

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



ASSOCIATION OF RURAL PEOPLE NEED AND AWARENESS (ARPNA)

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Executive Director's Note

ARPNA

I am pleased to present this report on the status of women and children in our intervention areas and to reflect on the work we have undertaken over the past year. At ARPNA, our focus remains steadfast on empowering women, supporting children, advocating for unorganized workers, and promoting sustainable rural development.

Each year, our reach expands—driven by the evolving needs of the communities we serve, their active participation, and the urgent issues they face. This year has been another significant milestone in our journey, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our communities, donors, dedicated staff, stakeholders, and board members for their unwavering support.

Our initiatives this year included:

- **Student sponsorship programs** to ensure education and well-being,
- **Awareness drives on welfare schemes** for unorganized workers,
- **Rural development projects** enhancing livelihoods and infrastructure,
- **Disaster relief interventions** in times of urgent need.

Despite our progress, we remain mindful that our work is far from complete. Challenges such as the migration of adolescent girls to textile industries, the increasing number of female-headed households, forest rights, and the implementation of the POSH Act continue to demand our attention and action.

These pressing issues inspire us to do more and push further. With collective resolve, we remain committed to creating inclusive, informed, and resilient communities.

Warm regards,

Mrs. V.Santhi. B.A.B.L.

Executive Director
ARPNA

Overview of the Organization

1.	Name of the organization	Association for Rural People 's Need and Awareness (ARPNA)
2.	H.O. Office address	14, Govindhan Nagar, Thenpathi, Sirkali- 609 111 Mayiladuthurai (Dt) Tamilnadu
3.	Branch Office	ARPNA 60 feet, Eswaramoorthi Nagar, Velliangadu, Thennampalayam, Tiruppur -641 604
4.	Areas of operation	All States of India, Majority of the programmes at Tamilnadu and Pondicherry
5.	Telephone Land line	91 4364 359173
6.	E. Mail	arpnango@gmail.com aniayyapps@yahoo.com arpna@arpna.co.in
7.	Legal Status and Organization setup	Registered under the Indian Trust Act, Not-for-profit
8.	Registration No.	198/2005
9.	FCRA No	075880030
10.	Year of Establishment	2005
11.	Contact person	Mr. G. Ayyappan. M.S.W. M.Phil.
12.	Mobile No.	08903433711
13.	Bank & Branch name (Foreign)	State Bank of India, New Delhi main branch(00691) N.D. Main branch, 11, Parliament street, New Delhi

14.	Account number FCRA with IFSC Code MICR SWIFT	40175943797 SBIN0070691 110009009 SBININBB104
15	Bank & Branch name (Local) Account number Local with IFSC Code	IndusInd bank , Sirkali (P.O) Mayiladuthurai Dt, Tamilnadu 100233170805 INDB0000296
16	Income Tax 12AA and PAN Number	AAFTA1470KE20198, AAFTA1470K
17	Income Tax 80G	AAFTA1470KF20212
18	Tax Deduction Account No	CHEA32888C
19	CSR Regd	CSR00011716.
20	Organization website	https://arpnatrust.1ngo.in
21	Auditors Detail	R.Sattainathan & Associates, Mayiladuthurai

Title & Name	Official Designation
BOARD MEMBERS	
V. Santhi. B.A.B.L.	Executive Director
S. Vijaya	Financial Trustee
Dr. S. Josephine M.S.W. P.hd.,	President
ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
M. JAYAKUMAR.B.E.	Ex. Vice President, Bosch, Bangalore
A. ALYSIOUS .M.A	Correspondent. GPHS, Tirupur
Dr. BORAINÉ Ph.D.	Retd Professor, Gandhigram University, Dindugal
USHA MOHAN B.E	

List of your staff members along with their job titles:

Title & Name	Official Designation
Mr.G. Ayyappan M.S.W. M.Phil	Programme Manager
Mrs. G. Ananthi. M.C.A.	Programme Coordinator
Mrs.Usha Rani B.E	Programme Coordinator
Mrs.Samayavelu M.S.W	Programme Coordinator
Mrs. Muthulakshmi .B.E.	Documentation Officer
Mrs. Gandhimathi B.Com	Accountant
Mrs. Nithya B.Com	Accountant
Mrs. Sridevi Nagarajan.M.B.A	Fund raising cum Documentation Officer
Mrs. Subasithra devi	Skill Training Teacher
Mrs M Santhi	Programme Coordinator

Profile of Association of Rural People Needs and Awareness (ARPNA)

ORIGIN:

Association of Rural People Needs and awareness (ARPNA) came into existence as -a registered trust in 2005 at Sirkali, when the founder was extending the support to the people effected by Tsunami in Nagapattinam district. It was observed that many NGO and government was on ground for some time and executed relief and rehabilitation work

By the time most of the NGO's were winding up their work and moving back to their original place, the founder realized the need for a sustainable solution for the whole suffering and a long-term approach for development. After a deep going self-introspection the founder realized that there was a need for intervention with the perspective of a permanent solution for the suffering of the people and set up a non profit. Thus was born named ARPNA (Association for Rural People Needs and Awareness).

From then on the organization has taken philanthropic steps by raising funds from the government, corporates, institutions, individual donors and volunteer support and reached the vulnerable especially children, youth/adolescent, women, workers and the aged.

GOAL:

ARPNA aims to create a gender formative society in which women, children and farmers are ensured of their rights and respected equally

MISSION:

To focus on the target population of women, children and farmers by mobilizing and facilitating gender transformative efforts through addressing the basic needs of livelihood, GBV, Environments, etc through evidence based programs.

Programme 1: Ensuring Decent Work for Textile Workers in Tiruppur

Tiruppur, often referred to as the "Manchester of South India," is a thriving hub for the textile industry, particularly knitwear manufacturing. While the industry has contributed significantly to the region's economy, it has also highlighted the challenges faced by the workers involved in the production processes. Many of these workers endure low wages, unsafe working conditions, and lack of access to essential healthcare and social security benefits.

ARPNA (Association for Rural People Need and Awareness) has been working tirelessly to ensure that textile workers in Tiruppur receive fair wages, safe working conditions, and access to basic rights under the law. One of our key strategies this year has been to create awareness regarding the health insurance, social security schemes and other crucial aspects that directly impact workers' welfare.

Objective

- Promoting **Health Insurance** for textile workers.
- Raising awareness about **Social Security** schemes like Provident Fund (PF) and Employee State Insurance (ESI).
- Improving **working conditions** in textile factories and workshops.

Key Activities and Initiatives:

1. Health Insurance for Workers

One of the critical issues workers face is the lack of access to healthcare and medical insurance. ARPNA partnered with local health providers to offer **free health check-ups** and to educate workers on how they can avail themselves of **health insurance schemes** under the **Employee State Insurance (ESI)** program.

- ❖ We helped workers enroll in the **ESI scheme**, ensuring they have access to medical facilities and treatment.
- ❖ Awareness drives included information about **occupational health risks** specific to the textile industry, such as respiratory diseases, skin conditions, and repetitive strain injuries.

Through these initiatives, over 2,000 workers were successfully enrolled in ESI, and we have seen a positive response from both workers and factory owners regarding its implementation.

2. Promotion of Social Security Schemes

Many workers remain unaware of the **Provident Fund (PF)** and **Employee State Insurance (ESI)** schemes that provide financial security in the case of illness, injury, or retirement. ARPNA took proactive steps to ensure workers understand and avail these schemes.

- We organized workshops and information dissemination activities across textile units to explain the benefits of enrolling in **Provident Fund (PF)**.
- Workers were educated on the process of **contributing to PF**, which not only secures their future but also ensures that they are entitled to retirement benefits and other financial security provisions.
- Collaborative meetings were held with factory owners to ensure that **PF contributions** are being made on time and are in line with legal requirements.

Over 1,000 workers were enrolled in the **Provident Fund** scheme this year, and there was a noticeable improvement in employer participation in this initiative.

Government Insurance schemes:

Some key schemes include the integration of the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme with Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), which offers coverage up to Rs. 5.00 lakh per family per annum.

Rastriya Swastha Bima Yojana (RSBY): This scheme, primarily for workers below the poverty line (BPL) in the unorganized sector, covers medical treatment in network hospitals and nursing homes.

Programme 2: Literacy for All: A Campaign for Empowerment

The Empowering Minds Literacy Campaign aims to eradicate illiteracy and enhance educational opportunities in the districts of Mayiladuthurai, Tiruvarur, and Nagapattinam. These regions, rich in culture and history, face significant challenges in terms of literacy, particularly in rural areas where access to quality education is limited. This campaign is designed to provide essential literacy skills to all, irrespective of age, gender, or socio-economic background, helping individuals improve their quality of life and contribute to community development.

Objectives:

1. **Improve Basic Literacy Rates:** To increase literacy rates among adults, youths, and children in Mayiladuthurai, Tiruvarur, and Nagapattinam by focusing on foundational reading, writing, and numeracy skills.
2. **Promote Educational Access for All:** Ensure that marginalized communities, including women, rural populations, and low-income families, have access to educational resources and opportunities.
3. **Raise Awareness on the Importance of Literacy:** Highlight the transformative power of literacy and education in improving employment opportunities, health outcomes, and overall community development.
4. **Provide Vocational and Life Skills Training:** Alongside literacy, the campaign will offer practical skills that will help individuals contribute to their communities and improve their livelihoods.
5. **Foster Community Engagement and Ownership:** Empower local communities to take an active role in literacy initiatives, ensuring long-term sustainability and growth of the campaign.



Areas:

- **Mayiladuthurai:** A growing urban area that has seen development in its infrastructure but still faces educational gaps, particularly among its 8,000 rural residents and migrant community members.
- **Tiruvarur:** Tiruvarur, a district known for its rich cultural heritage, continues to struggle with low literacy rates in rural areas. This campaign will target improved educational access for both children and adults, aiming to reach 9,000 underserved individuals
- **Nagapattinam:** Although economically significant, this coastal district has regions where education remains out of reach due to geographic isolation, economic hardship, and cultural barriers. The campaign aims to reach 12,000 individuals in these underserved areas.



Outcomes:

1. Increased Literacy Rates:

- The campaign significantly improve literacy levels across Mayiladuthurai, Tiruvarur, and Nagapattinam, with a particular focus on adult literacy.
- Empowered individuals to read, write, and perform basic arithmetic improved their everyday lives and open new opportunities for education and employment.



2. Economic and Social Benefits:

- Improved literacy lead to better employment prospects, resulting in economic development in these districts.
- Women, in particular, benefited from gaining the literacy skills required to participate more fully in their communities and the workforce.

3. Stronger Communities:

- By fostering a culture of learning, the campaign will inspire a new generation of students and teachers.
- Increased community involvement will help create a sense of ownership and collective responsibility towards educational growth.

4. Sustainability:

- Through the creation of community learning centers and the training of local educators, the project will lay a foundation for long-term educational empowerment that can be sustained beyond the campaign's lifetime.

Programme 3: Empowering Communities Through High Mass Lighting:

The aim of this project is to provide high mass lighting installations across the towns of Mayiladuthurai, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, and Koothur Panchayat, improving the quality of life, ensuring safety, fostering economic growth, and enhancing the overall livability of these regions. High mass lighting, with its capacity to cover large areas with powerful illumination, will address the needs for improved street lighting, particularly in urban and rural areas where safety and community engagement after dark are critical.

Objectives:

1. **Enhance Safety and Security:** Providing adequate lighting in public spaces, streets, and roads, ensuring that people feel safer at all times, particularly during night hours.
2. **Boost Economic Activities:** Facilitating extended working hours for local businesses, encouraging commerce, and promoting tourism, especially in towns like Mayiladuthurai and Nagapattinam.
3. **Promote Community Engagement:** Making public spaces more inviting for social, cultural, and communal activities, fostering unity and interaction.
4. **Sustainable Development:** Implementing energy-efficient solutions through solar-powered high mass lights, reducing the environmental footprint of street lighting and promoting green energy.
5. **Enhance Local Infrastructure:** Strengthening the infrastructure in urban and rural settings, improving mobility, and enhancing accessibility in critical areas like marketplaces, roads, and recreational spaces.



Areas:

- **Mayiladuthurai:** A historic town central to the region's culture and commerce requires enhanced night-time illumination to support its bustling marketplace and expanding tourism sector, installed high mass lights in the perspective areas, 1000 people got benefited.
- **Tiruvarur:** Tiruvarur, known for its festivals and religious significance, will benefit from lighting upgrades aimed at ensuring safety during cultural events, processions, and festivals. With five high-mast lights installed, the project benefits 18,000 people.
- **Nagapattinam:** A coastal district known for its bustling port and tourist activity, Nagapattinam requires effective lighting to improve security across its port area, marketplaces, and local streets. As part of recent upgrades, two high-mast lights have been installed, directly benefiting around 8,000 residents. Within the district, **Koothur Panchayat**, a rural area, also sees significant need for lighting—crucial for enabling agricultural work after sunset and ensuring the safety of families and children during evening hours.



Outcomes:

1. Increased Safety:

- Safer streets for pedestrians, motorcyclists, and vehicles, reducing the risk of accidents and crime.
- People feel more secure walking through public spaces after sunset, which can foster a safer and more cohesive community.

2. Economic Growth:

- Business owners can operate longer hours, especially in the marketplace areas, contributing to higher revenues.
- Increased tourism due to improved safety and lighting will boost the local economy, especially in towns like Mayiladuthurai and Nagapattinam, which already attract visitors for their cultural and religious significance.

3. Improved Community Engagement:

- Residents can safely engage in community activities, cultural events, and social gatherings.
- Local children can participate in outdoor activities even in the evening, promoting a healthier and more active lifestyle.

4. Environmental Benefits:

- Solar-powered high mass lights will contribute to the reduction of energy consumption from the grid, lower carbon emissions, and promote the use of renewable energy.

Programme 4: Paver Block Installation for Park Enhancement

In line with ARPNA's commitment to community development and enhancing public spaces, the *Paver Block Installation for Park Enhancement* project was launched in Mayiladuthurai District. The objective of this project is to improve the accessibility, aesthetics, and functionality of public parks by installing high-quality paver blocks across key park areas. The project aims to create a safe and pleasant environment for residents to enjoy outdoor activities, improve park infrastructure, and promote a healthy, sustainable lifestyle.

ARPNA's Vision for the Project:

ARPNA believes that well-maintained public spaces, such as parks, play a critical role in fostering community spirit, health, and well-being. This project focuses on:

- **Beautifying Public Spaces:** Creating attractive and durable walkways and paths that encourage community members to use the park more frequently.

- **Ensuring Safety and Accessibility:** Providing a safe environment for visitors of all ages, including children, the elderly, and people with disabilities, by installing non-slip, smooth, and even surfaces.
- **Encouraging Physical Activity:** Offering a pleasant atmosphere that motivates residents to engage in outdoor activities, promoting physical health and well-being.

Objectives:

1. **Enhance Park Infrastructure:** Improve the overall look and feel of public parks in Mayiladuthurai by installing durable, weather-resistant paver blocks in key walking and recreational areas.
2. **Improve Accessibility and Safety:** Create a smoother, safer environment for visitors, including a safer walking path for children, elderly, and differently-abled individuals.
3. **Promote Community Engagement:** Encourage more people to visit the park for leisure, social interaction, and physical activities.
4. **Environmental Sustainability:** Use eco-friendly materials and construction methods that promote sustainability and environmental consciousness in the park's design.



Outcomes:

1. Improved Aesthetic Appeal:

- The installation of paver blocks will transform the park into an aesthetically pleasing and well-maintained space, making it more inviting to the community and visitors.

2. Increased Park Usage:

- The enhanced infrastructure will attract more people to visit the park for recreational activities, including walking, jogging, and socializing. This will improve the health and well-being of residents.

3. Safer Environment:

- The smooth, even surfaces created by the paver blocks will reduce tripping hazards and provide a safe environment for people of all ages, particularly the elderly and children.

4. Community Engagement:

- The project will foster community involvement and pride as residents witness the transformation of their public park and actively participate in the park's maintenance and upkeep.

5. Sustainability:

- The use of eco-friendly materials and sustainable practices ensures that the park's infrastructure is not only functional but also environmentally responsible.

Programme 5: Distribution of Millets to the Public under the Swachata Hi Sewa Campaign and Swachhta Pakhwada

Introduction

As part of the *Swachhata Hi Sewa* Campaign and *Swachhta Pakhwada*, ARPNA TRUST, with the support of ONGC CSR, successfully distributed **3,000 bags of millets** to the public. This initiative was designed with the following key objectives:

- **Promote Nutritional Awareness:** Encourage the adoption of healthier and sustainable dietary practices by introducing millets, a nutritious, eco-friendly, and traditional food source.

- **Support Local Agriculture:** Boost demand for locally grown millets, providing a direct benefit to local farmers and promoting sustainable farming practices.
- **Raise Cleanliness and Hygiene Awareness:** Align with the broader goals of *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan*, using the distribution as a platform to engage communities in discussions on nutrition, cleanliness, and sustainability.



Impact and Outcomes:

- **Beneficiaries:** A total of **3,000 families** received bags of millets, directly benefiting households in both urban and rural areas.
- **Health and Nutrition:** The initiative contributed to raising awareness about the health benefits of millets, which are rich in fiber, vitamins, and minerals, contributing to better dietary habits.
- **Local Economic Support:** The campaign boosted the millet market and provided a livelihood boost for local farmers by creating a demand for their produce.
- **Community Engagement:** The distribution encouraged community participation in the *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* and fostered a sense of collective responsibility toward cleanliness, health, and sustainability.

This initiative highlighted the importance of collaboration between community organizations, corporates, and government campaigns to achieve shared goals of health, sustainability, and social well-being.

Programme 6: "Empowering Healthcare: Strengthening Medical Facilities"

Introduction

In the past year, our organization has made significant strides in supporting healthcare infrastructure by providing vital medical equipment to two key institutions: Vridhachalam Government Hospital and JIPMER Hospital, Karaikkal. These donations are part of our ongoing commitment to improving access to quality healthcare in underserved regions and supporting healthcare professionals in their mission to deliver better care to patients.

1. Vridhachalam Government Hospital

Vridhachalam, a town located in the Tamil Nadu state, has a critical need for modern healthcare resources. The Vridhachalam Government Hospital serves a large rural population with limited access to advanced medical technologies. Understanding the challenges faced by healthcare providers in this area, our organization facilitated the procurement and donation of essential medical equipment.

As part of our ongoing commitment to improving healthcare facilities, new **operation tables, lights, and theatre equipment** were provided to the **Vridhachalam Government Hospital**. This initiative aimed to enhance the quality of surgical services, ensuring better patient care and supporting the medical staff with modern, efficient tools. The upgraded equipment will play a crucial role in improving surgical outcomes and overall healthcare delivery in the region.

2. JIPMER Hospital, Karaikkal

The Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER) is one of India's premier medical institutions, and its Karaikkal branch serves as an important healthcare hub for the population of Karaikkal and surrounding areas. With the rapid advancement of medical technology and the growing needs of a large patient base, JIPMER Karaikkal required up-to-date equipment to maintain its standard of care.

- ❖ **Surgical Instruments:** We donated high-quality surgical instruments to support the hospital's surgical department in performing a wider range of procedures safely and efficiently.

Key Contributions:

These donations were specifically aimed at helping the hospital continue its mission of providing world-class healthcare to those in need, improving the quality of services and ensuring better health outcomes for the population it serves.



3. Impact and Future Goals

Our contributions to Vridhachalam Government Hospital and JIPMER Hospital, Karaikkal, have made a significant difference in the healthcare services provided by these institutions. The improved availability of advanced medical equipment has directly contributed to better patient care, enhanced diagnostic accuracy, and expanded surgical capabilities. These efforts are in line with our long-term vision of making quality healthcare more accessible and ensuring that no one is deprived of essential medical services due to inadequate infrastructure.

In the coming year, we plan to:

- ❖ Expand our support by donating additional medical equipment tailored to the evolving needs of these hospitals.
- ❖ Continue to monitor and assess the impact of the equipment provided, ensuring they are used effectively and maintained properly.

- ❖ Strengthen partnerships with local healthcare institutions to facilitate further improvements in medical services

Programme 7: Life Skills Program for Adolescent Students at Vedharanyam Block, Nagapattinam

Technical partner : AWARE Chennai

Supported by: District Administration, Nagapattinam, and ONGC CSR, Karaikkal

Introduction: In the year 2024, a comprehensive Life Skills Program was organized for adolescent students in government schools across the Vedharanyam Block of Nagapattinam District. This initiative, spearheaded by AWARE (an NGO committed to the empowerment of communities), was aimed at providing critical life skills to young students, preparing them to navigate the challenges of modern life with confidence, resilience, and adaptability. The program was successfully supported by the District Administration of Nagapattinam and funded through ONGC CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) initiatives in Karaikkal.

Objective: The primary objective of the Life Skills Program was to equip adolescent students with essential life skills, which included:

- **Emotional intelligence and self-awareness**
- **Effective communication and interpersonal skills**
- **Decision-making and problem-solving techniques**
- **Time management and goal-setting**
- **Building resilience and handling stress**
- **Teamwork and leadership skills**

The program was designed to create a well-rounded approach to youth development, promoting personal growth and enhancing social and cognitive abilities.

Target Audience: The program primarily targeted adolescent students in government schools located in the Vedharanyam Block of Nagapattinam, a region where access to life skills education had been limited. The students, mostly in the age group of 13-18 years, were engaged through interactive sessions, workshops, and group activities that were both educational and enjoyable.

Implementation: The Life Skills Program was delivered through a series of workshops, training modules, and hands-on activities facilitated by experts in the

field of education, psychology, and youth development. The workshops were held in the local schools, and students were encouraged to actively participate and reflect on their learning. The sessions were designed to be highly interactive, ensuring that students were not only passive learners but also active contributors in discussions and exercises.



Empowering Adolescents with Rights Education

A weeklong schedule in the challenging weather and daily commutation between schools to kickstart our project in all the 10 chosen schools in the Vedaraniyam Block of Nagapattinam District.

- Government Higher Secondary School, Thanikottagam
- Government Higher Secondary School, Panchanathikulam
- Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Aayakaaranpulam
- Government Higher Secondary School, Karupampulam
- Government Higher Secondary School, Kadinalvayal
- Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Vedaraniyam
- Government Higher Secondary School, Kodiyakarai
- Government Higher Secondary School, Sembodai
- Government Higher Secondary School, Thethakudi South
- Government Higher Secondary School, Kariyapattinam

Key activities included:

- **Group Discussions and Role Plays** on handling peer pressure, decision-making, and stress management.
- **Workshops on Self-Discovery** focusing on identifying strengths, setting goals, and understanding one's emotions.
- **Team-building exercises** that helped students learn cooperation, leadership, and communication skills.
- **Interactive sessions** on career choices, time management, and the importance of education in shaping future opportunities.

Key Outcomes: The Life Skills Program saw remarkable outcomes in terms of student engagement and impact. By the end of the program, students demonstrated improved:

- **Self-confidence:** A majority of students expressed greater self-awareness and confidence in making decisions.
- **Communication Skills:** Students were more comfortable expressing themselves and engaging in discussions, both within their peer groups and with teachers.
- **Emotional Resilience:** There was a noticeable improvement in students' ability to manage stress and cope with challenging situations.
- **Leadership Abilities:** Through group activities, students developed stronger leadership qualities, with many showing an eagerness to take on leadership roles in their schools and communities.



Support and Acknowledgments: This program would not have been possible without the generous support of ONGC's CSR initiative in Karaikkal and the collaboration of the District Administration of Nagapattinam. Their continuous support and commitment to community development have played a pivotal role in the success of this program. Special thanks are also extended to the teachers, school staff, and volunteers who contributed their time and efforts to ensure the smooth execution of the program.

Programme 8: Break The Cycle Of Poverty Through Education

The program's goal is to break the cycle of poverty through education, creating a more equitable future. By investing in Shooting Stars, you're not only supporting scholars but also uplifting their families and communities. We provide financial

aid to underprivileged students, including aspiring doctors and engineers studying in Government or quota-based colleges.



In addition to financial support, we offer training in English, public speaking, and professional mentoring to help students succeed in their careers. Once established, we encourage them to mentor others and sponsor more scholars. Last year, ARPNA and SSF, USA, supported 700 students and trained 800 more.

With the support of HOPE 3 Foundation and SEEEDS Foundation ,USA, ARPNA sponsored 295 poor college students from Tamilnadu. We have organized a career guidance programme for the students.

Programme 9: "Empowering Dreams: Transforming Lives Through Skill Development and Entrepreneurship"

At ARPNA Trust, we believe that empowering individuals with the right skills is the key to creating sustainable livelihoods and transforming communities. Over the past year, we have worked diligently to provide **skill development training** to underprivileged youth and women in our community. The diverse range of training programs offered at our centre spanning from **tailoring and embroidery** to **computer basics** as not only equipped more than 40 students with valuable skills but also inspired them to start their own businesses and achieve financial independence.

Training Programs Offered

Over the past year, ARPNA Trust has been proud to offer the following training programs:

1. Tailoring and Fashion Design

- ✓ Our **tailoring** courses provide students with the technical skills required to create garments from scratch. These courses are designed for both beginners and advanced learners, covering essential techniques such as stitching, pattern making, and garment fitting.

2. Aari Embroidery

- ✓ A highly sought-after traditional skill, **Aari embroidery** involves intricate needlework to create beautiful designs on fabrics. This training program has given students the chance to preserve a cultural craft while also exploring it as a potential income source.

3. Computer Basics

- ✓ In today's digital age, **computer literacy** is a crucial skill. Our **computer basics** training program helps students gain proficiency in essential computer applications like Word, Excel, and internet browsing, preparing them for a wide range of modern jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities.



Impact of the Program

The Skill Development Training Program has made a significant impact on the lives of the students enrolled at ARPNA Trust. Here are some key highlights:

- ❖ **More Than 100 Students Trained:** This year, over **120 students** successfully completed one or more of our training programs. These students, including many women and marginalized individuals, gained both technical skills and confidence in their abilities.
- ❖ **Entrepreneurial Success:** One of the greatest successes of our program is the fact that many of our students have gone on to establish their own businesses. From tailoring shops to handcraft enterprises, these budding entrepreneurs are now able to support themselves and their families through their newfound skills.

- ✓ **Tailoring and Fashion Design Businesses:** Several students have opened their own tailoring shops, offering custom-made clothing and alterations, catering to the local market.
- ❖ **Financial Independence:** By starting their own businesses, these students have not only created livelihoods for themselves but also contributed to the local economy. Their businesses are providing products that meet community demand, promoting a circular economy.
- ❖ **Personal Growth and Empowerment:** Beyond the practical skills, the training has instilled confidence and a sense of pride in our students. Many have shared how the program has helped them gain self-respect and take ownership of their future. It has been a platform for personal growth, with students taking on leadership roles in their communities as they navigate their entrepreneurial journeys.

Programme 10 Supporting Education for All: The Impact of Tuition Centres in Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam

Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam are two districts in Tamil Nadu where education has been a challenge for many. To address this, 16 tuition centres have been established to offer non-formal education. These centres play a key role in helping children and adults who may not have access to regular schools or who need extra support to improve their learning.

Key Functions of the Tuition Centres:

1. **Helping Schoolchildren:** Many students in these districts struggle in school due to overcrowded classrooms or other challenges. These tuition centres provide extra help in subjects like math, science, Tamil, and English, allowing children to understand lessons better and do well in exams.
2. **Support for Dropouts:** Some students drop out of school due to personal or financial issues. These tuition centres offer them a chance to continue their education, learn at their own pace, and possibly return to formal schooling or take exams to move forward in life.
3. **Soft Skills and Language Classes:** In addition to academic support, some centres also offer classes in communication, leadership, and English to help people become more confident and improve their chances of success in work and life.



Impact on the Community:

1. **Improved Learning:** Children who attend these centres improve their academic performance and gain confidence in their studies. Many students who were struggling in school are now excelling.
2. **Increased Literacy:** Adults who take part in literacy classes can now read, write, and manage their daily tasks more easily. This has improved their quality of life and helped them in their jobs.

Programme 11: Sanitary Pad Distribution in Cuddalore District - Post-Cyclone Fengal Relief Effort

In response to the devastating impact of Cyclone Fengal, which hit the disaster-prone zones of **Cuddalore District**, a vital initiative was launched to support the affected women in the region. A total of **50,000 sanitary pads** were distributed to **5,000 women** across the district as part of the emergency relief efforts.

Objectives of the Initiative:

- **Ensure Hygiene and Dignity:** To provide essential hygiene products to women who were particularly vulnerable during the aftermath of the cyclone, where access to basic supplies was severely limited.
- **Support Health and Well-being:** To prevent health issues that could arise from lack of access to sanitary products, ensuring that women could maintain their menstrual hygiene even in the face of disaster-related challenges.

- **Boost Community Resilience:** To empower women in the community, allowing them to feel supported and cared for during a challenging period of recovery.



Impact and Outcomes:

- **Beneficiaries:** The distribution directly impacted **5,000 women**, helping them regain a sense of normalcy and well-being in the aftermath of the disaster.
- **Health Benefits:** By ensuring access to sanitary pads, the initiative contributed to improved menstrual hygiene, reducing the risk of infections and related health concerns.
- **Community Support:** This effort not only addressed immediate needs but also helped rebuild trust and resilience within the affected communities.

The initiative, conducted with the support of local partners and volunteers, played a crucial role in mitigating the hardships faced by women in **Cuddalore District** and highlighted the importance of hygiene and dignity in disaster relief efforts.

Programme 12: Provision of Safe Drinking Water through RO Systems

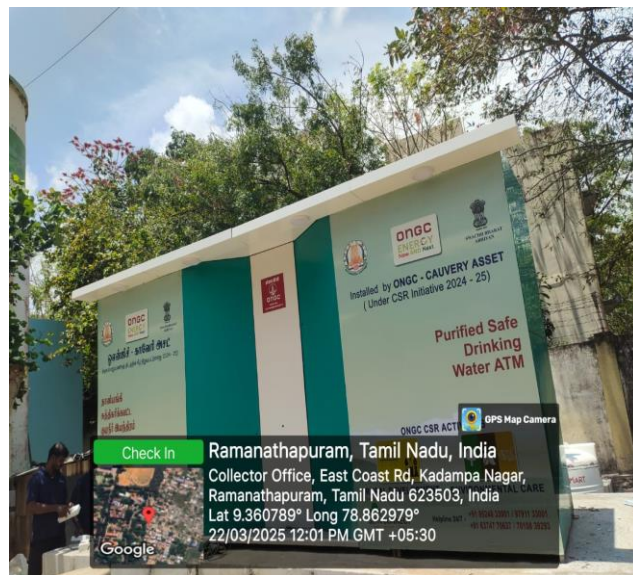
As part of our commitment to promoting public health and access to clean drinking water, **RO (Reverse Osmosis) water purification systems** were installed at key public institutions across various regions. This initiative focused on ensuring the availability of safe and hygienic drinking water for students, staff, and the general public.

Locations Covered:

- **Kendriya Vidyalaya School, Karaikal**
- **Kuthalam Taluk Office**
- **Pattanamkathan, Ramanathapuram District**

Objectives:

- **Ensure Safe Drinking Water:** To provide reliable access to clean and purified water in educational and government institutions.
- **Promote Health and Well-being:** To prevent waterborne diseases by offering a safe alternative to untreated water sources.
- **Support Institutional Infrastructure:** To enhance the quality of basic amenities in schools and government offices.



Impact and Outcomes:

- **Beneficiaries:** Hundreds of students, faculty, staff, and local visitors now have daily access to safe drinking water.
- **Health Benefits:** Significant improvement in the availability of clean water, contributing to reduced risk of water-related illnesses.
- **Community Confidence:** Strengthened public trust in local institutions through improved infrastructure and essential services.

This initiative reflects a practical and sustainable approach to public health, especially in semi-urban and rural areas, and aligns with broader efforts to ensure clean water access as a basic human right.

Programme 13: Provision of New Borewells and Allied Infrastructure in Coastal Habitations – Mayiladuthurai District

As part of efforts to improve access to safe and reliable drinking water in vulnerable coastal regions, **ARPNA Trust**, with the support of **GAIL (India) Ltd.** under the **TWAD Board** framework, successfully implemented a major water infrastructure project in **Kollidam Union of Mayiladuthurai District**.

Project Highlights:

- **Number of Borewells Installed:** 6
- **Coverage:** 114 coastal habitations in Kollidam Union
- **Supporting Agency:** GAIL (India) Ltd.
- **Executing Partner:** ARPNA Trust
- **Implemented Under:** Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board (TWAD)



Objectives:

- **Enhance Water Accessibility:** To ensure consistent and safe water supply for daily needs in underserved coastal communities.
- **Improve Public Health:** To reduce dependence on unsafe water sources and lower the risk of waterborne diseases.

- **Strengthen Rural Water Infrastructure:** To support long-term sustainability through reliable and community-centric water systems.

Impact and Outcomes:

- **Beneficiaries:** Over **114 coastal habitations** now have improved access to safe drinking water.
- **Community Well-being:** Significant improvement in quality of life through reduced time spent fetching water and improved water security.
- **Sustainable Infrastructure:** Borewells were equipped with necessary allied works to ensure functionality, ease of use, and longevity.

This project demonstrates the success of collaborative efforts between government bodies, corporate CSR initiatives, and non-profit organizations in addressing critical infrastructure needs in rural and coastal regions.

Programme 14: Women’s Day Celebration at ARPNA TRUST Office

On the occasion of **International Women’s Day**, ARPNA TRUST organized a meaningful celebration at its office premises to honor the strength, achievements, and rights of women. The event brought together staff, students, and special guests, highlighting empowerment, awareness, and talent.



Programme Highlights:

- The event commenced with a **prayer song**, setting a respectful and uplifting tone.
- **Mrs. Santhi V., Executive Director**, delivered the **inaugural address**, emphasizing ARPNA's commitment to women's empowerment and inclusive growth.
- The **Project Manager G Ayyappan.**, addressed the audience on the **complaint mechanism of adolescent girls** in place to ensure a safe and responsive environment within the organization.
- **Mrs. Kavitha, Advocate and Chief Guest**, delivered a **special address on the POSH Act (Prevention of Sexual Harassment)**, explaining the legal framework, mechanisms, and protections available to women in workplaces. Her insights provided valuable awareness and encouraged open dialogue.
- **Certificates were distributed** to students who successfully completed their computer training programs, recognizing their hard work and achievements.
- A **talent competition** was held for students, showcasing their creativity, confidence, and expression in areas such as art, speech, and performance.
- The event concluded with a **vote of thanks**, expressing gratitude to all participants and supporters, followed by the **National Anthem**, reinforcing unity and pride.



Participation:

- A total of **50 students** participated in the celebration, making it an engaging and inclusive event.

This Women's Day celebration served as a platform not only for honoring women but also for spreading legal awareness, women empowerment, building confidence, and recognizing accomplishments within the ARPNA community.

Overall Impact of Your Interventions:

Impact table:

12,000 people benefited from having awareness on availing social security schemes from the Ensuring Decent Work for Textile Workers program
975 poor students benefited and continued their college studies and professional courses from breaking the cycle of poverty through the education programme
27,000 people benefited from the High Mass Light Program , enhancing public safety and night-time mobility. In Mayiladuthurai district, paver block installation improved road conditions and drainage systems. This initiative directly benefited 500 residents , ensuring safer and more accessible public pathways.
1000 people benefited from having better medical facilities and the provision of Medical equipment
400 student from 10 Government schools in vedaranyam districts got aware of Life skill education program.
29000 youth and children from all three districts benefited from developing reading habits, setting goals, getting employment, etc from the Literacy campaign and Job Fair for youth program
Under the Swachhta Pakhwada and Swachhta Hi Sewa campaigns, ARPNA Trust successfully distributed 3,000 bags of millets to promote healthy eating and sustainable agriculture practices.
1500 village people aware of cleanness from the Swachhta Packwada -Cleanness campaign
6500 people benefited from the safe drinking water programme -R.O system
120 women-headed families and dependents benefited from the women headed Families skill development training program
Through its Tuition Centre Support Program provided academic assistance to 480 students across 16 centres enhanced learning outcomes and helped reduce dropout rates among underprivileged children.
During the Fengel cyclone relief efforts , distributed 50,000 sanitary pads to 5,000 women , ensuring access to essential hygiene products and promoting menstrual health during a critical time of need
In collaboration with GAIL (India) Ltd., and ONGC ARPNA Trust installed 6 bore wells benefiting 114 villages and providing safe water access to 96,226 people .
ARPNA Trust successfully celebrated Women's Day with the participation of 50 women , marking a meaningful event that empowered and honoured their contributions.

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Donors

At ARPNA, we believe that every act of giving creates a ripple of change. This past year, your generosity has been the driving force behind our programs, outreach, and community impact. Whether through one-time contributions or sustained support, your commitment has enabled us to pursue our mission with strength, purpose, and hope.

We extend our deepest gratitude to every donor—individuals, families, businesses, and partners—who stood by us. Your support not only fuels our work but inspires us to aim higher and reach further.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Together, we are building a better tomorrow.

Our sincere thanks to



GAIL (India) Limited