

# VASANTHAM PENGAL SANGAM – V P S

Reg No : 148 / 2005

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## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2018 - 2019

### **Preamble:**

**VASANTHAM PENGAL SANGAM** shortly known as **VPS** is a registered Society under Tamilnadu Societies Registration Act 1975. It holds 12AA, 80G, Pan Number, FCRA registration and Darpan registration. VPS is by the women, for the women and of the women. The members of the VPS belong to rural community and have good rapport with the community specifically children, youth, women, farmers and other peripheral workers. They are working for the poor communities to improve their socio-economic, cultural, education and health conditions. We are working in Manachanallur, Lalgudi and Turaiyur blocks of Trichirappalli District of Tamilnadu. We involved our volunteers in our developmental activities.

**Vision:** *“Improved quality of life of children and women in an empowered community”*

### **Activities of the organization:**

- ✓ *Promoting and strengthening women self help groups in the rural areas,*
- ✓ *Organizing skill training, workshops, 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,*
- ✓ *Promoting producers groups,*
- ✓ *Organize campaigns on health, education, child rights and social security rights for rural peripheral workers,*

### **Working area:**

Country : India  
State : Tamilnadu,  
District : Tiruchirappalli  
Blocks : Manachanallur, Turaiyur and Lalgudi  
Total villages : 36  
Total families : 5000

## **Activities, outcome and impact for the year 2018 -2019:**

### **1. Project of Nutritional Behaviour Change:**

We have a novel partnership with VGIF, USA to implement a project among women and girl children to motivate them to improve their dietary habits through growing and including nutritious greens and other vegetables in their diet to improve their health and well being. This project is implemented in 20 villages in Manachanallur block in Tiruchirappalli district, Tamilnadu. VGIF supported INR 415,030 to this project.

#### **1.1. Training of Trainers:**

We selected 5 experienced volunteers from the target communities and provided them with 3-day training on nutrition and hygiene both theoretical inputs and practical demos with the help of BCC materials. The training also included demos on mixing iodine with salt, kitchen gardening techniques and hand washing methods.

#### **1.2. Training process at household and group levels:**

The trained 5 volunteers involved in a training process at the household levels and village level and trained 1000 beneficiaries spread over 20 villages. They trained the community on the topics on ten food groups, importance of consuming a minimum of 5 food items from 5 food groups out of 10 food groups. Further they trained them on kitchen gardening and distributed vegetable seeds and fruit bearing seedlings/saplings to 1000 women beneficiaries. At the village level session's average 45 women participants were participated.



#### **1.3. Training on organic kitchen gardening:**

The TOTs trained 980 women beneficiaries from 20 villages on kitchen gardening. They provided inputs on how to use kitchen wastes and waste water for keeping the kitchen



gardens alive and healthy. They also trained them on how to prepare organic manure available at their doorsteps for providing organic manure to kitchen gardens. The TOTs distributed vegetable seeds like tomato, okra, brinjal and ridge guard and few fruit-bearing plants to all the beneficiaries. The beneficiaries started harvesting the vegetables. The average output of vegetables

per family is around 40 kg to 60 kg of vegetables. However, only 740 beneficiaries were able to take proper care and succeeded in the kitchen garden.



campaigning activities. This project increased awareness and knowledge on ten different food groups and bring habit to consume a minimum of five food items from five.

### 1.7. Outcome:

- ✓ The TOTs trained 1000 beneficiaries on organic kitchen gardening at the household and village levels,
- ✓ The TOTs distributed vegetable seeds and fruit bearing seedlings and saplings to 1000 beneficiaries for starting organic kitchen gardens,
- ✓ The beneficiaries harvested 40 kg to 60 kg of vegetables and used them for personal consumption,
- ✓ Improved sanitation and personal hygiene among 1000 household beneficiaries in 20 target villages,
- ✓ Reduced infections and communicable diseases among the beneficiaries,
- ✓ The trained ToTs continued their services at the villages,

## 2. Income Generation Program for Poor Women:

We have credible partnership with *Right Sharing of World Resources* (RSWR), USA, from 2014. They have supported two projects for sustainable income development of



53 poor women and we implemented the project very honestly. 80 % of the beneficiaries reached the goal ie income generation activities and now in regular earnings. We had another opportunity with the RSWR and they continued their support to promote income generation activities among the poor. This year RSWR supported INR. 329,151 in February 2019 for training and income generation support for 26 women. Let us

go with the details of the activities of the RSWR income generation program.

### 2.1. Entrepreneurship skill training:

We have organized two day training on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 for 26 women on promotion of income generation activities. In this training we trained the women, how to select a trade, how to involve in the trade, business skill, financial management, savings, and customer service, profit fixing and documentation. Mrs. Padma, Project Director facilitated the training. She explained the objectives of the program, activities, training programs and grant availability for income generation promotion for poor women.



After the training program, we have distributed the grant to 26 women beneficiaries. 12 women received grant for “*murrukku*” production and sales, 7 women received grant to do fish vending and 7 women received grant to do fruits vending business and total we paid grant through cheque to each beneficiary amounting to INR 285,810.

## **2.2. Follow-up Entrepreneurship Development Skill Training:**

The second training was organized for 3 days duration, on Entrepreneurship development to 26 women beneficiaries at our office. This training was organized from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and this training was facilitated by Mrs. S. Padma, Project Director and Mrs. Sindu, MSW, Mahalir Thittam, Government of Tamilnadu. We motivated the beneficiaries to gain knowledge and information on entrepreneurship skills on their respective trades. The training includes selection of trade, purchasing sales skills, profit making, branding, consumer satisfaction and other skills etc.

## **3. Self Help Group Members Training:**

“Vasantham Pengal Sangam” has been working with women for their socio, economic, educational and cultural development in Manachanallur block villages of Tiruchirappalli District. It has been promoting and strengthening community based organizations to pave a strong platform to discuss and address the socio, economic conditions and relief from them. So that, the children, women and farmers come together, discusses together and address their problems together.

VPS is promoting women Self Help Groups ie SHGs, in the target villages. So far it has promoted 122 women SHGs in Tiruchirappalli district. VPS conducted need-based training programs like group management for effective functioning of SHGs with democratic principles. These SHGs involve in their routine works like, conducting monthly meetings, savings and credit mobilization, bank linkages, participating in training programs and other rural development programs. During this reporting period, VPS conducted training program on SHG management on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at its office. 42 women leaders from 22 women groups were participated. It trained them on the following aspects.

- ✓ Women self help group, formation of producers’ groups, code of conduct of group members, monthly meetings, bank linkages, record maintenance, etc.
- ✓ Roles and responsibilities of group members, conflict resolutions, maintenance of various records, etc.

Mrs. S. Padma, Project Director of VPS, Mrs. P.Shantha, Member of VPS trained the group members. The training program helped women leaders to build their capacities on autonomous functioning of groups, build their unity and helped them to access bank finance for their livelihood activities.

#### **4. Adolescent Girls – Gender Sensitive Education:**

On 6<sup>th</sup> January 2019, we have organized a training program for the adolescent girls at Irungalur hostel village on gender sensitive. 37 adolescent girls were participated. Mrs. S. Padma, Project Director, VPS, Mrs. Kavitha, Staff Nurse and Mrs. Sindu, MSW, Mahalir Thittam, Government of Tamilnadu trained on gender sensitive. Mrs. Meera Bai, the Hostel Water, Ruth Illam for the girls, Irungalure was supported for the program.



#### **5. Environmental Awareness Campaign:**

VPS organized an awareness camp on plastics on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at our office. 28 women were participated. Members from our women self help groups were participated in the training program. Mr. K.R. Raju, MSW., Project Director gave lecture on the importance preventing plastics. He advised the women to use the cloth bags instead of plastic bags. He demonstrated with water and plastics how it blocked the rain water from water recharge. Ground water recharge is important for water savings and it is prevented by the plastics; because the thrown plastics in the streets will go the ground and prevent the water and he water run of in the surface.

#### **6. Farmers Training on Minor Millets Cultivation:**

The habit of cultivating the minor millets in wet and dry land mostly disappeared due to unseasonal rain in the area. This is the main reason for disappear of minor millets among farmers. In very few villages farmers are cultivating at micro level. The generation gap the new farmers in the family are not aware on minor millets. Most of the farmers are frustrated and decided to sell their lands. To avoid the critical situation and to regenerate the minor millets in the project we have organized a training program on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at Melasedevimangam village in which 35 farmers were participated.

Mr. Jeeva, PRM Trust, Pudukkottai facilitated the training program. He educated the farmers to identify the availability of traditional minor millets in the district and to collect the same and to promote a traditional minor millets seed bank for cultivation and multification. We demonstrated few varieties of minor millets to the farmers and its cultivation methods. The farmers decided to involve in minor millet cultivation for their family and to propagate to other farmers in the project area.

#### **7. Evening Tuition Centre and Educational tools to students:**

For the past years VPS has been running two evening tuition centre for the poor rural children at Melaseedevimangalam with support of volunteers and local donors. Mrs. Mrs. S.Dhinifa from Melaseedevimangalam village are working as Tuition Teacher. VPS gave them small incentive for the teacher. Through these centres, the teachers are helping the students to improve their literacy and numeracy skills. Further VPS organised conducted sessions on morality and health. It also organized sports programs for the students. Students bellow 11 years are studying in these centres and the centres are conducted from 5 pm to 7 pm. We have supported educational materials to the students.

### **Women's Day Celebration:**

VPS has been organized women's day meeting at Samayapuram on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019. 60 women were participated in the celebration meeting. Mrs. Sindu, MSW, Mahalir Thittam, Government of Tamilnadu facilitated the meeting on gender perspective. Mrs. Padma, Project Director, VPS sensitized the women on economic empowerment. The meeting went with good sprit.

### **8. Auditor**

VPS appointed Mr. S. Kalaimani, Chartered Accountant, Uma Illam, Malar Salai, Tiruchirappalli as the Auditor for the financial year to audit the accounts of VPS.

### **10. VPS board meetings:**

During the reporting period, VPS had 3 Executive Committee (EC) meetings and one General Body meeting. The EC discussed the on-going programs, projects, policies, finances and future plans of action. The Secretary Mrs. S.Padma worked as the Project Director with monthly travelling allowance of INR 2000 with the approval of the EC. The EC Members were also given travelling expenses to meet their travel expenses to attend the EC Meetings and were not paid any remuneration / salary / honorarium by the organization during the reporting period.

The present Board Members of the organization are:

<b>Name of the Board Member</b>	<b>Designation</b>
Mrs. N.Thenmozhi,	President
Mrs. R. Kanjana	Vice President
Mrs. S.Padma	Secretary
Mrs. M.Bakkialakshmi	Joint Secretary
Mrs. R. Abirami	Treasurer
Mrs. P.Shantha,	EC Member
Mrs. V. Malar	EC Member

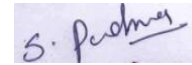
## **Acknowledgments:**

We express our sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed their mite in terms of time and energy for the empowerment of poor women. VPS expresses its sincere thanks and acknowledgment to its staffs, resource persons, donors, government officials, volunteers, NGOs and key stakeholders who supported it for the welfare of downtrodden women.

Thanking you.

Signature

Date : /8/2019  
Place : Manachanallur

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Padma", is written on a light purple rectangular background.

(S. Padma, Secretary, VPS)