

## People's Educational Awareness Service Trust

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### Annual Report - 2018- 2019

#### **1.Introduction**

We the trustees of the PEAS Trust, Lalgudi are pleased to submit the annual reports of our organisation for the year 2018-2019 with a hope and high motivation. We have worked hard to reach more families and women in the target villages during the year thru our programs to build their livelihoods and capacities that lead them towards sustainable development. The activities and projects that are implemented during the year under review;

#### **2. Welfare Board for the Construction Workers**

New Economic Policy and changes occurred after the economic changes in the country, increased the number of unorganized workers and the exploitation of these workers continue to apathy as there is no law for them to protect their rights and working conditions. Hence, Government of Tamilnadu Promoted Welfare Boards for the Unorganized Workers, Construction Workers etc. PEAS TRUST has been in the forefront to educate these unorganized workers to enroll them with the welfare Boards thru the registered labor union , PEAS TRUST has such union for the unorganized workers to enroll workers in unorganized workers. During the year, under review,

- ✓ 973 workers in various unorganized workers have been enrolled with Welfare Boards as members to avail benefits
- ✓ 87 registered workers with the welfare boards, got their membership renewal during the year,
- ✓ Families of 19 deceased members registered with the Welfare Boards , naturally died, availed Rs.25000 each as death insurance benefits
- ✓ One Registered member, who faced accident death, and his family received Rs.500,000 as compensation from the Welfare Board during the year
- ✓ 7 members availed spectacles( Cost free) after eye testing
- ✓ 963 children of the registered workers with the Welfare Boards availed educational assistance during the year,
- ✓ 14 members availed marriage assistance of Rs.3000 from the board. Both member and their daughter are eligible for the marriage benefits
- ✓ 197 registered were enabled to get monthly pension of Rs.1000 per head from the Welfare Boards regularly.
- ✓ 29 Pot making families availed off season loss benefit of Rs.3000 per year that is for 3 months in which monsoon rains will be heavy and continuing.



### **Celebration of Labor Day**

PEAS TRUST organized Labor Day at Mettupatti TELC church premises on May 1, 2018. Mr. Kanagavel addressed the women and men workers in the area about the various schemes and projects available with the Governments and also with the Welfare Board for Unorganized Workers. It was stressed to get individual registration with the welfare boards, and do regular renewals and updates of registration to have an easy access. 57 workers registered turned out at the celebration.

### **3.Organizing Women Workers in Unorganized works and their working Conditions- Thozhi Network East Region, Tamilnadu**

PEAS TRUST in Collaboration with THOZHI NETWORK EAS REGION, Tamilnadu organized one day orientation to Women Workers of unorganized works in Lalgudi block around Mettupatti area. This program was organized on September 4, 2018 at TELC church premises, Mettupatti village.

Mrs. Kavitha Program Coordinator welcomed the women workers and the guest speakers from THOZHI network, East Region, Tamilnadu

Mrs.Seethalakshmi, Trichirapalli and Mrs. Rajalakshmi, Thuraiyur are the guest speakers from Thozhi network East Region.



As a result of the group discussion by the women workers participants, women workers face the following problems in their working environment and there are needs to get improve the working condition.

- ✓ No safety dresses or equipments provided
- ✓ Lack of adequate buses during the morning and evening hours to travel to work places and return home.
- ✓ No minimum wages assured to workers
- ✓ Lack of provision of safety equipments and dresses
- ✓ Lack of toilets, rest rooms at work places
- ✓ No separate toilets for men and women
- ✓ No fixed working hours

Mrs. Rajalakshmi spoke on the abuses made against women workers in the works, and she gave helpline and law provisions to address these abuses .Mr. Kanagavel, Managing Trustee proposed a vote of thanks.

### **4. Sustained work and income to the most marginalized women in 3 villages**

PEAS Trust has been partnered with RSWR, USA for the second year and approved of its project to support 35 women in 3 villages of Lalgudi block, Tiruchirapalli district in January. Loans were distributed to begin with in February 2017 and the first installment repayments collected in March 2017.

## Project Objectives

- a. To select and finalize **35** women beneficiaries from 3 villages among migrant traditional basket, thatches making tribal & migrant dalit families.
- b. To organize **2** days orientation to women beneficiaries to internalize the project activities, goals, revolving fund management committee, office bearers, guidelines.
- c. To organize **3** days skill up gradation training to basket making and thatches making beneficiaries
- d. To distribute the revolving fund to **35** women beneficiaries to start their production and income activities, make income and repay their installments to support new women beneficiaries.



This project is being run by the women beneficiaries themselves by forming their own management committee. Till March 31, 2019, 105 new and additional women beneficiaries have been given revolving fund to do their income generation activities.

The members of the committee and the new beneficiaries are meeting once in a month regularly on 22<sup>nd</sup> of every month.

## **5. Income generation activities ( 6) for widows, single mothers, destitute mothers and mothers who have children with disability and mothers who have infirm spouses'**

In partnership with Stichting Castricum Helpt Muttathara, Nederlands, PEAS TRUST has implemented one year project to support 109 widows and women in challenging conditions in 8 villages of Lalgudi block, Trichirapalli district , Tamilnadu. Thru this project 30 women beneficiaries out of 109 women beneficiaries, selected and supported with 2 days project internalization training, 3 days beneficiaries group formation & management training, and 3 days financial literacy and book keeping skills in order to enable these 30 women beneficiaries to do their income generation activities with ease and also document their financial activities. 30 women received revolving money for 6 income generation activities to invest in their income generation activities and continue.



30 women started and run their income generation, activities, repaid their installments to the beneficiaries besides savings and service costs on these credit assistance. So far 50 more and additional women beneficiaries have been supported.



This project will carry forward by the women beneficiaries they themselves and PEAS TRUST is rendering its support in a regular manner.

## 7. Promoting sustainable agriculture practices

PEAS TRUST has been doing the follow up training and refreshers to the farmers who cultivate vegetables among the marginal farmers in Sirugalappur, Alunthalaipur, Siruvayalur, and Saradamangalam villages of Pullambadi block, Trichirapalli district, 42 farmers took part in the one day follow up and one day refresher being organized at Saradamangalam on October 10, 2018 and November 22, 2018.

## 8. Environment Education

PEAS TRUST has taken intensive efforts to promote environment and educate the young population on the need to plant and raise more trees, protect the existing trees and also to increase the tree cover to contain the global warming, prolonged summer days, and depletion of water sources in Tamilnadu. PEAS Trust reached and educated 1200 school children in Government High and Higher Secondary Schools. IEC materials were distributed among the students.

## 9. Skills training to young girls from rural and poor families

PEAS trust runs a skills training center to the girls from rural and poor families in tailoring, embroidery works. 25 girls have been trained per batch, totally 56 girls were trained per year in tailoring and embroidery works. The girls trainees have been helped to do their cutting, sewing, embroidery, hand works, making of women, and children garments during the training period. They were helped to find placements with the export garments, tailor shops and also to put up their own shops using the bank loans.

#### **10. Tamilnadu State Legal Service Authority**

PEAS Trust has been serving as a member with the Tamilnadu State Legal Service Authority, a statutory body promoted by the Government of Tamilnadu, Law Department, in each Taluk headquarters attached with the Judicial Magistrate and District Munisif Courts. P. Kanagavel, the Managing Trustee, has been appointed as the member with the TNSLSA, Lalgudi taluk and serve the authority services in solving the family disputes, marital conflicts, land disputes out of court and mutual basis, however as per the law, and lessened the burden of the people, petitioners, respondents, lawyers, courts etc.

#### **11. Mother and Child Health Promotion Education**

80 mothers expectant, lactating and newly wed women were invited and educated on the reproductive and child health through 2 orientations one at Pullambadi block and one at Lalgudi block. Village Health Nurses from the Government Hospitals, Primary Health Centers were invited to educate the mothers and the women in the target villages. These orientations were held on September 10, 2018 in Pullambadi block and September 15, 2018 at Lalgudi block.

#### **12. Promotion of Yoga**

PEAS TRUST organized Yoga awareness and yoga demonstration in schools to educate the young population to learn yoga and build their body and the mind successfully. Yoga trainers from the district were invited to do the demonstrations and model yoga demonstrations. Students were helped to do basic and important yogasanams while they were in schools.

#### **13. Child Health Promotion**

Mothers who have children and newly born, were mobilized to educate them to learn the basics of child health, developmental stages, risks involved, health hazards, nutrition, introduction of semi solid and solid food to newly born child, immunization, regular check ups, weights assessments, health risks during this stage of children etc. Village Health Nurse Mrs. Sarasawathi, Primary Health Center, Pudur Uthamanur is the trainer for 50 mothers turned out at the community hall, Neikuppai village that was held on August 10, 2018.

#### **14. Campaign Against Slavery System on women, children, and marginalized families**

Slavery system is still there and prevails against the Irula Tribes and the Dalit communities in Tamilnadu, in sugarcane, brick kilns, charcoal making, stone quarries, rice mills, and other unorganized works. They are being exploited though the laws are there and dead against slavery system. PEAS TRUST along with Trade unions organized women and men workers in the target villages and educate them on the evils of slavery system and its impact on individual, family, married couple, children and the neighborhood etc. This campaign has been organized on the eve of WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOR SYSTEM on June 12, 2018. This program has been organized at Kamaraj Nagar, Pullambadi.

#### **15. WORLD AIDS DAY**

WORLD AIDS DAY, was observed on December 1, 2018 at TELC church premises, Mettupatti, Lalgudi block, Tiruchirapalli district. 70 girls, boys and young persons from the target villages and groups turned out at the program with interests. Mr. Antonsamy, Managing Trustee, New Era Trust, Porulur, Mr. Subramanian, SUCCESS TRUST, Pudukottai are the guest speakers on HIV/AIDS, modes of transmission and symptoms of HIV/AIDS, role of Integrated Counseling and Testing Centers, ART Drugs and treatments, etc.

#### **16. International Women's Day**

International Women's day was organized at PEAS TRUST office premises on March 8, 2019. Mrs. Antoniammal, Marutham Trust, Mrs. Rajalakshmi, Duraiyur, and Mrs. Seethalakshmi, Pappakurichi Kattur, addressed the women gathered on the eve of International Women's Day. More than 80 women workers from all over the Lalgudi Block villages turned out and took

part. They have taken an oath to end exploitations of women workers in unorganized works thru education campaign and motivation among the women workers. Mrs. Kavitha, Trustee proposed a vote of thanks to the women members and the guest speakers.

### **Conclusion**

On behalf of the members, staff members, we express our sincere and heartfelt thanks and gratitude to RSWR, USA, The General Secretary, Board Members of RSWR, Purely Over Seas Trust, UK, Stichting Castricum Helpt Muttathara, Nederland, Dr. R. Kannan, Field Staff , RSWR, USA, Mr. Purushotham, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, TNVHA, its officials, sponsors of health camps Tamilnadu State Legal Service Authority, Chennai, Lalgudi, Welfare Board for Construction Workers, Chennai. Zonal Office, Welfare Board for the Construction Workers, Tiruchirapalli zone for their guidance, support and financial assistance to undertake the projects during the year under review. Looking forward to continued support and partnership!

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