

SATYA SPECIAL SCHOOL

SPECIAL BULLETIN – RURAL SPORTS MEET

OCTOBER 2010

Introduction :

Sports forms a very important part of a child's daily activities. Unfortunately due to lack of facilities and necessary infrastructure, children with disabilities are deprived of a chance to play and participate in various sports activities. Though the government has a specialised sports body called SPECIAL OLYMPICS for children with disabilities, these activities have been out of reach for disabled children in the rural and semi urban areas of Pondicherry. For the first time in Pondicherry, SATYA SPECIAL SCHOOL, organised a sports meet for rural disabled children. A salient feature of the meet was a special event for severely challenged children participating with their wheel chairs and walking aids.



Soft ball throw



Assisted walk event

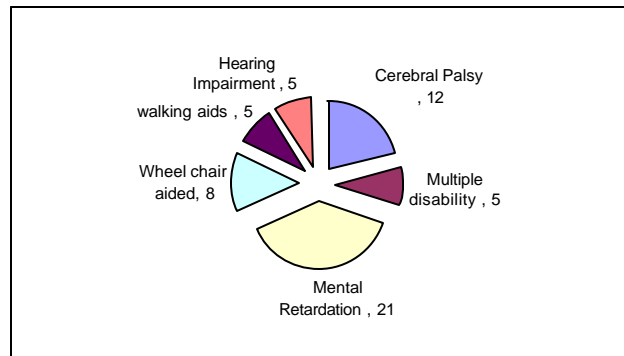


9th October 2010 saw a new chapter in the history of Sports in Pondicherry. For the first time ever, 50 children irrespective of their level of disabilities and abilities participated with great enthusiasm. The scenic infrastructure provided graciously by the Management of Achariya Siksha Mandir, Villanur only added to the motivation of the children.

Participants as per their disabilities

Division of Participation – Center wise

No	Name of the Village	No of children
1	Villanur	18
2	Kodathur	12
3	Thavalakuppam	05
4	City Center	21



Following the guidelines of Special Olympics, children were divided on their abilities. The events were planned in such a way that every child participated in a minimum of 3 events and it provided the children with the opportunity to discover their abilities. The following events were held Soft ball throw, Tennis Ball throw,



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shot put, 50 mts run, 75 mts , 100 mts run , 25 mts walk, 25 mts assisted walk and standing broad jump. In order to encourage and increase the involvement of the parents, two separate events were held for the Mother's. Passing the ball and lucky corner events saw 20 parents eagerly participating in these events. An event – lemon & spoon & 100 mts run was also held for the teachers of the village centers. The sports meet concluded with the Prize distribution Ceremony at 4 pm



Passing the ball event for Parents



Volunteers at work



Mass drill with properties

The Prize Distribution Ceremony:

The evening started with Dr Nallam, Patron of the School highlighting the activities of the Village Rehabilitation centers. For the first time the children marched past the Chief Guest and other dignitaries in their Sports Jersey's specially sponsored by the Rotary Club of Pondicherry Central. The highlight of the day was a March Past by the participants carrying placards of their village much to the cheer and encouragement of the audience. This was followed by a Yoga and Mass drill with properties such as hoops, sticks and ball by the adult beneficiaries of the Vocational Training Division of Satya Special School.



Yoga Demonstration

Medals for the winners and prizes for all the participating children, which was sponsored by Rotary Club of Pondicherry Central was distributed to the children by the Chief Guest Rtn Amalanathan, President of the club. Mr Naren Babu, Vice President, Acharya Siksha Mandir ,



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Villanur also gave away the medals for a few events. Dr Ragothaman, Area Director, Special Olympics Bharath, Pondicherry gave away the momentous for the volunteers and officials who assisted in organizing the event. Ms Julie from Project Evolution, UK & Mr Marco Lundi from CIAI, Italy also participated and gave away medals. The participation of all these dignitaries and well wishers was very encouraging and reiterated our commitment of the cause of changing the face of disability in Pondicherry.



Prize Distribution

Mr Naren Babu, Vice President, Achariya Siksha Mandir, Villanur assured us the continuous support of their institution for the sports meet in the years to come by giving permission to use the sports infrastructure to hold the event in the future too. Rtn. Amalanathan, President of the Rotary Club of Pondicherry Central in his addressed emphasized the need for more involvement and assistance to projects for children with special needs. He promised a visit to the school by the club members to explore ways of

working together.

WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY :

“My son has never left the village in 10 years. Since the Satya’s village center in June, I see a lot of improvement in his condition. He has never played anything. He would only sit and watch other’s play. The wheel chair has changed his life. Now I can fight for my son’s right to play and enjoy like any other child” – **Mother of a CWSNs from Villanur.**

“When I said – I am taking her to a sports meet; my entire family laughed and made fun off. They told me I was wasting my time. By participating & winning this medals, my son has proved what he is capable. I am very proud of it – **Sibling of a CWSNs from Thavalakuppam.**

“I have only seen these children on Television. This sports meet gave me a first hand experience of the life of Special Needs Children. I thank my school management for giving me an opportunity to learn about the lives of these wonderful children. I promise to help these children in whatever way possible – **Student Volunteer from Achariya Siksha Mandir, Villanur**

“What I saw there was beyond words. It was heart wrenching to see those kids, and it was touching to see what you people were trying to do for them.” **Mr Ashok Sridharan, Member, Rotary Club of Pondicherry Central**

SPONSOR’S :

Jersey’s & Prizes -
Rotary Club of Pondicherry Central



VENUE COURTESY :

Achariya Siksha Mandir,
Villanur



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