



THULIR TRUST

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Annual Report 2015-2016



New Nursery School

The first steps towards a new school were taken this year by first establishing a small nursery school. For the first year, 24 children(aged 4 and 5) from 5 villages in the valley have been admitted to this school. The teachers are all Adivasis from the region.



Professor Ravindran and Sri. Nagarajan have generously permitted their house to be modified and used as classrooms temporarily.



The temporary nursery school building

In the meantime, the plan is to construct a new school as per government regulations. For this purpose, a plot of land has been identified and was bought this March. This 3 acre piece of land is central in the valley, about 1.5 km from the present Thulir campus. It is also easily accessible from Velanur, Kalaiyankottai, Nammankadu, Sittilingi, Moolasittilingi and Malaithangi, while being far away from any existing school. The

new land has been fenced. Work on constructing the school buildings as per government regulations will start shortly.



The 2 acre land which Thulir had earlier bought for the resource centre was unsuitable for the school and has hence been transferred to the Tribal Health Initiative for its Organic Farming marketing activities.

Dr. Ravi, Manjunath, Ramesh, Prema, Anuradha and the teachers meet at least once a month to discuss the policies and functioning of the new school.

Evening Classes

Evening classes for government school students, which we have been conducting regularly for the past 11 years for up to 500 students, have been temporarily stopped this year. It was deemed necessary for the Thulir team to focus more fully on the new school. The government schools also function for longer hours nowadays. Teachers come more regularly and students have more tests and assignments.

Participation in Runs

Some of the government school children still continued to come in the mornings to train for the long runs. Senthil and Rajammal were in charge of this programme.



The Thulir team participated in five running events this year. Nine of them participated in the Kaveri marathon on September 18th.



The same group participated in the Bangalore marathon on October 18th. The government school students and the teachers participated in the Ultra marathon and ran the 12 k and the 21 k on November 8th. Senthil and Ravi ran the Bangalore 10 K run on May 16th to raise funds for the Tribal Health Initiative. Sakthivel, Mohan, Raghu, Karthi and Perumal participated in the Anandayana Run organised by Runner's High on June 6th.

Sports Day



Thulir also conducted a Sports Day in February for the government school students. Despite there having been no formal announcements of the event, a total of 104 children turned up to participate. Prizes were distributed to all the participants, not just the winners.

New Managing Trustee

Dr. Ravi Manohar joined the Board of Trustees as a trustee earlier this year. Dr. Ravi works as a Doctor in Tribal Health Initiative, Sittilingi. In October, Dr. Shylajadevi Menon stepped down as managing trustee due to health reasons and Dr. Ravi was unanimously chosen to be the new managing trustee. The other trustees in the Board – Dr. Shylajadevi Menon, Ms. Rama Sastry and Dr. Yogananda continue to support and guide all Thulir's activities.

New Teachers

The need was felt for a few more teachers with degrees in education. Jeyachitra (DT.Ed) from Naikuthi village and Sinthamani (B.Ed) from Rettakuttai village were selected through an exam and an interview process, and started work on April 1st.

The Basic Technology Course group – Newcomers and Alumni



Despite our initial plans to discontinue our basic technology course this year, five new teenagers—Perumal, Mohan, Raghu, Satish and Karthi— were admitted this year. Sakthivel has taken charge of them. They were taught a combination of academic and vocational skills.

A team of building artisans trained by us over the years, have worked on the construction of the new Operating theater building, the Women's dormitory building and the new Ward building(all for the THI hospital in Sittilingi) in the past two years. Two ex-students of Thulir also joined this team in the construction work this year.



Some of Thulir's ex-students have also joined the Tribal Technology Initiative, an independent project in Sittilingi, and have done steel

fabrication and other work there.

Another of our ex-students and staff member is currently going to college, while also working part-time in TTI helping with electrical wiring, solar PV system installations, micro hydro power project installations, and electronics projects such as white LED light fixtures assembly. He has also serviced electronic gadgets at the Hospital and done maintenance work for street lights in the Sittilingi Panchayat.

Meanwhile, Gramavidya—an NGO started by Prof Jagadish and actively run by Dr Yogananda and his group from Bangalore—requested that the Thulir experience be shared with their training programmes conducted on alternative building technologies. This relationship has strengthened building skills training and the quality of construction projects in Sittilingi.

Parents' Meetings



This academic year, three major parents' meetings were held in an

attempt to engage the parents in their children's educational process. In every meeting, there is a discussion on the educational philosophy of the school, the methodologies followed here and some of the practical difficulties. Parents and teachers share their feedback about the children's progress. This is followed by a performance by the children. Each child then takes their parents to their class and shows them their work done so far. The feedback from the parents has been mostly positive this year. The majority of them say their children have grown in confidence and learning and are happy to come to school.

Pongal Celebrations



Pongal is a Tamil rural cultural and harvest festival that occurs in January. Pongal was celebrated in Thulir this year with everyone drawing traditional *kolams*, cooking *Pongal* and performing traditional songs and dances of the region that were taught to us by Vellachi Ammal, a respected elder and an organic farmer from Thekkanampatu village.



Workshops on Traditional Art and Music of the Valley

Workshops on the art of making toys using coconut leaves and baskets from bamboo were conducted by the relatives of Ravi, one of our teaching staff.



Vellachi Ammal, from Thekanampattu, has started coming once a month to teach us traditional songs and dances of the valley.

Participation in the Freedom Inclusive Summer Camp for Children: May 2nd-May 7th

Sakthivel, Ravi, Mohan, Perumal, Satish Raghu and Karthik participated in the Freedom Summer Camp for Children organised by The Runners High. The objective of the camp was to bring together children from completely diverse backgrounds in order to help create awareness and respect for each other.



Children from SSK, Shrishti Special Academy, Snehagram, Thulir and Ananya participated. The children stayed in the Spastic Society and Pegasus campuses and engaged in various Art, Craft and Theatre activities together.



Participation in the Asha Summer Teacher Training Session May 27th-May 31st

Rajammal participated in a teacher training camp organised by Asha Chennai at IIT Madras campus.

Annual Day – April 16th

The Annual Day at the end of the academic year was an opportunity for parents, teachers and children to get together and share the achievements and trials of the year. The children, many of whom had been completely shy when they joined a year ago now went up confidently onto the stage to sing and dance and act. At the end of the day, the parents all appeared to be very happy with what they had seen.



Receipts and Payments – Thulir Trust, 2015-16

RECEIPTS	Rs.P	PAYMENTS	Rs.P
To Opening Balance	2,23,003.35	By Administrative Expenses	3,28,250.50
		By Resource Person Honorarium	9,200.00
		By Staff Welfare	13,000.00
		By Two Wheeler Maintenance	18,079.60
		By Sports and Cultural Expenses	910.00
		By Campus Maintenance	44,565.00
To Savings Bank Interest	8,396.00	By Teaching Materials	25,224.00
To Donation Received	8,20,600.00	By Equipment Maintenance	5,140.00
To Building Fund Donations	2,40,000.00	By Staff Meals	62,500.00
To Land Sold	14,50,000.00	By Students Meals	1,01,714.00
To Interest on Fixed Deposit	1,14,663.00	By Computer Maintenance	1,515.00
To Fixed Deposit Maturity	21,62,949.00	By Other Maintenance	2,292.00
To Two Wheeler -Personnel	3,031.00	By Guest Meals	12,950.00
To Receipts - Earmarked Funds		By Staff Exposure Travel	1,824.00
Bank Interest	71,867.00	By Temporary School Maintenance	2,710.00
Contribution received	10,43,911.00	By Trust Expenses	1,18,318.00
		By Fixed Assets -Additions	24,57,870.00
		By Fixed Deposit	22,58,561.00
		By Expenses - Earmarked Funds- Rever	5,19,750.00
		Closing Balances:	1,54,047.25
	61,38,420.35		61,38,420.35

Balance Sheet as on Mar 31st 2016

LIABILITIES	Rs.P	ASSETS	Rs.P
CAPITAL FUND	30,69,074.17	FIXED ASSETS	26,74,258.27
CORPUS FUND	0.00	ADVANCES AND DEPOSITS	
		Telephone -Deposit	500.00
GENERAL RESERVE FUND	0.00	TDS	14,229.00
		Fixed Deposit	18,58,561.00
BUILDING FUND	13,90,945.84	Fixed Deposit (Corpus Fund)	0.00
BANK INTEREST FUND	1,08,432.90	CLOSING BALANCES	1,54,047.25
SCHOLARSHIP AND STIPEND FUND	0.00		
GENERAL EDUCATION FUND	1,33,142.61		
	47,01,595.52		47,01,595.52

Support Us!

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

*Thank you all
for your continued support*

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

Indian donations :

Account no: 31799396966,
State Bank of India, Kottapatti Branch
[Kottapatti, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu 636906 India]
IFSC code: SBIN0006244

For donations from foreign countries, please mail us for details.

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

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

Regular updates of our activities are also made in the blog site <http://www.thulir.org/wp/blog/>

We welcome your Comments; Please mail us at
thulir@gmail.com