

CLEAN COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

On 29th November 2015 in Kaduki village, near Vijay Mandir men, and women from 80 to kids at 8 were down on the streets – instead of cricket bat and ball, it was broom and rake; everyday political debate was substituted with broom, garbage collection and cleanliness. Students and teachers of Chinar School and SAPNA Shikshalaya join hands with SAPNA NGO and the villagers. The idea was to internalize what Mahatma Gandhi said, **“Everyone must be his own scavenger”**.



At 9 a.m. on the arrival of the team of NGO SAPNA with the students of Chinar School, villagers’ came as per the agreed plan. Prior to the event, the purpose was explained to the villagers by the SAPNA representatives, who were hesitant to do what they never did, rather which they considered stigma to be associated with. As per the strategy, NGO SAPNA and its associates started cleaning the village drains and adjacent waste area– the ‘most untouchable area’. This broke the inhibition and within an hour a sudden burst of enthusiasm emerged with slogans **‘swachh gaon savasth bharat’**.



The streets, drains and the surroundings were cleaned, and a collective desire to keep the village and surroundings clean was generated. Two loads of non-biodegradable waste were transported by tractor to the recycling plant in Alwar city, while bio-degradable waste was dumped in a pit outside village with the help of JVB digger.



By 2.30 p.m. an old man said, “Cleanliness is in the mind, these girls with their education in NGO SAPNA will transform the destiny of this village”. Around 60 girls of the village are part of the NGO SAPNA’s drive to realize their dream.



The participants in the clean-up campaign were approximatay:

- ✓ 60 girls of SAPNA Shikshalay & Support the Girl Child Program
- ✓ 50 students of Chinar School
- ✓ 30 youths and kids of Kaduki.
- ✓ 50 SAPNA team members
- ✓ At least one member of every household, including 20 old men, women of Kaduki village, including the ex sarpanch.

The cleanliness drive has become a topic of morning tea in and around the neighboring villages. Villagers have shed their inhabitation and are motivated with a desire towards clean.



The movement is expected to become part of regular culture of clean and healthy environment.....