

# RWDS

## Annual Activity Report 2018-19



RURAL WORKERS DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY ,  
1-230-3 Bharathi Nagar  
Ramanathapuram – 623 503  
Phone:04567 230535  
email.palmyrahrwds@gmail.com .

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

**RAMANATHAPURAM - 623503**

### **ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT FOR APRIL 2018 –MARCH 2019**

#### **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 Calf 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	A.Basheera parveen	EC Member
8	D.Kanagavalli	GB Member
9	N.Rajamani	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  $3242+7203=10445$  sangam members in 110 village sangams.



### 2. Children collective meetings :

Children collective works to ensure the Children's rights to participation and to teach them social education. In every village children collectives there are 8 to 18 age children took membership in these collectives. They shared their day to day school experiences and aims and goals also. Discuss their needs and problems. Also reads books Thulir and Uttrukkan 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.

This year a special training provided to children collectives Child centre Modules – Life skill training, Self responsibility, Self identity, self respect, self confidence, children participation, creativity thinking, Analysis and scientific discussion, Children’s growth and development stages, Awareness on sexual problems, scientific thoughts, and factors affected children.

And this year a special function of children collectives sports festival organized with the participation of 52 children collectives members. This events held In Kadaladi Block On 23-12-2018 at Ambigapathi Nadar Middle school – vellappati, In Mandapam Block 24-12-2018 at Panchayat Union primary school – Koravalli, and In Thirupullani Block at Suresh – sudha Aghagan memorial Higher secondary school – Thirupullani. In this all three blocks there were  $117+76 = 193$  children took participation.

Kho – Kho, Kabadi, Volley ball, chess games are played. And all participates got gifts as chess board, File, Geometric box and writing tools.



### 3. Adolescent children collective meetings:

Organized the children between the age group of 11 -18 in our palmyrah workers villages, and special meetings arranged them. Psychological and Physiological education and discussions provide to children in these meetings. in this age of adolescence Most of the children dropout from school and became to child labor. So to educate them and counseling is provide them on the difficulties and dangers

of children going to work. Advice on body cleansing and healthy living is provided. Thus 34 meetings conducted in 9 villages with the participation of 338 children and 43 child labors. Through this meetings they got aware on the importance of Education, difficulties and dangers of children going to work.



#### **4. Adolescent Girls collectives meetings :**

Organized the 11-18 years girl children in our palmyrah workers village and special meeting conducted for them. Psychological and Physiological education and discussions provide to children in these meetings. And for adult female children, self cleanliness, Hormone secretion, Physiological and Physiological changes counseling also provided.

Part of it in this year 40 adolescents girl children selected from Mandapam, Thiruppullani and kadaladi block, and 3 days training (19-10-2018, 20-10-2018 and 21-10-2018) organized in Vyani centre at Sivagangai. Further this training 20 trained children selected and carried to Kanniyakumari – stellamari Training centre on 28-12-2018 and 29-12-2018. And also on 24-03-2019, 25-03-2019, 26-03-2019 and 27-03-2019 Leadership training conducted at Thiyana Asiramam – Chennai for Adolescent girls.



## 5. Evening classes :

Evening classes started in 5 villages, Kannigapuri, Nathakulam, Periya Mayakulam, Alaigathavalasai and Kudhiraimozhi pandiyan nagar villages. This is for resolve school related doubts and makes the exams easier to handle to 9<sup>th</sup> std to 12 std children 85+141 children benefitted by using this classes.

## 6. 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 3 school level school Enrollment campaign, 16 village level school Enrollment campaigns, 3 Panchayath level school Enrollment campaigns 1 Block level and 1 cluster also conducted. Enrollment Campaign conducted through Cycle Rally, Cultural Programes, Provide Bit notices and conduct Seminars also. 444 Children collectives members, 230 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.



## 7. School level meetings :

The child who has migrated for the palymyrah 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 28-06-2018 at Kadaladi Panchayat Union Primary School – Manickanagar, 03-07-2018 at Kadaladi Panchayat Union Middle School – Poopandiyapuram. 27-08-2018 at Kadaladi Panchayat Union Primary School – K.Mozhi Pandiyanagar, On 10-11-2018 CSI Primary School – Veppamarathupanai 22+52=74 parents, cadres and SMC members were took part.



## 8. School Management Committee meetings :

We continue to wok to compel the Government to fully implement the RTI Act with a view to ensuring the primary education of children. By continuing this we took participate in SMC meeting with trained parents and cadres. SMC meeting conducted in 9 Schools at Kuyavankudi, Pudhuvalasai, Kannigapuri, Kavakulam, Melakidaram, Poopandiyapuram, Keezhaallikulam and Alavaikaraivadi villages. Our Trained SMC members participate in above meetings and resolutions made on Compound wall for school, Water facility for Toilets, Classrooms, Protected Drinking water, Quality of Education, Ensure the Continues attendance of children.

## 9. 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.

#### **10. Child Labor Committee Meeting**

Prevention of child labor and mainstreaming them to education is one of our main objectives. We had identified 193 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 34 meetings in which 43 boys and girls were took part and benefited

#### **11. 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.Manickanagar, 5.Pooandiyapuram, 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. 152 parents participated in all of these meetings.

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

Anti Child labour day seminar conducted on 12-06-2018 at Govt Boys Higher secondary school – Sayalkudi. Mr.Duraimurugan – DCPO – Ramnad, Mr.Karuppasamy – child line, Mr.Sivaramapandidayan – Physiotherapy and Supervisor – SSA, Mr. Rajasekar – Assistant HM - Govt Boys Higher secondary school – Sayalkudi, Children, Parents, Palmyrah sangam members, Teachers , Labor department and public also took participation.

Mr.Sathaiah,, Director – RWDS headed to this Seminar. Mrs.Rajalakshmi kannappan came as special guest. Mr.Duraimurugan – DCPO – Ramnad started the Anti Child labor day Rally. It started from Govt Boys Higher secondary school – Sayalkudi and moved via streets of sayalkudi ended at Govt Boys Higher secondary school – Sayalkudi via markets.



### 13. Panchayat level child Protection committee :

As a result of last year's child labor consultation meeting and the subsequent District collector meeting, In this year Panchayat level child Protection committee conducted in Mandapam, Kadaladi and Thirupullani blocks. Consultation meeting with BDO, Panchayat Secretaries and Union members were conducted in Mandapam (05-12-2018), Kadaladi (07-12-2018) and Thirupullani (12-12-2018) for PLCPC and BLCPC formation. Further of this consultation meetings, Village level child protection committee meeting conducted in Kannirajapuram, Methalodai, Mookkaiyoor, Narippaiyoor, Pillaiyarkulam, Kanchirangudi, Irumeni, Koravalli and Puduvalasai. In this meeting VAO, Panchayat secretary, Police dept, School HM, VHN, Anganwadi Teacher, Parents, Sangam cadres, PLF members and school children were took participation.

### 14. 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, 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.

**15. 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.

**16. 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 .

Release of report with Press meets at state level in Chennai on 18-12-2018 at Chennai Press Club. 33 Press members were participated and 4 Newspapers and one in news channel ( Polimer TV ) released the news. On 19-12-2018 Mr.AR.Muniyasamy, S.Sathaiah from State Palmyrah workers and Rural artisans Union and Mr.Arivazhagan Rayan from SKI – TN met Health dept, Educational Dept, Labour Dept, Social Welfare Dept, Kadhar Grama Industrial Dept, CM special Cell, Deputy

Director of ICDS, Educational Minister, Minister of Kadhar Grama dept, Commissioner of Labor Dept and submit of memorandum.



**17. Educational Welfare Scheme Aailed from labor welfare department :**

Scheme	Children	Particulars	Total Amount
10 <sup>th</sup> Standard	7	1000 x 7	7000
10 <sup>th</sup> Pass	4	1000 x 4	4000
11 <sup>th</sup> Standard	1	1500 x1	1500
12 <sup>th</sup> Standard	2	1500 x 2	3000
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>60500</b>

**18. 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.

S.no	Name of the cluster	Date & Place
1	Keezhakarai	28-09-2018 – Sengalaneerodai

2	Mayakulam	20-01-2019 – Periyamayakulam 21-09-2019 – Pudhumayakulam
3	Thirupullani	27-09-2018–Methalodai north
4	Kavakulam	27-01-2019 – Kavakulam
5	Koravalli	13-05-2018 – Chinnarettaiyoorani 30-09-2018 – Koravalli 17-03-2019 – Koravalli
6	Sayalkudi	23-09-2018 – Poopandiyapuram 20-01-2019 – Keezhallikulam 17-03-2019 - Poopandiyapuram
7	Narippaiyoor	25-02-2019 – Manickanagar
8	Kannirajapuram	24-02-2019 – Kannirajapuram

#### **19. 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.

#### **20. New Primary School :**

New primary school to Sengalaneerodai 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.

In this regard education task force committee for new primary school to Sengalaneerodai and Periyamayakulam 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 :

- Mrs.Meera sankar conducted the review meeting in Sengalaneerodai village for getting new Primary school.
- Children collective members and Sangam cadres submit the petition to District collector.

## 21. 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.

## 22. Combined functions with Samakalvi Iyakkam :

On 25-09-2018 Namma Ooru Namma Palli seminar conducted in Nathakulam village – Panchayat Union Primary school, vellari Odai Panchayat, in Mandapam Block . This school is in closing stage due to reduce of children enrollment so awareness created among the Parents and Public to raise the children strength the school.



- On behalf of Samakalvi iyakkam - Anaivarukkum Ugantha palli – Arasupalli – study report released In Ramanathapuram District.



- Female child Feticide study report released at Kizhakku nadar Uravin Murai Sangam Meeting Hall at Ramanathapuram.



- Report release on Child Marriage study held in Kizhakku nadar Uravin Murai Sangam Meeting Hall at Ramanathapuram.

