

# RWDS

## Annual Activity Report 2017-18



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## **RURAL WORKERS DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY (RWDS)**

**RAMANATHAPURAM - 623503**

### **ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT FOR APRIL 2017 –MARCH 2018**

#### **Introduction:**

Rural Workers Development Society was founded in the year 2007 by a group of public minded leaders those who are effectively concerning in community development activities for more than three decades. It was registered under Tamilnadu Societies Registration Act vide Registration number 93/2007. Its head quarters are located in Ramanathapuram. RWDS is working among children, women, youth, farmers, rural unorganized workers especially Palmyrah Workers in Ramnad District.

#### **Target Area:**

**State** : Tamilnadu

**District** : Ramanathapuram.

**Blocks** : Kadalady, Tirupullani, Mandapam .

**Vision** :The socio economic development of the marginalized with emphasis on Palmyrah Workers, Women and Children

#### **Mission:**

- To mobilize and federate the Palmyrah workers irrespective of caste, creed or religion to organize for their livelihood issues.
- To make them understand their condition and motivate them to participate in their development through awareness generation.

- To improve their bargaining power and to link with Govt and formal institutions for self reliance and substances.
- To enable for adequate health and education to Children for better tomorrow.

### **Working Areas:**

Ramanathapuram is situated along the Eastern coastal District of the Southern Tamilnad. The Bay of Bengal in the east, The Gulf of Manner in the whole sea shore, Sivagangai, Pudukottai, Virudhunagar, and Tuticorin constitute its boundaries. Spreading over an area of 4232 sq'km. This District is divided into 11 development Blocks and it has the highest population of urban population among the major districts. The incidence of poverty and drought is highest among the 32 districts. Ramnad has also a population of scheduled castes 28% children compose 27.2% of the population.

Project operational area is located in Ramanathapuram District in Southern part of Tamil Nadu (650 Km away from Chennai). Drinking water is acute problem. Women have to walk miles together to fetch water, and it is very difficult to get pure, soft and potable water irrespective of Government efforts. In brief Ramanathapuram is a most backward and underdeveloped district in terms of Socio-Economic and industrial development

**AREA DETAILS: District - 1**

**Taluk - 2**

**Blocks - 3**

**Village - 52**

## General Board members

S.no	Name	Position
1	D.R. Chandran	President
2.	P.Subramani	Vice President
3.	V.soundramalathi	Secretary
4	G.Pasupathy	Treasurer
5	S.Sathyasekaran	EC Member
6	P.Kannan	EC Member
7	N.Rajamani	EC Member
8	D.Kanagavalli	GB Member
9	A.Basheera parveen	GB Member

## Strategy

- Coordinating all the Palmyra Workers in the form of Block, District and State Level Sangams to get all their existing resources from the Government
- Livelihood and welfare of the children of the Palmyra workers families would be focused through the Village, Block, District and State level Association

## ACTIVITIES

### 1. Palmyrah workers sangam Meetings :

Resolution passed in Palmyrah workers sangam meetings on protest of child labour system and the prevention of child labor. The resolution was passed with the participation of 122+1611=1733 sangam members in 99 village sangams.

## 2. . CLC (Child Labor Committee) MEETING

Prevention of child labor and mainstreaming them to education is one of our main objectives. We had identified 318 child labors among 4821 in our 52 target villages. Among them 70% of the child labors are in Kadaladi block. We had mobilized them as Child Labor Committee. The CLC has been actively functioning in 9 villages of Kadaladi block. In this committee they meet every week and enjoy the childhood. We had facilitated them to reenroll in schools and other technical institutions as the child wish. For this year we had conducted 65 meetings in which 91 boys and 181 girls were took part and benefited.



## 3. Child Labor Parents Committee

We do number of activities to eradicate the child labor practice. To boost the activity we had decided to promote Parents Committee of Child Labor in our target villages. The committee can help us to generate more rapport with parents and give parents more understandings about the evils of child labor.

During this year we had promoted Child Labor Parents Committee in 1.Keezhavalasai 2.Kannikapuri, 3.N.Kamarajapuram, 4.Mayakulam, 5.Selvanayakipuram, 6.Keezha Allikulam, 7.Elanthaikulam, 8.Vellapatti, 9.Kuthiraimozhi Pandianagar villages. We had conduct meeting of this committee ones in two months and discussed about the demerits of child labor practice. We had insisted about importance of child hood and education. 528 parents participated in all of these meetings.



#### **4. Anti Child Labour Day – Rally – Seminar**

Anti Child labour day seminar conducted on 12-06-2017 in Kadaladi Panchayat Union Middle school at Kavakulam. Child labours, their Parents, Palmyrah workers, Panchayat Presedents, Police, Child line and Public were took participate (about 87 persons) in this Seminar and Rally.

Mr.Sathaiah,, Director – RWDS headed to this Seminar. Mr.Kalidass , Labour dept – Sayalkudi started the Anti Child labor day Rally. It started from Kadaladi Panchayat Union Middle school at Kavakulam and ended at the same via streets.



## 5. Consultation Meeting With Child Labour

Consultation meeting about Child labor conducted on 18-07-2017 at Elementary Teachers Association hall in Ramanathapuram. In this meeting Mr.Durai Murugan, District Child protection unit, Ramanathapuram, Mr.S.Karuppasamy – Child Line - Ramanathapuram. were the special guest for that meeting. They insisted to parents, for they would enrolled their children below 14 years to nearby schools at worksite areas. Demand with District collector to strengthen the Panchayat level Child Protection committee and activate in all panchayaths. District collector issue order to activate the PLCPC in all panchayaths. Because of this order PLCPC activate in Narippaiyyor pt.

## 6. Health committee meeting :

Following a Medical examination for child labor carried out last year, This year, reason for their physical and mental ailments as a continuous measure to get rid of them, formed the health committees in RWDS working villages for consult about the malnutrition status of child labors and Adolescent children and also consult about the Psychological and Physiological problems they met at working places. As a result parents of child laborers have an understanding of the problems their children face in the workplace, Share feedback with their children and care about their problems.

## 7. Adolescent children committee meetings :

Trained For strengthening child labor committee and develop self confidence to them. By continues this, life skill training also given to child labours. child labors adJoining with school going children, form the Elder children collectives, Thus the Elder children collectives formed in 9 villages. There were 34 meetings conducted in these collectives with the participation of 274 school going children and 76 child labors. Through this meetings children are aware on importance of education and problems / dangers that they faced in working places.



#### **8. Panchayat level child protection committee :**

Resolution made in Grama sabhas for activate the Panchayat level child protection committee in Narippaiyoor, Mookkaiyur, Kannirajapuram, Siraikulam, Kavakulam, Usilankulam and pillayarkulam in Kadaladi Block, Kanchirankudi panchayat in Thirupullani Block.

#### **9. Resolutions At Grama Sabha :**

For solve the children's Education and Health problems, Sangam members, Parents and village volunteers took participation in Grama sabha meetings made resolution on this issues.

1. Resolution made on Retain as child labor free village, Child marriage nil, Retained as dropout free village in Narippaiyoor Panchayat.

2. Special resolution made for Keezhaallikulam village on Road facility with over bridge for school children and also resolute about Retain as child labor free village, Child marriage nil, Retained as dropout free village in Pillaiyarkulam Panchayat.
3. Ensure the children's education continued to 18 years. Retain as child labor free village, Child marriage nil, Retained as dropout free village and Formation of PLCPC at Mookkaiyoor panchayat.
4. In Narippaiyoor village, New Primary school for Periyannayakipuram village and Activate the PLCPC meeting in monthly wise, Retain as child labor free village, Child marriage nil, Retained as dropout free village resolutions made.
5. In Mariyoor village panchayat the following resolutions are made Retain as child labor free village, Child marriage nil, Retained as dropout free village.

**10. Prevention of child marriage :**

The lives of many women have been affected by the effects of dowry system. Especially in our working area some child marriage also held. So Prevent the child marriage and create the awareness on child marriage resolution made in 15 Palmyrah workers village sangam meetings.

**11. A study on the status of children in the migrant families of palmyra workers in Ramnad :**

A detailed study on Migrated Families and Children in Kadaladi Block, Ramanathapuram district was conducted. As per our plan we had had a details study about the migrated families who is engaged in Palmyrah tapping in 11 palmyrah groves. 396 migrated families met in Kadugusanthai, Kumbasalai, Melaselvanur, Kudhirai mozhi 5 Akkar Sathankudi grooves, Periyakulam, Sathiram, Poopandiyapuram, Ellaipunchai sevelkadu, Keezhaselvanur, and Kannirajapuram seval kadu .



## 12. CHILDREN COLLECTIVE MEETINGS :

Children age between 6 and 18 in the target villages has organized as a committee to develop their social education and practice the right to participation. Every children age between 6 and 18 are the members of these collectives. The collective meets every week to discuss and share about their wishes. We had given training on leadership, RTE, and comics drawing. They shared their day to day school experiences and aims and goals also. Discuss their needs and problems. Also reads books Thulir and Utrukkan together and discuss about its concepts. And playing Traditional gram games together as a group talking about public matters also takes places. 52 children collectives actively working in 52 villages.



## 13. Educational Welfare Scheme Availed from labor welfare department :

Scheme	Children	Particulars	Total Amount
10 <sup>th</sup> Standard	5	1000 x 5	5000

10 <sup>th</sup> Pass	1	1000 x 1	1000
11 <sup>th</sup> Standard	1	1500 x1	1500
12 <sup>th</sup> Standard		1500 x	
12 <sup>th</sup> Pass	10	1500 x 10	15000
Degree	4	1500 x 4	6000
Post Graduate	-	4000 x-	0
BE	4	6000 x 4	24000
ME		0	0
Polytechnic		0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>52500</b>

#### 14. Children Committee Cluster Meetings :

All the 52 Children Committees are connected as cluster to promote their leadership quality in broad. There are clusters namely Koravalli, Kilakarai, Uchipulli, Naripaiyur, Kavakulam, Mayakulam, and Tirupullani. In these cluster meetings, they had discussed about the children issues and needs as a cluster. If any issue need cluster level approach it will be discussed.



#### 15. Children's day Celebration

On behalf of children collective members Children's day was celebrated in Nathakulam, VellariOdai, Koravalli and Rettaiyoorani villages. In Thirupullani Block, Alaivaikaravadi village and in Kadaladi Block Keelaallikulam, Manickanagar and Thothanmahanwadi villages also celebrate the children's day function. CSI primary school – Veppamarathupanai, Ampikapathi Inthu nadar middle school – vellapatti and Panchayat union Middle school – Kavakulam also organized the children's day function with the participation of i Children Committee members, Palmyra Sangam Members, Parents, Panchayat Members and Public.



#### 16. Block level children Festival :

This year a special function of children collectives Block level sports festival organized with the participation of 52 children collectives members. This events held In Mandapam Block on 24-12-2017 at Panchayat Union primary school – Kumbaram, In and In Thirupullani Block on 25-12-2017 at Nadar mahajana sanga high school - Methalodai. Kadaladi Block On 28-12-2017 at Ambigapathi Nadar Middle school – vellappati, In this all three blocks there were 115+58 = 173 children took participation. Kho – Kho, Kabadi, Volley ball, chess games are played. And all participates got gifts as chess board, File, Books and writing tools.



#### 17. Participations to develop skills for children :

Children collectives children took participation in Block level Science Exhibition and Skill development competitions : Totally 25 children took participation in District / Block / School level competitions in Long jump / High jump / Running / Kabadi / Kho Kho /Volleyball / Composition / Memory / and Quiz.

#### 18. School enrollment Campaigns:

Ensure the 3-18 years children education is one of the goal of our organization. We are campaigning to enroll all children in Government schools in the face of its implementation. Especially for enroll the 3 year children in Anganwadi centre and 5 years completed children in Govt Primary school in our 52 villages. In this, 32 village level school Enrollment campaigns, 7 Panchayath level school Enrollment campaigns 1 Block level and through Cycle Rally, Cultural Programes, Provide Bit notices and conduct Seminars also 731 Children collectives members, 658 Palmyrah sangam members, Panchayat level elected members, District Child protection unit, Police department, Child welfare committee, Child line, Anganwadi staff and public like members took participated in this Campaign.



#### **19. Consultation meeting with School HM and Teachers :**

The child who has migrated for the palmyrah works is different from other children. There is no Transport, Electricity and water and Medical facility in their migrant areas. So it would be take action to understand our children from their point of view. The staff team will be working to create awareness about this among the school Head Masters and Teachers , on 10-07-2017 at Kadaladi Panchayat Union Middle School – Poopandiyapuram, 26-10-2017 at Kadaladi Govt High School – Melakidaram. 07-11-2017 at Govt Higher secondary School – Sayalkudi, parents, cadres and SMC members were took part in this consultation.



## **20. New Primary School**

New primary school to Sengalaneerodai and Periyayakipuram village is an important need. Sengalaneerodai village is situated in Kanchirankudi Panchayat and 6km far from Kilakarai town. The village had 250 population and 52 children, age 3 – 5, but, here is no school. The children have to walk for 12km up and down even primary education. This situation is increasing school dropouts in primary school also.

Periyayakipuram, Rayappapuram and Kamarajapuram villages has 600 population including 143 children age 3 – 5. These villages are in Naripaioor panchayat, Kadaladi Taluk. These villages have situated other side of Kanniyakumari to Rameswaram ECR road while the Primary school is in next side of that road. Children have to walk for 6km up and down; also crossing the ECR road is being dangerous.

In this regard education task force committee for new primary school to Sengalaneerodai and Periyayakipuram had taken number of steps. Last year, Sengalaneerodai villagers had filed case in Madras high court of Madurai bench on New Primary School and got an order insisted the Government to provide primary school within 8weeks. During this reporting period both the villagers had met with the Registrar of Madras High Court of Madurai bench and submitted memorandum about the Action taken in this year.

## **21. Activate the ICDS centres :**

Various measures are taken be on ensure the Health protection, nutrition for 0-6 years children, ANC, PNC and Adolescent girl children and Ensure pre education of 3-5 years children. There is only 36 villages have the ICDS Centre facilities out of 52 villages. Infrastructure and activities are very poor in ICDS centres. To fix this issues in this year , Alaigatha valasai, Koravalli in Mandapam block, Methalodai North in Thirupullani Block

and Vellapatti and Kavakulam in Kadaladi block centres are selected and encouraged by parents visits.

## **22. Training on Mobile Information Management Program:**

Continuation of last year MIS training this year 3 days training conducted on 12-02-2018, 13-02-2018 and 14-02-2018 at office – Chennai. All RWDS staff took participation.

On 12-03-2018 – 14-03-2018 three days Training program conducted at Paripoorana centre in ICSEA – Chennai, about strengthening of children collectives, All staff, Coordinator and Director also participated.



## **23. School Management Committee meetings :**

Education is the basic right, we know. To practice the basic right, RTE 2009 gives a wonderful opportunity to parents to act positively in promoting their school. School Management Committee (SMC) is the opportunity to the parents of all villages. After the implementation of the RTE 2009, the Government had taken no proper steps to activate the SMC in appropriate way. The education officials including HM and Teachers also give no importance to SMC. They treat just like a burden. No, school had have School Development Plan meeting is SMC in our target villages, which gives space to parents to input their ideas and wishes. So generate awareness on SMC to parents we could reach proper implementation of RTE 2009.

SMC refresh training conducted koravalli cluster at Nathakulam village on 17-12-2017, In Thirupullani cluster at Methalodai village on 22-12-2017 and in Narippaiyoor and Sayalkudi cluster at Poopandiyapuram village on 22-12-2017. Director – Mr.S.Sathaiah, Mrs.D.Kanagavalli – Pro Coordinator, Mrs.M.Maria Stella – C L coordinator are the main trainer of this training.



#### **24. Palmyrah sangam cluster meetings:**

To attain development of the Palmyrah workers and their children we formed Palmyra Workers as Panai Thozhilalar Sangam. The Sangam has its function as village level, Cluster level and District level. Every level there is a governing body consists of 1 President, 1 vice president, 1 Secretary, 1 Joint secretary and 1 Treasurer. The village Sangam meets every month and the Cluster Sangam meets once in two months and the District level committee meets yearly once. In this year 5 cluster meetings were conducted.

