Jan – Jun 2020 | Vol 2 - Issue 4
Vol 3 - Issue 1

Outreach
An AIM for Seva Quarterly

4 More To Girl Power
How educating and empowering girls from rural and tribal India is an important aspect of our value-based education model

28 SDET Updates
Glimpses from the 16th Graduation Day and 16th Annual Convention at Manjakkudi
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Namaste.

These are unprecedented times but Covid-19 has also presented AIM for Seva an opportunity to do what it does best—Seva. Our field coordinators have led such service efforts from the front—whether it’s annadānam for the poor or helping the returning migrant workforce with relief supplies and accommodation.

In this special issue of Outreach (January-June 2020), we share the happenings at AIM for Seva over the last 6 months.

Pujya Swamiji was the guiding force for our flagship programme-Chatralayam. But did you know that it was a tribal woman living in the Anaikatti foothills near Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, who first sowed the idea of ‘hostel’ for children from rural India?

On the face of it, Papammal resembled an illiterate and disempowered woman. Twenty one years back, in a chance meeting with our Founder, Papammal revealed how her children had to walk 7 miles every day to reach a school across the forest. Thus, AIM for Seva was born.

This issue’s Cover Story is dedicated to the girl achievers. What's fascinating is that as we set to complete two decades of educating rural India, the number of our Girl Chatralayams stands at 21 and 19% of our Chatralayam student beneficiaries are girls.

Even as we continue to move ahead in our journey in such uncertain times, let us take a moment to reinforce and rededicate our commitment to empower more girls from rural India.

Warm regards,

SHEELA BALAJI
Chairperson and Managing Trustee | AIM for Seva
The importance of educating a girl child cannot be underestimated. There are nine million illiterate girls in India and that is a worrying statistic. Moreover, demographic trends in India are also not very encouraging. The trend of decline in CSR (child sex ratio), defined as number of girls per 1000 of boys between 0-6 years of age, has been unabated in India since 1961.

The decline from 945 in 1991 to 927 in 2001 and further to 918 in 2011 is alarming. The decline in the CSR is a major indicator of women disempowerment (Source: Beti Bachao Beti Padhao website). Factors at play here are gender biased sex selection and post birth discrimination against girls. In case of the latter, a 2010 social development report indicated that a female child spends three-fourth of an hour more on domestic work than a male child. Girls are often marginalised and their chances of getting an education recede if they are from poor and tribal areas. Religious and cultural practices also play a role. Child marriage inevitably puts a full stop to education. Inadequate sanitation facilities in rural schools also lead to a drop-out especially when girls hit puberty.
The need of the hour is better protection and empowerment of the girl child. It is a proven fact that by educating girls, families can come out of poverty. Educated mothers are better informed about sanitation, nutrition and immunisation. Further, an educated woman has a greater say in both social and economic matters relating to the household. As empowered and educated citizens, they make informed choices. All of this leads to happier and healthy lives.

AIM for Seva and the Girl Child

AIM for Seva’s flagship programme is Chatralayam and today one-fifth of such boarding residences are for girls (21 out of 104 Chatralayams). A Chatralayam is located in a close vicinity to a school and provides educational, nutritional and extracurricular support to a child from rural India, free of cost so that he or she can eventually become a contributing member to society. We have 4000 students currently from rural India living and studying across 104 Chatralayams, many of which are located in last mile areas across India. Of this, 758 are girls. In other words, 19% of our Chatralayam student population is girls.

In addition, of the 7 educational institutions run by AIM for Seva, 1 is a school for girls in Madhya Pradesh while the rest are co-educational.

### Educational Institutions

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<th>Name of the Institution</th>
<th>Number of students</th>
<th>Classes</th>
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<td>Inder and Prabha Sharma Girls Higher Secondary School, Khategaon, Dewas district, Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>335 (All Girls)</td>
<td>KG—12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swami Dayananda Vidyasramam Nursery &amp; Primary School, Karagur village, Dharmapuri district, Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Girls: 98, Boys: 145</td>
<td>KG—5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi village, Tiruvarur district, Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Girls: 433, Boys: 472</td>
<td>KG—12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi village, Tiruvarur district, Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Girls: 554, Boys: 530</td>
<td>6—12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swami Dayananda Rotary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Kadalur village, Kanchipuram district, Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Girls: 347, Boys: 341</td>
<td>KG—12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swami Dayananda College of Arts &amp; Science, Manjakkudi village, Tiruvarur district, Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Girls: 980, Boys: 778</td>
<td>Graduate—11 courses, Post-graduate—3 courses, M.Phil—2 courses, Diploma—1 course</td>
</tr>
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Academic Achievers

In this section, we are pleased to share some recent educational and co-curricular achievements of our Chatralayam girl students.

KARNATAKA

From south India, 8 of our girl hostlers from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Belgaum, Karnataka, cleared their Class 10 board examinations. Three of them managed to score above 80%. They are, Rikynti Rytathiang (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 exam. They are students of Government High School, Yelahanka, Karnataka. Akkamahadevi got 88.16% while Veeramma scored 73.60%. C. Sowmya from the same school and hostel secured school 2nd position in Class 10 with 81.13%.

ANDHRA PRADESH AND MAHARASHTRA

S. Triveni who maxed her Class 10 board examinations with a GPA 10 was one among the school toppers in the Class 10 board examination. 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, Andhra Pradesh.

Similarly, Keluskar Ratnaprabha Eknath from the Kumari Deepa Devi Singh AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Sawantwadi, Maharashtra, secured 1st position in school in the Class 10 board exam with 90% marks. She studies at New English School Madure, Sawantwadi, Maharashtra.
Yoga is an important component of our value based education curriculum. Our 4,000 students studying and living across our 104 Chatralayams practice this ancient form of exercise for 30 minutes every day.

Two of our girl students recently won top prizes at a national level yoga competition—the 3rd National Level Yoga Sports Championship 2020. The competition was held at Arasu Engineering College, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu on 1st February.

Robirung Reang and Jenny Rung Molshoy, both students from the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, continued their winning streak in yoga. Robirung Reang won the 3rd prize in the 3rd National Level Yoga Sports Championship 2020. In addition, she also won the 2nd prize in the common category.

Jenny Rung Molshoy won the 3rd prize in the common category. Both Robirung and Jenny Rung live at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chataralayam for Girls (Junior), Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu.

In the recent past, Robirung and Jenny Rung along with 3 other girls from the Sembangudi Chatralayam won prizes and accolades at the Tamil Nadu State Level Yoga Championship 2018 organised by Keerthapushpam Yoga Academy in Tiruvarur, Tamil Nadu.
Impact on the ground

Providing a conducive environment for learning and supporting, caring and encouraging children from rural India, more so girls, on a 24*7 basis, 300 days a year, is no mean task. We have to been able to achieve good results thanks to the unstinted support of our coordinators and other field staff on ground.

BANKING ON GOOD TIMES

Priyanka Panwar | Alumnus
Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu
Trainee (Junior Associate), City Union Bank, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Tiwadiya is a small dot on the India map. It is a village located in Dewas district in Madhya Pradesh.

In 2012, a teenage girl from this tiny village moved to the Inder and Prabha Sharma Girls Higher Secondary School, Khategaon, Madhya Pradesh, to pursue high school and her dreams. From there on, there was no looking back for Priyanka Panwar who got 70% in Class 10 and 80.2% in Class 12 in 2016.

After completing plus two, Priyanka did not have to worry about ‘what next’ as Swami Aishvaryananda Saraswati ji, the coordinator of our Madhya Pradesh Chatralayams stepped in and guided the young Priyanka to pursue college in Manjakkudi, the birthplace of our founder, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati.

Priyanka joined the B.Com in bank management course at the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, in 2016. She moved to the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls (Senior), Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu, the same year.

“After coming to south India, I got exposed to a different culture. I became independent thanks to the Chatralayam intervention,” says Priyanka.

During her final year, Priyanka took part in ‘Academics to Business,’ a bridge course that equips graduates with professional competencies so that they are productive from day one in an organisation. “The trainers taught us how to answer questions confidently during interviews,” recollects Priyanka. She underwent training in resume writing, quantitative aptitude, reasoning, English communication skills, soft skills, MS-Excel, group discussions and interview skills facilitated by the training and placement cell of the college.

Participation in the ‘Academics to Business’ course got the desired results. Priyanka and 13 others from the college got selected by City Union Bank during campus placement last year. The interview process consisted of descriptive, online tests and interview. A 5 member team from City Union Bank interviewed 67 students in the college campus.

TRANSFORMATION AT NANDYAL

S. Nagajothi
Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Tribal Girls Chatralayam, Nandyal, Andhra Pradesh
B.Sc, (Final Year), Sri Ramakrishna Degree College, Nandyal, Andhra Pradesh

S. Nagajothi has consistently excelled in academics. She got a 9.3 GPA in her Class 10 examination and scored 925 marks in her Class 12 examination.

Nagajothi joined our Chatralayam in 2007 when she was in Class 3. Her family came to know about AIM for Seva through relatives in the region. Nagajothi’s father is no more while her mother is a daily wage labourer. Two of her sisters are married and she has a school going younger brother.

Nagajothi is currently residing in the Nandyal hostel and pursuing her Bsc. degree. “The most important thing that I learnt in the Chatralayam is discipline and the importance of giving back. “I have been a recipient of care and affection that has changed my life,” says Nagajothi.
showered by the guardians of my hostel. I would like to help the needy and this is my way of giving back to society,” she says.

IN HER OWN WORDS
Iaineh Khongdup
Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Belgaum, Karnataka
B.Sc Nursing (Final Year), KLE Institute of Nursing Sciences, Belgaum, Karnataka

We conclude the Cover Story with a student testimonial.

“My name is Iaineh Khongdup and I come from Lyndem, a village in Meghalaya.

I joined AIM for Seva in 2011 when I was studying in Class 8. At present, I am pursuing my final year degree in nursing. When I was in high school, I had decided to take up the science stream during my PUC (pre university college) because I wanted to become a doctor so that I could serve the sick, needy and poor people.

I didn't get a MBBS seat and took up nursing as my career. Looking back, I am quite satisfied with my career choice because the knowledge I gained is not less than that of a physician.

By being part of this noble profession I have learnt that medications alone cannot cure a patient. Equally important is giving effective care and exhibiting positive attitude towards the patients and that gives good results in treating any disease. Nurses are very good in this aspect.

Coming to my family, my mother is a day labourer and father is a drunkard who doesn't support the family. Being the only breadwinner of the family, my mother couldn't afford to send me for higher studies as she had to manage the family by herself. I have three younger siblings who go to the local government school, which is 10 km away from the village.

But I would consider myself to be extremely fortunate to get the opportunity to be admitted in AIM for Seva and pursue my higher education.

My life has changed after coming to the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Belgaum, Karnataka. My thoughts, my character, my ambition, everything is comparatively different from my friends. AIM for Seva has nurtured me with samskaras and discipline. The institution has taught me to be kind to others and to manage my own things.

After being part of the Chatralayam eco system, I have been able to face and manage difficult situations and make my own decisions. Most importantly, this intervention has helped me to become rich by heart and grow and mature as a person.

The vision of our Pujya Swamiji was to educate the rural and the underprivileged children like me. I am glad that I have made the best use of all the opportunities that AIM for Seva has provided me. I am inspired by the vision and the selfless services of all the members of the AIM for Seva family.”
In this section, we share some of the efforts undertaken on ground during pandemic times.

Covid-19 has posed innumerable challenges to people across the globe. For organisations like ours, it has also provided an opportunity to continue serving the poor, needy and vulnerable sections of society from across India.

From erecting tents to providing food, water and footwear, the field coordinators of AIM for Seva turned into frontline seva warriors.

The Sadhu and Seva coordinators from the Swami Dayananda Ashram, Rishikesh, Uttarakhand, and the Arsha Vidyaa Gurukulam, Anaikatti, Tamil Nadu, have internalised ‘Seva Parmo Dharma,’ in true spirit and form. Both are affiliated organisations of AIM for Seva.

Youth leadership came to fore against the backdrop of the pandemic. A number of student volunteers from the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, were deeply involved in social work during this period.
Lessons from our Scriptures

Apart from Seva on the field, AIM for Seva is providing people access to timeless wisdom by making available free online titles written by Pujya Swamiji and coordinating spiritual webinars.

From 21 to 23 May, Swami Omkarananda Saraswati ji from Theni, Tamil Nadu, held a one hour webinar (6 pm to 7 pm) where he enlightened the audience on how to deal with stress, anxiety and insecurity arising out of Covid-19. More than 1,000 participants saw the programme live.

Swamiji begun by comparing the current insecurity faced by all to that of Arjuna in the battlefield. When he realises that war is about killing his own kith and kin, he experiences psychological stress and surrenders to Krishna.

“We need inner leisure. And those who have full knowledge of Bhagvad Gita will be successful in life,” averred Swamiji. Swamiji also reminded the audience that happiness is a simple emotion but achieving that becomes tough because we attach many pre-conditions to it. Also, conflict is the result of too many choices. “Ultimately, we strive for PSH—peace, security and happiness,” said Swamiji.

Swamiji also said that if we continue to identify ourselves only with our body then we will only seek material pursuits. On the other hand, if we identify ourselves with jiva then we will be accommodative of all life’s lessons.

In a lighter vein, Swamiji asked the audience that while everyone keenly follows Jyotish Shastra (astrology) and Vaastu Shastrra (traditional Indian system of architecture), but what about Dharma Shastra? According to Swamiji, the need of the hour was development of spiritual wealth.“Too much of greed leads to anxiety. Contentment is natural wealth, while luxury is artificial poverty.”

For easy remembrance, Swamiji advocated 4 Ds—Discrimination (distinguishing between dharma and adharma), dispassion, discipline (values and attitudes) and discovery (of self and Ishvara). The 4Ds help us discover ultimate peace in life.”

The three days’ webinar concluded with a powerful message from Swamiji. “Whenever my eyes are open, I should think what I can do for society so that when I close my eyes, I feel peace with myself.”
The power of AIM for Seva’s value-based educational pedagogy came to fore during this time with many of our Chatralayam students engaging themselves in spiritual and creative pursuits.

Students from the Dharmapuri Chatralayam in Tamil Nadu learnt the art of making vadaam, a heritage fried snack from south India. Thanks to the inculcation of the daily praying habit, boys from the Shri Giridhari Lal Seth & Dr. A.B. Seth AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, chanted Hanuman Chalisa five times every day, seeking protection for everyone from the deadly Corona virus.

When the first phase of the national lockdown was announced on 24 March, we had 750 Chatralayam students with us. Students from distant locations (who were unable to travel) and those who were yet to appear for the board exams continued to stay back at the Chatralayams and were looked after.

The countrywide lockdown also resulted in online education occupying centrestage. At the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, not only have the school authorities embraced the virtual classroom mode but technology is also being harnessed to keep our students engaged in other ways.

Slokam, Ragam and Yogam has been a pioneering effort by the school management in this regard. As the name suggests, students are exposed to a prayer, a song and an exercise which is televised through YouTube. Each session is about 20 minutes each and so far, over 50 episodes have been telecast.

End with a Prayer

In prayer you need to ask for what do you want.

– Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati

Covid-19 has brought about huge disruptions in daily living. Around 250 Chatralayam students from rural India continue to stay back in our Chatralayams. These are students who come from distant locations and have not been able to go back home on account of travel restrictions and those who had to appear for their board examinations. We seek your generous support towards our cause of educating rural India.

Please visit https://aimforseva.in/donations/ to pledge your support.

Your generosity would go a long way in transforming the life of a child from rural India.
There is an instinctual attempt to survive on the part of anything alive because that is how all living beings are programmed. Survival implies a few things: air, water, food, and shelter. Everything beyond these basic needs is a plus, even clothing, unless it is necessary for protection from the elements. The human being is also subject to this programming.

Is mere survival enough?

The human being needs to contribute something to transcend, to get beyond being just a survivor. Living at a level beyond mere survival means going beyond the ‘survivor psyche’ of taking care of one’s needs. Thus, you cannot just be a survivor producing another survivor. Neither can you be just a consumer and consider yourself a contributor. So, what is this contribution?

There are varieties of contributions. All that counts is whether you have reached the level of being a contributor. To reach that level, your entire psychology, that is, your way of thinking, your way of looking at yourself, others and at the world, has to undergo a change. It is also important to understand that contribution is not only monetary. Converting another person from the level of a survivor into that of a contributor is a contribution.

One rises above the psyche of a survivor when one contributes something to the world. This contributor need not be to human society alone. If you have to live your life positively and not just get by, if you have to rise above being a mere survivor, you need to act at a deeper level. This is a level that not only includes the significant others in your life, but is one in which every other person becomes significant to you.

For this, you need to enjoy a certain depth within yourself, a certain strength or intensity with which you respond to the world and the entire environment; every plant, every tree, every organism. It is then that you become a true contributor.

I consider that living begins when one contributes something that will bring about more joy, more happiness, more light and more freedom. Until then, one merely drags one’s life through old age and on to the grave. Just getting by is not really living. To live is to be a positive contributor. Seva work provides an avenue, an occasion, an opportunity for people to care for others. In doing so, one cares for oneself. Something happens to a person when he or she is able to do something for someone else. It is not pride. It is something natural, an inner expansion that is an indication of growth because the essential nature of a human being is fullness, wholeness. This wholeness find expression when you are able to help others you do not even know, except to know that they need help.
ACADEMICS

Our students scale new heights every year with their academic achievements. We present to you a snapshot of our high-flyers for this quarter.

Scholarship Reward

Jagannath Mahanta and Soumya Ranjan Mahanta from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Basira, Odisha, have bagged a scholarship of Rs. 2000 for their academic excellence.

Kudos to them. Jagannath and Soumya live and study with 24 other boys in the Basira Chatralaayam. Both boys are students Class 3 students studying at UPME School, Basira, Odisha.

Mass Prayer for Board Examinations

The school management of the Swami Dayananda Rotary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Kadalur, Tamil Nadu, conducted a mass prayer for board examinations for the benefit of our students studying in the institution. The HayagrEEva Prithi Homam was conducted successfully at the school premises.

As per the Sanatana Dharma tradition, Lord Hayagriva is an avatar of Lord Vishnu who is worshipped as the God of knowledge and wisdom.
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.

Extracurricular Champions

Our students from the Dayasagar AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Palani, Tamil Nadu, and from Classes 7 and 8 participated in zonal level competitions (singing, drawing, elocution, story telling) held in Government School, Palani, Tamil Nadu. The boys won many prizes. There are 33 boys living and studying in the Palani Chatralayam. The prize winner details are given below:

**V. PONNUDURAI** – Class 7  
**M.VIJAYARAJ** – Class 8  
**K.RAJAJI** – Class 8  
**P. PREMKUMAR** – Class 8

K.Rajaji continued his winning streak. He won the 1st prize in a speech competition organised by Dr. C.P. Samy Trust. The title of the speech competition was ‘Social norms set by Thiruvalluvar.’ The competition saw participation of 40 students from 20 schools from Classes 8 and 9.

**J. Sanjay**, a Class 10 student from the Sembangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu, won the 1st prize in a solo music competition at the District Level Kala Utsav Competition-2019-2020.

Tevaram Winner

V. Yuva Bharath, a Class 10 student won the 1st prize in the *Tevaram* verses recitation competition recently. He is from the Seshachariar AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Cumbum, Tamil Nadu that is home to 52 boys. Our Chatralayams are centres of cultural learning. In 2019, students from the Cumbum Chatralayam participated in *Tirumurai* (a 12-volume compendium of songs or hymns in praise of Shiva in the Tamil language) recitation programme conducted by the Arul Migu Thiruvavaduthurai Adheenam Saiva Thirumurai Payirchi Maiyam, Cumbum and won prizes and participation certificates.

Music to the Ears
Our students from the Dayasagar AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Kalahandi, Odisha, participated in the annual sports day and literary competitions held in their school - Government High School, Malgaon, Odisha and won prizes.

**Kalahandi All-Rounders**

SUSHANTA SABAR  
*Class 10*  
1st prize in 200 metre running  
2nd prize in long jump  
3rd prize in discus throw

BHOJARAJ SABAR  
*Class 10*  
1st prize in shot put  
2nd prize in 200 metre running  
3rd prize in long jump

DILESWAR SAHU  
*Class 10*  
1st prize in shot put  
2nd prize in long jump  
3rd prize in 200 metre running

ARUN NAIK  
*Class 8*  
1st prize in essay — Festivals of Kalahandi (in Odia)

RAJESH BANDICHHOD  
*Class 8*  
1st prize in debate — Road Safety (in Odia)  
3rd prize in debate — Road Safety (in Odia)

GAIRIK NAIK  
*Class 8*  
1st prize in debate — Road Safety (in Odia)  
2nd prize in essay — Festivals of Kalahandi (in Odia)
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.

Karate Champs

Our students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu, and Arun-Divya AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Sembangudi, Tamil Nadu, participated in a karate championship competition and zonal level sports competitions and won prizes.

Similarly, our students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Utnoor, Telangana, participated in the first invitational South National Karate Championship 2020 organised by Senshi Karate Do (Telangana) and won the 2nd and 3rd prize in the Kumite / Kata categories.

Athram Rajesh – Class 9 from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Utnoor, Telangana, won the 3rd prize in the individual Kata / individual Kumite competition at the 1st Shobukai International Karate Championship 2019 organised by Shobukai Shito-Ryu Katrate Federation International at Kotla Vijay Bhaskar Reddy Indoor Stadium, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.

Sports Day Heroes

Our students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Tindivanam, Tamil Nadu, participated in sports day competitions held in their school, Sri Kamatchi Vilas Middle School.

M. Anbarasu from Class 8 won the 1st prize in the 100 metre running race while others received participation certificates. The Tindivanam Chatralayam is home to 24 boys.
In this section, we present to you the latest updates of new projects from the field.

**New Hostel for Boys**

The formal inauguration of AIM for Seva’s Chatralayam for Boys in Tondikatti, Karnataka, was held on 28 December 2019. Located in Belgaum district, this 4,595 square feet Chatralayam will support and provide value-based education to 100 boys from the neighbouring villages.

The dignitaries present on the occasion included Sri. Govind M. Karajol, deputy Chief Minister, Karnataka, local MLAs, AIM for Seva coordinators across India and other important guests.

The Tondikatti hostel project is supported by LIC Housing Finance. Last April, a Bhoomi Pooja of the AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Tondikatti, Karnataka, was held. We thank LIC Housing Finance for supporting our journey in educating rural India.

**Formal Inauguration of Dighawat Chatralayam**

The formal inauguration of the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Dighawat, Uttar Pradesh, took place on 30 January. The hostel is sponsored by Dr. Prem Khilanani (a long time and committed supporter of AIM for Seva) in honor of Dr. Urmila Khilanani. The Dighawat Chatralayam is home to 83 boys.
The formal inauguration of the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Dhandhuka, Gujarat, sponsored by Smt. Harsha & Sri. Anil Shah, Canada, in memory of Hiraben and Shantilal Shah, was held on 2 February. The Chatralayam in Dhanduka is spread over two floors and measures 4,856 square feet in size and 16 boys from in and around Jaliya village in Gujarat are pursuing their studies from this facility.

The formal inauguration of the Chatralayam for Boys located in Padali Khurd village, Khargone district, Madhya Pradesh, was done on 2 February. The Bhoomi Pooja for the Girls Chatralayam in the same area was also done on the second day of February. Both the girls and boys Chatralayam are located in close vicinity to the Swami Dayananda Saraswati Vidyalaya which opened doors during last academic year.

The Bhoomi Pooja of the new building of the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Yeleswaram, Andhra Pradesh, was held on 15 February.

DONOR DETAILS
Ground floor sponsored by Dr Balakrishnan Nuli of Atlanta, USA. Dedicated to Nuli Annapoornamma.
Top floor sponsored by Sri. Malli Rao & Rani Varanasi, USA. Dedicated to Pratha Lalithamba.
The Yeleswaram Chatralayam is home to 31 boys.
Thank You to Our Partners in Progress

We take this opportunity to thank some of our long-term donors who continue to extend unflinching support to our cause of educating rural India. Be it education and care through student sponsorships and upkeep of our Chatralayams, higher education and vocational training, your contributions have helped many children from rural India to have access to quality education. We value your support and such financial intervention has enabled many children to pursue their dreams.
We thank all our corporate supporters and other donors for their philanthropic action and invaluable contributions.

**Anthem Biosciences Private Limited**
Bangalore based Anthem Biosciences has donated a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs towards student sponsorships.

**Indraprastha Gas Limited, New Delhi**
Indraprastha Gas Limited, New Delhi, has donated a sum of Rs. 3.36 lakhs towards student sponsorships for the boys studying and living at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.

**G Corp Homes Private Limited**
Bangalore based G Corp Homes Private Limited has donated a sum of Rs. 50,000 towards care for the residents at the Swami Dayananda Krupa Care, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.

**Titan**
Titan, a regular donor, has donated a sum of Rs. 8.92 lakhs towards student sponsorships as well as the Art for Development programme for all the girls residing and studying at the Emirates AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu for the year.

**IFCI Foundation**
IFCI Foundation has given Rs. 5 lakhs as the final installment for supporting construction of the girls restroom block at the Swami Dayananda Rotary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Kadalur, Tamil Nadu.
HK Kejriwal Charitable Trust, Bangalore

Bangalore based HK Charitable Trust has contributed a sum of Rs. 36,000 towards student sponsorship at the Smt. Sowmya Kesanupalli AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Bagepalli, Karnataka.

Sri. Subramanian Sundaresan, Chennai

Sri. Subramanian Sundaresan from Chennai has donated a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs towards student sponsorships.

Ms. Sumitra Menon, California, USA

Ms. Sumitra Menon from California, USA, has donated a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs towards our educational institutions and healthcare facilities.

Ms. Renuka Ramappa, USA

Ms. Renuka Ramappa has donated a sum of Rs. 3.15 lakhs to AIM for Seva.

Sri. Suryanarayana Kalluri, Bangalore

Sri. Suryanarayana Kalluri from Bangalore has donated a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs towards student sponsorships.

Dr. Illana Cariapa, Bangalore

A committed donor to AIM for Seva, Dr. Illana Cariapa has donated a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs towards student sponsorships.

Sri. Pradip Zhumkhawala, Mumbai

Sri. Pradip Zhumkhawala from Mumbai has donated a sum of Rs. 1.75 lakhs towards Annadanam for our students who continue to remain with us since the outbreak of Covid-19.

Sri. Lakshman L., Chennai

Sri. Lakshman L from Chennai has donated a sum of Rs. 1.5 lakhs towards student sponsorships.

Sri. Ganesh L., Chennai

Sri. Ganesh L from Chennai has donated a sum of Rs. 1 lakh towards student sponsorships.

Sri. Raman T.G.G., Chennai

Sri. Raman T.G.G from Chennai has donated Rs. 3 lakhs towards student sponsorships.

Sri. M.S. Ramachandran, New Delhi

Sri. M.S. Ramachandran from New Delhi has donated
a sum of Rs.1 lakh to Swami Dayananda Krupa Care, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.

**Justice Ratnam V., Chennai**
Justice Ratnam V. has donated a sum of Rs. 1 lakh towards student sponsorships.

**Sri. Ganesan Ramachadran, Mumbai**
Sri. Ganesan Ramachandran has donated a sum of Rs. 1 lakh towards student sponsorships.

**Sri. Shyam Babu Sharma, Mathura**
Sri. Shyam Babu Sharma from Mathura has come forward and donated a sum of Rs. 1 lakh towards student sponsorships.

**A Student of Pujya Swami Dayananda**
A committed follower of our Founder, this IT professional came forward and donated a sum of Rs. 2,05,000 to help our Chatralayam students during Covid-19.

**Sri. Narayanaswamy Sekar, Abu Dhabi, UAE**
Sri. Narayanaswamy Sekar from Abu Dhabi has donated a sum of Rs. 1 lakh towards student sponsorships.

**Sri. M. Ramaswamy, Chennai**
Sri. M. Ramaswamy (Chief Financial Officer, Sundaram Finance) from Chennai has donated a sum of Rs. 36,000 towards student sponsorships. Sri. Ramaswamy is a regular donor to our cause.

**Smt. Sarla and Sri. J.K. Chandna, Bangalore**
Smt. Sarla and Sri. J.K. Chandna have donated a sum of Rs. 70,000 towards supporting the girl students at the Sowmya Kesanupalli AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Bagepalli, Karnataka.

**Sri. Vikas Bajaj, Bangalore**
Sri. Vikas Bajaj from Bangalore has donated a sum of Rs. 1.08 lakhs towards the complete care of 3 children for one year.

**Vasavi Club, Chinnasalem**
Since June 2019, Vasavi Club, Chinnasalem, Tamil Nadu, has been donating monthly groceries every month as nutritional and meal support for the 40 girls living and residing at the Bhavani Arun AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Girls, Chinnasalem, Tamil Nadu.

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Donor Visit

Smt. Kavita Rajarathinam, Dr. Ravi and their son Br. Akhil, building donors of the AIM for Seva Dayathirtha Chatralayam for Girls, Thennampattu, Tamil Nadu, paid a visit to the Chatralayam on 1st March and interacted with 22 girls living and residing in this hostel.

They inaugurated the newly constructed first floor of the Chatralayam on this occasion. The hostel coordinator, Swamini Suddhavidyananda Saraswati ji, Swamini Sivagnadhrananda and other local well wishers were present during the inaugural function.
A Legacy to Remember

**Dr. S. Ramamurthy**, founder director of Cognizant Foundation who breathed his last on 27 April inaugurated the computer laboratory at the Swami Dayananda Vidyasramam Nursery & Primary School, Karagur village, Dharmapuri district, Tamil Nadu, about three years ago. In March 2017, Cognizant Foundation gave financial assistance worth Rs.10 lakhs for setting up of a computer laboratory at the Dharmapuri school. In addition, they also donated classroom furniture for the Swami Dayananda Vidyasramam Nursery & Primary School. An economist of repute, Dr. S. Ramamurthy was also known for supporting various social causes.

**Smt. Meera Bai** (19 Sept 1930 to 30 June 2020) was a long standing, ardent devotee of Pujya Swamiji. She dedicated her life to *seva* in the fullest sense. She was a teacher in her own right—spreading the vision of Vedanta as taught by Pujya Swamiji. She also held classes at her home.

Smt. Meera Bai and her husband were pillars of strength to Pujya Swamiji, right from the time he set up the Ashrams in Rishikesh and Anaikatti. They also contributed generously towards Pujya Swamiji’s stay in Manjakkudi.

Smt. Meera Bai was a living example of how devotion in action is Seva. We cherish her memory, and send prayers to all her near and dear ones to tide over the loss.
Your **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** for one year would go a long way in supporting the **EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY** of an **ASPIRING CHILD** from rural **INDIA**.

Sponsor the education and care of 1 CHILD FOR 1 YEAR:

**Rs 36,000**

www.aimforseva.in/donations
In this section, we share the latest happenings from our schools and college in Manjakkudi and Sembangudi.

16th Graduation Day

The Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, organised its 16th Graduation Day ceremony on 27th January at Sri. GR Auditorium in Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

The programme began with a welcome address by Smt. Sheela Balaji, Chairperson and Managing Trustee of the Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET). The college Dean, Dr. N. Kanakasabesan presented the academic achievements while the Guest of Honour, Swamini Brahma Prakashananda Saraswati ji conferred degree certificates to the graduates.

In her Anugraha Bhashanam, Swamini Brahma Prakashananda Saraswati ji said that one must not only be a consumer but also a contributor in society. “Human kind must come
forward to do their utmost to make it possible and violence should not go on forever.”

In his address to the graduates, Sri. Gopal Srinivasan, Chairman, TVS Capital Funds said young people should not be afraid of failure. “It is important for all to live in harmony with the benefits of society. It does not matter how many days we live; it is important that we live healthy. Every Indian has to learn yoga for health and preserve our culture. Tolerance and non-violence must be practiced,” Sri. Gopal Srinivasan said. He congratulated the graduates on becoming professionals and urged them to do justice to their profession.

Of the graduating students, 16 were conferred the M.Phil degree, 18 students were awarded post graduation degrees while 387 students became graduates. Of the graduating class, 15 were university rank holders.

C. Balasubramaniyan (BBA) received the gold medal for getting the 1st rank in the university in Sanskrit. At the convocation held at Bharathidasan University last year, Balasubramaniyan was awarded the ‘Padmabushan Thiru N. Ramaswami Ayyar Memorial Prize-2019’ which consists of a gold medal and merit certificate. He was bestowed with the honour by the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Sri. Banwarilal Purohit. The Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, is affiliated to the Bharathidasan University.

Of the 15 student rank holders, 8 students had pursued the B.Com, BM (Bachelors of Commerce, Bank Management) degree, 3 were from the B.Sc (Bachelors of Science) stream, 2 students graduated with B.A. English while 2 students were M.Sc, CS (Masters in Computer Science) students.

Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, correspondent of the college proposed the Vote of Thanks. The function ended with the playing of the National Anthem.
The 16th Annual Convention was conducted from 20 January to 26 January at Sri. GR Auditorium, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. The main highlights were thought provoking speeches on intangible cultural heritage that included artwork, monuments and ancestral values. In the evenings, the audience was treated to some spell binding dance and music performances on all 7 days.

The Annual Convention at Manjakkudi is structured as a cultural knowledge sharing platform that enables students from rural India to gain education of our vast heritage and traditions and also experience the aesthetic beauty by appreciating classical dance and music.

The 16th Annual Convention began with the lighting of the traditional lamp. Smt. Sheela Balaji, Chairperson & Managing Trustee, Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET) gave the welcome address. Dr. Alarmel Valli, director, Dipasikha Dance Foundation, Chennai, gave the inauguration and presidential address.

The week long convention saw a galaxy of speakers who dwelt at length on the contributions by the Imperial Cholas. The convention began with a lecture by Dr. Kodavayil Balasubramaniyan, an eminent epigraphist and archaeologist. He spoke on ‘Cultural Elements and Art Work of the Chola Dynasty.’ He said that the Cholas are one of the longest living dynasties who are remembered even today in arts, architecture, literature and culture. The monumental architecture in the form of majestic temples and sculptures in stone and bronze reached a finesse never before achieved in India during the Chola period. The evening saw the inaugural musical performance by Smt. Bombay Jayashri Ramnath with the Mangala Isai Nadaswaram of Sri. K.S. Sivasubramanian and group.

On the second day, eminent historian Dr. Chithra Madhavan spoke on ‘Rajendra Chola – the Greatness.’ She pointed out that temples and architecture of this time still serve to this ecstatic period of history. In her presentation, Dr. Chithra Madhavan showcased a series of images of the successful campaign led by the great Chola king and also shared how the king got the title ‘Gangaikonda Chola.’ For administrative and strategic purposes, Rajendra Chola built another capital ‘Gangaikonda Cholapuram.’

Dr. Chithra Madhavan’s knowledge sharing sessions continued the next day where she narrated how Indian craftsmen have been fascinated by figures from mythology. The ancient tradition of sculpting is still preserved in all its glory and at the same time, artisans have innovated and brought in...
new forms of sculpting, working with diverse materials and exploring myriad themes. In the evening, the audience was witness to musical concerts by Sri. Ramakrishnan Murthy along with Kumari Sriranjani Santhanagopalan and Sri. N.Vijaya Siva. Sri. R.K. Shriram and group mesmerised the audience with a violin and percussion concert. The Chief Guest were, acclaimed choreographer and dancer, Dr. Anita Ratnam and Smt. Meera Chari, a senior enterprise architect. On 23 January, music historian and heritage activist, Sri. V. Sriram spoke on the ‘Trinity of Carnatic Music.’ He said that the collective contributions of the Carnatic music trinity to the Indian philosophy and spirituality were unparalleled. The compositions, handling raga and taal and also the creative ability of the outstanding trio of composer- musicians were described. In the evening, the Carnatic music concert of Sri. Sanjay Subrahmanyan and Kumari Bharathi Ramasubban were well received. The Chief Guests for the function were Dr. Gowri Ramnarayan, founder, JustUs Repertory and Carnatic musician, Dr. M.A. Bhageerathi.

On day five of the Convention, Sri. D.V. Sridhar, founder, Yoga Rakshanam, Chennai spoke on ‘Secret of Healthy Body and Mind’ – from Patanjali Yoga Sutras. He explained the yoga philosophy of the asanas practice and how that can be applied in the fabric of our lives. Dr. Sridhar mentioned the eight limbs of yoga and the ancient terms related to do's and don'ts (yamas and niyamas). The subsequent evening, a theatre play titled ‘Kurukshetra – When Things Fall Apart’ was enacted. The play written and directed by Dr. Gowri Ramnarayan, playwright director and founder JustUs Repertory. The Bharatanatyam performance – ‘Hara’ of Sri. Parshwanath Upadhye, Punyah Dance Company depicted the spirit and beauty of art. The Chief Guests were Sri. Victor Banerjee, renowned actor of many languages and Smt. Sharmila Biswas, artistic director, Odissi Vision & Movement Centre, India.

On 25 January, Dr. K. Manivasagam, assistant professor of Tamil, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, gave a presentation on ‘Ayurveda, Food and Yoga.’ He emphasised that eating the right food is an essential part of living a yogic life. A demonstration of yoga practices by our students followed. Following that, Dr. Kodavayil Balasubramaniyan, an eminent epigraphist and archaeologist gave a presentation on Darasuram Airavateshvara Temple which is a grandeur in sculptures and a store house with respect to the art and architecture of the Imperial Cholas. Later in the evening, a Manipuri classical dance performance by Sri. Sinam Basu Singh and group was well appreciated by the audience. Dr. Pramod Deshmukh, board of directors, AIM for Seva USA, was the Chief Guest on this occasion. On the concluding day, Sri. Niranjan Bharathi, poet and film lyricist who is from Mahakavi Bharathiyar’s lineage shared his thoughts on the life and poetry of Mahakavi Subramanya Bharathi. He described the lyrical outpourings filled with the tales of Bharathiyar. ‘The thematic multigenre production ‘Fire and Ash’ was performed with the concept and direction by Dr. Gowri Ramnarayan, playwright director and founder, JustUs Repertory. Sri. Vijay Kapoor, Acharya of Arsha Vidya Center, California, USA, was the Chief Guest.

A question and answer session took place at the end of every lecture series. Throughout the week, the Vedanta Talk Series of Swamini Brahma Prakashananda Saraswati j.i and Satsang – the video presentation of Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati’s talks were also held.
Inaugurated on Vijayadasami in October 2013, the Swami Dayananda Scholar Programme is designed to encourage undergraduate students to excel in their chosen field of study. This scholarship has been instituted by the Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET) that manages our educational projects and other community driven initiatives in Manjakkudi, the birthplace of Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati.

The eligibility of this programme is 80% and above for students in the science stream and 75% and above for students pursuing the arts stream, in each semester. The scholarship amount that works to 50% of the tuition fees is distributed every semester, based on the performance of the previous two semesters.

Since the launch of the Swami Dayananda Scholar Programme, 133 students have been given scholarships totalling Rs. 9,27,750. (2015-2019).

In 2020, 36 students became recipients of the Swami Dayananda Scholar Programme with the scholarships totalling Rs. 4,56,780. Of this, 14 students (2017-2018 and Semester 3 and 4) availed scholarships worth Rs. 1,73,600 and another 22 students from the 2018-2019 batch and pursuing Semester 1 and 2 bagged scholarships worth Rs. 2,83,180.

What’s noteworthy is that in the recent past, Indian-American students part of GYLP-2019 (Global Youth Leadership Programme) raised Rs. 31 lakhs ($45,000) that would go towards supporting deserving candidates in the form of college sponsorships to the 11th standard students of the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. This financial assistance would enable them to attend the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

Under the Global Youth Leadership Programme participants work with students for two weeks every year in Manjakkudi and partake in cultural exchange.

Blood Donation Camp

The Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, and the Tiruvarur Government Medical College Hospital Blood Bank jointly organised a district level blood donation camp on 24 February to mark the centennial of the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS). We are happy to share that 131 student volunteers (108 of them from the college and 23 students from Padma Narasimhan
The National Science Day was celebrated in the college premises on 27 February. Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, correspondent gave the presidential address and urged our students to become future scientists. In her special address, Smt. Hema Rengamani, principal in-charge, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, dwelt on innovations and advancements in science.

The special guests from Central University of Tamil Nadu, Dr. M. Ponmurugan, assistant professor of Physics, Dr. V. Rajendran, assistant professor of Chemistry and Professor T. Sengadir, professor of Mathematics, delivered special lectures on ‘New trends in Research on Basic Sciences’ to the 370 science (physics, chemistry and mathematics) students present in the audience. Dr. C. Senthilmurugan from the mathematics department proposed the Vote of Thanks.
The Department of Tamil at the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, conducted a one day seminar on 'Employment Opportunities in Journalism and Computer Applications' at GR Auditorium on 2 March.

Dr. B. Krishnamoorthy, Head of Department welcomed the gathering. Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, correspondent of the college presided over the function. In his address, he urged the students to develop exceptional writing skills and passion and hard work towards their job. Smt. Hema Rengamani, principal in-charge gave the felicitation address.

The Chief Guests on the occasion were Sri. K. Suresh, assistant professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Thiru.Vi.Ka. College, Tiruvarur, Tamil Nadu, and Smt.V. Sangeetha, vice principal, Deen College of Arts & Science for Women, Mayiladuthurai, Tamil Nadu.

In his address, Sri. K. Suresh advised our students to keep themselves updated with the latest trends in journalism and encouraged them to be creative and original in all their endeavours.

In her speech, Smt. V. Sangeetha spoke about the role played by computers in all walks of life. She advocated students to become computer-savvy as that would enable them to reap the benefits of the digital economy.

Mr. Sudhan, a 3rd year BBA and his group enhanced a Tamil play entitled 'Ilayankudi Maaranayanarin Sivathondu.' Dr. K. Manivasagam, assistant professor, Tamil, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, delivered the Vote of Thanks. Present on the occasion were staff members and 1st and 2nd year college students.
The Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, conducted its 6th annual music certificate distribution ceremony on 28 February at the Sri. GR Auditorium for the academic year 2019-2020.

This course is being conducted by Hitham Trust which is spearheaded by Smt. Bombay Jayashri Ramnath. Smt. Swetha Sriram, student of Smt. Bombay Jayashri Ramanth and an advanced Carnatic music vocalist congratulated all the 325 students and awarded them with certificates from Hitham Trust. The award details are as follows:

1. Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science 125 Students
2. Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School 85 Students
3. TTN Swami Dayananda Primary School 17 Students
4. TTN Swami Dayananda Higher Secondary School 36 Students
5. Semmangudi Higher Secondary School, Sembangudi 62 Students

As the academic year at the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, drew to a close, our students brought back rich laurels from various inter-collegiate meets.

At the national level inter collegiate meet, Commercio 2020 held at Annai College, Kovilacherry, Tamil Nadu, on 23 January, 50 colleges participated in the tournament and the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu,
Our students stood first in the Ad Zap, debate and mime segments. In the treasure hunt, paper presentation and group dance (western), our students bagged the runner-up awards.

At the inter-collegiate commerce meet—Tijara 2020 held two days earlier at RDB College, Papanasam, Tamil Nadu, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, was adjudged as the runner-up. This event saw participation of 18 colleges.

Our students stood 1st in the following segments—solo dance, group dance, mime, unique talent and group singing with a beat box. They stood 2nd in Ad Zap.

Tricky Prizes
Our students participated in ‘Tricks 2K20’ held at Marudupandiayar College, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, on 24th February. They won prizes in the following categories: Ad Zap (3rd Prize), Role Play (1st Prize) and mime (3rd Prize).
Spartanz 2K20

Twenty one colleges participated in Spartanz 2020 held at Annai College, Tamil Nadu, on 27 February. The students from the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, won prizes in the following categories:
- Adzap – 2nd Prize
- IPL Auction – 2nd Prize
- Business Quiz – 2nd Prize
- Solo Song – 2nd Prize
- Mime – 1st Prize
- Dance – 2nd Prize

Nuclear Energy Quiz Winners

Twelve students from the Physics department at the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, took part in the Tamil Nadu State Level Awareness Programme on Nuclear Energy. This was jointly organised by the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu, along with the department of Physics, Government Arts College (Autonomous), Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu. It was held on 28th February at Government Arts College (Autonomous), Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu.

Our students partook in a seminar and won the 1st and 3rd prizes in a quiz competition.
CIZTA-2020
Held on 29th February at Periyar Maniammai Institute of Science & Technology, Vallaam- Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, our students won prizes at Cizta-2020 in the following categories--

Daya Fest 2K20

The students of the department of Computer Science at the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, conducted an intercollegiate meet titled ‘Daya Fest 2K20’ on 12 February at Sri. GR Auditorium, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

The event saw participation of 192 students and 15 faculty members from 12 colleges across the region.

The inaugural function began with a prayer song at 10.00 a.m. The welcome address was delivered by Sri. T. Venkatesan, Head, department of
Computer Science, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, correspondent of the college delivered the inaugural address and Sri. M.R. Rajagopal, manager, Wipro delivered the felicitation address. The presidential address was given by Smt. Hema Rengamani, principal in-charge of the college.

Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, correspondent distributed the prizes to the winners and runners of the events. Rabiammal Ahamed Maideen College for Women, Tiruvarur, Tamil Nadu, won the over-all winner trophy. The Vote of Thanks was given by Sri. G. Magesh, assistant professor, department of Computer Science, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

The entire programme was coordinated by students of the computer science department.

The valedictory function ended with playing of the National Anthem.

The Bhoomi Pooja of the M and N Block at the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, was done on 5th March. The function saw participation of the staff and college students.

The main block has been expanded and now measures 16,760 square feet. We thank India Nippon Electricals Limited and Lucas Indian Service Limited, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, for supporting extension work of the main block.

The donor of the N Block, measuring 26,996 square feet, is Sri. Sandeep Raheja of Unique Estates Development Co. Limited. We thank Sri. Raheja for supporting our cause of educating rural India.
International Women’s Day Celebrations

International Women’s Day was celebrated by the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, on 5th March. The programme commenced at 10 am with an invocation followed by lamp lighting. Professor G. Punitha, Head of Department, English welcomed the gathering. Sri. M.G. Srinivasan, correspondent of the college presided over the function. Dr. G. Jayasree, assistant professor, department of Tamil, Government College for Women, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu, was the Guest of Honour. Programme highlights included cultural performances, motivational videos, speeches and poems. The women staff members were then honoured with gifts. Smt. Hema Rengamani, principal in-charge, gave the felicitation address. The Vote of Thanks was proposed by R.K. Brinha, assistant professor, department of Commerce, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

Prizes at Gender Fest

Forty of our students from the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, along with 2 staff members participated in the Gender Fest competition conducted by Bharathidasan University, Trichy, Tamil Nadu, on 6th March and won prizes in 6 events among 13 colleges.

Group Dance – 1st prize | Skit – 2nd prize | Mime – 1st prize | Poetry (English) – 1st prize | Cooking – 1st and 2nd prize | English Elocution – 1st prize
The department of English conducted LITT EXPO-2K20 on 6th March in the 2nd floor main block of the Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

Sri.M.G. Srinivasan, correspondent of the college inaugurated the function. Ms.T. Kiruthika, 3rd year B.A. English welcomed the gathering. Dr.N. Kanakasabesan, Dean- Academics and Smt.V. Hema, principal in-charge offered felicitations. The motto of the expo was ‘Save Nature.’ The college students participated in various activities and brought out their literary and creative talents in many ways that reflected the theme of the exhibition- different genres of literature.

On display were exhibits and charts and creative models with natural music and light effect. The exhibits were on fiction, short fiction, poetry, prose and plays. Creative models such as the poet’s garden, Shakespeare’s stage, pilgrims’ progress etc were excellently crafted by the B.A. English students. One of the students, Ms.S.A. Giridhar, a 1st year English student dressed up as the greatest dramatist and greeted everyone.

Ms. J.K. Linsha Joy, 2nd year B.A. English proposed the Vote of Thanks.
Amma at the Forefront

Mother’s Day was celebrated in a special way at the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, on 7th March at GR Auditorium, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu.

Swamini Brahmaleenananda ji, Smt. Padma Raghunathan, principal, Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, and a few parents inaugurated the event by lighting the lamp.

The school principal, Smt. Padma Raghunathan welcomed the gathering. In her address, Swamini Brahmaleenananda ji said that mothers’ love is not only about pampering her child but also educating the child with cultural and moral values.

An interesting part to the whole programme was that it was conducted on stage as well as off stage. On stage, the mothers exhibited their talents along with their children through various performances such as ramp walk, dance, drama and music. Post refreshments, it was time for various off stage events in the school.

In the Montessori classes, the kids were blindfolded and the mothers lined up. The little ones had to find their moms by touching them.

Mom and Me took a colouring format in the UKG (Upper Kindergarten) section with children colouring the sheets given to them with guidance from their parents. Parents of Class 1 participated in a quiz – KYC (Know Your Child). Fireless cooking with the theme for parents of Class 2. Mothers made various dishes and explained the process involved in making each of the dish. This event concluded with meal sharing by the parents and students.

The mothers were happy to bond with their children and appreciated the efforts of the school management in conducting this programme.
In this section, we share some of the main events across our Chatralayams during the quarter.

**National Deworming Day**

A free medical check-up was conducted for the benefit of 45 students studying and living at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Utnoor, Telangana. This camp was organised on the occasion of National Deworming Day.

In India, 250 million children are at risk of contracting parasitic worm infections or soil-transmitted helminths (STH). If this is not addressed, it could lead to anaemia and malnutrition, and affect mental development, which in turn could negatively impact school attendance.

In order to tackle this challenge, the country initiated National Deworming Day in February 2015 with the support of Deworm the World Initiative.

**Medical Camp for the Community**

AIM for Seva organised a free medical camp for the common public in association with Join Hands Social Welfare Trust at Government Higher Secondary School, Mulvoy, Tamil Nadu, on 8th March. The health camp benefited 150 people from 4 surrounding villages in the region.
We present a snapshot of some of the main activities across our Chatralayams, from Annual Day celebrations to Basant Panchami, it was a fun filled fourth quarter.

Annual Day Celebrations

Annual Day was celebrated at the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Chikhali, Maharashtra. Our students from Rajgurunagar and Maval Chatralayams also joined in the celebrations.

The programme began with Rudra Homam. The guests enjoyed varied cultural programmes presented by our students on this occasion.

Our Chatralayam students from Gudivada, Kaikalur, Pedapadu, Eluru and Repalle in Andhra Pradesh took part in the Annual Day celebrations held at the Tiruvikrama Bala AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Gudivada, Andhra Pradesh. The children enjoyed the time and participated in cultural programmes.
Basant Panchami Celebrations

Basant Panchami, the festival that heralds spring was celebrated by 51 boys residing at the Sumitra Surma AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Sheikhpura, Bihar.

Farewell Party

A farewell party was organised for the students of Class 10 and 12 of the Swami Dayananda Rotary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Kadalur, Tamil Nadu, on 21 February. After the lamp lighting ceremony, the outgoing students took a pledge to lead a harmonious and a socially productive life and serve the interests of family and society.

At the Swami Dayananda Matric Higher Secondary School, Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu, Sri. M.R.Rajagopal, Head, Wipro operations and coordinator of Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET) activities was the Chief Guest of the day.

The programme began with a prayer song. The Class 12 received lamps from the Chief Guest, school principal and other senior staff. They placed the lamps at the feet of our Founder, as a symbol of enlightenment. Floral tributes were also paid to Pujya Swamiji on this occasion.

Two teachers from Class 12 shared their teaching experience and reflections while two senior students from Class 12 shared memories of their school going years starting from Kindergarten (KG) to Class 12. In her speech, the school principal, Smt. Padma Raghunathan motivated our students to become contributors as envisioned by the school and make a difference in lives of people around us.

The farewell programme ended with a group dance performance and fun games organised by the junior students.
It took us approximately 1800 days, four seed festivals, and 10 harvests before we were able to convince farmers in Manjakkudi to cultivate heritage rice using organic methods. Inspired by the work done in Swami Dayananda Farms (Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu) in heritage rice seed conservation and cultivation, 10 farmers signed up for our farmer training workshop in 2019.

For one year, under our guidance they took care of their soil and prepped it for the champa harvest. Heritage rice seeds were shared, and they have begun their journey on the heritage rice trail. In January 2020, they had a good harvest. We believe these men are not just farmers, but they are experimenters in their own right; they are keeping our traditions alive, and are collectively taking responsibility for our health and the food we get on our tables. They are inspiring neighbouring farmers in and around Manjakkudi. In short, they are the change-makers.

N. RAJENDRAN, 52 years
Occupation: Full-time Farmer
Crop: Seeraga Champa
Land: 2.5 Acres
Yield: 3,000 kilos

“We were given a lot of encouragement by the team. As far as I can remember, my father also grew hybrid seeds and did use a lot of chemical fertilisers. I learnt from him. Though I know using natural farming techniques is healthy, I did not have the opportune moment to venture into it. I’m...
A seminar on organic rice cultivation suitable for the kuruvai season was organised by the Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET) in Manjakkudi, Tamil Nadu. Dr. Selvamuthukumaran, associate professor, Department of Entomology, Faculty of Agriculture, Annamalai University, Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu and Sri. Thirumeni, professor, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru College of Agriculture and Research Institute, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, spoke on the heritage rice cultivation suitable for the kuruvai season. The main focus of their presentation included irrigation management and various methods of pest control through organic methods.

M. BHASKAR
Occupation: Full-time Farmer
Crop: Kichili Champa
Land: 1 acre
Yield: 720 kilos

“This is the second time that I am cultivating heritage rice organically. Between the first crop and the second, I have observed an increase in the yield. In reality, cultivating heritage rice using organic and traditional farming practices is a cost saver. What is required is only labour. I am planning to plant some lentils and looking forward to the kuruvai season.”

C. AIYYAPPAN, 52 years
Occupation: Driver & Part-time Farmer
Crop: Mapillai Champa
Land: Half an acre
Yield: 720 kilos

“I have close to three acres of land in different pockets around Manjakkudi. This year, I have only used half an acre to cultivate Mapillai Champa using organic practices. I am more confident today, and during the last season, I have learnt much more on cultivating heritage rice. During the next Champa season, I will be cultivating Karuppu Kavuni and Mapillai Champa. They are tall crops and have immense medicinal value.”

happy that I chose to cultivate a heritage rice and that too organically. This year the yield has been less, but I do know that is how it is. In time, after a few seasons, when the soil is of better quality due to the natural fertilisers and manure, my yield will also improve.”
We share some highlights from Swami Dayananda Krupa Care, our special residential facility for adults (men) with developmental disabilities.

Annual Medical Camp

The annual medical camp was conducted at the Swami Dayananda Krupa Care near Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu. The overall health and well-being of all our 37 residents was checked during this occasion. The camp was conducted by M/s. Anderson Diagnostics & Labs, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
Republic Day was celebrated at Swami Dayananda Krupa Care with all our residents participating on this occasion. The function saw unfurling of the National Flag.
Laughter, fun and frolic and above all, being in the lap of nature. Every year, students from across our Chatralayams go on outdoor trips. Such outings help them to bond with each other in an informal environment.

**Of River Sounds and Mountain Sweeps**

Our students from the Sri Kaveri AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Chunchunakatte, Karnataka, were taken on a day trip to Brahmagiri Hills, Kodagu, Tala Kaveri in Karnataka. Talakaveri is considered to be the mouth of river Kaveri. It is located on Brahmagiri Hills near Bhagamandala in Coorg district. The Chunchunakatte Chatralayam is home to 40 boys.

**Fun Filled Excursion**

The students from the S. Viswanathan Memorial AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, were taken on a day long outing to the Guindy National Park, Guindy Snake Park, Guindy Children's Park and the Guindy Science Park - Periyar Science and Technology Centre, Chennai.
In January, students from the Swami Dayananda AIM for Seva Chatralayam for Boys, Utnoor, Telangana, were taken to the Keslapur fair. *Nagoba Jatara* is a tribal festival held in Keslapur village, Inderavelly mandal, Adilabad district, Telangana, India. It is the second biggest tribal carnival and is celebrated by the Mesaram clan of Gond tribes for 10 days. Tribal people from Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh belonging to the Mesaram clan offer prayers at this festival.

A month back, the boys from the Utnoor Chatralayam partook in a Vanabhojanam. This refers to an annual ritualistic picnic undertaken during Karthigai month in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. It is a cultural festival that celebrates our plant diversity with people cooking food under trees (amla), offering it to the Gods and then partaking in the prasad.

Culture validation is an important component of the value-based education system propagated by AIM for Seva across its 104 Chatralayams. Our founder, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati advocated that education complemented with cultural outlook would bring in self confidence in an individual. A child who is taught to respect the richness of his or her roots would eventually grow to become a confident individual who would contribute towards the progress of the nation. The Utnoor Chatralayam is home to 45 boys.
## Support Our Movement In Educating Rural India

**Support Our Projects**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Support Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Care for 1 child for 1 year – support by providing boarding, three meals a day, health check-ups and medicine</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Rs. 21,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Complete Education and Care for 1 child for 1 year (options 1 and 2 combined)</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Rs. 36,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Educate 1 child for 1 month – support by providing tuition fees, books, notebooks, stationery, uniforms, school bag and sports gear</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>Rs. 1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Care for 1 child for 1 month – support by providing boarding, three meals a day, health check-ups and medicine</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>Rs. 1,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Complete Education and Care for 1 child for 1 month (options 4 and 5 combined)</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>Rs. 3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Meals for the children in a Chatralayam on a donor-designated day</td>
<td>1 meal</td>
<td>Rs. 3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Special clothes for a festive occasion for 1 child</td>
<td>1 occasion</td>
<td>Rs. 800</td>
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</tbody>
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- Cheques/DD to be drawn in favour of ‘AIM for Seva’
- Donate online at [https://aimforseva.in/donations/](https://aimforseva.in/donations/)
- Contributions to AIM for Seva are exempt from Income Tax under section 80G of the Indian Income Tax Act, 1961

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