

THE BISHOP'S SCHOOL, CAMP

SUPW REPORT – CLASS 10

“By education, I mean an all-round drawing of the best In child and man in body, mind, and spirit.”

- M.K. Gandhi



SUPW stands for Socially Useful Productive Work. SUPW may be described as purposive and meaningful manual work, resulting in either goods or services that are meaningful to society. It is a compulsory graded subject for class 10. The main idea behind this subject is to ensure that students understand that the real purpose of education is not only to land a good job but to use their knowledge in a way that benefits society.

Keeping the same thought in mind, the students of class 10 at The Bishop's School, Camp, along with the NGO SAANS, organized a SUPW activity to visit a village named Udachiwadi in Saswad, which is 40 km away from Pune, on 24th June.

Udachiwadi is a village that was under tremendous water stress for many years but has now come out of it through the sheer contribution of the villagers and volunteers. It has won the prestigious PAANI Foundation award for working towards water conservation.

The day began with students reporting to school at 8 am in the classroom, and after taking attendance, all the students gathered in the parking lot where the school

buses were already waiting to take them to their destination.



The students left the school at 8.30 am, full of enthusiasm and carrying the materials needed for the activity to be performed in the village. During the journey, there was a shower of blessings, as if God was bestowing His choicest blessings upon these children. The students reached the village around 9.40 am and assembled at the village's Z.P. school, where they were welcomed by the villagers and the volunteers from the village.



The 240 students were divided into three groups of 80 each and were assigned tasks to complete within a stipulated time under the guidance of their class teachers and volunteers.

“The first group was assigned the task of collecting raw materials from the fields for the preparation of biofertilizer and biopesticide. The raw materials mainly included the seeds of the Neem tree. The students, along with the volunteers, walked to the field which was 200m away from the school. Once they reached the field, they were split into smaller groups of 15 students and assigned specific areas for seed collection. The students happily started their activity of seed collection, interacting with the volunteers who convincingly explained the process of making biopesticides and biofertilizer. In about an hour, the students collected more than 10 kg of seeds, which were handed over to the volunteers for further processing.

The second group, consisting of around 80 students, was also split into smaller groups and assigned the activity of tree plantation in the village. Each group was accompanied by a child from the Z.P. school. Care was taken to plant only native species of trees, including Neem, Tamarind, Mango, and some fruit trees. The trees were planted in front of the children's homes, as a symbol of the bond that would grow between the children and the plants over time. The students also had the opportunity to interact with the families and gain insights into their lives and struggles.

The third group of students was involved in contour mapping. The students were excited about this activity as it was also part of their syllabus. They were divided into smaller groups to create the device used for contour mapping.



Approximately six devices were made in the school under the guidance of experts and then taken to a spot a little away from the main location for the practical work. The students happily completed the task, and the readings were handed over to the volunteers for record-keeping. During the activity, the students continuously interacted with the villagers and volunteers, discussing village life, resources, different activities, festivals, demography, soil, etc.

After completing their activities, all three groups returned to the Z.P. school. The students from The Bishop's School interacted with the students from the Z.P. school on the campus. They played games, quizzes, shared meals, and exchanged small gifts that they had brought. The management of The Bishop's School generously donated computers, stationary materials, and sports equipment to the school children for their holistic development, which was handed over to the Principal of the school.

The students left the village school campus at 12.30, carrying fond memories of the activities they had participated in and the unforgettable experience of village life. On their way back, the teachers could see the satisfaction on the students' faces, knowing they had completed an activity that would be socially useful and highly productive.”

Manish Kanojiya