



THULIR TRUST

5/971, Kaliyankottai village,
Velanur PO, Sittilingi Panchayat,
Theerthamalai SPO, Harur Taluk,
Dharmapuri Dt., TN
636906
Phone :+91 96554 82919

Website: www.thulir.org

Email: thulir@gmail.com

Annual Report 2020-2021



The Pandemic - The first Lockdown

The imposition of lockdown in the summer of 2020 made us realise that rural communities like Sittilingi are in many ways more resilient than modern urbanised society.

According to a 2019 survey by THI, 75 percent of families in Sittilingi Valley own land and 81 percent are engaged in agricultural activities. Most importantly, people still grow their own food. Having your own land and growing your own food provides one with basic security in these uncertain times. We could all buy vegetables and fruits from the farmers who had started growing these to supply the Thulir school kitchen earlier. The Tribal Hospital started by Dr. Regi and Dr. Lalitha has made quality health care available at our doorsteps.

During the lockdown, we in Thulir supported the Panchayat (local government) in whatever small ways we could in their proactive measures in maintaining physical distancing and spreading awareness.

Construction and allied artisans

Construction workers and others who usually migrate outside for work were left unemployed. From September, as the lockdown was relaxed, we started construction work at school.

The caretaker's cottage was upgraded and work began on a storeroom for construction materials, the dining hall, staff and guest quarters.



The work provided a livelihood for around 20 building artisans, Thulir alumni like Perumal, Kumar, Munusamy and their group were kept busy with electrical work in the valley for the panchayat and provided a most essential service during the lockdown.

Teaching materials during the lockdown

Regular classes were closed and online classes were out of reach for our children and teachers because none of our villages have good internet connectivity and families don't have the necessary electronic devices.

Our teachers prepared hard copy worksheets and learning materials and handed them physically to students in each village to work from home.

Decentralised classes

From July 2020 till mid April '21 , we held decentralised classes for children in their own villages, so that we could continue to educate our children while complying with lockdown rules regarding large gatherings and physical distancing.

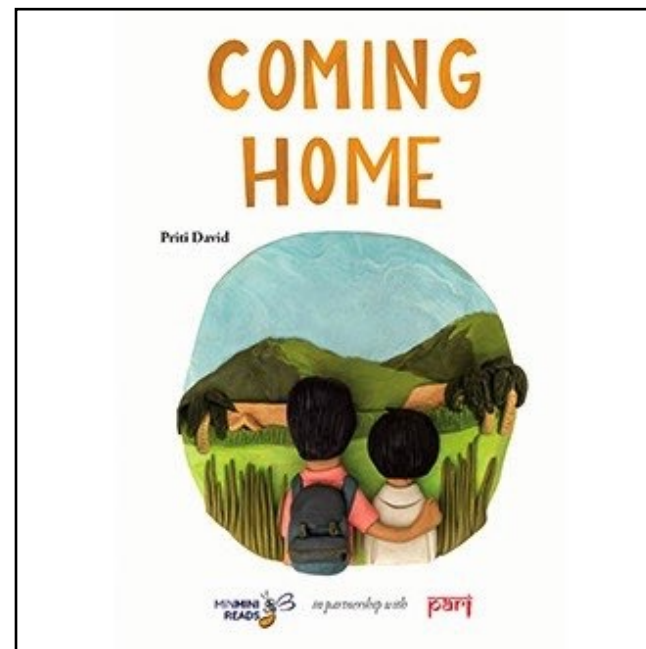


Children from other private and government schools also attended these classes in 9 locations across the valley. In addition, Ram conducted daily afternoon classes for Class 10 students from the Sittilingi government school.

Apart from these classes, the teachers worked through the week, preparing learning materials, tending the vegetable gardens on campus and attending regular teacher training sessions.

Coming Home

Karadi Tales and the People's Archive of Rural India (PARI) have recently launched a series of story books based on real stories of rural India. One of the books in this series, "Coming Home", is based on Priti David's article about Thulir in PARI.



Dance Workshop

Prior to the lockdown, Thiru. Manimaran conducted a five day traditional Tamil folk dance workshop for the children.

Internet Access

Internet connectivity in the valley has always been very erratic and unreliable. This year, Mr. Ansari and team from Digital Empowerment Foundation helped us by extending a broadband connection from the hospital to the school using wireless network devices. Our connectivity has vastly improved now.

Corona virus in Sittilingi-The Second Lockdown

In summer of 2021, Sittilingi began to see its first Corona cases. By the first week of June, there were 6 Covid deaths in the valley and the Tribal hospital saw around 450 fever patients. The actual number of infected persons in the villages would be more.

The teachers and their spouses supported the hospital and the panchayat team to help preventing community spread and support the Covid patients. They spoke to people in the villages about Covid awareness and treatment, informed the hospital of any fever cases in their villages and helped to isolate and provide support for fever patients. Some of the team also volunteered to manage helplines set up by the Tribal Health Initiative to communicate regularly with Covid patients in the valley and provide them non medical support, including psychological help and guidance.

Migrant workers in the valley

A group of migrant labourers, numbering around 45, came to the valley recently. Originally from Andhra, they had been travelling around the state selling woven baskets and other small items in the cities, but they had been left stranded by the imposition of lockdown, with nowhere to stay and no source of income.



They came to the valley asking to be allowed to stay in some open place where they could pitch their tents. We managed to organise a place for them to stay on some land between two villages, and provided them with groceries, vegetables and some livelihood opportunities.

Scratch - Basic computer programming classes

Varun from Thekambattu conducted Scratch classes thrice a week for teachers and students from February to mid April. Children and teachers learned to create their own videos, puzzles and games.



Bee keeping

Bee keeping and collecting honey was resumed at Thulir by the teachers, following a workshop conducted at Sittilingi Organic Farmers Association (SOFA).

Star gazing workshops

Ramsubramanian, an old friend of Thulir, brought telescopes to Thulir and conducted star gazing workshops for parents, teachers and children.

Nature studies

Vinod, an expert on birds and insects, conducted nature walks and helped us identify a number of birds and insects.

Our heartfelt thanks to each one of you, our friends and donors,
for supporting us through these difficult times.

Team Thulir

TAMIL NADU DHARMAPURI. 636906

CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT OF FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

8,259,597.46

For THULIR TRUST
Letur
Managing Trustee



JOHN MATHEW C. M,
Chartered Accountant.
Membership No. 025343

TAMIL NADU, DHARMAPURI, 636906

CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 202114,516,486.66

4. For Fixed asset additions, credit is given in capital fund for addition to asset account.

For THULIR TRUST
Leh
 Managing Trustee



JOHN MATHEW C. M.
Chartered Accountant.
Membership No. 025343

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

Account no: 31799396966,
Bank: State Bank of India,
Branch: Kottapatti Branch
IFSC code: SBIN0006244

Donations in India are tax exempt under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act. For donations from foreign countries, please mail us for details.

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

OOTACAMUND,
Date: 17.09.2021