

From,
G.Asok Kumar,
Collector,
Nizamabad.

To
The Secretary to Government,
Education Department,
Andhra Pradesh, Secretariat, HYDERABAD

Sir,

Lr no. dated 14-8-2002
Sub:- Nizamabad –Chadavula Panduga, the festival– Reg.

This is to bring to your kind notice that though Chadavula Panduga 2002 (Jasne-E-Taleem) was formally launched by Hon'ble Chief Minister in Bodhan on 2nd August,2002, in Nizamabad district the Chadavula Panduga which had started on June,12th, 2001 had never actually ended. Dogged efforts were taken in Nizamabad by the district administration to enroll the 5 to 14 year old children in the schools throughout the last academic year (2001-2002). This successful high profile campaign led by the district collector and the DPEP team with total participation of people from all walks of life had created a very congenial environment for the enrolment drive this year.

In the last year the Government sanctioned 598 new primary schools and upgraded 297 primary schools to upper primary schools. Encouraged with this support from the higher officers, an intensive campaign was taken up in Veilpur mandal from July 25, 2001 to make it as a child labor free mandal. The DPEP team led by Jagdishwar Goud, APC, DPEP, Sudhakar, CMO, Nirmala Kumari, GCDO and 3 MRPs organized various programs to achieve the target. With the sustained campaign involving total involvement of local people, their elected representatives and officials of all departments in the mandal, on 2nd October, 2001, Veilpur was declared as the first mandal in the state to achieve 100% enrolment and as child labor free. This claim was cross verified and vindicated by many independent agencies. At present, even after 11 months, there is 100% enrolment and 100% retention in the mandal. A detailed write up on the efforts at Veilpur is enclosed herewith. It is a

privilege to inform you that in many national educational fora, the success of Veilpur has been discussed, appreciated and the strategies adopted here was collectively termed as the "Veilpur model".

Inspired and propelled by the success in Veilpur, on 16th November, 2001 a similar drive was launched in Yedpally mandal. Mr.Basker Raj, President, Mandal Parishad, Yedpally, the Sarpanchas, MPTCs, ZPTC of the mandal and Smt.Suvidha, Mandal Development Officer have put in intensive efforts along with DPEP team to achieve 100% enrolment in the mandal. Sri Narsimha Rao, Branch Manager, State Bank of Hyderabad, Tanakalan and many others from different walks of life worked tirelessly for about six months to achieve the goal. Many meetings, rallies and kalajathas were organised in the mandal. An old Rice Mill was taken over and modified into a residential Bridge camp where at present (140) children are studying. Sri Sudershan Reddy,MLA,Bodhan visited the camp twice. He donated (115) trunk boxes and a special paint for coating on the ceiling to reduce the heat. Sri M.Venkateshwar Rao, Hon'ble Minister for School Education, also visited the centre. Many journalists, team members sent by education department from Ethiopia, Commissioner of School Education has also visited the camp. When the rice mill was put for auction in a revenue recovery case, the villagers and the bank manager mobilized funds to save it for the children.

Similar drives were also taken up in Renjal and Nandipet mandals. Sri Ramana Goud, President, Mandal Parishad, Renjal had taken personal interest in the drive. He spent a lot of time in Yedpally mandal as "probationer" to learn the strategies for enrolling the children. Police officials also helped in bring hard-core cases to line. Sri Sudhaker Reddy, MEO and MRPs also helped in achieving 100% enrolment in Nandipet Mandal.

In every habitations of all these mandals sign boards giving the details of children and number of children going to school had been putup by the villagers. They have proudly painted the number of children not going to school as zero in all the boards. This is the reminder for villagers that all the children in the village within the school and that they should not have any children in their farms or for any labor purpose. Sheer peer pressure caused

people to free children employed by them. In Veilpur mandal a cumulative of Rs.35.00 lakhs waived off by the villagers as the principle and interest on the mortgage on the children kept as labour.

On 1st January, 2002 a programme called "Balya Raksha" was taken up in the district to confront the problem of child labor head on. In the first phase the three municipalities i.e., Nizamabad, Bodhan & Kamareddy was to be covered. NGOs conducted surveys and enlisted all child labor working in hotels, cycle shops etc and took up rallies in the towns. Warning notices were issued to the employers of children. All the (34) National Child Labour Project Schools in district were renamed as "Balya Raksha Schools" - schools for "saving childhood of children"- to bring in a positive connotation. Over 1000 children from these schools were mainstreamed this year year.

The district administration had been constantly talking about eradication of Child Labour and enrolment over the last one year when no other district was even discussing this. The press and media in the district also had supported the mission in a very positive way. Almost every day in the last one year there were reports in one paper or other about the drive taken up in various parts of the district to enroll children and to prevent child labor. It should be appreciated that when none of the other districts were talking about enrolment or child labor, the Nizamabad district administration had put these high on the agenda and kept the issue alive and prominent throughout the year. This helped a lot in the Chaduvulu Panduga 2002.

The Chadavula Panduga, 2002 evoked tremendous public response because of the ambience built up in the last one year in the district. Some of the press clippings enclosed would bear testimony to this fact .

At the end of Chadavula Panduga, 2002 apart from Veilpur, Yedpally and Renjal mandals Jakranpally, Nandipet, Morthad have achieved 100% enrolment. Dichpally, Makloor, Dharpally, Armoor mandals would complete 100% enrolment by 15th August,2002. 428 habitations achieved 100% enrolment during Chadavula Panduga. During the program 23267 children out of a total of 34,907 out of school children as on 1-8-2002 were enrolled leaving a balance of 11640 children. Rs.22,79,599 was collected as Vidyanidhi

apart from many things received in kind. 168 cases of child labor were booked and Rs 1,45,280 was collected as fine. 418 non residential bridge camps and one residential bridge camp were started. This is in addition to the five residential bridge camps already started in the district in the last one year and another 34 non residential "balya raksha" schools. Nizamabad is the only district to have uploaded the details of the Chaduvulu Panduga from mandals to the internet. Hon'ble CM had appreciated this in the last teleconference.

Statistics, they say, reveals the suggestive and conceals the vital. Numbers are numbers and they cannot convey the quality and intensive effort put in by the district administration throughout the last one-year for the enrolment of children and for elimination of child labor in the district. The co-operation and active participation of the villagers, caste elders, press, women cannot be quantified in figures. The sweat, toil and tears of everyone who struggled hard in the last one year is crowned by the smiles of over 2500 children in the bridge schools and that of over 23000 children brought to school during the festival of education.

I request you to consider the quality and ambience in the district in the field of Education while assessing the performance of Chadavula Panduga. In fact teams from Cuddapah, Rangareddy, Medak and Karimnagar districts had visited the Veilpur mandal and had drawn inspiration from the strategies adopted here. They have acknowledged this many a times.

In Nizamabad, Chadavula Panduga was celebrated in true spirit of a festival.

Yours faithfully,

COLLECTOR : NIZAMABAD.