An AIM for Seva Quarterly

Let us respect the environment

What makes the second and third generations of a family become part of and support AIM for Seva?

The age-old wisdom of living in harmony with nature is put into practice at all our institutions
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DEAR FRIENDS,

Namaste.

Seva is timeless and boundless and the momentum for any movement lies in continuous service to society. As we turn a score shortly, I am happy to share that AIM for Seva has moved to the next level. Our cover story—second and third generation supporters is a testimony to the fact that it is not numbers alone that make a difference in transforming lives across rural India.

As we begin the new fiscal, I am happy to share that our students have performed well in the recently concluded Board Examination (Classes 10 and 12), with some of them scoring centum and perfect 10s (in GPA).

The unbounded joy in this issue of Outreach continues with Pujya Swamiji’s affirmation that ‘Ananda is your very nature’ in the Words of Wisdom section.

Kuru sevam tvam—let us all continue on the path of seva.

With best wishes,

SHEELA BALAJI
Chairperson and Managing Trustee
AIM for Seva
The strength of any movement lies in the baton being passed on effortlessly from one generation to the next. At AIM for Seva, we are happy to share that our movement has gone on to the next level. From one hostel in 2001, we have moved to over 100 in 2019. However, it is not about numbers alone. Behind the figures are countless people—donors, volunteers and supporters—who have made a difference to close to 9,000 students from rural India. What is equally gratifying is that the next generation from the same family is coming forward to do seva. As we turn 20 shortly, we are proud to share glimpses of our 2G and 3G (second and third) generation support. To rephrase the title of the book, Many Lives, Many Masters (by Dr. Brian Weiss), it is ‘One Master, Many Lives’ in the case of AIM for Seva.

What makes the second and third generations of a family follow in their parents’ and grandparents’ footsteps when it comes to supporting AIM for Seva? We find out.

Did mobile telephony come to your mind the minute you read the headline? From experiencing life transformation to being a recipient of spiritual upliftment, our founder, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati, has touched many lives in many different ways.
Siana Kapoor and Aria Kapoor raised $5,000 to set up a computer centre for the boys living at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chattralayam in Udaipur, Rajasthan. Aria (13 years) created a website to promote the cause and raise funds, and did a ‘Swim-a-thon’ where she swam 70 laps. Her sister, Siana (12 years), performed an ‘Adavu-a-thon’ where she presented a one-hour classical dance performance. The girls flew down from the USA with their family and inaugurated the computer centre in February 2017. The centre has seven Lenovo computers and a printer. A trainer teaches computing to our students.

Siana and Aria are granddaughters of Sri. Vijay Kapoor, who is the founder of the Arsha Vidya Center in the San Francisco Bay Area, California, USA. Sri. Vijay Kapoor was one of the early students of Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati, having met Swamiji on his very first visit to the USA in 1976. Sri. Kapoor currently teaches Vedanta to over 150 students. He has been associated with AIM for Seva from the beginning, and raised funds for the Swami Dayananda High School in Rishikesh in 2006.

The entire family was involved from the start for the Udaipur Chattralayam computer centre cause. Aria and Siana’s father’s friend helped them to create a link so that the funds raised could be sent directly to AIM for Seva. The girls also made a poster to display the event.

The girls’ visit and exchange with the students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chattralayam for Boys, Udaipur, Rajasthan, in 2017, was indeed fruitful. This was the first time the girls had visited India. “We played games with our new friends in Udaipur,” says Siana. “Even though we didn’t speak a common language, we found it easy to interact. We loved the performances the kids had prepared,” said Aria.

Both Aria and Siana are looking to do more fundraisers for AIM for Seva. They are keen to visit the Udaipur Chattralayam again, as well as a hostel in south India. “Aria and Siana have both attended several AIM for Seva donor appreciation events in the Bay Area, and know that I am very involved in it. Being born and raised in the USA, they had no first-hand experience of India. The visit to the Udaipur Chattralayam was the highlight of their exposure to India. More than visiting tourist spots, interacting with young Indian children leaves a deeper impression on their young minds—one that will shape their understanding of the culture later in life,” says their proud grandfather.
A coordinator of the Connecticut chapter since 2015, Dr. Sankar Niranjan and his wife, Dr. Varalakshmi, have been monthly donors of AIM for Seva since 2010. Now the ‘Gen Next’ from the family are taking the torch forward.

Dr. Niranjan’s daughter, Abinaya, visited Manjakkudi in 2015, during the Global Youth Leadership Program or GYLP (see box on Page 8 for details on GYLP). She is now studying in New York University. Her brother, Amruth, who studies in high school, attended the GYLP programme in 2018. He is part of GYLP 2019, too. Talking about his children’s involvement, Dr. Niranjan says, “They have become more attuned to the broad principles of Pujya Swamiji’s teachings and their application in day-to-day life. They understand the circumstances in which children live and attend school in India. They understand how privileged they are compared to the children they have visited in Chatralayams and rural schools.”

Dr. Niranjan says that, for him, it was contributing to an organisation that was involved in providing education for the underprivileged. “For my children, it was to know first-hand the schooling practices in rural India, analysing the similarities and differences in the lifestyle /
education of their peers. They have been forthcoming in volunteering at our chapter events and speaking to the public about their GYLP experience, extolling the virtues of AIM for Seva,” he says.

The Niranjans’ association with AIM for Seva has come a long way from coordinating the Connecticut chapter’s first donor appreciation event, Anita Guha’s ‘Signet of Hope’ (Sundarakandam) in Connecticut. “We have always felt the need to give back to our roots in India for worthy causes. We both grew up in lower middle-class backgrounds and what helped us in our life were the educational opportunities that were given to us. We wanted to ensure that we help as many children as possible to get such opportunities. We found AIM for Seva to be the ideal partner in India to help us do this,” concludes Dr. Niranjan.
While his *karma bhoomi* (land of action) is the land of dreams, Kumar Balasubramanian continues to retain strong ties with his *matra bhoomi* (place of birth). A strong Indian connect for Bala after family, relatives and friends is AIM for Seva.

Balasubramanian and his wife were introduced to the movement in November 2009, when the couple visited the Saylorsburg Ashram in Pennslyvannia, USA, to enrich themselves. A month later, during the Christmas break, they were fortunate to attend classes on *Kenopanishad* taught by our founder, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati. “Swamiji’s lectures were really impactful. We were really amazed with his energy levels. Swami had landed at Newark airport at 3 p.m. that day and he started taking classes at 5 p.m. that very evening at the Saylorsburg Ashram. He was in his late 70s at that time but he demonstrated to all of us what a *karma yogi* should do. He showed so much commitment that we started to attend Vedanta classes at the Saylorsburg Ashram regularly,” remembers Balasubramanian.

In 2012, Balasubramanian and his wife, Subha, met other senior members from AIM for Seva, USA, during a Christmas retreat programme at the Saylorsburg Ashram. They took part in the AIM for Seva’s annual convention, held at the same place, in 2013. “Swamiji’s speech where he listed out priorities of an individual, family, work and *seva* left a huge impression on us,” Balasubramanian shares. Bala's two kids have now joined the movement and are active participants in spreading the word about educating rural India.

As Pujya Swamiji said, “You can give your time, you can lend a sympathetic ear to someone, you can express words of appreciation, encouragement, empathy and so on. Sharing your knowledge with somebody is also caring. You can also pray for somebody; there are many ways of giving.” There are many ways to give, and our 2G and 3G supporters are all about giving in their own ways.

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**Global Youth Leadership Program (GYLP)**

An initiative of AIM for Seva USA, the GYLP programme is open for high school and college students who have attended the Purna Vidya cultural heritage classes as well as Arsha Vidya Gurukulam camp participants. AIM for Seva student volunteers are also given preference. The vision of this programme is to shape global leaders of the future.

The programme is held for two weeks in December, during the holiday break at Manjakkudi, the birthplace of our founder, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati. GYLP participants travel to rural India, stay in a village and teach as well as learn from students living in our Chatralayam in Sembangudi as well as our school students from Sembangudi and Manjakkudi. The idea is to appreciate each others opportunities to ‘give and receive’ and eventually become contributing members of the society. Each GYLP participant is given a class of students to teach spoken English, written English, hands on science concepts, Indian classical music and dance, history and so on.
ACADEMICS

Toppers all the way

While Shashi Kumar Talwar bagged 56%, and Mahesh B. Maribasannavar secured 80.8% in the public examination.

UTTAR PRADESH

Our first batch of Class 10 students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva 100th Chatralayam for Boys, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh scored a 1st class. Suraj Kumar Gond got 68.8%, while Harinarayan Choudary came in a close second with 67.5%.

ANDHRA PRADESH, MAHARASHTRA AND TELANGANA

Special mention should be made of S. Triveni, K. Mohan, Keluskar Ratnaprabha Eknath and Sawant Krishna Vasant. S. Triveni who aced her Class 10 Board Examinations with a GPA of 10, was one of the school toppers. She is from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Tribal Girls Chatralayam, Nandyal, Andhra Pradesh. Triveni did her Class 10 from Sri Shantiniketan School, Nandyal. K. Mohan from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Bobbili, Andhra Pradesh, scored a perfect 10 and secured school 1st position in the Class 10 Board Examination. He studies at the Gayathri High School, Bobbili. Keluskar Ratnaprabha Eknath from the Kumari Deepa Devi Singh AIM for Seva Chatralayam

KARNATAKA

From south India, eight of our girl hostelers from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Belgaum, Karnataka cleared their Board Examinations. Three of them managed to score above 80%. They are Rikynti Rynthathiang (83.68%), Renuka Raju Goje (81.28%) and Ilajong Rymmai (81.12%). Akkamahadevi Gavisiddappa Chapiyavara and Veeramma S. Hurali from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Yelahanka, Karnataka, secured the 1st and 3rd position in the Class 10 Board Examination. They are students of Government High School, Yelahanka town, Bangalore. Akkamahadevi got 88.16% while Veeramma scored 73.60%. C. Sowmya from the same Chatralayam and school stood second in the Class 10 Board Examination; she scored 81.13%.

Our boy hostelers from the same region weren’t far behind. All three students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Kalabhatti, Belgaum, Karnataka cleared their Class 10 Board Examination. Basappa S. Karlapanavar scored 74.8%, while Shashi Kumar Talwar bagged 56%, and Mahesh B. Maribasannavar secured 80.8% in the public examination.
Sawant Krishna Vasant

Omar Kumar (Class 1, Gyan Niketan Residential School) and Piyush Kumar (Class 1, Divine Light Public School) deserve a pat on their backs! Omar stood second in his class with 88.94% and Piyush Kumar stood first in his class with 91%! Both boys live and study at our Sumitra Surma AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys in Vivekanandapuram, Maur village (Barbhiga taluk, Sheikhpura district, Bihar). Their schools are in Barbigha taluk, Sheikhpura district, Bihar. We are very proud of their achievements and wish them well.

K. Maruthi

Today, nearly 50% of our hostels are equipped with a library. All this could have not been possible but for the support of countless donors and other well wishers. Their support to our movement of educating rural India occurs in different ways: gifting of stationery and books, establishing libraries, donating sports gears and cycles and much more.

Congratulations to B. Sandeep, who was awarded the Best Student Award at SSR MPL Elementary School, Bapatla. Sandeep (who studies in Class 5) lives and studies at the Kosuri-Doraswamy AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys in Bapatla, Andhra Pradesh. He is one of 36 boys in this Chatralayam.

Sawant Krishna Vasant joined the Dayasagar AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Sawantwadi, Maharashtra, when he was in Class 9. He is blind in one eye and has blurred vision in another, but that did not deter him from aiming high. Sawant appeared for the Class 10 Board Examinations this year with the help of a scribe, and scored 66.20%.

From the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Utnoor, Telangana, K. Maruthi stood 1st in his school (GPA 8.5) in the Class 10 Board Examinations. He studies in Sri Saraswathi Shishu Mandir, Utnoor.

Our Chatralayams are centres of learning where our students are provided with adequate after school academic support. Educating rural students is an ongoing process with tuitions, exposure to cultural learning through music and yoga and all round development through sports.

Sawant Krishna Vasant
Our students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Kailkalur, Andhra Pradesh passed with flying colours in the annual examinations conducted in their school.

U. Ramu (U.K.G) got 2nd rank, while M.V.K. Reddy (U.K.G) stood 3rd, and P. Manohar (Class 8) secured 3rd rank. R. Kiran (Class 4) stood 1st in abacus while S. Devi Sri Naga Prasad (Class 6) got the 4th rank in abacus. T. Dinesh Kumar (Class 5) got the 5th rank in abacus.

N. Priya (1st year B.Com) received a cash award for being the school topper in the Class 12 Board Examinations at the Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu. She is from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls (Sr), Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu. Similarly, V. Ponnudurai (Class 6) and K. Rajaji (Class 7) studying in Municipal Middle School, Palani, won accolades for their academic excellence. Rajaji got a cash reward of Rs. 500 as well. The boys are living and studying at the Dayasagar AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Palani, Tamil Nadu.

G. Bharatbhai Parmar and G. Khant Vinodbhai, who are studying mechanical engineering at the Government Polytechnic in Godhra, Gujarat, won the 1st prize for their project on ‘Investigations on low cost desalinator’ at ‘Aavishkar’, a technical event at the polytechnic. Both boys are from the Mayur Patel AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys in Kankanpur village, Godhra taluk, Gujarat. They came to the Chatralayam in 2009, when they were in Class 6.
ALL-ROUNDERS

Ramayana winners

Our students from the Bhavani Arun AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Chinnasalem, Tamil Nadu participated in the ‘Global Level Sri Ramayana Contest (Ayodhya Kandam)’ that was conducted by Srimaan Trust. All our girl hostlers participated in this contest and 10 of them came back with prizes. There are 42 girls living in the Chinnasalem hostel.

Last year, our girl students from the Atmalaya Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Udumalpet, Tamil Nadu, went on a temple tour across Tiruchirapalli and Thanjavur. The Srimaan Trust took care of their boarding and accommodation.

Little painters

Our students D. Praveen Kumar (Class 5), M. Dharanidharan (Class 7), V. Balaji (Class 6) and S. Dasaradhan (Class 6), from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Uchimedu, Tamil Nadu, participated in a painting workshop conducted by the Government Museum, Kadalur, Tamil Nadu. V. Dinesh and N. Deepak from the same Chatralayam (both in Class 6) are budding artists in paper craft. There are 28 boys living in this Chatralayam.

Singing stars from Yelahanka

Our students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Yelahanka, Karnataka, participated in a music concert at ‘Aradhanotsava’ conducted by Tattva Foundation. All of them were honoured with participation certificates and medals.
A unique component of AIM for Seva’s value-education model is cultural education. Culture validation across our hostels is done through various activities like classical music training, learning of the Bhagavad Gita and other oral traditions and yoga. And the results are for all to see. K. Rajaji (Class 7) from the Dayasagar AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Palani, Tamil Nadu won the 1st prize in the Tirukkural recitation competition in the Thiruvallur Vizha conducted by the Dr. C.P. Samy Trust in Palani, Tamil Nadu.

P. Mahalakshmi, a Class 11 student residing at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls (Jr), Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu, won the 2nd prize in essay writing and drawing competition held in her school, Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu. The title of the essay competition was ‘Students’ Role in Society’, while the title of the drawing competition was ‘National Leaders’. During the first term of last academic year (2018-19), Mahalakshmi secured the 3rd position in a drawing competition on healthy lifestyle.

Our boy hostelers weren’t far behind. D. Yaswanth Sai (Class 8) won the 1st prize in essay writing (on Sir C.V. Raman) held in his school, the Government High School, Kalluru, Telangana. Venkata Sai Krishna (Class 10) won the 1st prize both in debating (‘How Science Is Useful Today’) and essay writing (on Sir. C.V. Raman) held in his school, the PS School, Kalluru, Telangana. Both boys are from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Kallur, Telangana. This Chatralayam is home to 21 boys.
SPORTS
Athletes all the way

K. Gayathri (pictured above—left and centre), an alumna from the Bhavani Arun AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Chinnasalem, Tamil Nadu bagged the 3rd prize in the 400-metre athletics, 2nd prize in 100 metre athletics, and 1st prize in ball badminton. She is a final year student, and is pursuing B.E. Computer Science from Anna University.

I. Asha, a Class 9 student (pictured above—right) from the Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu, won the 1st place in long jump and 200-metre running, and 3rd place in shot put in her school’s Sports Day. Asha is from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls (Jr), Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu. There are 32 girls at this Chatralayam.

Our girl hostlers from the Ohm Shri Shiv Sankalp Seva Trust AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Uttarsanda, Gujarat, participated and won prizes in various competitions on the occasion of Sports Day held in their school campus. There are 50 girls living and studying in this Chatralayam.
To know more on our Founder’s vision, please visit www.avrpt.com, the website of Arsha Vidya Research and Publication Trust. This is a registered non-profitable charitable organisation, and is the single source centre for editing and publishing Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati’s teachings.

Compassion, the dynamic form of *ananda*, is your very nature. Whether you know it completely or not, you can understand this much—that *ananda* cannot be anything else. There is no object called *ananda* and there is no place called *ananda*. It is not a given time, and it is not an attribute of an object. There is not a place, a magic place, where you go to become happy. You can be happy and you can be unhappy anywhere. Still, you do have moments of happiness and, therefore, you can understand that happiness is not anywhere else except centred in you.

Some say that happiness is inside you. What does that mean? Is happiness in the mind? If the mind makes you happy, does it mean that when you are sad, there is no mind? Even in having its desires fulfilled, the mind is happy only temporarily. However, whenever you are happy, more often than not, you have not fulfilled any desire. Also, more often than not, you need not fulfil a desire to be happy. So what does this happiness depend upon? It depends upon you. It is not even the condition of the mind. When you do not see yourself as a wanting person, if a situation does not evoke a wanting person, you are happy. That is your nature. In fact, you are happy when you are yourself, not when you are what you think you are.

When I look into the system of human values, what stands out for me as a thing to be cultivated deliberately and consciously is compassion. It evokes the bigness in you, the wholeness in you, the love, the giving, and the understanding in you. It also evokes the gentleness in you.

**ANANDA**

is your very nature
Sundaram Finance

Sundaram Finance has been a continuous supporter to AIM for Seva. During the first quarter of 2019–20, they gave Rs. 5 lakh as students sponsorships for our hostelers from the Seshachariar AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Cumbum, Tamil Nadu.

IFCI Social Foundation

IFCI Social Foundation, the corporate social responsibility (CSR) arm of IFCI, has disbursed the second instalment of Rs. 5 lakh (total sanctioned amount was Rs. 20.85 lakh) towards the construction of a girls toilet at the Swami Dayananda Rotary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Kadalur, Tamil Nadu.

Turbo Energy Pvt. Ltd

A regular donor to AIM for Seva, Turbo Energy continued its assistance in the new fiscal by giving Rs. 1 lakh towards student sponsorships.

ABI Showatech India Limited

A regular donor to our cause, ABI Showatech donated Rs. 1 lakh towards student sponsorships during the first quarter of the fiscal.

Mrs. Neela Lakshmanan, Bengaluru

Mrs. Neela Lakshmanan donated Rs. 10 lakh towards 20 student sponsorships (10 girls and 10 boys), and towards construction of a girls Chatralayam.

Ms. Radha Daga, Chennai

Ms. Radha Daga from the city has donated Rs. 40 lakh towards purchase of land for a new girls Chatralayam.

Ms. Gayathre Rajam, Chennai

Yoga teacher and philanthrophist, Ms. Gayathre Rajam has donated Rs. 2.4 lakh towards student sponsorships.

Sri. R. Venkataraman, Chennai

Our regular donor, Sri. R. Venkataraman from Tiruvanmiyur, Chennai, gave Rs. 8 lakh towards student sponsorships during the first quarter of this fiscal.

Ms. Usha Aryon, North Wales, PA

Ms. Usha Aryon from Pennsylvania, USA, has donated Rs. 15 lakh towards renovation of the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Karnaprayag, Uttarakhand.

Sri. Rama Charitable Trust, Chennai

A long time donor of AIM for Seva, Sri. Rama Charitable Trust donated Rs. 3 lakh towards the Swami Dayananda Rotary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Kadalur, Tamil Nadu.

KKR Trust, Chennai

A longstanding supporter of ours, the KKR Trust donated Rs. 1.8 lakh towards student sponsorships for our hostelers from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Thiruvidaimarudur, Tamil Nadu.

RS Jhaver Seva Trust, Chennai

The Chennai-based trust donated Rs. 2 lakh towards student sponsorships during the first quarter of 2019-20.

Ms. Jayashree Suresh Parekh, Chennai

Ms. Jayashree Suresh Parekh donated Rs. 1 lakh towards student sponsorships in April to June 2019.

Sri. Nitin Goyal, Chennai

Sri. Nitin Goyal donated Rs. 1 lakh towards student sponsorships during the first quarter of 2019–20.
With each passing year, we are proud to have maintained consistent performance by students from our Chatralayams in the Class 10 and 12 Board Exams. This correlates to our findings that our Chatralayams have played a major role in motivating students to stay on in school and complete their formal, certified education.

**Educational Institutions**

### 2019 Class 10 Results
- **Sembangudi Higher Secondary School, Semmangudi, Tamil Nadu**
  - 91% Pass
  - School First - 92.2%
- **Swami Dayananda Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu**
  - 100% Pass
  - School First - 96.8%
- **Swami Dayananda Rotary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Kadalur, Tamil Nadu**
  - 97% Pass
  - School First - 92.4%
- **AIM for Seva Balika Vidyalaya, Khategaon, Madhya Pradesh**
  - 100% Pass
  - School First - 91.2%

### 2019 Class 12 Results
- **Sembangudi Higher Secondary School, Semmangudi, Tamil Nadu**
  - 100% Pass
  - School First - 83%
- **Swami Dayananda Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu**
  - 100% Pass
  - School First - 91.8%
- **AIM for Seva Balika Vidyalaya, Khategaon, Madhya Pradesh**
  - 100% Pass
  - School First - 88.6%

Our educational institutions are centres of all-round development of students, which include modern pedagogical tools and practices. This, we feel, has helped institute a way of teaching that makes the learning experience more fruitful in the long run.
Think onsite and FAM (familiarisation) trips, and what comes to mind are well paid corporate executives all huddled up in an idyllic setting busy brainstorming on the road ahead for their company. Across our Chatralayams and educational institutions, we propagate a value-based educational pedagogy. As part of this curriculum, our students who are from rural India are taken on trips and excursions in an effort to widen their horizons.

Milky way

An industrial visit to the IFPT (Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology) and Aavin factories located in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, was undertaken by 18 of our college students from the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. This visit is part of the IECD (Institute for Entrepreneurship and Career Development) curriculum of the Bharathidasan University. The objective behind IECD is to inculcate the spirit of entrepreneurship amongst our students. (Our college is affiliated to the Bharathidasan University.)

IIFPT, a premier research and education institution under the Ministry of Food Processing Industries was moved to its current location in Thanjavur in 1984. The institute focuses on providing solutions to all food processing areas including fish, meat and dairy products processing through intensive research and development activities. Dr. R. Muralikrishnan, head, Department of Management Studies, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi accompanied the students during this tour.

Students from our Chatralayams in Godhra, Bodidra and Dudhiya, Gujarat, were taken on a day-trip to the Panchamrut Dairy, Godhra and the Swaminarayan Mandir, Godhra, Gujarat.
Break of a different kind

Our students from the IEROM AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Puducherry enjoyed a fun trip to the beach. There are 26 boys living in this Chatralayam.

Visit to a special home

Our hostelers from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Adivasi Chatralayam for Boys, Godhra, Gujarat, visited the Gandhi Special Deaf & Dumb School, Godhra. This facility is run by the Panchmahal Anusuchit Jati Education Trust (PAJET), a non-governmental voluntary organisation that is committed to the development of the tribal population in the Panchmahal and Dahod district of Gujarat. There are 10 boys living in this Chatralayam.
Annual job fair
Second edition

The second edition of the annual job fair conducted at the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, was a huge success. The fair saw participation of 605 students from 18 colleges in the region. Of this, 180 were from our college. A total of 490 offers were made during the campus placement. In terms of selection, 315 students got selected, with some getting dual offers. We are happy to share that 160 of our college students got placement offers.

Twenty three companies’ from diverse sectors such as banking and finance, automotive and HR and training participated in this fair. These included IDBI Federal, Equitas Small Finance Bank, Rane Group and TVS Training & Services among others. A month later, 14 students from the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science were selected by City Union Bank through campus placement. All of them are final year B.Com students with 6 of them having specialised in B.Com, BM (Bank Management). One of the 14 students, Priyanka Panwar is from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls (Sr), Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu.

Today, 80% of our Chatralayam students either opt for higher studies or take up job post schooling. In 2017–18, 16 students from the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi found employment with reputed organisations. All efforts have been undertaken to make our students industry ready. Towards this end, a bridge course ‘Academics to Business’ has been unveiled at the college. This course equips our graduates with professional competencies which in turn enables them to be more productive in an organisation from day one.

List of Participating Companies

| Aagna Global Solutions | Delphi-TVS | Desicrew Solutions | Duruva Finance | eNova Solutions |
| Equitas Small Finance Bank | IDBI Federal | Impulse | Justdial | Karvy DigiKonnect |
| Nippon Seiki | Rane Group | Simho HR Services | SKN Organics | SS Matrix Consultancy (Recruiting for Orchid Pharma and AppleCrux) |
| Waves | TVS Training & Services (Recruiting for ICICI Bank and Axis Bank) | EDU Services |
| Hiremee Consultancy | Vee Technologies | Integrated Enterprises | MagicReach Technologies |
The maths department association (Math Empire) of the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi conducted SIGMA 2K19, an inter-department competition, from March 23 to 25. On March 23, the Math Expo was inaugurated by the college correspondent, Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, and Sri. M.R. Rajagopal, manager, Wipro, Manjakkudi. The students from the department exhibited their model on applied mathematics. The preliminary rounds consisted of treasure hunt, pot pouri, block & tackle, sci-5 and open task.

On the final day of SIGMA 2K19, maths students from all three years made interesting PowerPoint presentations on ‘Mathematics in Yoga Pose’ and ‘Vedic Mathematics and Astronomy’. Dr. P. Senthil Kumar, assistant professor of mathematics, Rajah Serfoji Government College (Autonomous) was the Chief Guest on the concluding day of SIGMA 2K19. A mime show on ‘Misuse of Mobile’ was also presented on the occasion. After this, motivational videos were played. The Chief Guest was the judge of the final rounds for sci-5, block & tackle, pot pouri and math expo. In his speech, the Chief Guest extolled our students on how they could improve and build on their knowledge base. The programme concluded with Dr. P. Senthil Kumar giving prizes to the winners of various competitions.

The Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu conducted Sports Day 2019 on March 26. The college boys and girls from the four houses—green, yellow, red and blue exhibited their skills in various indoor and outdoor games like badminton, ball badminton, volleyball, throwball, netball and yoga. The yellow house emerged as the winner and prizes were distributed to the winners and other deserving sports persons.
The Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET) and Hitham Trust recently celebrated its fifth year music concert valediction in Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. The event saw enthusiastic participation of our students in the region. Pupils from the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi (87), TTN Swami Dayananda Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi (48), Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi (61) and Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu (119) participated in this programme. On this occasion, Smt. Jayalakshmi Sekar played the veena while Smt. Meera Sundar played the violin and Kumbakonam Swaminathan played the mrdangam. Eight songs and three group songs were performed by the students. Certificates were conferred to all the 315 students, who received training from Smt. Bombay Jayashri Ramnath and her students.

The organising crew for the music valediction included Smt. Bombay Jayashri Ramnath, Smt. Chaitra, Smt. Swetha and Selvi Thania. Smt. Bombay Jayashri Ramnath and her team were honoured by the correspondent Sri. M.G. Srinivasan at the close of the programme. The students and staff members of all institutions thanked the Chairperson and Managing Trustee of Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET) and Smt. Bombay Jayashri Ramnath for their efforts.

Smt. Bombay Jayashri Ramanath and her students are quite popular amongst the students of the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School in Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. Every Friday, Smt. Ramnath and her students have been teaching music to students of the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

In all, musical training has made a huge difference to the lives of rural children. Many of them have been able to develop a keen musical sense. Some of them have been able to overcome stage fear by giving performances on the dais. The exposure to classical music has led to marked changes in the overall personality of students from our schools in Manjakkudi and Sembangudi. Now, not only do students regularly look forward to the Friday music class, the school teachers also do their bit by recording the songs that are played back on Saturday during the activity period. Students hear the recording and practice alongside.
The Department of Computer Science at the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu conducted a two-day national level conference on advanced research in computer science and technology in the college campus last month. A total of 40 papers from various faculty members, research scholars and students were presented in the conference.

The event hosted 60 participants from different colleges, and the delegates included research scholars and other students. The inaugural function started with a prayer and welcome address by the programme convenor, Sri. T. Venkatesan. After this, the college correspondent, Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, gave the felicitation address.

All round development

A NSS (National Social Service) camp was successfully completed at the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu recently. The camp was held from March 22 to 29. As part of camp activities, our students planted saplings in the surrounding villages–Pudukkudi, Engan and Kannara Pudukkudi.

Yoga demonstrations, motivational lectures, talks on benefits of Ayurveda and critical issues pertaining to nutrition and malnutrition were also deliberated upon as part of the camp activities. The students also resorted to cleaning temples at Manjakkudi, Narsingampettai and Pudukkudi.

National conference on computer science

The Chief Guest of the inaugural function, Dr. P. Thiyagarajan, head of the computer science department, Central University, Dehradun, gave an informative talk on block chain and its application in bitcoins. The first paper presentation session was chaired by the vice principal, professor V. Hema. During the afternoon session on day one, there was an interesting session on ‘Broker architecture for federated cloud’ by Dr. M. Aramudhan, head, department of Information Technology, Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Institute of Engineering Technology, Karaikal, Puducherry.

Day two of the national computer seminar started with an interesting talk on data mining by Dr. Gladston, head of the computer science department, Government College, Nedungadu, Kerala. The valedictory session took place in the afternoon with professor A.G. Gayathri giving the welcome address. The Chief Guest of the function, professor V. Sangeetha, vice principal, Deen College of Arts and Science, Nidur, Mayiladuthurai, Tamil Nadu released the conference proceedings and delivered a talk on thesis writing, publication of papers and attitude towards research. The two-day national-level computer conference ended with a vote of thanks by professor S. Navitha from the college’s computer science department. This was followed by playing of the National Anthem.
That we have to live in harmony with nature is not a new thing. One of the five Vedic pillars is bhuta yagna or respect for things around us. The pancha bhuta or the five elements are air, water, land, fire and space.

Our reverential contribution to bhuta yajna is appreciating all the creation as Isvara, preserving and living in conformity with the laws of nature, worshipping animals, plants, trees, forests and all other forms of life. Nature is the visible aspect of Bhagvan. In Vedic vision, the ultimate dharma is non-violence—Ahimsa Paramo Dharmah.

We are proud to share that we have imbibed the spirit of sustainable living in varied ways in our 18-year journey. In this section, we share some snapshots of some of our ‘evergreen’ initiatives.
Cow shed

A dairy farm with 89 local and crossbred cows is situated in a shady and peaceful area in Manjakkudi, the birthplace of our founder, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati. The cows are given 100% natural feed and manure generated from them is routed to the fields. Further, a daily yield of over 85 litres of organic milk is sold to state-owned milk cooperatives in the region.

Dairy sale and recycling

At the Atmalaya Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Udumalpet, Tamil Nadu, our girls feed and milk the cows in the goshala every single day. The excess milk is sold to a cooperative society in the village. The money received from this sale is used to buy fodder for the cows and the general upkeep of the cow shed. Through such practices, our girls are able to imbibe self sufficiency in daily living.

Can best emerge out of waste? Across our Chatralayams, we have spread the goodness of recycling in varied ways. At our Atmalaya Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls in Udumalpet, Tamil Nadu, we are promoting the concept of ‘zero waste’. The hostel girls practice the 3R principles: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Students of the hostel are made aware and encouraged to practice various conservation methods. This is done so that they become sensitive on environmental issues.

Workshops are also conducted in the hostel premises to create awareness on recycling. Early this year, six MBA students from Jain College, Belgaum visited the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Belgaum, Karnataka as part of a project on environment awareness and taught our students the importance of environment protection and recycling.
Farm to fork

Today, 64 of our Chatralayams have a kitchen garden. In this context, we are proud to share that one thing that set apart the Shri Chunilal Vij AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Rohtak, Haryana, from the rest is its verdant kitchen garden. Hostel coordinator Acharya Nawneet ji is a proponent of organic farming. With many of our boys coming from agricultural families, the best way to retain to the roots are kitchen gardens.

The organic farm started shortly after the construction of the Chatralayam. What started as a small *tulsi* plant has now blossomed into a whole plethora of shrubs, bushes and vines. “Today, we can confidently say that whatever we consume is grown by us—all organic and with no chemical supplements. We even have our own compost; we make sure nothing goes to waste. The most significant effect this system has had on our boys—apart from exposing them to a sustainable model of living—is the very fact that they handle life in an ecosystem and, therefore, they grow to become responsible individuals.

They tend to the garden everyday and watch our plants grow and decay. This touches them emotionally, and, more so, it soothes them. Additionally, it keeps them preoccupied and adds immense beauty to our home,” says Acharya Nawneet ji.

Similarly, the fresh vegetables served everyday at the Arsha Vidya Tirtha AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Jaipur, Rajasthan, are sourced from the kitchen garden in the premises. Many of our students from the Jaipur Chatralayam are from the Bhil community, whose main occupation is farming. The community’s connect with the environment is evident in day-to-day life at the Jaipur Chatralayam. In addition, the Jaipur Chatralayam has a goshala, a compost and a rainwater harvesting facility.

The fresh produce eventually makes its way to the dining table and the students living in the Chatralayam are assured of nutritious food. It’s ‘farm to fork’ in our own small way.
Renewable and solar energy

Its ‘clean and green’ all the way in many of our Chatralayams. Here are a few examples.

**SOLAR WATER HEATER PANELS:** Dr. Rangrao N. Jadhav AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Bidar, Karnataka; Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Bobbili, Andhra Pradesh; and Emirates AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu.

**SOLAR PANELS:** Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.

**ECO-CONSCIOUSNESS:** World Environment Day was celebrated across our Chatralayams. Our students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Chikhali, Maharashtra, celebrated World Environment Day at the Chatralayam with staff from Lear Automotive India Pvt. Ltd, Chakan unit. The company executives donated saplings, which are to be planted in the Chatralayam premises.

Similarly, our girls residing at the AIM for Seva Dayatirtha Chatralayam for Girls Thennampattu village, Tamil Nadu celebrated World Environment Day in the Chatralayam’s premises.

Mention must be made of our 39 differently-abled men residing in a serene campus in the outskirts of Chennai, who tend to the plants in the kitchen garden. They are also involved in activities related to the *goshala*. The efforts have borne fruit—some time back, Krupa Care got a bumper harvest of spinach!
AIM for Seva participated in the TCS World 10k Run on May 19, 2019, with Himalaya Drug Company and Anthem Biosciences coming on board to support us.

In his message, president of Himalaya, Philipe Haydon said that Himalaya believes in bringing wellness to every home and happiness to every heart. “We touch the lives of millions of people, not only with our products but also through initiatives focused at creating a better tomorrow. In an effort to contribute to the empowerment of rural youth, Himalaya's Wellness division is participating in the TCS World 10k Run to support AIM for Seva. It gives us immense pleasure to be associated with this cause. We hope that this little step goes a long way in creating a brighter future for children in rural India.”

We were able to raise Rs. 3 lakh through this run, with Himalaya giving Rs 1.5 lakh and Anthem giving Rs 1.5 lakh towards our cause of educating rural India. The funds raised through the TCS World 10k Run will be channelled towards setting up of Chatralayams (free student hostels) in rural areas.
Chatralayam days: fun filled all the way

Personality development coaching, life lessons drawn from mythology and science and shastra conundrum—the holiday season has begun and summer camps have taken off across our Chatralayams. There were lot of takeaways for our students. In this section, we present to you a snapshot of some of the camp activities.

A 10-day camp was held at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Tribal Boys Chatralayam, Alwal, Telangana. A total of 53 students from Classes 7 to 10, from four hostels across Telangana (Alwal, Utnoor, Yadavaram and Kallur), participated in this camp. As part of the camp activities, there were storytelling sessions, which included the life and times of Adi Shankara, and sloka chanting. One of the founder members of the Alwal Chatralayam, Sri. Y.V. Narsing Rao, has taken a personal interest in the summer camp. On day one (April 14), he conducted a special session on personality development by quoting the relevant verses from the Bhagavatham. Sri. Rao spoke on Dattatreya and the five elements, sun and the moon. Our students lapped up every bit of his talk.

On April 17, Sri. M. Srihari, a motivational speaker covered the aspects of positive and negative thinking, made interesting with stories thrown in. Social worker and government school teacher Sri. Ramakrishna Reddy gave a pep talk to our students as well.

On April 18, Sri. M. Srihari spoke about the Vedas. In his talk, he covered the Sama Veda and Rig Veda. He also touched on traditional healing systems such as ayurveda. The same day, Sri. Rajendra Prasad, president of the Telangana Sanskrit Association, spoke on the importance of Sanskrit and the ancient language’s correlation with computers.
Did you know that *Hanuman Chalisa*, a Hindu devotional hymn composed in the Awadhi language in the 16th century C.E. by poet Tulsidas, has references to the distance between the sun and the earth? Sri. Bhupathi Reddy, a retired school teacher, revealed all this and more in his session on *Vedas* and science and technology. He also covered the aspect of evolution of the universe. On April 19, Sri. M. Srihari continued his motivational series. He focused on personality development this time, by taking relevant examples from the *Ramayana*. The same day, a team from Indian Development Foundation conducted an interesting programme on the importance of managing time, wherein our students were taught the importance of sticking to time. The next day, the Indian Development Foundation team covered public speaking through a PowerPoint presentation; the points covered were humour, hand gestures and voice modulation.

The beauty of this year’s summer camp at the Alwal Chatralayam is that we had volunteers coming in from all walks of life and motivating our students to reach for the skies. Cockpit trainer from the Indian Air Force, Sri. M. Nagaraju shared his own life story of how he became a trainer in the Indian Air Force despite coming from a low-income, underprivileged background. An interesting session on the importance of yoga and meditation was conducted by Sri. B. Vishnumurthi, who is currently employed as a deputy general manager with a small and medium enterprise with an SME (small and medium enterprise) unit.

On April 21, the Alwal Chatralayam students heard a galaxy of speakers from different lines of work. Sri. T. Hanumad Prasad enlightened our students on how saint Valmiki metamorphosed from a robber to a sage, while Sri. Bhupathi Reddy...
dwelt at length on the concept of akhanda Bharat since time immemorial.

Then we had assistant electrical engineer Kusuma Kumari and electronics and electrical engineering professor Chaitanya Kumar sharing their success stories, on how they went on to achieve their professional dreams, their poor and humble backgrounds notwithstanding. On April 22, Sri. K. Vishwanath, a lawyer and an active Sevak at Dharma Jagaran, spoke on citizens’ responsibility towards society.

Our Alwal Chatralayam students were also exposed to the world of anthropology. On April 23, Sri. Srihari spoke on tribes and their habits while the husband-and-wife duo, Sri. Sudeep Kumar (family counsellor) and Smt. M.P. Kumar (child psychologist), spoke on relationships, prayers and the importance of cultivating hobbies and improving one’s vocabulary. Sri. Jagan Mohan Acharya exposed our students to Indian history with stories on foreign invasions, and the life and times of Swami Vivekananda.

On the last day of the camp (April 24), Smt. Laxmi Narasu, a retired lecturer, stressed the need for good education, while Sri. M. Satyanarayana, Seva Pramukh, Seva Bharathi, conducted a session on health, eating and sleeping habits and the 16 samskaras. The camp concluded with a valedictory function with our students’ public speaking skills coming to the fore.

The Alwal Chatralayam has been conducting summer camps for the last four years. In west India, a summer camp has been organised for our students from Maval, Chikhali and Rajgurunagar Chatralayams in Maharashtra. A total of 80 students participated in this fun-filled camp. The camp days started with yoga, pranayama and exercise followed by pooja, stotra pathan, lecture on different subjects, such as stories from the Mahabharata and values from the Bhagavad Gita (Chapters 16 and 17). A trip was also organised to Bhimashankar Temple (one of the 12 jyotirlinga shrines), 55 km from Rajgurunagar, Maharashtra. Our students had a wonderful experience.

A day-long summer camp was organised for students of the Mayur Patel AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Kankanpur and other neighbouring village children during the second week of May. The saw the participation of 45 children. The main camp activities were go pooja, games and team activities, and a storytelling session.
Ramnavami was celebrated in a grand manner at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys in Dighawat, Uttar Pradesh. There are 54 boys living in this Chatralayam.

Annual Day was celebrated at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Bobbili, Andhra Pradesh. The hostel is home to 52 boys. As part of the celebrations, floral tributes were paid to our founder, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati. A number of cultural programmes were presented by our boys on this occasion.

On April 7, the Kosuri-Doraiswamy AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Bapatla, Andhra Pradesh, celebrated Annual Day. The Chatralayam is home to 36 boys. The hostel was decorated in bright hues and our students put up a performance for their guests.

Annual Day celebrations were also conducted at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Kamalapuram, Andhra Pradesh. The hostel is home to 49 boys. On this occasion, our students put up a show. Our audience loved the yogic postures and the different poses displayed by the talented bunch!

Our students at the Rajgurunagar Chatralayam, Maharashtra, celebrated Shivaji Jayanti in the Chatralayam’s premises.

Shivaji Jayanti celebrations

Annual day celebrations

HIGHLIGHTS
As India got into polling mode, our students did their bit to create voter awareness. Students from the Swami Dayananda Rotary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Kadalur, Tamil Nadu, and the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, organised a voters’ awareness programme to encourage 100% polling in the Indian General Elections, 2019.

Our students from Manjakkudi embarked on a human letter formation, ‘April 18’ in the school grounds as per directions received from the Election Commission through the Education Department, indicating the date of polling in the state as well as in the school grounds.

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Students of the Arsha Vidya Tirtha AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Jaipur, Rajasthan, led by alumnus Gulab Damor, put up a performance on the occasion of Jaipur Sanskrit Academy University celebrations. There are 56 boys living in this Chatralayam.

Gulab won the second prize in a speech competition organised by the Ramakrishna Mission last year. There were 100 participants in the competition.

Sanskrit Academy University celebrations

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Election awareness

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Igniting minds

It is indeed heartening to see the charity baton being passed on by the previous generation to the next one at the Chatralayam in Sheikhpura, Bihar. Sri. Rahul Sharma, son of Sri. S.K. Sharma, the land donor of the Sumitra Surma AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Sheikhpura, Bihar, has come forward and donated a computer system worth Rs. 21,000 for the 45 students in the Chatralayam.

Fire safety mock drill

A fire safety and fire fighting mock drill exercise was conducted at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Kamalapuram, Andhra Pradesh. There are 49 boys living in this Chatralayam.
The fourth cultural day and prize distribution programme of the Swami Dayananda Vidyasramam Nursery & Primary School, Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu, was celebrated on April 8.

The celebrations commenced with the school correspondent, Swamini Vishvapriyananda Saraswati ji, lighting the lamp and paying floral tributes to Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati. A series of cultural programmes followed. At the end of the programme, the Chief Guest for the function, Dr. K. Ravichandren, principal, Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R Govt. Arts and Science College, Palacode, Tamil Nadu, addressed the students and parents. The Chief Guest and school academic counselor, Sri. M. Pandurangan ji, advised our students to participate in all cultural activities and improve their life skills, and requested the parents to encourage their children. He appealed to the parents and public to support the school’s activities.

At the beginning of the year, Republic Day and Sports Day was celebrated in the school campus. We run two Chatralayams (one for boys and one for girls) and a primary school in the Dharmapuri region.

Students from Kailash College donated provisions and stationery worth Rs. 7,000 to our girl students residing in the Bhavani Arun AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Chinnasalem, Villupuram, Tamil Nadu. The Chief Guest for this occasion was actor Gowthami Tadimalla. There are 42 girls residing in this Chatralayam.
Making way for new Chatralayams

AIM for Seva expanded its Chatralayam presence by adding one hostel in Chhattisgarh and one in Tamil Nadu. The AIM for Seva Dayatitha Chatralayam for Girls at Thennampattu village, Ambur taluk, Vellore district, Tamil Nadu was formally inaugurated on April 22.

Sri. M. Srinivasan and Smt. P. Mahalakshmi donated the land for the project in the memory of Sri. Srinivasan’s parents, late Sri. Margabandhu Mudaliar and Smt. Bhagyavathi. The building donor for the Thennampattu Chatralayam is Sri. Umesh C. Chatrath and family (who has donated it in the loving memory of Smt. Sudershan Chatrath) and the San Diego Community, USA.

AIM for Seva coordinators who were present during the inauguration were Swami Prashantananda Saraswati ji, Sri Rama Sundara Swamigal, Swami Adhyatmananda Saraswati ji, Swamini Suddhavidyananda Saraswati ji, Swamini Gurupriyananda Saraswati ji, Swamini Swaminathapriya ji, Swamini Pranava Priyananda Saraswati ji and Swamini Sivagangadhrananda Saraswati ji.

The poojas and homams in relation to the Thennampattu hostel inauguration started from the previous evening with Guru Namaskaram, Asta Dhana Padma Mandala pooja, Pancha Kalasa pooja, Vaastu homam, Sudarshana homam, Hayagreevar and Saraswati homam, Anjaneyar homam and Mahalakshmi homam. The next morning, the day’s proceedings commenced with go pooja, Punar pooja, Navagraha homam, Rudra homam, Dhanvantri homam, Mruthyunjaya homam and Purna-Ahuti.

The inauguration plaque was unveiled by Swami Prashantananda Saraswati ji while the donor plaque was unveiled by Rama Sundara Swamigal. All the Swamijis and Swaminis who attended this function were honoured on this occasion. Our Swamijis gave the Anugraha bhashanam. The dignitaries who attended the hostel inauguration included Sri. G.S. Jaishankar, president, Bharathiraja Makkal Katchi; Sri. Ramesh Babu, Hindu Makkal Katchi; Sri. R. Tamilselvan, proprietor, Karuna Sweets Group, Ambur; and Sri. R. Ganesan, retired ASP, Ambur. Villagers from Thennampattu and neighbouring areas attended the function. They were honoured on behalf of AIM for Seva.

A new hostel for boys in Rajnandgaon near Raipur, Chhattisgarh was also inaugurated recently. This facility is located in Raja Bhanpuri village, Rajnandgaon district, Chhattisgarh. The project is supported by AIM for Seva Canada.
NEW AND HIGH

One more for Telangana

A new Chatralayam for boys was inaugurated on June 16 in Telangana. The Smt & Sri Satoor Rajasri & Rajalingam Goud AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Mahbubnagar, Telangana is located in Chinnadarpally village, Hanwada taluk, Mahbubnagar district, Telangana. The land and building donor to this project are Smt. Satoor Rachita and Dr. Satoor Sudhakar (USA).

The dignitaries present on this occasion were Swami Tattvavidananda Saraswati ji, Swami Pranavatmananda Saraswati ji, Dr. Satoor Sudhakar, Sri. Kumaravelu, regional coordinator, Telangana, Swamini Gurupriyananda Saraswati ji and Swamini Vishwapriyananda Saraswati ji.

Swami Tattvavidananda Saraswati ji laid the foundation for the building. All our dignitaries addressed the gathering. Swami Tattvavidananda Saraswati ji, Swami Pranavatmananda Saraswati ji, Swamini Gurupriyananda Saraswati ji and Swamini Vishwapriyananda Saraswati ji gave the Anugraha bhashanam. The Bhoomi pooja for this hostel was held in April last year. This was followed by Vaastu pooja on May 30. We are expecting 40 new admissions in the first year. At full capacity, the hostel can accommodate up to 60 boys.

Admissions underway

Entrance exams were conducted for the newly inaugurated Swami Dayanand Saraswati Vidyalaya, Padali Khurd village, Khargone district, Madhya Pradesh, on April 1. The entrance exam was conducted for students from Classes 3, 4 and 5. A total of 615 children came in from five districts to take the examinations. Only 50 students are expected to make the final cut.

This educational project in a village in central India has been supported by Sri. Jugal Kishor and Smt. Bimla, residents of California, USA. Sri. Jugal Kishor has made this donation in memory of his parents, Late Sri. Dharam Kirti Dogra and Late Smt. Shanti Dogra.
We are planning to expand our work done at Krupa Care. To this end, a Bhoomi pooja was recently conducted at this residential facility for differently-abled adults. Krupa Care provides lifetime support for differently-abled men. We have 39 residents in a serene campus located in the outskirts of Chennai who are engaged in meaningful activities throughout the day.

The biggest worry of parents of such individuals is ‘Who after me.’ In order to help both, Krupa Care was launched. Our qualified caretakers provide dedicated service round the clock to ensure that our long term residents lead a life that reflects self worth, achievement, independence and happiness.

As part of the expansion plan, Krupa Care would now house a lecture hall/training centre to conduct special sessions and training programmes. In addition, we propose to build a guest house for medical professionals and other guest faculty who come for the residential programme.

The training centre will function as a resource unit for all those who serve adults with special needs. They include parents, family members, doctors, para-medical professionals, caregivers, community members, therapists and educators. This facility will also be a venue for these recipients to understand and learn about all aspects of managing people with special needs—be it medical, psychological or behavioural. These sessions will be conducted by our experts.

An activity centre for residents of Krupa Care is also on the cards. It is a proven fact that engaging in meaningful activities gives validation of purpose to our residents. Such activities would be based on individual capacities of our residents. Already, the well functioning adults in the campus are busy throughout the day with handloom cloth weaving while moderately functioning adults are involved in paper craft and screen painting. Some adults are also engaged in packaging for local industries.

A major milestone was achieved last year when Spirit of the Earth, an AIM for Seva initiative launched ‘Elimai’. The collection comprises sling bags, pouches and folders, made from fabric hand woven by Krupa Care residents and the range has found a lot of takers.

A Vaastu pooja was performed at the AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Dhandhuka, Gujarat, on June 10. The project (land and building) donor is AIM for Seva, Canada. This hostel facility will become operational soon and the structure comprises of two floors (ground and first). The students who will live and study in this Chatralayam will be coming in from Jaliya and other neighbouring villages.
At Spirit of the Earth, we believe that we need to constantly upgrade our skills to get the best outcome. We have 167 varieties of heritage seeds from across the country, and conserving them is no easy task. Changes in weather patterns, soil conditions, pests and much more, pose a threat to our seed conservation exercise. With the erosion of traditional practices of seed management, the mixing of breeders’ seeds is a frequent phenomenon that we face on the farm.

Maintaining the purity of heritage rice varieties and documenting their characteristics is one of the key activities on our farm. We signed up for ASHA – TN’s (The Tamil Nadu chapter of Alliance for Sustainable and Holistic Agriculture) Introductory Course on Purity Maintenance & Characterisation of Folk varieties. Dr. Debal Deb—well known folk rice conservator and ecological scientist, popularly referred to as ‘India’s Rice Warrior’, who conserves more than 1400 folk rice varieties—was the resource person. Scheduled right before the sowing season, it was a very insightful programme and our team came back with a lot of takeaways.
It was an evening of engaging conversation as Dr. Nandita Shah of SHARAN conducted a talk titled ‘Conquering Cancer’ at the Spirit of the Earth. Cancer, which was a rarity in the past, has become ubiquitous now. The treatment is as painful to the body as it is to the pocket, and it looks like there’s really no way out. On hearing the word ‘cancer’, family and friends want to try everything; everyone becomes a therapist or a counsellor.

The informative talk by Dr. Nandita Shah explained clearly what cancer is, why it is so common these days, what you can do to prevent it, what chemotherapy and radiotherapy actually are, how they help in treating cancers and their pros and cons, and what you can do to heal effectively.

“We know health is logic but somewhere along the way we lost logic because we have begun eating the way culture, society and advertisements demand. Make a list of everything that is advertised and don’t eat that. You don’t see advertisements for carrots, cucumbers or heritage rice varieties, because that is what you should be eating!” – Dr. Nandita Shah, founder-director, and a trustee at SHARAN.
Join Our Movement In Educating Rural India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support Our Project</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Support Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor the complete care of 10 children in our Chatralayam (Academics, Boarding,</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Rs. 3,60,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lodging, After School Support &amp; Value Education)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsor the complete care of one child in our Chatralayam (Academics, Boarding,</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Rs. 36,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsor the complete care of one child in our Chatralayam (Academics, Boarding,</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>Rs. 3,000</td>
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<td>Lodging, After School Support &amp; Value Education)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organise one Special Meal in our Chatralayam (on a Donor Designated Day)</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>Rs. 3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor the complete care of one resident at Krupa Care</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Rs. 1,80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor the complete care of one resident at Krupa Care</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>Rs. 15,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Cheques/DD to be drawn in favour of ‘AIM for Seva’
- Donate online at www.aimforseva.org/donate-aimforseva/
- Contributions to AIM for Seva are exempt from Income Tax under section 80G of the Indian Income Tax Act, 1961
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor a child’s education expenses</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>$ 150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor a child</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>$ 450</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsor a child</td>
<td>7 years</td>
<td>$ 3,150</td>
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<td>College sponsorship</td>
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<td>$ 350</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support Hospital expenses</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>$ 2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsor a Chatralayam’s expenses</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>$ 15,000</td>
</tr>
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