

HECx Education Workshop Follow-up Reports: Krishnagiri participant's programmes



Mr. Jalaluddeen educating HECx to the kids



Kids with Ele kit materials



Mrs. Mayil conducting HECx programme at Wahab Nagar



Women SHG members were taught about HECx

USFWS sponsored human elephant coexistence educator skill training workshop was held at Krishnagiri on 11-13 April 2013 and 45 participants took part in it. All participants at the end of workshop pledged to conduct at least three activities in their area within next six months utilizing the materials and the knowledge they received during the workshop.

To fulfill their promise, the participants from Social Welfare Organisation for Rural Development *SWORD*, Krishnagiri arranged four awareness programmes two weeks after the training programmes. These were conducted in Krishnagiri district from 27 April to 1 May 2013 and the main audiences were self help women group members and their children living in HEC areas of Krishnagiri District.

The first education programme was held at Perumal Nagar on 27 April 2013, thirty women and 15 children participated in this. Mr. V.S.S. Jalaluddeen was the trainer and Mrs. V. Mallika, President, Om Shakthi women group was the coordinator.

Mr. C. Narasimman, trainer conducted another programme at Rajaji Nagar on 28 April 2013. Thirty women and 20 children took part. Smt. Anitha, President, Amman women group was the coordinator.

Mrs. N. Mayil conducted third programme at Wahab Nagar on 30 April 2013. Twenty-five women and 15 children participated. Ms. Jarina Taj, President, Wahabia Women Group was the coordinator.

The last programme was organised at Old pet on 1 May 2013 and Mr. V. Venkatesan conducted it. A total of 25 women and 15 children were taught. Mrs. Govindammal, Bharathiyar Women Group was the coordinator.

By using ele-kit packets, drama kits and teaching guide they taught about the kinds of elephants, their behavior, elephants in our culture and do's and don'ts in elephant areas with activities. Dramas related to habitat loss, human elephant conflict, poaching and rescuing elephant were also played by the participants. Ele-kit packet was comprehensively used and they all got copies of it. They were asked to go through the booklet. They tied the headband, masks, put the finger puppet and hold the masks and marched for a rally. The rally attracted other people in the village. The participants enjoyed the programme and promised that they carry forward HEC message to others in their area.

Through this, the participants understood the reasons for human elephant conflict issues and how to avoid the conflicts and try to coexist with elephants. **Submitted by: Mr. V.S.S. Jalaluddeen, Dir. & Secretary, SWORD, Krishnagiri. Email: vssjsword@rediffmail.com**