



**Action Week**  
KAPFENBERG AUSTRIA  
28.5 - 4.6.2006

Day 5  
**India**

**INCOME GENERATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION THROUGH ALTERNATIVE FUEL DEVELOPMENT**

**The flying Squirrel**

We are continuing our project at the Government Children's Home where we are teaching the children here (especially the ones from the drought stricken areas of North Karnataka) the methods of planting Pongamia pinnata and Jathrophas curacas trees. This is being done with the hope that when they return to their homes they will fully indulge in this activity and earn a sustainable income by making bio diesel out of the seed of these oil rich trees.



On day five, the idea was to bring the spirit of the United Games to the children. So, led by Balaji, the Arivu mountaineering and adventure sports team took charge of the day. They set up, for all the participants in the India GV project, what we think is the 'highest UG Game ever' called 'the flying squirrel'.



Basically the team rigged up their gear onto a forty foot high branch of a stately Gulmohar tree growing on the premises of the Government Children's Home. They then hooked up the children and one by one onto the rigging, and with the help from the participants as well as the children, hoisted them forty feet in the air!



The sensation was one of absolute amazement and no control! One feels like 'Superman' when doing the flying squirrel and coming down can be much scarier than going up, as the pictures show. The kids were as enthusiastic pulling their friends up the tree as they were to get themselves strapped up in the 'contraption'.

Many of the children were apprehensive at first. But after seeing their friends do it, safely, they all wanted to go. So they conquered their fear of things they weren't confident in.



An important lesson that the game showed the kids was one of bravery and confidence in themselves.

In the end the adventure team got tired first - then they realised that many of the kids and the United Games India people had gone twice and sometimes thrice up the rigging!

*Watch out, for the flying squirrel, those of you who come to the United Games in India this October/November!*  
**If YOU want to know more check out our website: [www.arivu.org](http://www.arivu.org)**

