ARAM Trust – Annual Newsletter 2008 - 2009

Why ARAM Trust?



- According to UNICEF, India is the largest producer of child labor and illiteracy on this world.
- India accounts for one fourth of the population of child labor around the world.
- Above **70 Million** children of school going age are in India who are out of Schools.
- Above **20 Million** children below the age of 14 are working in Teashops, restaurants, hotels and other recreational centers.
- Around **12.6 Million** children are working at hazardous occupations.
- To be very clear, **every "Third" household** in India has a child at work.



ARAM has a very bigger vision to put a full stop for this!

ARAM Trust is formed by **Mr. J.M.Karthikeyan** an employee of **TATA Consultancy Services** and by his father **Mr. J.Manoharan** to help poor students in the society who are really struggling to come up in their life.



They are mainly trying to prevent the formation of child labors due to family circumstances and adopting the poor students who are having the threat to become child labor in near future and empowering women to earn and support their family. The trust is having the common vision with our former president Dr.APJ.Abdul Kalam to make **India** a developed nation by **2020**.

Success Stories of ARAM Trust in this 1 year

- As on date, **3000** Poor students from 1st to 10th standard are getting benefited by Free Evening Tuition scheme of ARAM Trust at 14 centers across Thiruvarur District, Tamilnadu.
- **706** poor students are fully sponsored by ARAM Trust for this year alone and all of them got necessary things (schoolbag, notebooks and accessories) from ARAM Trust to continue their education without any problems.
- 91 orphans, 12 age old, 4 physically challenged and 3 mentally challenged peoples are getting benefited by ARAM Trust.
- ARAM Trust has provided free Computer Education for **350** poor students in this 1 year in Thiruvarur Dt, Tamilnadu.
- Everyday 300 poor students are benefited by the Free Evening food scheme of ARAM Trust.
- During the recent cyclone named "Nisha" (which affected Cauvery delta region and made heavy damage to lives in nearly 60 villages), ARAM Trust has provided food for 2850 peoples for 4 days and it distributed nearly 15,000 packets of food for elderly people, 5600 packets of biscuits and milk for children's.
- 85 youths are got placed in TI Tyres which is located in Chennai by ARAM Trust.
- ARAM Trust has conducted a massive Anti-Terrorism campaign with 3500 students in the month of January 2009.

About ARAM Trust:

ARAM Trust is formed in the name of Smt. Rajeswari Ammal, who played a vital role in many peoples life to come up in their life. **A**nnai **R**ajeswari **A**mmal **M**emorial Trust (**ARAM** Trust in short) has been started to continue the motto of her by helping poor students to continue their education and come up in their life. **ARAM** is a registered Trust (**Reg No: 69/2008 dated 10-Feb-2008**) and it's successfully doing its services since its inception.

Mission:

The mission of the trust is to help poor students in the society who are really struggling for help to come up in their life. The Trust is mainly trying to prevent the formation of child labors due to family circumstances and adopting the poor students who are having the threat to become child labor in near future.

Vision:

The trust is having the common vision with our former president Dr.APJ.Abdul Kalam – **A Developed nation by 2020.** To achieve this we need an immediate attention to the following factors.

- 01. Education for all
- 02. Elimination of Child Labor
- 03. Eradication of Poverty.

Charity Services:

1. Education Help:

In a family, if there is no father then the 1st male/female children in that family is forced to become a child labor to financially support his/her family. In some cases, if the parents are suffered by any major diseases/physically challenged, then the children in that family are supposed to take care of the family.

Adding to the above if the family is under poverty line where they are struggling to get a square meal every day **they cannot afford the nominal education expenses for the children to buy note books, bag, uniform, etc.**

The untold stories of these kinds of people are a lot and they are unknown to the world. ARAM Trust has searched for poor students like the above and listed out nearly **266** students in Valangaiman Taluk and provided all the necessary things to continue their education on **July 27**, **2008**. They have also listed out **440** students in Thindivanam Dt and provided all the necessary things on **Jan 17**, **2009**.

All together **706** poor students are fully sponsored by ARAM Trust for this year alone and all of them got necessary things (schoolbag, notebooks and accessories) from ARAM Trust to continue their education without any difficulty.



Mr. J.Manoharan with the part of the students who got education help in Thindivanam Dt.

2. Free Evening Tuition:

ARAM Trust is providing Free Evening Tuition Centre for the poor students who are not able to afford the tuition fees. To accommodate the coaching classes we have demolished our house in Valangaiman (10 KM from Kumbakonam where we resides) and we have kept one living room for us and in the rest of the area we have constructed class rooms to accommodate more than 300 students at a time. The tuition operates on two shifts, one in the morning from 7.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. and the other in the evening from 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Nearly 350 students from 1st standard to 10th standard are getting benefited by this centre alone.

ARAM Trust has realized that lot of students from remote villages are lagging in reading and writing capabilities when compared to city/town students. So ARAM Trust is planned to spread its wings to the remote villages to cover more children to give the benefit of ARAM Free Evening tuition centre. Based on that, ARAM Trust has identified nearly 13 villages and opened the Free Evening Tuition Centre in all the identified Villages.

Each Centre consists of 200+ students and ARAM Head office consists of 350 students ((13x200) + 350 = 3000 approx). So, as on date **nearly 3000 students** are getting benefited by ARAM Trust.





3. Free evening food scheme

The trust is providing free evening food for all the students of ARAM tuition centre. In this scheme, the evening food is provided from Monday to Friday (5 days in a week). Mr. Radhakrishnan.V, District Educational Officer of Thiruvarur District, has inaugurated this scheme.



Free Evening Food scheme for students

4. ARAM Computer Centre

ARAM Trust has started computer classes for poor students in the month of Oct 2008. Sundaramoorthy Swamiji inaugurated the Free Computer Centre in ARAM Trust. ARAM Trust has more than 300 students having their computer education as on date. Mr. J.M.Karthikeyan from TCS, Co-Founder of ARAM Trust, is traveling from Chennai to Valangaiman on every week ends, to take the classes. Apart from JMK, ARAM Trust has 3 dedicated staff members to manage the classes in the week days.



Mr. J.M.Karthikeyan is taking computer classes at ARAM Trust to a massive number of students.

4. Motivating Students to get Good Marks:

The Trust has decided to give Rs.1000/- to each and every poor student who is getting more than 400 marks out of 500 in class 10th from rural schools. Crossing the 400 marks in rural government schools is a big achievement to everyone. This initiative was already started and the trust has given reward to 8 peoples who have secured more than 400 marks in SSLC for the academic year 2007-2008. This will invariably help them to continue their education.



5. Embroidery and Beautician Courses:

The trust provides embroidery and beautician courses for widows and poor girls at free of cost to make them an entrepreneur. They are empowered to earn a minimum of Rs.2-3k every month from their home by supporting their family. The trust has paved the way for the school dropout who has completed 18 years to secure a job in M/s. Lucas TVS and TI Tires (located in Chennai).



Embroidery and Beautician Courses at ARAM Trust

6. Simple Chemicals Training Course

Aram Trust has started Simple Chemical Training Course for Widow, Poor, Destitute people. These courses will empower them to get a good income and bring them up in their life.

This Simple Chemical Training Courses includes "Candles", "Chalk Piece", "Phenol", "Instance Sticks", "Clothes Washing Powder", "Dish Wash Powder". ARAM Trust is also providing the "Screen Printing" courses at free of cost.

After these courses ARAM Trust is planning to conduct some other courses like Rubber Stamp, Book Binding, Leather Tailoring, Paper Cups, etc.



Practical session about making "Chalk Piece" at ARAM Trust



Practical Session about making different types of "Candles" at ARAM Trust



Practical Session about making "Phenol". The peoples are actively involved in the session.



The tutor is explaining about the steps of making "Washing Powder".



A View of the students is getting trained in "Instance Stick" making at ARAM Trust.



The Students are actively involved in the "Screen Printing" Courses conducted by ARAM Trust

7. Spoken English classes:

The trust is provided free spoken English courses during the last summer for 120 students. 93 of them get passed in their final examinations and got certificate from the District Educational Officer. The next batch is going to commence by this summer and we are planning to give the spoken English courses for 250 students.



A section of the students in the classroom

Silent observation of the students

8. Aringar Anna Library:

The Aringar Anna Library was opened on Sep 13, 2008 by ARAM Trust for the students and peoples to acquire general knowledge. This library consists of more than 200 books related to computers and electronics and over 100 books related to general knowledge. Notable collections include Bharathiyar, Bharathidasan and kannadasan. The students are encouraged to avail maximum benefit from these books.



Part of students in the Library Inauguration Function

Collection of books for display by ARAM Trust

9. Awareness Sessions

ARAM Trust has conducted various Awareness sessions and campaigns in the past one year. Some of the notable sessions are mentioned here. ARAM Trust has conducted Education Awareness, education loans Awareness, Environmental Awareness, Legal Awareness, computer

Awareness, Women Awareness, Women Empowerment, Human Rights, Political Awareness, Fire & Rescue Awareness,



Higher Education and Education Loans Awareness sessions for +1 and +2 students





Social Welfare Awareness sessions for youngsters by ARAM Trust

10. Anti Terrorism Campaign

ARAM Trust has conducted the Anti Terrorism campaign at Valangaiman. ARAM Trust has organized this campaign with a massive number of 3400 students from various schools.

Mr. Mohammed Arif Sahib, Deputy Collector of Thiruvarur Dt, inaugurated this Campaign. The Campaign went through the important streets of Valangaiman. This Campaign made a big hit in Valangaiman and lot of students and public get the awareness of the same.



Anti Terrorism campaign by ARAM Trust in Valangaiman, Thiruvarur Dt

11. ARAM Flood Rescue Operations

Almost all the people in Tamil Nadu will remember Nisha as a Night mare. The recent cyclone Nisha has made thousands of people homeless, spoiled thousands of hectares of fertile land.

Nearly 60 villages are totally vanished in Valangaiman Taluk (Part of a District) and more than 2800 peoples lost their houses because of flood. Military was called for rescue operations and they have rescued 773 people from the flood. It seems to be a record in the history of military which rescues more number of peoples in a single operation by a single unit.

90% of the affected peoples are farmers and their lands are fully surrounded by water, their cattle's are washed away by the flood. It was these cattle's they depend upon for their daily meals. They need to start their life right from the scratch. We have shared some of the pictures taken during the flood and how our Trust has helped the people during the crucial days.





Water...Water... Everywhere... and the affected Citizens of India

ARAM Trust had started their service immediately during the cyclone. ARAM Trust has provided food for **2850** peoples for 4 days and it's distributed nearly 15,000 packets of food for elders, 5600 packets of biscuits and milk for children's. It also conducted a on the spot medical camp during the rescue operation handled by Military. We have given shelter and food for the military peoples. ARAM Trust has worked with Military, Deputy Collector of Thiruvarur District and with Revenue officers during that time and provided food and medical aids to the rescued peoples.





Food Preparation by the Trust



The Food was tasted and tested by the Dy.Collector of Thiruvarur.



Food Packets, Hot Water, Milk Preparation and getting ready for distribution.





People who affected in flood got food from ARAM Trust



Dy.collector of Thiruvarur and Revenue officers has appreciated the Mr.J.M.Karthikeyan for efforts taken by ARAM Trust for the Flood Rescue Operations

12. Independence Day and Republic Day celebrations

ARAM Trust celebrated the 61st Independence Day of our nation on Aug 15, 2008. One of the freedom fighter Mr. T.N.Kathaiyan Nattar has hoisted the flag in the presence of Trust students, staffs and members.



The Freedom fighter hoisting the flag

Mr. T.N.Kathaiyan Nattar lightning the lamp

ARAM Trust has celebrated the Republic day on Jan 26, 2009 at the Trust campus. Nearly 100 students, staffs and members of ARAM Trust and public were part of this celebration.



Flag Hoisting ceremony on Republic Day in ARAM Trust

13. ARAM Sports Meet and Competitions

ARAM Trust has conducted sports meets and competitions for 5 times in this year. It was happened on Independence Day, Christmas Day, Republic Day, during Education Help in Jan 2009, and District Level Sports Meet in Feb 2009.



Speaking and Drawing Competition on Christmas Day Celebrations



14. Deepavali Celebrations

ARAM Trust has celebrated Deepavali on Oct 27, 2008 with 100 peoples (86 orphans, 10 old aged and 4 handicapped). New Clothes, Sweets has been given to all of them. The children are enjoyed this deepavali with the new clothes, sweets and especially with crackers. Mr. Kudanthai Senthil, a stage performer from **SUN TV "Asathapovadhu Yaaru"** has entertained the peoples with his mimicry and standing jokes. All the 100 peoples are stayed for the whole day in ARAM Trust and enjoyed their deepavali festival.



The View of the children who celebrated Deepavali in ARAM Trust





15. National Leaders Curtain Raising Programs

ARAM Trust used to celebrate the birthdays of all the National Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa, Nehru, Indra Gandhi, Aringar Anna, M.G.Ramachandran, etc. On the same day we used the raise the curtain in ARAM Trust for that leader and also inaugurate new schemes for the students. On Mother Teresa birthday we have started the free evening food scheme, on Gandhi Jayanthi we started the Tree planting, on Nehru birthday we started the Computer Classes and on Aringar Anna birthday we started "Aringar Anna Library".



Curtain raiser for the Photo of Mother Teresa in ARAM Trust



Curtain raiser for the Photo of Mahatma Gandhi and ARAM Trust started Tree Planting.



16. Birthday Celebrations:

The trust believes that all are children's of God and ever body has a reason to born in this world. The Last Sunday of every month will be the celebration of birthday for the students and staffs whose birth day falls in that particular month. Previously the Celebration of birth days is a night mare for them and they can only dream it or see it in a film. Now the dream has become reality. From the month of August 2008 ARAM Trust is celebrating the birthdays on last Sunday of every month.





<u>17. Sports Utilities for ARAM Trust Students</u>

ARAM Trust has given the sports utilities to the Tuition Centre Students. The students can make use of the Chess, Carom board from 4:15 to 5:15 PM before the tuition starts.



The Sports Utilities are given to the ARAM Trust Students

18. Physical Education for the Students - December 28, 2008

ARAM Trust has started the physical education for the students from December 28, 2008 onwards. From that day 15 minutes physical education time is allocated for the students. The students are trained to do some basic exercises to make them fit. After the physical education session the Trust will provide the free evening food for the students and then the free tuition classes will commence for the students.



Mr. Manoharan, founder of ARAM Trust is giving the training to the students

Future Plans:

- ARAM Trust is planning to sponsor 1000 poor and needy students for their entire education from this education year (Jun'09 to Apr'10) onwards.
- Planning to start an Orphanage and Old Age home.
- Free English Medium School till 8th standard by 2010.
- Expand the Free Evening Tuition Centers to all major villages and towns in Thiruvarur District by 2009 and to other districts by 2010.
- Expand the Computer, Spoken English, Technical and Small Chemical courses to all major villages in Thiruvarur District by 2010.
- Planning to give some other courses like Rubber Stamp, Book Binding, Leather Tailoring, Paper Cups, etc by June 2009 for 300 peoples.

Final Verdict (1 to 1 Rule):

Mr. J.M.Karthikeyan and J.Manoharan have torn their muscles and the Trust has covered a limited boundary in Thiruvarur District. The Trust witnessed over whelming response among the people and the no. of peoples approaching the trust for help has grown exponentially. ARAM is kept on expanding its boundaries to help a lot of people who are really struggling to come up in their life. ARAM is really trying to create stronger India by empowering the poor students.

In our Nation there are lots of children from rural areas who are not getting the education because of the family situations. Today's children will become the youth by 2020. If the major portion of them doesn't even have preliminary education, then achieving the "Developed Nation by 2020" will remains only as a dream.

Today somehow we are all got our graduation and have a decent job to support our family, But each and every one of us should extend our support and help at least 1 poor child to become a good citizen. If each and every one of us can do this, then our nation will surely become a "Developed Nation" by 2020. It's in our hands to make this happen. A very small amount from your pocket every month will make a big difference in the life of a child.

Let us "STOP" Thinking, try to Join our hands together, and "START" doing something, to make the betterment of our Society and our Nation.

If you want to get details about ARAM Trust and want to participate in the forth coming services please contact J.M.Karthikeyan.

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