

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY (RDS)

PUDUPATTI (VILLAGE), RANIMOOKANUR (POST)

PAPPIREDDIPATTI (TALUK), DHARMAPURI (DISTRICT), TAMILNADU

PINCODE: 635303 E-Mail Id: rdsdpi@gmail.com

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2021-2022

Introduction:

RDS Pleasure to submit it's annual activities report to the stakeholders for the financial year 2021-2022. Eventhough RDS has implemented various project activities in the past years, this year current activities are most important. Because, RDS has more impressed on "Doubling the Farmers Income". To attain this, RDS involved in forming FPO and strengthening it towards sustainability.

Project-I: Field Staff training and FPO formation:-

RDS has conducted concept orientation training to the staff team for 5 days residential training. In the training, concept of FPO, ways and means of FPO, formation and management, rules and regulations of FPO functioning, LEDP and MEDP training, credit linkages, backward and forward supports and so on were explained. At end of the programme, the staff had acquired skills and knowledge.

Project-II: Survey on livestock farmers:

After the 5 days training, the staff team involved in field level baseline survey on cattle and cattle farmers in the 5 clusters. The selected cattle farmers have been categorised as cow breeders, buffallow breeders and milching cows breeders. According to the cattle population, Board of Directors, Authorised two persons for bank operation and enrolling FPO members were planned and formed FPO and registered under company Act.



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Project-III: LIVELIHOOD AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (LEDP) AND SKILL CUM EMPLOYMENT GENERATION TRAINING:-

RDS has implemented farmers development project with the support of NABARD, Dharmapuri district. It has formed 5 Clusters in which, participated 150 farmers interest groups (FIG) from 2 blocks that is, 30 participants in each training batch. In the training programme, enriched compost making, vermicomposting, silage, Azolla, Milch animals maintainance, vaccinations, inseminations, increasing milk productivity and value added products, fodder development and calves rearing were briefly taught to the trainees by the eminent resource persons of Department of veterinary sciences from Gundalpatty, KVK from Papparapatty and Alampadi traditional cow breeding centre. This skill upgradation training was given for the period of 10 days per batch totally, covered 150 FIGs members.

Project-IV: SHGs skill Development Training:-

To involve the formed SHGs into micro enterprises, RDS conducted skill development training to the 20 SHGs with the help of bankers' support.

Project-V: Distribution of Food and Dress to the Orphan Children:-

To fulfil the needs of orphan children, RDS collected donations from various firms and business centres and supplied to the orphan children with the worth of Rs.2,20,984.

Project-VI: Awareness Education to the Adolescents, ANC and PNC:-

To reduce the rate of IMR and MMR, RDS made a baseline survey on the health status of Adolescents, ANM and PNM. The survey showed us that the IMR and MMR has been increased due to the cause of malnutrition and insufficient of energies. Hence to improve the health status among the Adolescents ANC and PNC through kitchen Gardening and to use the Anganwadi centres to avail nutrient balls.



Project-VII: Awareness Programme on WASH:-

To ensure potable drinking water to the community, sanitation and hygiene management, RDS implemented the WASH awareness events namely, wall paintings with the financial supports of TWAD Board. RDS done wall paintings at 23 walls of the schools and public places which is for creating awareness on WASH.

Project-VIII: COVID-19 Supports:

During COVID-19, RDS collected materials donations from the richest firms and companies and supplied to the needy people in the form of cooked food, groceries and food materials with the worth of RS.2,50,635.

Conclusion:

RDS has implemented the above activities on needy base and with limited financial and human resources. The implemented activities have reached the benefits to the direct and indirect beneficiaries in some extent. However, the services of RDS requires more and more in vast area for the forthcoming year. Hence RDS requires more support from the like minded persons.



For Rural Development Society

Secretary

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY (RDS)

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR OF 2022-2023

Introduction:-

Rural Development society is a grossroot NGO serving for the development of ultra poor since 1989. RDS had conducted year planning meeting with the board of directors, community leaders, staff team and the representatives of target groups. During that time, project activities were reviewed, shared the output and outcomes by the project activities, staff team faced the hurdles at field levels and suggested the needed project activities for the forthcoming year. So RDS would like to present it's implemented the project activities in the year 2022-2023 to the stakeholders.

Project-I: Refresher training (LEDP) to the 150 members of FIG:-

RDS is implementing farmers development project with the support of NABARD, Dharmapuri district. It has formed 5 Clusters participated 150 farmers that is 30 participants in each training batch for the period of 2 days. In the training programme, enriched compost making, vermicomposting, silage, Azolla, Milch animals maintainance, vaccinations, inseminations, increasing milk productivity , fodder development and calves rearing were briefly taught to the trainees by the eminent resource persons of Department of veterinary sciences from Gundalpatty, KVK from Papparapatty and Alampadi traditional cow breeding centre.



Project-II: SHGs training programme:-

RDS is giving top priority to women development through SHGs concept. Hence it has formed the women SHGs and imparted groups and Accounts management training to the women SHGs, and EDP training to the group members and financial support to the groups for promoting Micro Enterprises. RDS facilitated the SHGs to avail loans from financial institutions like Nationalised Banks, ICICI and NABKISAN etc., By that credit linkages, SHGs has promoted manufacturing, service and small business thus their economics status has been improved.

Project-III: Environment Awareness:-

RDS is giving much importance to project environment and ecological factors in each and every year. Because of drought and erratic rainfall, agriculture and its production is suffered lot. To mitigate the climate change, RDS conducted awareness education events in the schools, colleges, public and focused groups. Causes and consequences of Natural calamities, not only agriculture suffering but also suffered all the living beings which highlighted during the programmes. This awareness events were implemented by means of street play, folk songs, meetings, handouts and posters to the public.

Project-IV: Health Awareness programmes:-

RDS has implemented Health Awareness education programmes to attain sustainable Goals. Because of chemicalsied farming, low quality of food consumption and diabets, human health has been disturbed. Hence children and ANC and PNC mothers have been suffered lot. Keep in mind, RDS conducted health education meetings, training, camps and referral services to the patients.

Project-V: Kits to the Anganwadi children:-

To grow well children below 5 years, RDS provided kits like balls, toys, colour pads and pictures of objects and furniture. RDS has renovated 3 toilets to the 3 Primary schools for maintaing hygine. So community has recognised the services of RDS.



Project-VI: Formation of Internal Complaint Committee (ICC):-

RDS and Thozhi network jointly has implemented women labour welfare activities at Kadathur block for the past 5 years. In this year we did identification of issues among the women workers and linked them with the labour welfare department for addressing their issues. To ensure 8 hours work in the firms were formed ICC Committee. The formed ICC has been registered in the district level.

Project-VII: Tobacco control programme:-

RDS has created awareness events on the causes and consequences of tobacco consumption and the need of avoidance of tobacco products among the schools, colleges and youths. To avoid the tobacco products production, RDS conducted signature campaign with the participants of 500 college students which has been sent to the policy makers.

Project-VIII: Health System Observatory programme:-

RDS observed the current status of PHC, HSC and ICDS at 2 blocks. By which, the needy activities are to be undertaken instantly was given to the District Health Assembly. By the action taken by RDS resulted to fulfil the needs instantly by the District Health Assembly.

Conclusion:

RDS has implemented the above activities on needy base and with limited financial and human resources. The implemented activities have reached the benefits to the direct and indirect beneficiaries in some extent. However, the services of RDS requires more and more in vast area for the forthcoming year. Hence RDS requires more support from the like minded persons.

For Rural Development Society



Secretary

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Registration No: 128/1989

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY (RDS)

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ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Rural Development Society, Dharmapuri

With the start of year 2024-2025 Rural Development Society entered its 35th Year of age. RDS is doing well and we are poised to do even better in the next year! My optimistic view is a direct result of our excellent achievements as reflected in this Annual Report.

This report provides an overview of the activities of the Trust for the period 1, April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

Introduction:

Rural Development Society (RDS) is a registered society and functioning for the holistic development of the downtrodden especially scheduled caste community in Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts of Tamil Nadu since 1986 with the support of state and central government grants and public contributions.

It is basically a secular, non-political, non-religious, non-profit society. Our Executive Committee comprising 7 members manage the society and it has 7 members who are well experienced in social development sector and educationally qualified. It is legally registered under Tamil Nadu Society Registration Act of 27 of 1975, Indian Income Tax Act 1960 under sections 12-A and 80-G and Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act 1976. Also, it was registered under Ministry of Corporate Affairs for receiving CSR funds and also registered under Darpan - Niti Ayog. RDS is having GST and TAN/TIN

Training to Tribal Women Farmers:

With the aim of building technical skills of women on green-enterprises based on locally available resources, we organized EDP training programme for tribal women farmers in Vattalmalai Village of Dharmapuri district. In total 30 women farmers participated in the training programme. Various income generation programmes based on natural resources like collection and value added products manufacturing from Non-timber Forest Produce (NTFP) in the forest areas for example fruit juice production from Nelli, Naval, and Koyya, fruit jelly from Sitapalam, and the like; Our resource persons explained the business plan and covering all aspects including marketing strategies, cost benefit and support services, necessary machineries and tools, skill training providing institutes, available financial supports and subsidy schemes from various departments and agencies and so on. The participants are aware about the process of fruits and support services in government departments/agencies like banks. During the end of the training, the participants are expressed to establish such kinds of units for their economic sustainability as well as protect our environment clean and green.

Women Empowerment Programme:

RDS have developed strong linkages with government departments to support interventions that enable women's access to government schemes related to health, livelihoods, social security and education. Women have also been trained on human rights, entitlements,



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gender and development issues which enabled them to address issues of participation, inclusion and equality in their households and workplace. This has also had a multiplier effect in terms of enrolment of children into schools, better awareness on health issues, increased hygiene, sanitation and health care seeking behaviour. Women now experience greater confidence, self-respect and, even though gradual, an expansion in decision-making abilities in their families and communities.

With the support of ICICI Bank, RDS arranged linkages with the Bank and our women SHGs and availed loans for the economic sustainability. During the reporting year, our SHG members in total 250 availed loans around Rs.4 crores.

Water & Sanitation Awareness training:

RDS involved in Total sanitation awareness program in Morappur Block. In this regard, RDS organized cultural programs to educate people on environment and sanitation and health related issues and pollution aspects. For this purpose, RDS organized several awareness meetings with the beneficiaries as well as cultural programs to obtain peoples' cooperation, contribution and support. As our expectation people had extended cooperation and completed the activities. Because of this program many women, adolescent girls were benefited and they were free from emotional upset at the time of excretion. Still, we are committed to undertake such project activities in our field operational villages. Because of this education and awareness programmes the beneficiaries had contributed to construct toilets in their premises. Our regular intervention with the people they were utilized the toilets. The women folk become very happy about the total sanitation program.

Towards Revive Millet Food & Farming System:

Climate change and the global food crisis have put a spotlight on the vulnerability, unsustainability and social inequity of agriculture and food production. There is growing acceptance that policies and practices have failed to feed the world's most vulnerable people, failed to adapt to continuously changing environmental conditions and failed to protect the very ecosystems that sustain us. Policy makers are now referring to the traditional approaches in agriculture in order to sustain life and livelihood.

Degraded natural resources and unpredictable climatic conditions make both farming system and farming community vulnerable. The situation gets complex with adoption of policy-driven cropping patterns, production practices and procurement systems which have already been realized as highly unstable and unsustainable. The decade long farming practice has led to severe erosion of diverse genetic resources, rich indigenous knowledge and wisdom along with social support system are now acknowledged by both grower and consumer community.

In such a situation, RDS finds ways and means to enable community to assess their collective knowledge and resource base; establish their rights over it and find avenues to use it more productively in improving the quality of their own lives. Conservation of indigenous resources through organic practice provides scope to re-form the control over food production system. Although farmers greatly feel the need to re-grow the traditional varieties that were lost or depleted in order to sustain yield and revive culture.

Millet based farming system approach has a significant role to play in addressing two of the world's biggest and most urgent issue: climate change and food security. Further such varieties demand less external resource. The cropping pattern has enormous capacity to mitigate climate change and nutritional insecurity.

During the selection of villages, sensitization programmes were undertaken to help the women farmers understand the concept of organic farming and its benefits. Strategies like village



level community meetings, PRA exercises and leaflets distribution were adopted for awareness generation and discussed possible changes that can be made to liberate them from their dependencies. Then, RDS selected 5 tribal hamlets in Vattalmalai areas of Dharmapuri district and 200 tribal women farmers in the selected villages.

The women farmers realized the need have reviving millets-based farming system and accordingly community-based organization (CBOs) were built to assess and procure the communities seed requirement and promote millet cultivation. 5 CBOs are formed. RDS intervened to facilitate community control over millet seed and food grain production system and improve their livelihood. It also strengthened knowledge-sharing within and among the communities through interactive and learning sessions. Communities asserted their requirement of different varieties of millets and RDS took initiative for asserting them with the lost varieties.

Training to Women on Water Samples using FTK:

With the support of TAWD Board, Project Division, Krishnagiri district, RDS organized a training programme to 5 women per VP on testing water samples using FTK in Dharmapuri, Karimangalam, Nallampalli, Harur, Kadathur, Pappireddipatti and Morappur Blocks of Dharmapuri district. Through the programme, we covered 186 VPs and around 930 women trained.

Health Awareness:

Early marriage occurred among adolescent's life, Knowledge and awareness level about RTI /STI is very low and hence they are involving premarital sexual activities and indulged to unsafe abortion. Lack of knowledge in agitating the male sector regarding social stigma, Anemic and nutritional deficiency diseases are found high among adolescents are the main issues among the adolescents. So, with the following aim of increase the knowledge about menstrual and personal hygiene, anemic and nutritional deficiency diseases, STI/RTI, impacts of early marriage and early pregnancy. RDS organized a training programme for adolescent girls in Kadathur village, around 54 girls are benefited through the training. The topics like information about RTI / STI, Anemia, personal and menstrual hygiene, legal instrument of social stigma and locally available low-cost nutritious food for prevent anemia and nutritional deficiency diseases. The overall outcome of the training is 45 adolescent girls are fully understood about the topics.

Capacity building Training to Tribal Leaders on Forest claim Petition under FRA:

Three training of two days duration were given to the tribal leaders at RDS centre on the following topics: 5th schedule, community Forest resources, SC & ST Atrocities Act, Climate Change and RTI from August, 2024 to March 2025. 40 tribal leaders and cadres participated in each training. 80 young and dynamic tribal men and women were selected to be trained on the relevant acts with the support of tribal activists. The motivated youth are actively engaged in the promotion of tribal movement and demand of their rights.

Awareness Education on Climate change:

This program has been conducted with the whole-hearted support of the public. RDS organized a campaign on climate change adaptation at 2 villages and covered around 50 rural women. RDS created awareness among the people regarding climate change and its impacts around the world. RDS educated the participants to plant more trees in and around their homestead and nearby areas, to reduce global warming and reduce environmental degradation and usage of alternative energy sources for reduce carbon emission level for their health as well as create clean environment for their future generation and conserving the natural resources like forests, land and water bodies.



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Throughout the world, the local people are severely affected by climate change in the form of drought, flood, hurricane storms, various kinds of diseases spreading and agricultural activities decreasing and food production reducing tremendously bio-diversity loses, wild life affected and so on. So, this is the time to people in the entire world act hardy to reduce global warming. RDS provided CFL lamps each one to them. This activity is encouraging to all the women members and they will use CFL lamps instead of ordinary bulbs in future.

Future Plan:

Future programmes are based on the felt need of the people. In spite of hard work, they find difficult to make both ends meet. RDS has to equip this people movement to address mainly the problems of natural resource management, women and child development, provide vocational training skills to rural youth and women. We believe in people and in their power. Therefore, we believe that they will overcome together all hurdles to sustainable development.

Conclusion:

I take this opportunity to acknowledge and that each and every one including our funding partners, members, community leaders, staff, friends who have contributed to our effort directly or indirectly and with this I conclude. Looking forward for your support and solidarity in the future too.

Thanking you.

For Rural Development Society

Sincerely Yours

Secretary

R.DHARMALINGAM
Secretary

