

# VELLALAR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



(Approved by NCTE, New Delhi and Affiliated to Tamilnadu Teachers Education University, Chennai)

Maruthi Nagar, Thindal, Erode - 638 012. Tamil Nadu, India

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## EVENT NO.: 1

### POST EVENT REPORT

**Name of the Event** : Temple Cleaning Service and Sanitation Awareness Initiative

**Name of the Cell** : Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

**Programme Officer** : Mrs.M.Kavitha

**Date** : 15.03.2024

**Venue** : Rayapalayam Village

#### **Objectives**

- to create awareness on health and wellbeing.
- to promote cleanliness and hygiene in temples.
- to raise awareness about sanitation practices.
- to inculcate community participation.
- to encourage environmental consciousness.

On March 15, 2024, a Temple Cleaning Service was organized at Rayapalayam village as part of the Gandhi Jayanti celebrations, led by the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) initiative of Vellalar College of Education. The event brought together students, faculty, and members of the local community to engage in a communal effort to clean and maintain the temple premises. This initiative not only focused on cleanliness but also aimed to promote key aspects of community hygiene, sanitation, and environmental awareness. Inspired by the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, who emphasized cleanliness and hygiene as a key component of social responsibility, this service demonstrated the power of collective action and reinforced the values of unity, responsibility, and sustainability.

This initiative included various cleaning activities such as:

- **Sweeping:** Volunteers swept the temple courtyard and surrounding areas, removing dirt, dust, and debris to create a neat and clean space.
- **Washing:** The temple floors, walls, and common areas were washed to ensure they were free from stains and dirt, improving the overall cleanliness of the temple environment.

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- **Organizing the Temple Surroundings:** Items in and around the temple were properly arranged and organized, making the space more welcoming and accessible for visitors.

This cleaning service was a reflection of Mahatma Gandhi's values of cleanliness and his belief that "Sanitation is more important than independence." Gandhi always emphasized that maintaining cleanliness in our surroundings was crucial for personal health and a thriving community. In this context, the temple cleaning service served as a powerful reminder of the need for consistent and conscientious efforts toward hygiene, especially in public spaces.



*Vellalar College of Education volunteers, under the UBA initiative, engage in temple cleaning at Rayapalayam village as part of the Gandhi Jayanti celebrations*

In addition to cleaning the temple, the event was an opportunity to engage with the villagers and raise awareness about important sanitation practices. The students and faculty took the time to educate the villagers on several essential aspects of health and hygiene, focusing on sustainable practices that could improve the overall cleanliness of their homes and the village. Some of the key topics discussed were:

1. **The Importance of Closed Toilets:** A significant portion of the discussion was dedicated to the importance of closed toilets and proper sanitation facilities. Open defecation is a common issue in many rural areas, leading to the spread of diseases and poor hygiene. Students encouraged the villagers to build and maintain closed toilets that

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ensure privacy and sanitation, preventing contamination of water sources and reducing health risks.

- 2. Developing Hygienic Health Habits:** The villagers were educated on the importance of developing hygienic health habits, such as regular handwashing, especially before eating and after using the toilet. The significance of keeping personal spaces and public areas clean was also highlighted. Students shared practical tips on creating hygienic living spaces, such as using clean water for drinking and cooking, regularly cleaning homes and kitchens, and ensuring that food is prepared in safe and sanitary conditions.
- 3. The Need for a Clean Environment:** The villagers were encouraged to keep their surroundings clean by ensuring that garbage was properly disposed of and not left in open spaces. Students discussed how the accumulation of waste can lead to the spread of harmful bacteria, pests, and diseases. The concept of keeping homes and public areas free of clutter, waste, and debris was reinforced as an essential practice for ensuring good health and well-being.
- 4. Avoiding Stagnated Water Around Homes:** Stagnant water is a breeding ground for mosquitoes and other pests, which can cause diseases like malaria and dengue. Students educated the villagers about the importance of draining stagnant water around their homes and removing any sources of water accumulation. Simple measures, such as ensuring that water containers are tightly covered and cleaning gutters regularly, were shared as effective ways to prevent the spread of diseases.
- 5. Waste Classification:** An important part of the sanitation awareness session involved teaching the villagers how to classify waste into **degradable** and **non-degradable** categories. Degradable waste, such as food scraps and vegetable peels, can be composted, while non-degradable waste, such as plastic and glass, needs to be disposed of properly. Students demonstrated how waste segregation can be implemented effectively in their daily lives to reduce pollution and improve waste management.
- 6. Creating Fertilizer from Biodegradable Waste:** To address the issue of waste management and sustainability, the students introduced the villagers to the concept of

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creating **biodegradable waste into compost** or organic fertilizer. By composting food waste, leaves, and other biodegradable materials, the villagers can produce their own natural fertilizer for gardening or farming. This not only helps reduce waste but also contributes to sustainable agricultural practices. The students provided step-by-step guidance on how to set up small composting systems at home, using basic materials such as bins or compost pits. The idea was to show the villagers that waste can be transformed into a valuable resource rather than being discarded.

The Temple Cleaning Service and the sanitation awareness sessions were not only about cleanliness but also about fostering a sense of community involvement and responsibility. The collaborative nature of the event allowed students, faculty, and villagers to work together, strengthening social bonds and creating a sense of shared purpose. Everyone, regardless of age or background, contributed to the effort, reinforcing the idea that community development begins with collective action.



***UBA volunteers from Vellalar College of Education contribute to community welfare by cleaning the temple in Rayapalayam village.***

Through the active participation of the villagers in cleaning the temple and engaging in the sanitation discussions, the event demonstrated the importance of shared responsibility in maintaining a clean and healthy environment. The villagers realized that personal efforts toward cleanliness and hygiene have far-reaching effects on the entire community. The initiative also

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highlighted the role of education in raising awareness about sanitation and environmental sustainability. By teaching villagers simple, effective, and sustainable practices, the students were empowering them to take charge of their health and environment, thereby creating a more sustainable and self-reliant community.

The Temple Cleaning Service and sanitation awareness initiative at Rayapalayam village was a meaningful and impactful event that aligned with the values of Mahatma Gandhi. The cleaning of the temple, along with the awareness campaigns on sanitation and hygiene, created a platform for villagers to learn and adopt healthier and more sustainable practices. The collaboration between students, faculty, and villagers not only contributed to the upkeep of the temple but also promoted a sense of unity and responsibility. Through discussions on closed toilets, waste classification, waste recycling into fertilizers, and keeping the environment clean, the event successfully encouraged a shift toward better health habits and a cleaner, healthier community.

This initiative exemplifies the core objectives of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan: empowering rural communities through education, involvement, and sustainable practices, while reinforcing the importance of Mahatma Gandhi's vision for a cleaner, more self-sufficient India.

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## EVENT NO.: 2

### POST EVENT REPORT

**Name of the Event** : Stationery Contribution Program  
**Name of the Cell** : Unnat Bharat Abhiyan  
**Programme Officer** : Mrs.M.Kavitha  
**Date** : 19.04.2024  
**Venue** : Kathirampatti Village

#### **Objectives**

- to provide access to essential supplies.
- to encourage community support and involvement
- to promote equal opportunities for education
- to promote long-term sustainability

On April 19, 2024, the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) of Vellalar College of Education organized a Stationery Contribution Program in Kathirampatti village, aiming to support the educational needs of school students, particularly those from underprivileged families. This initiative focused on providing essential stationery items such as notebooks, pens, pencils, and other study materials to ensure that financial constraints would not hinder students' access to education. The program was part of the college's ongoing commitment to fostering education and improving the academic prospects of students in rural areas.

The program was a collaborative effort involving the active participation of both the students and faculty members of Vellalar College of Education. College students took on the responsibility of collecting, organizing, and distributing the stationery items. They worked diligently to ensure that every child in the village school received the necessary materials for the upcoming academic term. In addition to the distribution, the students and faculty members interacted with the students and their families, gaining insight into their educational challenges and offering support where needed. This personal interaction helped build a sense of trust and understanding between the college students and the villagers. It also reinforced the message that

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education is a shared responsibility, and the village community was not alone in its efforts to improve the educational opportunities for its children.

Beyond the provision of stationery, the college students took a proactive approach to encourage the schoolchildren to stay committed to their studies. They delivered short lectures highlighting the importance of education and its significant role in shaping a bright future. Through these lectures, the students emphasized how education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty and building a better life. They also spoke about the importance of perseverance, hard work, and dedication in achieving academic success. The students shared personal stories of how education had transformed their own lives and opened up opportunities. Their message was clear: education is not just a pathway to knowledge, but a means of empowerment and self-improvement. By engaging the children in discussions about their future aspirations and showing them the scope of opportunities available through education, the college students hoped to instill a sense of purpose and motivation in the children.



## ***Stationery contributed by our students to 35 children Kathirampatti village***

The overarching goal of the Stationery Contribution Program was to remind the students that education is the foundation for a better future, regardless of their backgrounds. By providing them with the tools they needed to succeed academically, the program aimed to empower the students of Kathirampatti village to take charge of their education and build a brighter future for themselves. The distribution of stationery materials was more than just a charitable act; it was an

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investment in the students' potential and a step toward bridging the educational gap between rural and urban communities.

The Stationery Contribution Program organized by the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan at Kathirampatti village on April 19, 2024, was a significant step in supporting the educational needs of underprivileged students in the community. The initiative not only provided essential study materials to students but also inspired them to engage more fully in their learning and to envision a future made brighter through education. The active involvement of Vellalar College's students and faculty members highlighted the college's dedication to rural development and the promotion of education in underserved areas. The success of the program reinforced the belief that education is a powerful tool for social change and that every child, regardless of their background, deserves the opportunity to succeed.