

Library Reopens

The library had to be closed due to the pandemic from April to the first week of July. However, as soon as the doors to the library opened, we saw several enthusiasts walking in happily looking at all the books in the library, sitting in different corners and reading silently. The library was reopened, maintaining all the strict guidelines and taking precautionary measures by accommodating few members at a time.

Story-telling Session

Since storytelling has always been a prominent activity of our library, our young members couldn't wait to share the stories with fellow members on how they spent the lockdown. Unlike the storytelling sessions that happened online, this offline session gave them the space to interact with each and everyone. We could see the excitement during the storytelling session, where they not only narrated but also enacted some of the scenes from their stories. Some of them even stressed on how much they missed coming to the library.

TCLN Workshop on Book Curation

Suriya. R, the library facilitator of our library attended the Book Curation Workshop organized and conducted by The Community Library Network (TCLN) on July 3, 2021. As we are in the process of digitally cataloguing the books, this programme turned out to be a useful session to help us understand the kind of book collections our community library should contain. The workshop also gave us an insight into how to curate books based on the visitors to our library and also how to encourage more people to visit the library.

Online Science Classes

Although the library re-opened, we continued to conduct online science classes for students to help with their academics. In the month of July, we explored Biology through interactive sessions, especially on understanding the human body. Members were instructed to come prepared for the experiments. One of the simplest experiments was to understand the functioning of the lungs using papers, straws and balloons. They also learnt about the nervous system and the coordination of the brain with other parts of the body.

Thochiddu Geechu

With the functioning of the library in a hybrid mode, Thochiddu Geechu, our art and craft workshop was held in an offline mode on Saturdays and in an online mode on alternate days of the week. These young enthusiasts put their creativity on paper and proudly displayed their artwork to everyone.

Savitribai Scholarship

COVID crisis has broken many families and pushed the deprived classes further back. There have been no valid research or studies to show the number of students excluded from schools/colleges and pushed into factories and on the streets. Most of the government schools and private schools have not conducted any classes since the lockdown in May 2020. Students who are looking forward to continuing their education have been faced with challenges, especially with the payment of fees.

Hence, Haadibadi has initiated the Savitribai scholarship to aid students who are members of Haadibadi Community Library to help them continue their studies.

We had started a drive to collect data on the number of school-going and college-going students in the neighbourhood. This data collection was a necessity to deliver our plan to support the high school and college students of our community and prevent them from dropping out of schools and colleges. It still remains a big hassle to comprehend the hardships faced by them from their presence, and hence we came forth to reach them through a clear understanding of their problems in more detail to provide them tremendous support provided through scholarships catered to their specific needs.

Our work gets recognized in media

The Deccan Herald newspaper featured an article on Haadibadi Community Library titled 'A Library of Their Own' on July 16th, which is a real feather in our cap.

Varsha Gowda's newspaper article helped us with a good outreach. We have been receiving calls enquiring about the library, along with visitors who wished to start a community library in their own neighbourhood. We have also received tremendous support in the form of books and other resources.

Click on this [link](#) to read the article:

<https://www.deccanherald.com/spectrum/spectrum-top-stories/in-bengaluru-migrant-labourers-have-a-library-of-their-own-1009425.html>