

VASANTHAM PENGAL SANGAM – V P S

Reg No : 148 / 2005

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Manachanallur Post, Tiruchirappalli – 621005, Tamilnadu, India
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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2011 - 2012

Preamble:

“VASANTHAM PENGAL SANGAM” shortly known as VPS is a voluntary organisation registered under Tamilnadu Societies Registration Act 1975. It was promoted by a group of women who is involving in rural development activities over a decade. The members of the board are so committed in rural development activities and dedicated their service for the rights and justice of women and children. VPS is working with women, children, elders and rural artisans for their socio, economic and educational empowerment.

Vision:

“Improve the quality of life of women and children through empowering economically and educationally self-sufficient with holistic approach”.

Registration Details:

- Registered under Tamilnadu Societies Registration Act – Regn No: 148 / 2005
- Registered with Income Tax Department under 12A & 80G & holding Pan Number

Project Area:

Manachanallur, Lalgudi, Musiri & Turaiyur blocks of Tiruchirappalli District, TN

Activities and achievements for the year 2011 -2012:

1. Women Empowerment Programme:

1.1. Strengthening women SHGs:

“Vasantham Pengal Sangam” has been working in 20 villages in Manachanallur block of Tiruchirappalli district. It has promoted 50 women SHGs. The total

membership is 780 women. The members of the women group are from backward and dalit community. They are all rural artisans involving in daily wage work like agriculture, livestock rearing, artificial gem polishing, rice mill work, banana plantation, vegetable vending, petty shops, and construction work.

1.2. Activities of Women Self Help Groups:

The women SHGs are organizing their bimonthly meeting regularly. Most of the groups are conducting their meeting in the night hours. The average attendance would be 85%. They are involving in savings and credit activities and discussing their personal and village issues. The main matter discussed during this was alcoholism, children higher education, availing bank loans, etc. We have organized workshops, seminars and group discussion to develop their various skills. These capacity building activities helped them to understand the socio, economic and educational situation of their family and community.

1.3. SHG Training programme:

VPS has been organized two training programmes on Savings and Credit for 80 women. This programme was organized at Manachanallur and Ayyampalayam villages. The main input of the training was the concept of SHGs, accounting system, savings and internal lending system, loan collection and availability of loans and subsidies from banks for SHGs.



This training programme helped the women to build their capacity to run their groups with self management practice and confidence. Mr. P. Thangaraju, REDS, Namakal, Mr. K. Govindan, Light Trust, Trichy facilitated the training programme. The group members are in need of micro credit and we are trying to access credit from external agencies.

1.4. Artificial Jewel making training

We have organized two skill training programme for the members of the Women groups. Mrs. Maheswari, Manachanallur and Mrs. Priya gave the training on artificial jewel making. 42 women were participated in two workshops and we organized this programme at Manachanallur. This programme helped women to produce artificial jewels and market them locally. 12 women are involving in this business on small basis and hope they will extend their business.

1.5. Skill training:

We have organized a two day refresher course for 27 women who are involving in tailoring. The training input was in garments production. Some women experts from our town were facilitated the two day training programme. The trained women were get employment in a local garment company who are producing the women inner dress. They are getting average Rs. 3,600 in a month.

2. HIV/AIDS Awareness Camp:

Many of our women group members are working in vulnerable sector like rice mills, plantation works, construction works and gem polishing work. During our intervention we have identified some HIV/AIDS infected and affected people and approaching us for various help. We have organized an awareness camp in which 15 positives were participated. Mr. R. Danaraj from DEAR Foundation facilitated the camp and he explained possibilities for various help from Government and from NGO.

3. Children Development Programme

3.1. Education Support for Poor Children:

With Support of local donors we have supported 14 poor students for their education. We have provided them notebook, pen, pencil and school bag which was much helpful for their education. Still many children are not able to access the educational material from their parents in time and struggled hard for their education. Children expect assistance from us for their education.

3.2. Evening Tuition Centers:



To improve the learning skills of the rural children, VPS has been running two evening tuition centers in Rasampalayam and Seethevimangalam villages. We have appointed two volunteers as teachers and pay a small honorarium to them. They are teaching from 3rd to 8th standard. At present 60 children are studying in two centers. Children need education materials since all are from poor

background. We also teach moral classes for them. We have supported teaching aids like black board, chock etc. We have good scope to expand the programme. Due to financial limitation we are unable to expand the programme.

4. Environmental Awareness Camp:

4.1. Tree plantation programme:

As continuation of the National Environmental Awareness Campaign, VPS organized a tree plantation at Poonampalayam village with support of the students. Mr. R. Santhana Krishnan, B.Sc (Agri), MBA, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Agriculture Department, Manachanallur inaugurated the programme. We have supported 100 fruits and herbal plants and planted in the homes.

4.5. Organic Farming Workshop

Many of our target community depends the agriculture and livestock rearing for their livelihood. Agriculture is the basic livelihood for the rural people. Farmers are having small piece of dry and wet lands. Since the ground water goes more than 500 feet, farmers are not able to cultivate throughout the year. They cultivate single crop and then free the land. Many of the farmers are adopting chemical farming and pesticides and it destroyed the soil fertility and damaged the crop yields. To educate farmers on organic farming, we have organized a workshop at Rasampalayam village. Mr. Durai, Ariculture Department, Manachanallur gave input on various methods of organic farming. He provided information on various insect population which helps for crops, organic plant diseases management, organic weed and seed population, seed protection, water resource management and farming sustainability. He demonstrated on preparation of Panchaya Kavya, Vermi Compost, Nadep Compost etc. The farmers gained knowledge on organic farming activities. 28 farmers were benefited.

5. Support to poor:

With support of GiveIndia, Mumbai, we have supported for construction of one toilet and tailoring machine for two girls. We constructed this toilet at Valmalpalayam village to Mrs. Sellammal who was widowed at tender age living with her son and grandchildren and tailoring machine was supported to Miss. Ramani, Kalpalayam, Mrs. S. Latha, Pitchandar kovil. Now both are working independently and earning average Rs. 3600 per month. Thanks to GiveIndia donors.



Ms. N. Thenmozhi	President	0
Ms. V. Rajamani,	Vice President	0
Ms. S. Padma	Secretary	0
Ms. P. Shantha,	Joint Secretary	0
Ms. R. Anupriya	Treasurer	0
Ms. T. Vasantha	EC Member	0
Ms. R. Sri Latha,	EC Member	0

9. Acknowledgments:

We express our sincere thanks to one and all who contributed their time and energy for the empowerment of the poor community. We express our acknowledgments to our staff, resource persons, donors, Officials of Govt. Departments, volunteers, NGOs and stakeholder who supported us for the cause of poor people.

Thanking you.

Date : 23.09.2012
Place : Manachanallur

Signature

(S. Padma, Secretary, VPS)