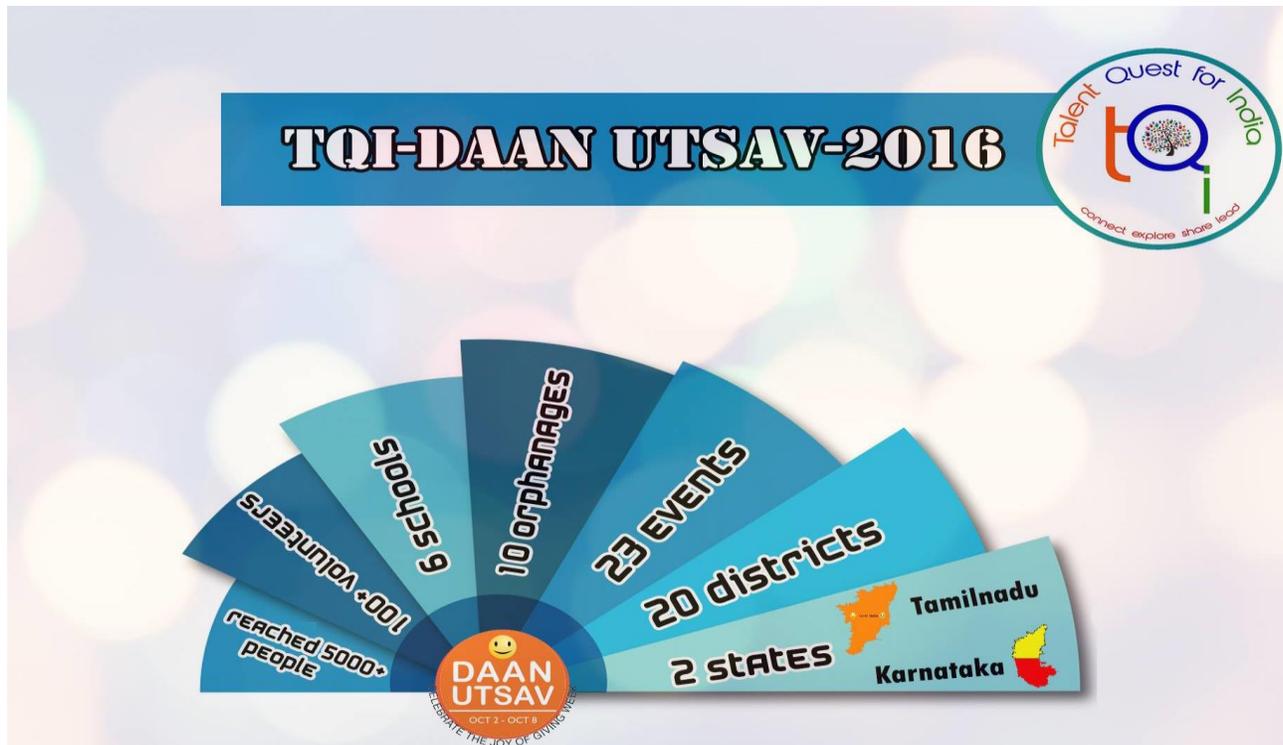




# Talent Quest for India Daan Utsav 2016

Starting from the year 2009, October 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> is a week dedicated to experience and witness the Joy of Giving. **Daan Utsav** (known as Joy of Giving till 2014) has been an annual event where people from different parts of India join to give back to the society.

**Talent Quest for India** is a family of students with a motive of bringing about a change in the society by making people socially responsible through education, soft skills and social awareness. One of our fundamental principles is “**Sharing**” and hence we were overwhelmed to join hands to celebrate Daan Utsav in Tamil Nadu in the year 2014. The journey started with about 50 volunteers reaching their native places in Tamil Nadu during the first week of October, to celebrate the joy of giving. From then till now, the collaboration of **TQI** and **Daan Utsav** has been persistent. Also, the team has seen a steady rise in the number of volunteers who joined to celebrate. This resulted in the expansion of the area covered by our volunteers. From **8 districts in Tamil Nadu** in the year **2014**, we celebrated **Daan Utsav in 21 districts of Tamil Nadu** in the year **2015**. This remarkable growth made us aspire for more and hence we expanded our boundary over Karnataka. In the year **2016** we fêted **Daan Utsav in 20 districts, which include Bengaluru and Mysore**.





Standing at this step, we would like to quote the words of a scientist, author, professor and an inspirational leader India has ever had, **Late Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam** “**Dream is not that which you see while sleeping it is something that does not let you sleep**”. We dream that every year the relation between TQI and Daan Utsav grow strong and we stage the Utsav in a mammoth way.

We thank the entire team for taking a step ahead and making the event a grand success. This year not only students made efforts in their locality but also the populaces were inspired by their work and they joined the team to share their contribution. Few districts which were visited last year where revisited this year to see the consistency of the impact.

For instance, in **Tanjore**, saplings were planted last year and to the surprise of the team the plant was taken good care by the children and the team felt very happy to see the plant and their thought took a nice shape.

To adduce where wall painting took place in Krishnagiri last year, students painted two walls with social message and this year another wall was also painted. Our volunteers took adequate steps to revisit the locations covered in the previous year to ensure the sustainability of the events.

The key events of **Daan Utsav by Talent Quest for India** are listed below:

- Wall painting to instruct people to avoid public urination in Krishnagiri district
- Thanksgiving to daily workers of MGR bus stand (New Bus Stand) in Salem district
- Expansion of team and events at Mysuru and Bangalore
- Inspiring the local children and making them clean up their own area in Villupuram district
- Making an orphanage self-sustaining with mat machine donation in Dindukkal district
- Stationery drive at Mysuru, Kancheepuram and Tuticorin district
- Health supplements donation in Perambalur district
- Sapling Plantation in Ramanathapuram district
- Motivation of school, orphanage and neighborhood children in 16 districts
- Appreciation from school teachers and Panchayat Head at places where we were involved

A brief description of the happenings in the various districts and cities are as given below:

**1. “Roshini Homes” orphanage visit at Chennai:**

At Chennai **TQI volunteers** spent our time with the children of **Roshini Homes, Kovilambakkam**. We have provided the opportunity for them to showcase their painting talent and lauded them with Medals. The joy in the face of the children out of the despair made us to feel that **"we are on the right track. Keep moving ahead with a better pace"**.



**2. “Jnana Mandira” orphanage visit at Bangalore:**

It is a inception at Bangalore for TQI and we had begun it with a visit to an orphanage, **Jnana Mandira** and presented the children sweets and a set of stationery items

### 3. Stationary drive at Tuticorin district:

The **TQI** and **Karuna** Club of Kamlavati Higher Secondary School had placed **stationery collection boxes** .4000+ stationery items were collected and were bestowed to the nearby **8** Government schools.





4. **Library Rejuvenation at Dharmapuri district:**

As a continuation of rejuvenation works that have started in **Hale village** during last Daan Utsav, this year **TQI volunteers donated books** and got permission from the nearby school to send their **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> std. students to spend their time on library once in a week**. The young minds were channelized with the treasure of wisdom envisaged in the bound papers.



5. **“Annai Anbu Illam” orphanage visit at Dharmapuri district:**

TQI volunteers from Dharmapuri visited the nearby orphanage, conducted **dancing, singing, drawing and speech competitions**. We have gifted them stationeries and snacks to share the happiness in the deprived faces.





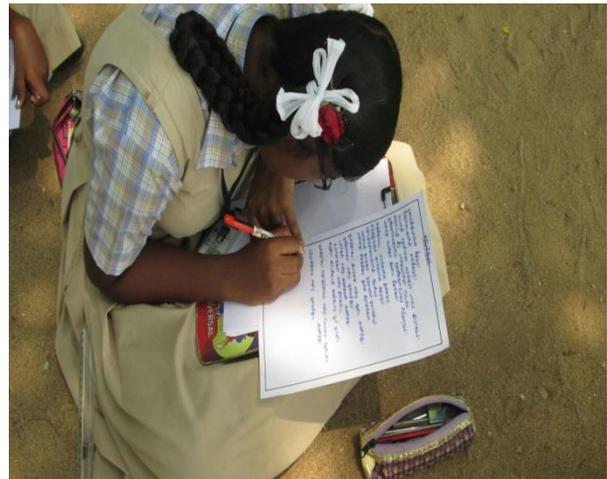
6. Donating Mat – Machine to “Sowbakiya” orphanage at Dindukkal district:

Volunteers of Talent Quest for India from Dindukkal district contributed a **sum of ₹7660/-** (which was collected from the students of PSNA College of Engineering) to Sowbakiya Orphanage at Gandhigramam to **own a mat-making machine**. The mats made from the machine would then be sold to fulfill their daily needs.



### 7. Competitions at Coimbatore district

TQI Coimbatore team conducted **Drawing, Speech, Essay writing competitions and Science exhibition** on Environmental and water conservation at Pioneer mills government school. **200+** students enthusiastically participated and exposed their skills and talents.



## 8. Stationery drive at Kancheepuram district:

Talent Quest for India volunteers from Kancheepuram district have conducted a stationery drive at SRM Paramedical College and collected about **several stationery items** with a Thirukkural book and a dictionary. We had donated them to underprivileged children in the nearby Government school.



## 9. Story telling competition at Pudukkottai district:

Talent Quest for India volunteers from Pudukkottai have taken the best way to develop the imaginative power and creativity of the students, i.e., by making them **tell stories and cherished them with chocolates** after they had completed their stories.



#### 10. Neighborhood children interaction at Kanyakumari district:

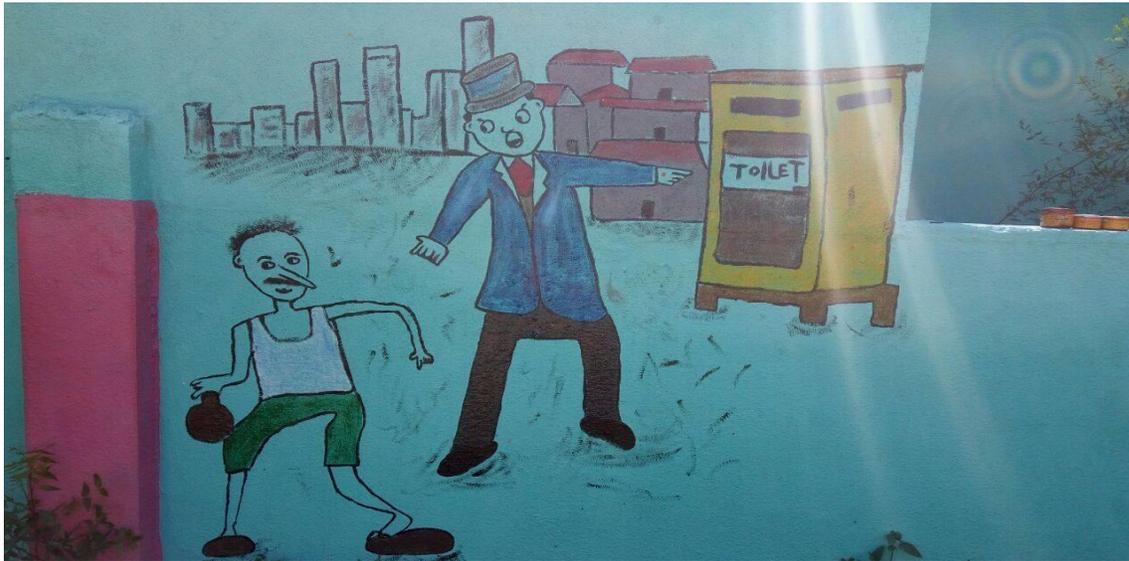
Talent Quest for India volunteers from Kanyakumari have taken the nearby children to a temple and conducted quizzes and educated them on the current social issues in the society. The children were awarded pens and pencils for their participation in the event. **The event made an impact in the area that even the parents of the children and a lot of people from the locality attended the event voluntarily.**



#### 11. Toilet Awareness Wall Painting at Krishnagiri district:

An initiative to remind people about the ill effects of public urinating habit was taken by our Talent Quest for India volunteer Vignesh and his brother from Krishnagiri, who had painted a **dirty wall instructing the people to use toilets**. It is also to be noted that last year the same volunteers and their father painted two walls in their area to keep them clean.





Keep the Walls Clean

12. Students interaction at Kondappanayanapalli school at Krishnagiri district: TQI volunteers from Krishnagiri have visited Kondappanayanapalli higher secondary school to interact with the students of the school. We taught **grammar and conducted quizzes** to make the students familiar with and interested in their syllabus.



### 13. Cleanliness drive at Villupuram district:

TQI volunteers from Villupuram district had given a **theoretical session for about 50 children on cleanliness and healthy living and made them practically do it in their area.** The children actively participated in the event, which was mainly focused on **avoiding Dengue** by creating an **awareness by cleaning the garbage in their place.** The awareness program was followed by an address and appreciation by the **Panchayat chairman of the area, which had come there as a Chief Guest.**



### 14. Stationery drive at JSS Dental College in Mysuru:

TQI has begun its new wing in Mysuru by forming a team from **JSS Dental college** with the support of **the Director of the college.** We had placed a **stationery collection box** in the college, the collection of which would be donated **to nearby government school.**



### 15. “Vidyashram” orphanage visit at Permabalur district:

Talent Quest for India volunteers from Perambalur district had gone to an orphanage at Perambalur district and conducted a drawing competition. The reward for the children was a set of **health supplements provided by the volunteers**, which was bought with a fund of **₹3000**, collected from friends and neighbors of the volunteers.



#### 16. Tree plantation and drawing competition at Ramanathapuram district:

"Plant goodness in the mind of children", quoted the volunteers of Talent Quest for India from Ramanathapuram. We have sowed the habit of tree plantation in the minds of young children by making them **plant saplings** in their garden. They also conducted a **drawing competition** for the children to refresh their brains.



#### 17. Thanks-giving to daily workers at Salem district:

TQI volunteers from Salem have taken the first step to appreciate the Heroes of our Quotidian. We have made the **"Thank you"** cards with our own hands and given to the populace (drivers, conductors, sweepers, police personnel's etc.) of Bharat Ratna MGR bus stand, Salem. One of our volunteer, Hari says, **"I found happiness in the face of an old sweeper lady. When we approached her with cards, she threw all those broom and mat to receive our card with lots of joy. She kept it in her bag and blessed us "nala iru saami"(Be well son). Blessings from good people are greater than that from great people".**





### 18. Orphanage visit at Tanjore district:

TQI volunteers from Tanjore district have revisited an orphanage in Kumbakonam, where the children were made to **plant a tree last year during Daan Utsav celebration. The plant, which was named as Vijay is taken care by the children from the orphanage** and its growth presents the responsibility of the children. As an appreciation to their responsibility, TQI conducted **drawing and speech competitions** to provide them a stage to showcase their talents.



### 19. Joy of oxygen at Tirunelveli district:

TQI volunteers from Tirunelveli have conducted an awareness program on the hazards caused by atomic oxygen and carbon monoxide, the health risks caused by smoking, benefits of consuming organic food and mottos of **Go Green** policies at an orphanage in Tirunelveli. We had also given the platform for the children to showcase their talents.



### 20. Old age home visit at Tiruvallur district:

Talent Quest for India volunteers from Tiruvallur district have taken the responsibility to visit the elderly people and the children in an orphanage and gave them **food to eat**.



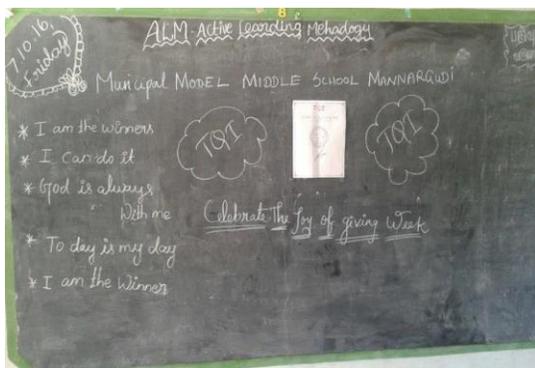
## 21. School and neighborhood interaction at Tirunelveli district:

As Talent Quest for India knows the value of schools and neighborhood relations, our volunteers from Tirunelveli have visited Oxford primary school and conducted a talent show followed by **environmental awareness programs and games**. We had also conducted a **handicraft workshop** to the neighboring children and were awarded prizes. The events were well appreciated by the teachers and HM of the school that they had even asked TQI to conduct games for the teachers too.



## 22. Students interaction at Tiruvarur district:

Talent Quest for India volunteers from Tiruvarur district gave an opportunity for the students in MRG Government School, Mannargudi to show their skills in **drawing and mathematics using games** with the help and support from the school teachers.



### 23. Students interaction at Tiruvannamalai district:

TQI volunteers had motivated the nearby school children. We had given motivational speeches, made the children to read Thirukkural, **played a game with traffic signs** that can be used to prevent accidents on the road and shown a few motivational videos. The children on feedback said that they were happy about the awareness session as they had learnt what to be done to avoid road accidents and they had got the feeling that doing well to others would return the good to them.



## 24. Selfie at Salem:

Talent Quest for India volunteers from Vinayaka Missions Kirupananda Variyar Engineering College, Salem shared the **joy by sharing the camera lenses with the maids, security guards, attendants and all those who labor behind the screen in the college campus.** The team set the apotheosis by thanking and appreciating all the non-teaching staffs in their college premises for their efforts and contribution towards the college. They had captured such beautiful moments of giggles and laughter via taking snapshots of selfies.



## EPILOGUE

The Talent Quest for India shared the Joy of Giving week in a sustainable protocol such that the smiles once ignited in those faces may persist around the year. The visits were to those places which are not highlighted in the society, where the cost of smile is high, where the depression covers the brightness of the teeth. A little stretch of our hands may spread the bliss of fraternity and glory to the people of our Nation.