



SWAMI VIVEKANANDA MEDICAL MISSION

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

The year 2020 was an important milestone for us as we completed 16 years of our service in Attappady. The initiative that had a humble beginning with a few people has today grown into a vast organisation with many full time employees and hundreds of volunteers and has expanded its reach to different themes such as education, livelihoods, rural development etc. Just knowing that our activities helped reduce the sufferings and pains of the tribes of Attappady and made a little positive change in their lives, makes these 16 years worthwhile. This was possible due to the unconditional support and blessings of our well-wishers and donors.

The beginning of FY 2020-21 had been particularly a challenging period for all of us with the advent of COVID-19 Pandemic across the world. The Government of India imposed a lockdown all over India from 23rd March 2020. The common people were exposed to untold suffering, due to Covid 19 infection on one hand and due to the lockdown restrictions on the other

hand. In Attappady, the people experienced great difficulties due to loss of livelihoods, absence of wages and poor access to hospitals and other emergency services due to absence of public transport. Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission Trust took up the responsibility of providing urgent help to the general public. The hospital also provided uninterrupted service during this period. The classes of the school were conducted through online medium. When the restrictions were relaxed, the community activities of the organisation were restarted in full-swing.

The year also saw expansion of activities in all the themes of the organisation with the intake of several new specialist doctors, nurses, teachers, community social workers and managers in the respective themes. Several new community projects were initiated in this year such as the Adolescent Girls Health Project, Kitchen Garden Project etc. We could also complete very crucial infrastructure projects in tribal villages like toilets, drinking water etc.



SWAMI VIVEKANANDA MEDICAL MISSION HOSPITAL

The Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission Hospital, established in 2006 at Agali has been providing free treatment to tribal patients ever since its inception. Tribal patients from all around Attappady, from far and wide, reach our hospital every day. The hospital provided uninterrupted medical services even during COVID-19 lockdown period.

Free medicines, Free food, Lab tests, Treatment, Surgeries and other procedures were provided to tribal patients with support from Sodani Foundation, Lekshmi Charitable Trust, Harman Inspired Charitable Trust, GD Naidu Group of Companies, Roots Group of Companies and many more noble individuals and philanthropic trusts and institutions.

Medical Team

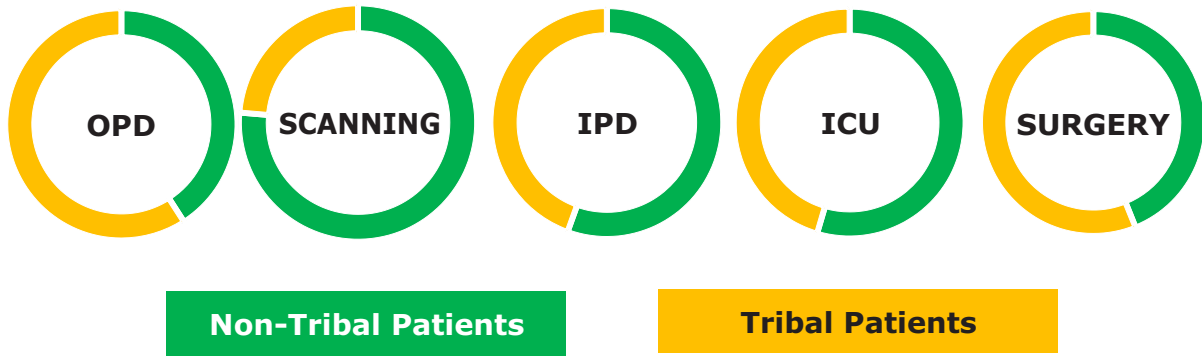
We have stepped up our operations in 2020-21 with several new senior doctors joining the hospital as full-time consultants. Dr. Bharati Mohan (MD, DA) joined the hospital as Medical Superintendent in June 2020. Dr. V.K Prakash (General Medicine) and Dr. Jayalekshmi S (Gynaecologist) joined in March 2021. Dr. Sandip G joined as Casualty Medical Officer.

Full-time doctors :

Dr. Narayanan V	Chief Medical Officer
Dr. Bharati Mohan	Medical Superintendent & Anesthesiologist
Dr. Sampath Kumar	Resident Medical Officer
Dr. V K Prakash	General Medicine
Dr. Sandip G	Casualty Medical Officer
Dr. Jayalekshmi S	Gynaecologist
Dr. Shraddha Raj	Dentist

Doctors who visited our hospital :

Dr. C Senthil Kumar	Paediatric Surgeon
Dr. Sandip Chandrasekhar	Gastro Surgeon
Dr. Cheran	Urologist
Dr. Ravikumar	Surgical Endocrinologist
Dr. N Lalitha	Gynaecologist
Dr. Poornima	Gynaecologist
Dr. Latha	Gynaecologist
Dr. Sreekanth	Dentist



	Non-tribal	Tribal	Total
OP	13282	19184	32466
Scanning	71	22	93
IP	298	239	537
X Ray	735	440	1175
ICU	24	20	44
Surgery	18	23	41
Dental Procedure	1095	960	2055

Emergency Room

An Emergency Room Facility was established with the help of friends from the USA under the leadership of Dr. Unnikrishnan, Sunish Mohanan and Vishnu Varma. The facility is well-equipped with emergency trolley, multiparameters, defibrillator, drug crash cart, infusion pumps and syringe pumps.



Ventilator

A new ventilator was installed in the ICU with the help of a leading multi-national company in Kochi. The ventilator has so far benefitted five patients who were critically ill.



Other facilities

Dr Jay K. Raman of PK Vaidyar and Rukmini Amma Charitable Trust donated a GE Anaesthesia Work Station for our operation theatre.

Contributions from Go2 C trust, Sri Sivaraman Mahadevan, Dr.Vinay and Dr.Girish helped us to augment the facilities at our gynaecology department and labour room for full fledged operations.



Towards a green enterprise

Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission hospital became a green enterprise with the commissioning of on-grid 12 KW Solar Power Plant. The system was installed with the help from GIC Housing Finance Ltd under CSR scheme. The plant was inaugurated by Sri Aswath, Manager of Thrissur centre of GIC Housing Finance Ltd. We are grateful to this institution for their generous help in setting up this facility.

BLS Training to all the staff

Dr. Bharati Mohan, Medical Superintendent, SVMM provided a Basic Life Support (BLS) training to all hospital staff including non-medical staff.



MALLEESWARA VIDYANIKETHAN SCHOOL

Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission is managing the Malleeswara Vidyanikethan School situated in Nellipathi, Agali. The school has classes up to 10th standard. Two batches of students have successfully passed out of the 10th standard examinations. Total strength of the school was 274 in the year 2020-21. Malleeswara Vidyanikethan School is provided free education to 150 students from poor and tribal backgrounds in the academic year 2020-21. Classes for all the standards were conducted online with the help of a Spark Eduportal App during lockdown period. The education of 150 poor students was supported by Antrix Corporation Ltd, Bengaluru.

School Staff

As part of the quality improvement drive, four senior teachers for various subjects were recruited in the year 2020-21. The total strength of teachers is 17. There are 7 non teaching staff in the school.

New School Block in Malleeswara Vidyanikethan School



A new school building with 4 classrooms and toilets was inaugurated by Sri V. Muraleedharan, Union Minister of State for External and Parliamentary Affairs on 3rd January 2021. The construction of the building was fully supported by CSR grant from Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited. Furniture for new classrooms was donated by Sri. Sridhar from Rotary Club of Coimbatore Saicity.

Facilities Improvement in the School

A 35-seater TATA Marcopolo school bus was donated by SBI Mutual Fund Company. The bus facility will be a big help for tribal students from far off villages to reach the school



A 250 LPH Reverse Osmosis Plant was donated by Inner Wheel Club of Coimbatore West. The plant was inaugurated by Srimathi Deepthi Anoop (District Chairman of Inner Wheel club) in the presence of Srimathi Asha Devadas (President, Inner Wheel Club of Coimbatore West) and Srimathi Mahalakshmi (Secretary, Inner Wheel Club of Coimbatore).

A new school library and reading room was also setup in the school. The library was inaugurated by Sri Koshy Mathew, Partner, EY-Global Delivery Services. Volunteers from EY-Global Delivery Services also donated 520 books for the library. The library has now a collection of more than 2500 books.

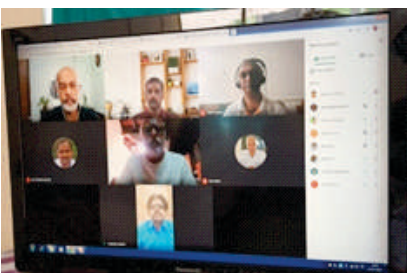
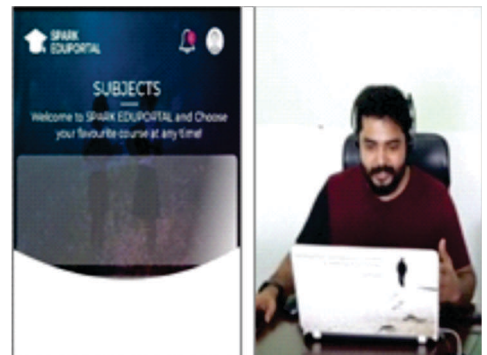


Introduction of STEM Learning in the school

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) learning was introduced in the school in this academic year. This is proposed to improve the aptitude and interest for science and maths learning along with introducing children to innovations and development of scientific solutions to problems of the community

Towards Digital Education

The School has adopted a mobile application developed by Spark Support, Kochi for online classes. This app was utilised for conducting online classes during the lockdown period. It was launched on 17th August 2020 by Sri Vinu Mohan (reputed actor) by using the online platform of the application itself. The app has facilities for conducting live classes, verify attendance, conduct tests and publish marks.



A tele-conference facility was donated by Sri Ram Mohan MD of Edyounet Technologies.

COMMUNITY WORKS

Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission has been implementing several projects in the fields of health, education, skill development, livelihoods, water and sanitation etc. for the welfare of tribal population of Attappady.

The activities of the community works have intensified in the year 2020-21 with the starting of several new projects and expansion of the community works team.

The activities of the SVMM- Community Works can be categorized into following themes:



Community Works Team :

J Anandu	Community Program Manager
Anandhu K S	Project Coordinator (Community Health)
Aswanth M S	Project Coordinator (Agriculture)
Kiran Dev	Project Coordinator (Skill Development)
Priyanka E	Project Coordinator (Mental Health)
Manikandan P	Project Coordinator (Youth Club)
Lakshmanan	Block Coordinator (VHW)
Shiny E K	Block Coordinator (Education and SHG)
Ajesh	De-addiction Social worker
Santosh	Panchayat Coordinator (VHW)
Mani C M	Panchayat Coordinator (VHW)
Easwaran	Panchayat Coordinator (VHW)
Chellan	Panchayat Coordinator (VHW)
Jyothimani	Cluster Coordinator
Parameswari	Cluster Coordinator
Selvi	Cluster Coordinator
Radhika	Cluster Coordinator
Sivagami	Cluster Coordinator
Vijayadevi	Cluster Coordinator



COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECTS

Community Mental Health Program

The Community Mental Health Program is being implemented in the tribal villages since 2008. Mentally ill patients are identified and given free treatment from the hospital under the project. Regular follow-up and monitoring are done by a network of village health workers and social workers. The patients are motivated to continue treatment so that they remain symptom free. They are rehabilitated in their own community and with the continuous support of their families. 170 mentally-ill patients are currently being treated under the Community Mental Health Project.



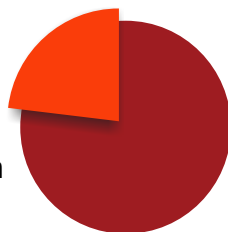
Mehac Foundation is providing technical support for the project. A psychiatrist from the Mehac Foundation visits the hospital periodically to treat complicated cases. Under the Program, periodic mental health awareness campaigns are being organised for different stakeholders and in different villages.

Mental Health Survey 2020

A Mental Health Survey was conducted in the months of August and September to understand the current scenario of mental health in Attappady. 79 new patients have been identified through the survey and are being covered under the program. The table below shows key results of the survey:

323

Total tribal patients with mental illness



76.5%

of the mentally ill patients received formal treatment (40% in 2010)

Scaling Up of The Community Mental Health Program

- Improved access to mental health care (from 40% to 76.5%)
- SVMM's CMHP provides treatment to most of the mentally-ill patients in Attappady
- Improved awareness levels
- 80 patients out of 323 have currently recovered or are symptom-free

The Mental Health Survey conducted in 2020 identified around 79 patients who are currently showing symptoms and are not receiving any treatment. The Community Mental Health Project is being planned to be scaled up in two-dimensions:

Increase the levels of current activities and ensure 100% coverage.

Include new components like rehabilitation, alcohol de-addiction, epilepsy treatment etc. in the program

Alcohol De-addiction Project

Under the alcohol de-addiction project, a comprehensive treatment method including detoxification, withdrawal management, family counselling, follow up, individual counselling and ongoing care to reduce the risk of relapse is provided to persons with substance abuse. In 2020-21, a total of 34 patients were treated through this treatment modality.



Adolescent Girls' Health and Nutrition Project

A health and nutrition project for tribal adolescent girls was inaugurated on February 15, 2021 with a 7-day training programme for cluster coordinators. The project is supported by the CSR Health Care Program of UST. The Department of Clinical Nutrition, PSG College of Arts and Science has joined the project as a technical consultant. The project involves creation of adolescent girls peer groups, imparting behavioural change communication through these groups, monitoring health and nutritional indicators of the girls and implementing few dietary interventions for improving the health and nutritional status of the tribal girls. The project is initially planned to be rolled-out in 30 tribal villages. A 2-day training program for the village health workers of these 30 villages was also conducted in the month of March as part of the project. Adolescent girls peer groups have also been formed in the target villages.



SKILL DEVELOPMENT

New Computer Training Centre in Agali

A new Computer Training Centre was started at the Balachandran Smaraka Janavaibhava Kendram, Agali in November 2020. The Rotary club of Coimbatore Sai City donated 20 Computers, UPS and Computer tables for this centre, school and Vivekananda Janasevana Kendram, Sholayur. The President of the club Sri Shanmugham handed over the computers to the centre on 22nd January 2021.



Balachandran Smaraka Jana Vaibhava Kendram & Vivekananda Janasevana Kendram



27

women enrolled in tailoring classes in BSJVK

91

students enrolled in various computer training courses at Computer Centre, Agali

Production at Garment Centre

A Garment Unit is running at the skill development centre for the last 2 years. There are 30 women engaged in garment stitching at the unit. The production details of the unit (Apr-20 to Mar-21) are given below:

5861

nighties

962

churidar tops

1000

masks

1275

cotton bags

Plan to construct a permanent multi-purpose skill development centre

A plot of land of 17 cents area, which was owned by Late Sri M. Balachandran (one of the founding members of our trust) was handed over to the trust by his close relatives. This land will be used for constructing a new Multi-purpose Skill Development Centre in the revered memory of Late M. Balachandran.

JSS Training on Embroidery and Beautician Course

The skill development centre hosted two Jan Shikshan Sansthan training programmes on embroidery and beautician course in 2021. The training was held for 20 women from 1st January 2021 to 20th March 2021.



NABARD's Micro-Enterprise Development Programme (MEDP)

A 12-day NABARD-MEDP Training on "Commercial Horticulture" was conducted in Daivakundu Community Resource Centre from 03rd March 2021. 30 tribal farmers from Daivakundu, Dundoor and Kallamala hamlets of Agali Panchayat participated in the program.

The following areas were broadly covered in the 12-days of the training:

- Technical aspects of horticulture
- Farm Management, Harvest, Simple Value-addition, Processing and Marketing
- Entrepreneurship Development
- Financial Management, Banking services and financial literacy
- Farmer collectives and farmer producer organization

The classes were taken by experts in the respective fields. The training involved a combination of lecture, interactive classes, games, demonstrations, case studies etc. Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission will provide handhold support to the trainees in starting the enterprise.



LIVELIHOODS

Medicinal Plants Cultivation Project

The medicinal plants cultivation project was started in 2019 with support from NABARD. It is being implemented in four tribal villages of Sholayur Panchayat of Attappady block and benefits 100 tribal farmers. The project is supported by NABARD under the Farm Sector Promotion Fund (FSPF). Arya Vaidya Pharmacy (Coimbatore) provides the technical support for the project. A tri-partite agreement has been created between the farmers, Arya Vaidya Pharmacy and the implementing agency for selling the produce at an assured price.

Mother Nursery and Saplings Distribution: At the start of the project, a mother nursery was set-up for the purpose of developing, storing and distributing the medicinal plant saplings. In 2020-21, it was developed further. Nine species of medicinal plants were selected for the project. The nursery houses the saplings/seedlings of these species.

The distribution of saplings and planting was completed for the 50 first-year beneficiaries by the month of November, 2020. For the second-year beneficiaries, seven out of nine species have been distributed.

Capacity-Building Workshops: As part of the project, 11 capacity building workshops were conducted in 2020-21. Major topics covered in the workshops were cultivation of medicinal plants, bio-fertilizers and pesticides, micro-irrigation methods, bee-keeping, financial management etc. The instructors for workshops were experts in their respective fields.

Sale of harvested crops: Iruveli was the first species to be harvested and sold 8 months after planting. A total of 330 kgs were sold by 12 farmers in the first sale. Officials of Artha Herbs and



Derivatives Ltd., (subsidiary of Arya Vaidya Pharmacy, Coimbatore) collected the produce from the village and paid the amount to the farmers in cash. This gesture by the AVP was a relief to the farmers in the times of COVID-19 restrictions. This also helped in motivating other farmers to take up medicinal plants' cultivation.

Additional Support: In addition to the project activities, 50 farmers of Vellakkulam and Moolagangal villages were provided with various farm tools like Garden Manvetty, Hand Sprayer, Reflective Ribbon etc. and Bio fertilizers with help from Kerala Agriculture University. Two farmers of Vellakkulam and Moolagangal also received a machine that was developed in KAU to drive away wild animals from agricultural plots.

All the farmers were organised into Joint Liability Groups(JLG) and linked with banks for enrolment under Kisan Credit Card.

Monitoring Visits by officials of NABARD: A Project Implementation and Monitoring Committee (PIMC) has been formed comprising of the NABARD District Development Manager, Lead Development Manager, CANARA Bank, Representatives of Agriculture Department, Panchayat, and Arya Vaidya Pharmacy, farmer representatives etc. The committee met regularly, reviewed the progress of the project, and suggested corrective measures. The members of the committee also interacted with the beneficiary farmers.

Visit of DGM NABARD: On 16th March 2021, Smt. Usha P T, Deputy General Manager, NABARD (Kerala Regional Office) along with Sri. Lalu P N Kutty, DDM, NABARD (Palakkad) visited the project area. The aim of the visit was to review the activities of the project and interact with the beneficiary farmers. The interaction was attended by farmer representatives from Moolagangal, Vellakkulam, Oothukkuzhy and Chavadiyoor villages. The DGM NABARD talked about the importance of credit linkages and future plans of the project. She also explained the concept of Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) to the farmers.

Scaling up of the project: The project will be completed in December 2021. In order to extend the benefits of the project to more tribal farmers, a scaling up plan has been drawn up. The plan involves recruiting more tribal farmers into medicinal plant cultivation, inviting other Ayurveda pharma companies for procuring the products, organising the farmers into Farmer Producer Company (FPC), credit linkage of farmers to banks etc. Officials of Kottakkal Arya Vaidya Sala visited Vellakkulam village, interacted with the farmers and put forward a buy back arrangement with them. A leading Multinational Company has provided support for the farmers to start cultivation at a larger scale. A project to establish irrigation facilities for a majority of farmers is also starting in Vellakkulam with help from the MNC.

Kitchen Garden Project



The Kitchen Garden Project was started in August 2020 with an objective to improve the nutritional status of 100 tribal families. The project is supported by Sewa Canada. Beneficiaries were identified from four villages of Agali Panchayat. As part of the project, vegetable seeds, planting materials, green nets for fencing and bio-fertilizers were distributed. Few agri-implements were also distributed to the beneficiaries with the support of Kerala Agricultural University. The beneficiaries have started to harvest the vegetables and are using it for their own consumption.



Tree-Plantation Drive

A tree-plantation drive is being done in Vellakkulam, Vechapathy and Moolagangal villages. The initiative is supported by a leading MNC. It has been planned to distribute 2000 saplings per month for a period of 12 months. 13000 saplings of fruit-bearing trees have been distributed till date.

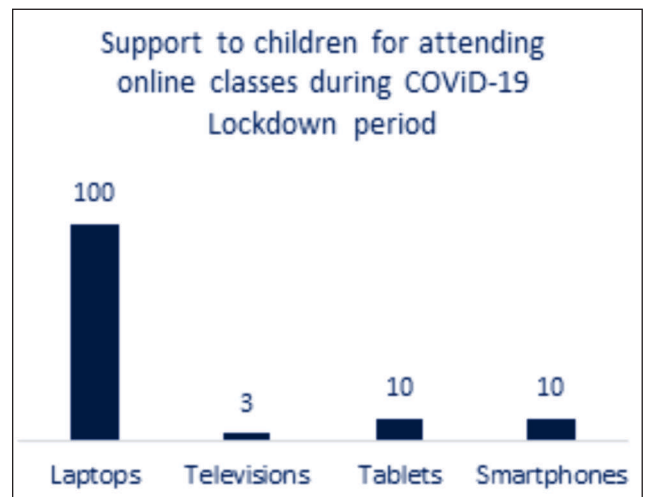
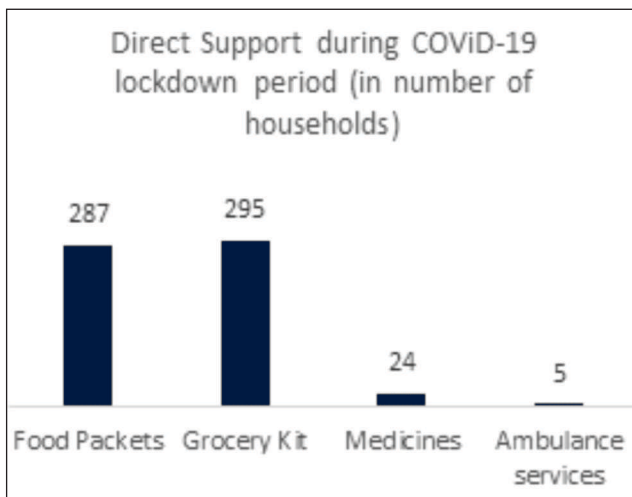


OTHER ACTIVITIES

COVID-19 Relief Activities

During COVID-19 lockdown, a helpdesk was opened for providing urgent help. Tribal families and students were supported during this period in the form of:

- Cooked Food Packets, Grocery & Vegetable kit, Ambulance Services and Medicines for poor tribal households.
- Food kits were provided to people in quarantine and government officials who could not get food



Laptops, TVs, Tablets, and Smartphones were also provided to the students of tribal villages to attend online classes without any interruption. A leading MNC donated 100 laptops. The Laptops were distributed to community teachers of Balasamskara Kendrams to facilitate classes for a group of students and needy individual students of different classes.



Grocery Kit Distribution

UST Global through its CSR Health Care Program donated 200 Grocery Kits for the poor and elderly in Thadikund, Murugala, Kadukkumana and Kinattikkara villages (primitive tribes). The initiative was led by Mr. Prashant S, CSR Ambassador of UST.



RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE



Toilet Construction

Thadikundu tribal village is situated deep inside the forest in Pudur Panchayat. The houses did not have toilets. Viswa Sevabharathi extended help for constructing the toilets. 40 toilets were completed and dedicated on 21st November 2020.



The toilets were handed over by Sri S. Sethumadhavan (Akhila Bharatheeya Karyakari Sadasyan, Rashtreeya Swayamsevak Sangh). The meeting was presided over by Sri Mohan S. Nayar (Vice President, Viswa Sevabharathi).

Expansion of Chavadiyoor Drinking Water Project

A drinking water project was implemented in 2018 in Chavadiyoor village, which benefitted 105 families. The project was supported by the MPLADS Fund of MP Prof. Richard Hay. In February 2021, the drinking water facility was extended to 55 more families with the help of Sewa Canada. The extension project was dedicated to the memory of Late Major General Ashok Kumar Vasudev (recipient of Athi Vishisht Seva Medal). The extension project was inaugurated by Prof. Richard Hay (former MP) on 12th February 2021.



COMMUNITY NETWORK AND INSTITUTIONS

Village Health Workers

Volunteers from tribal villages are identified and trained to become Village Health Workers. They help villagers to access medical treatment, advise them in health issues, organise awareness programmes and mobilise patients for free medical camps. There are health workers in 100 tribal villages now.

Youth Clubs

15 youth clubs were formed in the tribal villages for the welfare of youths. Out of these 15, 10 youth clubs are officially registered. The youth clubs conduct youth development activities every month.



Self-Help Groups

Women are organised into self Help groups for improving their savings and income generation through microfinance. The trust is engaging with 50 self help groups now.

Balasamskara Kendras

These are weekend classes for tribal children in the villages. The children are given inputs on their class lessons, other general subjects and cultural aspects. The instructors are educated men or women from the same village. Balasamskara Kendras or Educational Resource Centres are active in 30 villages. These centres continued with weekly tuitions even during the lockdown period.

Joint Liability Groups

20 JLGs were formed with the medicinal plants cultivation beneficiaries. These JLGs will be credit linked for availing Kisan Credit Card (KCC).

Adolescent Girls' Peer-Groups

30 peer groups were formed as part of the adolescent girls health and nutrition project. The groups will be utilized for imparting behavioural change communication among adolescent girls and monitoring their vital nutrition indicators.



Condolences

We express our deep sorrow on the passing away of our trust member and former Secretary, Sri C.Sreedharan on 3rd August 2020. We express our heartfelt condolences to the family of Dr. Maya S, who died due to sudden cardiac arrest on 7th December 2020. She was working as our Casualty Medical Officer.

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge with deep gratitude the financial support of benevolent institutions, trusts and noble individuals which has made all our activities possible. We sincerely thank Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., SBI Mutual Funds Ltd., GIC Housing Finance Ltd., Antrix Corporation Ltd., GD Naidu Group of Companies, ROOTS Group of Companies, Harman Inspired Charitable Trust, Synergy Marine Group, Sewa Canada, Sodani Foundation (USA), Lekshmi Charitable Trust, TIDE Trust, Mumbai, NABARD, Viswa Sevabharathi, US Technologies (UST), EYGDS, Rotary Club of Coimbatore Sai City, Inner Wheel Club of Coimbatore West, AGE Group of companies ,Sri Mahesh Madhavan and many others for their whole hearted contribution and support for our institutions and projects.

Appeal

We appeal all our well wishers and friends to continue to extend your helping hands to our trust for serving the tribal brethren in Attappady this year also. With your support we would like to widen the breadth and depth of our interventions for the improvement of their lives in the coming months.



SWAMI VIVEKANANDA MEDICAL MISSION

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