

## **HARI OM**

### **Narrative Report of CORD Siruvani of April 2010 to March 2011**

By Poojya Gurudev's Grace and Poojya Guruji's Blessings, CORD Siruvani has had the following events and accomplishments during this year.

Two new CDWs Smt. Sumathi and Smt. Vasuki joined CORD Siruvani after graduating from the Samaj Sevak Course in Tamaraiakkam. Smt. Vatsala, a retired Deputy B D O has joined CORD Siruvani as Community Development Officer.

#### **Medical**

During this year, around 3500 patients were examined and treated. Several patients were investigated and underwent Pap smears, cholesterol blood tests, thyroid blood tests, cytology test etc. Around 500 patients have completed their Hepatitis B vaccination. Two medical camps were conducted during this year—one by CORD and one by Chinmaya Garden Trust, in which CORD participated. Patients received treatment for eye, ear, skin, and other ailments—including diabetes and hypertension during these medical camps. Known alcoholics were counseled and asked to go for the de-addiction camp held in AIM for Seva Hospital on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2011.



Medical check-up of SHG women



Eye Camp, September 5<sup>th</sup> 2010.

#### **Mahila Mandals**

The Mahila Mandals in the various villages had their meetings every month. They had Sri Pradeep from the Consumer Forum, Sri Balasubramaniam from Worker's Union, Sri Saravanan from the Yoga School, Sri Tamilarasan, a scholar & educationist, Smt Karpagam an environmentalist and members of the Alcoholics Anonymous address them during their meetings. The women also participated in several programmes. Around 30 women from various Mahila Mandals attended the Nehru Yuva kendra function on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November. The function was held to distribute cheques and sports material to various youth groups. The women from various Mahila Mandals wrote petitions on various issues and also learnt about health and hygiene. They attended the Nehru Yuva kendra rally during the National Youth Week and also participated in the National Youth Festival. The Children did various skits on social issues during the Mahila Mandal meetings. All the ten registered Mahila Mandals got their papers ready for getting financial assistance of Rs.10,000 each from Nehru Yuva Kendra.



Roja Mahila Mandal with their Newly-purchased chairs



Smt. Seemaji from CORD Sidhbari at the Kallimedu Mahila Mandal



Various Mahila Mandal members At the NYK function



Thiruvalluvar MM cleaning PHC



Mahila Mandal members at the N Y K Rally

Name of the Mahila Mandal	No. of members
Shevvanthi Vellimedu MM	36
Thayampoo Kallimedu MM	36
Shenbagam Sennanoor MM	41
Bharathiyar Vadivelampalayam MM	72
Malligai Molapalayam MM	29
Puthur Roja MM	24
Puthur Thirukkural MM	24
Dheenampalayam Pudumai MM	24
Thendral Kalikanayakanpalayam	99

MM	
Thennamanallur Vennila MM	30
Narasimhanayakanpalayam MM	24

### Self Help Groups

At the end of 2010-2011 period, we have 68 SHGs of which 6 are male; the rest female. Most of them are daily-wage earners ( in NREGA or other places ). Some are tailors, butchers, petty shop owners, vegetable & fruit vendors. The others have had the following training in the last year.

- Book binding
- sanitary napkins
- Phenyl making
- Pain balm making
- Agarbathi making
- Vermicomposting
- SHG shop
- Wire-basket making
- Paper-packet making
- Value-added products from banana.

Of the 68 SHGs, 50 have received bank loans till date. Some have received their second or third bank loans and are doing their business with easier finance and hence in a better way. Select women from our SHG in Dhaliyur, Thenkarai and Pooluvapatti Panchayats received the SJSRY training. Non-credit-linked SHGs attended the 1 day orientation programme sponsored by NABARD. Several SHGs celebrated their anniversaries in different ways. CORD workers visited the Women's Technology Park run by Avinashilingam University to learn more about income generation activities. Most of the SHG women have insured under the Janashree Bima Yojana for this year.

The SHG members from the weaker sections got loans from VKT scheme for starting income generation activities like buying cattle.

SHG members of various SHGs participated in the block-level competition held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November 2010 at the Block Development Office. Smt. Shanthamani, CDW from CORD Siruvani and an SHG member, got the first prize in singing and Smt. Shanthi Gopalakrishnan of Sree KariaKaliyamma SHG got the second prize in oration.

The SHG shop sold various SHG products and agricultural produce purchased from the local farmers.

Our SHG products were sold in stalls put up in Anand Utsav in CIRS, the New Year Pooja by Chinmaya Mission, in Madurai during Poojya Guruji's Gnana yagna, in the TNAU flower show and L & T's annual celebration in Coimbatore.

All the Chinmaya SHGs from Thennamanallur attended the Gram Sabha meeting held on Republic Day and presented their grievances in a very systematic manner. CORD worker Smt. Shanthamani and two SHG members from Chinmaya Sri Shakthi ( Smt. Chitra Singaravelan and Smt. Kalaivani Nagaraj ) went to New Delhi to participate in the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of I O B. SHG members from the various states of India had come there to display and sell their products.

The new monthly periodical " Namathu Kural (Our Voice)", was released in the month of June 2010. The periodical has been edited by Smt.Karpagam, an environmentalist and author and contains articles written by CORD workers, SHG members and other well-wishers. The readers are our SHG and Mahila Mandal members and others in the city. It contains articles on health, history, recipes, jokes, exposure visits and experiences to be shared.



Sanitary napkin production



Our Sanitary Napkins



IOB manager with the Dheenampalayam SHGs



Chinmaya Sri Sakthi SHG



Physically challenged S H G receiving a loan from V K T for income-generation



NABARD-sponsored training



**SHG shop in Thennamanallur**



**SHG members at the IOB Platinum Jubilee function, New Delhi**

**Seva Sangam**

From the 7<sup>th</sup> of December to the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2010, Seva Sangam was organized and hosted by CCMT Education Cell. The venue was C I R S, Coimbatore. Around 120 teachers from various Chinmaya Vidyalayas and other schools and CORD delegates from various centres participated in the Seva Sangam. The conference and workshop was organized to inculcate the habit of Seva in school children and to know the right spirit of Seva. Swamini Vimalananda, the Acharya in Coimbatore organized and guided the whole programme. Swami Nikhilananda and Swamini Vimalananda gave talks on the various aspects of Seva. In the ice-breaking session, many activities like making pain-balm, making paper packets, running for a cause and slogan-writing helped bring about cooperation and interaction. Self Help Group products from various CORD centres were displayed and sold on all the days.



**Inaugural function of Seva Sangam**



**Paper-bag making by participants**



**Stall of the CORD SHG products From various CORD centres**



**Dr Kshama Metre, National Director, CORD with Chinmaya Anbu SHG**

### **Yuva and Yuvathi Groups:**

Two Yuvathi groups were formed—Prasanna Yuvati in SGPalayam and Then Chittu Yuvati group in Nallurpathi. CORD worker Vasuki Devi is looking after the first group and CORD worker Shanthamani is looking after the second group. These adolescent girls held their monthly meetings and learnt about health and menstrual hygiene and handicrafts



**Adolescent girls meet**

### **CBR:**

Around 60 patients received physiotherapy, specialist services, home care as and when necessary. Mr. Senthil, the physiotherapist, has been actively rehabilitating patients with stroke and other disabilities.

### **Training & Awareness Programmes :**



**Advocate Thenmozhi addressing SHGs**



**Typewriting class in progress**



**Alcoholics Anonymous group addressing**



**Awareness programme in Mullangadu**

### Molapalayam Mahila Mandal

A free Typewriting Certificate Course was started in CORD office. PSG College of Technology provided the typewriters and the tutor. Students and other villagers came to learn typing in English.

Under the Central Board Workers Education programme, awareness programmes were conducted in Nallurpathi, Puthur, Kalkothi, Mullangadu and Kalikanayakanpalayam. In each of these programmes, 40 women learnt about health issues, sanitation, Govt.schemes and income-generation activities.

The laptop has been put to good use for the awareness programmes. In July 2010, Dr Meera presented a paper in the State level Workshop on Menstrual Hygiene Management arranged by the Consortium and UNICEF. Several NGOs and Heads of various Govt. Departments participated. The topic was Menstrual Hygiene as a Key Component of Adolescent and Reproductive Health. The sanitary napkin production has picked up and the product is good.

4 young boys from Dhaliyur Panchayat underwent a 90-day electrician training course under the SJSRY scheme.

CORD workers attended the annual NABARD-Bank-NGO interface meet and an environment meet organised by NABARD for bankers and NGOs..

Three students from the department of women's studies of the Bharathiar University and two students doing their Masters in Social Work from Amruta University were posted for 1 to 2 days in a week from January to March 2011.

Dr Meera and the CORD workers were invited to the International Women's Day celebration by the NGO Good Shepherd in Karamadai.

Dr Meera had an interactive session with the PSG college of Technology girl hostelites on health and hygiene.

She also had an interactive session with the Govt. Primary School teachers at a cluster meeting on health and hygiene issues.

### **Interactions :**

In July 2010, Dr Meera presented a paper in the State level Workshop on Menstrual Hygiene Management arranged by the MHM Consortium and UNICEF

The SHGs of Thennamanallur Panchayat including our SHGs attended all the four Gram Sabha meetings held during this period and also the General Body meeting of Vaazhndu Kattuvom Thittam (V K T).

CORD workers visited MYRADA, an NGO with activities in three states of South India.

### **Agriculture:**

Three Farmer's clubs have been formed-- The SG Palayam Pasumai Farmer's Club, the Thennamanallur Kanchi Farmer's Club and the Puthur Pudumai Farmer's Club. The three farmers clubs opened their bank accounts and submitted their forms to NABARD for financial assistance.

Two demonstrations on vermicompost were shown to the farmers during this period. Around 10 new vermicompost units have been made during this period and the worms have been supplied from the unit in CORD office..

The following meetings and functions, related to agriculture, were participated in :

- Weather-based insurance scheme for crops
- ATMA—Agricultural Technology Management Agency Meeting
- National-level workshop held in the Avinashilingam Deemed University for Women. on “Engendering Agricultural Production & Marketing through Public-Private Partnership”.
- Meeting in Avinashilingam Krishi Vignan Kendra in Vivekanandapuram in Karamadai Block.
- The CORD team visited an organic farm in Sathyamangalam where Mr Sundararaman, the farmer told us in great detail, the advantages of organic farming.
- The Farmers’s Day celebration in Thennamanallur.



**Panchagayam demonstration & Vermicomposting----Organic Farming**



**Display at Agricultural Technology Management Agency meet**



**Puthur Farmers meet**



## Farmers and CORD workers at the Krishi Vignan Kendra

### Balavihar:

We have 12 Balavihars with around 250 children. In addition to the weekly Balavihars, children had the following activities

- Went to Coimbatore town to sing Bhajans and listen to Swami SivaYogananda's discourse
- participated in the Maha Gayatri Homam held in Chinmaya gardens on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January.
- 114 children from twelve Balavihars participated in the programme held in Chinmaya Vadavalli school to celebrate MahaSivaratri
- did skits in Mahila Mandal meetings to highlight important issues
- cleaned bus stops and school premises.



Children with Swami Sivayogananda



Children doing a skit for their parents



Homam at the Chinmaya Gardens



Children tackling a puzzle



**A scene in the play during Mahasivaratri celebrations**

**Volunteers:**

Around 80 of the international camp participants who had come to attend Swami Swaroopananda's camp volunteered in CORD Siruvani . One group of volunteers interacted with the children and taught them games & songs. Another group of volunteers went around the villages observing the amenities and the conditions. They also spoke to the marginalized people and asked them their problems. Sri Nikhil Chulani taught English and other subjects in Om Sakthi School in Thennamanallur. He also taught in the tuition classes in Nallurvayal in the evenings and interacted with the SHG members.



**Volunteers from International Camp with Puthur Mahila Mandal**

**Monitoring and Evaluation visit:**

On the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December 2010, the National Director CORD, Dr Kshama Metre, along with Sh. Narender Paul (Sr. Programme Manager), Smt. Seema Devi, Sh. Onkar Saini, and Sh. Vijay Singh, assessed the work done in CORD Siruvani and guided the workers in various areas of activity.

**Survey :**

A detailed survey of the Thennamanallur Panchayat was undertaken as a part of monitoring and evaluation.



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