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PRESENTATION OF RISE:

Resource Institute of Social Education was created on the 10th of May 1982 by ROCHE Victor.

The initiator of RISE is a Dalit who was early aware of the economic and social problems of his community.

RISE operates as a non-profit, non-sectarian, non-political and non-governmental organization and fight for adult education, development and women's freedom.

At the beginning, RISE had to provide the main needs of the population:

- Cows were provided to 20 widows to make them self-reliant in terms of milk production.
- Drinking water. For 5 villages, RISE deepened wells to provide more drinking water. It also arranged tap connection from over-head tanks in other 5 villages.
- Building houses. With financial help from the government, RISE built 48 houses for homeless Dalits.
- Construction of 5 cemeteries for Dalits people in 5 villages.
- Distribution of animals. RISE offered goats, ducklings, and plough bullocks. They were used to establish small scale industries, which provide livelihoods to 650 persons.

In the same time, RISE acted for awareness of the population. In this aim, RISE organized different camps, programs, and meetings:

▶ AGRICULTURAL WORKERS PROGRAM

- "Awareness Education Program" for 5000 agricultural workers.
- RISE organized 18 "Agricultural camps", which covered 20 villages.

▶ HEALTH CARE PROGRAM

- "Cultural program on health awareness": This program covered 20 villages for 8350 persons in Villianur Commune.
- "Reproductive Child Health Program" in 48 villages.

- “Community health program”
- “Medical camps”.

▶ HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM

- “Awareness camps for Dalit youths” in 10 villages, to give information about human rights to young people.
- “Skill development program in tailoring and embroidery”. Dalit Muslim Women of one village learnt to tailor and embroider.
- “Community organization for Dalit Washer men”. This social organization was created to fight for Washer men rights.

Later, the community organization added 25 Women Organizations in 25 villages. Those self help groups were supported with micro credits delivered by RISE. These organizations were involved in bringing basic amenities to their villages.

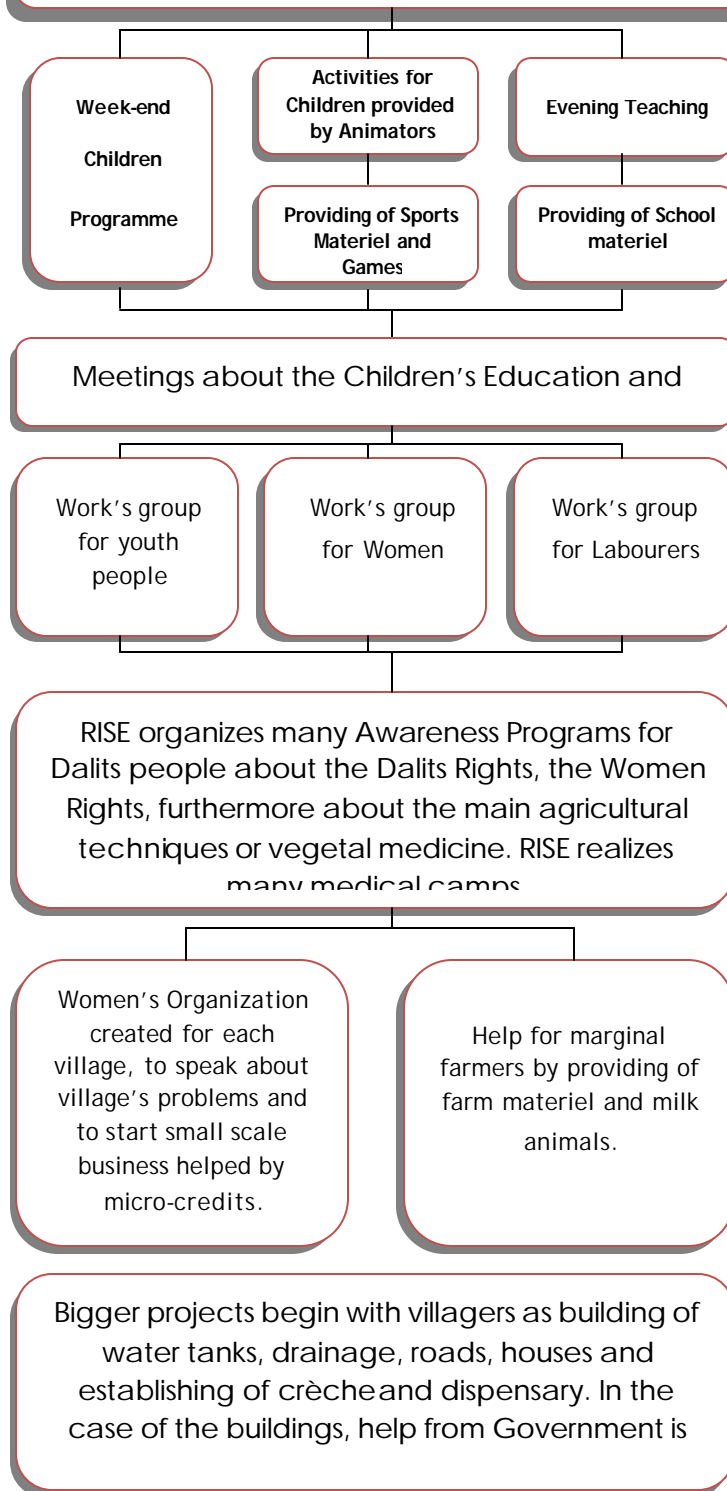
In 2001, RISE joined a Network called DMK: Dalit Mannurimai Kuttamippu (Dalit land rights Federation). This Network is composed by 16 NGOs, and is supported by international agencies. DMK organizes regional and national level program on issues such as human rights, political rights of Dalit, Dalit empowerment and women rights.

Since 2001, projects have been implemented. Moreover, since 2004, RISE has been involved in a big post-tsunami project to renovate a village of fishermen. This program required a lot of volunteers and money. So, RISE's activities have been reduced. But RISE is now starting a training center for computer applications and tailoring. Dalit people of the target area can learn computer sciences or tailoring and then have better chances to find a job.

The chart in next page clarifies the way RISE is working :

RESOURCE INSTITUTE of SOCIAL EDUCATION

Villages of project



The Children Activities help us to visit and know the village. So, RISE tries to give priority to the Children related program. Also, RISE searches sponsorship for the orphan children or children with single parent.

After the first meetings, RISE shares these activities in different groups to be more successful. RISE continues to do meetings to strengthen the relationship between villagers and RISE.

Now, the relationships between RISE and the villages are good. RISE can plan bigger actions to provide a better life for the villagers.

THE TARGET AREA:

RISE's activities take place in India, in the Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry states, in Villianur Commune. RISE tries to improve its activities for the benefice of approximatively fifty villages.



RECIPIENT POPULATION:

The majority of helped people come from Dalit community.

Dalits (means « untouchable ») are people born from parents issued of the lowest caste of Hindu system. Cast system was founded 3000 years ago by the invaders of India, called "the Aryans". Now, the caste system includes religious and social differences. Some people include also skin's colour differences between Indian people in the caste system.

This system is composed of many different castes. But, only two are well-known: Brahmins are priest and intellectuals, and Dalits, who aren't considered as Human but only as impure.

For a long time, Dalits were legally exploited by others. Now, they are helped by laws created by Ambedkar, the first law ministry of the free India.

But today, this hierarchy is really integrated in Indian culture. Consequently, Dalits live in particular areas, only for them (villages or quarter), venerate different gods in private temples, aren't owner of lands, has to do the worst tasks as washer men and all works which others dislike to do, get lower salary than the other workers, and cannot have a job with

responsibility or a political job.

However, the Government created a system of reservations exclusively for Dalit people. So, nowadays, due to this system, some Dalits can work in the government.

Dalit people are the poorest people of India. As a result, they are the most exposed to dangers and difficulties coming from poverty:

- Missing of education;
- Child labour ;
- Dangerous diseases as Typhus, Malaria, Dengue, AIDS,... ;
- Professional exploitation ;
- Bad sanitary conditions.

CHILDREN EDUCATION PROGRAM

The **CHILDREN EDUCATION PROGRAM** is the first step on activities of RISE in villages. RISE considers that the children are very important. First point, they are the future of the village. Indeed, they will be the ones able to change the situation in the village.

The children are more aware than their parents, they can understand many concepts which seem to be impossible for most of adults who are used to live in this bad situation and are resigned.

Besides, children need more sanitary care than the adults. They are more exposed to diseases, bad nutrition, domestic violence,...

Finally, children are very happy to see us, and accept us very quickly. Thanks to them, we can introduce RISE lowly in the village and have human contacts with villagers.

This program is divided into several activities:

- ◆ **Providing sport materiel and games** This is the beginning. A volunteer keep the materiel and organizes games with children, during week-ends or evenings.
- ◆ **Children week-ends**: During the week -end, 50 to 80 children come in Villianur for a camp. RISE takes care about them, gives them food, and they sleep in our office. These camps are completely free cost for families. Children stay with RISE from Saturday morning to Sunday evening. RISE tries to mix children of different villages to make them know other children with different habits. These camps are considered as favourite moment for children. They can take rest

and live in alone far from their family. Parents are also able to take rest during the week-end which is the only free time (Sunday). Furthermore, during this week-end, parents don't spend money for their children;

- ◆ Set up **evening courses**, every evening, two hours per day. This way, RISE employs new teachers who has finished their studies but who cannot have a job yet (very usual in India). This action allows children to have help for tuition, an help that parents cannot provide. As a result, students will be able to increase their scholar results, and they can hope to continue studying after the 12th standard. Also, young teachers can begin to teach slowly and get salary to live;

- ◆ **Providing food complements** for children, during evening curses, to encourage children to come at evening curses: cereals, biscuits. But, if the population of a village needs other things, it is possible we modify our providing. For example, during the rain seasons, if one village suffers of malaria epidemic, we can give some lotion against mosquitoes for families;

- ◆ **Providing school materials**: Government provides books, but uniforms, school bags, note books, and pen are bought by the families. This is very hard to pay all this materiel. This is easier to keep children at home than to have to pay to send them at school. RISE wants to provide pens, different rulers and two note books for each child. Furthermore, RISE wants to help the poorest families to buy uniforms for children. Consequently, the education of children will not be a financial handicap for the parents. We wish to establish equality between children, at least at school.

- ◆ **Meetings Child health care** : RISE will organize three meetings per village which will speak about:
 - The first meeting is about the health of children: recommended vaccines, how washing a baby, the first-aid reaction to save a person,...
 - The topic of the second meeting will be the education of the children: Why is it important to send children to school? Against child labour,... At the end of this meeting, we want to speak about the domestic violence against children to make a link with the last meeting;
 - The last meeting will be about domestic violence: we want to react to a dramatic accident which happened in a village of Villianur district. RISE wants to claim that domestic violence is forbidden, because for most of the people, it is considered as an usual thing.

Tamil Nadu state is one of the lands which counts the most of people who suffer from AIDS in the world. In fact, in 2005, the 50% of the 5.7 millions of Indian suffering from AIDS were coming from the Tamil Nadu state.

So RISE wants to speak about AIDS and its prevention in every meeting.

To make the meetings more attractive, the lunch will be offered by RISE for each people who are present in the meeting.

- Organizing partnership between associations which are involved **to sponsor children** and RISE. Actually, RISE is listing all orphans children and children with only one parent. RISE wants to find one sponsor per children who provides an economic complement. In this way, children could continue studies and do not suffer of double pain (to be orphan, and to be poor).

BUDGET OF THE CHILDREN EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR ONE YEAR

N is considered as the child number. In fact, N is not the same in each village. Just down you can find the count for a village with 100 children:

In rupees: $64500+940 \times N$ (look at the budget just after to understand this count) = $64500+940 \times 100 = 158500$ Rupees

With an exchange of 54Rs for 1 euro, $158500 \text{Rs} = 2935 \text{Euros}$

ACTIVITIES	NATURE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT PER ONE	NUMBER	TOTAL AMOUNT IN RUPEES	TOTAL AMOUNT IN EURO
Evening curses	Activities for each village	A teacher who works 5 evenings per week, during 2 hours.	Rs.1 500/- per month	12 month	Rp18 000,00	333,3 €
School materiel		four pens, two note books, one school bag, one set of rules, and one clothe (uniform or other).	Rs.400/- per child	N children	400xN	
Providing of food complement		biscuits and froots provided during evening curses. School is working during 36 weeks per years (180 days).	Rs.3/- per child and per day	N children	3x180xN	
Meetings child health care		2 speakers, 1 lawer, renting of sound and room, the lunch for everybody.	Rs.5000/- per meeting	3 meetings	Rp15 000,00	277,8 €
Week end children	Activities for all the villages	70 children of several villages: 2 lunches, 2 dinners, and 1 breakfast, 1 sleeping night and two days of activities	Rs.2500/- per week-end	4 week-ends	Rp7 500,00	138,9 €
General activities		secretary work, gestion, driving, internet, printing of request,...etc.	Rs.2000/- per month	12 month	Rp24 000,00	444,4 €
				TOTAL	Rp64 500	1 194,4 €
					+940xN	+940xN

CONTACT US

To contact us, several solutions:

✍ To have more information about RISE's activities, please consult our website:

www.riseindia.org

✍ To contact an active member of the bureau of RISE:

riseindia@sify.com

✍ To contact the person in charge of this project, you can use our private mail:

rise.pondy@gmail.com

If you need to know anything about RISE or the project, please contact us. It will be a real pleasure to answer you in the best time.