

# COMMUNITY SEVA CENTRE

## KALVARAYAN HILLS-ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

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**COMMUNITY SEVA CENTRE**  
**KALVARAYAN HILLS**

**GEOGRAPHY**

The Kalvarayan Hills is located in the Eastern Ghats range of Eastern Coast and situated diagonally south east towards Salem in the Villupuram District of Tamil Nadu. It consists of 170 Villages scattered around the Hills. According to 2005 Census, the population of Kalvarayan Hills exceeded more than 1, 45,000. In which the children population alone exceeded more than 60,000, the elder population exceeds 14,000 and the Women population exceeded 45,000. People live here toiled to make these forests into lands for cultivation. They also lack irrigation facilities to do regular cultivation. Most of the children were sent as contract laborers. Some of the children look after the fields along with their parents. They do not give much importance to education due to their poor economic conditions. Schools for under 5 year children rarely exist. There is no regular Drinking Water supply for the interior villages. Toilet, Drainage System and Waste disposal system are not in practice in the Hills. They also lack Hygiene. The tribal believe in superstitious beliefs and they do practice Tribal herbal Medicines. Proper Roads and Electricity facilities are not available for the interior Villages. Though there is one light service Connection of Electricity is available, the voltage is very low and no motor pump can be installed for Irrigation or fetching water from the Wells for drinking purpose.

**Area Coverage**

Community Seva Centre is concentrating on 65 villages in Vellimalai, Arampoondi, and Kariyalur and in Thoradipattu Panchayats of Kalarayan Hills. Approximately there are 25 thousand Tribals live here under poor economic

conditions. Nearly 30% of them are Children and another 45 %. Of them are Women. Elders occupy 15 % of the total population. Most of the people live in mud and bamboo houses. Most of them depend on the forest and agriculture for their lively hood.

### **Structure in Kalvarayan Hills**

It is a well known fact that Community Seva Centre is very much concerned with these Poor and down trodden Tribals and doing many things and also ready to do any thing, for their up liftment and their welfare. So as to mingle with these Tribals and share their difficulties, The Community Seva Centre established its centre in Thal Vanniyur an interior Village with out any proper road facilities in Kalvarayan Hills. God is the only force which can unite all these scattered Tribals together under an Umberlla for their development. Knowing this well, the Community Seva Centre established a temple for their ancestral Goddess Marriamman in Thail Vanniyur Village. Next to God Children are the most important ones, has to be taken care off. The future growth of the Community depends on the growth of their Children. Therefore the Community Seva Centre concentrated more for the education and development of the Tribal Children.

### **Tribal Child's Welfare**

**PRE SCHOOLS:** Community Seva Centre is fully aware that education alone can change the life of the Tribals and enable them for their future development. Therefore, in order to give education for the Tribal Children Under the age of 5 years Community Seva Centre has started 5 Pre Schools in five interior Villages of its coverage area. Each School is looked after by one Teacher and one Caretaker. We have supplied all the latest Teaching and Learning Materials to these centers and encourage the Children to learn by easy methods. The Teachers were also given proper training as to how to teach the children, to maintain the children hygienically, to pre pare Nutritious Meals and Snacks and also to have proper rapport with the parents and ensure the regular attendance of the Children. We give individual attention to each Child in these Schools regarding their education, Health and Hygiene These Schools not only give some

relief to the Toiling Women from looking after their children, but also ensure the acquiring of basic knowledge and creates an interest in the children in the learning process.

### **Seva Nursery Primary School**

This School is the dream of the Community Seva Centre for many Years. It was inaugurated by the Honorable Chief Minister of Pondicherry Mr.N.Rangasamy In this School we provide free education to the Tribal Children from LKG to Vth STD. Apart from education we also provided the children Food, shelter, clothes and Medicines free of cost in our Children's Home run for these Children. We also provide the best education for the Tribal Children using the Latest Teaching Materials. Various extra curricular activities were also provided to the Children by bringing the resource persons from leading Organizations. We also conduct medical check up to the Children periodically twice in a month by bringing Doctors from the CSC Pondicherry. We have conducted Summer Camp to the Children. During this year2008-2009 more children were enrolled in our School.

**Exposure Trip:**So as to give an opportunity for the Tribal Children to mingle with the People and to learn many new things the Children were taken for an exposure Trip to Chennai and Pondicherry for 5 days. They were taken to Vandalur Zoo and the Birds Sanctuary at Vedanthangal .In Pondicherry they were shown the Bharathi Park, L.G.Bangalow and, Beach. They enjoyed very much in all places .They were also taken to the Botanical Garden in Pondicherry, Shown the Aquarium and given an opportunity of riding the Train inside the Garden. This was a thrilling experience for them. All the children were given medical check up in the Thavalakuppam Primary Health Centre before returning to the Hills. Totally, this Trip gave the Children not only a great joy and amusement but also helped them to learn several new things All the Children participated in this Tour were very proudly disclosing about the Tour to their parents and friends.

**Inaugural of Building at Kalvarayan Hills:** Community Seva Centre has the Great privilege of opening its Building at Thail Vanniyur Village by the Honorable Chief Minister of Pondicherry Thiru.N.Rangasamy. This is the first occasion in the History of Kalvarayan Hills that a Chief Minister of a State has visited the Kalvarayan Hills and enquired about the grievances of the poor Tribal people living there. The Commissioner for Tribal Welfare ,Tamil Nadu also visited our Seva Nursery and Primary School and interacted with the Children studying there and also gave valuable advises to the Children. He also gave various suggestions for the development of the Community Seva Centre in its service to the poor Tribals. The District Collector of Villupuram has also paid a visit to our Organization and appreciated our efforts taken for the welfare of the Tribals. The District Social Welfare Officer of Villupuram has also visited our organization and discussed with the Children in the Children's Home and interacted with the Various SHG members assembled there and briefed about the various Governmental Schemes available for their benefit. Apart from these officers, Officials from Education Department (AEO s) also paid a visit to our Seva Nursery and Primary School and gave many suggestions for the improvement of the Children. Especially the AEEO KallakuriChi has arranged for the free supply of Books to the poor Tribal Children studying in our School.

**Training for Tribal Youths :** To provide organizational input and to motivate the leader ship qualities and for capacity Building of the Teenagers in Kalvarayan Hills, Community Seva Centre Organized a Training program for the Youth with the help of Nehru Yuva Kendra Pondicherry. In this training Program the Tribal youth were given the opportunity to learn and in cultivate the leader ship qualities in them. They were provided with the knowledge of various communication skills and for personality Development. This training gave moral Boost to the Tribal Youths.

**Development of Tribal women:**

**Self Help Group:** In order to unite the tribal women for their development, Community Seva Centre formed various Self Help Groups in the interior villages of Kalvarayan Hills. So far nearly 50 SHG were formed and guided by our Organization. There are nearly 1000 tribal women were enrolled as member. With the main objects of social, economic and personality development, our staffs properly guide these SHG's. To stabilize these SHGs financially, Community Seva Centre arranged for loan to an extent of R.18, 00000 to these poor tribal women from the HDFC Bank for their self-employment. Further, our organization has arranged for loan from the revolving fund through the Block Development Office vellimalai to eight SHGs. All the SHG's were having account in The Indian Bank at Vellimalai. They also obtain loans from their savings for to meet out their emergency expenses.

**Training for SHG's** For the effective function of SHG's we have provided various trainings to the SHG members. They were given training for the proper maintenance of accounts and records. Further, these SHG's were given training for preservation of fruits and vegetables, Demonstrations were held regarding the preparation of low cost nutritious food with assistance of the resource persons from food and nutritious board. Information Education and communication Department of Pondicherry were also exhibited film shows on Pre/Post natal care of women, Child rearing practices, Personal hygiene and preparation of nutritious food. We also gave coir training to these SHG's by bringing the resource persons from central coir board.

**Care for Tribal Elder:**

**ELDERS HOME FOR THE TRIBALS:**

Almost 90% of elders were deserted by their family members in the hills and they struggle for their livelihood and for their medical treatment. So as to take care of these elders CSC has established an elder's home at Thailvenniyur with the capacity of 250 members. At present there are about 150 elders were taken care

of in this home. They were given food, shelter and proper medical care in this home. The elders who were seriously ill were taken to Pondicherry for further treatment.

**Medical Camp for Elders:** Dr.Sarah Moore from Australia visited Kalvarayan Hills and she medically examined all the 150 elders in the Elder Home in Kalvarayan Hills. She diagnosed the following ailment commonly among the elders 1.various types of arthritis especially osteoarthritis secondary to hard manual labour and wearing out of joints. 2. Peptic Ulcer disease especially among men, exacerbated by a high degree of excess alcohol consumption 3. Malnutrition, especially widows and Widower. 4. Anemia possibly secondary to parasites, Malaria etc. She also administered some medicines for their diseases and gave simple measures such as NSAIDs, H2 antagonists, Supplemental feeding programme which would also benefit all pregnant Women.

### **Health Camp for Tribal Students**

We have conducted Health Camp for the Tribal Children studying in our Seva Nursery and primary School at Thail Vanniyur. Nearly 200 children were benefited by this Camp. The Doctors, Nurses, Lab Technicians, and attenders from Mavadipattu Public Health Centre were participated in this Camp.

**Elder to Elder Project:** We have also conducted an Elder to Elder program in Kalvarayan Hills with the participation of the delegates from Denmark. M/s Ulla is the sponsor parent for the Elder to Elder project at Kalvarayan Hills. Along withher ,M/S Lise, (Connosur in micro Finance) and M/S Suzanna,(Children related activities) came to Kalvarayan Hills and conducted various program for the elders. We have supplied Mat, Pillow, Woolen Blanket, Towel, Dhoty,Saries and Sweaters to the elders during the month of December 2008.

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**GENERAL HEALTH CAMP:**

Community Seva Centre organized general health camp for elders in Kalvarayan Hills by bringing the Doctors from Pondicherry. It is very useful for the elders who cannot walk 14 Kilometers to take treatment for their ailment in the nearby Government Hospital. Through this camp more than 125 elders received treatment for their illness.

**EYE CAMP:** Our organization arranged for an eye camp for the elders of the Kalvarayan Hills. More than 90 elders were benefited through this eye camp. Those who got vision problem were provided with spectacles after proper testing. The patients with eye problems were administered medicines and referred for further test.

**Land Leveling for Agriculture:**

Generally, in Hills lands are not available for cultivation. The tribal toil themselves very hard to make the forest as agriculture land. So for the tribal remove the rocks and stones by hand and make the forest as cultivable lands. So as to help these tribal in leveling the forest for cultivation CSC purchased JCB

and provided for meager rent to them. During rainy season, the roads leading to Thail vennaiyur village will be very badly damaged condition. So as to rectify the roads we used our JCP and make the roads proper for transport. This is very useful for the tribal villagers.

**KITCHEN GARDEN:** Major children in the hills suffer from nutritional deficiency disorders due to mal nutrition. They use vegetables and fruits in their day-to-day cooking very rarely. They were ignorant about the healthy food habits and they do not know about the balanced diet. They were not having sufficient income for cooking nutritious food .This was the main reason for their nutritional disorders. In order to relive them from this deficiency disorders and to provide them with nutritious vegetables, Community Seva Centre has introduced kitchen garden formation in their houses. Community Seva Centre itself also cultivated a model kitchen garden within the premises of CSC.

### **DRINKING WATER PROJECT**

There is no safe and wholesome water for drinking in Kalvarayan hills. Generally, people use open well water. During rainy season, this water will be muddy, polluted, and unsafe for drinking purposes, but the people have no other way except use this water for drinking purpose. Due to this, they get many water born diseases without their knowledge. In order to give awareness about the use of safe Drinking Water, Community Seva Centre organized awareness program on safe drinking water to SHG members. They were also educated about the water born diseases due to the drinking of unsafe water. They were advised to use only boiled water for drinking purposes. CSC also dug a well and installed a diesel motor to fetch the water from the well. We also proposed to construct a water tank at Thail vennaiyur for the provision of safe drinking water to the villagers. We have also constructed an Over Head Tank at Thail Vanniyur Village for the benefit of the tribal people.█

### **CONCLUSION**

With great pleasure, we thank all the people who have extended their Co operation and support to our organization to achieve this goal this year. This achievement is not a single man's show but the result of the excellent Team work performed by the staffs under the guidance of our able President Sr.Xavior Mary. We will be ever grateful to all individuals, the organizations, Government Departments, for their generous contributions and support extended to our organization in helping the poor and downtrodden, for their growth and enlistment. With the same team spirit, we enter into the New Year with great confident of achieving more for the welfare of tribal and other poor suppressed people of the Community. Before conclude, I once again extend our warm greetings to all the well wishers of our organization and request them to be with us this year too and guide us in our efforts in helping the growth of poor and suppressed people of the Community.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

A.K.NEHRU,

Secretary,

COMMUNITY SEVA CENTRE .