



## THULIR TRUST

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## **Annual Report 2010-11**

### **The Thulir team is growing!!**

A very significant development is that our Thulir team is growing.

Ravi Chandran, who has worked with Tribal Health Initiative since its inception in 1992 and who had taken a break from his work there and joined Thulir to teach. He is a Mechanical Engineer by training who worked in Admin at THI and so has a variety of experience and skill to offer. He has spent considerable time counselling students who have finished class 10 and 12 about higher studies opportunities – colleges, courses, helping fill applications, available scholarships, etc. He has also been coaching students preparing for re-exams for class 10 and 12. Sanjeev and Anita (Asha-Bangalore volunteers) also shifted to Sittilingi. They had been frequently volunteering at Thulir for the past 3 years and conducting sessions on electronics, puzzles and singing.

### **Purchase of Land for Thulir Campus**

After a few years of looking around to purchase suitable land for Thulir's campus, we have got lucky and have now purchased 2 acres of land very close to the present place, closer to the village. We gradually plan to put up buildings and eventually have a campus of our own.

## The New Batch for Basic Technology Course joins

The Life Skills Course [earlier called B T course] this year had 2 batches. A Senior batch in their Second year in Thulir which consisted of 6 boys and a girl; and a Junior Batch which joined this year consisting of 2 Girls and 4 boys. 3 other girls decided not to join the course but attend Thulir to prepare solely for their class 10 exams this year.

### Some of the activities in the Life Skills course during the year:

- **Wiring work at the Workshop of TTI**

This was an interesting exercise to do 3 phase wiring for various machinery in the Workshop. It also involved use of a variety of Electrical fixtures that are normally absent in a household. Our students, under the supervision and guidance of Mr Anand, a qualified Electrician and Mr Ramasubramanian, a Mechanical Engineer, worked on this project.

- **Training in Welding**

Steel cutting and welding was taught to a batch at the TTI workshop and the group made a Steel gate 16 feet wide and 4 and a half feet high.

- **Building a Battery room with a vaulted roof**

The junior batch's exercise in learning masonry was to build a small Battery room. We built this using a catenary vault using burnt brick and cement mortar.





- **Stabilised Adobe Training Programme**

Adobe refers to hand moulded mud bricks that are usually sun dried and used in constructing walls. This is a very old and simple technology. Dr Yogananda from Bangalore has now come up with an improved process for making Cement and Lime stabilized Adobe.

## **Exposure Trip to Pune and Pabal**

In October, Sanjeev and Anita accompanied our senior students and staff on an exposure trip to Pune and around. They visited Vigyan Ashram, Pabal, near Pune; Science Centre at IUCCA, Pune; and an Army Service Corps campus at Pune. On the way back they participated in the running event at Ananya school, Bangalore. Not only Anita and Sanjeev, but also Sanjeev's mother, sister and uncle spent time and effort to make this a memorable trip for the students.

At Vigyan Ashram, they split into smaller groups and learnt a variety of activities including use of Earth Resistivity Meter to predict water availability below ground; soil and water testing; basic animal husbandry skills etc.

## **Land Work / Organic agriculture**

What started as tentative steps in learning organic farming methods has taken better shape in the last few months. Slowly the area under cultivation and also variety of crops and methods have increased.

Our efforts got a great boost this year when Shri Nammalvar, a well known proponent of organic and natural farming, and a great teacher visited us on two occasions in January and February. The interactions on site and theory classes were an energising experience. This has greatly increased our team's confidence and resolve.

## **Centre for Learning , Bangalore, students visit Thulir.**

In December, a group of 8 students and 2 teachers from Centre for Learning, Bangalore visited Thulir for a week. This was the first time such an event with urban school children was organised in Thulir. We had many doubts as to whether cultural differences, language etc. would come in the way of meaningful interaction. We organised a series of sessions where each group taught the other new skills. Slowly, students got to know each other, and started to enjoy the sessions and each others company. Sadly, soon, it was time to leave !! We hope to have more such visits in future.





## Long distance Bicycling

Ever since Balaji visited Thulir travelling on his bicycle long distance, our students have been fascinated by the idea. They started with short trips to Kottapatti and Thumbal [10 kms and 20 kms away respectively] on weekly holidays, on their bicycles. Then they tried

Vazhapady [45 kms away]. Soon they did Salem [80 kms away] — a return trip on a single day! The first major trip came when they travelled last year to Gingee fort. They cycled 105 kms the first day and stopped near Gingee for the night. They visited the famous fort there, had lunch, cycled back through the evening and night and reached home at dawn, exhausted but happy.

## Marathon running

Santhosh continues to guide and co-ordinate the training schedules for long distance running of our students. Balaji continues to help by looking after our students whenever they travel to participate in running events. There have been some breaks in our team's training for running, mainly due to the fact that there is an increase in Farming activities — both at Thulir and at home, as there is labour shortage in the village. Small groups, have been taking part in several events — the Ananya school run, Bangalore ultra, and Auroville marathon.

## The Evening Batch Children

The evening batch children have been coming regularly and now we have more girls in this batch than boys. They have been divided into groups and we now have regular 4 to 5 parallel sessions. We also have regular preparatory sessions for the teachers/ facilitators, where topics and methods of teaching are discussed.



**Receipts and Payments Statement 2010 -11\***

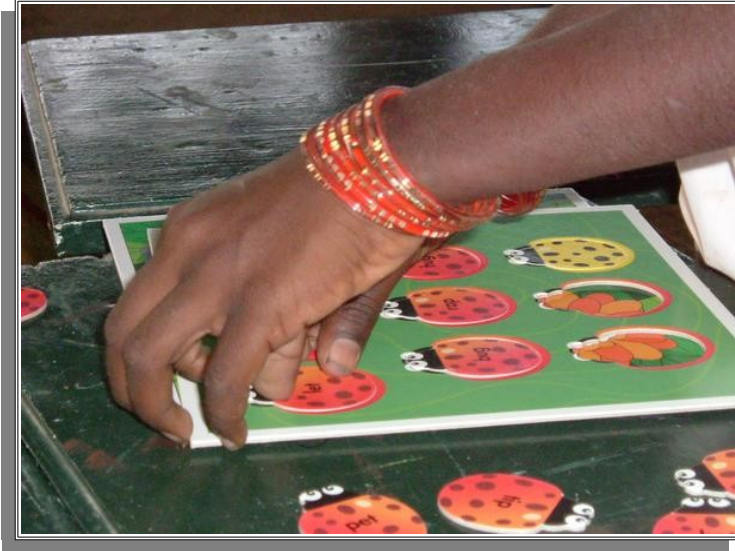
Receipts		Payments	
Opening Balance of funds	11,24,691	Student Fellowships/Stipends	1,47,250
Interest on FDs	21,477	Exposure trips	23,862
Fixed	11,00,000	Sports day, play ground	19,884
Bank Interest	11,982	Administrative Expenses	2,88,680
Miscellaneous Receipts	564	Nutrition Programme	96,526
interest	592	Farming Training	7,361
Donations – Corpus fund	50,000	vehicle maintenance	7,983
Donations	9,73,652	Maintenance	160
		Resource Per. Expenses	10,909
		Campus maintenance	5,307
		Fixed Assets	6,93,941
		Fixed Deposits	17,00,000
		Closing Balance of funds	2,81,095
<b>Total</b>	<b>3282958</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3282958</b>

**Balance Sheet as on 31.3.2011\***

Liabilities		Assets	
Capital Fund	1,753,502	Fixed Assets	792,100
Corpus Fund	163,332	Advances and Deposits	850,500
Fair Grounds Grants Fund	5,914	Cash in Hand	3,915
Bank Interest Fund	947	Cash at Bank	277,180
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,923,695</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,923,695</b>

\* Detailed audited statement of accounts is available on request.

\* **Auditors : J.Mathew & Co., Chartered Accountants, Udthagamandalam**



We welcome your comments.  
Email us: [thulir@gmail.com](mailto:thulir@gmail.com)

Many individual donors, friends and organisations supported us this year.

***Thank you all***  
*for your continued support*

### **How you can support?**

Donations can be transferred directly to Thulir's State Bank of India accounts.

Donations in India are tax exempt under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act.

#### **Indian donations :**

A/c Number : 30264502371

Branch Name : Gudalur, Nilgiris District

IFSC code : SBIN0001016

Please visit our website <http://www.thulir.org> for more details of our programme.

Regular updates of our activities are also made in the blog site <http://thulir.wordpress.com/>

