



D.O. Letter No: 10988/GL.1(2)/2023 Dated: 28.08.2023

Dear Collector,

Sub: School Education- Environment Awareness & Conservation programme - Youth and Eco Club-School Cleanliness Campaign 2023-24- Implementation of “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’ Programme-reg.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing several key initiatives aimed at providing quality education to all the children in 37574 Government schools across the State. In this context, it has been observed that when school visits are undertaken, there are found to be materials in the classrooms or in and around the campus that are either unused or broken such as chairs, desks, benches, e-waste, tree branches, old equipment, construction debris and other items etc., which are neither functional nor are in use. Additionally, it is important to ensure the health & hygiene of all children with regard to safe drinking water & clean toilets in the schools. To address this issue a comprehensive and sustainable cleanliness programme named –“எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’ has been planned to be implemented in schools in convergence with all concerned departments to ensure a healthy school campus and also to create opportunities for students to inculcate & re-inforce values on sanitation and clean environment. This programme will include - personal hygiene, increasing the green cover in schools, awareness programmes on environment, knowledge of waste management practices, school vegetable garden, importance of recycling & upcycling, plastic- free campus and encouraging them to move towards alternatives. The detailed guidelines for implementation of the Programme are as follows:

I. Pre-Preparatory Activities:

Towards the smooth implementation of the programme in schools, Committees at various levels need to be constituted. The Committee at District level will comprise of:

A. Formation of a District- Level Committee:

District Collector	Chairperson
District Forest Officer	Member
Project Director, DRDA	Member
Commissioner, Corporation/Municipality	Member
Project Officer, Mahalir Thittam	Member
Joint Director (Agriculture)	Member
Chief Educational Officer	Member- Secretary
Deputy Director (Health Services)	Member
Deputy Director (Horticulture)	Member
Assistant Director, Panchayat	Member
Assistant Director Town Panchayat	Member
2 NGO Representatives (Environment)	Member

Responsibilities of the District Level Committee include:

- Preparation & approval of the District Action Plan for “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’
- Implementation of the “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’
- Plan for conducting programmes in schools bringing together all departments involved and provide the necessary approvals for the same.
- Monitoring of the block level activities and coordination with contributors of Namma School -Namma Ooru Palli Funds.
- Providing Awards to schools, students, teachers and other organisations participating in the “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’ Programme.

B. Formation of the Block Level Committee

Block Development Officer	Chairperson
Block Education Officer	Member- Secretary
BRC Supervisor	Member
HMs of Primary, Middle and Higher Secondary schools (4 HMs)	Members
4 Student Representatives- 2 Students-HS & 2 Students-HSS	Members
2 NGO representatives (Environment)	Members
Volunteers of Illam Thedi Kalvi Project (4 members)	Members

Responsibilities of the Block-Level Committee include:

- Monitoring of school cleaning activities with the support of the local administration.

- Ensuring work allocation and salary payment of sanitation workers appointed by VPRC.
- Ensure that the “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’ programme is implemented in all the schools at the block level.
- Coordination with and ensuring participation of local NGOs.

C. School- Level Committee

The HM will be the Chairperson for the Committee at the school level. The teacher of the Environment club will act as the Member-Secretary. Members of the SMC will be part of the implementation committee. Student members of the Youth and Eco club will be part of “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’ programme along with other students. Along with the coordinated efforts of the committee, the programme will involve students, parents, School Management Committees, local administration, NGOs and Student Alumni.

Responsibilities of the School Level Committee include:

- Strengthening of the Youth and Eco club.
- Developing a Clean School Campus Plan.
- Making safe drinking water available to students a part of the Clean School Campus plan.
- Undertaking waste management practices in the school campus.
- Developing a School Vegetable Garden and ensuring that the vegetables/fruits grown are used for the Noon Meal Scheme.
- Constituting a team for conducting activities related to awareness regarding conservation of environment. Every team should have students, teachers, NGOs and Alumni of the school.

D. Student Sub-Committees

A team of 5 students will be constituted to coordinate and implement various activities of the five sub-committees such as provision of safe drinking water, clean classrooms and maintenance, waste management, creation of a school vegetable garden. (Responsibilities of the Sub-Committees are given in the Annexure II)

II. Clean School Pledge

Students of all classes will take the Clean School Pledge given in Annexure-I during the Morning Assembly during the first day of every week from September 1, 2023.

III. Activities of the “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’

S.No	Activities of the “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’	Timelines						
		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
1	<p><u>September I week – Strengthening the Eco Clubs and creating Sub-teams</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taking the Clean School Pledge (Starting September 1) - Comprehensive cleaning 							
2	<p><u>September II and III week -</u></p> <p>During the Quarterly vacation, the black boards to be painted and the campus to be cleaned with the help of the local administration. Pruning of trees, cleaning the terraces to be ensured so that water stagnation is cleared.</p>							
3	<p><u>September and October II week Sanitation and personal hygiene awareness-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creating awareness among students on sanitation and hygiene at the school level - Conducting competitions at the school level on sanitation and hygiene involving the Medical Officer of the Primary Health Centre, District Health Department, Block Development Officer, SMC, NGOs. 							
4	<p><u>Plastic- Free school campus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creating awareness among students on single use plastic and moving towards a plastic -free school campus. For this involve the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), NGOs, Taluk Development Officer, Municipalities and Municipal Corporations. 							

5	<p><u>Tree planting</u> Marking the birth centenary of Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi, all schools shall plant 20 trees every month and continue the activity for 5 months. Tree planting and maintenance of trees planted to be followed diligently.</p>							
6	<p><u>Establishing a School Vegetable Garden</u> A school vegetable garden needs to be developed involving the School Management Committee and the local community. Students need to be involved in the development and maintenance of the school vegetable garden. Composting to be done and the manure to be used for the School Vegetable Garden. Along with the Eco Club members other students to be involved in the activities and the HMs need to ensure this. Local vegetables/fruits such as brinjal, tomato, greens, chilli, lady's finger, cluster beans and papaya shall be planted and maintained with the help of the horticulture department. The vegetables from the garden to be used for the noon meal programme.</p>							
7	<p><u>Upcycling Activities</u> Conduct workshops on creating useful items from upcycling of wastes such as newspapers, plastic bottles, cardboards etc., These activities shall be conducted during the art & culture periods in the schools. Items made by the students shall be exhibited in the schools.</p>							

8	<p><u>Celebrating Environment related events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Celebrating important social awareness days to make students understand the importance of environment conservation. - Competitions such as visual arts, essays and debates shall be conducted to encourage students. 							
9	<p><u>Awareness of the Natural Resources</u></p> <p>The HM and the Eco Club teacher shall guide students to make a list of the flora and fauna & all nature related resources in the campus.</p>							
10	<p><u>Labelling of trees</u></p> <p>To educate students on the names of trees and their uses, boards shall be put up on the trees. NGOs and the Forest department shall be involved in this activity.</p>							
11	<p><u>Field Visit</u></p> <p>Students can be taken on a field visit once a year to municipality, municipal corporation sites where they can learn about composting, vermi- composting, waste management, waste treatment plants etc.</p>							
12	<p><u>Waste Management</u></p> <p>Awareness on waste segregation and recycling and on composting shall be conducted.</p> <p>The manure shall be used for the school vegetable garden.</p> <p>Two sub groups to be created for this purpose to ensure segregation of biodegradable and non-biodegradable materials.</p>							
13	<p><u>District level Awards</u></p> <p>Best Clean School award, Best Eco Guide Teacher award, Eco star (Student) award & Best Conservation Initiative award – three prizes in each category shall be given at the District level.</p>							

- In the first week of every month, the school should organise a comprehensive cleaning activity (clearing all unused furniture etc.,) along with the local administration.
- In the third week of the month, students of the Environment Club, NCC, NSS, Scouts and Guides, JRC will be involved in the cleaning activities.
- To ensure safe drinking water to the students, the overhead tank will be cleaned twice a month by the sanitation workers.

IV. Awards- 2023-24

The “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’ award will be given by the District Collector to encourage the school that consistently performs in all four stages and fulfils the criteria given below. Students who contribute well in the programme will be given the **Eco Star Award** and the teacher who guides the programme will be given the **Best Eco Guide Teacher award**. NGOs that make significant contributions will be recognised with the **Environment Conservation Award**.

Criteria for evaluation

1. Safe drinking water
2. Clean toilets
3. Personal hygiene
4. Clean classroom
5. Clean School campus
6. Waste management
7. School Vegetable Garden
8. Tree planting
9. Recycling of waste
10. Plastic Free campus

V. “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’- Monitoring and reporting

The activities under the programme should be evaluated using the Eco-meter given in Annexure III by the Coordinator of the Environment Club and the teacher in-charge. Guidelines for using the Eco-meter as a parameter for evaluation are provided in the Annexure IV. In the first week of the following months September 2023, October 2023, November 2023, December 2023, January 2024, February 2024, the evaluation of activities should be conducted. All the evaluations at the block level shall be shared with the BRC Supervisor who shall enter the details on a Google sheet. The District Eco-Co-ordinator will ensure the implementation in the schools, collate details at the district level and share the same with Samagra Shiksha & Department of School Education. If interim intervention is required details shall be shared by the District Eco-Co-ordinator with the Chief Education Officer for his attention and action. The District Co-ordinator of Youth & Eco-Club (Samagra Shiksha) will ensure the co-ordination activities at the district level.

In the last week of every month, a review meeting of the activities under the “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’ programme shall be conducted by the Chief Education Officer along with the APO, BRC Supervisor, District Eco-Co-ordinator and District Coordinators (Youth & Eco-Club). The monthly report shall be submitted to the District Committee headed by the District Collector. Hence, Committees at the District, Block and school level shall be constituted to plan and to get necessary approvals to start the programme on September 1, 2023 in all schools.

It is envisioned that the “எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி” ‘Engal Palli – Milirum Palli’ will increase the green cover in the campuses, pave the way for establishment of School vegetable garden providing the necessary nutrients for the noon meal scheme, enhance the cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation in the schools. This will not only impact the Cleanliness Index towards a conducive learning environment but also encourage the students in maintaining & practicing high standards of health & hygiene.

As District Collectors and the driving force behind all the major initiatives of the government, you are requested to enable the necessary conditions for a seamless convergence and co-ordination between concerned departments. You are also required to periodically update the work progress to the government and address any issue that may emerge from time to time during the implementation of this programme. Kindly take the required steps to provide the necessary leadership & make this first-of-its -kind initiative in the State effective and sustainable.

Yours sincerely,

Best wishes,
K. Usha
28/8/23

(KAKARLA USHA)

To
All District Collectors

Copy to:
The State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Chennai-6

ANNEXURE - I

பள்ளித் தூய்மை உறுதிமொழி

- "எங்கள் பள்ளி மிளிரும் பள்ளி" இதில் நான் பெருமை அடைகிறேன்.
- என் பள்ளியை தூய்மையாகவும், சுத்தமாகவும் வைத்திருப்பது எனது கடமையும் பொறுப்பும் என்பதனை உணர்ந்து செயல்படுவேன்.
- பள்ளி வளாகம் மற்றும் வகுப்பறைகளில் குப்பையினை ஏற்படுத்தமாட்டேன். மேலும், எனது சக தோழர்களுக்கும் இது குறித்து விழிப்புணர்வை ஏற்படுத்துவேன்.
- பள்ளியின் தூய்மை பணிக்கு என்னை மனப்பூர்வமாக அர்பணித்துக் கொள்வேன்
- எங்கள் பள்ளி மிளிரும் பள்ளி முயற்சியில் நான் முழுமனதுடன் பங்கேற்பதுடன் எனது நண்பர்கள், உறவினர்கள், சுற்றத்தார் அனைவரிடமும் சுற்றுச்சூழல் பாதுகாப்பு குறித்து விழிப்புணர்வு ஏற்படுத்துவேன்.
- என்னால் இப்பணிக்காக மேற்கொள்ளப்படும் ஒவ்வொரு நடவடிக்கையும் எனது பள்ளியை தூய்மையாக வைத்திட பேருதவி செய்யும் என்பதில் உறுதியாகவுள்ளேன். மேலும், எனது சுற்றுச்சூழல் விழிப்புணர்வு நடவடிக்கைகள் குறித்து நான் பெருமிதம் கொள்கிறேன்.

CLEAN SCHOOL PLEDGE

- I am proud of "எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி" 'Engal Palli – Milirum Palli'.
- It is my duty & responsibility to keep my school clean and tidy.
- I shall not throw waste in my classroom or the school campus. I shall spread the awareness about this among my schoolmates.
- I dedicate myself to keep the school clean.
- I shall whole heartedly participate in the "எங்கள் பள்ளி, மிளிரும் பள்ளி" 'Engal Palli – Milirum Palli' initiative and spread awareness regarding this amongst my friends, relatives and the community.
- I am confident sure that every effort that I take will contribute to making my school clean. I am proud of the activities that I am undertaking for a clean environment.

ANNEXURE - II

Responsibilities of the Student Sub- Committee

S.No.	Sub- Committee	Responsibilities
1.	Safe drinking water	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Create awareness about safe drinking water.- Ensure that the water stored in the school is clean.- Monitor if the water storage tank is periodically cleaned.- Ensure that students do not waste water.
2.	Maintenance of clean classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Keeping classroom materials in order.- Encourage fellow students to dispose waste in an appropriate manner.- Ensure that the concerned sanitary workers clean the classrooms everyday.
3.	Clean School Campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Checking that dry leaves in the campus and other wastes in the school kitchen are cleared from time to time.- Talking to fellow students about cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation.
4.	Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Creating awareness about segregation of waste as bio-degradable and non-biodegradable and recycling/upcycling the same.- Creating awareness on reducing of waste generation.- Maintaining two pits for waste segregation.- Using manure created from the composting of bio-degradable wastes for the School Vegetable Garden.
5.	School Vegetable Garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Creating awareness among students about School Vegetable Garden.- Planning for establishing a School Vegetable Garden.- Involving students in maintenance of the School Vegetable Garden activities like watering of plants, removing weeds, manuring, ensuring there is no infestation of insects.- Encouraging use of vegetables from the School Vegetable Garden to be used in the noon meal programme.

ANNEXURE - III

ECO-METER EVALUATION 2023-24

ECO-METER						
S. No.	Criteria	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total Score
1.	Safe drinking water					
2.	Clean toilets					
3.	Personal hygiene					
4.	Clean classroom					
5.	School campus					
6.	Waste management					
7.	School Vegetable Garden					
8.	Tree planting					
9.	Upcycling					
10.	Plastic Free Campus					

Note: Level 4 -A+ (score 76 to 100); Level 3 -A (score 51 to 75); Level 2 -B+ (score 26 to 50); Level 1 -B (score 0 to 25)

Annexure - IV

Eco- Meter -Index -2023-24

S.No	Aspects	Level 1 (B)	Level 2 (B+)	Level 3 (A)	Level 4 (A+)
1	Safe Drinking Water	No contamination in the water source or in the storage, distribution & handling of drinking water. However, students need to have awareness of safe drinking water.	School has a good water source/storage of water is being done in a clean way. Some of the students have awareness of safe drinking water.	Awareness levels of safe drinking water among students is high. The school is maintaining high standards of water usage/ water storage.	Water is free from colour & odour and has a neutral taste. Have a good mechanism for resource & source protection & if stored good storage & distribution mechanism. There is a system of continuous assessment & review of safe drinking water.
2	Clean Toilets	There is a need for a basic toilet facility and awareness about clean toilets.	There is/are toilets. However, there is need to ensure basic maintenance - functional doors, usable water, water storage, can/mug to use the water, usable squat toilet seat.	The school has clean toilet/ toilets that is/are fully functional with all the necessary aspects in place. Majority of students in the school are aware about clean toilets.	The school not only has clean & hygienic toilets but also has set high standards for cleanliness with an efficient system of assessment, review of the toilet maintenance.

S.No	Aspects	Level 1 (B)	Level 2 (B+)	Level 3 (A)	Level 4 (A+)
3	Personal Hygiene	Students need more understanding & awareness about personal hygiene as such discussions are yet to take place in the schools. Some teachers ask their students to maintain personal hygiene.	Some of the students are aware of the need for personal hygiene in terms of cutting their nails, washing of hands, careful handling of running nose & cough, proper hair care, menstrual hygiene and clean uniforms & clean footwear.	The school has ensured that most students have a clear understanding of personal hygiene and follow the necessary directions set by the school. Utmost care is also taking to ensure that the schools are free of any kind of substance abuse.	The school has a clear & rigorous guideline in terms of personal hygiene and ensures adherence to the same in a supportive & sensitive manner. The students also carry out campaigns in their village & neighbourhood to ensure that personal hygiene practices are understood & carried out amongst local community members.
4	Clean Classrooms	Classrooms require major re-organisation and maintenance mechanism	There is a basic maintenance across classrooms in the school. However, all the classrooms are not of the same quality in terms of seating arrangement, organization of materials, painting, ventilation & lighting, condition of	Most of the classrooms in the schools are well-organised and well-maintained. However, the school needs an overall standards & guidelines for clean classrooms.	School follows a 5S process of cleanliness for its classrooms- Sort, set in order, Shine, Standardize, Sustain.

S.No	Aspects	Level 1 (B)	Level 2 (B+)	Level 3 (A)	Level 4 (A+)
			roof, being dust & stain-free and bad odour-free.		
5	School Campus	School needs awareness about clean & well-maintained school premises. In need of basic maintenance and a compound wall.	School premises has been kept litter-free & there is a basic mechanism of waste disposal. However, the premises need organisation in terms of debris, unused/non-usable materials, pits need to be covered, sewage needs to be cleaned and water-clogging needs to be removed.	School is litter-free and follows an effective waste-disposal mechanism. All the unused material and debris are properly organised. The sewage system is clean and the ground is maintained well to avoid water - clogging.	Every material in the school campus has a place and all the areas are well-maintained. The school has a clear guideline and system of assessment to maintain a clean campus with all students having a high level of awareness for a clean & green campus.

S.No	Aspects	Level 1 (B)	Level 2 (B+)	Level 3 (A)	Level 4 (A+)
6	Solid Waste Management	The school needs to understand the importance of solid waste management & the need for compost pits.	School has created two compost pits but it needs to be used effectively.	Solid waste is being segregated effectively in the pits created.	The school is able to generate a sizable quantity of good quality compost.
7	School Vegetable Garden	The students need to be aware of the use for a school vegetable garden and the school needs to find a specific place to initiate the same.	School has a space for school vegetable garden and they have initiated activities for school vegetable garden. Some of the students have an awareness with regard to the need for a school vegetable garden	Most of the students in the school have a high level of awareness about school vegetable garden. School vegetable garden is well-maintained and the vegetables are used on & off for the mid-day meals.	School has a definite plan for a toxin- free school vegetable garden and is implementing the same with a clear strategy for vegetables for different times of the year for its appropriate use in mid-day meals. Students have a good understanding of nutritional value of the fruits & vegetables grown.

S.No	Aspects	Level 1 (B)	Level 2 (B+)	Level 3 (A)	Level 4 (A+)
8	Tree Planting	The school needs to have a plan & identify a place for tree-planting. The students need to be aware of uses of tree- planting.	The school has a a specified place for tree planting & has initiated the same in their school. Some of the students have an awareness about the need for tree planting.	The school is implementing tree-planting activities on a regular basis and has a good plan for maintenance. Most of the students are aware of the need for tree planting.	The school has a clear plan for tree planting & maintenance. They are also implementing awareness programmes in their locality and have initiated tree-planting activities in their village & neighbourhood (wherever possible) with the support of SMC & other community members.
9	Upcycling of Materials	Students need to be aware of the concept of upcycling and recycling of materials.	Students have initiated recycling of waste products (wherever possible) and initiated upcycling activities.	Most of the students are aware about the concept & need for recycling of waste & upcycling of materials. They have created products for demonstration & display.	The school has a clear guideline and is involved in regular activities of recycling & upcycling of waste & materials. They have also shared the same in different mediums & forums and has initiated awareness activities in the local communities with the support of the SMCs.

S.No	Aspects	Level 1 (B)	Level 2 (B+)	Level 3 (A)	Level 4 (A+)
10	Plastic Free Campus	School needs to have a plan & strategy for Single Use Plastic (SUP)-free campus.	Some of the students have an awareness about SUP-free campus. The school has started the practice of segregating plastic waste.	Most of the students are aware of SUP-free campus. The school has a clear plan for SUP campus & are actively ensuring the maintenance of the same.	The has declared that its campus is Plastic free. Students are reaching out to its local community also to encourage them to be SUP-free. Students are also thinking ahead about the alternative for plastics.

Note:

Level 4 - A+ (score 76 to 100)

Level 3 - A (score 51 to 75)

Level 2 - B+ (score 26 to 50)

Level 1 - B (score 0 to 25)

