



People's Action for Development (PAD)  
Roachpalayam, Vembar, Vilathikulam Taluk  
Thoothukudi District - 628906  
Website: [www.padgom.org](http://www.padgom.org)

# ANNUAL REPORT

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**Introduction:**

People’s Action for Development (PAD) is a voluntary organization, which is legally registered under society registration act in the year 1985. It is actively involved in empowering the marginalized sections of the society such as fisher folk, Palmyra tappers, Dalits, landless, women, children in difficult situation and others. The aim of the PAD’s intervention is to strengthen the various capitals such as - social, human, natural, financial, physical and information. In general, the belief is that there are 6 capitals to strengthen the livelihood but, in our experience, information is another capital, which also contributes to the empowerment of the community.

PAD has its head quarter at Vembar (Thoothukudi District of Tamil Nadu) and another 3 more units- at Keelakkarai, Rameswaram and Thoothukudi.

**Profile of the area**

People’s Action for Development is working in the Gulf of Mannar region, which spreads from Rameshwaram to Thoothukudi covering 10500 sq. kms. The Gulf of Mannar region is declared as ‘marine bio reserve’ by the Government of India. The Gulf of Mannar is declared as national bio reserve by the government of India in 1996. Gulf of Mannar region is rich in fishery resources. The primary productivity of the area is comparatively very high. A total of 510 fin fish species, including 125 reef associated fish species, 450 mollusks species, and 17 species of sea cucumbers have been recorded from this region. It is one of the richest sources of marine biodiversity hotspots of the world.

Gulf of Mannar, which has a chain of 21 islands along a stretch of 140 km between Thoothukudi and Rameswaram (N. Lat. 8° 55’ – 9° 15’ and E. Long. 78° 0’ and 79° 16’), is located along the southeast coast of India. It has been considered for a Marine Biosphere Reserve. The importance of the Gulf of Mannar as PAD’s operational area lies in the fact that there are 133 villages and the islands have fringing coral reefs and patch reefs rising from shallow seas. The fringing reefs around the islands have lagoons of 100 to 150 m width and 1 to 2 m depth. The reef area of the Gulf of Mannar accounts for 94.3 km<sup>2</sup>, based on the estimates of data derived from IRS LISS II 1989 & SPOT 1989 satellite information.

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Fish production of this region had been from 1, 05, 000 tones to 71845 tons from 1998 to 2011. The increase of population and demand for marine products are major causes for making fisher folk to get involved in the destructive fishing practices and over harvesting which has adverse effects on the fragile ecosystem of the Gulf of Mannar. Gulf of Mannar region is a priority area for conservation because of its richness of species and ecosystems which support livelihood for many coastal people and others. Sustainable management of this fragile resource capital alone will hold the key for real prosperity and wellbeing of this area and the people. The threats to the richness of biodiversity of this area are increasing at alarming rates and if not curbed and controlled now will lead to a situation of no return. The conservation and sustainable utilization of the resources require an integrated approach in management of this area where all stakeholders understand and accept the limitations of resource availability and control their negative interactions with the resources and its over extraction.

### **CHILD CENTERED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

#### **EDUCATION**

***Multi - Dimensional Learning Space (MDLS):*** Multi-Dimensional Learning Space (MDLS) is a during-school and after-school program that provides multi-dimensional learning opportunities for school children to explore, experiment, discover, and learn in multiple ways. The aim of MDLS is to focus on equal importance to all aspects of the curriculum; to help holistic and balanced development of a children; to learn with visual, auditory and experiential methods and to bring about individuals who are capable, confident, inquisitive and value aware.

- By this reporting period 4 Schools are provided with the digital way learning methodologies to improve the quality of education to students and improve the method of teaching to the teachers.
- Before this intervention, teachers used mobile phone with QR code to explain the subjects to the students. Display in the mobile phone being tiny dimension, all students could not see the display properly. As a result of this, they could not grasp the points clearly. Since the provision of digital projector and live internet, the display is large visible and audio is enhanced through the system students easily understand the subjects.
- Teachers can refer both library books and the e books online to clarify any doubts.
- Students have easy access to resources for the competitions like oratory, essay writing, and competitive examinations like merit exams and NEET coaching etc.

**LTP training to teachers on Tamil and Mathematics:** 37 primary and middle school teachers from Kadaladi block are trained in Tamil and Mathematics. This training is conducted so that the teachers may shift from their nominal theoretic/lecture teaching methods to play way method. Prior to this, by 40 trained facilitators of creative learning centers, 1077 children were benefitted. These could reach only 40 villages. Implementation of play way method, improved the reading skill from 63% to 74% and writing skill, 52% to 67% in these 40 villages. As a result, the strength of the attendance in these 40 centers increased from 53% to 70%. When the outcome of implementing play way method is like these 40 centers, we can reach more children, if we target the school teachers. Hence, this block level training program is organized.

- Teachers felt that this is a new way of teaching method
- They feel this as a method to attract children voluntarily in to the learning process
- Teachers were much inspired in learning this method
- They have acquired the confidence to kindle the children to use their skills to tell stories, write essays and writing poems on their own style
- They want to convert the present curriculum in to play way method
- They realize that it is not enough to teach them but make the children involve in the learning process which will enhance their learning capacities.
- They understood the meaning of education only through this training
- They understood that children must be given freedom to help them learn their lessons easily
- They realized that they must improve their reading habit and refer more documents
- They created a WhatsApp' group called 'education guideline' through which innovative methods are shared among the trained teachers, the trainee and the staff

**Strengthening the ECD committee:** To strengthen the ECD committee, 26 members are capacitated on early childhood development and the importance of first 1000 days of childcare. This committee makes the parents to realize that the constant interactions with the child between pregnancy and the child's second birthday, play a vital role in child's brain development, and consequently their behaviors, their capacity to learn, their optimum health development and social relationships.

- Mothers, realizing that the children feel secure and comfortable during finger sucking, do not swap something else for the finger sucking babes.
- At household level, parents began placing colourful and creative pictures so that the child learns through observation. They keep the household articles child friendly.

- The women are very clear that a child's brain is developed even before the child starts formal education.
- Mothers are aware that it is not enough to give larger amount of food but It should be nutritious and hygienic to improve the brain and physical development of children.

***Life skill training (youth leadership development program) - The theme is based on, "leaders without title".***

This training capacitated youths in Interpersonal skills such as ability to build trust, to handle conflict, to value the differences, to listen actively, to communicate effectively and to act as watch dog committee. This training aims to train and equip underprivileged rural youth to become agents of change in their own communities. The Experiential learning (EL) helps youth to learn best what that they discover for themselves and this is the avenue for "experiencing and owning healthy life principles.

- 209 youths are trained by youth leadership development program. After the camp, youth developed viable village development plan. Regularly attending the monthly meeting of VDC, parents committee and CRPF, they shared the development plan with them. If any need arises, they right away meet the Panchayat and Government departments for immediate solution. Attitude changes are seen among them. For instance: giving respect to girl children and women. They began to implement environment friendly conservation process which brought pleasant changes in the atmosphere of the community. VLCPC, parents committee, panchayat and CFAM clubs begin to invest their trust on youths and youth leadership for a change in the community. Some villages handed over the village level implementation responsibilities to youths.
- Manickanagar is a coastal village located on the east coast of Ramanathapuram District in Tamilnadu. People of this community are either palmyra tappers or fishing labourers or saltpan labourers or casual labourers. PAD established a village development committee (VDC) in Manickanagar at the outset. VDC has representations from various walks of life in the village. Youth neither had recognition nor space to express themselves for the development of the community. They used to hesitate to talk in common forum, in VDC and in Panchayat institutions. Dignity of women, girls and elders were neglected; Interest and awareness on environment and conservation of natural resources were foreign to them; Vast chasm existed between the youths and the society and politics; Crunched by social barrier issues and gender discriminations. Especially panchayat, which includes many hamlets, neglected this village in any aspect of development as they are Dalits. The VDC, village leaders and Panchayat utilized the youth for supporting role in events and do not allow them to take decisions and to participate. Youths are prioritized only in area where they needed menial work.

**After the intervention:** PAD uses “Camp Approach”: Adventure-Based Learning (ABL), is one of the set of tools and are the energizing tools that we use: To build group cohesion, explore conflicts, bring self-awareness, build confidence, create positive attitude, examine leadership roles, understand ecological rights, get civic education - mainly social ethics, etc. in a fun and experiential way. They return from the camp with an action plan. This action plan is followed and monitored in their monthly youth meetings.

**Impact:**

- Midday meal was not prepared hygienically and hence, they informed the BEO and resolved the issue.
- Participating in the Gram Sabha, they placed a petition for street lights and bus stop.
- They follow the gender equity aspects.
- Village decided to hand over the responsibility of conducting the village temple festival.
- Youth club dug a water well with the motivation of PAD in their community when there arose a problem of water scarcity. This well now meets the water needs of the community
- They have a secluded road that leads to their village. This road is surrounded by a vast number of thorny trees making the road utter black at night and this area became a shelter for unsocial elements. Everyone dreaded to walk along the road at night even if they walk in pair. Realizing the need of the streetlight, the youth met the collector, since panchayat did not respond. Collector helped them getting the lights fitted all along the 2.5 km road.
- They appointed a facilitator to guide the young children in the learning center.
- Initially parents were against youth club idea of uniting boys and girls in to one group. Gradually they understood and accepted it.
- Since there has been caste discrimination at the Gram Sabha, no one like to attend it. Even if anyone attend the meeting and ask something, they would not listen to them. But now youth, being educated, deal issues properly and wisely, hence, they have to consider their voice. They attend the Gram Sabha meeting and listen to what they talk and what happens there. They are courageous to even go to the District collector’s office and place petitions for the needs of the community.
- TASMACHOP was being under construction close by their village. They know a building is being built, but they did not know it was a TASMACHOP. They realized it only when the shop was opened. Therefore, they approached many officials to remove the TASMACHOP from that site, but nothing seemed to work and hence, finally, they staged a dharna on the main road. “They know that youth group alone cannot succeed in this, hence, they arranged for a village meeting and explained everything to the village”. They had the strong hope that If they all together in this, it can be

achieved. Therefore, all from the village, including the young children took part in the Dharna and succeeded in their errand at the third time. Then only the high officials came to the spot and promised that the shop will be removed from that place and they did as they promised.

- Youths said “We could come out of this caste discrimination only with the support of PAD – CCFC. We were neglected by the Gram Sabha because we are from a lower caste. But with the support of PAD-CCFC we overcame this obstacle”.
- Though they got the new school building, there was no separate toilets for the girls. Hence, the youths approached PAD and placed their need and they constructed four toilets for the children.
- Adults from the community used to tease and deride the youths saying “why are you wasting your time sitting idle here, go and do something positive for the family. But, when youth activities brought something good for the community, they became interested in youth group activities. They began supporting youth in their activities

Youth group stated that “our dream and ambition is a Himalayan task. We think that external support is paramount to us as we already told, our voice will not be heard at the power circles, therefore, we need someone to back up for a while until we are self sustained”.

## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

**Mother’s club meeting:** 343 mothers are trained on Exclusive Breast feeding, ORT and importance of first 1000 days. They are aware on holistic development - physical, social, cognitive, communication, sense of self and environment. Parenting training made them aware of the importance of mental stimulation through play which enhance language skills, thinking capacities, physical and social skills. Trained to improve parenting practices at home environment. Mothers understood the necessity of Immunization; nutrition; exclusive breast feeding for 6 months. Volunteers and VHN provide additional support to mothers who have babies less than two years old. Where there is no public transport available, for regular check-ups at the PHC, the 108-ambulance facility is arranged for ‘to-and-fro’ travel.

- After these programs, awareness on childcare is improved. They understood that responsibility of parenting lies with every member in the family. They understood the real meaning of PARENTS (P- Pappa, A- Amma, R- Relatives, E- elders, N-Neighbors, T-Teachers, S- Society. It is encouraging to see that the fathers have realized it. According to the survey among young fathers, 12% of them realized that father's role is equally important as mother’s role. (Surveyed 78 young fathers).
- Mothers have realized that the constant interactions with the child even before birth play a vital role in shaping children's brains. And consequently, their behaviors, learning capacity, health and social

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relationships. They understand the different stages of brain development and involve in relational interactions with the children.

- Women now are very clear that a child's brain is developed even before the child starts formal education.
- Parents began keeping colourful and creative pictures at home so that the child learns through observation. They initiated to keep safe household articles and toys to keep the home very child friendly.
- They became aware of the importance of the nutritious food for pregnant and lactating women, and children who are under 5. There has been a shift from consuming processed and packaged food to nutritious traditional food.
- They understand the importance of recreation and physical activities of children. Physical activities through games, self-awareness is achieved, physical development enhanced, relationships improved, reasoning skills developed and social skills obtained. Therefore, parents understanding the above development in the children, they allow their children to interact and play with other children even if those children belong to other caste or other religion.
- The ECCD process developed good rapport and relationship between mothers and PHC and PHN. Therefore, timely monitoring of immunization is followed, weight and height is monitored, availing Govt subsidies for delivery and tubectomy is obtained smoothly.
- All the lactating members of the club are practicing exclusive breast feeding for six months.
- The attitude of the parents has changed. It has been a habit, when a child tumbles and falls, parents would immediately reprove and admonish the child. But now, they encourage and console the child. Hence, a positive parenting trend has set in.
- During a concatenated baby shower program conducted by the Government, PAD's staff was asked to make a presentation on child care to all the mothers present at the function.
- Our staff is being invited at all the District level PHC meetings, to give a talk on ECCD. Anganwadi workers' proficiency developed because of this training. Out of 270 children attending Anganwadi, only 4% of under-nourished children were found in this period. They did not let these 4% remain as they are, but provided appropriate measures to improve them as well.

***Child Friendly Accountability Mechanism (CFAM):*** The main aim of this training is to inculcate the concept 'Child Friendly Accountability Methodology' to the children. The training described the concept of CFAM, made the children realize the existing mechanisms and policies to protect children from all



sorts of abuses. Following this, children were enabled to evolve an action plan through which the existing gaps among the allied departments can be reduced.

To contribute to the SDG goal 16.2, on child friendly accountability mechanism, PAD works, under the guidance of CCFC, in the Gulf of Mannar region, implementing the concept with three phased approach - assess, analyze and action. PAD formed 15 children's club in 15 villages with 500 children age group between 13 and 17 as a first phase process. Among these 500 children, 50 of them were selected by the clubs for a TOT training on CFAM approach. These TOTs take this approach to other children in the village. Children clubs existed only for the rights of education in the past. But now children are enabled to identify the issues they face at home, school and in the society. They also identified the duty-bearers/stakeholders who are responsible to solve these issues. Children have gained the courage to express their views and issues at any platform. CFAM activities have brought them to this status. They also gained the knowledge and power to interact with the district level stakeholders those who are working for child protection. Parents, who were alarmed by the CFAM process in the initial stages, feel proud of their children, because they raise their voice for their rights according to the UNCRC.

- 30 District level CBO members of Ramanathapuram are oriented on CFAM.
- 60 school headmasters of Kadaladi Block are trained on CFAM
- 29 education department members are trained on CFAM
- Signing of MOU for CFAM district authorities such as CWC, District Education Authority, District Administrative Office, DHS, ICDS, SC/ST Board etc. is done.
- CFAM children representatives interviewed the stakeholders from different government bodies and departments.
- Workshop with stakeholders to review the action plan developed by CFAM representatives.
- CFAM campaigns conducted with the participation of children of 15 villages.

***This interaction materialized the following outcome:***

- The Club children are getting to know their rights according to UNCRC and the issues related to those rights. During the context analysis, children and youths become more aware of their issues, challenges and harmful traditional practices at family, community and school. They have started raising questions in their club meetings.
- They have negotiated with the school authorities to close the schools during quarterly vacations for 10th and 12th standard. Since they were having special classes even on holidays. This was discussed in their club meetings and presented to the school authorities.

- These club members reenrolled 14 dropout children back in to the school during this six-month period.
- CFAM club members convinced the fish workers union to talk about child rights and child protection in their regular district level meetings. They have also invited the TOTs to make presentation in their monthly meetings about their rights, issues and how the community can take the responsibility of the safety of the children.
- There were stakeholders' workshops on CFAM concept and approach at District level so that they are informed about the children's initiatives. 31 district level Education Department representatives are aware of CFAM and its concept. 29 School headmasters and 95 PRI and CBOs representatives trained on CFAM and their roles on the protection of children.
- The club members have convinced the members of Gram Sabha to declare Narippayoor panchayat as child marriage free Panchayat.

## **STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION**

***Village level and Panchayat level child protection committee:*** 6 VLCPCs and 6 Panchayat level child protection committees have been formed and strengthened wherever the Government has not done it. The existing formal committees returned and motivated to perform their roles through training and connecting with other child protection mechanism, such as child line 1098, DCPU, Social welfare department, JJU, etc. to track the drop outs, child marriage, child abuse, child labour, trafficking and issues of children. The VLCPC trained to provide care and protection to children with the help of allied system.

- VLCPCs are the duty bearers to monitor the village level children issues.
- Child Protection Awareness visibility board installed in Narippayoor bus-stand with child line information
- Vembar: A child has been in an abuse situation by her father. VLCPC intervened in this and protected the child
- Thinaikulam: VLCPC organized panchayat level Childline awareness program.
- Vivekanathapuram: Ankanwadi worker had the habit of giving corporal punishment to the children. Hence, VLCPC took this issue to the DCPO. On the basis of this complaint, Ankanwadi worker was given a warning and she stopped punishing the children there after.

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- Vendors have been selling junk and unhealthy eatables in the school vicinity. Seeing this, the VLCPC stopped these vendors selling junk and unhealthy eatables.
- Uraikinaru: Panchayat Union Middle School Headmaster collected yearly school fee and fines for various reasons. Hence, the school admissions dropped down. Seeing this, VLCPC discussed about this with the HM and warned him not to collect any fee or fine from the students.
- Soorangudi: Stopped a child marriage of a ninth-grade student and re-enrolled to girl at school and made it possible to get an education support Rs. 1000 per month from the government.
- Chinnaerwadi Panchayat: Eight VLCPC members of Muthariayar community joined together and resolved to meet 15<sup>th</sup> of every month and discuss about the child related issues and monitor it.
- E. Mutharaiyar nagar: VLCPC identified a father making his child to beg. Hence, the VLCPC contacted the ChildLine and rescued the girl.
- Keelashanmugapuram: 9<sup>th</sup> grade dropout child re-enrolled by VLCPC.
- Pachayapuram: VLCPC contacted child line when a 10 years old girl studying 5<sup>th</sup> grade was sexually abused by a young man and Registered a FIR under POCSO act and young man is under chastisement.
- Periasamipuram: Due to verbal abuse, a 10<sup>th</sup> standard girl stopped attending the school. VLCPC counselled the girl and re-enrolled her. She is attending school regularly.
- VLCPC took complete responsibility to handle the issues of children through complaint box which fixed in Vembar area with CFAM process.

***Strengthening the SMC for effective functioning:*** The main objective of the meeting is to capacitate the SMC members to play an important role in maintaining the school infrastructure and other issues related to child friendly school atmosphere. 6 SMCs are trained on RTE Act, Roles of SMC, Child protection, Child participation etc., This training capacitated them to play an important role in providing quality education to children. They are facilitated to evolve School development plan to place before authorities like DEO, CEO and Collector.

- Vedhakaranvaalsai: SMC passed a resolution to keep the village plastic free under Swatch Bharath Scheme.
- Periasamipuram: Parents approached SMC on the basis of water facility at school. Hence, SMC provided proper water facility and renovated the washing place which was slippery.
- Chinnaerwadi: SMC appointed a part time teacher and contributes a salary of Rs. 3000 every month

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- Vembar and Periyasamipuram: Collected materials for people affected by 'Kaja hurricane' and provided the materials to the village called 'Athiramapattinam'.
- Ponnagaram: School management received education materials, furniture and other, necessary materials worth of Rs. 1,00,000. Children from 7 surrounding villages attend this school
- SMCs of P.M. Valasai, Mutharaiyarnagar and Bharathinagar mobilized local fund to celebrate school annual day.
- Manickanagar: SMC worked to get a new school building, Yet, they felt that it was not safe for the children without a compound wall and hence, they took steps to avail compound wall to the school.
- Midday meal was prepared and served unhygienically at the school. Hence, they worked to solve it along with the village youth group.
- Vembar: SMC encouraged the student, Muneeswaran, a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student who was selected for all India School level cricket competition which will be held at Madhya Pradesh. Alagukannan, patronized by SMC, could win in district level Marathon race.
- Pachaiyapuram: SMC had a dialogue with VDC, parents and children to decide what language should the teachers teach the lessons, English or Tamil? Based on the opinions of children and parents, SMC decided and advised the teachers to conduct the classes in Tamil. SMC helped 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> children to attend Rural Merit examination and National level merit examinations.
- Vadakkuseval: As the parents being palm tappers, they are out in to the palm groves quite early and hence, the children are unable to take food properly. Therefore, the SMC suggested the teachers to help the children to take food properly. On their advice, teachers are helping children to prepare food for themselves in the morning.
- Narippayur: SMC suggested to take special care the week students in 10<sup>th</sup> standard.
- Erwadi: Regular participation and transparency at school functioning increased; SMC organized the campaign on world cleaning day in and around villages.

***Strengthening local CBO's by facilitating sharing their challenges:*** To strengthen the CBO (SAMUDRA, a dynamic CBO functioning in Kilakarai area) to resource mobilization skills, development of action plan, including children, VDC and youth participation and networking etc. This CBO is a dynamic one with active members with vibrant leadership having a common vision, identity and ownership. The regular sharing and facilitation meetings help them to plan community projects, lobbying, advocacy and working with other networks to ensure the child rights and human rights are

upheld.

- General body could select vibrant executive committee members
- SAMUDRA finds a solution to end the conflict between the country boats and trawlers
- They made awareness program on 14 villages about eradication of plastics
- Provided early warning to 'Kaja hurricane'
- They collected welfare material worth rupees 5 lakhs and sent them to the affected area.
- One of them who attended the CBDRM training, became a member of district level Disaster management committee.
- Executive committee members attend the parents committee regularly. They motivate the parents on the importance of girl's children.
- Pre-existed 150 live Livelihood groups reduced to 90 and hence, SAMUDRA took steps to revive the non-functional livelihood groups. They took village wise list of the livelihood groups and motivate them by attending LG meetings regularly
- Participate in Grama Sabha meetings in all panchayats where Samudra members are present.
- Taking list of drop out children in Keelakarai area to re-enrol them
- Create bank linkages to livelihood groups

***District level Palm tappers meet:*** This palm tappers federation interact in a friendly way with Palmyrah Welfare Board, Government of Tamilnadu for the rights of the palm tappers. This federation facilitates compensation and medical care for the palm tappers who accidentally fall from the tree or affected by other forms of occupational hazards. Specialized resource persons from the palm-based Line departments provide regular information on schemes, bank linkages, subsidies, insurance and trainings on value addition of palm products. They also create awareness on management on conservation.

- 50 palm tappers from Vilathikulam block and 150 members in Kadaladi block received loan amount of one lakh each with a subsidy of 35%. This loan is availed through Pandiyan Grama bank.
- Naripaiyur: To convert the regular palm products to value added products, a fund of rupees one crore is sanctioned by the district authorities.
- Four members from Thoothukudi and Ramnad districts claimed insurance for the accidents they met.
- 112 members renewed their licence in this reporting period.
- 46 new membership added.

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- During this period one district level palm tappers meeting is conducted. More than 200 palm tappers participated in this meeting.
- During this reporting period 439 members linked with the banks by subsidy loans. Each member received Rs. 1,00,000 with 35% subsidy. Totally, Rs. 4,39,00,000/- availed in Thoothukudi and Ramanathapuram districts.
- Only after the formation of Palmyra Sangam, palm tappers became aware of the bank linkages and government schemes.
- Insurance, membership and licence are renewed timely and properly.
- The trend of getting loan from the money lenders diminished from Rs. 1,00,000 to maximum Rs. 20,000/-
- Even if the money lenders came forward voluntarily to give loan, they reject it.
- Because they can use this money for education, as a result, percentage of girl children education increased.

***Taruvai development committee:*** This committee, having 12 panchayat representatives, acted vibrantly to strengthening waterbodies. When the local communities are struggling to get the potable water, private companies are thriving by exploiting the underground water through borewells. This was identified by this committee in this reporting period and took steps to stop those companies entering the locality. In this regard, totally 27 borewells are sealed with the help of VAO, RI and Tahsildar in Vembar area. Became aware of the legal action by the taravai committee, the private companies now moved to access water source in Ramanathapuram area.

- Because of Taravai committee's awareness programs, people blocked the conduits with sand. Therefore, water collects at the Taravai area after a break of four years. As a result of this, ground water level raised, and the salinity reduced.
- Vembar: Taravai committee and youth together obtained Taravai area map and passed a resolution to survey department to stop the encroachments. They now do a survey all along the Taravai area to check the encroachments.

***Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP):*** ***EPP is in place in*** Kunjayapuram, in Vilathikulam block, Velayuthapuram, Thiraviyapuram and Chinna Erwadi in Kadaladi block and Sivagamipuram and Muthunagar in Thiruppullani Block. Because the coastal villages are most vulnerable and highly prone to Tsunami, flood, cyclone, fire accident, salinity, drought, low rainfall and epidemic diseases, most of the population in these localities are under vulnerable conditions. 400 children, 400 youth and adult people are trained in EPP these villages. After the establishment of youth led early warning system, 80

children and 160 adults are well-versed in early warning system, information sharing and effective communications.

PAD introduced this concept along with its regular development concepts. Moreover, disaster preparedness programs are managed by the community. The capacity of the community is so built that the community will act for themselves if there rise an emergency. Thus, we called this as 'Emergency Preparedness Plan". Following three types of task force teams are formed;

1. Early warning team
  2. Search and Rescue team
  3. First aid team
- The community awareness on DRR and EPP worked well. During the initial stages, the whole community discussed about the history of disasters and risks in the last 30 to 40 years. The traditional way of risk mitigation process has been passed on to youth by the elders. This is not enough at the current situation which is completely different from past decades. Therefore, the current situation of village structure is analyzed by the task force team members with social, resource, vulnerable and evacuation maps. Moreover, the digitalized GIS mapping also provide a clear understanding of resources, vulnerabilities, mitigation process and emergency preparedness.
  - Youth identifies disaster risks from hazards and climate change at the community level using GIS and Participatory Learning & Action (PLA). They cross verify the traditional systems of indications of disasters with the help of experienced traditional people. The accurate data and village structure depicted by GIS mapping helped them to evolve EPP. Moreover, youth of Thiraviyapuram provided the digitalized GIS map to Block level disaster management authorities.
  - After the awareness program and training, the community planned to strengthen the bio-shield (Develop sand binders and plantation on shore and inland) especially in Thiraviyapuam. The technical instrument is the good source to get the knowledge for all age groups. Youth are updating the weather information and early warning information from the provided internet facilities. The public-address system is being used as a most important tool to disseminate the early warning information.
  - With the involvement of youth and local community, the common building to establish the early warning system is obtained. They together contribute the repairs and maintenance of the building and electrical works.

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- The mock drill exercise has been conducted to the community with the involvement of youth. They are skilled in this methodology to rescue the victims/vulnerable members from pre, during and post disaster. They already had learnt rescue operation through the traditional knowledge.

### **SPONSORSHIP**

#### **Successes**

- Educational status of Children improved.
- Excellent guidance from the county office through effective communications.
- Children's communication skills improved by the trained facilitators.
- Children feel comfortable and happy to communicate with donors through letter writing.
- Participation of children increased.
- Involvement of children in the creative centre activities increased and they are all aware of child rights and participation.
- Community level involvement is increased, and they regularly monitor the sponsorship and co-curricular activities because of the awareness on child rights and participation.
- Good interpersonal relationship among the children.
- Children are owning the CDG amount and continue their higher education
- They find out the solutions for their issues with/without the help from other CBOs.
- Children motivating and encouraging their parents to involve and engage in parent committee meeting and activities.

#### **Success Story**

I am from Masanapuram. My name is Balamurugan and I am 23 years old. I am the second son of my parents. I have been working as a supervisor in SPIC at Thoothukudi for the last one year. Presently, I am living with my grandmother in Masanapuram. My mother expired due to a fatal illness in 2005. Therefore, my father got married again and started living separately. I have an elder brother who was adopted by my maternal uncle, living at Chennai where he works as an engineer in Airtel company. We, my grandmother and I, depend on each other and no one cares for us. Moreover, grandmother being aged, I have to take care for her all needs at this age.

Since my mother died, in 2005, I was enrolled in a Christian boarding school in Nagalapuram. I had been in that school up to third grade during which I had been through many ordeals like fits and kidney failures. My grandmother took care of me with the meagre income that she could earn through sewing.



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But then, she was also affected with rheumatic diseases. Therefore, I was pushed to find a local job to manage us. At this crucial juncture, PAD guided me to continue my education and hence, narrowly missed being a school drop-out. If not for Pad, I would have been a labourer in a grocery shop or at a salt pan.

After completing 10<sup>th</sup> grade, I decided to study diploma course directly, as I could not afford to manage the expenses of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. So, I with the guidance from parents' committee, PAD and CCFC, could find space for me to expose myself to a feasible career. All the children in our village are organized as children's group by PAD and receives inputs on conservation of nature, importance of keeping the village clean, personal hygiene, physical and mental improvement through play, folk's arts and life skill trainings. This environment capacitated me and gave me the confidence to face any critical situation in life. When I had been suffering with kidney problem, PAD and CCFC saved me by providing medial support.

Because of higher education support, I could enter higher study directly after 10<sup>th</sup> grade. I could complete Diploma in mechanical Engineering. This was only possible with the support of PAD, CCFC and the sponsorship program. My lifestyle is changed now. If I were not helped by higher education support by PAD, CCFC and parents' committee, my higher study would have been dream only. Higher education supports enhanced my family environment and reduced the burden of my helpless aged grandmother. From a low-level thatched hut, we could shift to a pukka concrete house with solar power system. Now, I am taking care of my grandmother. I have the golden opportunity of taking the responsibility of caring my aged grandmother and that makes me quite happy and proud. Our villagers and relatives now recognize us and consider me as an educated, good natured skilled person.

After completing 10<sup>th</sup> grade, I joined the Diploma course in Mechanical Engineering. My village have limited number of educated people. Community members manage their family on the meagre income they get from the seasonal livelihood opportunities. Therefore, higher education opportunity is very limited because they cannot afford it. My family could not afford to educate me. But PAD supported me in the 1<sup>st</sup> year and my sponsor supported me in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Immediately after completing my diploma degree, with the inputs of PAD-CCFC program, I faced the interview very confidently and got the job as a site engineer at the solar power station at Kamuthi. When I got the job, I remembered the help of PAD, CCFC and parents' committee for their support. Now, I am promoted and work a supervisor in SPIC, Thoothukudi.

I would like to say that the higher education program is a wonderful program which gives an opportunity to the children from the pro-poor families. I would in turn like to help, vulnerable children as my sponsor

helped me through PAD and CCFC and want to make a change in their life. I will be a role model for our village children. Children are benefitted by the service and the opportunity PAD-CCFC created for us. If we support deserved children get educated, the next generation will be improved in their educational and social status.

**SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES RESOURCE USE AND LIVELIHOODS OF RESILIENT COASTAL COMMUNITIES IN RAMESWARAM ISLAND**

Tamil Nadu has been a witness to several events in 2018, from the mass police shooting of civilians to a destructive natural calamity. Actors' fan-clubs turned political-groups and activists working on various environmental issues have sparked a spirited discourse and, in some cases, evoked deafening silence. The death of M. Karunanidhi, president of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) brings down the curtains on an era in Tamil Nadu politics dominated by the rivalry between J. Jayalalithaa and Karunanidhi. The deaths of the two charismatic leaders now leave a void that is for anyone's taking, but despite the odds, the two Dravidian parties—the DMK and the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK). Mr. Karunanidhi's death paved a way for his MK Stalin to finally be elected as the president and take full control of the party. Having worked his way up the ranks for over 40 years, Stalin inherited a party with a historic legacy and widespread grassroot cadre network. After Ex- Chief Minister Ms. Jayalalitha's (AIADMK) death Edappadi Palaniswami became Chief Minister and Mr. Panneerselvam became Deputy-Chief Minister after a long battle for position between them.

During this situation, Tamil Nadu people are disappointed with the ruling party's activities and at the same time M.K. Stalin's upbeat for local as well as national development will add advantages in upcoming elections which will be conducted for 20 vacancies in assembly including Mr. Karunanidhi (Former Chief Minister and president of DMK) , A.K. Bose (Thiruparankunram MLA) and 18 MLAs who were disqualified by AIADMK government.

Hence the parties were completely focusing on anchoring their power in the state rather than developing the state. During this year, the unemployment rate raised and most of the graduated youngsters from fishing community are not able to get job and they are forced to go for fishing as there was no other go.

The rise in diesel price has had a strong impact on Rameswaram fishermen's lives. Most of them are seen skipping going to sea for about 5 days a week due to the rise in fuel price. Fishermen along the coast of Tamil Nadu have raised concerns regarding the raise of fuel price and its effect on their livelihood. Fishing associations have raised the issue as well and demanded government to intervene to address the issue.

Over 4,000 Tamil Nadu fishermen were chased away by the Sri Lankan Navy which also snapped the fishing nets of 100 boats for allegedly fishing in their territorial waters of Katchatheevu Island. The mid-sea incident comes after a spate of detentions of the fishermen on charges of fishing in their territorial waters. As far as the project area was concerned, the atrocities of Sri Lankan navy had continued unabated thanks to inability of both the central and state governments to force Sri Lanka to restrain its navy attacking our fishermen.

**To ensure basic education up to 10<sup>th</sup> Standard for the drop-out and vulnerable children in 20 villages of Rameswaram Island**

***Sensitized parents support education of vulnerable children especially girl children:***

One of the most important benefits of education is how it improves personal lives and helps societies run smoothly. In order to get this education to the dropouts and vulnerable, we have conducted seven counseling programs to the drop out children and their parents. We have emphasized the education produces good citizen besides making them wise. It is often said that the children of today are the citizens of tomorrow. If children of today study hard today they will become good citizens in future. Education also helps in building the character of a person. It enables a person to become literate. Education enables them to earn their living. Education is important because it provides the knowledge. Further the education helps to access the government schemes and subsidies. completion minimum 10<sup>th</sup> std is necessary to get passport or driving license with batch. After the prolonged awareness and counsel, parents and dropouts realized their situation and ensure to take action to re-enroll the dropouts in the school.

Moreover, we have conducted a sensitization program to the parents with special focus on importance of girls' education in seven vulnerable villages. During our program we stressed on girl's education on the basis of the old saying, "if we educate a boy, we educate one person, but, if we educate a girl, we educate a family. Girls' education creates impact in decrease in infant mortality and maternal mortality. It enables to reduce child marriage also. Educated women have a greater chance of escaping poverty, leading healthier and more productive lives, and raising the standard of living for their children, families and communities. Besides that, PAD has provided 2 sets of uniform and education materials to the vulnerable students. It greatly encourages the students and parents to ensure their enrollment in the school.

***Motivated and enrolled children, specifically girl children, attend classes regularly:***

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Three Study Support centers have been formed at 3 villages viz., Light house, Natarajapuram and Chinnapalam. It consists of 116 students from these three villages including drop out children who are re-enrolled in schools. They were given special coaching by center teachers with pre planned curriculum. Subject wise assessment has been made periodically. Also, the center teachers and facilitators were given four trainings on various topics for effective coaching. Students are very much benefitted through PAD's study support center and it is creating positive impact among the children.

### ***Sensitized members of SMCs and PRIs implement provisions of RTE at village level:***

Section 21 of the Right to free and compulsory education Act 2009 (RTE), mandates the formation of School Management Committee (SMC) in all government and government aided elementary schools in the country. The RTE Act envisions an SMC as the basic unit of a decentralized model of governance with active involvement of parents in the school functioning. We have formed SMC in all schools and provided the training to the SMC members on RTE. Regular SMC meeting was conducted in seven schools and enrolled dropout children in the schools. After the training the SMC members have the ability to articulate the provisions of RTE and they are able to find the issues faced by the children in local schools. They took action to resolve those issues like infrastructure, corporal punishment by teachers through interface meeting between SMC members and respective authorities.

**To ensure protection and promotion of children rights through community involvement and effective child / youth participation in 20 villages of Rameswaram Island**

### ***Parents and community members, LG, VLCPC and PRI are capacitated on child rights more particularly on child participation.***

A mechanism to address child protection and issues connected with it is being strengthened through formation of Village Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPC) consisting of 20 members in each committee in 12 villages. The VLCPC has been entrusted with the task of dealing with child related issues in the respective panchayats, curb crimes against children, including abuse and sexual assault and take issues to the appropriate authorities for action. In order to understand the child rights by others, two trainings have been imparted to the LG members, parents, community, VLCPC and PRI representatives. The demands were collected from children have been placed in the interface meeting between VLCPC and children for follow up of action. Then all the demands and issues have been placed with different authorities. In 2018, 24 interface meetings between VLCPC and Children have been conducted. There are 74 demands from children like no safe drinking water, no toilet facilities, corporal punishment, playground facility, bus facility etc., to VLCPC. Then VLCPC placed these demands to different

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authorities. Out of 73 demands 11 issues like streetlight, toilet and drinking water facility have been solved in Erakadu and Chinnapalam villages and some of the issues were sent as repetition to Panchayat and Collectorate. The issues like corporal punishment by teachers have been solved through SMC members. The remaining demands are in process.

### ***Trained members of Children club are aware of issues of Child rights and gender***

Childhood can and must be preserved. Children have the right to survive, develop, be protected and participate in decisions that impact their lives. PAD has initiated 12 child clubs, where 148 boys and 166 girls are in the child club. These child clubs encourage and motivate children to participate and it creates environment where children would feel free to participate. It educates the child rights to the children in a play way method. For that purpose, the child club facilitators have been imparted six trainings on child rights, environmental issues, motivation, 14 types of classroom session, play way methods, Child friendly accountability mechanisms. These trainings created good impact on child club children.

### ***Children and youth have access to the community and authority for protecting their rights***

Children can claim their rights like, right to protection and right to participation for themselves. They can identify their social issues and freely complain to their teachers. To create awareness about child rights and environmental issues among their community 12 child led initiatives have been taken. Children's cultural programs have also been conducted to promote child rights and protect environmental ecology. Youth club is a platform that provides the young generation to put forth their views to bring positive change in the society to make it better place for living. PAD has formed youth groups separately for male and female comprising of 15 to 20 in each group having age group from 18 to 25 in all the villages. These youth groups have also worked for child rights and child related issues. PAD has conducted regular youth meeting in the respective villages. In these meeting, there were 6 demands raised from youth/ child club like passenger shelter, children's park facility etc. Out of which 2 demands have been resolved. Youth group were given training to protect child rights, environmental issues and child friendly accountability mechanisms. Youth group leaders were made to participate in National Youth Convention, 2018 which was organized by Indian Youth Federation.

To ensure improvement in the socio- economic status of LG women through IGPs, credit linkages and participation in community development process in 20 villages of Rameswaram Island

***Trained women of LG groups improve their living standards through credit linkage and micro enterprises development.***

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Livelihood Groups (LG) are small groups of poor people. The members of a livelihood groups face similar problems. They help each other to solve their problems. LG promote savings among the members. The savings are kept with a bank. LG gives small loans to its members from their savings. In order to strengthen the LG, training programs were conducted to the LG members. The high lights of the LG meetings are: It should have a weekly meeting, 100% participation of all members, monthly savings can be paid as onetime payment in a month or in divided parts in weekly basis which maintains the savings habits of the group members, 100% repayment of both internal and external loan, record maintenance and LG involvement in social activities and community action programs. Moreover, they are emphasized on how to get the credit linkage and how to utilize the credit. In 2018, 16 LGs got financial linkage from banks and 99 members have been benefited with Rs. 8, 61,000/- and another 8 LGs got MED loan of Rs. 13,00,000/- and 106 members have been benefited. Totally 24 LGs and 205 members got external linkages.

***Trained LG women can identify and address different social issues affecting them and their children.***

LG is also a very good system to safeguard the children in the villages. So, four training programs on child rights has been given to the representatives of the new LG members as well as existing members. Eighty preparatory meeting for the formulation of demands by the LG members have been conducted in the year. Four interface meeting between LG members and local authorities have been conducted. Two capacity building Training to PASI members on financial / institutional management and accounting procedures have been given to LG members.

***Strengthened PASI federation address child rights related issues and resolve issues related to credit and civic amenities in 20 villages.***

Now PASI got registration under society registration act and received PAN card also. Annual General Body meeting was conducted by PASI members in the month of December with more than 250 members and 8 chief guests from Ramanathapuram district. Financial management, savings, self-employment, processes and future plan was main content of the meeting.

There were 10 demands which raised like demanding basic amenities like streetlights, village road, passenger shelter etc. from LG members. Out of which 6 have been resolved and remaining are under process. All the demands were submitted to the Dist. Collector and critically reviewed by the Collector and the LG members were facilitated in six villages. Average Annual income of LGs has become Rs.46,815/- at the end of this year.

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As per the implementation process of annual reporting period, the local authorities, PRI members, SMCs and VLCPC included the youth, children especially girls as members. They responded to the voice of children and took steps to fulfil their demands. When changes are brought out, the community did it with inclusive plan, discussion and decision-making process with children and vulnerable community. Community and parents recognized and realized the issues those pop out at School, home and in village against children. To resolve these issues, the local authorities took steps in advocacy and lobbying with government departments.

### **Childhood safeguarding**

The vision of Peoples Action for Development (PAD) is to create a safe, supportive and responsive society that upholds the protection rights and dignity of every child in India (as defined by the law). This is to be achieved by establishing effective prevention and early intervention measures, strengthening treatment support services and building partnerships. We do this by engaging with all sectors of society upon whom the wellbeing of children depends, in initiatives that will bring about these changes.

- PAD is committed to the rights and welfare of children in India and opposes all forms of child abuse, especially child sexual abuse and exploitation.
- PAD is committed to upholding the law on child rights and welfare, as outlined by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and various legal statutes of the prevailing law in India.
- PAD believes that all children have a right to protection from abuse irrespective of race, social background, age, gender, skin colour, disability, religion, caste or beliefs.
- PAD believes that child abuse and exploitation is not acceptable in any form. Keeping silent and inaction is also wrong, if it is known that a child is being abused or exploited.
- PAD believes in the importance of child protection, so that not only are children protected from abuse by PAD committee (or board) members, staff, donors, and volunteers, but also that preventative measures can be made to protect the PAD staff, and the PAD's own integrity.
- PAD believes that children have the right to participation through any form of expression (in accordance with their evolving capacities) and be heard. Therefore, where possible children will also be included as stakeholders and in research and other relevant reports/evaluations.
- All committee (or board of directors) members, staff, and volunteers agree to this policy. It will be evaluated and reviewed every year by PAD based on experience and evolving circumstances and law.

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- PAD believes that children have the right to participation through any form of expression (in accordance with their evolving capacities) and be heard. Therefore, where possible children will also be included as stakeholders and in research and other relevant reports/evaluations.
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### **Risk management**

- Fishing is a seasonal activity and hence, it is vulnerable to climate change. Both the communities are exploited by money lenders and outsiders for their immediate financial resources. The general awareness on education, health is very poor. The region is deprived of economic development, which is witnessed by other side of the state. The migration deprives the children of access to education, safe shelter, basic health and nutrition. Women and children are worse victim of the region. The lack of alternative livelihood opportunities forced women and children for exploitation. Thus, the people of the region are vulnerable, most exploited and neglected.
- Natural depression and ecological imbalance, which leads to cyclone, is a big shock for the vulnerable group, since they cannot afford to meet the damage and implication of displacement. There is a strong connotation and recognition of the reef's role in withstanding these cyclonic shocks. Invariably all the target villages elderly people recalled their own experience from the 1964 cyclone, which washed away "Dhanuskodi". They thankfully remember that they witness the cyclone with heavy wind uprooting trees, but no loss to their habitats while Dhanuskodi was washed away without reef protection. While saying so they refer to the losses in relative terms compared against Dhanuskodi which was totally washed away.
- Drought is other form of shock, which have badly hit the vulnerable group several times. The target villages recalled their experiences with drought during 1974 with heavy heart for their starvation and dependence on external sources for the food requirement. Drinking water and supplies of food grains for fishermen, they had to either eat fish or starve.
- Man-made shocks include communal conflicts, loss and damage to nets, taking away the boats for illegal activities, like smuggling, clashes between launches and country boat, arm twisting tactic practiced by the regulatory authorities by holding the entire community responsible for some individual's mistake. There were many occasions the young men had to flee the villages for escaping



from the other caste people, etc., the village is left with women, children and elderly people. The livelihood during those days is at stake. The men categorically recognise that women and children had been the sole breadwinners during difficult times.

- Policies regarding the marketing have increased the demand for lobster, crab, squid, and other reef-related products and the government promoted the mechanization in fishing and introduced many different types of nets in subsidized price. This has encouraged many non-fishing communities to enter into this business. These people have no values or concern for any of the conservation process or basic fishing ethics. The subsistence fishing become commercial and the demand of the poor stakeholder groups other than food requirement has increased. The basic child rights like, health, education, recreation and other demands must be met, and the income need to be increased.
- Periodical risk assessment has been followed for programmes involving children to prevent children from various risks at the organisational level as well as community.

### External recognition levels

PAD has strong network with block and District level institutions, CBOs and civil society organization. Moreover, PAD formed more than 50 youth groups in Gulf of Mannar area to ensure the children's education, rights, participation and protection. With the involvement of local community-based organization in Gulf of Mannar area, conducted the network meeting for youth empowerment and fulfil their rights. Most of the vulnerable areas, the adolescent girls and youth girls are targeted for the child labour system and migrant labour system. So, youth network, PAD, and local CBO (PASI) combined together and organized the Regional level workshop for youth empowerment. So, PAD is widely popularized and striving to get more funding to address the issues and gaps of community especially children and youth rights.

### Durability

PAD has adopted an organizational sustainability focused in both strategic and operational levels of management. For the long-term community involvement and sustainability, PAD has evolved long-term approach which taken into account the education quality of children, nature of the environmental, social and economic dimensions of development activities. PAD is expanding and cultivating social networks in order to attain the most beneficial responses for various goals among sustainability stakeholders. We are planning to make economic sense for our society:

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- To facilitate the parents and children to improve the education status and qualities especially girl children.
- To invest in training, education and quality health care.
- To engage youth to address the poverty, social inequality and the debts the society leaves to future generations.
- To make state level network for youth empowerment.
- To facilitate the participation and enhance the engagement of community-based organization in the processes directly and indirectly related to right based issues.
- To explores opportunities to develop educational entrepreneurial and environmentally sound community-based projects.

### **Conclusion**

The community-based structures in the villages has been reached its recognition. Community Organisation is the base for sustainable livelihoods development. There are several structures such as Livelihoods Groups, Village Development Committees, Child Rights Protection Forum, Youth groups, and School Management Committees. The proper coordination is important. During this reporting period the coordination and converging process are carried out. Strengthening of LG groups by identifying more trades must be continued to achieve sustainable livelihood among the families. Many women of fishers have involved into income generation activities and the income is directly going into the welfare of children and family. Saving practices have improved among group members.

Adolescents and youths formed as groups and they involve into community development and function as a watch dog committee to protect children from abuses, especially girl children. The civic sense has improved among youths who are part of youth group. The youth groups (18 to 25 age) should be trained further to take right decisions for themselves, considering the social, environmental, women and children issues.

### **CHILD HELP LINE - 1098**

#### ***Introduction to Child Help Line 1098***

Child help line 1098 is a national, 24-hour, toll free emergency phone outreach service for children (0 – 18 years) in need of care and protection. Apart from crisis intervention, CHILDLINE also links children to long-term services. Any child / concerned adult can call 1098 free of cost and avail of the service at any time of the day or night. CHILDLINE aims to create a child protection network to reach out to every child.

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The Child Help Line 1098 is a Project of Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS).

CHILDLINE has been functioning from 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012 People's Action for Development (PAD) is the collaborative organization for Child Help Line in Thoothukudi District and sub center in Ramanathapuram District.

### ***Aim and objective***

- To reach out to every child in need of care and protection
- To ensure access of technology to the most marginalized in urban as well as rural area and connectivity of 1098 through government and private exchanges.

### **Intervention details**

Types of Calls	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
<b>Intervention</b>													
<b>Medical help</b>	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	<b>2</b>
<b>Shelter</b>	5	6	8	4	3	2	1	1	-	1	4	1	<b>36</b>
<b>Protection from Abuse</b>	13	15	14	12	14	7	8	20	17	8	13	15	<b>156</b>
<b>Repatriation</b>	4	15	24	22	15	16	14	10	20	11	20	15	<b>186</b>
<b>Rescue</b>	1	1	4	5	3	-	1	8	3	3	9	6	<b>44</b>
<b>Death-related</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>Sponsorship</b>	1	-	3	2	2	1	9	5	1	1	1	2	<b>28</b>
II. Missing Children	-	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	<b>6</b>
<b>Child lost</b>	3				4		3		1	2	2	1	<b>16</b>
<b>parents asking help</b>	10	13	4	11	9	17	5	29	14	11	8	6	<b>137</b>
III. Emotional support and Guidance	3	3	1	1	3	2	2	6	3	10	7	9	<b>50</b>
IV. Others	8	15	41	45	15	23	10	12	17	14	11	18	<b>229</b>
<b>Did not find (DNF)</b>	2	7	3	3	1	5	2	4	5	3	3	2	<b>40</b>
<b>Total Intervention</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>928</b>

### **Case Study 1**

#### ***Child Sexual Abuse Case***

**Case Id** : **203293**  
**Child Name** : Meena,  
**Age** : 16  
**Gender** : Female  
**Parents name** : Krishnan, Punitha  
**Address** : Tsunami Nagar, Adaikalapuram, Thiruchendur, Thoothukudi District.

***Contact with Child line:***

A member of a women self-help group informed Childline 1098 on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018, that a girl child named Meena who lives close by her village, is going to get married soon. But she did not inform about the child's parents and where the marriage is to take place.

***Background of the Child:***

On enquiry, ChildLine found out that father of the child is died already and hence, mother, having married another man, stays and works in a brick works unit at Mukkani with her 2 children. The said girl lives with her grandmother at Tsunami Colony, Adaikalapuram close by Tiruchendur. She has been studying 11<sup>th</sup> grade at Government Higher Secondary School at Arumuganeri. Her grandmother kept taking care of the child in a difficult situation. Hence, when a good bride groom turned up, she planned to give the girl in marriage.

***Child Line Intervention:***

Reached Adaikalapuram on 12<sup>th</sup> April and enquired about Meena we found that the information was true. But the marriage was to take place at a brick making chamber in Thenthiruperai near Srivaikuntam. They are getting ready to go there. Child's mother and aunt informed that they the bridegroom's family had already taken the girl to their place yesterday night itself. Getting the age proof and the Aadhar Card copy, informed the all women police station at Srivaikuntam about the place where the marriage is to take place. From Adaikalapuram we went to KR chamber at Thenthiruperai and stopped the marriage. We explained about the physical and mental discomforts of child marriage to the family members and other elders there. Following this we registered a CSR at the Police station at Srivaikuntam. The child was rescued and handed over her to the CWC. We also got a written statement from the concerned people that they will not give the girl in marriage until she completes the 18 years.

***Allied Departments involved***

1. DSWO – GS – Alwar Thirunagari
2. Inspector of Police – All Women Police Station, Srivaikundam

***Present Status of the Child:***

The girl now lives with her grandmother.

**Case Study 2**

**Sexual Harassment**

Case ID : 263106  
Child Name : Muthumari  
Age : 13  
Father Name : Antony Packiam  
Mother Name : Padma  
Address : 2/418 Ayyarvilai, Thalamuthunagar, Thoothukudi.

***Contact with Child line:***

According to the information received from Ms. Padma of Ayyarvilai, Thalamuthunagar, her daughter Muthumari has been under sexual abuse by her second husband, Antony Packiam.

***Background of the Child:***

Having the girl's father died already, her mother married another man named Antony Packiam. The child studies 9<sup>th</sup> grade, at St. Joseph Girls' Higher Secondary School. Mr. Antony Packiam is an auto-rickshaw driver.

***Child Line Intervention:***

When Ms. Vani, ChildLine group member enquired about the incidence on 28.01.2019, It was known that, Mr. Antony, considered Muthumari as her child in the beginning, but, for the last three years, his attitude changed, and he began to abuse the child sexually. When the girl informed this to her mother, she warned Mr. Antony seriously.

Yet above all her warnings and threatening, he became outrageous and began to make his illegal activities more intense with the girl. But on a fateful day, she saw his abusive behavior with her own eyes and again she became serious and began to scold and to argue with him. But he became relentless and threatened her to say, that if she reveals anything to anyone, he will kill both mother and the daughter. Following this, she contacted ChildLine-1098.

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Following this the child was secluded from her mother and was enquired about the matter. The girl began to enumerate all the abuses she faced by her half-step- father. It is found that the child was abused physically and mentally as well. He abused her every night letting the girl stay awake all the night. As a result, the girl was mentally affected. The girl was given on the spot counseling. Though she could not forget what had happened so far, Yet, the counselor, advised the girl to try forgetting what had happened because that is good for the girl.

Girl was asked to not to worry about all these and concentrate on her studies. If anyone hereafter advance to abuse her, she has to immediately inform either to her mother or the teacher whoever is in the close proximity; Or to the ChildLine. She was advised to have courage and mental capacity, being a girl child. She was advised not to reveal what had happened to her anyone else and it is good for her.

Following this, the girl and the mother was taken to the all women police station, Thoothukudi. There they both lodged a complaint against Mr. Antony Packiam. He was enquired and arrested. Following this, the girl was left under the care of CWC for two days. Muthumari assured that if anything happens to me or to any other child, she will inform ChildLine.

### ***FIR Details:***

FIR NO: 2/2019, U/S: 9(n)(l) 3(d), 506(2) POCSO Act 2012

### ***Allied Departments involved***

CWC, AWPS- Thoothukudi

### ***Present Status of the Child:***

At preset the girl is under the care and protection of CWC.

## ***Digital Literacy Program's Training and Implementation in Tamil Nadu***

The Internet Saathi program initiated by Minister for Information Technology, Tamil Nadu. The partners meeting with directors were conducted at Chennai by March 2018. The first step training was given to the supervisors who gained the knowledge of the concept and the ways and means to benefit the women, youth, and others across our state, in small businesses.

Google India and TATA facilitates the provision of Google Cloud credits and access through its affiliate, for eligible startups engaged with Tamil Nadu Government's startup initiative. Google India through its Developer Relations team, provide technical mentorship and advisory support to various startups. Other

initiatives include: working together to make all government sites mobile friendly, introduce joint programs to help local small and medium businesses get online, and internet safety education for children to stay safe online.

In the first phase, reaching out to women and girls at the bottom of the pyramid requires more than merely ensuring access to information and communication technology and broadband networks. Women need training to become digitally literate. Digital literacy training opens the door to other essential skills needed to operate in a broadband environment, including financial literacy skills, as well as career training and the internet Saathi enabled career training. Such training enables women to set up online businesses, or to use broadband services, such as social networking sites, to enhance their ongoing livelihood and economic activity. Internet Saathi program develops a range of training materials to promote women's digital literacy and the use of internet Saathi to promote women's economic activities.

In the second phase, with the support of FRENED which came up with a plan of profiling all our Saathis in details so that we provided better opportunities to our Saathis based on their interest, skills and past experiences. In this survey there are 247 questions regarding her profile been answered by the Saathi. All the District coordinators had a look at the questionnaire available in the Internet Saathi application using Saathis login credentials.

Saathis were planned to collect 900 profiles who graduated to livelihood programs with the support of FRENED to ensure the right livelihood program in Ramanathapuram District. So, the supervisors are trained on the application to follow up the Saathis. They are trained on:

- Introduction to Printer Program
- Introduction to Mini ATM and BC
- Credit Linkages and availing loans for Livelihood program
- Discussion on MUDRA Schemes.

71 saathis in Mudukulathur Block and Ramanathapuram Block received this training. This training is on the following:

- Update the present Internet Saathi app through Google play store
- Instruct the Saathis to login into the Internet Saathi app by using Login credentials which shared during the Internet Safety program.
- Profile updating will take 40 to 50 Minutes so Saathi has to spend quality time to get quality outcome.

- Everyday district wise profile completion report will be shared to partners for planning and review purpose
- A separate agreement will be shared for this task.

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**ACRONYM**

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| ANC    | - Anti Natal Care                          |
| AIADMK | - All India Anna Diravida Munnetra Kalagam |
| BEO    | - Block Education Officer                  |
| CCFC   | - Christian Children Fund of Canada        |
| CBO    | - Community Based Organization             |
| CDG    | - Child Designated Grant                   |
| CFAM   | - Child Friendly Accountable Mechanism     |
| CRPF   | - Child Rights Protection Forum            |
| CWC    | - Child Welfare Committee                  |



CLC	- Creative Learning Centre
DCPO	- District Child Protection Officer
DMK	- Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam
ECD	- Early Childhood Development
EL	- Experimental Learning
EPP	- Emergency Preparedness Plan
ICDS	- Integrated Child Development Scheme
ICPS	- Integrated Child Protection Schemes
LG	- Livelihood group
LTP	- Learning Through Play
MDLS	- Multi Learning Dimensional Space
MED	- Micro Entrepreneurship Development
NEET	- National Entrance and Eligibility Test
NREGA	- National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
OAP	- Old Age Pension
PAD	- People's Action for Development
PASI	- People's Action for Sustainable Island
PHC	- Primary Health Centre
PLA	- Participatory Learning and Action
PNC	- Post Natal Care
POCSO	- Protection of Children from Sexual Offence
QR code	- Quick Response code

RTE	- Right to Education
SMC	- School Management Committee
TASMAC	- Tamilnadu State Marketing Corporation
TOT	- Trainer of Trainee
UNCRC	- United Nation Child Rights Convention
VAO	- Village Administrative Officer
VDP	- Village Development Plan
VLPC	- Village Level Child Protection Committee
YLDP	- Youth Leadership Development Program