

# **PONDICHERRY MULTIPURPOSE SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2003 – 2004.**

PMSSS, as a Non-Governmental Organization Work towards promoting love, fraternity, equality and justice among the people of its area of operation of Union Territory regions of Pondicherry, Karaikal and Cuddalore district, Villupuram District regions in Tamil Nadu. The three folded strategies of Peoples Development thro' Non-formal Education and Training, Integrated Development thro' Peoples organizations, self reliant and self sustainable development of the people in social, economical, cultural and political fields thro' People's participation, People's responsibility, People's management etc., are helpful to achieve the objectives of PMSSS. In this above context the Governing Body of PMSSS is happy to present its annual report for the period 2003 – 2004.

### **Welfare and Rural Development Activities:**

50 poor and destitute rural children, women, aged and handicapped were given assistance for education, clothing and income generation activities in Fathimapalayam, Sathiyamangalam in Villupuram District.

Schools buildings were constructed at Anaiyeri, Melvazhi and Pandiankulam. This benefited around 550 children both boys and girls to better their education.

Drop-out children and street children programme organized in 10 villages in and around Pondicherry helped around 100 neglected children to have proper care and concern towards their Primary and Higher Secondary Education, relieved from cheap, unhygienic and bonded labourness, saved from immorality and exploitation of the evil forces surrounding them and their families.

The Kiruba Community Centre established by PMSSS helped around 25 girl children to be kept in safe custody, given them needed food, clothing, education and more than anything else given them good formation, created a good behavior and bring about attitudinal changes to build better future.

### **Relief Activities:**

PMSSS thro' relief fund mobilized from Donors, well wishers and people's Organisation members assisted with many food materials, household utensils to 132 members from 31 villages to the tune of Rs. 33,960 when they were affected by fire and other natural calamities.

As a long term measure PMSSS with the support from Caritas India, New Delhi undertook watershed programme for deepening of ponds, cutting of trenches for rain water harvesting in 11 village locations in Karaikal, Cuddalore, Villupuram District regions. The area of work covered is about 2674407 c. feet. The programme concretized the rural agricultural community

on water conservation, land management, pollution control, environmental protection, social forestry etc.,

Promotion of Rural Based Fraternal Life Communities (Credit Unions).

PMSSS, since its inception in 1977 maintained its thrust for Non-formal Leadership Education and Training and in turn promote rural based credit union in village of its area of operation.

During this year 2003-2004, 50 New Credit Unions were formed and in total 270 credit unions having 12,974 members exists under the organization of PMSSS.

Regular Monthly village level, Vicariate (Zonal) level, Diocesan(Central) level Board Meetings and trainings enabled the credit unions to function as a very good tool for People's Development. The total small savings of the 12,974 members reached to the tune of Rs. 2,29,83,264.

The village level credit unions extend loans to its members for their education, health, family expenses and Income Generation Programme to enhance their socio-economic life. The repayment of loan stand to be 90% to 95%.

In total 105 trainings were conducted in which around 2500 members got trained in specific subjects. The credit union members also involved themselves in social service activities to benefit poor individuals, families and communities. They took effort to solve village level problems of water, sanitation, electricity, illicit liquor, alcoholism, problem of dowry, atrocities on women and children, etc.,

996 credit union members took LIC policy under Jana Shree Bima Yojana to benefit in times of accident and natural death.

PMSSS extended IGP support to 848 members to undertake petty trades out of which 628 are poor rural women.

Under land for landless and home for homeless programmes agricultural coolie people were given orientation on value of land, sustainable agriculture, social forestry, water and social conservation, organic farming, low cost Housing technology etc.,

### **Social Assistance Programme:**

The objective of helping the neglected, destitute and sickly aged, handicapped persons with a monthly cash assistance of Rs. 75 per person per month become a well recognized programme. The programme extend help to 76 aged, 142 destitutes, 31 chronically ill, 27 handicapped, 84 widow and widowers.

## **Women Development Programme:**

Women Development Programme created a New Thrust and formed 245 issue based women self help groups with 3989 members and 104 agricultural SHG's with 1367 members. 17 union level, 6 District level, and 2 State level federation, were formed under women groups. 8 union level, 4 District level and 2 State level Federations were formed for agricultural groups.

Women SHG's and agricultural SHG's have saving to the tune of Rs. 30,71,204.

World Women's Day was celebrated at Cuddalore District Head Quarters on 13. 3. 2004 in which District Collector and other Government and Bank officials took part and 3000 women gathered in total to fight for their rights.

Health Referral Service, Aids awareness and care of Mentally and physically challenged

Programme:

PMSSS thro' the social workers referred around 932 poor, illiterate, ignorant and suffering patients from rural villages to Government Hospitals in Pondicherry for their various medical needs.

Free eye camps were conducted in 23 rural centers in which 2455 people participated and 272 people were given free cataract surgical treatment.

Aids awareness programme has been conducted thro' women SHG's and credit unions to highlight the members and community on deadlines of the disease, safety measures and care and support for HIV and AIDS affected persons.

239 physically handicapped children and youth were motivated and enabled to get government scholarship for education, bus pass, identity card, medical certificate, school fees and uniforms, Aids and appliances etc.,

14 disabled SHG have been initiated.

The Fraternal Life Service Home for Mentally ill of PMSSS accommodate 30 patients at a time and gives them medical and social rehabilitation. So far PMSSS took care of around 750 mentally ill people. Preventive and curative education and trainings continued to be imparted thro' the People's Organisations.

Youth Saving Group:

Integral Development of Youth programme comprised of 85 groups having 1850 members with a small savings of Rs.37 lakhs. Based on the savings the youth were supported by PMSSS for

taking up small income generation activities. They do undertake various social service activities for the benefit of the individual, family and community in total.

Care of Refugees:

PMSSS as a service organization extend its service to help the Sri Lankan Refugees who are accommodated in 10 camps in its area of operation to satisfy their basic needs of children education, medical rehabilitation, provide water, sanitary and electricity facilities. Created SHG's for Refugee women in 2 camps.

PMSSS extend its sincere thanks and appreciation to all the Donors, well wishes, Government Departments, Leaders and members of Peoples Organisation for the support, co-operation extended to fulfill its objectives to serve the poor and needy.

**(FR. R. RATCHAGAR)**

**Secretary**

**Pondicherry Multipurpose Social  
Service Society.**