

VASANTHAM PENGAL SANGAM – V P S

Reg No : 148 / 2005

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2015 - 2016

Preamble: VASANTHAM PENGAL SANGAM shortly known as VPS is a registered Society under Tamilnadu Societies Registration Act 1975. It holds 12AA, 80G and Income Tax Pan Number. VPS is by the women, for the women and of the women. The members of the society belong to rural community and have good rapport with the community. VPS is working among the poor communities especially children, women, farmers and other peripheral workers to improve their socio-economic, cultural and health conditions. It is working in Manachanallur, Lalgudi, & Turaiyur blocks of Trichirappalli District of Tamilnadu, India. At present two staff are working in the organization and we involved the volunteers in our developmental activities.

Vision:

"Improve the quality of life of women and children through empowering socially, 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 12AA vide registration Number: C.N.6162E (121)/2009-2010/CIT 17-I/TRY (16.09.2010)
- Registered with Income Tax Department under 80G vide Registration Number: C.N.6162E (179)/2009-2010/CIT 17-I/TRY (16.09.2010)
- Income Tax Pan Number: AAAAV8786D (7.10.2005)
- FCRA – Prior permission for RSWR, USA Project,
- Planning commission registration No:

Project Area:

Manachanallur, Lalgudi & Turaiyur blocks of Tiruchirappalli District, Tamilnadu, India.

Activities of the organization:

- ✓ Promoting and strengthening women self help groups in the rural areas,
- ✓ Organizing skill training, workshop, seminars and conference for women,
- ✓ Running evening tuition centers for the poor school going children,
- ✓ Organizing environmental awareness campaign and tree plantation program,
- ✓ Working with small and marginal farmers for promotion of organic farming,
- ✓ Helping young girls for their employment & Helping the children for education,
- ✓ Promoting awareness on water and sanitation in the rural area,

Activities, outcome and impact for the year 2015 -2016:

1. Sustained Income Generation Program for Poor Women:

VPS with partnership of *Right Sharing of World Resources, USA* implemented a project **Sustained Income Generation for Poor Women**. This project was implemented in Manachanallur block, Tiruchirappalli District, Tamilnadu, India. VPS selected the beneficiaries with support of staff and volunteers. It selected 24 beneficiaries and organized two day orientation meeting and oriented them on income generation activities. The beneficiaries selected petty shop, vegetable vending, mini hotel and floor vending trade for their income generation.

1.1. Orientation training and grant distribution function:

On 16th and 17th April 2015, VPS organized two day orientation training at Community Centre, Panchayat Union Office, Manachanallur for the beneficiaries. In this training, Mrs. S. Padma, Project Director, VPS and Mr. P.Kanagavel, Managing Trustee, PEAS oriented the beneficiaries on selection of trade, establishment of trade, purchase of materials, marketing techniques, fixing the margin (profit), reinvestment and financial management. After the training program, VPS paid Rs. 212,220 as grant through cheque to 24 women. Mrs. Parameswari Murugan, Chairman, Manachanallur Panchayat Union has kindly distributed the grant to the beneficiaries. Through this orientation program they have motivated on *self management business practice*.



1.2. Petty Trade:

The women who received the grant has been utilized the grant for their income generation activities. Almost all women invest some additional amount along with our grant and established the trade. 3 women got grant for *petty trade* and they established petty shops in front of their home. It helped them to do some additional work in their home and reduced the cost of investment in rental the new building for the business. Average sale per day for each woman is Rs. 1500 and each woman is earning average Rs. 200 per day.



1.3. Flower vending:

We supported 8 women for *flower vending*. They established the shop at the important streets at their natives. Some of them are selling at the door steps of the buyers. They buy flowers daily in the morning at Srirangam at a distance of 10 m from Manachanallur and knit at home & vending in the evening. They have regular customers. They are earning average Rs. 180 per day.



1.4. Vegetable vending:



Regarding the *vegetable vending* we supported for 5 women and they sold the vegetables at the streets, weekly market and some of them are established constantly in a place. They purchased the vegetables at the vegetable market at Tiruchirappalli and bring it through the public transport and private regular vehicles. They open the shops by 6.30 am. Mostly they closed their business by 10 am and then they work at home. Now they are earning average Rs. 200 per day.

1.5. Mini Hotel:

The women who received grant for the *mini hotel* established the trade at their home. Some of them are established in rental place. They will prepare two, three food items and sold it. Most of them have regular customers. Most of the time, their family members are also have food at the hotel and it avoids the dual work in cooking at the home and save the time. They are earning average Rs. 200 per day. All the beneficiaries are using the income for food, cloth, education, health and savings.



1.6. Midterm Evaluation Training to RSWR Partners:

During the reporting period, Mrs. S. Padma, Project Director and the staff Mrs. Seetha both are attended 3 days training on midterm evaluation for RSWR partners in Tamilnadu. It was held at LIFE CENTER, Notchiodaipatty from June 24th 2015 to June 26th, 2015 and they learned skills on evaluation of the projects.

1.7. Refreshment Training:

We have organized two refreshment training for the beneficiaries at our office. The main inputs are; sharing the positive and negatives of income generation activities, steps taken by the respective beneficiary to overcome the negatives, raising the additional investment, importance of savings, accounting and financial management. Almost all the beneficiaries were participated in the training. Mrs. S. Padma, Project Director, VPS facilitated the training. This training further improved their skills and knowledge in the business.

1.8. Monthly Meeting:

We have organized regular monthly meeting to the beneficiaries. During the meeting, we have collected the information regarding their growth, difficulties faced, and challenges in their trade. The participants interacted and gained information and solutions. VPS also provide input to the beneficiaries and closely monitoring their developments.

1.9. RSWR Visit:

Ms. Sarah Northrop, Program Director, Right Sharing of World Resources, USA, visited our project on 13th February 2016. She had interaction with project beneficiaries at their door steps. Then she participated in the beneficiaries meeting held at our office and got information on their socio, economic improvements. Beneficiaries expressed their acknowledgements to the RSWR support. She had discussion with Ms. Padma, Project Director, VPS, staff and board members and shared the information and future program.



2. National Environmental Awareness Campaign

2.1. Awareness Activities:

VPS organized the National Environmental Awareness Campaign on the theme Combating Desertification, Land Degradation & Drought at Mannachanallur Government Girls Higher Secondary School on 28th and 29th January 2016. In awareness activities, we organized a workshop on the theme. 150 girls were participated. Mr. K. Jayabalan, B.Sc (Agri) Assistant Director Officer, Agriculture Department, Manachanallur, Mr. Sambath, M.Sc, M.Ed, Head Master, Mr. K.R. Raju, MSW., Project Director, VDC participated and gave input on the theme. Mr. Jayabalan told that rainwater harvesting is very much important for the future generation.



2.2. Action Activities:

On the second day, in the action component the students involved in tree plantation at their homes along with their parents. VPS provided 40 saplings to the students. They prepared herbal garden in the hostel and planted 12 type's herbal plants. Through this environmental awareness camp, students, teachers learned more on drought, land degradation, protection of traditional and importance of tree plantation. The environmental club which was formed earlier will be further strengthened and some students are cultivated medicinal plants at



their kitchen garden.

2.3. Environmental Training for Children:

As follow-up we have organized another programme on environment for the students on 10th August at our office. 23 students participated. We have trained them on tree plantation, rainwater harvesting, protecting forests.

3. Training on Self Help Group (SHGs) Management:

“Vasantham Pengal Sangam” has been working with women for their socio, economic and educational development in Manachanallur block of Tiruchirappalli District. As part of their empowerment, it has promoted 54 women self help groups and involve their savings and credit activities. The members of the SHGs are involving in agriculture, cattle rearing, rice mill work, banana plantation work, vegetable vending, petty trade and construction works.

The groups are conducting their monthly meetings regularly. They are involving in savings and internal lending. They have discussed the community problems like alcoholism; child labour issues, livelihood activities, children education, water and sanitation etc. During the reporting period, we have organized SHG management training for the SHG animators and representatives to run their groups independently. On 10th May, 22nd July and 27th October we have organized these trainings. Average 24 women were participated. Mrs. S.Padma, Project Director, VPS and Mrs. R. Abirami, Treasurer, VPS, trained the group members on group formation producers, code of conduct of group members, monthly meetings, bank linkages, and record maintenance and social security schemes for the peripheral workers. These training programs helped the women to build their capacity on autonomous functions of the groups.

4. Artificial Jewel Making Training:

On 22nd January and 21st February 2016, VPS organized skill training on artificial jewel making at Manachanallur. In each training 20 women participated. Mrs. Lilly Praba, Homely Beauty Care and Crafts Trainer, Manachanallur trained the women on artificial jewel making. She gave training on production of terracotta jewels, single and multiple stone jewels, car rings, kolusu and hand wears. She also shared the information on marketing, profit fixing, materials available at market etc. The women participated in the training with enthusiastically and involvement. Every woman learned the skill properly. Some of them are producing the jewels and marketing them locally.

5. Skill Training on Tailoring and Textile Printing:

During our SHG meetings the women discussed their income generation possibilities. Some of the group members are doing tailoring at their home. They are untrained and learned the skills at micro level. So they have poor customers and need training to upgrade their skills. Such women proposed us to organize a training to improve their skills in tailoring. With their training fees support, VPS conducted 15 day skill training on Tailoring and Textile Printing at Manachanallur from 2/10/2015 to 17/10/2015. 22 women were participated. Mrs. Lilly Praba, Homely Beauty Care and Crafts Trainer, Manachanallur trained the women on stitching blouse, chudidhar, inscirt, children dress etc. She also trained the women on sarce textile printing. This training helped women to improve their skills in tailoring and textile printing.



6. Farmers Training on organic farming:

We have organized training at Ayyampalayam village on 16th June 2015 on organic farming cultivation. 18 farmers were participated. Mr. Manoharan, Retd, Agriculture Department trained the farmers on organic farming cultivation. He gave input on preparation of farm compost, vermi compost, organic pest replants, water conservation methods and water management. He stressed the farmers on the importance of bio-diversity cultivation, seed protection. Some of the farmers are demonstrating their skills in organic vegetable cultivation.



7. Evening Tuition Centers:



VPS has been running evening tuition centres at Rasampalayam and Melaseedevimangalam village for the school children from 1st standard to 6th standard. Rural children are poor in English and Arithmetic and we give importance to teach it. Along with the regular syllabus, we taught the children on health and hygiene. Two volunteers are appointed as Tuition Teachers. At present 52 children get benefit in both centers. VPS provided teaching aids like black board, chock to the school.

8. Auditor

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

9. Staff and volunteers:

At present, 2 Tuition teachers, 1 Project Coordinator, 1 field staff is working in VPS. 22 village level volunteers are helping us in executing our projects. The organization paid honorarium for the staffs. The highest amount of Honorarium is Rs. 3,500/- pm and the lowest amount of honorarium Rs. 1,500/- pm. We conducted monthly meetings for the staff and volunteers to develop the capacity.

10. VPS board meetings:

VPS conducted three Executive Committee meeting and one General Body meeting during the reporting period. The board discussed the programs, projects, organization policies, finance and future plan of the organization. There is no national and international travel by the volunteers, staff and board members of the organization. The Secretary Mrs. S. Padma has been appointed as the Project Director and the board paid monthly Rs. 1,500 towards her project monitoring travel expenses. The board members are not paid any remuneration / salary / honorarium by the organization and they reimburse their travel for the board meeting participation. VPS applied for FCRA registration on 15th March 2016 and hope we will receive it in October 2016.