

# Rice Field By

## National Service Scheme - Karaseva

Rice is the most important food crop of India covering about one-fourth of the total cropped area and providing food to about half of the Indian population. To create awareness of cultivation of paddy, National Service Scheme (NSS) and Karaseva of Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) in association with Krishi Vigyan Kendra organised a paddy plantation programme at Kattathila, Salettur on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019. Totally 53 students and faculty of Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) in Mangaluru, have made a commendable effort in growing their own food. The best part is that not only did these students successfully cultivate rice on land which was fallow; they will also use the field rice to feed government school students of kattathilla.

The paddy programme was inaugurated symbolically by planting paddy in the field by the dignitaries and NSS and Karaseva volunteers were present on the occasion. Dr. Ashwini S Shetty, Programme Coordinator, NSS Spoke on Importance of NSS Volunteers involving in social activities. Dr. Chetan, Scientist Fisheries and Incharge Head Krishi Vigyan Kendra Highlighted the importance of Farming. Ms. Tejaswini Gave brief on Karaseva trust and their contribution to the Govt school Kattathila and Karaseva trust president Mr. Anmol and Mrs. Aishwarya, Dr. Umakulkarni Prof. Ophthalmology, Dr. Shripad Prof. Dept of Anaesthesia Dr. Mallikarjun Scientist Soil Science, Dr. Kedarnath Scientist, Plant Pathologist from ICAR, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Headmistress of the Govt school Kattathilla Dr. Imran NSS Programme Officer and Dr. Vishnu Faculty Yenepoya Homeopathy college were present on this occasion.

### **Farming Activities for students are great, because,**

It exposes them to the long and tough process of bringing food from the field to the plate. It helps to break certain perceptions or misgivings that any student might have had, with regards to farming. It is a very important activity that students can indulge in, without a laptop, a mobile phone and the internet

Students prepared themselves to level the field; plant seedlings, remove weeds, and finally harvest their produce. Villagers were impressed by student's efforts, some villagers; farmer leaders of the villages—joined and helped the students

It helps the students to empathise with farmers, and acknowledge the hardships they face. Farming encourages students not to waste food, given the effort taken to grow it...

It's important to know that agricultural scenario is becoming less attractive every day, and an initiative like this will help to rekindle an interest towards farming, among students.

One quintal rice which will be produced will feed the 36 students Govt students of Kattathilla till the end of the current academic session

