

NARRATIVE REPORT of CORD-Siruvani project
(From 1st December 2007 to 31th March 2008)



Dr.Kshama Metre ,National Director of CORD



CORD team interacting with Siruthuli members

With Poojya Gurudev's Grace and Poojya Guruji's Blessings, in the last four months the following activities have been carried out.

The National Director of CORD, Dr. Kshama Metre visited CORD Siruvani from 7.3.2008 to 10.3.2008. She guided the workers and interacted with the villagers and children. She was felicitated by Chinmaya Mission Coimbatore for receiving the prestigious Padmashree award.

The main area of activity continues to be Thennamnallur Panchayat consisting of four villages—Thennamnallur, Puthur, SandhegoundanPalayam (SGPalayam) and Kallimedu. The other areas of work are two tribal villages—Seengapathi and Sadivayal and seven other villages-- Pooluvapatti, Naraseipuram, Madampatti, Semmedu, Nallurvayal, CGPudur, Alandurai.

The nature of the ongoing work consists of women empowerment programmes, Balavihar classes for children, formation of Self-Help Groups (SHG), training for income generation activities, health awareness programmes, sanitation activity and routine health clinics in six of the above villages, conducted once a week and an afternoon clinic on all the weekdays in Nallurvayal (CRDC). A detailed report of the events and activities follows.

Mabila Mandal (Women groups):



Annual sports function



International Women's Day Programme

The women of four villages namely Thennamnallur, S.G.Palayam, Puttur and Kallimedu have been meeting for the Mahila Mandal meetings. Two of these meet regularly and are able to conduct their own meetings. They have registered with Nehru Yuva Kendra and have opened bank accounts. The Vennila Mahila Mandal of Thennamnallur and the Roja Mahila Mandal of Puttur conducted a sports function in the village in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra. Around 110 students and 120 women from nearby villages participated in the volleyball, throwball and athletic events. These two Mahila Mandals also presented skits and dances at the International Women's Day celebration held in Coimbatore city. The themes were ill effects of use of plastics, Alcoholism and suppression of women. The women play games after the meeting to increase the team spirit.

Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Income-Generation Activities:

We have three Self Help Groups. Our Self Help Groups are meeting once a month in the CORD office where their records are checked and guidance is given. The villagers have been taught newspaper-packet making, phenyl making and making incense sticks and many shops have started buying them regularly. Our SHGs participated in the cultural competition held in the Block Development Office in Thondamuthur. One of our groups got the first prize for Rangoli competition and one of our CORD workers got the first prize for singing. Both of them represented the Block at the district level. Tailoring classes and beautician classes are being conducted to give vocational guidance.



Tailoring class in progress



Prize winning Rangoli



One of our Self Help Groups

Awareness programme:

Regular awareness programmes on health and sanitation are part of our clinics in the various villages.



Smile -- You are now in CORD

Community Primary Health Care Programme:

During the last four months around 4000 patients received Allopathic and Siddha and Homeopathic treatment in our clinics. Posters and charts showing various illnesses were used as aids for the awareness programmes conducted before every clinic. Screening for oral cancer, cervical cancer and breast cancer has been done intensively in the last few months.

With the help of Ramakrishna Dental College , a free dental screening camp was conducted in our CORD office. 70 patients attended the camp . Twenty two patients underwent tooth extraction and some underwent filling and scaling. The CORD workers also participated in the "Varumun Kappom " camp conducted by Tamil Nadu government in Thennamnallur. Another Medical camp was held in the local school in December 2007 to screen for oral cancer and hypertension.



Dental camp in progress



Eat right ! Feel good !

Environmental Sanitation:

In addition to motivating the villagers to keep their individual household latrines clean , CORD Siruvani has also been increasing the awareness on hazards due to plastics. The children have actively been participating in activities such as cleaning out stagnant pools thereby preventing the spread of Chikungunya fever , weeding and cleaning

out ditches, motivating the villagers to build soakage pits and individual household latrines. The villagers have been repaying the loans taken from the bank to build toilets. One of our workers was sent for a seminar on "Zero budget farming" to sensitise the villagers on the need for organic farming. Pits have been dug in several areas in the Panchayat for composting bio-degradable wastes from the village.



Compost pit ready



Do you have a toilet?

Balavadi and Balavihar (Personality development classes):

Ten Balvihar classes are being conducted in the various villages to inculcate good habits in the children through stories, bhajans and plays. The children of five Balvihars participated in the Chinmaya Balmahotsav held in Coimbatore city. The children interacted with other Balvihar groups and won prizes in story-telling competition and Ramayana quiz. The children participate in various sanitation activities and awareness programmes.

Free tuition classes for the children of Nallur Vayal and Thennamnallur are continuing and proving to be useful.



Bal Mahotsav in full swing



An effective Balsena

Community-based Rehabilitation(CBR): Mr Senthil, a physiotherapist, has been coming to Thennamanallur village and giving physiotherapy to several needy villagers. He is also teaching the CORD workers so that they can help the physically challenged on their own. The number of physically challenged people in remote areas receiving professional guidance has increased and many of them are rehabilitated.



Now Grandpa will be fine

Yuva and Yuvati groups:



Adolescent girls' programme



First Aid programme for NSS volunteers



District level Kabaddi match

Two youth groups have been formed. The Thennamnallur youth group organised and conducted a district level Kabaddi match in Thennamnallur. The NSS workers of the local school camped in our village from 21st to 31st December 2007. Along with the villagers and CORD workers, the boys cleaned up the villages. The boys received training in First Aid. One of the CORD members attended the Youth Leadership and Personality Development camp held in December 2007. The meet was organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra. ICDP(Integrated Child Development Project) conducted an awareness programme in the village Balwadi for adolescent girls. CORD workers participated in the programme .

Panchayati Raj:

The CORD team and the MM members have participated in the Gram Sabha meetings held in the various villages. We have contributed ideas and suggestions during the meetings.

Networking and Training:

The villagers and the CORD team members network with various Govt. and Non-Govt.Organizations—



Interaction with MSW students of Amruta University

- A two- day awareness camp was conducted in Puttur Gandhi colony. This was done in collaboration with Central Board for Worker's Education.



Central Government sponsored Awareness camp

- Dr. Meera Krishna Co-ordinator of CORD Siruvani was invited by Amruta Vishva Vidya Peet to interact with the villagers and MSW students who had organised a ten day camp in Komanduparay. The interaction with the villagers and students was very fruitful.

Volunteers:

We have had volunteers from India and abroad who supported the activities by giving their valuable time and also helped in cash and kind.

- Mrs.Jayanti Subramaniam of Puttur village spared her valuable time to teach exercises and meditation for the Mahila Mandal members. She and Mr. Subramaniam have donated sewing machines for starting tailoring classes in CORD office.

- Mrs. Saraswathy Ramaswamy(Dr. Meera's mother) from Canada spent several hours preparing the children for the Balvihar competition.

Dr Meera Krishna, MD., DGO
Project Coordinator,
CORD Siruvani,
4/109, Boluvampatti Main Road,
Thennamanallur Post,
Coimbatore—641 109
Phone: 0422-2906164; 98941 33424; 99421 17357.
e-mail: cordsiruvani@gmail.com

HARI OM