

SANGLI MISSION SOCIETY

Annual Report

2006-2007

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Annual Report of Sangli Mission Society

Introduction

The year 2006-07 was an eventful year for the Sangli Mission Society. She could serve several thousands of our fellow citizens through various undertakings. A brief report is as followed.

Education Value based Society is one of the important goals of Sangli mission Society. Towards this purpose it runs nine formal schools in different parts of its area of activity. All our schools are greatly appreciated for their efficient administrative system, high quality education, qualified staff, well maintained discipline, hygienic campus and creative extra curricular activities. All these have greatly contributed in bringing up good number responsible citizens to the country.

All our schools and their achievements are greatly appreciated by the people of the locality. As it was in the previous years, Alphonsa Schools of Miraj and Ichalkaraji maintained their excellence in this year too. They achieved 100% pass, most of them with first classes. The Alphonsa School at Miraj has got two distinctions too. This school is awarded with the title of "King of schools" in Sangli District. In the field of inclusive education Alphonsa School has become a model for all. The autism centre attached to the school caters to the autistic children and they get education together with the normal children. At Miraj 4 class rooms and a toilet block was added to the present building. Since there was no sufficient play ground for the school, a new plot of land is purchased for this purpose. Two more class rooms are added to the Alphonsa School, Jath and Shahuwadi. Staff quarters are under construction at Ichalkaranji. Alphonsa School Kolhapur, St Thomas School at Ratnagiri and Santhome School at Sangli are shifted to the newly constructed own buildings.

Sustainable Agriculture through Organic Farming

Sustainable development through Organic Farming

Sustainable development through organic farming is a special undertaking of Sangli Mission Society towards the nation building. Cherish Amberi; one of the rural centers of Sangli Mission Society has under taken a project for sustainable development through promotion of organic farming. The center is situated in the Konkan region; the western portion of Maharashtra. The people of the area are generally poor and unorganized. The center has developed a model farm of twenty acres using varieties of high yielding crops. The campus is purely organic. The center has constructed a model vermin compost production unit. Basing on the model farm and its activities towards an organic culture, the center is carrying out a lot of developmental works in fifteen villages around the center.

As a the first phase of this noble mission, the center has established over seventy Self Help groups of women, twelve Farmers' Clubs and twenty students' groups, each respectively comprises of twelve, fifty and ten members at an average. A series of training programmes, awareness lectures and exposure visits were conducted to create an organic culture and conviction in them. Sample organic products, plants, seeds are distributed from the center according to the demand. Today the farm and its activities are visited by a number of farmers from far and wide. There are several farmers who has adopted the organic method of farming thanks to the training and empowerment received from the center.

The successful and sustainable running of poultry, dairy and goatary farms, the vermin compost, biogas and azzola units and innovative farming methods of Cherish have become the sources of inspiration to many poor farmers of this rural locality. Today we see a better saving habit and life standard in the

locality, thanks to the developmental activities carried out by the Sangli Mission Society. It is a matter of joy to notice that several other Non Governmental Organizations visit this model farm and adapt what is suitable in their locality.



12 farmers groups were also formed and given training organic farming in the organic farm in Amberi village. Many NGOs and other people in trusted in agriculture visit the model farm with many innovative farming methods and non conventional energy uses. The cashew processing unit employs many women from the nearby villages





Health Programmes

Health Centres. The Sangli Mission Society takes great care in nursing the sick, very specially in the rural areas. Our centers like, Nirmal Bhavan Watul , Alphonsa social welfare center Lanja, Sanjo Ratnagiri and Khutalwady are examples in this regard. They run small dispensaries and conduct medical camps in collaboration with the local medical officers and other NGOs. For example the center at Amberi carried out a massive Monsoon Health care programme in collaboration with the local primary health care center, Mangoan. The statistics prove that the number monsoon diseases were considerably low compared to the previous years.

Doctor visits to these health centers from outside and it is an opportunity for people to get treatment for their physical problems. Many of the people do not visit hospitals or clinics only because of heavy charges they entrust upon the patients. Here people get the consultation of the doctor freely and they have to pay for medicine very little compared to other places. It is a great help for the people who are poor and daily wagers.



Ashadeep Counseling Centre - Ashadeep is a family counseling and child guidance centre. It is catering to many families to identify various family problems and to help them to find solutions to it. Through the early intervention program, the disabilities of children are identified and taken appropriate interventions. It is also serving as the study centre of CBR forum of Bangalore University



Community Based Care and Support to PLHAs

This year we have started the project for comprehensive home based care and community-based rehabilitation of PLHAs IInd phase, in partnership with **CRS**. The first phase was so successful and the target was fulfilled. The Dilasa counseling centre became a big source for the PLHAs to reduce their stress and tensions. Many people came forward for the pretest counseling and post test counseling. A lot of family problems were settled by the continuous effort of the counselor of the Dilasa.

Through this programme we could identify 1400 PLHAs and give proper knowledge to all of them and to their family members. Many of the family members were given training on home based care. This time the project had the provision of providing travel support and medical support. Through the medical support a hundreds of PLHAs received proper treatment for their opportunistic infections. And the travel support was a great help for the PLHAs to visit hospitals for VCTC test, CD-4 test, OIs treatment and ART. In civil hospital the treatment was free of cost but the PLHAs were not able to access these medicines. Therefore these helps made accessibility for the treatment.

The prevention and control programme was also very strong in the year. We had varieties of awareness programme among taxi drivers, school and college children, Grampanchayat members, anganvady teachers, sugarcane cutters,

S.H.Gs and commercial sex workers. We used the strategies of street plays, awareness rallies, group discussions, awareness classes, showing videos, etc.



This year we started get together of PLHAs and their care givers. In every month we conducted the get together cum social function for PLHAs and their caregivers in every tahsil. And also there was one annual get together of PLHAs from all tahsils at Miraj. The annual get together was a great event and six hundred PLHAs participated in this programme. This programme helped to reduce fear, stigma and discrimination. And the PLHAs could forget all their worries and enjoy happiness in their life.

This year we also started the project for the pediatric ART initiative programme supported by Cliton Foundation. This year we identified 220 infected children and provided the services. Our next target is to identify 600 positive children and to provide services.

Samanvaya programmes (Programmes for Empowerment of PWDs)

Jeevdan-

Jeevdan at Zarap is a fully equipped residential Special School with 4 classrooms, dormitory for boys and girls and a dining hall, etc. There are also many students attending day school. It has got several efficient teachers who can train children very well and they are contributing well to the growth of the children. Children are engaged in several activities those can enhance their intellectual capacity, increase their health and understanding capabilities. Sports and different games, competition and exposure programs help these children to grow like other normal children to a certain extent. There is a special unit for physiotherapy at Jeevdan. The change of children after coming to Jeevdan is amazing for their parents and other people.

Anugraha

Anugraha Special School at Khed has started pre-vocational training. It has 50 Special children who undergo training for a long period. It is a day school. Children have the facilities like class rooms, physiotherapy unit, play ground and other facilities. Here also there are excellent teachers who have passed special education training. Teachers visit the houses of every child. Children exhibit great change after coming to Anugraha. It shows the quality of the education. This year's district level sports competition of the special children was conducted under the leadership of Anugraha. So many schools from

Kolhapur, Sangli, Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri districts came to participate. It was an excellent display of their abilities. Students are taught chalk making, envelop making, greeting card making, etc. counseling and awareness programs for parents also are conducted here at regular intervals. So far we have not succeeded in obtaining fund for starting a vocational training center.

Pratiksha

Pratiksha special school at Vatul in Ratnagiri district has become a well equipped Special School with all facilities for the disabled children. It is a residential Special School for the special children. They have facilities like classrooms, auditorium, training hall, dining hall, dormitory for boys and girls. Efficient teachers are giving training to the children. A new building is constructed with the assistance of SLF. It is interesting to see that a well equipped Physiotherapy unit is in place for the children to remove possible physical difficulties. They have other exposure programs, training sessions, medical check up, sports and cultural competitions to enhance their various abilities. It is encouraging to see that there are lot of changes among these children year after year.



The CBR programm caters to more than 200 disabled children providing assistance in education vocational training purchase of aids and appliances corrective surgery etc

Cherish, the rehabilitation center for the mentally challenged, has admitted fourteen mentally challenged male persons who are above the age of eighteen. They are rehabilitated and given vocational training in various income generating activities such as dairy, poultry, goatary farms, organic agriculture, food processing, cashew processing, etc. It enables them to produce income through their own effort and thus feel dignified in their life



Care home for the severely disabled children at Khutalwady

While carrying out the developmental activities we have come across many disabled children who are totally paralyzed. Most of them are from very poor families. While their parents go for earning their lively hood they fail to give proper care to their disabled beloved ones. Sangli Mission Society has started a Care Home for those brethren who are severely paralyzed. In order to meet the needs of those children and give them comfortable and hygienic living conditions, we have stared a care home for the severely disabled children at

Khutalwady. The care home has got a new building where 8 paraplegic children are taken care of.



Welfare & Developmental programmes

Old - Age Home. A new building is constructed at Lanja as an extension of the present old age home. Here there are many people who are left out by children at their old age. So it becomes a help to the aged parents. Everything is free for these people. They live a happy and free life without tension or other family problems.

The hostel for the Poor Children

At Banda there is a hostel for the poor children. It is under construction but there are nearly 50 children get the benefit of home away from home. With Assistance from Andrea Elrich we could construct a dormitory and study hall for the children. A well-equipped hostel is yet to be realized. Children at various places of Maharashtra can not fulfill their educational aspirations because of less facility for schooling and financial burden. Keeping this truth in mind we have started

the hostel. There are plenty of admissions coming to it from poor families. There is also a school coming up together with it. Therefore it helps the students to complete fine education. The children at the hostel speak beautiful English. It is very amazing that they speak at their younger age such a beautiful language who have other local dialect background. It is only due to the effort of the staff there in the hostel. In the hostel they have got beautiful swimming pools for young and older children. Here the children get good atmosphere for learning and to enhance their other abilities. It is a blessing for the poor children.

Nirmal Sadan

Nirmal Sadan is a Destitute Home at Amberi. It looks after poor children who have nobody to depend upon. It also serves as a developmental center where a tailoring centre and other income generating programmes are conducted. Its idea is to help the young children and older children self-sufficient so that later they will be able to lead a life by their own. Nirmal Sadan also takes care of many HIV affected children. It is a great step from the part of this institutioN that they give apt respect for the HIV/AIDS affected children. These children will not be able to complete their education for their parents will not live for long time and most of the children here are orphan or have only mother. It also gives lot of solace to the diseased parents that their children get a place to learn and become themselves.

Tailoring centres

Tailoring center at Watul is providing employment to girls from nearby villages as well as training to many girls. It becomes an opportunity to those girls to earn money for their families as well as for their own need. Moreover it leads them to self-sustainability.

In order to enhance the capabilities of the staff, various seminars and training programmes are conducted. Seminars were conducted for the missionary personnel in financial management, school administration, etc. Personnel equip themselves thorough correspondence courses in various disciplines such as HIV/AIDS, home based rehabilitation, NGO management, inclusive education, etc.

Other than the training given to the field workers Dilasa (HIV/AIDS project) conducted a two-week training program for CBR field workers at Amberi. 25 participants benefited. The classes enabled them to identify various disabilities and how to make a rehabilitation plan for a disabled child. Training program was sponsored by SLF.

Flood relief Programmes

This year also flood affected a few areas of Sangli district and Kolhapur district. Many lost their houses and crops. The unexpected flood created a lot of problems among the marginalized people. This time there was not much help from other funding agencies. But it was managed by Sangli Mission Society. At the time of the flood the staff of Sangli Mission society visited the area and verified the needs of the flood affected victims. The immediate need was the food and accommodation. We arranged the accommodation facility with the help of government. Later we supplied food materials, seeds; conducted medical camps and helped to clean the premises of the villages. We also psychologically helped the people to overcome their traumatic problem caused by the flood. It helped many poor people to overcome the unexpected problem hit by the flood.

WITH GRATITUDE

Sangli Mission society is grateful for the steady and stable support and guidance from Missionary Society of St Thomas the Apostle and the diocese of KALYAN

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