

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Post Programme Summary

Guest lecture on “The Status of Education in Rural Karnataka”

Resource Person:

Mr. Murgesh Premkumar

Coordination and Documentation

Pratham, Mysore

The guest lecture on “The Status of Education in Rural Karnataka” was organized by the Department of Sociology on 22nd Dec 2021 at 10:00 AM in the college Auditorium.

The Programme started by welcoming the gathering by the final year student Sister Martina. Mr. Murgesh Premkumar, Coordination and Documentation, Pratham, Mysore was the guest speaker.

“PRATHAM” is the largest education welfare organization which focuses on digital accessibility, community empowerment and remedial education. It was a very happy moment for all of us since the speaker is the alumni of our college.



Mr. Murgesh Premkumar addressed the students on the scenario of rural education and how the Covid-19 has adversely impacted the rural children where in they could not cope up with the normal owing to lack of adequate digital infrastructural support. He presented the data based on the field study conducted by the PRATHAM. He presented the annual statistics based on the Education Report (ASER) of Karnataka which reveals that out of 9870 children, majority of the boys were enrolled to private schools compared to girls and also expressed that the drop outs among girls is more. He explained about the parent's level of education and their mindset is one of the reasons to enroll their children to private schools. According to the report two third of rural children in India did not receive any learning materials or activities during the pandemic period and because of

this situation the rural education has moved backward. He viewed that the gender construction and patriarchal system has denied women and girls exposure to digital world and minimal access to the smart phones which retard their online learning during the pandemic.



The speaker explained the role of PRATHAM organization which is trying to bridge the gap, creating awareness among women, setting up community and digital library in the rural areas. The main task of the organization is to train the women who

can be the best teacher and mentor to their children. During the interaction session the speaker clarified all the doubts of the students and displayed the website details of the organization and motivated the students to be a part of this NGO and give their best way to promote rural literacy.

The programme was concluded with a vote of thanks by the second year student Ishey Dolkar and Mr. Raju of final year BA was the master of ceremony of the programme.

wrong notion that government may wave off their loans and are not aware of the rate of interest being charged on their loans. Due to all these women are vulnerable to poverty and indebtedness. The speaker stressed that women have to be educated in terms of saving habits and to face the challenging situations. The main solution Dr Basavaraju suggested was that the Rural Employment Programme should be planned to complement the livelihood promotion.

He concluded with a successful story of women who with the assistance of SHGs have established very well and have been leading a good life. During the interaction the students' questions were clarified by the resource person. The programme was concluded with a vote of thanks by the second year student Arpitha IM.