
CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL BLOCK MHSS, KARUR

Prepared For



Karur Vysya Bank

Prepared By



SOULACE CONSULTING PVT LTD

ISO 27001:2013 Certified

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Karur Vysya Bank partnered with Rotary International to construct a school block in Municipal Boys Higher Secondary School, with an estimated cost of 2.25 crores under their CSR initiative. Under this project, a new school block was built that comprised the ground and first floors. This school block had 2 staff rooms on either end of the ground floor, classrooms with AV projectors in between these staff rooms, and the first floor had labs for biology, physics, and computer, and some smart classes. The new toilet block was built for normal students and one special toilet was built for differently-abled students. This toilet block had a separate toilet for male and female staff.

The data was collected by both qualitative and quantitative studies. The stakeholders (Head Masters and teachers) were met individually and in-depth interviews were conducted to know the impact of this project on their schools and their satisfaction with it. Data collectors were appointed to collect data from the school students via SoulAce App.

Some of the key findings from this impact study are:

- The new school block was very spacious and sophisticated. Hence, the students were able to sit comfortably, attend individual classes, and store their books and bags inside the classroom itself.
- 98% of the students felt that the classrooms were comfortable and able to accommodate all the students.
- 98% of the students were now able to attend or participate in all the classroom activities.
- 100% attendance of the students was recorded using the new school block.

Some of the notable benefits of this project are:

- The student intake had increased by 60% among all the grades.
- Grades in the final exams had improved.
- The spread of diseases had greatly reduced due to the new hygienic toilet.
- Attendance had improved significantly.



Karur Vysya Bank
Smart way to bank

Rotary



CSR- KVB - Happy School MHSS

Construction of Classrooms with Smart Class , Toilet Block, Other Infrastructure and Renovation with Landscaping of Existing Building at Municipal Higher Secondary School Karur

Inauguration 24/10/2021

Funded By Project Of

The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd (CSR Funds) - Rs.2,06,20,000.00

The Rotary Foundation

Global Grant GG 2011251

Project Of

Rotary Club of Karur Texcity RID-3000

Rotary Club of Freshwater Bay RID-9455

- Rs. 71,61,610.00

Rtn. L. Subbiah

Primary Contact Host

Rajah Senathirajah

Primary Contact International

Total Project Value

Rs. 2,77,81,610.00

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

Karur Vysya Bank partnered with Rotary International to construct a school block in Municipal Boys Higher Secondary School, with an estimated cost of 2.25 crores under their CSR initiative. Under this project, a new school block was built that comprised the ground and first floors. This school block had 2 staff rooms on either end of the ground floor, classrooms with AV projectors in between these staff rooms, and the first floor had labs for biology, physics, and computer, and some smart classes. The new toilet block was built for normal students and one special toilet was built for differently-abled students. This toilet block had a separate toilet for male and female staff. Overall, this new school infrastructure boosted the confidence of the students and their teachers. Many new students joined this school and the intakes for all the classes increased too. Also, due to the increased space in the classrooms, more students were easily accommodated. New labs were made sophisticated with AV projectors and smart boards, through which the students were able to gain more knowledge and score better marks in their final exams.

Components of the Project

New school block and toilet block were built by Karur Vysya Bank partnering with Rotary International as a part of their CSR initiative.

Demographic Details

Students and staff working in the school got benefited.





CHAPTER 2: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research can be stated as a logical and systematic search for new and useful information on a particular subject matter. Social Science Research refers to the systematic activity of gaining new understanding by following scientific principles and methods to minimize bias and subjectivity. It is opposed to writing something based on assumptions or speculations. Though insight into certain facts can also be gained through common sense and based on general observation and hearsay, those facts will not be considered valid until they have been obtained in a methodical manner, which can stand the test of time. The defining characteristics of scientific research are objectivity, ethical neutrality, reliability, testability, and transparency. Identification of the research problem provides the starting point of research, which is then defined and redefined through a proper review of the literature on the problem or deliberations with research experts and knowledgeable others in the subject matter of interest. Each research problem has a multitude of perspectives and dimensions, research cannot cover all of those in a single study. Thus, we need to delimit the research problem into a 'measurable problem and formulate objectives, make decisions on the research design, sample design, type of research instruments for collecting the data, and how these data can be edited, coded, classified, tabulated, and interpreted so that findings and conclusions can be reached.' Every research needs to have a proper methodology to foresee the problems that could arise during research and steer through the research process in a proper direction without losing focus.



Use of Mixed Methodology for Maximum Insights

The research problem consisted of understanding the extent of impact created by Karur Vysya Bank-supported initiatives to increase awareness and sensitivity of the local communities towards improving the quality of life by building new school blocks and toilet blocks in MHSS. To gain maximal insight, both quantitative and qualitative techniques were used.

Application of Quantitative Techniques

A quantitative study will be needed if the focus is on presenting the study problem in terms of numbers, frequencies, percentages, etc. A quantitative study always uses structured tools like questionnaires and interview schedules, in which questions are planned well in advance by the researcher before entering the field. Though the information that is obtained is easily amenable to various statistical measures and tests, quantitative information has its own limitations. It can uncover only the surface phenomena. It is unable to penetrate beneath the surface and identify what is hidden underneath. In this study, to assess the impact of the structured tools like the interview schedule administered was used, which helped in getting quantifiable information.

Application of Qualitative Techniques

Qualitative research can only unravel enriched and hidden information that may not be evident on the face of it. The qualitative approach is distinguished by deeper probing and flexibility, and it can yield massive amounts of data that were not anticipated when the research was initiated. For better accuracy, to ensure anonymity and at the same time, to cover a larger sample population, quantitative techniques were used. Qualitative techniques of interviews with key stakeholders and interviews with community people were adopted for a better understanding of the problem alongside quantitative research.

Ensuring Triangulation

Triangulation is needed to increase the credibility and validity of the research findings. It is also a measure taken to ensure the trustworthiness of the research process. The findings of the quantitative research were verified with the insights from qualitative research and the reports have also been structured to reflect this point.

Research Design

- **Name of the project** : Construction of School Block, MHSS-Karur
- **Project partner** : Karur Vysya Bank and Rotary International
- **Research Design used** : Descriptive Research Design
- **Sampling Technique** : Random Sampling
- **Sample size** : 50 Students + 5 Stakeholders
- **Qualitative methods used** : In-depth interviews, and collection of data from beneficiaries through the SoulAce App.

Key Stakeholders



Study Tools

Tools used during the study

SoulAce has developed a mobile application platform for data collection that the field team used to undertake the study. This application has real-time data entry and data upload with GPS location details along with a questionnaire, for interaction with the project beneficiaries. The application also has a provision to take pictures of each respondent.



Primary data was collected using two types of questionnaires.

Questionnaire for Primary Beneficiaries:

Structured questionnaires were developed reviewing the project details for each of the focus areas and indicators were pre-defined before conducting the surveys.

Questionnaire for Secondary Beneficiaries & Stakeholders:

Semi-structured questionnaires were developed for each type of sample of this group. Stakeholders were identified across the focus areas.

The one-on-one discussion was done with the beneficiaries to prepare the case studies.

Ensuring Commitment to Research Ethics

Anonymity

Anonymity refers to not revealing the identity of the respondents. This research study strictly sticks to not revealing the identity of respondents unless the same is warranted for the illustration of success stories or case studies. After the research was completed, the study did not reveal which individual respondents answered which question in what manner. The results were revealed only as an aggregate, so no one would be able to single out the identity of a particular respondent. This was required to not break the trust of the respondent by not revealing the individual identity.

Confidentiality

Research subjects participate in the process only based on the trust that confidentiality has been maintained. Hence, the research would not reveal any data regarding the respondents for purposes other than the research study.

Non-Maleficence

Research would not lead to any harm to the research subjects. This study ensured that the respondents were not harmed in any way.

Beneficence

Any research study should lead to some benefits for the respondent. This research study also ensures that individuals, groups, and communities benefit and their wellbeing is enhanced.

Justice

Justice refers to being fair to all. This research study ensures equal treatment of all its research subjects and no biases or prejudices towards any group based on social stereotypes or stigma associated with being a member of a certain group or class.

 **கரூர் மாநகராட்சி**
KARUR CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

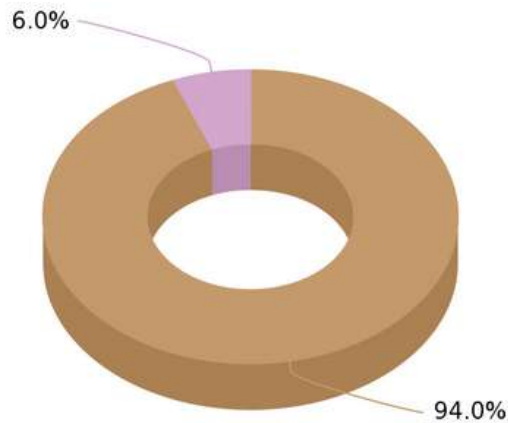
தமிழ் வாழ்க



CHAPTER 3: MAJOR FINDINGS

In this chapter of major findings, a comparative analysis has been done of pre- and post-intervention of the CSR activities, the benefits of the project, the impact created by this project, and the student's basic demographics.

Students' opinion about the condition of their previous classroom



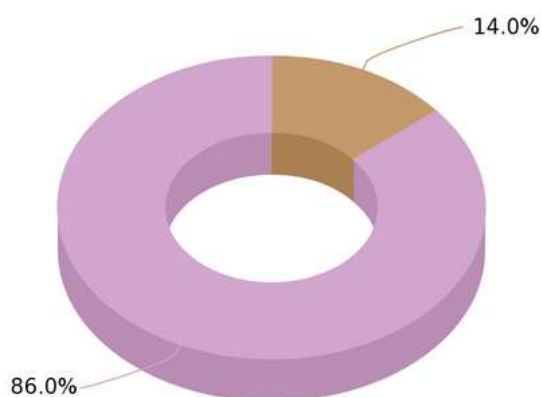
● A few of the classrooms are broken ● Most of the classrooms are broken

For this project, 50 students were surveyed and asked questions regarding the school infrastructure. When asked about the previous condition of their classrooms, 94% of the students said that a few of the classrooms were broken, whereas 6% of them said that most of the classrooms were broken.



Picture taken on field visit

Status of the previous condition of the toilets



● A few of the toilets are broken ● Most of the toilets are broken

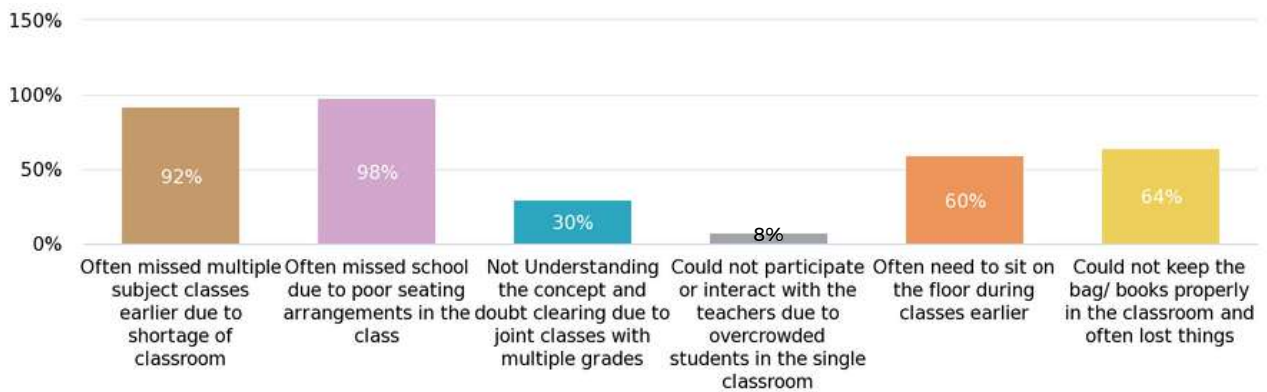
When the students were asked about the previous condition of the toilets, 86% of them said that most of the toilets were broken, whereas 14% of them said that a few of the toilets were broken.



J. Jamuna, Commerce teacher (Testimonials from Stakeholders)

“The personnel and students' lives have been altered by this effort. With AV projectors and high-quality equipment, the classrooms are extremely sophisticated. Smart boards and high-quality equipment are integrated into the labs. The new school building is hosting the board practical exams, and the amenities and infrastructure are well-liked by the outside faculty. We can store the exam materials and books in our staff rooms because they are spacious and comfortable to use. The students can confidently attend the classes and the amount of student involvement in the workshop activities has significantly grown as of late. Joint or combined classes are now rarely necessary and are only used when faculty members are absent. The women's staff lavatory is excellent, it is carefully kept tidy and clean by the sanitary staff. I am very happy with this project overall.”

Situation before the construction of the new school block



When the students were asked about the situation before the construction of the new block, multiple responses were recorded from each student. 98% of them said that they had often missed school due to poor arrangements in the classrooms, 92% of them said that they often missed multiple subject classes earlier due to a shortage of classrooms, and 64% of the students said that they could not keep their bags/books properly in the classroom and often lost things. Further, 60% of them said that earlier they often had to sit on the floor during their classes and 30% of the students said that they faced issues due to attending joint classes.

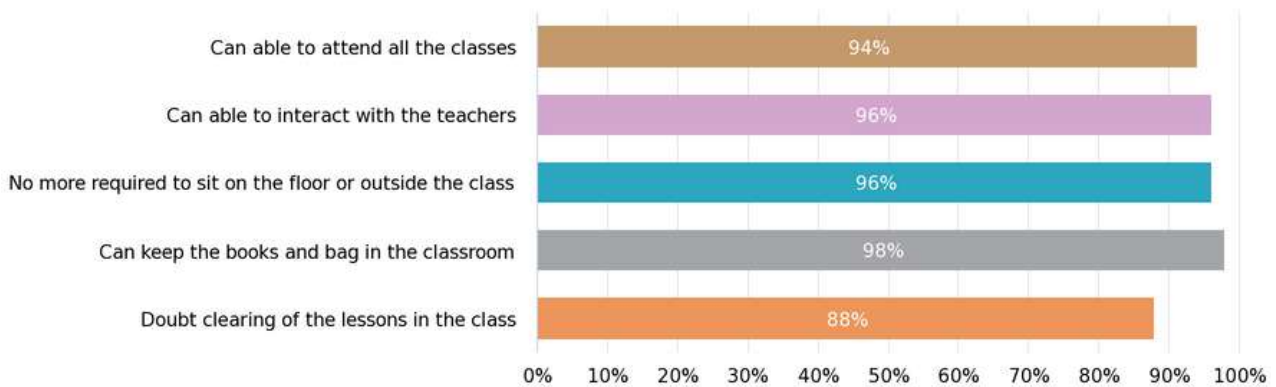


“The new school block had served our staff and the students in a very great way. Now the interaction and participation level among the students had greatly increased. All students now get a table and chair and they need not sit down on the floor. The classrooms have cupboards where they can store the books and bags. We are so happy about this initiative”.

-M.Arun Kumar-Social science teacher

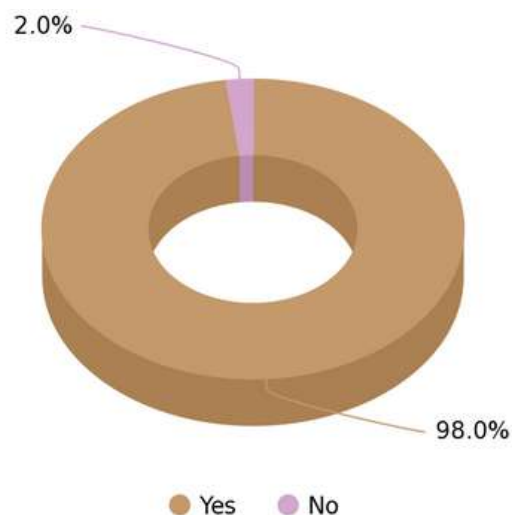


Benefits after the construction of the new school block



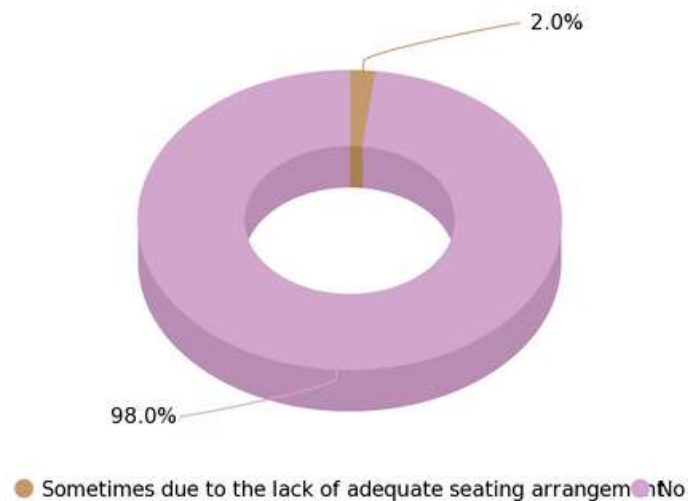
The new school block offered multiple benefits to the school students. When the students were asked about it, they gave various responses. 98% of the students said that they could keep the books and bag in the classroom, 96% of them said that they were able to interact with the teachers, and 96% of them also said that they did not have to sit on the floor or outside the class anymore. Further, 94% of the students said that they were able to attend all the classes on time and 88% of them said that they were able to clear doubts during class hours.

Accommodation of all the students in new classrooms



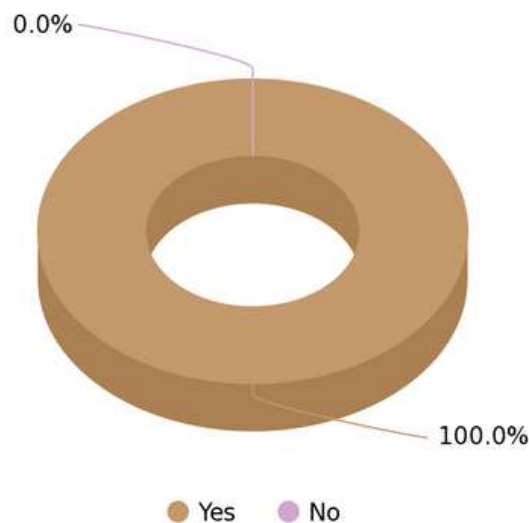
It can be inferred from the chart that, 98% of the students said that the new classrooms could accommodate all the students, whereas 2% of them replied negatively.

Was there a situation to sit on the floor?



2% of the students reported that they had to sit down on the floor due to inadequate seating arrangements. This was a rare incident that occurred when a faculty was absent or when there was a workshop conducted by people from outside the school.

Student's attendance in all the classes



Since the project intervention, all the students have been attending all the subject classes appropriately.

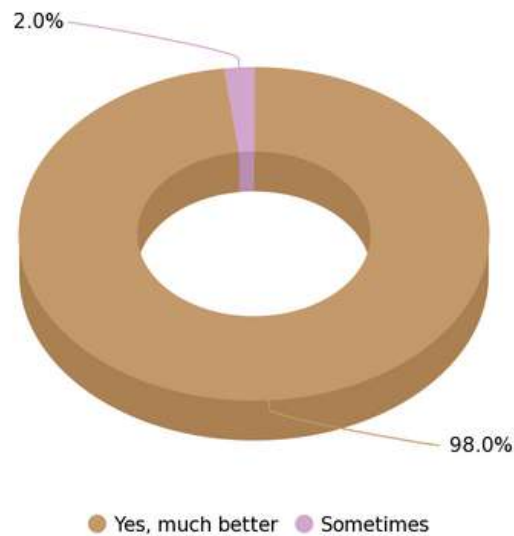


“We have a constraint when there is an absence of staff on that particular day. Since our staff strength is less, we can allocate a substitute staff. So, we are combining two classes into one class and teaching lessons. At that time some students are sitting down on the floor.”

-J.Jamuna, Commerce teacher



Student interaction in the lesson activity



After the construction of the new school block, it was found that 98% of the students started to interact/participate in the lesson activity more than earlier and 2% of the students participated in activities only occasionally.



A. Malarvili, Commerce Teacher (Testimonials from Stakeholders)

“I sincerely appreciate Rotary International and Karur Vysya Bank for helping to create new school infrastructure on our property. The new school block has made the children delighted. Currently, grades 11 and 12 are housed in this new school building. The laboratories are highly advanced and furnished with cutting-edge technology. Students can learn through video tutorials using AV projectors in the classrooms. For safety, the hallways have fire alarms and CCTV cameras. Excellent staff restrooms are located on either end of the ground level with enough space to keep our belongings. These new buildings increased the number of students who showed up for class. I am excited about this project and hope there will be more such initiatives in the future.”

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 **Rotary** 

CSR- KVB - Happy School MHSS

Construction of Classrooms with Smart Class , Toilet Block, Other Infrastructure and Renovation with
Landscaping of Existing Building at Municipal Higher Secondary School Karar

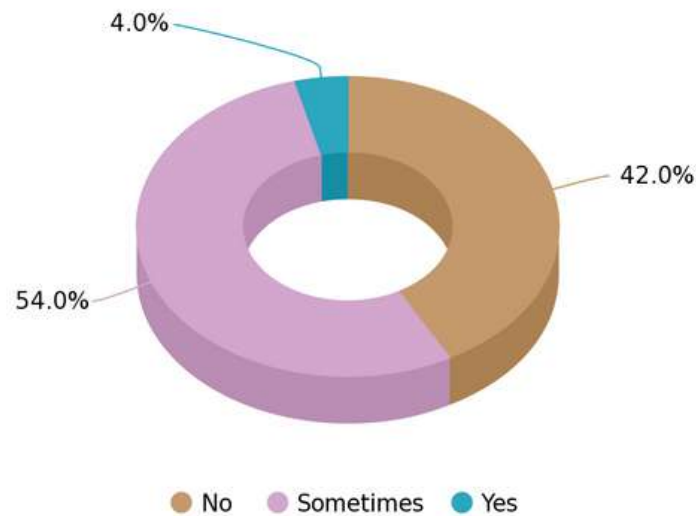
Inauguration: 24/10/2021

Funded By Project Of		Project Of
The Karar Vyaya Bank Ltd (CSR Funds)	- Rs.2,81,30,000.00	Rotary Club of Karar Tensity RID-3000
The Rotary Foundation		Rotary Club of Freshwater Bay RID-6455
Global Grant GG 2011251	- Rs. 71,81,410.00	
Total Project Value	Rs. 2,77,41,610.00	

Dr. L. Subbiah
Primary Contact Head
Rajesh Sankaranarayanan
Primary Contact Head



Whether the need was still there for attending joint classes with other grade students



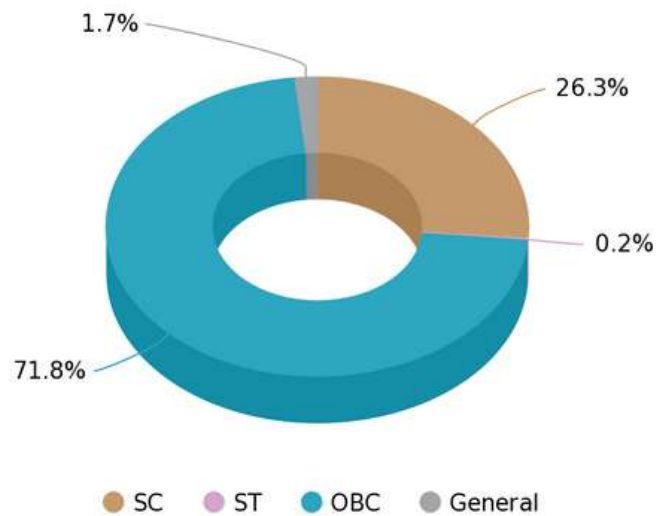
The reason behind joint classes was only due to a smaller number of teachers in this school. 54% of the students said that sometimes they were paired up with other grade students, whereas 42% of the students disagreed on this and said that they attended individual classes only, and 4% of them said that they always attended joint classes with other grade students.



M.Revathi-Head mistress (Testimonials from Stakeholders)

“The construction of this new school building and the restrooms by the Karur Vysya Bank in collaboration with Rotary International has greatly benefited the school. The bank has invested close to Rs. 2.3 Crores in the school infrastructure, therefore it is not a project that should be taken lightly at all. The new school building has 2 floors: the first and the ground. Staff rooms are located at the ends and in the middle of the ground level. Three labs—one each for biology, physics, and computer science—as well as a few classrooms are located on the first floor. Each of these modern classrooms has an AV projector and screens. CCTV cameras are used to monitor the new building. The labs on the first floor are where all the practice tests are given. The staff rooms are also neat, clean, and spacious. In this new school building, there are 23 functional classrooms, and all the children are happy to use them. There are 20 brand-new, fully-functional restrooms with all necessary conveniences, and each one is frequently cleaned. Personal recommendations from me include the need for an R.O. water plant to supply children with clean drinking water and the repair of switchboards that have malfunctioned in staff and classroom areas. Overall, I am quite happy with this project and eagerly anticipate more such excellent efforts from Karur Vysya Bank and crew.”

Distribution of the students by their social category



As per the exhibit, 71.8% of the students belonged to the OBC category, 26.3% of them belonged to the SC category, 1.7% of them were in the General category, and 0.2% of them were in the ST category.



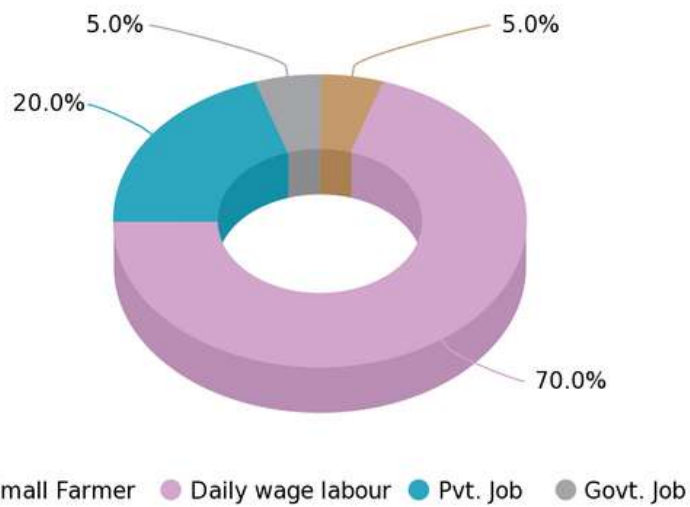
“Since the new classrooms are bigger in size the students can able to listen to the classroom without any distractions and hence their participation and interactions in various activities had gone up dramatically. The grades had also greatly improved”.

-K.Saravanan, Botany teacher





Students' parents' occupation



At the end of the survey, it is evident that 70% of the parents were daily wage laborers, 20% of them were in private jobs, 5% of them were government employees, and 5% were small farmers.



“

“We try to avoid the joint/combined classes at all costs, we are helpless when the faculty is absent for a particular day. We have very limited faculties in our school and hence substitute teacher is also not possible and we cannot leave the class unattended at any cost and hence we are going for joint classes.”

-M.Revathi, Headmistress

”

Major findings from the interpretation:

- This new school block was very spacious and sophisticated; thus, the students were able to sit comfortably, attend individual classes, and easily store their books and bags inside the classroom.
- 98% of the students felt that the classrooms were comfortable and able to accommodate all the students.
- 98% of the students were now able to attend or participate in all the classroom activities.
- 100% attendance of the students was recorded after the new block was constructed.



K.Saravanan, Botany Teacher (Testimonials from Stakeholders)

“I never imagined that Karur Vysya Bank would provide our school with such wonderful support. They took this fantastic action as a part of their CSR activity. The new labs on the first floor are, in my opinion, the project's biggest selling point. The prior laboratories were very outdated and included dated technology. As a botany teacher, I would state that this new lab's smart board and high-quality equipment are extremely useful for teaching and preparing students for their board practice tests. The classrooms are extremely large and modern. The restrooms at the school are excellent, and the students like using them. The staff lavatory is roomy, convenient, and warm as well. The differently-abled people are now able to use the special toilet that has been built on our premises. Overall, I am very much satisfied with this project.”

கனூர் மாநகராட்சி ராட்சி ஆண்கள் மேல்நீலைப்பள்ளம்





RELEVANCE

The school infrastructure project of Karur Vysya Bank partnering with Rotary International was implemented in the Municipal Boys Higher Secondary School. It addressed the real and felt needs of this school, like having a school infrastructure and a proper toilet block for the students and staff. The main motive of this project was to create a sophisticated place for the students to study and excel in academics, along with a hygienic environment for the students and teachers by providing a sophisticated toilet with all the basic facilities.

RATING ● ● ● ● ●

COHERENCE

The school infrastructure project of Karur Vysya Bank and Rotary International was well-aligned with the SDGs.

Goal No 4:- Quality Education.

Goal No 6:- Clean Water and Sanitation.

Goal No 9:- Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure.

RATING ● ● ● ● ●



EFFECTIVENESS

This school infrastructure project by Karur Vysya Bank partnering with Rotary International had made a huge impact on the school students and their teachers. The students and staff were very happy about this. The classrooms were spacious and equipped with AV projectors, the lab was well equipped with smart boards and good quality lab equipment, and this project greatly reduced the spread of diseases and increased privacy due to the pukka toilets. Hence, this project was highly effective.

RATING ● ● ● ● ●

EFFICIENCY

The school infrastructure project had created a positive impact on both the students as well as the faculties. Students' academic performance and interaction level in the classroom had gone up and it had reduced the spread of communicable diseases to a large extent. Hence, this project proved to be highly efficient.

RATING ● ● ● ● ●

IMPACT

This CSR initiative was by Karur Vysya Bank for building school infrastructure by partnering with Rotary International in the Municipal Boys Higher Secondary School. Firstly, they built a school block with 2 floors (ground and first) that had classrooms, staff rooms, and 3 fully equipped labs for the students. They built classrooms with AV projectors and labs with smart boards and high-class lab equipment. Secondly, the toilets were constructed, which had all the basic amenities like proper doors, an overhead tank to store water, a sewage and drainage system, good roofs and walls, non-slippery tiles, good ventilation, and lighting. This project created a huge positive impact on the students and the staff members.

RATING ● ● ● ● ●

SUSTAINABILITY

This school was provided with new school blocks for 2 floors and toilet blocks for staff, students, and differently-abled people. This project has been highly sustainable and continue to benefit more in the future.

RATING ● ● ● ● ●

Index: 5 Points - Very High ; 4 Points - High ; 3 Points - Moderate ; 2 Points - Low ; 1 Point - Very Low

RECOMMENDATIONS

Some of the recommendations from the students and staff members are:-

- Switchboard repair needs to be done in the classrooms.
- R.O. water plant is required for the students and staff for drinking water purposes.
- New computers are needed for the computer labs.
- Repainting of the students' toilet walls must be done.



CONCLUSION

Karur Vysya Bank by partnering with Rotary International had built a new school block and a toilet block for Municipal Boys Higher Secondary School, which helped the school immensely. Some of the notable benefits from this project were that the student intake had increased by 60% among all the grades, grades in the final exams had improved, the spread of diseases had greatly reduced due to the new hygienic toilet, and attendance had improved significantly. Overall, the students and the staff were very happy with this project, and the Head Mistress was impressed too. She thanked the entire team for making this happen and said that the whole school was waiting for more such welfare activities to be done in the future.