

PONDICHERRY MULTIPURPOSE SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT 2004 – 2005.

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 2004 – 2005 from 1.4.2005 to 31.3.2005 all regular activities as well as all activities of Tsunami Relief & Rehabilitation on report.

26th December 2004 turned to be a “day of distress” in Tamil Nadu – coming just a day after the Christmas jubilation. The titanic waves of “TSUNAMI” changed the joy of the season upside down. The Archdiocese of Pondicherry and Cuddalore had its own share of the disaster in the coastal areas of Villupuram and Cuddalore Districts in Tamil Nadu and the Union Territories of Pondicherry and Karaikal.

Like every other day, this fatal day too commenced for the fishermen with the men folk venturing into the sea in the wee hours and returning to the land as per their usual schedule by 6.00 a.m. The women proceeded to the market for selling the catch. It was around 9.00 a.m. that the titanic waves struck the coastal villages and washed away everything along their course. Even concrete houses fell a prey to these waves.

After having seen the tragic scenes in all the coastal villages of the Archdiocese of Pondicherry, PMSSS which is the Archdiocesan organization for social service activities, immediately rose to the occasion. The first thing it did was to convene a meeting of the Fathers in Pondicherry vicariate on the 29th of December and constitute a TASK FORCE consisting of the Fathers who are in charge of parishes or institutions along the coastal areas to arrange for immediate relief to the people affected by the Tsunami waves. The parishes & institutions in the towns of Pondicherry and Cuddalore were requested to sponsor some of the affected areas with relief materials through these Fathers. In addition to the parishes and institution of Pondicherry town, some interior parishes in the Archdiocese also came forward with lot of food materials, clothes, vessels etc, for the victims. PMSSS was directing these materials uniformly to 51 affected coastal villages in such a way that the needs of these villages were adequately taken care of.

PMSSS focused its thrust towards dangerous situation accruing in environmental degradation, natural calamities, man-made disasters which totally disturb the agriculture occupation and agricultural community in total. Intending to create mass awareness and training the people on sustainable agriculture and bring about a solid social economical, educational, culture and

political development PMSSS initiated programme for the welfare and development of poor and marginalized. The Annual Report 2004-2005 presented will illustrated them briefly.

Welfare and Social Empowerment:

45 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. Gingee, Chinna Salem, Vikravandi, Vadalur in Cuddalore District.

Schools buildings were constructed at Periyakalpet financial assistance from KOLPING INDIA- Coimbatore, Vikravandi and Pandiankulam financial assistance from EMCIMPIL France. This benefited around 930 children both boys and girls to better their education.

Hospitals and Toilets were constructed at the cost of Rs. 1,93,776/- and Rs. 55,595/- in Thurinjikollai, Memalur and Attupatti with the financial assistance from LACIM – Andhra and Encimpil, France.

Relief Activities – (Fire & Drought) :

Rs. 82676/- were given to Nangathur, Azhagappasamuthiram Puthupet, Vadalur, Periyapet, Cuddalore, Karaikal, Nellitkuppam, Sathipattu. as fire relief assistance from Rs. 82,676 & 2,00,000 from ARCHIBISHOP fund & CARITAS, New Delhi were given to 36 people affected by natural calamities like fire & flood - Karaikal, Krumpagaram, Thennankudi, Kottucherri, Thirumalai Rayan Pattinam villages.

PMSSS with the support team CARITAS, New Delhi provided 2 to 5 kg of rice to 4910 affected people in the floods in addition 200 agricultural family who are the members Fraternal Life Sabha were given a relief of Rs. 500/-.

Eradication of Drought and Development Plan:

As a long time measure PMSSS with the support from CARITAS INDIA, New Delhi undertook water shed programme for Pond and Canal construction with the cost of Rs. 3,93,002.50/- in the villages of Munnur, Savariyalpalayam, Pitaripattu, Koonankurichi, Thurinjicollai, Uluthur, Vellakulam, Melvazhi, Reeta Nagar and Kunniyur.

Impact:

As a result of construction Ponds & Canals rain water harvesting facilities were provided. Awareness was created among the people, village panchayat and leaders of village association. Revitalization of ancestors technology was given a rebirth. The importance of public welfare schemes were emphasized. Birth of new and strong relationship between village people and the panchayat leaders develop. Infrastructure facilities were also developed. Implementation of these schemes by the people itself made more effective.

Tsunami Relief and Rehabilitation Activities:

26th December 2004 turned out to be a Black Sunday to several coastal villages in the regions of Pondicherry, Cuddalore and Karaikal, causing indescribable damage of all sorts.

Cuddalore

Thevanampattinam
Subhauppallavady
Thazhanguda
Sippaitheru
Thuraimuganagar
Pensioner Line
Athangarai
Kavi Kalamegam Street
Gorri
Singarathoppu
Sonankuppam
Pachanakuppam
Sothikuppam
Mudavapallam
Kumarapettai
Nallavadu

Pondicherry

Pudukuppam
Kanagachettikulam
Periyakalpet
Chinnakalpet
Pommiyarpalayam
Thanthirayankuppam
Solainagar (North)
Solainagar (South)
Kottakuppam
Vaithikuppam
Kurusukuppam
Vampakeerapalayam
Manalmedu
Dubrayapettai
Chinnaveerampattinam

Karaikal

Manapathur
Kalikuppam
Attampettai
Kottucherryedu
Kilakasakudimedu
Kilinchalmedu
Karaikalmedu
Ammankovilpattu
Mathakadi

Villupuram

Koonimedu
Mudaliarkuppam
Arichankuppam

Phase I:**Immediate Relief Materials:**

Worth more than 3 crores are distributed to the affected people of above mentioned 51 villages. In the form of cooked food, dry ration, clothing's, cosmetics & medicines, beddings and utensils.

Phase II:**Livelihood Support :**

20 villages ie. 9 in Pondicherry, 8 in Cuddalore and 3 in Karaikal are identified fro Livelihood.

Pondicherry

1. Kanaga Chettikulam

Cuddalore

1. Subauppallavadi

Karaikal.

1. Pattinacherry

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 2. Kalapet | 2. Thazhanguda | 2. Kottucherryedu |
| 3. Chinnakalpet | 3. Devanampattinam | 3. Keezhakasakudimedu |
| 4. Solai Nagar (N) | 4. Cuddalore O.T. | |
| 5. Soali Nagar (S) | 5. Sonankuppam | |
| 6. Vaithikuppam | 6. Singarathope | |
| 7. Krusukuppam | 7. Akkaraigori | |
| 8. Vambakeerapalayam | 8. Sothikuppam | |
| 9. Chinna Veerampattinam | | |

Opening of Field Offices :

As a first step, field offices are established in all the 20 villages with required infrastructures and furnitures. These offices are, so to say, an extension of PMSSS head office.

Each village is entrusted to two persons ie. an animator and a psycho social support staff who will be taking care of the needs of the villagers for a period of minimum 3 years with constant contacts with PMSSS head office. PRA training to recruits and PRA in the villages.

Livelihood Support of Farmers:

Farmers are the other sector which is also directly affected since the tsunami waves inundated their cultivable lands depositing a layer of salt behind. Vermi Compost Pits for all the farmers are taught natural and sustainable farming. Mushroom culture is set up and handed over to one of the SHGs. Training is given to SHGs in mushroom culture that could be another source of income. PMSSS started the desalination process with a deep bore well to a depth of 300 metres and a 10HP submersible pump. Paddy seeds are distributed in Karaikal area.

Psycho Social Support:

Partnering resilience to create enabling environment after a disaster:

Objectives:

Identifying needs, risks and resources of individuals and the community. Linking needs and risks to resources Strengthening and supporting families.

Primary Level Animator (Based in the Community)-

Secondary level workers (master trainers). Linking source between primary level and external resources.

Trainings:- Master trainer trains primary level animators through application group training. The master trainer and animators further train the community groups such as self help group members, Panchayat leaders and youth club members.

Children Park

Childrens Park was set up at Kanagachettilulam Devanampattinam, Chinnaveerampattinam, Akkaraigori & in Singarathoppu Villages.

Youth Sports Activities:

Sports activities for the youths where conducted at Periyakalapattu, Solai Nagar (N), Solai Nagar (S), Chinnaveerampattinam, Kurusukuppam, Vambakeerapalayam, Kottucherrimedu & Pattinacherri. Nearly youths where given prizes & sports T Shirts & Shorts.

Gymnastic Materials Distribution

Body building equipments where distributed to youth clubs at Sonnankuppam, Singarathoppu, Akkaraigori & Sothikuppam villages.

Free Eye & Screening Camp

On 18/02/2005 Villagers affected with TSunami at Cuddalore Devanampattinam village – Free Eye Screening Camp was conducted with the help of PIMS medical institution – Pondichery Nearly 155 people where screened & nearly 19 patients where operated of cardiac Eye Problem successfully at free of cost & Eye glasses where given.

Medical Camp:

On 5/3/2005 Free medical camp was organised at Cuddalore Devanampattinam Village with the coordination of Pondicherry Mahatma Gandhi Medical College Doctors. Nearly 584 people where benefited.

Boat Building unit

FRB boats building for Fishermen affected with Tsunami started its production at St. Joseph's ITI, Cuddalore. Initially 6 FRB boats where handed over to Devenampattinam villages on 6/3/05 & they ventured out in sea.

European commission for Humanitarian Aid Office ECHO officials visit.

Officials from ECHO – New Delhi office visited Cuddalore St. Joseph's ITI on 6/3/05 & supervised the FRB boat building unit. Latter they participated in Boat handing over function (6 FRB's) they themselves ventured out in sea along with fishermen checked its worthiness. New quality FRB boats, production fishermen with appreciation, under the supervision of Rev. Fr. S. Antoniraj, Asst. Executive of St. Joseph's ITI where carried out.

Boat & Engine Repair (Overhauling)

A big thatched shed was erected on the shores of Devanampattinam Uppanaru for servicing & Repairing of boats & its engines. On 31/3/05 nearly 63 FRB IB Boats where repaired & nearly 64 FRB IB engines where overhauled with new spares & where given new leash of life to it. Boat owners where also involved in this repairing activities.

Livelihood Activities

18 New FRB boats were given to fishermen at Devanampattinam and 50 families of Talanguda villages were given 10 FRB boats.

Nets

Fishing nets of various shapes & sizes were distributed to the following villages.

1. Devanampattinam – Micro Nets of 40kg were given to 96 beneficiaries.
Double Nets of 30 kg were given to 129 beneficiaries.
2. Talanguda Village - No.10 fishnet of 10 kg were given to 22 beneficiaries.
Crab Net of 10 kg were given to 22 beneficiaries. No.10 fishnet of 5 kg were given to 78 beneficiaries. Crab Net of 5 kg were given to 78 beneficiaries.

3. Subauppalavadi -

Disco Net	10 kg	17 beneficiaries
Double Net	10 kg	17 beneficiaries
Prawn Net	3 kg	17 beneficiaries
NO. 10 Net	5 kg	17 beneficiaries

SHG formation

To give a new beginning to the shattered livelihood to the fishermen, new schemes for fishermen & women were initiated. For this fishermen & women were clubbed into various groups and the importance of SHG formation & small saving awareness was given to them. New SHG groups were formed at

S.No.	Village	Total No.of SHGs	Total No.of Members	Womens SHGs	Men SHGs
I. Pondicherry District					
1.	Kanagachettikulam	10	150	10	-
2.	Peiryakalapet	29	435	29	-
3.	Chinnakalapet	5	75	5	-
4.	Solai Nagar (North)	23	346	7	16
5.	Solai Nagar (South)	24	395	15	9
6.	Vaithikuppam	42	780	30	12
7.	Kurusukuppam	27	517	17	10
8.	Vambakeerapalayam	27	457	27	-
9.	Chinna Veerampattinam	12	251	7	5
Total		199	3406	147	52
II. Karaikal District					
1.	Kottucherrimedu	6	112	6	-
2.	Pattinacherry	5	91	5	-
Total		11	203	11	-
III. Cuddalore District					
1.	Suba Ubalavadi	6	114	-	6
2.	Devanampattinam	57	1035	40	17

3.	Cuddalore O.T.	6	90	-	6
4.	Sonankuppam	16	320	10	6
5.	Singarathopu	5	100	5	-
6.	Gorri	2	40	2	-
7.	Sothikuppam	1	15	1	-
Total		93	1714	58	35
Grand Total		303	5323	216	87

Income Generation Scheme (IGP)

Under the IGP scheme Revolving Funds were given to the extent of Rs. 3000/- per SHG member where given to 92 SHG groups to the tune of RS. 46,87,000/- for 1496

SHG members. Details as follows:

S.No.	Village	Total SHGs	Total Members	Revolving Fund Rs.
I	Pondicherry			
1.	Periyakalpet	17	255	765000
2.	Vaithikuppam	1	20	60000
3.	Kurusukuppam	1	20	60000
4.	Vambakeerapalayam	5	82	246000
5.	Chinna Veerampattinam	2	32	96000
Total		26	409	1227000
II.	Cuddalore District			
1.	Suba Uppalavadi	2	25	240000
2.	Devanampattinam	18	346	1038000
3.	Vambakeerpalayam	2	32	96000
4.	Vaithikuppam, Kurusukuppam	33	495	1485000
5.	Kottucherryedu Pattinacherry	11	189	567000
Total		66	1087	3460000
Grand Total		92	1496	4687000

Also in Devenampattinam 3 physically challenged persons were given tricycles & three Barbers where given 3 saloon chairs to carry out their day to day business as usual.

Masonry Assistance

Indian Emmissary to VATICAN CITY His Grace Most. Rev. LOPEZ QUINTANA visited Tsunami affected villages at Pondicehrry first & then his grace visited PUDY Majar at Cuddalore. 250 building masonry workers were given masonry immemplements to the tune of Rs. 4,00,000/- Rev. Fr ROLLAND handed over these immemplements.

Computer Training Center

To fulfill the desires of learning Computers, village youths of Tsunami affected areas were included. 19 villages were to be networked & integrated so the need of village Information Centre (VIC) and its usage was evolved, the village computer center was not only carry out computer class but also the activities of Village Information Center to the general public is being carried out.

Till March end Computer Center was started at the villages.

1. Devanampattinam	10 Computers	151	students got enrolled
2. Periyakalpet	5 Computers	135	students got enrolled
3. Chinnaveerampattinam	3 Computers	80	students got enrolled
4. Pondicherry	5 Computers	140	students got enrolled

Tailoring Centers

The need for Tailoring Centers for 16 Tsunami affected villages was accessed, young girls & family women were enrolled in this Tailoring course.

Till March End 3 villages were functioning.

1. Periyakalpet	6 Machines	85 Beneficiaries
2. Chinna Veerampattinam	3 Machines	45 Beneficiaries
3. Devenampattinam	10 Machines	168 Beneficiaries

Village Study Centre

School going children's as well Final Examination preparing students of Devanampattinam village who had lost their homes were given Tuitions both in Morning & Evening at Pilliyar Koil Street, Muthu Thirumana Nilayam. Nearly 178 Boys & 342 girls got benefited by this.

Future Plan:

- To provide quality education to the children of the fishermen for whom it has been so far, a rare commodity.
- To impart vocational and skills training to the youth and SHG members.
- To knit all the fishermen groups with the various existing groups in the Archdiocese i.e., Women groups, farmer groups, Kolping groups, credit union groups into a single federation.
- To encourage people to avail Govt. and Banking schemes and resources.
- To plant a food processing unit on the borders of Pondicherry and Cuddalore to give value addition to the fish catch. It is sad to note that middle men and merchants stand to gain at present.
- To train the fishermen in disaster preparedness disaster mitigation and disaster management.

- To transform the villages into model villages with the help of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) introducing E-Governance, E-Agriculture, E-Market, E-Medicine, E-Education, E-Veterinary, Rural Website for women SHGs and Intranet facility in the PMSSS head office.

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 2004-2005, 61 New Credit Unions were formed and in total 314 credit unions having 14,007 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 14,007 members reached to the tune of Rs. 2,87,10,317.

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 127 trainings in 131 days were conducted in which around 2765 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.,

494 credit union members took LIC policy under Jana Shree Bima Yojana to benefit in times of accident and natural death, by paying Rs.100/- premium amount by each member every year.

PMSSS extended IGP support to 861 members to undertake petty trades financial amount to the tune of Rs.2873,000 out of which 691 are poor rural women.

Land for Landless & Home for Homeless

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.,

Land was purchased in 10 VICARIATE for each landless labour to the tune of 1,22,12,550 as loan amount, collection recovery upto 2005 March is Rs.45,53,583 Balance loan amount yet to recovered Rs. 73,58,967

Loans for Home for Homeless in 9 VICARIATE where given to the tune of Rs. 55,99,000/- till March 2005 out of which Rs. 26,17,449 was recovered so far. Rs. 29,81,551/- yet to be recovered.

Social Assistance Programme:

The objective of helping the neglected, destitute and sickly aged, handicapped persons with a monthly cash assistance of Rs. 100 per person per month become a well recognized programme. The programme extend help to 76 aged, 142 destitute, 31 chronically ill, 27 handicapped, 84 widow and widowers. In total 360 were supported during the year with Rs. 4,27,700 as pension. 251 individuals were given financial aid to agricultural labour to the extend of 13,50,000. Donation received from donors and well-wishers were Rs. 5,53,800/-.

New Trust programme (Women Development):

Women Development Programme created a New Thrust and formed 341 issue based women self help groups with 5942 members and 114 agricultural SHG's with 1378 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.

341 Women SHG's with 5,942 members and 114 agricultural SHG's with 1378 members have saving to the tune of Rs. 68,64,897/-.

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 27 rural centers in which 3263 people participated and 267 people were given free cataract surgical treatment.

General Health Camp were conducted in 22 rural centers in which 2748 people participated.

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 789 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 6 camps nearly 1000 families are taken care 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.

Kolping School:

Kolping Matriculation School is situated in Kalapet, till recently a sleepy town at the outskirts, 15 kms away from Pondicherry. This town is at a distance of 15 kms from Pondicherry in the Union Territory of Pondicherry. With the advent of the Pondicherry

Central University Pondicherry Institute of Medical Science (PIMS), Auroville etc. and with the opening of the East Coast Road (ECR) which passes through kalapet, the area is now bristling with activity,. Scores of other institutions like resorts and Commercial units have also cropped up. All this development and growth has resulted in an enormous increase in population in the area in terms of families. The local population has also grown over the years.

In this atmosphere of all-round growth there is one important sector which has not received the attention it deserves. There are not enough standard educational institutions in and around the

area to impart quality education to the children. The result is young children have to commute to distant places like Pondicherry town to pursue Primary to Higher Studies. This has become a main cause of anxiety and avoidable expenses to the parent. The Kolping India, Pondicherry under the Directorship of Rev.Fr.R. Ratchagar has decided to step into this concern to alleviate the sufferings of the parents and children in this respect.

Objectives:

The purpose of opening this premier co-educational institution in Kalapet is to cater to the educational needs of urban, suburban and rural children of Kalapet and its surrounding areas where the existing facilities are woefully inadequate. It is also our aim to impart quality education to our students at affordable costs without any profit motive which will be within the reach of all classes people especially the middle class. It is our final objective that we should provide complete, continuous, and competent education to our target population from pre-school to higher secondary and obviate the irksome necessity for parents to run from pillar to post seeking admission for their wards in distant places at considerable expense and efforts. This problem is all the more acute with regards to girls who are reluctant as a rule to commute to long distances in a small town like Kalapet. The school is expected to reach heights of academic excellence in the near future. The medium of instruction shall be English and the School shall follow Matriculation Syllabus.

Why the school is name KOLPING Matriculation School?

We have 85 Kolping families in the Archdiocese of Pondicherry and Cuddalore. All these families are fostering family spirit among themselves. According to the ideals of Blessed Kolping they strive to be good Christian, good family man, good worker and good citizen. Kolping International has come forward to donate Rs.18,000 lakhs (30,000 Euros) to our Diocesan Kolping organization to establish a computer centre where children could have an access to computer learning. At the same time as explained above there was a felt need for a school in Kalapet. We decided to shoot two birds in one shot. Therefore, relying on the intercession of Blessed Kolping, we launched a major school project wherein the Computer centre also will find a place.

There are 350 children studying from Lower Kinder garden up to Std 8. We have duly obtained the recognition of the Pondicherry Government to run the School. We are starting Std 9 in June. The 10th Std boys will be presented to the Government Examination under the auspices of Kolping Matriculation School. The school was officially declared open by Mr. Martin Reuber, International Coordinator, Asia in the presence of Rev. Fr. Victor Santiago, National Director with the blessing of the Most.Rev. Antony Anandarayar Arch Bishop of Pondicherry & Cuddalore.

(FR. R. RATCHAGAR)

Secretary

Pondicherry Multipurpose Social Service Society