NATURAL INSTINCTS
A day of sustainable living in our Jaipur Chatralayam

Skype to the Rescue
Learning never ends across our Chatralayams

Montessori Education in Manjakkudi
Rural India isn’t far behind when it comes to Montessori education
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DEAR FRIENDS,

Namaste.

Swamiji used to always say that the mark of growth of an individual lies in giving. I am extremely happy to state that your ‘giving’ has produced the desired results as reflected in the recent academic performance of our students in the public exams (Classes 10 and 12).

Since we started our national movement of caring in 2000 by building and managing Chatralayams (free student hostels) in many last mile areas across India, it is indeed gratifying to see growth from both ends of the spectrum – our students and alumni are displaying academic progression and professional growth while our donors are moving on to becoming effective contributors.

What is more pertinent is that such metamorphosis does not happen overnight. While the cover story of the April–July 2019 issue of Outreach focused on lasting contributions through involvement of ‘Next Gen’ members in their respective donor families, the cover story in this issue focuses on how such donations have had a positive impact on first-generation learners.

Seva or service continues to be a transformative journey for all of us.

Warm regards,

SHEELA BALAJI
Chairperson and Managing Trustee
AIM for Seva
We were woken up to the soft hustle of footsteps outside our room. It was around 5:30 a.m. and the sun hadn’t yet risen; the early morning chill felt like pinpricks as we set foot on the ground. The city of Jaipur seemed to be comfortably asleep under the quilt of a dark indigo sky. Inside the Arsha Vidya Tirtha AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Jaipur, Rajasthan, however, activity was in full swing and the sound of students running around, passing instructions or getting into the groove of their activities was felt in the forms of rhythmic chatter and patter. On walking into the prayer room upstairs, we noticed that the students had placed themselves in small groups of four to seven, and each group was engaged in a different task – stitching flower garlands, leading the chanting, preparing the altar or performing the rituals. Gulab Damor, one of the former students of the Chatralayam – and today one of its oldest members – was seated behind the fire pit; he had started preparations for the routine prayer session.

When the prayers concluded, the boys took a moment before carrying on with the next segment: Breakfast. We walked downstairs into the kitchen, which seemed to be a scene of intense activity. Some boys chopped vegetables, some prepped the plates, and a few assisted the head cook, Madhav Parasram (formerly an agriculturalist) and his wife, Varsha Madhav, with the cooking. Madhav and Varsha have been with the hostel since its conception in 2008. Madhav was busy baking chappatis over a wooden fire. The head cook of the Jaipur Chatralayam tore off a piece of a freshly puffed chappati and asked us to dip it into the hot curry. When we remarked on the freshness of the vegetables, he said, “Everything we put on our plates here is mostly sourced from our garden. I used to be a farmer before I came here to work as a cook. A lot of
Life at the Arsha Vidya Tirtha AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Jaipur, Rajasthan brings to fore a key lesson in maintaining a sustainable, environmentally friendly lifestyle: That it is about inculcating an innate sense of responsibility towards our surroundings, and acting in accordance with the same.

the boys who stay here also come from families that are involved in farming. So, we know a thing or two about growing our own food.” Gulab, who had been listening to our conversation, stepped in and offered to take us for a short walk around the garden and hostel premises. “We can go around while they finish making breakfast. Swami ji is currently out of town…he is visiting the Udaipur campus.”

Swami Brahmaparananda Saraswati ji (Swami ji), as the boys call him – has been looking after both the Chatralayams in Jaipur and Udaipur in Rajasthan since their institution in 2008 and 2014 respectively. We had spoken to him on the phone just after the morning prayers ended. He had extended us a warm welcome.

In Harmony with Nature

We strolled around the perimeter of the hostel, taking in the sight of the lush green lawns that dotted the
walkways, and the vast array of vegetables sprouting along the fences that bordered the green patches. Bottle gourds dangled from their creepers and carrots peeped from under the earth. Gulab basked in our appreciation of the well-kept garden. “A majority of our students, including me, come from the Bhil tribe, from around Rajasthan… mostly Udaipur. I believe that a lot of our community’s connection with the environment is apparent in the way we live our lives in the Chatralayam,” he says.

Shyam Sharma, one of the older boys (studying in Class 11) from the Chatralayam, nodded in agreement on hearing Gulab’s comment. He said, “We all come from tribal communities, and there is a strong connection to nature where we live. Whether it involves agriculture or hunting, our communities have great knowledge of the forests and the earth. A lot of us have brought those bits of knowledge with us to the Chatralayam.”

No Room for Waste

We walked back into the kitchen; Madhav and Varsha were now delegating serving duties to some of the younger boys who were standing around the dining space (that was adjacent to the kitchen). Shyam offered us the promised tea, and then went on to stack the piping hot chappatis on a large plate. Shyam had decided to relocate to the Chatralayam when he decided that his aim was to pursue a college education after completing high school. As we finished our steaming cups of chai, we were escorted to join the rest of the students for breakfast. A few boys moved quickly and quietly, serving the first portions of food, filling our glasses with water and keeping an eye out for those who wanted second helpings. The entire hostel’s morning routine seemed to be set on the lines of a well-oiled machine – one that didn’t need anyone to manage or oversee it. We asked Amerish Mehara, a B.Sc student at the Mahatma Gandhi University in Jaipur, Rajasthan, about how they managed to get their work done so efficiently. He told us, “Every one of us is put into groups of seven or eight, and each group rotates between a set of chores every week. We’ve memorised our schedules and responsibilities so well that no one needs to tell us what to do or where to be anymore.”

Sometime later, while we were still eating, we heard the sounds of construction from above us. Gulab, who was seated next to us, explained, “We’re reconstructing the second floor. Our Swami ji is an engineer by profession and has been meaning to incorporate an architectural design that could help us not only utilise the space more optimally, but also tackle the weather fluctuations, especially in summer. Do you know of the Hawa Mahal in Jaipur? Swami ji took inspiration from the palace’s design for ventilation, and is now creating a set of large windows along the railings of the second floor. It’s meant to help bring in natural ventilation during the heat waves and reduce our dependency on electrical appliances to keep us cool.”

Breakfast done, we noticed the boys heading straight out into the garden near the cowshed, instead of placing their plate in the kitchen sink. They emptied the remnants from their plates into either a large container that was placed near the cattle or into a vast ditch in the garden. Madhav stood up and guided us to the cowshed. “The boys were just feeding the cows whatever they had left over. Not the chillies though!” he chuckled, and added, “The rest goes into the compost. We try not to generate any waste from our food. We also keep our plastic and paper waste to a bare minimum.”

Soon after, the students quickly moved off to the building, from where they brought out a set of books, pens and pencils. They sat in small circles of three or four each in the lawn, and were joined by two women and a man, who seemed to have come in just a while back. “These are the study groups for their weekend tuitions. We have four teachers visit the students every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday,” Gulab explained.

The Final Analysis

What seems to be a far-fetched ideology for many of us happens to be an everyday lifestyle for the residents of the Arsha Vidya Tirtha AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Jaipur, Rajasthan. The innate respect for their
The environment and the intricate care given to the soil they thrive on is evident from the minute anyone walks into the hostel. The final flourish is what many of these boys experience from living such a lifestyle – they cultivate a complex knowledge of the environment and food cycle. By taking immense care of their world around them, they’re consequentially improving the resources they ingest. The significance given to community work and progress is a crucial element of this set-up. Whether it has to do with taking care of the cattle, tending to the soil, or keeping track of the produce from the garden, it all comes down to the awareness people foster amongst themselves and the actions they take to ensure ecological growth and progress. It is as though they truly understand nature operates in domino effect, where every single piece and its movement affect the other.

And it must also be taken into consideration that none of this happened overnight. What started out as a small hostel with just 10 boys is today an exemplary model of environmentally sustainable living. Maybe that’s the lesson we take away: That the goal of achieving an environmentally friendly lifestyle doesn’t necessarily have to come from complicated data reports and annual worldwide cabinet meetings. That, instead of looking elsewhere, the solutions to these overriding issues might be sitting right under our noses.
The coordinators of our Chatralayams across India do their best to provide our students with a balance of education, nutrition and all other facilities that can help them realise their potential. To this end, they have to come up with innovative, bespoke solutions that address issues arising in terms of infrastructure or facilities. Acharya Nawneet ji, the coordinator of the Shri Chunilal Vij AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Rohtak, Haryana, shares his experience of how he uses technology to bridge gaps in time and distance.

“Many of our students need help with their subjects, especially math and science. For this, I hired external tutors who would conduct math or science sessions (for different age groups) a couple of times a week,” Acharya Nawneet ji says. However, when the tutors travelled for holidays or had added work pressure, they found it hard to commit to the scheduled time. This, in turn,
meant that the students’ routine was interrupted and that they were finding it hard to sustain their progress.

“It was difficult to press our external tutors to keep up to the given time every week. So, I reached out to some of our alumni, who are now working in other parts of Madhya Pradesh and the National Capital Region (NCR). They readily took on the role of becoming tutors to our current students, and are dedicated to keeping up their commitment – especially since I asked them to! We have a strong bond, and they are always ready to give back to the Chatralayam in any way they can,” Acharya Nawneet ji adds.

It was also easy for the alumni to create a strong bond with the current students, given their shared experience of life at the Chatralayam. The tutors try and go in person at least once a month to assess the students’ progress. At other times, they conduct the lessons over Skype or phone (with their voices amplified via a Bluetooth speaker). To date, they have not missed a single class as per the schedule.

“Even when they travel for work or for holidays, they carry their laptops along. They send weekly test papers by email or WhatsApp, and we have to send back the boys’ answers to them. They check them and point out where they need help,” says Acharya Nawneet ji. This system has been implemented across our Chatralayams in Rohtak (Haryana), Hoshangabad (Madhya Pradesh) and Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh).

Thanks to these efforts, the students are improving in their schoolwork and their grades. More importantly, this is an example of how technology can be harnessed to create a positive support network.
Our students scale new heights every year with their academic achievements. We present to you a snapshot of our toppers for this year.

Academic Topper from Eluru

We are happy to share that C.H. Sharmila, who lives and studies in the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Eluru, Andhra Pradesh, stood first in her Class 7 exams. Sharmila (now in Class 8) is a student of the Government High School, Eluru, Andhra Pradesh. The Chatralayam, in Eluru, Andhra Pradesh, was inaugurated last year and currently houses 19 girls.

Rank Holder from Rohtak Chatralayam

We heartily congratulate Anil Dodiyar, a former student from the Shri Chunilal Vij AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Rohtak, Haryana, who has secured a rank of 3912 in the IIT JEE exam (2019). He has secured admission in the Bachelors of Technology (Information Technology) course at the National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra, Haryana.

What is interesting is that he was coached by Dinesh Kumar, an alumnus of our Chatralayam in Solan, Himachal Pradesh, who is now pursuing his Bachelors in Dental Surgery from Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
Cash Prizes for School Toppers

M. Chandrasekar, an alumnus of the Kuppuswamy AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Polur, Tamil Nadu, secured the first position in the entire school in his Class 10 board examinations (held in April 2019), by scoring an aggregate of 86.8%. Chandrasekar was awarded a cash prize of Rs. 3,000 by T.G.Y. Textile & Readymade, Polur, Tamil Nadu.

K. Hanoku, a student of Class 9 at the B.B.H High School, Vetapalem, Andhra Pradesh, was awarded a cash prize of Rs. 2,500 for securing the first position in his class. Hanoku lives and studies at the G.V.K.C AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Vetapalem, Andhra Pradesh. The reward was sponsored by Sri. Srinivasulu Gollapudi (Canada), a donor of the hostel.

Cash prizes worth Rs. 31,000 were awarded to 27 students of the Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu – the students were the 2018–19 toppers of HSC and SSLC exams. The prizes were given by Sri. M. Radhakrishnan, Managing Trustee, Smt. Rajeswari Radhakrishnan Charitable Trust, during a special function arranged at our school.

In an effort to support our endeavour to educate rural India, Scientific Publishing Services Private Limited, Chennai has donated two digital smart classes.
When it comes to art and craft and other forms of creativity, the artistic talents of our students know no bounds. In this section, we display our students’ creative achievements.

Quilting Dreams

The girls from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Yelahanka, Karnataka, are all-rounders in every sense. Not only have three students stood first, second and third in the recently concluded Class 10 board examinations, they have also shown a keen interest in art and craft.

Recently, an innovative project was undertaken for the benefit of our students residing in Yelahanka. This programme was curated by Ms. Jayshree Poddar, design director at Himatsingka Seide Limited.

Our girls worked with Ms. Jayshree on a quilting project. They were taught the basics of art and introduction to painting on fabric. “The girls, aged 7 to 17 years, were so absorbed in painting thanks to the encouragement of Ms. Jayshree Poddar that they were reluctant to interrupt their expressive work flow for milk and snacks,” says Ms. Aruna Madnani, corporate outreach, AIM for Seva, Karnataka.

The student’s signed artworks were digitised and created into stunning quilts for children on fine luxurious soft cotton satin (60’s count) with a 200 gsm poly filling. The fabric is colour fast and machine washable and comes with a cotton mulmul cover and a little matching bag. The quilts come in two sizes: 48” x 36” (for up to 5 years) and 72” x 54” (for up to 12 years).

AIM for Seva is looking to unlock the creative potential of the students at Yelahanka in other ways. “We are planning to buy a microwave and OTG (oven toaster griller). Post that, we plan to conduct a course on microwave cooking and baking. This would provide avenues for self employment,” says Ms. Aruna Madnani. In addition, a workshop on diya making would be conducted (again) this year for the students in Yelahanka.

Our girls are also being taught the basics of creating mosaic photo frames by Ms. Namita Kejriwal and Ms. Malvika Kejriwal, as part of our efforts to promote art and skill-based development. “We find that artists are happy to engage with our girls creatively. The focus, enthusiasm and interest shown by our girls in such workshops is fantastic,” says Ms. Aruna Madnani.
On the occasion of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, K. Kamaraj’s birth anniversary celebrations (marked as ‘Educational Development Day’) across Tamil Nadu, our boys from the Dayasagar AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Palani, Tamil Nadu, participated in various competitions and won prizes. All our students are from the Municipal Middle School, Palani, Tamil Nadu.

LIFE OF KARMAVEER KAMARAJ

V. Ponnudurai, Class 7 – second prize in poetry

GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS OF KAMARAJAR

K. Rajaji, Class 8 – first prize in speech contest

GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS OF KAMARAJAR

R. Yuvaraj, Class 8 – third prize in speech contest

Art work by B. Rajkumar, Class 11, Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Tindivanam, Tamil Nadu

Paper art by students of Classes 7 and 9, Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Uchimedu, Tamil Nadu

Sand art by V. Balaji (left) and S. Dasarathan, Class 7, Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Uchimedu, Tamil Nadu.
Mural Visions

Education can take various hues, and art education is one among them. Through Art for Development, an initiative supported by integrated watch maker, Titan, AIM for Seva hopes to channelise the expressive spirit of our Chatralayam students in vibrant ways.

The Art for Development programme is currently underway at the Emirates AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu. The programme’s main objective is to empower and develop skills of rural school going girls from interior Tamil Nadu via the medium of art. The students will be taught and mentored by Ms. Bindu, Ms. Henna Kalro and Ms. Shoma Ghosh.

The programme is designed as four immersive and intense workshops. This year’s (2019–20), Art for Development programme supported by Titan will focus on broadening and building on the skills on mosaic learnt by our girl students in the Dharmapuri Chatralayam under the Art of Development programme last year. As part of this year’s curriculum, two workshops on mosaic murals were conducted from April 16 to 19. Our girls were taught to create a mosaic mural image of the sun (8” x 10”). This spectacular piece of art will be showcased on the compound wall of the Emirates AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu. Two more mosaic mural workshops will be held shortly.

Two workshops on mosaic installations were also held on August 3 and 4. As part of the programme, the girls worked independently on a small square separately cut out of MDF (multiple density fibreboard) in mosaic. The squares will then be collectively made into a collage for installation.

We are happy to share that our girls have shown a lot of interest in this programme. They have learnt the basic techniques and have the necessary materials to continue practising and honing their skills and artistic expression for the rest of the year.

Co-curricular Champions

Our girls (Class 5 to 10) from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Tribal Girls Chatralayam, Nandyal, Andhra Pradesh, participated in various competitions held in their school (Sri Sarada Vidya Peetham, Nandyal, Andhra Pradesh) on the occasion of Independence Day and won prizes in essay writing, letter writing, quiz competition, singing competition – Sanskrit poems and patriotic songs, and short film analysis.
Artistic Topper

B. Priyan, a student from the Arun-Divya AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu won the second prize in a drawing competition held in his school, Sembangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of K. Kamarajar, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Winners from Middle School

Our students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Tribal Girls Chatralayam and Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Tribal Boys Chatralayam, Anaikatti, Tamil Nadu, and studying in Government Tribal Residential Primary School and Government Tribal High School, Anaikatti, Tamil Nadu won prizes in various competitions (drawing, running, *Tirukkural* recitation, essay competition and elocution) held in their school on the occasion of Independence Day. There are 41 girls living in the Anaikatti girls’ Chatralayam and 60 boys in the boys’ Chatralayam at Anaikatti, Tamil Nadu.

Sembangudi Champs

Our students from the Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu won various prizes in the interschool competition held on the occasion of Bharathiyar Day Games 2019–2020. R. Manikandan from Class 10 won the second prize in a drawing competition; he was awarded a cash prize of Rs. 600.

Anaikatti All-rounders

G. Jagadeesh Naga Pavan, M. Charan

Our students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Chilamathur, Andhra Pradesh, participated in a patriotic song singing competition held in their school, ZPP High School, Tada, Andhra Pradesh, and won prizes. M. Charan, Class 7, won the first prize, and G. Jagadeesh Naga Pavan, Class 6, won the second prize.
Sports

Our students thrive in outdoor games, and develop their personal talents and leadership skills from participating in competitions. We showcase some of their achievements in this section.

Aiming High

V. Vijaya Shalini, 1st year B.Com CA student at the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, participated in the state-level archery competition conducted by the Archery Association of Tamil Nadu at Erode, Kumarapalayam, Tamil Nadu, on July 7 and won the first prize among 46 participants. Motivated by her elder brother, she started learning the art of archery seven years back, when she was studying in Dr. G.S. Kalyanasundaram Memorial School, Chozhan Maligai, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu. She is a member of the Kumbakonam Archery Club. Vijaya Shalini continued her winning streak during this quarter. She bagged the third prize in the recurve bow round in the Inter-Collegiate Archery Competition held at Bishop Heber College, Trichy on August 10.

R. Keerthana, 2nd year B.Sc CS from the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, also secured third place in the Indian bow round. There were 60 participants in the competition.

Kabaddi Winners

Our students P. Madhavan (Class 10) and R. Akash (Class 9) stood first and second in a kabaddi competition held in their school, Government High School, Kollar, Tamil Nadu. Both of them are residing and studying in the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Tindivanam, Tamil Nadu. There are 27 boys in this hostel.
P. Naga Babu, an alumnus of the Kosuri-Doraiswamy AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Bapatla, Andhra Pradesh, won the second position in the 65th Junior National Ball Badminton Championship organised by the Ball Badminton Association Manipur at Khuman Lampak Sports Complex Imphal, Manipur. His team members and he were felicitated by the District Collector of Guntur, Andhra Pradesh for the achievement. Naga Babu studied intermediate (1st year and 2nd year) in our Chatralayam and is now pursuing his 3rd year B.Sc. (MPC) in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.

The students of the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu participated in the Thanjavur regional level sports conducted by Kodavayil Sports Club on August 30 at Ohai Ground, Kodavasal, Tiruvarur District, Tamil Nadu. Eight other colleges participated in this competition. The men’s team stood third in the ball badminton category while the women’s team took away the second prize.

P. Naveen studying in Class 8 from the Kuppuswamy AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Polur, Tamil Nadu bagged a prize at the zonal level inter-school hockey competition – Bharathiyar Day Games 2019–2020. This competition was held in Government Higher Secondary School, Sorakolathur, Tiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu.
Our students from the Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu, won various prizes in Bharathiyar Day Games 2019–20, an inter-school competition.

**GIRLS:**
- I. Asha, Class 10, handball winner and second prize in 4 x 400m running
- K. Iswarya, Class 10, kabaddi winner

**BOYS:**
- M. Gokul, Class 9, third prize in 80m hurdles, and runner-up in volley ball
- M. Gopinath, Class 12, kabaddi winner

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Danam, giving and sharing, is a mark of growth. Not giving is a mark of being stunted. Remaining a consumer all the time, and not becoming a contributor, is not the Vedic view of life. We have to be contributors.

In the Sama Veda, in the *sambhita* portion, we have this *mantra*: *setun tura dustaran*. *Dustaran* means that which is very difficult to cross. Therefore, we need to use a *setu* to cross over the obstacles. *Setu* is a causeway, a means of crossing what is to be crossed. One of the obstacles to self-growth is the incapacity to give even when there is a situation that requires us to give. This is a mark of ill-growth, of inadequate growth or no growth.

You need a heart to give. It is not a heart with a patronising attitude, ‘I am giving’. We consider that as some kind of an aberration. To be big and secure as a person does not depend upon any other thing except yourself. If you are happy being yourself, than anything you have is a plus for you.

The Sama Veda says: *danena adanam tara*. Give as though you have a big heart. You fake it and make it. Grind your teeth and somehow give. Even though you do not have compassion, you can act compassionately and you will discover compassion. If you do not have love, act lovingly and you will discover love. Similarly, in the act of giving, you grow, people grow and your country grows! ‘Giving’ is the means for growth.

You keep giving until it hurts. ‘Giving’ is like weight-lifting. You cannot take a small mug and practise weight-lifting! The capacity of weight-lifting is in the attempt of shaking something that you cannot shake. Lift something that you can only with some difficulty. So, give until it hurts you.

Nobody grows without paying a price for growth. You grow big by caring, the act of caring. Every individual has to care. If you are in a corporation, make your whole corporation help. Involve all the people who work for you in caring programmes. Make all of them contributors, big people. The people who receive your help feel cared and validated, and become part of the mainstream. This is how you can make a difference in society.

*Words of Wisdom*

We have to be **CONTRIBUTORS**

*What does one have to do to grow to become a contributor? Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati advises us to start by faking it.*
We thank all our corporate supporters and individual donors for their invaluable contributions.

Lucas-TVS
A committed supporter to AIM for Seva, Chennai-based Lucas-TVS gave Rs. 4 lakhs as meal expenses for students at the Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu.

National Insurance Company Limited
The Madurai branch of National Insurance Company Limited released the balance amount Rs. 8,14,900 (total sanctioned amount was Rs. 16,14,900) towards the construction of a girls toilet block at the Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu.

Computer Age Management Services Private Limited
The Chennai arm of Computer Age Management Services (CAMS) has donated a sum of Rs. 4.8 lakhs towards student sponsorships of the S. Viswanathan Memorial AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu. Computer Age Management Services is a regular donor to AIM for Seva.

P J Margo Private Limited
The Bengaluru-based company has donated Rs. 1,08,000 towards student sponsorships.

Sundaram BNP Paribas Home Finance
A regular donor to AIM for Seva, the Chennai-based home finance company has contributed a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs towards child sponsorship during the quarter.

Cool Cosmetics Private Limited (Clarion Cosmetics Group)
Cool Cosmetics Private Limited, a Chennai based company that is part of the Clarion Cosmetics Group has contributed Rs. 3.96 lakh towards student sponsorships for the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Chilamathur, Andhra Pradesh. Clarion Cosmetics is a committed donor to AIM for Seva.

Aanandam Charitable Trust
A regular contributor to AIM for Seva, Chennai-based Aanandam Charitable Trust has donated a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs towards hostel expenses of the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Tindivanam, Tamil Nadu.

IFCI Social Foundation
IFCI Social Foundation released the third instalment of Rs. 5 lakhs towards construction of a toilet block at the Swami Dayananda Rotary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Kadâlur, Tamil Nadu.

Laxmibai Dwarkadas Charity Trust, Mumbai
The Mumbai-based organisation has donated a sum of Rs. 1 lakh towards child sponsorships.
Dayachand Malhotra Charitable Trust, Chennai

The Chennai-headquartered organisation donated a sum of Rs. 82,000 during the quarter towards student sponsorships.

Ms. Usha Arya, North Wales, PA, USA

Ms. Usha Arya from Pennsylvania, USA, continues to extend her support towards renovation of the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Karnaprayag, Uttarakhand. During this quarter, she donated a sum of Rs. 56 lakhs.

Sri. Srinivasa Narasimhan Chakravarthula, Mumbai

Sri. Srinivasa Narasimhan Chakravarthula from Mumbai has given Rs. 1 lakh towards student sponsorships.

Pradip Zumkhawala, Mumbai

Sri. Pradip Zumkhawala from Mumbai has contributed a sum of Rs. 1.2 lakhs that will be utilised towards student sponsorships.

Sri. K. Vaidyanath, Bengaluru

Sri. K. Vaidyanath from Bengaluru, Karnataka, has donated Rs. 1 lakh to AIM for Seva.

Sri. Kalluri Suryanarayana, Bengaluru

Sri. Kalluri Suryanarayana from Bengaluru, Karnataka, donated Rs. 3 lakhs during the quarter to AIM for Seva. He is a regular supporter to our cause of educating rural India.

Sri. Jay Ganapathy, Singapore

Our students from the Kuppuswamy AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Polur, Tamil Nadu, will have a cracker of a Diwali as Sri. Jay Ganapathy continues his association this festive season with the students of the hostel. Sri. Ganapathy has contributed a sum of Rs. 60,000 for purchases of new dresses, sweets and snacks.

Well wisher, New Jersey, USA

A well wisher from New Jersey, USA, has given a cheque of $15,001. Her generous contribution would be utilised towards sponsoring the expenses of the Dayasagar AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Palani, Tamil Nadu, for one year. This donor has been a long time supporter to AIM for Seva’s cause of educating rural India.

T.K. Jayaraman, Chennai

Sri. T.K. Jayaraman from Chennai has donated Rs. 3 lakhs which has been earmarked towards student sponsorships.
SDET UPDATES

A glimpse into the main events at our school and college in Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

Montessori Education in Manjakkudi

The inauguration of the Montessori programme at the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, is yet another milestone in the journey of SDET (Swami Dayananda Educational Trust) in providing 360-degree education for students from rural India.

The Montessori programme was formally inaugurated by Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, correspondent, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. Some of the students’ parents were invited to light the lamp to mark the beginning of the event, and flowers were offered to Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati while the school choir sang the prayer song.

The special guests at the event were Sri. M.G. Dharmarajan, trustee of SDET, and Sri. M.R. Rajagopal, head of operations, Wipro, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

In her message, Smt. Sheela Balaji, Chairperson and Managing Trustee of SDET, conveyed her hope that the new education programme would emulate the vision of Pujya Swamiji in transforming Manjakkudi by facilitating learning opportunities for students from rural India. Smt. Sheela Balaji also extended her words of appreciation to Ms. Rukmini Ramachandran, founder, Navadisha Montessori Foundation, in supporting the training of our staff and in facilitating the setting up of the Montessori environment by deputing her staff at Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

The school’s principal, Smt. Padma Raghunathan, introduced the Montessori teachers and extended her gratitude for the efforts taken by the school management in introducing this form of innovative pedagogy at Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

The names of the four Montessori environments are Medha, Purna, Pragna and Ananda. In his speech, Sri. M.G. Srinivasan appreciated the efforts of Smt. Sheela Balaji in facilitating state of the art education at Manjakkudi, and blessed the students. The inaugural function ended with a prayer song by the choir students.
We live in a fragile biosphere. One way to make the future generation environmentally conscious is to create awareness in them while they are young. To this end, the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, celebrated ‘Vanamahotsav 2019’ in the school campus on July 9. The focus was on creating a green canopy in the region.

The Chief Guest for the occasion was Sri. L. Krishnamoorthy, forest range officer, Tiruvarur District, Tamil Nadu. The programme began with the Chief Guest hoisting the national flag. Trustee of SDET (Swami Dayananda Educational Trust), Sri. M.G. Srinivasan felicitated the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest then planted saplings at the south end of the school. He then flagged off the rally. Our students (from Classes 8 and 9) and teachers took out a rally till Samathuvapuram and they planted few saplings there too.

A colourful and memorable cultural fest, Samsrushti 2K19 was conducted on August 19 and 20 at GR Auditorium, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. The sole purpose of this fest is to encourage college students to exhibit their literary and academic skills.

The culture festival saw the participation of 255 students from 14 colleges and 10 schools in the region. The students enthusiastically participated in various events (literary, academic and cultural), which was conducted by various departments of the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

The overall championship of colleges was given to Sastra University, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu, while the runners-up trophy was bagged by Annai College, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu. Among schools, Town Higher Secondary School, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu, walked away with the top honours while the runners-up were Trinity Higher Secondary School, Tiruvarur, Tamil Nadu.
The investiture ceremony of the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, was held on July 26 in the GR Auditorium.

At the start of the ceremony, students from Class 3 and above assembled house-wise. The function was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Smt. Sheela Balaji, Chairperson and Managing Trustee of the Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET), in the presence of Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, correspondent of the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, and Smt. Padma Raghunathan, principal, Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. The relieving council members discharged their duties by handing over the sash and flags to the JRC (Junior Red Cross) volunteers.

The Chief Guest carried out the honours of conferring responsibilities to the newly elected school council members (2019–2020). The students took the oath to strive hard and keep the ethics and values of the institution and to motivate fellow students to participate in all activities with the true spirit of competition.

Smt. Sheela Balaji spoke on the vision of Swamiji, the role of a Guru in one’s life, importance of learning and team work and success.
Culture and Heritage Competition

A national-level competition on ‘Culture and Heritage of Arts’ was held at Arasu Engineering College, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu, on July 27. The event saw the participation of 27 colleges; 18 students from our college participated in Theru koothu (street play) and Kollatam (stick dance) events and won the first prize in Theru koothu. The street play was based on current issues of Tamil Nadu – water scarcity, plastic usage, unemployment and cleanliness.

Winners Take All

The students from the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu participated in the Gender Championship Club Competitions conducted by Bharathidasan University at Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu. Our students won top prizes in mime, elocution (English), poetry (English), skit, group dance, solo dance, short film and documentary/video production. A total of 10 colleges participated in the competition.
The National Handloom Day was initiated in 2015 by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (drawing inspiration from the Swadeshi Movement that was proclaimed on August 7, 1905). On this day, we commemorate India’s weavers, who have kept alive a 5,000-year-old tradition. Weaving is one of the activities undertaken by the residents at Krupa Care.

Members from Lions Club, Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu, interacted with our residents at Krupa Care on the occasion of National Handloom Day (August 7). Sri. M.V. Siva, the weaving instructor at Krupa Care, gave a presentation on the weaving activities conducted at the facility. As part of daily pursuits at Krupa Care, our 39 differently abled male residents are engaged in various activities and high functioning autistic adults are busy during the day with cloth weaving. As a token of our appreciation, members from Lions Club, Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu, were presented with shawls woven by Krupa Care residents. They were appreciative of the weaving activity currently being undertaken at Krupa Care.

A month after the event, the Lions Club members from Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu donated 50 kg of rice to Krupa Care.

Other activities at Krupa Care include gardening, organic farming and cow shed maintenance. Moderately functioning adults at Krupa Care are engaged in incense and dhoop making, paper marbling and packaging for local industries.
Founder’s Day Celebrations

Our 39 differently abled residents from Krupa Care paid homage to Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati on the occasion of Founder’s Day (August 15). Founder’s Day was celebrated at the Krupa Care campus on August 20. The programme was graced by senior officials from the human resources and training departments of Delphi–TVS, a committed supporter of AIM for Seva.

The programme began with playing of AIM of Seva’s anthem, Bharata Desa Hitaya. This was followed by lighting of the lamp by the Chief Guests, Sri. Kannan Babu (human resources department, Delphi–TVS) and Mr. A. Bilal Hussain (training department, Delphi–TVS).

The welcome address was given by Sri. T.S. Veeraraghavan, who spoke about the activities being undertaken at Krupa Care. This was followed by a short film on Swami Dayananda Saraswati and Krupa Care. Sri. N.D. Udayakumar, a special educator, and Sri. M. Senthamizh Selvan, resident nurse at Krupa Care, explained how the daily activities had an overall positive impact on our residents’ physical and mental being. Our esteemed guests were very appreciative of the work done at Krupa Care, and were impressed by the tranquil surroundings. The vote of thanks was given by Sri. Siva Subramanian, resident welfare officer at Krupa Care.

We are working to expand the premises at Krupa Care to incorporate more activities and to enable effective research. If you wish to support us, please contact us at +91-44-2498 7955 / 66 or +91 95000 60153, or write to us at aimallindiamovement@gmail.com.
A look at the main events across our Chatralayams – ranging from a visit by Sri. Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road and Transport, to celebrating the 116th birth anniversary of Sri. K. Kamaraj to an upanayanam ceremony for newcomers at our Vedapathshala.

The Minister’s Visit

A three day long function of pranapratishthapana was held at the Arsha Vidya Varidhi Ashram, Nagpur, Maharashtra. The Ashram is located next to the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Nagpur, Maharashtra. On the final day of the function, Sri. Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road and Transport was the Chief Guest and Swami Sthairyananda Saraswati ji, Swami Aishvarya Saraswati ji, Swami Vishweshananda Saraswati ji, Swami Chitprakashananda Saraswati ji and Swami Vishnuswaroopananda Saraswati ji were present. Sri. Gadkari recollected his association with Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati and appreciated AIM for Seva’s work in the sphere of rural education. The minister assured AIM for Seva of all help including laying of a proper road leading to the Ashram. Sri. Gadkari also inaugurated the AIM for Seva Swami Dayananda Chatralayam kitchen-cum-dining hall. More than 2,000 people from the neighbouring regions partook in the prasad sevanam on this occasion.
The 116th birth anniversary of Tamil Nadu’s former Chief Minister and iconic leader, Sri. K. Kamaraj, was celebrated in a grand manner at the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. Sri. Kamaraj’s birth anniversary is celebrated in all educational institutes across Tamil Nadu as Educational Development Day (July 15) to commemorate the educational reforms brought in by him.

The celebrations were held in the GR Auditorium of the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. The programme commenced at 9.30 a.m. with floral tributes, followed by lighting of the lamp by Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, Sri. MG. Srinivasan, trustee, SDET (Swami Dayananda Educational Trust). The Chief Guest for the occasion was Sri. B. Krishnamoorthy, head, department of Tamil, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

As part of the celebrations, various competitions such as fancy dress, poetry, speech making and music competitions were conducted for students from Classes 1 to 12 on July 13. Sri. Krishnamoorthy was impressed with the discipline shown by our students. The programme concluded with prize distribution by Sri. Srinivasan in the presence of the Chief Guest, and the vote of thanks being delivered by one of our school’s students.

A medical team from the Primary Health Care Centre, Polur, Tamil Nadu, conducted a general health check-up for our students at the Kuppuswamy AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Polur, Tamil Nadu. After the routine check-up, the health care professionals conducted an awareness camp on personal hygiene, cleanliness, chikungunya, swine flu and dengue. There are 31 boys residing in this hostel.
There are 43 girls living in the Chatralayam at Yelahanka.

The objective behind this exercise was to inculcate a spirit of team work amongst the girls. The games conducted at the workshop included water balloon games, spoon and thread games, plank walk games and ball games.

On behalf of MKSG Memorial Trust, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, Ms. Sudha Sridhar paid a visit to the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Yelahanka, Karnataka, and gifted yoga mats to our students. Yoga is an important aspect of our value-based education curriculum. Ms. Sudha also conducted clay pottery activities for the students.

Sri. Lalit Kumar, a volunteer at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Yelahanka, Karnataka, devised and conducted various team building activities and fun games for our girls at the Chatralayam.

There are 29 boys living in the Chatralayam at Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu.

Our students are well trained in life skills that will hold them in good stead wherever they may go. An example of this was the fire safety and fire fighting mock drill, road safety and emergency rescue operations training programme, which was conducted at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu. The exercise was conducted by Mr. E. Parthasarathy, founder, Raksha Seva Trust. Our students had a good time during the session. There are 29 boys living in the Chatralayam at Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu.
AIM for Seva partnered with Pratham Books and celebrated International Literacy Day on September 8 across all our Chatralayams in Maharashtra. To make the event enjoyable for our older readers and younger ones, our students were given the option of choosing from two titles: *Gappu Can’t Dance* (a Level 1 book written by Menaka Raman and illustrated by Krishna Chandan) and *The Weightlifting Princess* (a Level 3 book written by Sowmya Rajendran and illustrated by Debasmita Dasgupta). It was a fun-filled session with our students from the Amboli and Rajgurunagar Chatralayams in Maharashtra having a gala time reading, narrating and enacting stories. Last year, AIM for Seva partnered with Pratham Books, and our students from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana were introduced to *A Cloud of Trash* (written by Karanjeet Kaur). The story is about a little girl called Cheekoo, who has a cloud of trash hanging over her head. This makes her very unhappy and, as we follow her story, we learn a little more about trash, and about keeping our surroundings clean. Our students across 16 hostels in both states read the story out aloud and enjoyed enacting it.

An *upanayanam* ceremony was conducted on August 28 for new students at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for boys, Chikhali, Maharashtra. This hostel houses a Vedapatashala and propagates traditional learning in addition to regular school curriculum. The guests of honour for the *upanayanam* ceremony were Swami Brahmaparananda Saraswati ji, Swami Vishweshananda Saraswati ji, Sri. V.N. Abhyankar and Sri. Yashwant Limaye (both educationists from Pune) and Swami Chitprakashananda Saraswati ji.
From laying the ground for a new Chatralayam in Andhra Pradesh to the academic session being commenced at our school in Madhya Pradesh, we bring to you the latest updates from the field.

New Administrative and Restroom Block

Over the past 18 years, AIM for Seva has worked to help get more students into school – and to keep them there. To this end, a new administrative block was inaugurated at the Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu. This project has been supported by our donors from USA.

The ground floor of the building has been supported by Dr. Varalakshmi and Dr. Niranjan Sankaranarayanan and Smt. Uma and Dr. Ram Venkatraman, Hartford, CT, USA. The ground floor is dedicated to Smt. Sivakamasundari and Sri. S.K. Balasubramanian, Smt. Parvathi and Sri. G. Venkataraman and Smt. Sundari and Sri. S.Venkatachalam. The first floor has been sponsored by Dr. Soma Sundaram and Mrs. Nagaveni Avva, Dayton, Ohio, USA in memory of Sri. Avva Eswaraiah Chetty and Smt. Avva Lakshmi Narasamma. The second floor has been sponsored by Dr. Soma Sundaram & Mrs. Nagaveni Avva, Dayton, Ohio, USA in memory of Sri. Jonnalagadda Subbalakshmaiah Setty and Smt. Lakshmi Devamma.

We are also upgrading our facilities to ensure good health and hygiene. In this regard, clean sanitation facilities play a major part in our efforts to educate rural India – more so for adolescent girls, who cite lack of privacy and adequate sanitation facilities as a reason for dropping out of school. Furthermore, waterborne diseases that arise from inadequate sanitation facilities are a key reason for the ill health of children not just in India but around the world.

We aim to tackle the root causes of these issues, and provide our students with good, hygienic washrooms. Further, we hope that it will help in the formation of habits that reinforce personal hygiene – which they will carry back to their homes and larger communities. These are thus the seeds of positive change we are sowing for the betterment of our nation.

On this note, we are proud to share that we have inaugurated a new toilet block for girls at the Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi Village, Tiruvarur District, Tamil Nadu. Donation for the building was made by National Insurance Company Limited under their CSR (corporate social responsibility) wing. The block was inaugurated on June 17 by officials from the National Insurance Company Limited – Sri. S. Akilan, chief regional manager, and Sri. P.A. Joseph, regional manager.
On June 24, Swami Satprakashananda Saraswati ji took the first class for all students at the Swami Dayananda Saraswati Vidyalaya, Padali Khurd Village, Khargone District, Madhya Pradesh. Swami ji motivated all our students to do well and blessed them to benefit from a good academic road ahead. We are happy to announce that the newly opened school in the heart of rural central India has gotten 232 admissions so far.

A new Chatralayam for boys was inaugurated on June 21 in Andhra Pradesh. Twenty-two boys have joined the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, located in Kovur Nagar, Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh. The land and building donor for this project is Smt. G.C. Jayasheela Rao.

The academic session has commenced in full swing in the school. As part of co-curricular activities, our school students enthusiastically participated in a fancy dress competition held in the school campus. On the festive occasion of Raksha Bandhan, the students celebrated the day with handmade rakhis.

We take this opportunity to express our gratitude to Sri. Jugal Kishor and Smt. Bimla, residents of California, USA for funding this school project in central India.

The good work for expanding our educational presence in central India continues. On August 25, a bhoomi pooja for a Chatralayam for boys was conducted at Padali Khurd Village, Khargone District, Madhya Pradesh. The construction is expected to commence soon and, by January 2020, the ground floor of the boys’ Chatralayam will be ready. The bhoomi pooja for the Chatralayam for girls in the same place is slated for February 2, 2020.
From paying homage to our Guru on Gurupurnima to reiterating our founder Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati’s commitment to the nation on Independence Day, our students organise and participate in varied celebrations with interest and enthusiasm.

Gurupurnima Celebrations

On July 16, Gurupurnima was celebrated across India. In the Vedic tradition, respect to one's Guru is one of the five ‘Vedic Pillars’ that are to be observed and followed by society. In this tradition, knowledge is passed down from Guru to Sishya without distortion in an unbroken chain. We share glimpses of Gurupurnima celebrations across the country where we paid respect to the founder of our movement, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati.

Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu

The teaching and non-teaching staff of the school attended the Gurupurnima pooja at Manjakkudi (the birthplace of our founder). This was followed by celebrations at the Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu during the morning assembly. Our students participated in the programme by giving speeches on the occasion of Gurupurnima.

Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu

At the Manjakkudi school, the entire school staff assembled in the meditation hall in the morning for the Gurupurnima pooja. After the pooja, they proceeded to the Manimandapam to take Swamijis blessings. After collecting the prasadam, the school staff came back to
the school premises for the Gurupurnima function. The function at the school began at 9.15 am with our students giving speeches, singing bhajans and reciting slokas from the Bhagavad Gita. The entire audience then recited Guru Namavali from the book. Then the chief guest, Sri. R. Seshadri, assistant professor, department of Sanskrit, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu spoke on the importance of respecting Gurus, while correspondent of the college, Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, spoke on Guruparamparyam and extolled our students to respect their parents and teachers. Our students paid floral tributes to Pujya Swamiji, collected prasadam and then went to their respective classrooms.

**Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu**

At the college next door, Gurupurnima was celebrated at the GR Auditorium with correspondent of the college, Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, presiding over the celebration. While addressing the gathering, he said that Gurupurnima is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Veda Vyasa who composed many scriptures. Sri. Srinivasan also spoke about Swamiji. The college principal, Dr. N. Kanakasabesan then welcomed the gathering. Soon, after the welcome address, B. Divya, a 2nd year student of B.Sc (Chemistry) spoke on Veda Vyasa while Raja Mathangi, a 3rd year BCA student spoke on Gurupurnima. Our Chatralayam students from Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu then chanted Sri Guru Stotram and Dayananda Panchakam. All the faculty members and students paid floral tributes to Pujya Swamiji.

**Swami Dayananda Saraswati Vidyalaya, Khargone, Madhya Pradesh**

In central India, the school students and staff of the newly opened Swami Dayananda Saraswati Vidyalaya, Khargone, Madhya Pradesh paid rich floral tributes to the founder of AIM for Seva.

A renowned spiritual Guru and one of the greatest teachers of Advaita Vedanta, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati was born on August 15, 1930, in Manjakkudi, a village located on the banks of river Kaveri in the Tiruvarur District in Tamil Nadu. Pujya Swamiji was the founder of AIM for Seva, Swami Dayananda Educational Trust, Arsha Vidyam Research & Publication Trust, and Arsha Vidyam Gurukulams in India and USA. On the occasion of Founder’s Day (August 15), we paid respects and homage to the founder of our movement.

The students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu got together and organised an awareness programme on fire safety and fire fighting, road safety, emergency rescue operations for students studying at the AVD Higher Secondary School, Ganapathipuram, Tamil Nadu on the occasion of Pujya Swamiji’s birthday. Founder’s Day was also celebrated across our Chatralayams and other educational institutions with our students paying homage and seeking blessings from our visionary founder, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati.
June 21 is celebrated world over as the International Day of Yoga. For AIM for Seva, yoga is an intrinsic part of our value-education model that we propagate across our Chatralayams and educational institutions.

August 15 was marked across all our hostels and other educational institutions with the unfurling of the tricolour. On this day, our students made a commitment to work towards the progress of the nation.

On the occasion of Raksha Bandhan, our girl students from the Madhu & Rajkumar Nigam AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Unnao, Uttar Pradesh made beautiful rakhis. Janmastami and Ganesh Chathurthi were celebrated across all our hostels in India. Our 39 differently abled residents from Krupa Care got together and celebrated Ganesh Chathurthi in a special way.
Across our Chatralayams, we organise outdoor trips that help break the monotony of everyday hostel life. Such excursions help our students to unwind and enjoy each other’s company in an informal environment.

**Temple Trip**

Our students from the AIM for Seva Dayatirtha Chatralayam for Girls, Thennampattu, Tamil Nadu, were taken on a day trip to the Subramanya Swamy Temple, Vellore, Tamil Nadu. There are 22 girls living in this newly inaugurated hostel. The girls also recently celebrated World Environment Day in the Chatralayam premises.

Our students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Uchimedu, Tamil Nadu enjoyed a day out at the Art Fest conducted by AR Painting Studio at Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu. There are 30 boys living in this hostel.

**Creative Tour**

Our students from the S. Viswanathan Memorial AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu and the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Tindivanam, Tamil Nadu were taken out on an educational tour to Gangaikondachozhapuram, Poompuhar, Tharangambadi beach and Ananthamangalam Hanuman temple. This tour was organised by Aanandam Charitable Trust (donor of the Tindivanam Chatralayam). There are 37 boys residing in the Sriperumbudur Chatralayam and 27 boys in the Tindivanam Chatralayam.

**Historical Excursion**

Our students from the S. Viswanathan Memorial AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu and the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Tindivanam, Tamil Nadu were taken out on an educational tour to Gangaikondachozhapuram, Poompuhar, Tharangambadi beach and Ananthamangalam Hanuman temple. This tour was organised by Aanandam Charitable Trust (donor of the Tindivanam Chatralayam). There are 37 boys residing in the Sriperumbudur Chatralayam and 27 boys in the Tindivanam Chatralayam.
Like the Earth, we need to learn to share (vibhakthi), to give in abundance (vriddhi), provide nutrition (vrihi) and be compassionate (daya). Our initiatives are centred on these key principles and all our programmes and products are crafted to create a sustainable future.

At the annual farmer networking event organised by the Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET), the key message was that organic farming can be profitable to farmers, consumers and the environment. The event was held on September 6 in Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. The event saw participation of 42 farmers from in and around Manjakkudi, Tirvarur District, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. G. Sither, a naturopath and natural farming expert from Thanjavur, and Chief Guest and speaker at the event, touched on the importance of maintaining soil fertility, creating organic manure and how to keep pests at bay. “Opting for the right heritage rice seeds, processing of seeds, replantation and weeding without affecting soil health is very important. This is a method that has been used by our ancestors, and by following the traditional cultivation methodology, we will be able to create a healthy world,” he explained.

The annual event attempts to bring in and network farmers who are keen to know more about organic heritage rice cultivation. The presentations and farmer training programmes revolve around maintaining and improving soil fertility and structure, reducing soil erosion and promoting biodiversity.
Krupa Care is a residential facility for 39 differently abled adult men located in Sriperumbudur in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. In this facility, work centres have been created to ensure that these residents can be meaningfully occupied. Depending on their functional capabilities, the residents are kept engaged in activities like weaving, paper craft and agarbathi assembling, among others.

Handloom weaving is a therapeutic rehabilitation for the residents; it unleashes their creativity and restores optimal physical, mental, social and vocational ability. Being meaningfully engaged adds to their self-worth and happiness.

For more information and to purchase these hand-woven table mats and napkins, please write to spiritoftheearth2017@gmail.com or call us at +91-95000 82142. Your support will enable our residents to live a life with dignity.
### Join Our Movement In Educating Rural India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support Our Projects</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Support Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Educate 1 child for 1 year – support by providing tuition fees, books, notebooks, stationery, uniforms, school bag and sports gear</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Rs. 15,000</td>
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<td>3. Complete Education and Care for 1 child for 1 year (options 1 and 2 combined)</td>
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<td>4. Educate 1 child for 1 month – support by providing tuition fees, books, notebooks, stationery, uniforms, school bag and sports gear</td>
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<td>6. Complete Education and Care for 1 child for 1 month (options 4 and 5 combined)</td>
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<td>7. Meals for the children in a Chatralayam on a donor-designated day</td>
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<td>8. Special clothes for a festive occasion for 1 child</td>
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- Cheques/DD to be drawn in favour of ‘AIM for Seva’
- Donate online at https://aimforseva.in/donations/
- Contributions to AIM for Seva are exempt from Income Tax under section 80G of the Indian Income Tax Act, 1961