involving the students actively.
➢ Transparency is ensured for implementation of the project by involving the HM and Parent Teachers Association at all aspects of the project.
➢ We have adopted the Each one Teach One concept and the hygiene education has been spread to the villages also.
➢ We not only educate the teachers and students we also involve and educate the Anganwadi workers, Cleaning staff and other workers of the school about the health, hygiene and Nutrition, so that they can serve the society better.
➢ An alternative to Commercial Sanitary Pads, Reusable / Washable Cloth pads which is designed by Gramalaya for the benefit of teachers and Adolescent Girls.

Quantitative outcomes:

➢ 18 schools in Thanjavur and 12 schools in Nagapattinam districts affected by the Gaja cyclone were selected for renovation.
➢ In 30 Schools renovated by Gramalaya by which 10,702 Students are benefitted directly and 53,510 community members were benefitted in-directly by the hygiene education programme.
➢ Our staff educated 3,660 girl children in Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM). The girl students are taught about the ill effects of single use plastic sanitary napkins and informed to use re-usable cloth pads.
➢ We have helped to create Child AWASH Cabinets in 22 schools and trained to maintain the facilities in the SUMO concept (Sustainable usage maintenance and operation).
➢ We have trained the AWASH Cabinet members of 420 students about hygiene and personal care and promoted peer to peer learning.
➢ Capacity Building for Kitchen staff and hygiene education on food and nutrition, food base management training for 90 women staff under the project.
➢ 78 Sanitation workers were trained to ensure the maintenance of the renovated sanitation structures.
➢ School management Committee has been formalized to train and advocate for school renovated was facilities and ensure maintenance. Sustainable Sanitation to link with AWASH Cabinet.
➢ Advocacy meeting has been conducted to PTA Members, School Administration and PRI Members for utilizing the school funds to support and maintenance of the renovated WASH facilities.
➢ In 7 schools the PTA and old students contributed in kind when there is a need to provide additional facilities like borewell and providing tiles to the toilets.
➢ Waste water management has been adopted 30 Schools. The waste water from the kitchen and hand wash station discharged safely using a soak pit and promoted kitchen gardens.
➢ We have constructed proper incinerator at girl’s toilet for proper disposal of sanitary napkins in 27 schools and trained sanitation workers to maintain and incinerate the used napkins properly at regular intervals.
➢ We have repaired and renovated the Rain Water Harvesting in five schools.
➢ Capacity building programme was organized for 120 staff members on Personal Hygiene Management and MHM.
➢ IEC and Name boards were painted in all 30 schools in Nagapattinam and Thanjavur districts.
➢ Printed IEC kits for Hygiene education were handed over to the WASH cabinet members in the presence of the Headmaster and school administration members.

Qualitative outcomes:
➢ Proper usage toilets have been ensured by Technical Assistants and WASH cabinets of the respected schools.
➢ It has ensured for proper maintenance of the renovated WASH facilities by the PTA members, School Administrative members, Sanitation worker and WASH cabinets.
➢ It has increased the knowledge level of Adolescent Girl students on MHM and Nutrition.
➢ Students are eagerly become as WASH cabinet members to carry forward the Sanitation messages to their parents, house hold members and peers.
➢ Technical Assistants, PTA members and WASH cabinet members were involved in close monitoring of execution of project in the intervention schools.
➢ Head Masters are ensuring that kitchen staff members are regularly following the hygiene practices and cooking the food for the students in a clean environment.
➢ Through Printed IEC materials and wall paintings on usage and maintenance, personal hygiene management, MHM, Before and after Hand wash practices, ill effects of open defecation, Fecal-Oral transmission, accessing safe drinking water, Conservation of available water resources were briefly explain to the school students.
Govt. Higher Secondary School at Vellapallam, Nagapatinam District

GPS: Lat- 10.531236   Long- 79.838108

Banner erected to commemorate the school toppers at Govt. High School at Vizhunthamavadi, Nagapatinam District, Tamil Nadu
Government Higher Secondary School, Karukkadipatti, Thanjavur District

Renovation of Girls Urinal & Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Handwash:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Kitchen:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

www.gramalaya.org
Government Higher Secondary School, Karukkadipatti, Thanjavur District

Renovation of Boys Urinal & Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Hand Wash:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Cycle Stand:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government High School, Moothakurichi, Thanjavur District

Renovation of Hand Wash:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Boys Urinal:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Cycle Stand:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
A. D. W. Government Higher Secondary School, Pattukottai, Thanjavur District

Renovation of Main Building:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Borehole:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government High School, Sendhakadu, Thanjavur District

Renovation of Classroom:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Hand Wash:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government Higher Secondary School, Karambayam, Thanjavur District

Renovation of Ladies Staff Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Hand Wash:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government High School, Vattakudi Vadaku, Thanjavur District

Renovation of Boys and Girls Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Classroom:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government Higher Secondary School, Rajamadam, Thanjavur District

Renovation of Boys Urinal & Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Girls Urinal and Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

www.gramalaya.org
Renovation of Hand Wash:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Rain water Harvesting structures:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government Higher Secondary School, Umbalacherry, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Girls Urinal and Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Boys Urinal:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Hand Wash:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government Higher Secondary School, Vellapallam, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Boys Urinal:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Hand Wash:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Branding and Name board in Boys Urinal cum Toilet:
Government Higher Secondary School, Vizhuthamavadi, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Boys Urinal:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Staff urinal and Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Girls Urinal:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government Higher Secondary School, Sembodai, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Boys Urinal & Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Girls Urinal & Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Girls Urinal & Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

www.gramalaya.org
Government Higher Secondary School, Pushpavanam, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Boys Urinal & Toilet:

![Before renovation work](image1)

![After renovation work](image2)

Renovation of Girls Urinal & Toilet:

![Before renovation work](image3)

![After renovation work](image4)

Renovation of Hand Wash:

![Before renovation work](image5)

![After renovation work](image6)
Government Higher Secondary School, Kariyampattinam, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Boys Urinal & Toilet

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Girls Urinal & Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Hand Wash:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

www.gramalaya.org
Government Higher Secondary School, Karuppampulam, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Girls Urinal and Toilet:

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Renovation of Boys Urinal & Toilet:

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Renovation of Boys Urinal:

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Government Higher Secondary School, Ayakkaranpulam, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Boys Urinal:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Staff Toilet cum Urinal:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government Higher Secondary School, Thagattur, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Boys Urinal:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Boys Urinal and Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Girls Urinal:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government Higher Secondary School, Oradiambalam, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Boys Urinal and Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Boys Urinal and Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government Higher Secondary School, Thalainayar, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Boys Urinal and Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Renovation of Class room:

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government High School, Thanikkottagam, Nagapattinam District

Renovation of Boys Urinal and Toilet:

Before renovation work

After renovation work

Before renovation work

After renovation work
Government Higher Secondary School at Aavanam, Thanjavur District

Renovation of Classroom and Hand wash according to height of students

Renovation of Girls Urinal and Toilet
Government Higher Secondary School at Kasangadu.

Renovated sanitation structures are useful to the students

Hygiene education by songs an IEC material to the students useful to remember and practice