

GRAMA SEVA SANGAM

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17



982, NEEM HOUSE, KILIKKUDI (VILLAGE & POST),
ILLUPUR (TALUK), PUDUKKOTTAI DISTRICT
TAMIL NADU - 622 102.

LOCATION MAP



Pudukkottai District

Amburpatti & Avvayarpatti



Grama Seva Sangam takes much pleasure in presenting Annual Report for the year 2016-2017. In this year we strengthened the previous watershed activities and also introduced those activities in another villages and thereby we covered more area and more people were benefited through our committed service. Our initiative creates larger impact sociologically, economically and environmentally for the benefit of the rural masses in Pudukkottai District. For the holistic development of the rural community we take Integrated watershed management as an approach and which has been being proved as we envisaged. Biodiversity has been ensured, rural economy has been substantially increased and women and child rights has been ensured. Here with we Given detail of various activities taken in the two watershed programmes namely Amburpatti Watershed, Avvaiyarpatti watershed in our project area.

AMBURPATTI WATERSHED PROGRAMME

In Amburpatti Watershed programme the following villages of Senalagudi, Madayanipatti, Avoor, S.Pudupatti, N.Pudupatti, Othaveetu, Orandakudi, Seethapatti, Samiuranipatti and A.Melapatti, covering on area of 2188.655 ha. In this watershed area Total families 675, Total Population 3155, (Male-1588, Female-1567)

WATER AND SOIL CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

In Amburpatti village in 14 acres farm bunds were laid down. In Amburpatti and Sengalagudi villages check dams were constructed to arrest soil erosion. Further the channels were also desilted so that to increase the water infiltration into the underground. The previous laid bunds were also strengthened.



**Check Dam by Consturction
Sengalagudi Vari**



**Check Dam by Natural Gullies
Narikikula Vari**

INCOME GENERATION ACTIVITY

This year 1598 different timber valued and fruit bearing trees were planted in 23 acres in the project area with an objective that they might improve the economic status of the farming community in future and also to feed the live stock. Further in the project area we promote organic practice for which green manure and composting are encouraged. These trees are being used for this purpose.



WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

This year too we started 6 new women Self Help Groups in the rest of the villages. At present there are 333 women members who have been enrolled in all the 24 Groups. These groups are empowered with various trainings. Savings and credit system has been introduced among the group members to reduce the habit of going for credit facility elsewhere, where high rate of interest was collected. Five awareness camps have been conducted on women rights to the members of the women self help groups.

Three awareness camps have been conducted to reduce school drop-out rate in the project area. The staff of GSS periodically visit the villages and taken necessary steps to enroll children in the schools. Educational materials like school bags, stationeries and note books were distributed to the deserving students.



Coir Making Training for Women SHG



Distribution of Education Materials to Gujarat Students

TRAINING AND CAMPS

All the stake holders, farmers, women, young and children were facilitated with various trainings and awareness camps to ensure hundred percent involvement in the watershed programme. The following trainings were conducted in this region for this year.

- a. Organic manure and pesticide making training to the farmers.
- b. Savings and credit management training to the women self help group leaders.
- c. Soil and watershed training to the farmers.
- d. Horticulture training to the farming community
- e. Seed treatment training to the women farmers
- f. Leadership training to the leaders of the women self help groups.
- g. Women and child rights-awareness programme to the women self help group members in addition to the trainings and camps the farmers were taken on an exposure visit to TRUPA, Thirupathur to gain first hand information on soil and water conservation techniques in the watershed.



**Farmers Training
TRUPA Thirupathur**



**Women SHG Training
Neerpalani**

AVVAIYARPATTI WATERSHED PROGRAMME

This watershed area includes Five villages namely Avvaiyarpatti, Neerpalani, karapattu, Nariyipatti, and Vemmani. Total area is 212.05 ha, Total families 703, Total Population 3451, Male - 1779, Female - 1672. In both of these Watershed integrated watershed management activities were taken up. 1245 men and 1172 women were benefited through this project this year and 2512.37 ha was brought in to watershed management activity so as to bring forth benefits to the farming community.

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES



Field bund Mulipatti village



De-silting of Kallappudian oorani Melapatti

WOMEN CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

The previously started women self help groups have been strengthened periodically. 520 women have been enrolled in the self help groups as members. Saving and credit system has been being practiced within the project region, which helps them to save money and has reduced the practice of going for loan in high rate of interest.



Coir Making Unit For Working Children Kallukattupatti



Distribution of Education Materials to Rajalipatti Students

ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

In 31 acres of land in the whole watershed area 2070 different tree varieties have been planted and developed. Those trees will provide more income in future to the families. Further they will also conserve the soil and water in the watershed region.



Demonstration Plot of lemon cultivation



Demonstration Plot of Teak cultivation

TRAININGS AND AWARENESS CAMPS

The following trainings were facilitated to the farmers, women and youth club members to capacitate them and to involve them fully in water shed activities.

- *Soil and watershed training to the farmers
- *Seed treatment training to the women farmers
- *Organic manure and pesticide making training to the farmers
- *Savings and credit management training to the women self help group leaders.
- *Live stock training to the unemployed youth members.
- *Leadership training to the leaders of the women self help groups
- *Women and child rights- awareness programme to the women self help group members

To gain first hand experience on soil and water conservation activities, the farmers were taken on exposure visit to TRUPA, Thiruppathur where they have watershed model. This programme help the farmers to get motivation and to obtain technical knowledge.



CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECT

GSS is the lead organization in ACT (Addressing Climate change Together) network. This year in partnership with four organizations in Tamilnadu state, this project was implemented. The main purpose of the project is to create a micro forest in the region so that the community should understand the need of the forest and motivate them to protect the forest land. Further, school students and college students were sensitized through this project to get themselves involved in the process of protecting the forest region in their respective area.



Awareness Programme on Climate Change in Pudukkottai

Future Plan

Though we have taken up several measures to save water in our region, the requirement is still more. Therefore , we need to create awareness among the community on saving water . Further steps also to be taken to save rain water both for irrigation and drinking. We have de-silted only a few water tanks, there are still more tanks around the village. Integrating the people we have planned to strengthen the water bodies in future.

We would like to concentrate more on youth. They are educated but job opportunity is remote. To address this issue we have planned to provide skill training to the youth according to their interest and aptitude and make them as entrepreneurs.

Climate related issues are seen visibly in our region. So it is imperative to create awareness on climate change. Further, the community should be appraised of climate adaptation and mitigation measures to be taken specific to their environment.

In agriculture and live stock Production still more updated reformation is needed, we search for it and to introduce them in our region so that it might create larger impact.

Appreciating and admiring our tireless effort of, GSS in the field of social development among the poor in the pudukkottai District, the following awards were given to us.

- (1) Reliance Foundation KNOWLEDGE FAIR
- (2) GOLDEN STAR Milleninnium Award
National Integrity Cultural Academy, Chennai
- (3) VIJAY SUPER TV, Chennai







CONCLUSION

We are very much obligated to the NABARD Bank and other government Departments namely Agriculture Department and Horticulture Department for their technical support to make the watershed programme a successful one. We also thank the panchayat elected bodies for their co-operation and support. The success we attained is a joint effort for which we are bound to thank each and every one, for their tireless and committed service and support.

- Secretary Committee Members
& Project Community

