

## Karnataka Chief Minister's visits to TMF Flood Relief project in Bijapur to declare the layout open on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2011

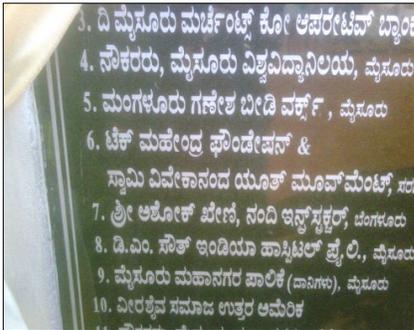


The flood relief project initiated by Tech Mahindra Foundation Bangalore in partnership with Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement has reached completion stage. This was a 2 year integrated rehabilitation and relocation program of 477 families of Kotyal village in Bijapur district, North Karnataka. The funds for which was raised by the Tech Mahindra Associates to the tune of Rs.55,76,000/- (Rs.Fifty Five Lakhs Seventy Six thousand only) in 2009 immediately after the floods in 2009 October. **TMF would like to thank all Tech**

**Mahindra Associates who were so generous and came forward to meet the needs of the flood victims.**

The model village with 477 houses, 4 parks, wide roads, drains, common water cisterns, main water tank for drinking purpose, street lights, electrification of houses, social forestry has all been completed. The layout also will in the near future have a primary health center, a school and a gram panchyat office which will be built by the government.

The houses will have safe drinking water connection with an overhead tank, fuel efficient stove and kitchen garden once



the houses are allotted in each family's name.

The chief minister of Karnataka, Mr.Sadananda Gowda, Housing Minister Mr.V.Somanna and other dignitaries visited the project area to declare the layout open and authorized the District Administrator to release the property papers to the flood affected families.

The function saw thousands of people from the nearby villages. All the dignitaries from Bangalore flew in in a helicopter much to the delight of the villagers. The layout was flooded with the police, security agents and automobiles. The houses were decorated with flowers and the whole atmosphere looked like a festival. The inaugural stones on which **TMF is featured No.6** which have been placed by one of the 4 parks were unveiled by the Chief Minister. Symbolic opening of the houses was done by ribbon cutting of one of the houses. The function started on time with welcoming guests and singing of the National song. The District Administrator gave a brief on the initiation of flood relief project and gave due credit to all those who were involved including Tech Mahindra Foundation. It was a proud moment being at the function and to hear our name being acknowledged. Proud that many of our associates were part of this noble cause and TMF could successfully implement this project.



**This project saw multiple partners working together:**

This is one of a kind where many partners have come together to work amicably which included the Government authorities.

- TMF initiated the process by identifying a NGO partner- Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM) to implement the project.



- We together drew up a 2 year integrated rehabilitation and relocation process since the flood affected village –Kotyal is located where future floods/natural disasters can wreak havoc on the people. So a complete relocation was initiated
- SVYM looped in Mysore Citizen’s Forum which agreed to fund the building of 462 houses.

- Center of Development Studies drew up the environment friendly layout plan
- The Government sanctioned 200 acres of land, allotting 1500 sqft per family and also pitched in to build 1 toilet per house
- All the houses are electrified and layout has streetlights as well
- **TMF’s grants were used for building 15 houses, developing roads, drains, parks, drinking water facilities, overhead water tanks, fuel efficient stoves, kitchen gardens for all 477 houses and not the least of all developing social support groups of Village Development committee (VDC), Women’s & youth groups, school development program, micro credit for single women, HIV +ve women and Devdasi’s to earn a livelihood. This will make this whole initiative a more sustaining program. The VDC was given regular training on accessing government benefits and their active participation in the Gram Sabhas. TMF monitored the progress on a regular basis.**



**Mamatha Esteves**

**Manager, TMF Bangalore. November 2011**