

VASANTHAM PENGAL SANGAM –V P S

Reg No : 148 / 2005

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2010 - 2011

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 2010 -2011:

1. Women Empowerment Programme:

1.1. Strengthening women SHGs:

“Vasantham Pengal Sangam” has been working with women in 20 villages of Tiruchirappalli district. It has promoted 48 women SHGs with a membership of 750 women. The group members are from backward and dalit community and economically poor. Most of them are daily wage workers and their livelihood lies in

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. Savings and Credit Training Programme:

We have organized three training programmes on Savings and Credit. 140 key members from the groups were participated. The training programmes were facilitated by the NGO leaders. They are Mr. M. Ramamurthy, Secretary, GMKN, Mr. P. Thangaraju, REDS, Namakal, Mr. Kannan, SEEDS, Thogamalai, Mrs. G. Tamilselvi, WE Trust, Trichy. They explained 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. Further 3 groups received revolving fund from the banks during the reporting period.

1.4. Legal Awareness Programme:

We have organized a legal awareness camp for the women leaders at Manachanallur. 52 women were participated. Advocates, Mr. S. Subramaniam, and Mr. Renganathan facilitated the training programme. They explained the important acts intended for women. Further they gave information on Right to Information Act. This training was helped women to raise their knowledge on legal aspects.

1.5. Income Generation support for Poor Women:

In rural area the poor women are still struggling for their livelihood. Some of them are not able to do hard work. Especially the single woman, widow and destitute are not interested for urban work due to sexual exploitation. So, they chose the rural work eventhough they get low wages. VPS supported for 3 poor women each with 2 goats for the livelihood.

2. Health Education Programme:

2.1. HIV/AIDS Awareness Camp:

Our women group members are from rural background. They are working in vulnerable sector like rice mills, plantation works, construction works and gem polishing work. Some HIV/AIDS infected and affected men and women approached us for various help. To understand the real situation of the positive people and to make aware on the issues we organized a camp at Sirugambur village. Some women members from our groups also participated to understand the pathetic conditions of the positives. Mr. R. Danaraj from DEAR Foundation facilitated the camp and he explained how to prevent the HIV/AIDS incidents and the services available at the Government Hospitals. Further he supported for 2 positive women for their livelihood.

2.2. Sanitation workshop:

Sanitation is one of the important needs of every family. People in rural areas are not aware on health and sanitation and still they are practicing the open toilet system. They are not given importance to construct a toilet for their family. Further they feel that construction of toilets consumes lot of money. Further, the poor earnings of the people not permit them to construct toilet. In rural areas the adolescent girls are affected much for their regular custodial. So, we organized a training programme on health and sanitation at Manachanallur. 43 women were participated in the programme. The resource person Mr. K.R. Raju from VDC shared his experience in low cost construction technologies and suggested to utilize the subsidy for construction of individual toilets at Panchayat Union Office.

3. Senior Citizens Programme:

We noted that many senior citizens are without any help from their family, relatives and friends for their basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter. Many elders are isolated by their family. They are living in pathetic condition. Their children are migrated to urban areas and not able to keep their parents with them due to constraint of habitation and income. Most of the people left their children with their grand parents and it is more workload at their old age. With support of the local donors we have supported dress and bathing materials for 9 elders in Manachanallur block. Further we have organized a recreation programme for the elders and encourage them with counseling support for family care.

4. Children Development Programme

4.1. Child Rights Campaign:

In our project area still some children are engaging as child labourers in artificial gem polishing industry, construction industry, banana plantation work, hotels and mechanical shops. To create aware on the evils of child labour, VPS organized a school enrolment campaign at Mananchanallur on 30th April 2010 in which 120 children and women were participated. The campaign insisted the right to education for the children and to ensure 100% school enrolment. This campaign helped the public to understand the real situation of the children.

4.2. Education Support for Poor Children:

With Support of local donors we have supported 12 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.

4.3. Evening Tuition Centers:

As new initiatives VPS has been running two evening tuition centers in ----- villages. We have appointed a woman in each center to teach the children from 3rd to 8th standard. At present 52 children are studying in the centers. Children need education materials since all are from poor background. 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.

5. Environmental Awareness:

5.1. Environmental Awareness Camp:

National Environmental Awareness Campaign was organized by VPS at Poonampalayam High School in which 250 students were participated. Mr. R. Santhana Krishnan, B.Sc (Agri), MBA, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Agriculture Department, Manachanallur and Mr. Tamilagan, M.A B.L, President, Kaveri Padukappu Iyakkam, Trichy facilitated the two day workshop and tree plantation programme. VPS have organised a seminar among 250 school students on the importance of biodiversity and conservation activities. We involved students in preparation of biodiversity register on rare indigenous varieties of plants, seeds, medicinal plants etc. Further the students planted trees in and around the village.

We have organized a seed demo to educate the students on the importance of indigenous seeds. .

Overall impact of the programme:

- The students, teachers and NGOs acknowledged the importance of the programme and planted 300 plants in their village.
- The students learned more on the traditional seeds,
- The environmental club which is formed after the program will continue their environmental activities,
- Students will protect the medicinal plot which is promoted during the programme.

5.2. Organic Farming Workshop

Agriculture is the basic livelihood for the rural people. In our project are majority of the rural people are depending on agriculture. Our target group farmers are having small piece of lands. They depends the ground water for cultivation. Presently they are adopting chemical fertilizer 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 Manachanallur. Mr. Manoharan, Deputy Director of Agriculture 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. We expect that they practice in their farms. 32 farmers were benefited.

6. Staff:

At present, 5 staff (1 Full time and 4 Regular Part time) are working in the organization. VPS paid Rs. 2,000 pm for the Project Coordinator the highest Honorarium and Rs. 1000 for the Tuition Centre Teachers is the lowest honorarium. In addition more than 20 volunteers are involving in development activities of the organization.

7. Auditor

We have appointed Mr. S. Kalaimani, Chartered Accountant, Uma Illam, Malar Salai, Tiruchirappalli as the Auditor of our organization.

8. VPS board meetings:

During the year 2010 -2011, we have conducted 4 board meetings including the AGM. The board discussed the programme, projects, organization policies, finance and future plan of VPS. There is no national and international travel by the volunteers, staff and board members of the organization. The board members are

not paid any remuneration / salary / honorarium from the VPS. We paid only the travel for their participation in the Boar Meetings. The present Board Members are:

Board Member	Designation	Amount paid Rs
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 and stakeholder who supported us for the cause of poor people.

Thanking you.

Date : 27.09.2011
Place : Manachanallur

Signature

(S. Padma, Secretary, VPS)