



Social And Rural Development Programmes Of The Non-Governmental Organizations

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ABSTRACT

In this long history, one movement in contemporary notably stands out, that is the 'Vivekananda Kendra'. With the ideals of the revered 19th Century saint, Swami Vivekananda, and the charismatic leadership and vision of its founder, Eknathji Ranade, the Vivekananda Kendra has focused on holistic living through its trained workers. To achieve this Vivekananda Kendra carries out various service activities through Yoga, Study Circle, Rural Development, Education, Development of Natural Resources. Vivekananda Kendra Natural Resources Development Project is an integral part of Vivekananda Kendra started in the year 1986, a uniquely Indian combination of spiritual center and research institute, at Kanyakumari in southern most India. The government- approved biogas plants that the Natural Resources Development Project of Vivekananda Kendra supply cost from Rs 10,000 to Rs 35,000 depending on size. The purchasers pay 80% of the cost and the remaining 20% is paid as a subsidy by the government on the condition that they engage an approved installer. Vivekananda Kendra's medical mission promotes native Medical Systems based on holistic study of health focusing on physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being. Vivekananda Kendra was established in 1972 after the consecration of the Vivekananda Rock Memorial of Kanyakumari, to train, motivate, and utilize young men and women in national- building activities. Accordingly, educational activities were first taken up in the border state of Arunachal Pradesh. Eknathji Ranade, the founder of the Kendra, felt that welfare activities. Vivekananda Kendra in Kanyakumari association with Aravind Hospital and District Health Society organized Free ENT Surgery camps in rural areas of Tamil Nadu. The Vidyalaya is an integral part of its parent organization- Vivekananda Kendra - a spiritually oriented service mission. It has over 200 branches all over India. CREED is a voluntary organization under the Tamil Nadu Societies Act, of 1979. Its main object is to give education to the weaker sections of society and enable them to improve their social status. It also worked as an information center between the Government and the unemployed young people. The Salvation Army-Community, Health and Development Programme are important in Christian mission assumed greater importance in the Christian church. The main objectives are the advancement of the Christian religion, education, relief of poverty, and charitable works.

Key words: Empowerment – women – children – training – medical care – non-governmental organizations – yoga – financial needs – programme

Social and rural development is a welfare activity based on humanitarian philosophy, scientific knowledge, and technological skills for helping individuals or communities, to live a rich and fullfill life. Social development consists of professional application like social work values, principles, and techniques to one or more helping people obtain tangible services, counseling, and psychiatric therapy with individuals, families, and groups helping communities or improve processes. In this long history, one movement in contemporary notably stands out, that is the 'Vivekananda Kendra'. With the ideals of the revered 19th Century saint, Swami Vivekananda, and the charismatic leadership and vision of its founder, Eknath Ranade, the Vivekananda Kendra has focused on holistic living through its trained workers. To achieve this

Vivekananda Kendra carries out various service activities through Yoga, Study Circle, Rural Development, Education, Development of Natural Resources. The origin of the legal frameworks of the Vivekananda Kendra can be traced back to the 1970s when Eknathji Ranade was insisting upon his fellow disciples in Kanyakumari to get organized throughout the nation.

Natural Resources Development Project

Vivekananda Kendra Natural Resources Development Project is an integral part of Vivekananda Kendra started in the year 1986, a uniquely Indian combination of spiritual center and research institute, at Kanyakumari in southern most India. The Natural Resources Development Project combines traditional wisdom and modern science and provides cost-effective alternative holistic solutions to the problems of modern living - especially for rural communities. The government-approved biogas plants that the Natural Resources Development Project of Vivekananda Kendra supply cost from Rs 10,000 to Rs 35,000 depending on size. The purchasers pay 80% of the cost and the remaining 20% is paid as a subsidy by the government on the condition that they engage an approved installer. The Natural Resources Development Project of Vivekananda Kendra assists the customer in arranging credit from a rural development bank or co-operative society.

The Natural Resources Development Project of Vivekananda Kendra regularly conducts awareness programs about the Bio-Methanation plant - Shakthi Surabhi. These awareness camps help to lay public and interested people to get awareness about the technology. Vivekananda Kendra's medical mission promotes native Medical Systems based on ancient indigenous knowledge systems that take a holistic study of health focusing on physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being. Documentation, Conservation, and promotion of the indigenous health systems of Siddha, Ayurveda, and ethnomedicine. This involves, the identification of herbs and creation of Herbal gardens for various purposes, Herbal home remedies, cultivation of medicinal plants, collection and sale of medicinal plants through rural women Self Help Groups and farmers. One of the important achievements of the Natural Resources Development Project of Vivekananda Kendra in the field of sustainable agriculture is the realization of inter-connectivity between the different sub-systems effective. Thus backyard Azolla cultivation in silpauline sheet is a technology that the Natural Resources Development Project has disseminated among lakhs of marginal dairy farmers. Apart from being an effective bio-feed that reduces feed expenditure and increases the quality and quantity of milk yield.

Vivekananda Kendra

Vivekananda Kendra was established in 1972 after the consecration of the Vivekananda Rock Memorial of Kanyakumari, to train, motivate, and utilize young men and women in national-building activities. Accordingly, educational activities were first taken up in the border state of Arunachal Pradesh. Eknathji Ranade, the founder of the Kendra, felt that welfare activities. This led to the starting of 1978-1979 Pre-Primary schools and a medical center with a van, thus forming a nucleus for the present large-scale activities. The idea received the blessings of Swami Ranganathananda of Sri Ramakrishna Math and Swami Chidbhavananda of Sree Ramakrishna Tapovanam. The aim is to motivate our people to adhere and nurture the cherished values of our Sanatana Dharma to prevent alien elements from weaning away our young men and women from our cultural moorings.

Vivekananda Kendra in Kanyakumari association with Aravind Hospital and District Health Society organized Free ENT Surgery camps in rural areas of Tamil Nadu. A team of ENT surgeons and anesthesiologists from Aravind Hospital, Tirunelveli rendered their valuable services for the poor and needy patients of Kanyakumari and adjoining districts. Vivekananda Kendra in Kanyakumari association with District Blindness Control Society organized one Free Cataract Detection camp. The mobile medical team of Vivekananda Kendra Arun Jyoti and the ophthalmic team examined 134 patients during the camp. 18 cataract cases were detected and operated free of cost. 33 pairs of near-vision spectacles were distributed free of cost to the poor and elderly patients during the camp. All the patients selected for cataract surgery were examined thoroughly their Blood pressure and Random Blood Sugar were tested by our medical team. The mission of Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya is to educate students by combining traditional academic values with innovative teaching and advance technology, to deal with the issues of society over the next generation job opportunities, enhancing competitiveness, improving health care, non-polluted environment and supporting a sophisticated infrastructure.

Vivekananda School

The Vidyalaya is an integral part of its parent organization- Vivekananda Kendra - a spiritually oriented service mission. It has over 200 branches all over India and runs 46 Vidyalayas for rural children, in distant Andaman, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, The Vidyalaya at Kanyakumari commenced its work on 15th June 1981 with 42 students in 3 standards, five teachers, and an ayah. There is a statement which says- "If a man is educated, an individual is educated, if a woman is educated, a family is educated." Manu says, "Where women are respected, there God delight and where they are not, there all work and effort come to naught." Yet in India, so much difference is made between men and women. Spirituality is one of the four essential

aspects of the human being biological, psychological, social, and spiritual.

Conferences

The Yoga Sastra Sangamam is a National Conference on Yoga, distinctly different from the usually and normally held Yoga conferences and seminars. Yoga helps us to shape our health in this rapid modern life style. Yoga is not only for physical health. It is also about inner peace, emotional balance, and spiritual growth. Social Harmony is also created through the regular practice of Yoga. Yoga's way of life brings all-round growth in our lives. Vivekananda Kendra, conducted a Seminar on Ideal Woman Sister Nivedita on International Women's Day, 8th March 2017 to the college students at Anbu Illam, Kanyakumari. CREED is a voluntary organization under the Tamil Nadu Societies Act, of 1979. Its main object is to give education to the weaker sections of society and enable them to improve their social status. It also worked as an information center between the Government and the unemployed young people.

Salvation Army

The Salvation Army-Community, Health and Development Programme are important in Christian mission assumed greater importance in the Christian church. It follows the mainstream of Christian belief and its faith in God's saving purpose. The main objectives are the advancement of the Christian religion, education, relief of poverty, and charitable works. To achieve the goal of the Kottar Social Service Society it was started so many branches of organizations like the Rural Motivation Programme, Coastal Peace Development, Community Health Development Programme, Interior Fishermen Sangams, Dalit Development Programme, Kaikal, St. Lawrence Technological Institute - Nagercoil, St. Joseph Technical Institute - Kadiappattanam, St. Mary's Community College – Kanyakumari and Boat Construction - Muttom. The rural development Programme is organized at Manakudy for Agasteeswaram and Thovalai taluks where formers were motivated towards development. It has been working for the uplift of the rural population of 81 villages in Kanyakumari district.

The Child and Mother Care Centre

It was started as the Child-Mother Care Movement in 1972. It developed into a new organization called CHDP in 1995 as per the needs of the time. From 1995 onwards thrust was given to naturopathy. Medicines were prepared from the local herbals available. To change society through a healthy life is the long-engaged goal of CHDP. The purpose of this organization is to instruct the people about health and hygiene. The Kottar Social Service Society was made to involve the local people in their health. Accordingly, the initiative for a Health Development Programme came from the local community itself. The villagers provided facilities for the accommodation of the mobile health team of the Society. Further, the services rendered by the team consist of instruction to the people on basic health care, nutrition, hygiene, etc. The poor who are deprived of the basic needs of nutrition, healthcare, shelter, hygiene, etc. are more and more becoming victims of various diseases and facing all kinds of health problems. To improve this situation, the Holistic Naturopathy Centre in Chunkankadai was started. It has taken effective steps to answer the urgent need towards healthy nutrition and holistic alternative health systems by following Siddha, Ayurvedic, Homeo, Flower Medicine, and Herbal Medicine. In the Nature Cure Centre, more importance is given to natural foods such as sprouted grams and pulses keeping in mind that "Medicine is food and Food is Medicine".

Kottar Social Service Society

An Orphanage for boys had indeed by a Diocese, During 29 October on 1955, the 16th anniversary of the consecration of Bishop Agnisami, St. Lawrence Orphanage for boys was blessed and opened with about a dozen boys. They are from seven to ten years age. The Federation members plunged into the relief action immediately to the affected members. The leaders of the Sangam helped to claim the death relief compensation of one lakh to all the members. The federation members helped the victims to claim the insured amount from LIC. The ration given by the government was not sufficient for the members. A well-wisher Mrs. Marcel Linson Bagh, extended her financial support to 76 members to the tune of Rs. 3,22,000/- . Childline is a new project of Kottar Social Service Society in a national at 24-hours emergency outreach service. Childline is a free phone helpline for children in need of care and protection. The ChildLine number 1098 is a toll-free number that is common in all the cities of India. Initially, it is started in Mumbai in June 1996 ChildLine is currently operational in 55 cities Sanitation in coastal villages is a major problem. The Coastal Peace Development and the local Sangam have taken this task seriously and decided to improve coastal sanitation by providing individual toilets. Baseline data has been collected by the village Sangams The unexpected and unprecedented Tsunami disturbed the normal life of the entire coastal villages in Kanyakumari district, Black Sunday on 26 December 2004. The damages of the properties and the livelihood options of the poor fisher people are very high.

The district federation of the Coastal Peace Development took up the distribution work and made arrangements with fish net manufacturers for speed supply. Out of 13,371 applications received Coastal Peace Development was able to distribute 1756 nets till March 2005. In India, owing to oppressive religious, social, and cultural beliefs, customs, and practices, women have been relegated to the status of second-class citizens.

Female feticide and infanticide are quite common. People should be made to realize that a woman is not a liability and a girl is indeed a pearl. The orphanages are generally taking care of the board and lodge requirements of the orphan students apart from their educational support. These orphanages are functioning as institutions rather than creating a family atmosphere among the inmates. They are not inculcating family feelings, relationships, and responsibilities.

Information, Education and Communication are vital parts of any development initiative. They are needed for developing the field in which they are meant for. The traditional methods of lectures alone will not help a person. AMK has been training and providing support services for the women to start new Income Generation Activities (IGAs). Since the inception of the Home, the necessities of the children have been fully met and AMK never compromised anything for any reason. The Home is concerned about the health and hygiene of each child by providing a pleasant stay at the Home. Athencottasan Muthamizh Kazhagam has provided one room for six children. Each child has a single cot with bed sheets and a pillow. Proper lighting and fan facilities are available. Each room is sufficient with light and air. A mini library is kept here for developing reading skills. All the children are taught personal hygiene practices and motivated to practice them in their daily lives. This program is going on with the appreciation of parents and well-wishers. Alcoholism or drug dependency is a chronic and progressive disease that leads to severe physical, emotional and social problems. AMK New Life Centre provides new life to alcoholics. The objectives of the treatment measures make the patient's total abstinence from alcohol or other drugs for life and create positive changes in them thereby improving the quality of life of the drug addicts.

Conclusion

Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu is home to numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs) dedicated to various social causes. Prominent among these are Athencottasan Muthamizh Kazhagam (AMK), which focuses on education, health, and women's empowerment; Vivekananda Kendra, emphasizing rural development and renewable energy; and the Rural Uplift Centre, committed to agriculture and human rights initiatives. These NGOs, along with others like the Kottar Social Service Society and the Centre for Social Reconstruction, play a pivotal role in addressing community needs, fostering sustainable development, and uplifting marginalized populations in the region.

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