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NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2021

A DEEPER LOOK AT
CO-CREATING
ECO-HABITATS...

WHY WE DO
WHAT WE DO

SITE PROGRESS
DECEMBER 2021

FARMER CONSUMER
CONNECT- HUMBLE
BEGINNINGS

FORBES INDIA
RECOGNISES
FHD GROUP AS INDIA'S
TOP 30 ARCHITECTS
- THE BOLD CLUB

UNDERSTANDING CLEAN
AND AFFORDABLE
ENERGY AT SREENIDHI
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

SITE PROGRESS

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ANTHARAM

Inspired by Villages

DECEMBER 2021



Estate Manager room at Entrance Pavilion



Compound wall at entrance

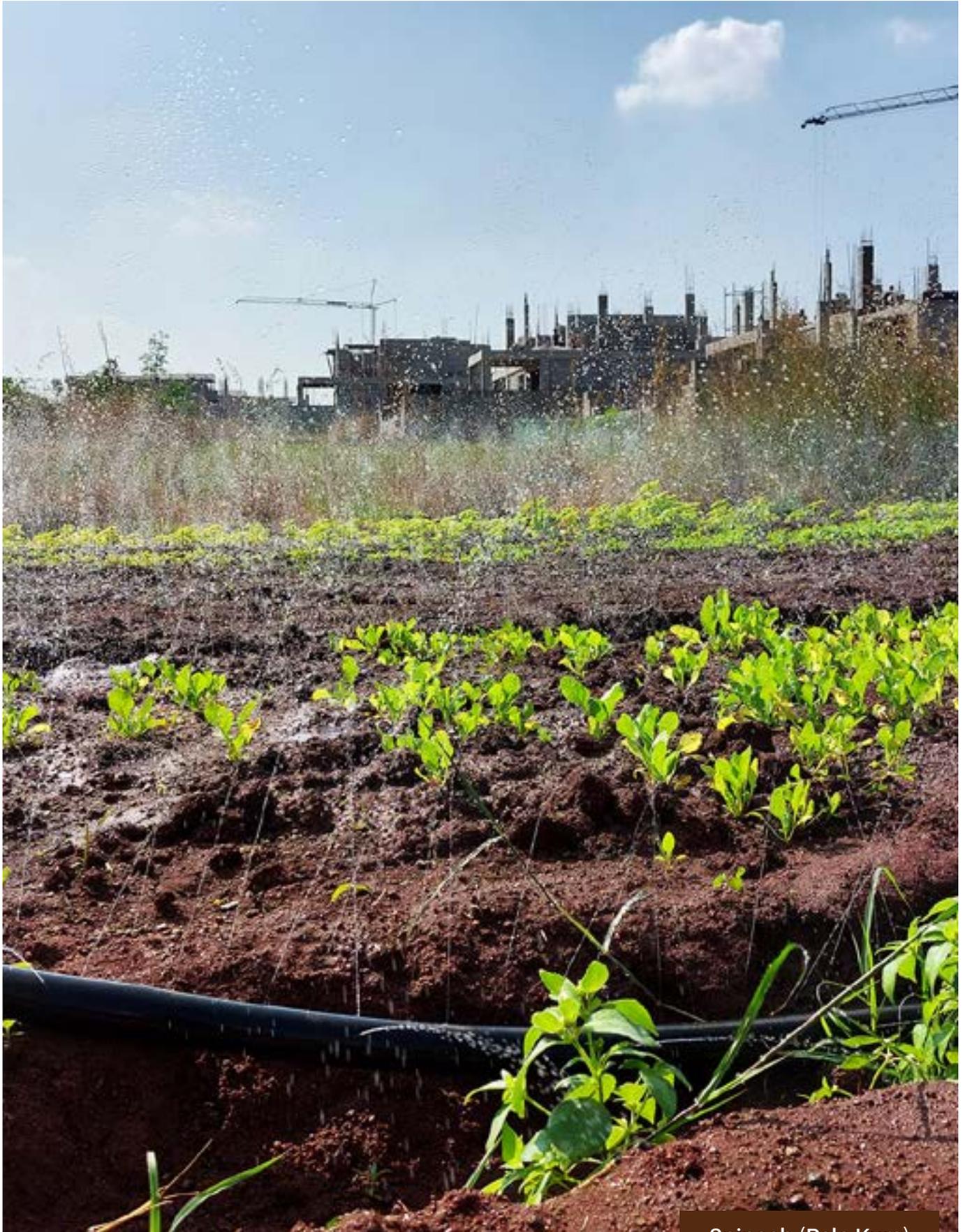


Entrance Pavilion



Raavi Palle parking structure erection and drivers lounge

LEAFY VEGETABLES GROWN AT DESIGNED FARM PATCHES



Spinach (Pala Kura)

RAISED FARM BEDS AT GOD'S OWN OFFICE BACKYARD



Roselle (Gongura)



Beetroot, Carrot, Tomato, Chilli, Brinjal, Cabbage





Pedda Baavi



Natural water stream

HAPPY MONEY



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKx-3ECKk0I>

A major reason why @Suresh is happy is the fact that his investment at Organo Antharam will be used to train farmers and everyone who works on these lands. It makes him happy to know that this will improve the lives of farmers and rejuvenate the environment instead of investing in the concrete jungle.

RECOGNITION BY FORBES INDIA IN THE BOLD CLUB, ATTRIBUTED TO THE TOP 30 ARCHITECTS - FHD GROUP



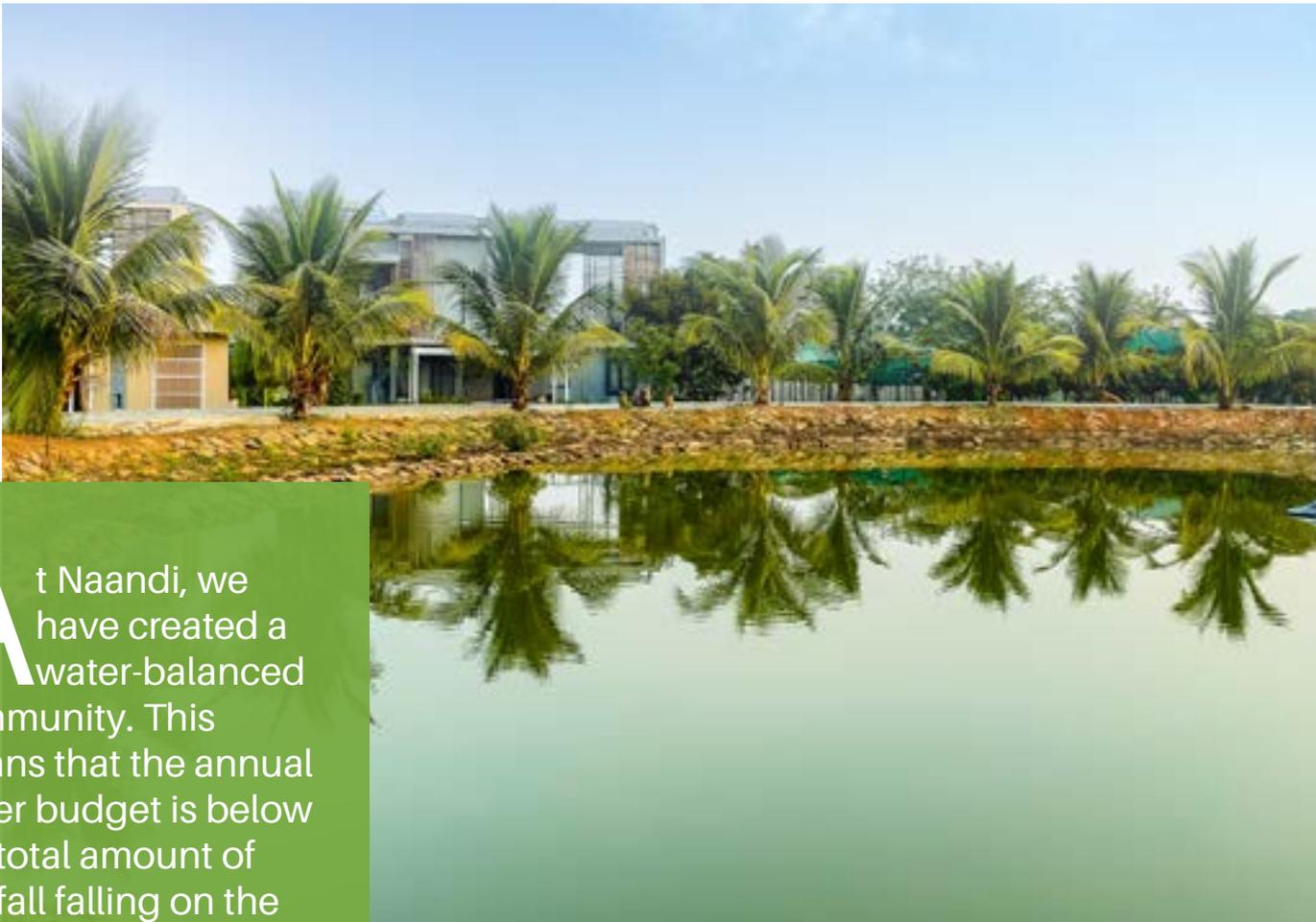
<https://youtu.be/mPl1RySAalw>

We are thrilled about this remarkable recognition from @ForbesIndia for our sister firm, FHD Group.

It has been an astounding 25-year journey to this point and happy to see the next phase of growth for these talented and committed group of architects! We are proud of you, Team FHD, and will continue to cheer you on as you aim to make positive contributions to our industry!

Why We Do What We Do

Why are we building the water storage structures (Pedda Baavi) at Antharam?



At Naandi, we have created a water-balanced community. This means that the annual water budget is below the total amount of rainfall falling on the land. The community has been managing only with rainfall and Borewell's until now.

Organo Naandi |

Some of the water falling on the land is diverted to ponds and rainwater storage structures but most of it is directed to deep aquifer recharge bore wells. These Borewells improve the ground water table.



While the ground water table has increased, there is a marked difference in the way farmers around the community have been utilising their lands. A lot of them have converted their lands into cricket fields. It is more lucrative for them to turn their land into a cricket field than do farming.



Organo Naandi

Most of the water for maintaining the lawns in these grounds come from the ground. With over 20 grounds around Naandi, the ground water resource has started depleting. The community is not benefiting from the efforts of recharging the ground water table. Although the dependence

is still completely on rainfall and ground water, it gets challenging in the summer.

At Antharam, detailed analysis was carried out to figure out what to do in case there is a drought situation.

The question was, what will happen to the community if all

three of the below situations happen at the same time?

1. The rains are low
2. There is no water from the government
3. The ground water resource has been depleted.



Organo Antharam |

The best way, we thought, was to build a dug well to store around 60,00,000 litres of rain water.

To arrive at this conclusion, we have done a detailed analysis of rainfall for the last 40 years and have sized the tank.

This capacity translates to about 400 litres per family per day for 120 days. This is the buffer that we get in case there is no water from outside.

While other communities in the city and elsewhere might face challenges with procuring

water from tankers, at least for 120 days, we want to be able to have enough water for domestic consumption.

During this time, it is expected that each family will have to be within the water budget of 400 litres per day. The assumption is that small adjustments in how water is used must be made so that as a whole we are water secure for those 4 months. It is to be seen how well this strategy will fare for the sustenance of the community in the long run.

AN INVESTMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD



<https://youtu.be/Gi39OGvnmDM>

Living close to nature is much more than greenery, according to @Satya Raghu. People who live close to nature tend to be more empathetic; it instils a lot of holistic approaches to their thinking processes. According to him, children are raised not just by their parents, but by the community too. Organo Antharam is a community of people who believe in living close to nature

UNDERSTANDING CLEAN AND AFFORDABLE ENERGY AT SREENIDHI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



The whole event went very well. I've never seen any seventh graders being so proactive and curious about the topic. We went there with an expectation that it would be a monologue but the children asked questions and participated in discussions which helped us share our thoughts and experiences with them.

More importantly, we never felt like they were seventh graders. It was like discussing practical implementation of clean and affordable energy with friends.

It was also interesting to see how different students have come up with different solutions and perspectives from space travel, to biofuels to powering the whole world through solar.

It was refreshing to know the children were already exposed to this type

of holistic thinking where not just technology but also economics and policy play a major role in shaping the future of energy.

We saw all the children, proactively, participate in the exercise that was given at the end of the workshop. The intention was to highlight what matters most when it comes to saving energy and the children assimilated it immediately.



We hope that the children will continue this process of measuring their energy consumption at home and at school and realise what their energy footprint is. Unless this is measured you could never know where action is required since they are the changemakers and it is high time that big steps are taken to reverse global warming and climate change.

Overall, this workshop was to demonstrate some of the engineering challenges that may crop up with renewable energy. Identifying the problem is the first step to solving it and we feel very proud that this small workshop has inflamed the imagination of these curious minds.

FARMER CONSUMER CONNECT- HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

This article dovetails with the article titled “Progress update as on 08 October 2021” dated 21-10-2021 ([read article](#)) and provides further deep dive into Farmer Consumer connect initiative. Since that time a greater number of farmers have joined the initiative following the festival flowers initiative ([read article](#)).

FARMER CONNECT, THE ORIGINS:



Food is one of the main strands of the Saptha Patha principles based on which Organo’s eco habitats are designed, built and operated. The concept of locally sourced food is integral to ensuring that living in the eco habitats is sustainable as it benefits both the local producers (farmers) of food and

consumers of food (Eco habitats residents). The producers get a fair price for their produce and the consumers get genuine, locally sourced and witnessed food.

Locally grown, sourced and consumed food has its set of benefits as it is fresh, the

genuineness of the source is verifiable and most importantly it is seasonal. We at Organo envisage residents of our community to be prosumers. It means that they are both producers and consumers of food.



Most of the vegetables, leafies, gourds etc., are grown within the community. Since all the food staples consumed by the residents of the eco-habitats cannot be produced within the farmland available inside the eco habitat, Organo is working to establish ways to source food staples such as pulses, grains etc., locally. One such method is to work with farmers near Organo Antharam to adopt safe agricultural practices and ask them to grow pulses and grains.

WHO WILL BUY THE PRODUCE?

This is the first question that pops up in the farmer's mind whenever we discuss about growing safe and witnessed food. After putting in all the effort, if the produce is fetching

the same price as mandi and there are not many takers then the entire effort runs the risk of being futile from the farmer's perspective. In order to instill confidence in the farmer and test the approach Organo has reached out to a total of 13 farmers from the villages of Antharam, Nowlaipalle, Hasthepur and Venkannagudem. They have agreed to produce Saff flower, Pearl millet, Foxtail millet, Wheat, Bengal Gram, Coriander pods, Jowar, Red chili, Onion, Black Gram, Green Gram etc.

If the current and future residents of Organo Naandi and Antharam respectively along with their friends and families support these farmers who have come forward for this initiative, a fair market ecosystem can be created at villages near Organo

Antharam providing access to safe and witnessed food to Organo Eco habitat residents. The quantity and variety of crops that can be sourced locally will increase manifold if this initiative is successful.

Stay stuned for more articles on how the entire process in done and how Organo is working with the farmers to ensure that they are following safe farming practices.



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Kitchen Gardening Workshop

Organo Antharam Residents



Winter is here and its time to enjoy loads of green leafy vegetables and seasonal vegetables. More flavors get added, if we have home-grown vegetables to eat. To be able to eat freshly harvested vegetables from our home kitchen gardens, isn't that blissful!

Having a kitchen garden is like a gift we give ourselves towards well-being and self-reliance. There are many benefits to raising and harvesting plants.

Most often, kitchen garden plants are easy to raise, and this gardening activity ensures that we have an inexpensive, regular and handy supply of fresh vegetables.

Kitchen garden also helps us to solve our food sourcing problems. Apart from knowing where and how our basic vegetables are grown, we also have control over the quality and quantity of preferred vegetables. In addition, kitchen garden helps purifies the air

through the plants and is a delightful hobby.

Workshop Details:
Kitchen Gardening Workshop

Conducted by: Sreedevi Ande

Date: 4th December 2021,
Saturday

Time: 11am - 12:30pm

Venue: God's Own Office at
[Organo Antharam](#)



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When Monsoon Farmers and Winter Farmers make Jeevamrutham



Be a Farmer program entered into the next leg of the crop cycle as the seeds sowed by Organo Et Schools's young farmers started germinating. Children came to the OES Children's farm campus, on 28 November, Sunday morning excited and full of energy! They were very happy to see their farm patches, showing signs of fresh green life. The seeds they had sown and saplings they had planted last Sunday, were germinating and healthy now.

Our farm coach Shilpa Teja called all the kids to join her to share guidelines to be followed during the session. All the kids gathered around her. After carefully listening to the instructions, they all went to

their respective farm patches, each bearing their names. All of them started weeding their small farms. They looked for any unwanted grass and other outgrowth on their patches and pulled these out. This was like a game of 'Odd-One-Out'!

As soon as kids were satisfied with weeding their farms, they all ran to the water source and filled water in their small garden buckets and showers. Watering was monitored by Shilpa and the OES staff around. As watering the fresh saplings must be done carefully and diligently. Soon after watering their farm patches, young farmers collected around Shilpa to learn a new activity in farming practice.

They learnt to make an organic bio-pesticide and manure combination called Jeevamrutham. Shilpa demonstrated the process of mixing cow dung, cow urine, jaggery, besan and some soil to get a solution. To this some water was added and it was kept for fermentation for 7-10 days. Kids followed their coach and started mixing their portions in small buckets provided to them by OES. Kids were all very enthusiastic about this exercise and completed it well. After cleaning and washing themselves up with soap and water at the water source, they went back to their farm patches said bye there and moved back to the city with their parents.



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Recap of Kinder Gardener Program-Session 1



OES farms on Sunday morning buzzed with Tiny Tots running around, laughing and having fun. Kids of age 6 years to 8 years old came to learn basics of growing leafy vegetables, during the winter months in Hyderabad, through OES Kinder Gardener farming program. The first session of this one-month long program was on Sunday

28 Nov 21, at the Organo Et School farm, near Chevella.

All the kids got their little farm tools of different colours and sizes along with them. They were very excited to see what was in store for them at the OES farm. So, as they all gathered around their farm coach Sreedevi Ande, they looked at her with a lot of anticipation!

Sreedevi Ande a self-trained gardening expert and farming enthusiast, is a very gentle and humble person. She loves children and enjoys sharing her knowledge about gardening with them. She was assisted by her teenage daughter Akshara in this Kinder Gardener activity at OES farm.



As the kids were taken to the farm patches allotted to them, they were very happy to see their nameboards put on individual farm patches. They all moved to these farm patches of 4X4 ft and made themselves comfortable to start the activity. Sreedevi briefed them about various steps of sowing seeds. She first helped them loosen the soil and then prepare it for sowing, by breaking bigger

chunks of soil, weeding out unwanted grass and plants if any. They were also asked to find and remove any pebbles or stones in their patches. Each child was given some soaked seeds of Methi and Soya to sow. Sreedevi demonstrated the sowing process, which the kids followed with assistance from their enthusiastic parents.

Once they were done with sowing by adding a thin layer

of soil to cover the seeds. Then came the interested step of watering the soil patches for seeds to get enough moisture to germinate. Kids loved this as they used their small watering cans to sprinkle water on their patch of land.

Hence, coming to the end of an interesting and first ever exposure of touching soil for some of the kids.

About Organo Et School (OES)

We recognize that for any positive impact to be sustainable, it has to be long-term and inter-generational. Organo Et School strives to create an apt learning environment that will support and empower families as well as individuals to embrace sustainable living mindsets and habits.

Organo Et School is a learning initiative set up by Organo in 2017 and has been facilitating fields visits and workshops for

Schools and Interest Groups. Organo Et School has had over 25+ schools, 6000+ students and 2500+ adults participate over the last 4 years.

We believe in connecting children & adults with nature. Connecting children with the natural world at a young age is the first step in creating responsible stewards of our collective future.

If you or your children are interested in future Be a Farmer

programs, please connect to us at oes@organo.co.in and by phone **9154100775** today!



You can also **click here** to express your interest. We will keep you posted on our future farm cycles.

EXPLORE AUTHENTIC ANDHRA THALI @ SLOW DOWN PLACE



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Skf2SBAu-x4>

Enjoy the farm-to-table concept and authentic Andhra Thali at Slow Down Place by Organo. The restaurant will provide you with healthy and hygienic food made with fresh farm produce and the milk from Organo's Goshala. Don't miss the mint-apple infused water.

[Click here to book a table](#)



On-site photographs at **Organo Antharam**



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