

“Yokitha is proud to own a push bicycle”

Success Story of Yokitha of Mavelankandichenai



Mavelankandadichenai is one of the remote villages in Manmunai West Divisional Secretary area (Singing Fish area) where both Vavunathivu Development Organization and Child Fund-Sri Lanka have their programs implemented to the vulnerable families.

Yoganantham Yokitha (Enrolled Child) comes from family comprising of 5 members. She is the youngest out of three children and is 12 years old. She studies in Grade 7 in Pavatkodichenai Vinayagar Vidiyalayam, which is 4 km from her house. She has to travel through shrub jungle and paddy field to reach her school. She walks to school daily and at times she is given a lift on a bicycle to school by her classmates. The access road is of clay and gravel. Since this is very close to jungle area snakebites and elephant attack occurs in the neighborhoods.

Yokitha's father is a labour, doing odd jobs and also works in paddy field during the paddy cultivation season. He has three children, two girls and a boy. He finds very difficult to manage his household and was not in a position purchase a bicycle to their children.





Big thankful to
CF SL and CF NZ

When Child Fund issued push bicycle she was fortunate to get one and was very happy to use this bicycle for her schooling.

When she was interviewed, how she felt about getting a bicycle for her own use to go to school, she said, "This bicycle is a blessing for me. When I did not have a push bicycle, I was given a lift to school by my classmates. Then I was really thankful to them. Now I have my own, I too do the same give lift to other who are not in a position to own a push bicycle." She further said that she wishes that others in similar position also get one of their own.



When she explained the benefits she received a push bicycle she said, "When I did not have the bicycle, it took 1 to 1 ½ hours to reach my school. At time I am late missing the early classes. When I was studying Grade 6, I was ranking 14th place out of 38 students. In grade 7, I ranked 9th place out of 43 students. Now after getting the push bicycle I ranked 4th out of 44 students. After having the push cycle, I was in time for school, had plenty of time to play help my mother and also attend evening classes enhancing my knowledge. I am also attending the "Common English Classes" organized by Vavunathivu Development Organization during the weekends and I am able to speak fairly in English.

The school principal of Pavatkodichenai Vinayagar Vidiyalayam is Mr. Sugunathan Navasivayam. He told us that Yokitha has made tremendous improvement in her studies and comes to school in time. There 20 children from this school who received push bicycles from Child Fund- Sri Lanka, Batticaloa office and most of them are doing very well. He wishes that there are other children in Manmunai West Divisional Secretary division who are in similar plight and he is very much thankful to Child Fund and the good-hearted donor who made his donation for the uplifting children's education in the area.

Yokitha is thanking Child Fund – Sri Lanka, Child Fund New Zealand and the donor who made this gift to her and her school friends by affording her own a bicycle. She hopes many more children in similar situation will have an opportunity in future to own one.