# WINNABILITY OF ARUNTHATHIYARS

#### IN THE BEGINNING

Women's Education for Development Trust (WED) established by an advocate Shri.K.P.D.Prabakar in the year 1991 was initially functioning around Tirunelveli and Tuticorin districts. Sensing the need to uplift the well below developed and deprived children and women in and around Tiruchendur, a survey was conducted in the year 1996. Based on the findings of the survey, on June 5<sup>th</sup> 1998 a new chapter was opened in the history of WED with special focus and attention to Dalit and Tribal children and women of Kamarajapuram in Tiruchendur area. Though branches of WED spread across whole of Tuticorin district Tiruchendur became the centre of WED.

## WED'S JOURNEY TO KAMARAJAPURAM

Natural calamities always unite our people together. The fire accident which occurred in 1999 created very special and strong bond between the people of Kamarajapuram and WED. WED voluntarily adopted the hamlet/slum on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 1999 to give relief to the fire victims. To empower the women of this area three Self Help Groups were formed in the Jubilee Year 2000. The awareness given by WED to these people worked wonders to them and with the help of Mr.P.Rajendaren, then RDO they successfully came out of the clutches of USURY in the year 2003.

### JOURNEY TO MAVEERAR NAGER

Another natural calamity in the form of Tsunami in 2004 devastated their lives with unimaginable damages. WED extended demonstrative helping hand and resettled them in the well planned and structured village called "MAVEERAR NAGER" in 27<sup>th</sup> November 2005.The journey from Kamarajapuram to MAVEERAR NAGER was a source of new life and hope. The journey from one to another was a symbolic movement of change in their lives and attitude. As a mark of change they voluntarily gave back the occupied marshy to Tiruchendur Town.

Many friends and well-wishers who have visited this place have described this as a Model Housing Project. This new dream takes care of socio, economic, educational, cultural and political needs and aspirations of the people. It is not cluster of houses but union of hearts with clear vision.

## STARS' motto SHINE LET SHINE

WED, with a clear vision and mission in sight concerning the future of the children of deprived class, started state of arts STARS' MODEL MARTRICULATION SCHOOL in 2008 to eradicate "knowledge discrimination". Its sole mission is to equip the children with self-confidence in English and attain high quality discipline. Thus it was named as Children Value Education Park. The primary importance of STARS' is to **celebrate education** in tune with needs of our children. It is a continuing process and long journey. We hope this journey is also a journey for *change*. STARS' is hopeful and helpful to one another in this long journey. Here the stars' dream comes true by animating, developing, and motivating the people Maaveerarnagar to **reach high politically by governing more institutions**.