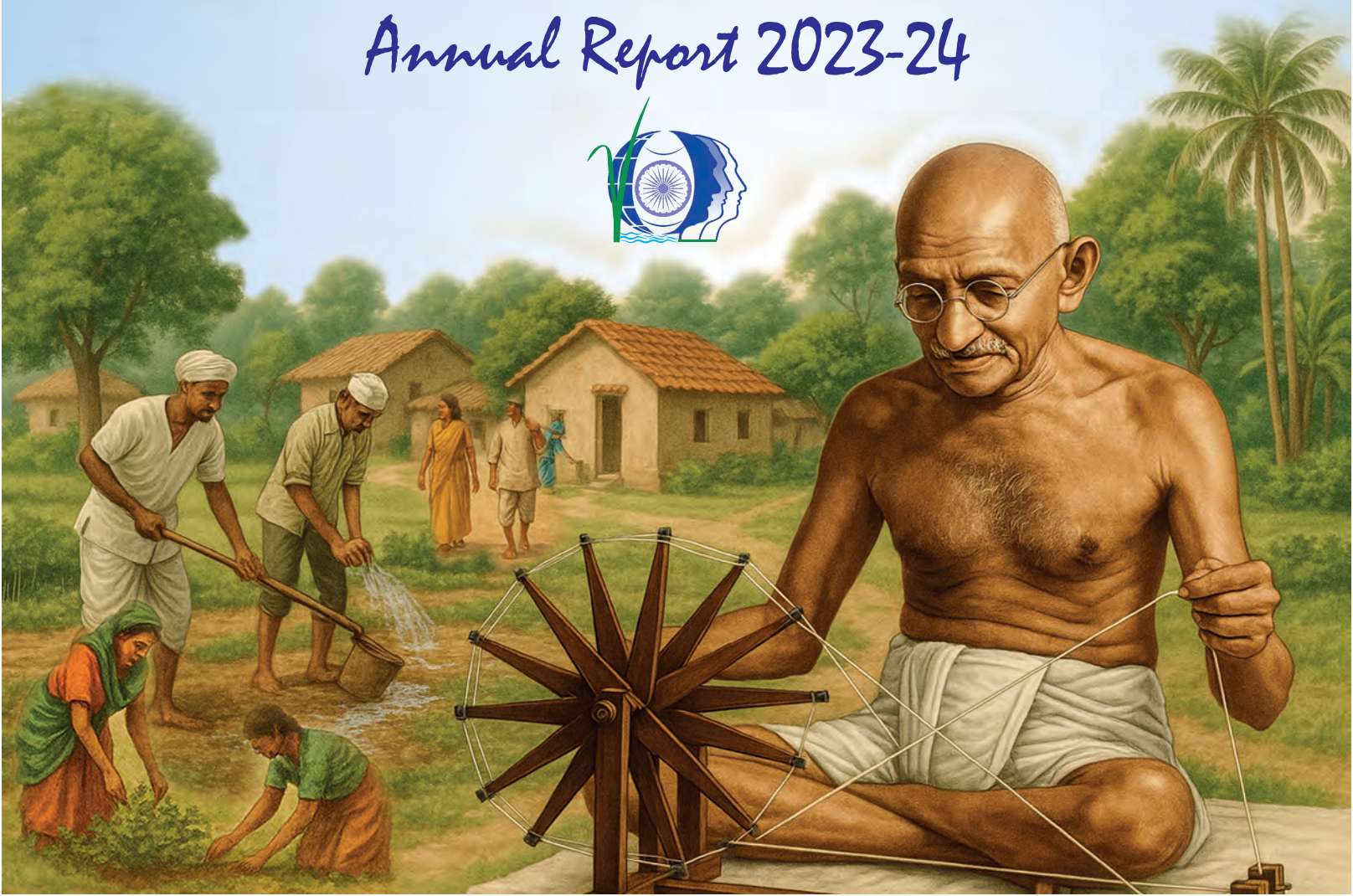


# New Social Order

DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation

Annual Report 2023-24



# Annual Report 2023-24



**DHAN Panchayat  
Development Foundation**





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# New Social Order and Panchayat Development



DHAN's philosophy of building sustainable people institutions for generations finds its beautiful expression through the works of DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation and this serves as a conduit for fostering a new social order at the village panchayat level. The four predominant tenets of sustaining a new social order at the Individual, Family, Institution, and Community level through the works of Panchayat Development Foundation – by forming active Sangamam groups and enabling them to reinvigorate the Panchayats working capacity through constructive debate and claims to due entitlements in the Gram Sabhas and mobilising internal financial resources for development initiatives such as solar powered street lamps, e-seva centres, rainwater harvest facilities at public places, and mobilising development finance through usufruct rights of village commons.

DHAN's decades of work with the poor for their empowerment has ensured collectivising women, farmers, fishers, and other marginalized folks for their banking needs, agriculture sustainability, livelihood support, health, education, and sanitation manifests itself through the Panchayat Development initiative with which these civic groups gets legitimacy to voice their concern and get their entitlements from the third yet important tier of governance structure that is Panchayati Raj institutions.

The Panchayati Raj system itself has gone through several avatars in both pre and post-independent India. Even after garnering constitutional support through the 73rd and 74th amendments to the Indian constitution, state and the union executive does not provide enough teeth to the local governance – be it devolution of finance or power and the say in local level policy making and execution. Ensuring a vibrant and a conscious Gram Panchayat governance system means a thriving participatory democracy at the last mile; to the marginalised and the destitutes. Governance without capacity is an impossibility. DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation strives to improve the capacity of the Panchayats, their elected representatives, and the village members by directly working with them by providing frequent capacity building trainings, livelihood workshops, and by adopting villages with the support of several donor agencies like the SBI Foundation's Gram Seva Kendra, Karur Vysya Bank for ensuring basic infrastructure, livelihood, water and sanitation, health and education support at the village level for their holistic development.



# DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation

## DHAN Foundation

### Village Swaraj and Local Governance

"My idea of village Swaraj is that it is a complete republic, independent of its neighbours for its own vital wants and yet interdependent for many others in which dependence is necessary."

- Mahatma Gandhi



### Introduction

Local governance is deeply rooted in India's heritage, with Panchayat Raj institutions boasting a history spanning over 2000 years. Since the Vedic period, village administration has played a crucial role through systems like Sabhas and Smithies. Mahatma Gandhi emphasized the importance of local self-governance. Although post-independence constitutional recognition for Panchayat Raj institutions (PRIs) was initially limited, Gandhi's vision of local governance as the foundation of the Indian state remained influential. Panchayats serve as democratic platforms, enabling citizen participation in decision-making and the effective use of local resources. Self-reliant and minimally dependent on external entities, Panchayats exemplify grassroots democracy. Effective governance requires institutions and processes that serve all stakeholders within reasonable timeframes. After persistent efforts, the 73rd Amendment to the Indian Constitution in 1992 formally recognized rural local self-government. Despite the transformative potential of this amendment, several challenges persist. With around 3.5 lakh grassroots representatives emerging through the 73rd and 74th Amendments, issues such as weak democratic practices, low Gram Sabha participation, underrepresentation of marginalized groups, and limited financial autonomy continue to hinder effective governance.

### Local Governance and Sustainable Development

International organizations like the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) recognize that improved local governance and decentralization are vital for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Democratic governance provides the essential "enabling environment" for poverty eradication and inclusive growth. Strong local government institutions ensure equitable representation and sustained developmental progress. Successful participatory governance models in Indian states like Kerala and West Bengal have attracted global attention, demonstrating the potential of local governance. Recent calls for good governance underscore its role as a catalyst for development. Democracy thrives when it is rooted in grassroots initiatives, and empowered participatory and deliberative governance, often referred to as "Direct Democracy," is essential for community rights. Sound local governance practices form the foundation for equitable and sustainable development, with active community participation playing a crucial role in promoting good governance.

### DHAN's Contribution to Grassroots Democracy and Panchayat Development

The DHAN (Development of Humane Action) Foundation has been enabling community-level self-governance for over two decades. Established on October





2, 1997, DHAN is a national-level professional development organization currently working with approximately 30 lakh low-income families across 16 states in India. DHAN has demonstrated impactful community-driven, self-sustainable development in areas such as water management, women's empowerment, community banking, and civil society organization building. Through various interventions, DHAN has facilitated over 5 lakh families in overcoming poverty and achieving economic self-sufficiency.

### **Community Swaraj: DHAN's Vision for Sustainable Development**

DHAN believes that "Community Swaraj" is fundamental to sustainable development. This concept revolves around mentoring democratic, self-governed people's institutions that operate on universal ethics and values to enhance the quality of life and expand choices for the underprivileged. DHAN pioneers institution-building for poverty alleviation through people-centric governance and management, ensuring that marginalized communities have the freedom to determine their paths to development. DHAN regards Poverty

Reduction and Grassroots Democracy as the twin pillars of development. It has supported the establishment of over 250 self-managed democratic community-based organizations across various states and thematic areas. These institutions manage a financial portfolio exceeding Rs. 2000 crore through member savings, bank loans, and livelihood initiatives.

### **Working with Panchayats**

Leveraging its extensive experience, DHAN initiated the "Working with Panchayats" in 2003 to strengthen grassroots democracy as a means to combat poverty. Local democracy and good governance profoundly impact the development process, with true democracy emerging from grassroots movements. Empowered participatory and deliberative governance is a fundamental community right and the cornerstone of equitable development. Recognizing the critical role of local governance, DHAN initiated the Panchayat Theme to facilitate deeper community engagement in Panchayat affairs, ensuring that institutions representing the poor and marginalized play an active role in governance.

## **DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation (DPDF)**

The DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation (DPDF), also known as Sangamam, is a subsidiary of DHAN Foundation established to scale up grassroots governance initiatives and promote self-sustaining village development. Currently, DPDF works with over 100 Village Panchayats across five states, advancing direct democracy and good governance through Panchayat Raj Institutions.

### **DPDF's Primary Objectives**

- Strengthening Direct Democracy and Good Governance through Panchayat Raj Institutions for poverty reduction.
- Establishing and Promoting Community Institutions, including Sangamam institutions at the hamlet level and collective institutions at the Panchayat level.
- Integrating Community-Level People's Institutions (such as Self-Help Groups, Farmers' Groups, and Youth Associations) with local governance to facilitate access to government entitlements.
- Fostering Community Leadership within Panchayat Raj Institutions to encourage political participation and representation.
- Synergizing Traditional Governance Systems with formal Panchayat institutions for cohesive and inclusive development.

Through these initiatives, DHAN and DPDF continue to empower rural communities, ensuring participatory governance and fostering sustainable development at the grassroots level.

### **DPDF Evolution and Working Models**

#### **Evolution of DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation:**

The evolution of the Panchayat Programme within the DHAN Foundation has been a remarkable journey, driven by the vision of promoting grassroots governance and sustainable development. Over the years, this initiative has grown in scope and impact, demonstrating the potential of local institutions and Panchayats in catalyzing synergistic development processes. The Development and Participatory Panchayat Foundation (DPDF) has played a pivotal role in advancing these goals through strategic planning and implementation.

This document chronicles the key phases of this evolution and outlines the strategic framework that underpins DPDF's transformative journey.

**Phase 1: Inception and Experimentation (1997 - 2003)** The roots of the Panchayat Programme can be traced back to the successful collaboration between local farmer associations and Village Panchayats in the tank rehabilitation work in Puseri village, Ramnad District, in 1997. Recognizing the potential for convergence between local people's institutions and Panchayats, DHAN Foundation initiated discussions and established a think tank to shape the programme's direction. This led to the launch of the "Working with Panchayats" programme during the Madurai Symposium in 2003.

**Phase 2: Expansion and Disaster Preparedness (2003 - 2005)** Building on the initial success, the programme expanded its reach by piloting projects in Batlagundu, Kadamalai, and Alanganallur, focusing on three blocks and five Village Panchayats in each. The significance of Panchayats in disaster preparedness and rehabilitation was highlighted in Coastal regions, particularly in Cuddalore and Nagapattinam, as part of the Post-Tsunami Rehabilitation programme in 2005.

**Phase 3: Strengthening Capacity and Research (2006 - 2012):** During this phase, the Panchayat Programme established C – PAD (Center for Panchayats Development and Advancing Democracy) as a dedicated center to provide extensive capacity-building, research collaborations with institutions like RGNIID and NIRD, and the launch of distance education initiatives. Notably, research projects and training with the support of Tamil Nadu Rural Development Department and DHAN People Academy enriched the understanding of Panchayat systems.

**Phase 4: Widening Horizons and Grassroots Movement (2009 - 2015)** Expanding its footprint, the programme engaged with select wards of Madurai Corporation and launched the Panchayat Movement, aiming to foster a people's movement by connecting Panchayat presidents. The "Panchayat Thoodhu" newsletter became a valuable platform for sharing knowledge on democracy and Panchayat systems. The programme received financial backing from the European Union to work with women-led Village Panchayats in Tamil Nadu, leading to an expansion to 660 Village Panchayats.

**Phase 5: National Expansion and Collaborations (2015 - 2020)** With support from the United Nations Democracy Fund, the Panchayat Programme extended its reach to other states, including PESA areas, focusing on citizen rights and participation within the Panchayat system. Collaborative efforts with organizations like Hunger Project addressed voter awareness and responsible elections. This phase also saw the establishment of an exclusive institution dedicated to Panchayat Development.

**Phase 6: Governance and Sustainability (2020 - Present)** The most recent phase centers on governance, development, and the creation of Village Sangamam and Sangamam collectives, enabling holistic progress within Panchayats. This approach not only nurtures self-sustainable Panchayats but also establishes them as models for others to emulate.

DPDF emerged from the DHAN Foundation's scale-up efforts, aiming to advance direct democracy and good governance via Panchayat Raj Institutions. Presently operating across 75 Panchayats in various districts, the initiative strives to create pioneering Panchayats. DPDF's primary objectives encompass:

- Advancing Direct Democracy and Good Governance for Poverty Reduction through Panchayat Raj Institutions.
- Integrating Community-Level People Institutions (SHGs, Farmers Groups, Youth Associations, etc.) with local governance for leverage and access to entitlements.
- Fostering the emergence of community leaders within PRI for political involvement.
- Synergizing traditional governance systems with formal Panchayat institutions for cohesive development.

## DPDF Working Models

### 1. Saturating the Panchayats through DHAN Collectives

This model focuses on embedding DHAN Collectives—community-driven organizations—within Panchayats to ensure widespread participation and empowerment at the grassroots level. These collectives operate across various sectors such as agriculture, women's empowerment, and rural development, forming a robust support system within Panchayats. The goal is to engage a

wide range of community members, particularly marginalized groups, ensuring that all voices are heard and that Panchayats function as true hubs of democratic governance. By integrating DHAN Collectives into Panchayats, the model creates a network of strong, community-led institutions that collaborate to address local challenges.

#### Activities:

- **DHAN Collectives Saturation in Panchayats:** Establishing a widespread presence of DHAN Collectives within Panchayats to ensure active community engagement in local governance and development.
- **Kalanjiam (Self-Help Groups):** Creating and supporting Self-Help Groups, particularly women-led, within Panchayats to empower women economically, socially, and politically. These groups provide tools for participation in decision-making processes, access to financial resources, and mutual support in development efforts.
- **Vayalagam (Farmers' Associations):** Facilitating the creation of farmer groups to improve agricultural productivity, manage natural resources like water and land, and promote sustainable farming practices. These groups advocate for agricultural policies and provide a strong voice for rural development.
- **Small Millets Foundation (SMF):** Promoting the cultivation and consumption of small millets to enhance nutrition and support sustainable agriculture. SMF offers consultancy on small millet production, processing, setting up millet food enterprises, and campaigns for promoting consumption of small millets.
- **Rainfed Farming Development Programme (RFDP):** Building the capacity of farmers in rainfed farming technologies, leadership development, and fostering a positive attitude towards rainfed farming. RFDP creates access to savings and credit services for farmers through their groups.
- **Coastal Conservation and Livelihood Programme (CALL):** Following an integrated and holistic approach to address issues in livelihoods and conservation of coastal ecosystems. CALL focuses on restoring livelihoods in coastal areas, promoting sustainable practices, and conserving coastal biodiversity.

## 2. Partnership with Panchayat

This model involves collaborating with Panchayats to enhance local governance. Panchayats serve as the foundation for grassroots democracy, and through this partnership, DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation strengthens these institutions. The focus is on enabling Panchayats to efficiently manage resources, implement development programs, and tackle community-specific issues. These partnerships are designed to elevate the capabilities of Panchayats, making them more responsive, accountable, and sustainable, which in turn fosters long-term local development.

### Activities:

- **Thematic Panchayats – on Health, Water, Insurance, etc.:** Working with Panchayats to focus on specific thematic areas such as health, water, insurance, and other essential services. Thematic Panchayats facilitate targeted interventions, where Panchayats take the lead in improving sectoral services like healthcare access, water supply, and insurance coverage, helping communities achieve improved outcomes.
- **Experimental Panchayats:** Exploring innovative approaches to Panchayat governance and development through pilot projects that test new methods, technologies, or governance models, which can then be scaled up based on success.
- **Governance of the Panchayat:** Strengthening the overall governance framework within Panchayats by improving transparency, accountability, and efficiency in decision-making. This includes creating systems to ensure that Panchayats are effectively managing resources, implementing programs, and addressing the needs of the community.
- **Working with Weaker Sections (Landless, Women, Adivasis, Dalits, Gender Minorities, Disabled):** Ensuring that marginalized and vulnerable groups are included in the decision-making process. This activity aims to eliminate discrimination and promote social inclusion within Panchayats by engaging landless individuals, women, Adivasis, Dalits, gender minorities, and people with disabilities.
- **Implementing Democratic Tools – Gram Sabha, Social Audit, Balar Panchayat, RTI, Legal Aid Centres:** Encouraging Panchayats to

use democratic tools and mechanisms such as Gram Sabha (village assembly), social audits, Balar Panchayat (children's Panchayat), Right to Information (RTI), and legal aid centers. These tools promote transparency, accountability, and participatory governance, ensuring that Panchayats remain responsive to the needs of all community members.

- **Tripartite Agreement – DHAN, Community, Panchayat:** Establishing a formal agreement between DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation, the local community, and the Panchayat to define roles and responsibilities, ensure mutual cooperation, and create a framework for collaborative development efforts.

## 3. Transforming Panchayats through Consultancy

This model includes providing consultancy services to Panchayats to improve their governance and operational effectiveness. Through consultancy, Panchayats receive expert advice on areas such as policy formation, resource management, and community engagement. This service enhances the Panchayats' capacity to make informed decisions and implement innovative solutions. Consultancy may also include training and capacity-building initiatives aimed at improving the technical, financial, and managerial skills of Panchayat representatives. By equipping Panchayats with the tools and knowledge to manage their responsibilities effectively, the model helps create more self-reliant and efficient local governments.

### Activities:

- **Enabling Panchayat Presidents, Ward Members, Working Committees:** This activity provides training and support to Panchayat leaders, including Panchayat Presidents, Ward Members, and Working Committees. The goal is to equip them with the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively manage Panchayat operations and represent the community in decision-making.
- **Expanding Panchayat's Financial Base:** This activity focuses on enhancing the financial sustainability of Panchayats by identifying new revenue sources, improving resource mobilization strategies, and ensuring financial management practices are in place to support long-term development.

- **Holistic Development:** Holistic development involves addressing the full spectrum of community needs—economic, social, and environmental. This activity ensures that Panchayats are working on a broad range of development goals, from infrastructure improvements to health, education, and environmental sustainability.
- **Sustainability:** This activity focuses on ensuring that Panchayats can continue to operate and provide services effectively in the long term. Sustainability strategies may include strengthening financial mechanisms, improving governance structures, and ensuring that the community is actively involved in decision-making and implementation.
- **Vibrant Panchayat Network:** This activity seeks to build a network of active, engaged Panchayats that can share knowledge, collaborate, and support one another. The goal is to foster a culture of cooperation and exchange of best practices among Panchayats, strengthening their capacity to manage local governance effectively.

## Integrated Village Development

### Partnerships with State Bank of India Foundation's Gram Seva Project and Karur Vysya Bank's ASPIRE Project

1. **SBIF Gram Seva Project in Kariapatti and Yadgir:** Under the SBIF Gram Seva Project, DHAN has partnered with the SBIF (Sustainable Banking and Infrastructure Foundation) to implement integrated development programs in the villages of Kariapatti (in Tamil Nadu) and Yadgir (in Karnataka). The focus of this partnership is to empower communities through sustainable agricultural practices, financial inclusion, health, and education. The project emphasizes building local capacities and strengthening community institutions to ensure that development is inclusive and long-lasting.
2. **Karur Vysya Bank's ASPIRE Project in Tiruchuli:** In collaboration with Karur Vysya Bank, DHAN has implemented the ASPIRE Project (Access to Sustainable, Productive, and Inclusive Resources for Empowerment) in the village of Tiruchuli (in Tamil Nadu). The ASPIRE project

focuses on enhancing the economic and social well-being of rural communities, with a special emphasis on improving financial inclusion and entrepreneurship. Through this initiative, DHAN aims to uplift marginalized communities by addressing key barriers such as lack of access to financial services, inadequate infrastructure, and poor market linkages.

### Key Activities under the Integrated village development projects:

#### 1. Digitalization

**Community Information Centre/ Gram Seva Kendras:** The objective of these centres is to facilitate and provide various online services like schemes and facilities from the government, job openings, banking services, etc. to the rural communities. This initiative acts as the nodal point for all the essential services related to Community Development. Furthermore, it helps in improving the access to Information and Communications Technology (ICT), a knowledge-sharing platform for various livelihood interventions, promoting youth development through the introduction of various e-Learning and e-Education platforms to stay connected with the latest technological advancements.

#### 2. Education

**Digital Class Rooms:** Through this initiative, students from rural communities will be provided with Smart Learning Technologies & Online Resources. Digital classrooms are painted with educative information and equipped with necessary technology like Projector, Screens, and Audio Devices to enhance the learning experience.

**Computer Labs in schools:** Access to computer technology is imperative for students, in the digital era, hence computer labs are being set up in adopted villages. Students are taught basic computer skills like typing, painting, advanced usage of Word, etc.

**Scholarships:** Scholarships are given out to students based on their talents and achievements in domain-based activities like sports, education, cultural activities, etc.

**Remedial Classes:** To improve the quality of education, and create an enabling ecosystem for students remedial classes are carried out through innovative and joyous learning activities.

**Library & Science Labs:** To inculcate reading habits and innovative thinking in children, Library & Science Labs are set up in our adopted villages.

### 3. Health

**Health Camps:** To provide health services to rural communities & have an early detection mechanism for serious illnesses, health camps are organized in partnership with Government Hospitals, Health Centers and Medical Colleges with a focus on eye check-up camps, gynaecological tests, cancer screening, blood check-ups, etc.

**Upgradation of Health Centre:** Under this initiative, medical equipment, and essential furnishings like additional beds are installed in the Health Centres. Renovation facilities are also provided.

### 4. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

**Safe Drinking Water:** Access to safe drinking water remains one of the most pressing issues for rural communities. RO plants and stand posts are installed in adopted villages, through which communities get access to clean and safe drinking water.

**Community Toilets:** Through our concentrated efforts toward community hygiene and sanitation, toilets and community bathrooms are constructed to provide sanitation facilities in rural communities.

**Waste Management:** Mismanagement of waste can have adverse and far-reaching consequences on the ecosystem. Hence, apart from launching a waste segregation mechanism, the program also prioritises behavioural change in order to bring long-lasting and sustainable change. Regular meetings are held in the community along with the cleanliness drives, to encourage communities to segregate waste and use it as manure for household kitchen gardening or farming. Soak pits, pot cleaning platforms biogas plants, vermicompost pits, and dustbins are installed in our adopted villages.

### 5. Livelihood & Skill Development

**Entrepreneurship Development:** Rural youth are supported to set up enterprises like mobile, tailoring, dairy, and xerox shops, etc. & other essential services to make villages self-reliant.

**Resilient Agriculture:** Resilient Agricultural practices are promoted to increase productivity

and build sustainability and farmers are supported with a package of practices like farming systems for crop diversification, organic farming, horticulture, nurseries, vermicomposting, and micro-irrigation sowing, seed treatment, proper utilization of farm manure, and much more.

**Skill Development:** Unemployed Youth, SHG Members and PwDs are trained through SBI Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) and Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVICs) in the locality. Additionally, the introduction of Sustainable Agricultural Practices is done by training farmers in Vermi- Composting, Nurseries, Horticulture, etc. through Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Agri-Horti-Forestry resource persons. Communities are provided with skill development training in various courses like mobile repairing, piggery rearing, bamboo craft making, papad preparing, mushroom cultivation, beauty parlour training, tailoring, vermicomposting, motor pump repairing, etc.

**Livestock Development:** Women & unemployed youth are supported to take up supplementary income generation activities through Dairy Farming, Piggery, Goatary, Poultry, Fisheries, etc. in group models. Additionally, SBI RSETI has trained members to support and provide a plethora of practices including health care services, and animal health camps such as vaccination and deworming services by collaborating with the Animal Husbandry Department.

**Farm Mechanization:** Custom Hiring Centers are set up in the adopted villages with the objective to reduce farm drudgery and improving agricultural yield. Agricultural equipment like Spray Machines, Rotary Tiller, Drum Seeders, Brush Woodcutters, Seed Graders, and Cono Weeders also support Farmer's User Groups as per the need of the community.

### 6. Women Empowerment

As a program, we believe in empowering through enabling, and we promote this idea by organizing women empowerment initiatives like training sessions and camps on women's rights, maternal care, menstrual hygiene, livelihood activities, and drudgery reduction. SHGs are formed in our adopted villages for need-based revolving fund support, which is also extended to livelihood activities such as tailoring, weaving, incense stick

making, etc. Rural women are trained through our SBI Prerna Centers which have been established to facilitate entrepreneurial activities by ultimately creating a platform for the inclusion of women in all development activities.

## 7. Youth Development

An integrated youth development program is designed to provide a coherent and collaborative direction to achieve the ultimate goal of leaving 'no youths behind'. Many interventions like support for Livelihood & Skill Development through RSETI training, and support for units of piggeries, goatery, poultry, etc. are carried out. Additionally, Prerana Stitching Centers, scholarship initiatives, opportunities to participate in Volunteering activities, access to employment opportunities, yoga classes, and sports activities are also undertaken under the SBI Gram Seva program.

## 8. Infrastructure

**Solar Electrification:** Solar-powered electricity is provided in government schools, Integrated Child Development Centers, Health Centers, and other community buildings. Solar panels, lamps & led bulbs are installed in subsidised models for households having little to no access to electricity. Additionally, solar street lights are also installed in collaboration with the Gram Panchayat, on a need basis.

## 9. Rural Infrastructure

Community infrastructure is repaired, renovated & developed as per the needs of the rural communities. This includes Community Buildings, School Buildings, Integrated Child Development Centres, Community Toilets & Bathrooms, Health Centres, Public Buildings, Sports Grounds, Village Entrance Gates, and common meeting areas of the village. Additionally, bus stands, hospitals, connecting roads, and schools are also repaired and renovated to improve basic rural infrastructure & enhance access to facilities in our adopted villages.

## 10. Environment

**Water Conservation:** Through our water initiatives, we promote building 'Dohas', which essentially is an eco-friendly water-impounding structure built in a stream, which is a cost-effective method of storing water. Additionally, wells are repaired, and ponds, check dams, contour trenches and rainwater harvesting tanks are constructed.

**Social Forestry:** Through this initiative, trees of local species are planted in community pasturelands, barren lands, local forest areas, schools, and community premises of our adopted villages. Individual households of farmers are also provided with flower saplings on a need basis and viability. All the activities are implemented in collaboration with local Krishi Vigyan Kendra/Agro-Horti-forestry departments to increase green coverage

### DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation - DASH Board as on March 2024

| Reach                        | Tamil Nadu | Telangana | Karnataka | Overall  |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| No of working Panchayats     | 70         | 20        | 11        | 101      |
| Population                   | 2,59,511   | 39,564    | 59,472    | 3,58,547 |
| No of Hamlets                | 332        | 27        | 122       | 481      |
| No of Households             | 66,035     | 6,891     | 14,868    | 87,794   |
| No of Village Sangamam       | 67         | 3         | 13        | 83       |
| No of Sangamam Collective    | 7          |           |           | 7        |
| No of DHAN Collective Groups | 1,074      | 682       | 146       | 1,902    |
| No of members                | 15,952     | 8,261     | 2,491     | 26,704   |

# DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation

## Annual Report 2023-24

### 1. BACKGROUND

“The best, quickest and most efficient way is to build up from the bottom...

Every village has to become a self-sufficient republic.

This does not require brave resolutions.

It requires brave, corporate, intelligent work...”

- Mahatma Gandhi



UNDP and other international organizations have mapped out that, improved local governance and decentralization is directly linked to SDGs achievement. Democratic governance is central to the achievement of the SDGs, as it provides the 'enabling environment' for the realization of the SDGs and, in particular, the elimination of poverty. The concept of “Inclusive Growth” will not be achieved without ensuring free and fair local government institutions. Being the democracy and governance as crosscutting theme, it has high significance in triggering and sustaining development processes.

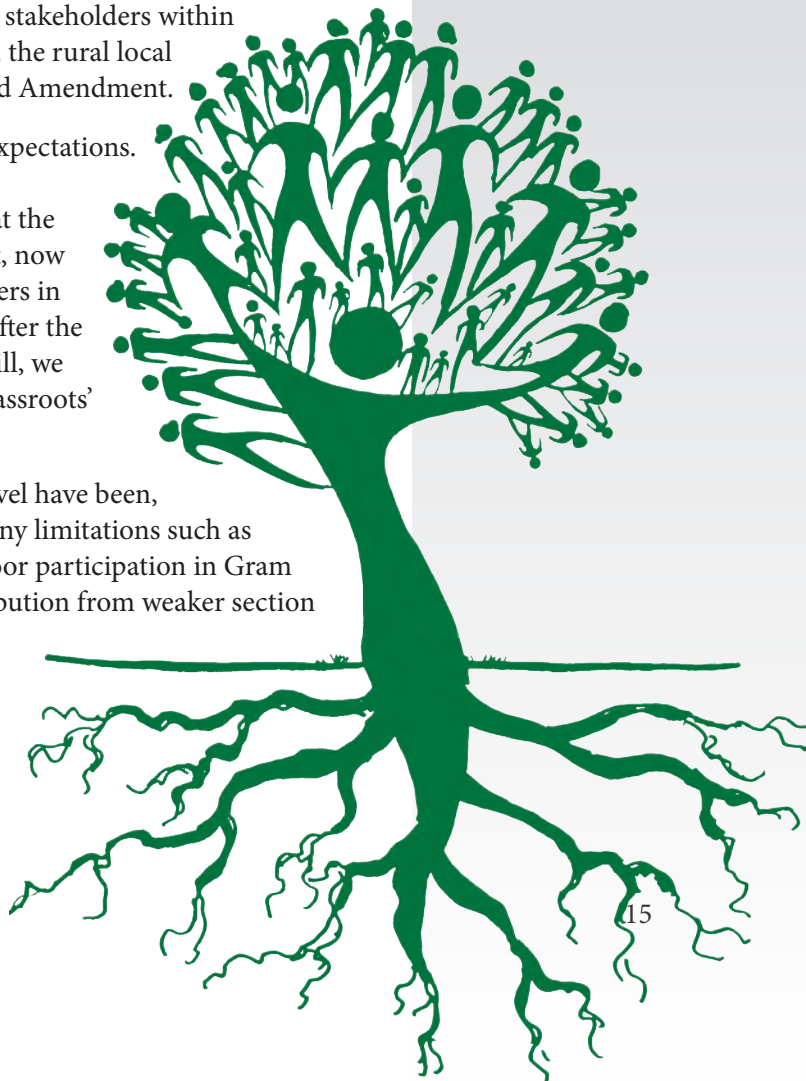
Gandhiji, father of our nation, was insisting the importance of local self-government throughout his life. But after independence, the concept of Panchayat raj institution (PRI) was given very less importance in the constitution. The key argument in Gandhi's ideology is that the local government should be at the centre of the Indian state and Indian society as a whole. Panchayats were democratic means of involving people in decision making, using local resources and talent to manage all affairs of the society. Panchayats were least dependent on external agencies. Good governance requires that institutions and processes try to serve all stakeholders within a reasonable timeframe. After a long struggle, in 1992, the rural local self-government was constitutionally approved by 73rd Amendment.

The 73rd constitutional amendment generated great expectations. It was considered as radical in nature, for it promised institutionalization of a third stratum of government at the local level. As the result of 73rd and 74th Amendment, now we have about 3.5 lakhs representatives as people leaders in grassroots' institutions. Almost 29 years have passed after the 73rd Amendment, but the challenges remain same. Still, we have several grey areas to be addressed in ensuring grassroots' democracy.

Establishing institutions of self-government at state level have been, indeed far reaching. Present Panchayat system has many limitations such as lack of democratic practices in the field operations, poor participation in Gram Saba and other people's forum, poor status and contribution from weaker section and lack of self-sufficient mechanisms.

### 2. DHAN'S INITIATIVE

Grassroots Democracy and Good governance have direct impact over development. The democracy has more meaning when it built from grassroots. The



concept of 'Direct democracy' through empowered participatory & deliberative governance is treated to be the basic right to the community. Good governance through direct democratic practices is seen as the foundation for sustained and equitable development.

DHAN which builds themes around people institutions for poverty reduction and sustainable development in a sub-sectorial perspective, found local governance as a critical area to enable community and mainstream development initiatives. In order to build community centric Panchayat system and to strengthen the grassroots democracy, DHAN Foundation launched the panchayat programme as a thematic programme during the year 2003.

The poor and weaker sections at grassroots level in the form of people institutions are to be enabled for actively participating in the panchayat affairs. In an experiment basis, panchayat theme was started in 25 panchayats of seven blocks in five districts. During the experimentation phase various initiatives were taken towards introducing and practicing democratic practices, capacity building initiatives and integrating the people institutions with the panchayat institutions.

And in scaleup process, DHAN Foundation formed DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation as its Subsidiary thematic Institution.

DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation (DPDF) envisions, "To catalyse a paradigm, shift towards direct democracy and inclusive governance for promoting empowered development & nested people institutions with ethical, equitable and self-sustainable societies at the Village Panchayats".

- DPDF will find its fulfilment through self-governed Panchayat institutions for integrated development.
- DPDF will be known for transforming its grassroots practices to influence policies at multiple level related to good governance.
- DPDF will be recognized as a sectoral leader in direct democracy.
- DPDF will be acclaimed as an institution of excellence in promoting specialized HR for local self-government & nested people institutions.



### **The Mission of DPDF is:**

DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation (DPDF) working for, "Fostering direct democracy inclusive, and good governance through building people and Sangamam institutions at the Village Panchayats, with value driven democratic process to enable poor for Poverty eradication, Water and Nutrition security and Ecologically balanced development".

### **The main aims are**

- To Advance Direct Democracy and Good Governance for Poverty Reduction through Panchayat Raj Institutions
- To Integrate Community Level People Institutions (SHGs, Farmers Groups, Youth Association, etc.,) with local governance system for leverage and access entitlements
- To Create Space in PRI for graduation of Community leaders in political sphere
- To link traditional governance systems with formal Panchayat institutions for synergy

## **3. OBJECTIVES OF DHAN PANCHAYAT DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION:**

### **3.1 To create strong and energetic people institutions in panchayat**

Organizing the people at Panchayat level directly and through the existing DHAN collective people institutions, enabling them to actively participate in the panchayat systems. Promoting functional groups and village level groups called as 'Sangamam' groups at hamlet level and Sangamam gulumam is being followed for organizing the people. Creating awareness among the people institution and

train them to actively involve in the Gram Sabha meetings.

### **3.2 To generate Democratic practices in Panchayat activities**

The good democratic practices shape the panchayat level institution to good governance. The true democratic practices pave the way for the citizen to get space and good environment for actively taking part in the panchayat affairs.

### **3.3 To do special focus on welfare activities for poor**

Generally, in all development initiatives, most of the real poor are excluded. But in the case of panchayat, as a small unit, special attention must be given for the development of the poorest of the poor. The entitlements of the poor must be attained by them through the conscious efforts of panchayats.

### **3.4. To empower women and weaker section to take part in panchayat administration:**

Though serious policy steps taken at macro level to empower the women and weaker section, the significant changes are not happened at panchayat level. Panchayat, as grass root level unit, will give due importance for empowering the women and weaker section by way of awareness creation, active participation in Grama Sabhas, grooming them to participate in the election, to enable them to take lead role at Panchayats.

### **3.5 To groom highly efficient and honest panchayat representatives:**

The decentralized panchayat systems pave the way for huge numbers of elected leadership at panchayat institutions. They are combination of all categories. They need support to understand and aware about systems, need capacity to manage the panchayat efficiently, inculcating good practices for honest and transparent administration. So, creating good environment for grooming the elected leadership as efficient and honest leadership is very much needed.

### **3.6 To do need based development works with efficient:**

Undertaking various development works at panchayat level, for ensuring the basic facilities to the community, is one of the major roles for village panchayats. This will be ensured by way of orienting

the council to go for proper micro planning, resource mobilization mechanisms and effective implementation strategy.

### **3.7 To make self-sustain Panchayat:**

Panchayat, as implementing body at village level, needs enough resources to undertake various development initiatives to ensure the facilities for the village community. But in most of the panchayats, they have less funds and highly depending only the state for funding. The panchayats must be enabled to take steps for generating own resources through various mechanisms. The panchayat must reach the self-sustaining stage over a period of time.

### **3.8 To integrate existing panchayat system with traditional village development forum:**

Each village has a system of traditional forum in addition to the formal institution of panchayat to look after all the village affairs including judicial aspects. These traditional forums are very strong in many places and provide real governance at hamlet level. The formal and traditional village institutions are to be operated in an integrative way to gain strength at village level. This will provide good environment to speed up the development process at village level.

## **4. Institution Building:**

### **4.1 DPDF People Institution model:**

**Design of Institution building: Nested structure for enabling democracy:**

- 1) **Primary structure:** Groups for Democratic Governance.  
It consists of Functional groups (women groups, farmers groups, youth groups and other purpose-based groups) at hamlet level. These groups will undergo organized educative programme on democratic governance and will be quality checked for integration.
- 2) **Village Sangamam** – Association for hamlet level Inclusive Democracy  
It is hamlet level structure. It includes all households as a member. It will act as hamlet level governance development forum. It will have executive committee for its day-to-day operations.

- 3) **Sangamam Collective** – Association for panchayat level Inclusive Democracy  
It is panchayat level structure. It includes all hamlet level village Sangamam of concerned panchayats. It will act as panchayat level governance development forum. Being the village Panchayat is separate and independent governance unit, this Sangamam collective will work in shadow and complementary with village Panchayat governance. This will be having executive committee for its day-to-day operations. This Sangamam collective

will go for registration as trust or any other institutional model.

- 4) **Sangamam Network structure:** - Network of panchayats at block level for Inclusive Democracy

This network will be coordinated by DPDE. All Sangamam collective will be the members in the Sangamam Network. All selected panchayats and DHAN collective panchayats at block level will be encouraged to become part of Sangamam at block level and in future



#### 4.2 Reach: Working with panchayats: Sangamam initiatives - (Annexure No. 1)

| State      | Mar 2023 | Apr 2023 to March 2024 | Total | Withdrawn panchayat | As on March 2024 | Programme yet to start |
|------------|----------|------------------------|-------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Tamil Nadu | 57       | 27                     | 84    | *14                 | 70               | 24                     |
| Telangana  | 20       | 0                      | 20    |                     | 20               | 2                      |
| Karnataka  | 11       | 0                      | 11    |                     | 11               | 2                      |
|            | 88       | 27                     | 115   | 14                  | 101              | 30                     |

\*Financial constraint reason - Theni region -2 Nagapatnam region – 3 and Kanchipuram region – 2, Vellore region – 5

| State     | Mar 2023 | Apr 2023 to March 2024 | Total | Withdrawn panchayat | As on March 2024 | Programme yet to start |
|-----------|----------|------------------------|-------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| TN        | 70       | 2,59,511               | 332   | 66,035              | 1,074            | 15,952                 |
| Telangana | 20       | 39,564                 | 27    | 6,891               | 682              | 8,261                  |
| Karnataka | 11       | 59,472                 | 146   | 14,868              | 146              | 2,491                  |
| Overall   | 101      | 3,58,547               | 505   | 87,794              | 1,902            | 26,704                 |

\* Changes of panchayat with in the location. Pambar - VF kottampatti -1

\* no cooperation from Panchayat and no groups in gundar lower -1

## Annexure - 2

As on March, DPDF is working with 88 panchayats and this year 27 panchayats are added in Tamil Nadu. But at the same time, though the following selected locations got training from DPDF, due to non-availability of staff with Kanchi region (6) Tuticorin, (4) Madurai (4) and Dindigul (9). Overall, as on November DPDF reached 101 working panchayats. and 23 panchayats will be initiated the Sangamam works in the next year. cluster associates of concern panchayats got trained. it has to be initiated in next year with the 505 hamlets and 87,794 households. with that our DHAN collective members are 26,704.

### 4.3 Reach in Functional groups: As on March 2024

| Programme           |           |                   | TN     | Karnataka | Telangana | Total  |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| As on 30th November | Kalanjiam | Groups            | 944    | 146       | 66        | 1156   |
|                     |           | Members           | 13,622 | 2,491     | 890       | 17,003 |
|                     | Vayalagam | Groups            | 157    | 0         | 616       | 773    |
|                     |           | Members           | 2,977  | 0         | 7,371     | 10,348 |
|                     | Rainfed   | Groups            | 66     | 0         | 34        | 100    |
|                     |           | Members           | 890    | 0         | 371       | 1,261  |
|                     | Health    | Youth group       | 7      |           |           | 7      |
|                     |           | Group members     | 130    |           |           | 130    |
|                     |           | Adolescent groups | 113    |           |           | 113    |
|                     |           | Members           | 1,372  |           |           | 1,372  |

### 4.4 Reach in Sangamam block level network for village presidents:

#### Formation of Block-Level Village Presidents Network: Kadamalai-Mayiladumparai Block

The inauguration of the Block-Level Network took place at Mayiladumparai for the Union Presidents of Kadamalai-Mayiladumparai on 15.09.2023, Out of the 18 Presidents, 10 actively participated in the event. Mrs. Chitra, the Chairman of Panchayat Union Mayiladumparai, graced the occasion as the chief guest with the participation of Mrs. Vidhya, RC, Theni region, Mr. Prahalathan, DPPDF, Mr. Kesavarajan, Federation Coordinator, and Mr. Selvaraj, PO, DPDF.

The office bearers for the network were selected during the event: Mrs. Rajathi, President of Ettapparajapuram Panchayat, was chosen as the President of the Network. Mrs. Ramuthai Raja of Ettapparajapuram Panchayat was appointed as the Secretary. Mr. Subramanian, President of Mandisunai Moolakadai Panchayat, was selected as the Treasurer.

#### Key Points from the Sangamam Network of Kadamalai-Mayiladumparai Block:

#### Important points discussed in the network meetings include:

- DHAN Foundation brings valuable experience to the initiation of network building.

- People's support is crucial for the development of the panchayat.
- The collaboration with DHAN Foundation can aid in formulating people's plans for the panchayat.
- Key activities at the panchayat level involve providing drinking water facilities, digitizing schools, evicting encroachments, and focusing on socially disadvantaged communities.
- The Block-Level Network can serve as a platform for initiating policies.

#### **Action Points for DPDF:**

To further the objectives of the network, DPDF plans to:

- Conduct network meetings every three months.
- Prepare people's plans in all 18 panchayats.
- Form groups to assist left-out families.
- Organize policy-level meetings.
- Create a WhatsApp group among the presidents.
- Ensure the representation of DHAN staff in Grama Sabha meetings.

These suggested activities aim to enhance the collaborative efforts and effectiveness of the Block-Level Village Presidents Network in Kadamalai - Mayiladumparai.

#### **4.5 Advancing Centre for Enabling Governance – (ACE Governance):**

Advance center for Enabling Governance, this institution is initiated on April 2023 Initiation of ACE governance with the vision of, Promote People-centric governance in institutions with value-driven, democratic, & efficient processes for enabling sustainable development. Facilitate building, sharing and disseminating of knowledge on field practices on panchayat governance in particular across the field practitioners and other stakeholders and supporting the village panchayat for self-sufficiency measures.

#### **Focus areas:**

The core activities of ACE Governance would include knowledge building through research & development, capacity building through training and education, policy advocacy and networking among practitioners and Panchayat representatives. The Centre would focus on tribal. Coastal, rural and

urban context. The details of the activities are;

#### **The major objectives are**

1. Shape and guide the panchayat representatives in India through action research, reflective practices, policy advocacy and building the capacity of practitioners.
2. Collaborate with various stakeholders to advance the knowledge and field practices on panchayat raj systems
3. Establishing networks for Panchayat representatives to enhance their ASK related to PRI.
4. Catering for the needs of practitioners in PRI – techno legal services
5. Experimenting & disseminating the best practices for Sectoral contribution
6. Shape and guide the panchayat representatives and nurture leadership among panchayats representatives.

#### **4.6 Sangamam Orientation to Sangamam leaders:**

##### **4.6.1 Sangamam Collective inauguration in Rarapuram panchayat**

Sangamams programme launching was conducted on 2nd November 2023 in Rarapuram panchayat of Thirumayam block in which 50 members from the villages and panchayat presidents, 3 ward members, SHG members Vayalagam staff and RFDP staff and Region Coordinator participated. There are 300 households with three villages. totally 97 members are in 7 AFGs.

In this meeting, orientation on Genesis of DPDF program, advancement of program, Sangamams and Sangamams kulumam formation and registration of the panchayat process were shared during this meeting. Need assessment was done in this meeting. the community expressed the need of marriage hall, renovation of tanks, renovation of Oorani, greening of panchayats, action against the damage to crops by the wild animals are the demand of the Rarapuram panchayat.

##### **4.6.2. Sangamam meeting in Kalappur panchayat**

Sangamam meeting was conducted in Kalappur on 22.11. 2023 60 members of kalanjiam, Vayalagam and Sangamam leaders participated. Panchayat president of Kalappur village also participated in the meeting. Mr Sudhakar integrator of Singampunari Vayalagam federation highlighted the work executed

in the village. 405 Families of the village are covered under DHAN collective. Financial assistant of Rs 1.76 crore was mobilized from the bank. The action points for the meeting is Kalanjiam women members are to be included in the executive committee of the Sangamam. Need assessment was done in this meeting, the community expressed the need of Tailoring centre and computer centre. All kalanjiam members are to be given orientation in the kalanjiam meeting itself. Steps are to be taken for registration of the Sangamam.

#### 4.6.3. Sangamam orientation meeting in Manickampatty Panchayat of Alanganallur block

A meeting was conducted in Manickampatty on 27th 11 2023 to import the aspect of Sangamam for the people. In this meeting Sangamam leader, Federation leaders, youth program staff and Sangamam staff are participated. School teachers were interacted for initiation of remedial School class in the villages.

Sangamam meeting was conducted at the premises of Panchayat and following are the decision taken in the meeting, The Manickampatty panchayat

contributed significantly in the sanitation works. It should be documented and make it as rule model panchayat in sanitation. Members have to be enrolled in Sangamams at the time of kalanjiam meeting. Fencing of nutritional garden of Ankanwadi centre is to be initiated with this support of the Federation.

#### 4.6.4. Registration of Sangamams collective

Sangamam Kulumam registration related document is completed. 2024- 2025 it will be registered.

#### 4.6.5 Sangamam note books printed for Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and Telangana design were sent to the Zonal coordinator

#### 4.6.6 Strengthening Sangamam Initiatives:

There are 53 members selected as hamlet level volunteers.

In Karnataka the much more focus is on saturating Kalanjiam in all villages and concept seeding process is going on for all the villages (27 Villages) and the promotion of Village Sangamam also started.

| S. No | Name of the Region / State | No of Panchayat | No of panchayats handled by Sangamam staff | No of panchayats handled cluster Associate | No staff  |
|-------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1     | Tamil Nadu                 | 70              | 47                                         | 10                                         | 13        |
| 2     | Tumkur                     | 4               |                                            | 4                                          |           |
| 3     | Ramanagaram                | 5               | 3                                          | 2                                          |           |
| 4     | Mysore                     | 2               |                                            | 2                                          |           |
| 5     | Telangana                  | 20              |                                            | 20                                         |           |
|       | <b>Total</b>               | <b>101</b>      | <b>50</b>                                  | <b>38</b>                                  | <b>13</b> |

| S. No | Name of the state | No of Panchayat | Handled by     |                   |
|-------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
|       |                   |                 | Sangamam staff | Cluster Associate |
| 1     | Tamilnadu         | 70              | 18             | 9                 |
| 2     | Karnataka         | 11              | 1              | 6                 |
| 3     | Telangana         | 20              |                | 20                |
|       | <b>Total</b>      | <b>110</b>      | <b>19</b>      | <b>35</b>         |

**4.10 Focuses on including our DHAN collective members in to Panchayat working committee There are 247 members in the committee and 103 members are in School management Committee.**

#### 4.11 Integrating all People Institutions with Panchayat system

It is planned to integrate 2029 groups having 28612 members with panchayat system. All the five office bearers of the group are engaged in training on the concept of Sangamam and process of promoting Sangamam and saturating functional groups in selected panchayats. (Annexure no-6)

|                              | Mar-'22 | Mar-23 | April 2023 - March 2024 | Total |
|------------------------------|---------|--------|-------------------------|-------|
| Tamil Nadu                   |         |        |                         |       |
| Village Sangamam             | 24      | 28     | 15                      | 67    |
| Sangamam Collective          | 4       | 2      | 1                       | 7     |
|                              | 28      | 30     | 16                      | 74    |
| Telangana V. S               |         | 0      | 3                       | 3     |
| Karnataka V. S               |         | 0      | 13                      | 13    |
| overall                      | 28      | 30     | 32                      | 90    |
| Over all bank account opened |         | 21     | 4                       | 25    |

15 village Sangamam and 1 Sangamam Kulamam (Collective) initiated and overall 74 institutions are promoted in Tamil Nadu. Over all 24 accounts are opened. over all 90 Institutions initiated.

Over all 3788 members are enrolled in Tamil Nadu 2,588 members has provided their entrance amount fee is Rs 2,29,254 and bylaw is evolved for Village Sangamam. Karnataka 13 village Sangamam and Telangana 3 Sangamam are initiated.

### Status of Village Sangamam Enrolment

According to Sangamam norms, every household in a Sangamam village is a member. Members are required to pay an annual entrance fee. (Annexure no 7)

Total Enrolled Members as of March 2024: 2,588. Total Enrolment Fee Collected: ₹2,29,254

**100% Enrollment with Members:** Villages: Pudupatty, Kanapadi, Madayagoundanpatty, and Malaipatty. Kanapadi Panchayat collected the entrance fee from all Kalanjiam members.

Enrolment and Fee Collection Over Time:

| Year          |              |               |          |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|----------|
| March 2023:   | 20 Sangamams | 1,304 members | 63,240   |
| December 2023 | 28 Sangamams | 2,013 members | 1,75,000 |
| March 2024    | 31 Sangamams | 2,588 members | 2,29,254 |

### Sangamam Collective Registration:

There are 7 sangamam collectives are plan to do registration. Four panchayats from single village and 4 villages are coming under Multi village panchayat. The training was given to all 8 panchayats sangamam collective office bearers.

#### a) Under Single Village Panchayat

| S. No | District   | Block          | Name of the Panchayat |
|-------|------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1     | Madurai    | Kottampatti    | Pandangudi            |
| 2     | Sivagangai | Singampunari   | Kalappur              |
| 3     | Theni      | Kadamalai      | Mayiladumparai        |
| 4     | Pudukottai | Ponnamaravathy | Sundaracholapuram     |

#### b) Under Multi village Panchayats

| S. No | District | Block        | Name of the Panchayat |
|-------|----------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1     | Madurai  | Alanganallur | Manikampatti          |
| 2     | Theni    | Bodi         | Ammapatty             |
| 3     | Dindigul | Shanarpatti  | Avilipatty            |
| 4     | Dindigul | Vadamadurai  | Kanapadi              |

#### 4.12 Strengthening and guiding Working Committees:

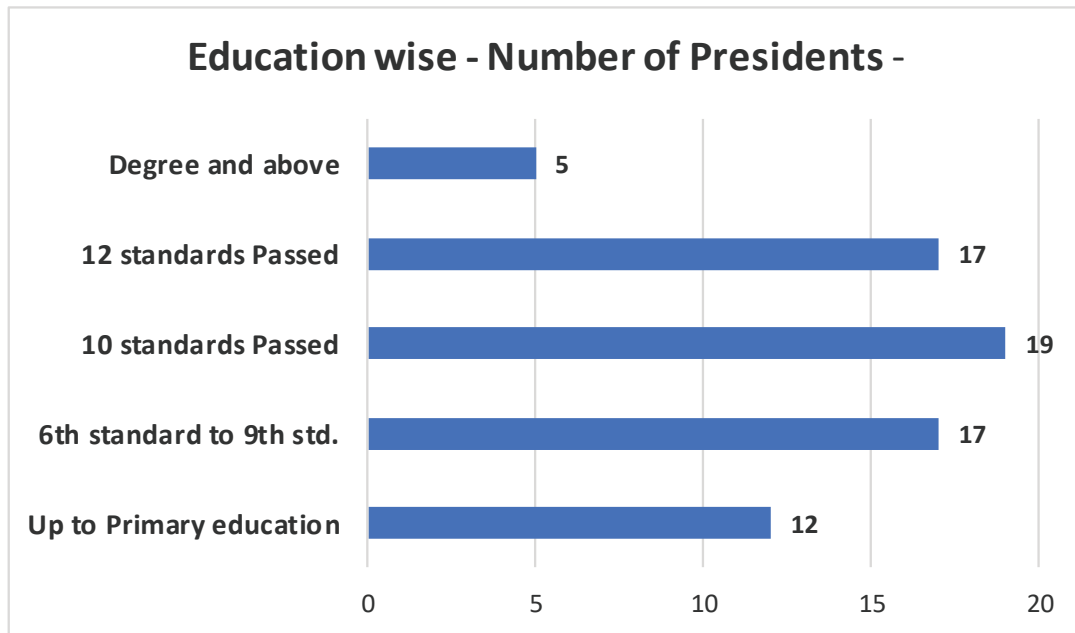
Working committee members list were gathered from the panchayat and plan for providing the training. And 629 ward members list and 83 panchayat presidents list are gathered.

#### 4.13 President's Reservation and Role Performance (Annexure – 8)

Role Performance of panchayat leaders in Tamil Nadu

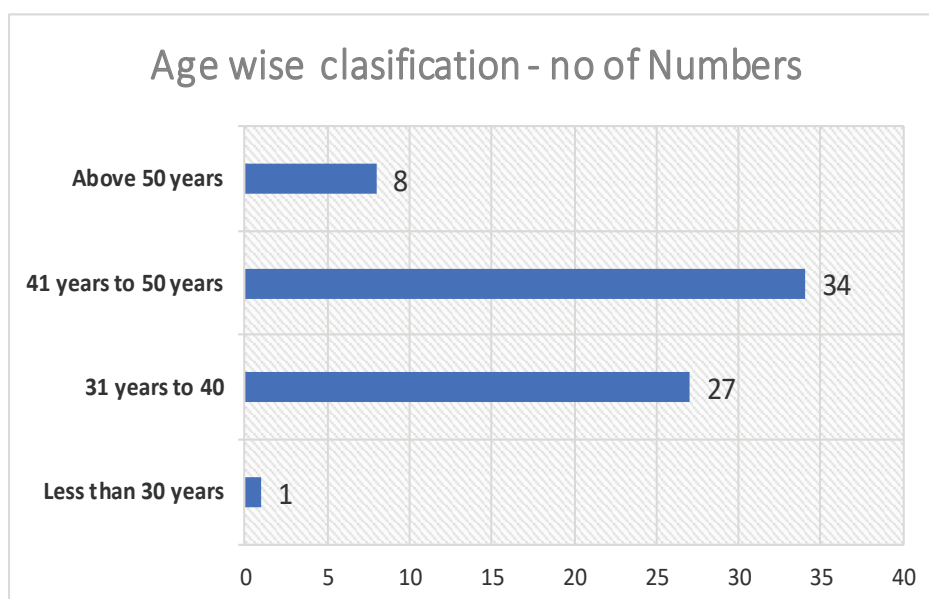
Among 70 working Panchayats, 37 are headed by females, and 33 are headed by males.

##### Education:



##### President's Reservation:

1. **ST Presidents 3:** There are three ST-headed Panchayats located in Kalvarayan. These presidents' function with significant freedom due to a 99% ST population.
2. **SC Female Presidents 5:** In four Panchayats, the husbands of the SC female presidents dominate the roles due to SC populations being around or exceeding 50% in Cuddalore and Chengalpattu districts. In one



Panchayat, the vice president acts on behalf of the SC female president.

3. **General Female Presidents 31:** Only one female president functions independently. In two Panchayats, the president's role is taken over by the president's brother and son respectively. In the remaining 28 Panchayats, husbands control the president's functions
4. **SC Male 7:** In two Panchayats, the vice president performs the duties on behalf of the SC presidents. In the remaining five Panchayats, the elected SC presidents function independently. In areas where the SC/ST population is significant, the presidents are allowed to work without interference.
5. **General:** 24 (including 4 female presidents)

#### 5. Progress in Grama Sabha:

DPDF main focus to ensure direct democracy in Gramashaba. There are 16 federations of 7 regions took part in the Gramashaba. This was focused in existing 40 panchayats. Six times gram Shaba meetings were conducted in Tamil Nadu during last 8 months there are 4 (, May 1st (May Day Gramashaba), August 15 (Independence Day gram Shaba), October 2nd (Gandhi Jeyanthi day gram Shaba) and November 1st (State local governments day) and March 22 (international water day) DHAN Central Office staff also participated in Gram Shaba meeting.

#### DPDF intervention for effective gram Shaba:

|                                           |                                                |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1. ST (Scheduled Tribes): 3,              | 3. General SC: 7 and General Female: 31,       |
| 4. SC Female (Scheduled Castes Female): 5 | 4. General: 24 (including 4 female presidents) |

- 1) Hamlet level Gramasabha before Gramashaba.
- 2) Resolution prepared at Sangamams and submitted at the Gramashaba.
- 3) Taking part in the Gramashaba organizing committees.
- 4) Ensure people institution and federations participation in the Gramashaba
- 5) Making review of already passed resolution (is it implemented or not)

Gramashaba meeting status during April 2023, May 2023, August 2023, October 2023 and November 2023 and January 2024. And because of Election March 22 Gram shaba is not conducted.

| S.No | Participation               | May1     | August 15 | Oct 2    | Nov. 1   | Jan 26   |
|------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1    | Total Population            | 1,47,937 | 1,47,937  | 1,47,937 | 1,47,937 | 1,47,937 |
| 2    | Total Households            | 14,157   | 14,157    | 14,157   | 14,157   | 14,157   |
| 3    | Total Voters                | 89,549   | 89,549    | 89,549   | 89,549   | 89,549   |
| 4    | Total Participation         | 3712     | 3547      | 3716     | 3812     | 4485     |
| 5    | Female Participation        | 2647     | 2534      | 2816     | 2719     | 2993     |
| 6    | Government Participation    | 112      | 134       | 117      | 121      | 119      |
| 7    | Groups                      | 314      | 302       | 327      | 343      | 467      |
| 8    | Members                     | 1140     | 1057      | 1179     | 1204     | 1930     |
| 9    | staff                       | 92       | 78        | 10`      | 104      | 117      |
| 10   | Leaders                     | 132      | 111       | 70       | 137      | 128      |
| 11   | Working committee members   | 127      | 113       | 127      | 122      | 117      |
| 12   | School Management Committee | 68       | 87        | 137      | 126      | 132      |
| 13   | Total Resolutions           | 92       | 113       | 156      | 141      | 163      |
| 14   | Sangamam resolutions        | 57       | 62        | 87       | 76       | 92       |

## 5.2 Hamlet level village Sangamam Shabai has conducted in 68 villages.

Sangamam staff involved in panchayat council meeting once in a month for conducting Gramashaba meeting with effective manner. panchayats regularly conducted village Sangamam Shabai conducted before Gramashaba regularly. The average meeting time is 2 hours.

## 5.3 MOU and resolution 92 resolutions shared by Sangamams sabai in to gram sbaba and it has shared in gram Shaba. Earlier 36 resolutions passed in Gram shaba.

| S. No | Resolutions                                                                        | In Number |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1     | For PMAY House                                                                     | 2         |
| 2     | Separate PDS shop                                                                  | 6         |
| 3     | Livelihood training                                                                | 3         |
| 4     | Panchayat will arrange work on MGNREGA / More work                                 | 13        |
| 5     | Pipeline/ Water tank for reduce water scarcity                                     | 13        |
| 6     | Need sewerage (ditch) facility to streets                                          | 7         |
| 7     | sanitary complex to the Village                                                    | 9         |
| 8     | Levelling streets and made Cement Road at streets.                                 | 3         |
| 9     | Repair the women sanitary complex                                                  | 5         |
| 10    | Tree plantation at surrounds the water bodies of the Panchayat                     | 1         |
| 11    | renovate the water bodies of Panchayat particularly ponds.                         | 3         |
| 12    | Tar road to the colony                                                             | 1         |
| 13    | Repair the tar Road                                                                | 1         |
| 14    | Job opportunity at local                                                           | 1         |
| 15    | Market speciality for hills' products                                              | 2         |
| 16    | Eviction of encroachments at water bodies                                          | 5         |
| 17    | More Bus service/ New bus service                                                  | 4         |
| 18    | reopening E-Seva centre                                                            | 1         |
| 19    | change the place of solid waste yard                                               | 1         |
| 20    | community hall at the village                                                      | 1         |
| 21    | arrange marketing agricultural products for better income                          | 2         |
| 22    | Arrange loan to youngster who were got training for start own business / industry. | 1         |
| 23    | training on available entitlements                                                 | 1         |
| 24    | arrange loan to the differently able to start the own employment                   | 1         |
| 25    | Individual toilets to place available houses                                       | 2         |
| 26    | Demand on Nursery/ tree saplings                                                   | 2         |
| 27    | Demand on Library                                                                  | 1         |
|       | <b>Total</b>                                                                       | <b>92</b> |

12 Community Buildings availed for E. Seva from Panchayat. Last 8 months 2 building permitted by panchayats

| S.No. | Name of the Panchayat | Community Buildings availed for E-Seva from Panchayat |                                                                                  | Present Status                             |
|-------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
|       |                       | Before March 2023                                     | April 2023 to March 2024                                                         |                                            |
| 1     | Erasakkanayakanur     | Erasakkanayakanur                                     |                                                                                  | Old Panchayat building two rooms. 653 sq.f |
| 2     | Muthalakkampatty      | Muthalakkampatty                                      |                                                                                  | 10n x 16 room                              |
| 3     | Ammapatty             | Ammapatty                                             |                                                                                  | 20 x 16                                    |
| 4     | Paloothu              | Paloothu                                              |                                                                                  | 20 x 16 room                               |
| 5     | Avilipatty            | Avilipatty                                            |                                                                                  | 15 x 20                                    |
| 6     | Koovanuthu            | Koovanuthu                                            |                                                                                  | 10 x 20                                    |
| 7     | Jeyankondanillai      | Jeyankondanillai                                      |                                                                                  | 870 sq.f hall                              |
| 8     | Kumarakudi            | Kumarakudi                                            |                                                                                  | 15 x 20                                    |
| 9     | Kalappur              | Kalappur                                              |                                                                                  | 99 years agreement with Panchayat          |
| 10    | Semankudi             | Semankudi                                             |                                                                                  |                                            |
| 11    | Kunnam                | Kunnam                                                |                                                                                  |                                            |
| 12    | Chettithangal         | Chettithangal                                         |                                                                                  | 15 x 20                                    |
| 13    | Sundram               |                                                       | The Panchayat allotted SHG building for E-Seva 10X16 hall with Parallel veranda. |                                            |
| 14    | Kanapadi              |                                                       | The Panchayat allotted SHG building for E.Seva 10X16 hall                        |                                            |

#### Resolution:

- MOU Resolutions: MOU resolution done at all 33 Panchayats in relevance joint work with DPDF.
- NOC: 4 No objection certificate has got for community building for Gram Seva Kendra.
- NOC for 14 building for utilising Sangamam Service centre. (Singampunari Semmankudi, Paloothu, Muthalakkampatty, Chettithagal, Kumarakudi, Erasakkanayakanur, Ammapatty, Jeyankondanillai Avilipatty and Koovanothu Panchayats and 4 GSK )
- NOC for 9 panchayats for creating Nursery centre (Kunnam, Semmangudi, Muthalakkampatty, chettithangal, Manickampatty, Avilipatty, Koovanuthu and ammapatty, Sooranoor)

| S.No. | Name of the Panchayat | Place (Land get for nursery farm) Panchayat | Land size       |
|-------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|       |                       | Before March 2023                           |                 |
| 1     | Semangudi             | Semangudi                                   | 17 cents        |
| 2     | Avilipatty            | Avilipatty                                  | 50 cents        |
| 3     | Ammapatty             | Ammapatty                                   | 2 acre          |
| 4     | Muthalakkampatty      | Muthalakkampatty                            | 2 acre          |
| 5     | Koovanuthu            | Koovanuthu                                  | Yet to allotted |
| 6     | Chettithangal         | Chettithangal                               | 25 cent         |
| 7     | Erasakkanayakanur     | Erasakkanayakanur                           | 17 Cent         |
| 8     | Manickampatty         | Manickampatty                               | 7.5 cents       |
| 9     | Reddiypatty           |                                             | 14 cents        |

- MoU with panchayat in relevance to Usufruct was happened with 3 panchayats 7 Agreements during April 2023

| S.No | Region Name | Panchayat Name | Federation   | Vayalagam Name                     |
|------|-------------|----------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| 1    | Pambar      | Kambur         | Kottampatti  | Mamathakulam Vayalagam             |
| 2    | Pambar      | Kambur         | Kottampatti  | Ayyanarkulam                       |
| 3    | Pambar      | Kaalapoor      | Singampunari | Periya karungulam Kanmoi Vayalagam |
| 4    | Pambar      | Kaalapoor      | Singampunari | aruvikanmoi                        |
| 5    | Pambar      | Kaalapoor      | Singampunari | seaman kanmoi                      |
| 6    | Pambar      | Kaalapoor      | Singampunari | Mattikanmoi                        |

## 6. Capacity building:

### 6.1 Sangamam Management Programme

There are two Sangamam training programme conducted for Tamil Nadu. Module wise training materials are prepared. songs and soft copy materials of PPT and related video are provided to the participants along with pen drive. There are 7 booklets are given. (Annexure no -10)

There are two Sangamams Management programme had been conducted for Tamil Nadu locations. 17to 19th of August 2023 and 30 to October2023 to 1st November 2023. There are 11 federation coordinators, and 17 cluster Associates and 10 Sangamams staff are undergone the training. Overall there are 38 participants from 23 locations in 8 regions in two training. Resource person from DHAN SPICE institutions and DHAN Subsidiary institutions leaders were invited for 2 SMPs.

### 6.2 Celebration of World Democracy Day, September 6th 2023



The global observance of World Democracy Day took place in September 2023, marked by active participation from 491 Sangamam leaders and federation leaders and federation integrators and regional coordinators from 9 locations with 5 regions. The event served as a platform for in-depth discussions on the essential components of the new social order crucial for societal advancement. Key deliberations centred around topics such as family values, the distinctive attributes of exemplary villages, and the roles and responsibilities of Panchayats in fostering the well-being of families and facilitating village development.

### Details of participants of the Democracy Day celebration

| SN | Region        | location                                | Venue           | No. of participants |
|----|---------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1  | Dindigul      | Vadamadurai                             | Kanapadi        | 40                  |
| 2  |               | Shanarpatti                             | Avilippatti     | 58                  |
| 3  | Madurai rural | Palamedu                                | Manikkampatti   | 52                  |
| 4  |               | Ponnamaravathi                          | Ponnamaravathi  | 26                  |
| 5  |               | Kottampatti                             | Pandankudi      | 42                  |
| 6  | Cuddalore     | Sri musnam                              | Vattathur       | 48                  |
| 7  | Nagappattinam | Sirkali                                 | Sirkali         | 15                  |
| 8  | Gundar upper  | Kariyapatti DHAN SBIF<br>GSP Maraikulam | Maraikulam GSK  | 150                 |
| 9  |               |                                         | Sooranoor GSK   | 40                  |
| 10 | Theni         | Bodi                                    | Bodi fed office | 40                  |
|    |               |                                         | <b>9 places</b> | <b>491</b>          |

Highlights from the Meetings: Leaders highlighted the following crucial elements for the development of the best villages:

- Integration of digital facilities in schools
- Accessible bus and transportation services
- Adequate medical facilities
- Eradication of prosopis and promotion of fruit tree plantation
- Provision of sanitation facilities, including toilets and water supply
- Implementation of livelihood development initiatives

**Panchayats were urged to focus on the following key areas:**

- Provision of clean drinking water
- Establishment of community toilets
- Construction of soak pits
- Eradication of prosodies
- Promotion of livestock development
- Installation of bathing tanks

These salient points highlighted the commitment to advancing democratic principles and enhancing the overall well-being of communities.

### 6.3 DPM courses for the community

137 applications generated in 34 panchayats from 20 federations in 13th batch. For 94 applicants, four seminars completed and 57 members undergone examination. remaining candidate will do the examination along with 14th batch. 57 members examination is over. DPDF received 600 applications received and 400 applications are generated from

KF. For 14th batch. The contact classes will be start from April 2024 onwards

Faculty orientation has happened for I contact class. And developed FAG on ist contact class. So it will be helpful for the DMP students. (Annexure no 11)

### 6.4. Orienting Community on PRI & Democracy

**National Panchayat Raj Day celebration 24.4.2023**



Celebration of National Panchayat Raj Day on April 24, 2023, took place at the central office of the DHAN Foundation. The event saw the enthusiastic participation of 179 individuals, including 7 presidents, 2 ward members, 93 leaders from Sangamams and federations, 20 youths, and 10 DPDF staff. Distinguished guests included Shri M.P. Vasimalai, Executive Director, Mr. P. Suresh, Branch Manager of SBI's Kariyapatti branch, and Mr. D. Kumaravelu, Director of SBI RSETI Thoothukkudi, who graced the occasion as Chief Guests. Notably, the Sanjeevani mobile medical van was introduced during the event for the Kariyapatti block.

**National Panchayat raj day - 24-04-2023**

| S. No | Name of the Region     | President | Ward Members | Staff | Fed Leaders | Sangamams Leaders | Youth | Total |
|-------|------------------------|-----------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|-------|-------|
| 1     | Madurai Urban          | 0         | 0            | 12    | 8           | 0                 | 0     | 20    |
| 2     | Kariapatty             | 1         | 0            | 7     | 0           | 34                | 0     | 42    |
| 3     | DHAN Staff             | 0         | 0            | 19    | 0           | 0                 | 0     | 19    |
| 4     | Shana patty (Dindigul) | 0         | 1            | 2     | 0           | 10                | 0     | 13    |
| 5     | Madurai Rural          | 1         | 1            | 4     | 11          | 6                 | 20    | 43    |
| 6     | Vayalagam              | 4         | 0            | 5     | 15          | 4                 | 0     | 28    |
| 7     | Advisory committee     | 1         | 0            | 0     | 3           | 0                 | 0     | 4     |
| 8     | DPDF staff             | 0         | 0            | 10    | 0           | 0                 | 0     | 10    |
|       |                        | 7         | 2            | 59    | 37          | 54                | 20    | 179   |



A significant highlight of the celebration was the signing of 20 agreements between 16 panchayats and tank associations. This strategic collaboration is poised to provide excellent exposure to the selected villages for Usufruct Sharing. Associations entering into agreements with the Panchayat will secure legal rights, with 25% of the revenue shared with the Panchayat and the remaining 75% allocated for the maintenance of water bodies. These pivotal decisions are to be deliberated upon in Gram Sabha meetings, and the outcomes communicated to the district development officer.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) suggested various areas for collaboration, including:

- Fish rearing activity
- Planting trees in proximity to the bund and foreshore areas
- Silt application on farmers' land
- Planning and implementing MGNREGs works
- Participation in government tenders
- Utilizing idle buildings
- Accessing books from the library for reading

These initiatives aim to foster sustainable development and community engagement, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts between Panchayats and DHAN collective institutions like Vayalagam, kalanjiam and Sangamams

## 6.5 Policy workshop

### 1. People Convention on NSO through Sangamam integration at the Panchayat Governance

Every individual's involvement in direct democracy has a positive impact. The Panchayat serves as the main pillar for India's growth. While numerous

schemes are available in the Panchayat, only a few members are aware and utilize them. The majority of people remain unaware of these schemes. Sangamam aims to create awareness and motivate everyone to participate in Panchayat activities. Despite abundant resources, many people are unaware of the optimal ways to utilize them. To foster a better society, individuals must take responsibility at the individual, family, and societal levels.

### Knowledge Development in Panchayat through NSO:

- Fulfilling the basic needs of each individual.
- Involvement in Sangamam to preserve and manage natural water bodies.
- Elimination of encroachments in natural water bodies.
- Establishment of legal-aided clinics.
- Creation of a green environment in the Panchayat.
- Promotion of direct democracy in the election process, free from corruption.
- Providing financial awareness to all Panchayat members through financial literacy programs.
- Preservation of heritage structures.
- Combating inequality and promoting equality in various aspects such as gender and caste.
- Creating a society free from addiction through Sangamam's involvement.
- Engaging youngsters in NSO Sangamam for positive growth in the Panchayat.
- Encouraging youth involvement in agriculture, especially organic agriculture.

### Role of Sangamam:

Sangamam acts as a bridge between the Panchayat and water bodies association, as well as between Sangamam and government departments for scheme utilization. It serves as an enabler, fostering collaboration and communication between the people and the government. Sangamam plays a crucial role in protecting water bodies from encroachment and other issues. Individuals share the responsibility of safeguarding common properties. The NSO concept emphasizes the need for individual development to contribute to Panchayat growth.

### **Youth Empowerment:**

NSO conducts workshops for students and young individuals on topics such as water literacy, inequality literacy, and education literacy to steer them away from negative activities like alcohol consumption. At the family level, NSO encourages a shift away from selling votes or offering bribes in various situations.

### **Leadership Development:**

In situations where a female serves as a Panchayat president but decisions are made by her spouse without her knowledge, grooming sessions are conducted to align her with the vision of the new social order. Sangamam strengthens the concept of five leaders to support Panchayat development. Gramasaba meetings provide a platform to address Panchayat-level issues, ensuring 100% participation and the selection of eligible members in the Gramasaba committee.

**Declarations:** Declaration Empowering Vulnerable Communities: Recognizing the basic value of every individual in our community, we are dedicated to actively integrating ultra-poor and differently-abled individuals into all development initiatives at both the panchayat and village levels. This commitment involves ensuring their active participation, intensifying their voices, and addressing their unique needs.

**Enhancing Health and Nutrition:** To elevate the overall well-being of our community, we will establish decentralized millet distribution centres at the village level. These centres will prioritize providing nutritious food to women, children, and elders, thereby addressing health disparities and fostering a balanced diet for all.

**Fostering Holistic Development:** Acknowledging the significance of overall well-being, we will set up specialized yoga centres for children, nurturing their physical and mental health. This initiative aims to install a culture of mindfulness and balance within the community.

**Empowering Through Education:** Firmly rejecting gender disparities in education, we commit to promoting education up to the under-graduation level for all, regardless of gender. Our villages will actively work to eliminate school dropouts and implement personalized educational policies to cater to the unique needs of each village.

**Ensuring Livelihood Security:** To uplift the economic status of our community, we will establish Livelihood Groups at the village level, fostering a diverse range of income-generating activities. Ensuring every family is covered by insurance, we will also create agriculture marketing centers within our villages. A comprehensive policy will be formulated to manage wastewater, rejuvenate water bodies, and discourage the indiscriminate dumping of waste materials.

Furthermore, we commit to replacing undesirable plants with income-earning trees, promoting the establishment of nurseries at the village level, and fostering a sustainable environment conducive to the prosperity of every villager."

### **DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation resolutions are**

1. DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation resolves that Development Policies relating to SDGs will be formulated in all the working panchayats
2. DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation resolves to create more awareness programmes about the different entitlements and the governance system to the people living in the Panchayats
3. DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation resolves that by Involving all youth and women in demonstrating the panchayat activities to promote a civilized society with equality, equity, ethics and empathy as an identity of the New Social order
4. DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation resolves the model panchayats across its working area will be integrated through Sangamam and Inclusive Development through New Social order will be demonstrated.
5. DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation resolves to build the sustainable panchayat activities through transparent financial activities and planning.

### **2. Workshop on Convention Development Policy at Panchayat Level: Fostering New Social Order (NSO) in Madurai symposium.**

The symposium held in Madurai in 2023 centered around the New Social Order (NSO) theme, focusing on empowering Panchayat Presidents to craft policies aligning with NSO principles. The

workshop engaged 38 participating Panchayats in formulating policies tailored to the unique local environment, the needs of the residents, and developmental challenges. It incorporated schemes from both state and central governments, as well as potential Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) avenues.

The proposed Panchayat policy aims for integrated village development, emphasizing holistic progress in crucial areas such as Health, Education, Livelihoods, and Environment. Shri. Meenakshisundram I.A.S, a retired civil servant and Vice President of DPDF, emphasized in his address the significance of sustainable grassroots planning utilizing local resources alongside government support, advocating for a bottom-up approach in democratic institutions.

Shri S. Sivaraju, an esteemed Panchayat President, shared experiences, inspiring participants to pursue integrated development aligned with Sustainable Development Goals. This comprehensive approach includes health, education, women and child development, and conservation of natural resources.

Further insights were provided by Shri N. Jankiraman from DHAN Foundation, highlighting education priorities such as women's education, reducing school dropouts, and ensuring higher education for girls. Shri. Iyappan, another DHAN Foundation leader, discussed the importance of insuring livelihoods, with support from institutions like KVK and RSETI of District Lead Banks.

Policy resolutions suggested by Panchayat Presidents include:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>A) Education Policy:</b></p> <p>Priority for women's education at the Panchayat level</p> <p>Elimination of school dropouts at the Panchayat level</p> <p>Ensuring higher education for girl children</p> <p>Providing education with extra-curricular activities for school children</p> <p>Upgrading facilities in government schools</p> | <p><b>B) Health &amp; Sanitation:</b></p> <p>Ensuring every house in the Panchayat has a well-maintained toilet</p> <p>Implementing rainwater harvesting in all feasible houses and buildings</p> <p>Achieving 0% infant and maternal mortality</p> <p>Ensuring 100% institutional deliveries in the Panchayat</p> |
| <p><b>C) Livelihood:</b></p> <p>Documenting BPL families at the Panchayat level</p> <p>Classifying Panchayat families based on livelihoods for tailored development plans</p> <p>Enrolling all Panchayat families in PMSBY and PMJJBY</p> <p>Forming livelihood groups in village clusters within the Panchayat</p>                               | <p><b>D) Environment Policies:</b></p> <p>Transitioning to renewable energies to replace thermal energy</p> <p>Planning for a plastic-free Panchayat</p> <p>Intensifying tree plantation on public land for a greener Panchayat</p> <p>Renovating water bodies for sustainable water management."</p>              |

### 3. "Towards NSO - Role of Sangamam/SHGs in Creating Model Villages"

A round table discussion titled "Towards NSO - Role of Sangamam/SHGs in Creating Model Villages" was held with 30 participants. Field officer, SBI Kariyapatti participated in the workshop. He emphasized the importance of CIBIL scores for bank assistance and financial support. Mr. Krishnan, federation president (Kariyapatti block), highlighted the need for integrated development and considering diverse opinions for



creating model villages. Ms. Shanthi Maduresan emphasize the importance of gram seva sangamam in each village and families have to joined and do the enrolment in gram Seva village Sangamam. The leaders share their impact experience of DHAN SBIF GSP service.

The lead paper presentation discussed the genesis of the Madurai symposium and the definition of a model panchayat, emphasizing holistic development and safeguarding the living environment. The roles of individuals, families, institutions, and society in creating model villages through the New Social Order were explained.

Key points for village development included focusing on women and child development, education, livelihood, and environmental protection. Suggestions for resolutions included initiatives for ultra-poor and differently-abled individuals, establishing small millet distribution points, yoga centers for children, addressing gender disparities in education, promoting livelihood groups, ensuring insurance coverage for all families, creating agricultural marketing centers, implementing wastewater management policies, renovating water bodies, discouraging dumping in water bodies, and promoting useful income-earning trees through tree removal initiatives and nurseries at the village level.

#### **4. PEOPLE SEMINAR – VATHALAGUNDU FEDERATION WITH 2 PANCHCYATS**

People Seminar in Vathalagundu block  
Participants:

There were 60 participants from two panchayats,

including cluster leaders, federation leaders, a regional coordinator, a federation coordinator, and Sangamam staff, gathered in Vathalangundu. The focus was on making the Sangamam Panchayat the best working Panchayat. Three main topics were discussed:

##### **Making a Family Better**

1. May the family be better
2. Understanding between husband and wife is essential
3. Expenditure should be proportionate to income
4. There should be an attitude of giving up
5. Be a best friend to children
6. Maintain good physical health
7. Family members should be united
8. Teach morals to children
9. Develop a habit of saving
10. Foster a joint family
11. Achieve economic progress
12. Encourage children to develop a good reading habit away from cell phones

##### **Making the Village Better**

- Leaders need to be well prepared.
- Emphasis should be placed on health.
- Establish a value-building club.
- Set up a library and street lights.
- Every house should grow a tree.
- People should cooperate with leaders on all issues, irrespective of caste and religion
- Ensure all basic amenities are available.
- Provide school bus facilities.

- Improve industry to enhance agricultural livelihoods.
- Maintain a clean environment.
- Encourage all people to participate in Gram Sabha meetings.
- Avoid using plastic.

#### **Development Problems in Gram Panchayat**

1. Public toilets
2. Water facilities
3. Center for de-alcoholism
4. Community hall
5. Medical facilities
6. Bus facilities
7. Excellent library
8. Cement road facilities

This seminar highlighted the community's needs and outlined the qualities of the best family, the best village, and the expected aspects of the best Panchayat.

#### **5. Workshop on Mainstreaming water Policy at Village Panchayat in Tamil Nadu Water week 2024**

The workshop was Conducted on 20-03-2024 at DHAN Foundation, Madurai as a part of celebrating TamilNadu Water Week, 2024. There were 42 persons from Village Panchayat President, ward members, Sangamam leaders and staff Participated. The following aspects related to water Policy of Village Panchayat such as role of Panchayat in water Management, design of water policies, operational aspect of water polices were discussed.

Shri.Saurbh Kumar, IFS (Retd) (Formerly Ambassador of India to the UN Offices) Adjunct Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bangalore, delivered the special address on water policy at Village Panchayat. He stressed the role of panchayat in designing water policy for their panchayat considering inputs of all families.

#### **Salient points discussed in the meeting were,**

Village Panchayat as 3rd level of democratic government has to take brave steps to formulate water policy at Panchayat level keeping the point of water as common for all in mind. Water conservations activities in tune with climate change

factors are to be addressed with the support of both local community and stakeholders.

Local institutions and Traditional knowledge of water conservation are to be included or considered in panchayat water policy.

Rain or roof water harvesting effective management of water resource and using CSR aid for water Body renovation and Contraction are to be implemented in Panchayat through proper capacity building event to the community. Stakeholder's role on convergence of water Management and Conservation activities at Panchayat level is also very important.

#### **Resolutions of panchayat on water policy**

Followings are suggested area in which panchayats can have discussions to develop water policy for the panchayat.

- Policy for Governing Existing Water resources.
- Policy for creating new water Sources and Renovation.
- Policy for water conservation and Management
- Policy for Collection of Community Contribution for water services.
- Policy for Collaboration with Line Department for convergence of water conservation activities among the stakeholders.
- Rain and Roof water Harvesting Policy for the individual houses and common buildings of the panchayat.
- Policy for Community Management of Common Water Body Resources.
- Policy for Integrating Social Capitals for Effective Water Governance
- Policy for CSR and Mainstream Resources for Water Management.
- Data to be collected with the consultation of community towards framing water policy for panchayat are as follows.
- Demographic Details of the Panchayat relevant to water policy is to be collected.
- Landscape Details of panchayat of biodiversity concerned is to be mapped out.
- Details on Livestock Population to assess the water need for animals in to be documented.
- Details on existing water resource structures and its present status is needed.

- Analysis of water availability at panchayat level is to be completed

## 6. Legal Aid Centres in the Federations of the Theni Region:

Our Executive Director, Shri M.P. Vasimalai, recommended the reintroduction of Legal Aid centers in the federations of the Theni region. Following this advice, DPDF initiated Legal Aid centers in three federations of the Theni District. These centres convene on Tuesdays of each week at the respective federation offices, commencing from July 2022.

Services Offered at the Federation Legal Aid Centers:

- Legal guidance and awareness
- Legal counselling
- Guidance on entitlements and certificates
- Arrangement of free legal aid for eligible individuals
- Awareness Initiatives for Legal Aid Centers:

Shared information at Region meetings, Regional staff meetings, and Mandala Shaba meetings. Disseminated information at the Federation

### Summary of Handled Cases:

| Period                     | Name of the center |      |             | Total |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------|-------------|-------|
|                            | Kadamalai          | Bodi | Chinnamanur |       |
| Up to March 31st 2023      | 26                 | 30   | 21          | 77    |
| April first to November 30 | 9                  | 11   | 8           | 28    |
|                            | 35                 | 41   | 29          | 105   |

### Legal Aid Centre at Cuddalore:

Planned Legal Aid Centers: Five legal aid centers are planned in the Cuddalore region. The federations involved are Pudukkottai, Cuddalore, Kullanchavadi, Srimushnam, and Parangipettai. Awareness programs have been conducted for all five federation leaders, members, and staff across the region. Legal aid centers have been established in the Parangipettai, Srimushnam and Kullanchavadi federations. Two more legal aid centers in Pudukkottai and Cuddalore are scheduled to open next year.

### 6.7. Advisory Committee meeting

The initial Advisory Committee meeting convened on March 30, 2023, with distinguished participants representing DHAN Collective as special invitees. The primary objectives of the advisory committee

Executive Committee (E.C.) and cluster E.C. meetings. Conducted awareness sessions in May during group meetings, facilitated by cluster associates. Cluster associates provided awareness in groups that were not previously informed. Raised awareness at Panchayat council meetings, Sanagamam Meetings, and Sangamam collective meetings.

### Legal Aid Center Locations, Days, and Times:

1st Tuesday of every month at Kadamalai Kalanjia Vattara Sangam Office

2nd Tuesday of every month at Bodi Vattara Kalanjiam Office

3rd Tuesday of every month at Chinnamanur Vattara Kalanjiam Office

These centers are open to both members and non-members. Legal guidance and support are not limited to in-person interactions and are also available via phone. The region and federations are actively supporting this program. As of March 2023, a total of 77 cases have been handled, with 28 cases managed in the last 8 months leading up to November 30th, 2023.

encompass:

Providing recommendations for enhancing the engagement of the Panchayat Development Foundation (DPDF) with both village Panchayats and informal Panchayats.

Offering suggestions to strengthen direct democracy initiatives, such as Grama Sabha, social audits, referendums, voting, and student parliaments.

Developing guidelines for advancing pilot projects and experimental activities aimed at fostering the self-sustainability of village Panchayats.

Exploring integrated approaches for collaboration between people's institutions and Panchayat Raj institutions to benefit the economically disadvantaged sections of society.

The esteemed members of the advisory board and their current positions are as follows:

| S.No | Name of the Advisory board member | Present position              |
|------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|      | Mrs Jeyashree Ragunathan          | Indian administrative service |
| 1    | Dr.R.Alagumani                    | legal Professional            |
| 2    | Dr.A.Vedachalam                   | Archaeologist                 |
| 3    | Mr S. Sivasasu                    | President of panchayat        |
| 4    | Mr.Kannan                         | Gandhian                      |
| 5    | Mrs.S.Logasundari sonaimuthu      | Ex. Panchayat President       |
| 6    | Mrs senthamarai                   | Expert in Legal aid clinic    |
| 7    | Mr A. Gopalakrishnan              | Leading farmer                |
| 8    | Mrs.M. Poomalai                   | Federation leader             |
| 9    | Mrs S.Senthamarai                 | Legal Aid clinic expert       |

The focus of the advisory meeting centred on the Terms of Reference of the Panchayat Development Foundation, covering discussions on the DPDF concept, progress, ACE Governance, DPM course, and the integrated approach of Kariyapatti villages. Advisory Committee members shared their valuable suggestions.

Mr. M.P Vasimalai, Executive Director of DHAN Foundation, suggested that successful direct democracy practices in women's self-help groups should be extended to both people's institutions and Panchayat Raj institutions. Traditional democratic practices should be revitalized, and a road show between Panchayats initiated for knowledge-sharing.

Mr. N. Janakiraman emphasized the need to take steps to make village Panchayats self-sustainable. Mr. M. Palanisamy highlighted the importance of appreciating and focusing on model Panchayats in various forms. Mr. Shiva Raj, President of PR Puram Panchayat, stressed the need for proper orientation for women Panchayat presidents, including training programs for youth involvement in Panchayat activities.

Mrs. Logasundari, Ex-President of Thenur Panchayat, urged DHAN Foundation to take responsibility for building the capacity of women Panchayat presidents. Dr. Vedachalam underscored the importance of preserving the tradition and water bodies of Panchayats and villages, proposing the creation of a museum at the village level. Mr. Balakrishnan Vayalagam, a leader, emphasized the need for sustainable management of village Panchayats with active community involvement.

Mechanisms for future interactions were outlined, including biannual meetings, periodic progress sharing, feedback sessions, and invitations to council members for prominent institutional events. Institutional publications will also be regularly shared with advisory committee members.

The powers vested in Panchayat presidents are crucial tools that must be wielded responsibly, with a primary focus on understanding the mechanisms for accessing government schemes that benefit the community. Efforts should be directed towards leveraging the presence of community and people's institutions to support Panchayats and foster development collaboratively.

A sense of societal responsibility for common welfare needs to be cultivated, emphasizing the Panchayat's role in ensuring the well-being of the ultra-poor. Recognizing children as the future generation, Panchayats should actively contribute to their ethical upbringing. Additionally, the productive utilization of the MGNREGA scheme is imperative for sustainable development.

The protection of elders and individuals with different labels falls under the Panchayat's purview, emphasizing inclusivity. It is essential for Panchayats to strive for self-sufficiency in resource management, and they should take the lead in initiating people-centric plans, disaster reduction programs, labour budgets, and reforms in the education system to drive holistic progress.

## 6.8 Board meeting and GBM meeting

5th board of trustee meeting and 9th Governing body meeting of and 10 GBM meeting conducted

successfully. DPDF conducted without fail. The following aspects are focused.

- Implement Sangamams activities across all locations of DHAN collective.
- Focus on the inclusion of Working Group members from DHAN Collective and provide Capacity- building opportunities for them.
- Focuses on usufruct rights in water bodies of the panchayat on a large scale. And implement MOU with panchayats across the panchayat
- Focuses on DMP programme for 1000

participants

- Focuses on 10 In Vizagapatam, and Madurai urban Nagar Polika as a pilot programme need to be initiated.
- Focuses on Implement the Sangamams program with Development Council in Assam. Consider PESA special act and its salient features when implementing the Panchayat program in tribal areas
- Organizing policy workshops for Panchayat presidents and ward members

## II. DPDF Development intervention

### 1. Village Sangamam services (E service to all Sangamam members)

| E services                             | Sooranoor | Chithanenthall | Thottiyankulam | Thenour | Maraikulam | Total |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|---------|------------|-------|
| Name changes in Ration card            | 2         | 2              |                |         | 1          | 5     |
| Name change in Aadhar                  | 2         | 20             |                |         | 1          | 23    |
| Xerox Taken - pages                    | 91        | 300            | 225            | 55      | 185        | 856   |
| PAN Applied                            |           | 8              |                | 2       | 3          | 13    |
| Applied for patta                      | 10        | 18             | 4              | 6       | 14         | 52    |
| Change in voter card                   | 1         | 1              |                |         |            | 2     |
| print out                              |           | 2              |                |         | 2          | 2     |
| no.of smart classes conducted from GSK | 123       |                | 56             |         |            | 179   |
| income certificate                     |           | 2              |                |         | 1          | 3     |
| other services                         |           |                |                |         |            |       |
| Sprayer used                           | 27        | 11             | 22             | 1       | 22         | 83    |
| Power tiller used                      |           |                | 24             |         |            | 22    |

DHAN Team met with Agriculture and Horticulture departments and agriculture university mainly get the video of Agriculture and horticulture and video on organic farming and Farm processing equipment and value. overall, 66 videos are collected regarding above the matters which will be helpful to farmers.

### 2. Education initiatives:

#### 2.1 Smart Class Room

Smart class room is focuses on student engagement in smart class and virtual technology knowledge through a broad range of resources. And ensure the students participation in academic activities due to the joyous learning experience. Smart class room opened on Oct 2, 2022 at Thenoor village in Kariyapatti block to benefit the students from

government upper primary school. Education in charge was placed. Totally 154 sessions were taken for the students .

Through smart class, Lower primary students are getting benefit on Tamil and English languages and basic science of life and upper middle students getting benefits on the subjects of basics of computer, science, mathematics and English out of the facilities.



| Smart class for the year -April 23 to March 24 –<br>No of sessions taken April 2023 – March 2024 |              |       |     |     |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|
|                                                                                                  |              | April | May | Jun | July | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | March | Total |
| 1                                                                                                | 3rd Standard | 6     | 0   | 3   | 14   | 8   | 3   | 7   | 3   | 3   |     |     |       | 47    |
| 2                                                                                                | 4th Standard | 4     | 0   | 0   | 0    | 2   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 3   |     | 1     | 11    |
| 3                                                                                                | 5th Standard | 4     | 0   | 0   | 0    | 1   | 0   | 0   | 4   | 2   | 3   |     | 1     | 15    |
| 4                                                                                                | 6th Standard | 5     | 0   | 0   | 0    | 6   | 2   | 1   | 0   | 7   | 5   | 1   | 5     | 32    |
| 5                                                                                                | 7th Standard | 6     | 0   | 2   | 1    | 6   | 1   | 1   | 1   |     |     | 1   | 2     | 21    |
| 6                                                                                                | 8th Standard | 9     | 0   |     | 6    | 2   |     | 1   | 1   |     |     | 2   | 2     | 23    |
| 7                                                                                                | 1 - 8th Std  |       |     |     |      |     | 1   | 2   | 2   |     |     |     |       | 5     |
|                                                                                                  |              | 34    | 0   | 5   | 21   | 25  | 7   | 12  | 11  | 13  | 11  | 4   | 11    | 154   |

## 2.2 Computer Lab:

Computer lab classes are taught by Education Educator in Sooranoor school library building There are 12 students studied. The students are studying in kariyapatti with the distance of 21 km. So that the sessions are handled in Saturday and Sunday. Due to less strength the computer lab shifts it to Chithanendhal village.

| S.No. | Month          | Date       | Subject taken                                     | Students attended |
|-------|----------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1     | February, 2024 | 15.02.2024 | Basics of computer                                | 11                |
| 2     |                | 17.02.2024 | Different parts of computer                       | 12                |
| 3     |                | 18.02.2024 | MS office a glance Ms word, Power point and Excel | 11                |
| 4     | March 2024     | 16.03.2024 | Table, Short cuts                                 | 12                |
| 5     |                | 17.03.2024 | Table, Short cuts                                 | 12                |
| 6     |                | 23.03.2024 | MS Office, Excel                                  | 12                |
| 7     |                | 24.03.2024 | MS office, Excel                                  | 12                |

## 2.3 Inter school event

The Thenoor Interschool Event, organized as part of the Education initiative, is designed to enhance the physical fitness of students, nurture their talents, foster teamwork, and instill a sense of team spirit within the school community. Scheduled for November 29, 2023, the event saw the enthusiastic participation of five schools: Government Middle School, Sooranoor; Government Middle School, A. Thotiyankulam; Government Elementary School, Maraikulam; Government Elementary School, Chithanendal; and Thenur Government Higher Secondary School. A total of 136 students and 10 teachers took part in various activities.



### Details of Participation:

| S.No | Name of the school                     | Number of students | Number of teachers |
|------|----------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1    | Govt Middle school, Sooranoor          | 31                 | 1                  |
| 2    | Govt Middle school, Thenur             | 35                 | 5                  |
| 3    | Govt Middle school, Thottiyankulam     | 32                 | 1                  |
| 4    | Govt Elementary school, S.Maraikulam   | 27                 | 2                  |
| 5    | Govt Elementary school, Chithanenthall | 11                 | 1                  |
|      |                                        | 136                | 10                 |

**The competition comprised various events tailored to different age groups:**

**Classes 1-3:** Maruvedam (Disguise), Water Filling in the Bottle, Rhymes, Balloon Breaking

**Classes 4-5:** Drama, Drawing, 400m Running, 400m Skipping

**Classes 6-8:** Speech Competition, Bomb Throwing (Male and Female), Disc Throwing (Male and Female), Long Jump (Male and Female), High Jump (Male and Female), Dance to Sangamam Songs, Traditional Events

Atheswaran, President of T. Veppankulam, expressed satisfaction with the event and encouraged its regular occurrence. He commended his contribution to providing lunch for all students and invited all presidents to participate in this joyful occasion. Dharmaraj, President of Maraikulam, emphasized the importance of local sports like kabaddi and encouraged students to seize opportunities for personal growth.

Kasthuri, Headmistress of Thenour, praised the competitive spirit among students and highlighted the significance of hosting such events in the school. She noted that the overall championship was won by Thenour School, showcasing the success of DHAN SBIF Gram Seva's commendable initiative. Kasthuri also mentioned that hosting the event at Government Middle School Thenour was a positive experience and encouraged the establishment of student groups for holistic improvement.

Students expressed the positive impact of engaging in interschool events, emphasizing the value of unity



fostered at the school level through the awarding of an overall championship. The sense of pride associated with this accomplishment is notable. An innovative addition to the events was the inclusion of a community lunch, offering a new and enjoyable experience. Additionally, students showed eagerness to join the youth group at the village level and utilize the skill-building opportunities provided by the 4 GSK initiative.

A total of 57 prizes were distributed across 19 events, with three top prizes accompanied by certificates presented to deserving students. Participants also received certificates in recognition of their involvement. Notably, the Government Middle School in Thenour was honored with the overall championship cup. Despite a budget of Rs 38,114, which was lower than the allocated Rs 48,000, the event was successfully executed. The community lunch, with a cost of Rs 13,000 covered by the panchayat, added to the overall experience of the event.

#### **2. 4. Remedial Center:**

There are 17 centers are existing in selected panchayats. and 331 students are studying and 17 teachers are taking session for them. there are 192 students are studying in 7 remedial centres.in kariyapatti DHAN SBIF locations

| <b>REMEDIAL CLASSES - 2023-24</b> |                           |                               |                              |                           |                 |                        |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| <b>S. No</b>                      | <b>Name of the Region</b> | <b>Name of the Federation</b> | <b>Name of the Panchayat</b> | <b>Name of the center</b> | <b>Teachers</b> | <b>No. of students</b> |
| 1                                 | Dindigul                  | Sanarpatty                    | Aviipatty                    | Avilipatty                | 1               | 16                     |
| 2                                 |                           | Sanarpatty                    | Koovanoothu                  | Kurupapatty               | 1               | 16                     |
| 3                                 |                           | Sanarpatty                    | Koovanoothu                  | Kulakaranpatty            | 1               | 20                     |
| 4                                 |                           | Sanarpatty                    | Koovanoothu                  | Kavarayanpatty            | 1               | 18                     |
| 5                                 |                           | Vadamadurai                   | Kanapadi                     | Kanapadi                  | 1               | 20                     |
| 6                                 |                           | Vadamadurai                   | Singarakottai                | Singarakottai             | 1               | 12                     |
| 7                                 | Madurai Rural             | Kurunchi                      | Kondayampatti                | Konadayampatty            | 1               | 21                     |
| 8                                 |                           | Kurunchi                      | Kondayampatti                | Sambakulam                | 3               | 16                     |
| 9                                 | Gundar uppar              | Kariyapatty                   | S.Marikulam                  | S.Marikulam               | 3               | 192                    |
| 10                                |                           | Kariyapatty                   | Veppankulam                  | Veppankulam               | 2               |                        |
| 11                                |                           | Kariyapatty                   | Sooranur                     | Sooranur                  | 2               |                        |
|                                   |                           |                               |                              |                           | <b>17</b>       | <b>331</b>             |

## 2.5. SBI OJA talent scholarship

### SBI OJA talent scholarship

As it was decided to provide scholarship for the students of both School and college students on the occasion of 75th Republic Day of Our Nation, it was distributed to 14 students on 26.01.2024.



There were 8 students, 4 from S. Maraikulam and another 4 from Chithanendal, were given merit certificate of scholarship during the event of Grama sabha on 26.01.24 at S. Maraikulam. There were 10 school students received Rs 70,000 as Rs 7,000 per student and 4 college students received Rs 34,000 as Rs 8,500 per student. Totally Rs 1,04,000 was distributed to 14 students as SBI OJA talent scholarship. Totally Rs 1,04,000 was distributed to 14 students as SBI OJA talent scholarship.

## 2.6 Opening of Library for Youth



| S. No | Village           | Date of library opening | Guest of the event                                                                                   | Total Participants |
|-------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1     | A. Thottiyankulam | 12.1.2024               | Mr Atheswaran, President, T.Veppankulam                                                              | 48                 |
| 2     | Chithanenthall    | 13.1.2024               | Mr Dharmaraj, President, S. Maraikulam                                                               | 24                 |
| 3     | Sooranoor         | 13.1.2024               | Mr.Sundaresan, Director, Six dots health enhancement centre                                          | 55                 |
| 4     | S. Maraikulam     | 27.1.2024               | Mr Dharmaraj, President, S. Maraikulam, Mr. Sundaresan, Director, Six dots health enhancement centre | 31                 |

Use of library books in GSK Villages, March, 2024. (Annexure – 12)

| S.No | GSK              | No. of person used | Purpose      |
|------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1    | Sooranoor        | 2                  | TNPSC Group4 |
| 2    | S.Maraikulam     | 6                  | TNPSC Group4 |
| 3    | Chithanenthall   | 2                  | TNPSC Group4 |
| 4    | A.Thottiyankulam | 1                  | TNPSC Group4 |
|      | <b>Total</b>     | <b>11</b>          |              |



### 3. Health:

#### 3.1.1 Medical camp:

DPDF have Sanjeevani vehicle with the support of SBIF and conducted medical camp. There are 5 camps conducted, April 2023. Sanjeevani programme is launched during national panchayat raj day. There are 17 camps conducted with participation of 1118 members in kariyapatti block, Overall, in all three states 52 camps with the benefit of 3553 members.

(Annexure 13)

|                         | Telangana             |                     | Karnataka             |                     | Tamil Nadu            |                           | Total                 |                  |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Health camp conduction  | As on 31st March 2023 | April '23 to Nov 23 | As on 31st March 2023 | April '23 to Nov 23 | As on 31st March 2023 | April '2023 to march 2024 | As on 31st March 2023 | as on march 2024 |
| no of health camps done | 31                    | 3                   | 19                    | 22                  | 79                    | 27                        | 129                   | 52               |
| no of members benefited | 2816                  | 150                 | 2256                  | 2099                | 6406                  | 1304                      | 11478                 | 3553             |

#### 3.1.2 EYE camp for Sangamam Panchayat 2023-2024 (Annexure-14)

| Region        | No of federations | Number of camps | No of members participated | Referred to Aravind hospital | Person recommended for cataract | Person recommended to wear spectacle |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Madurai rural | 5 federation      | 8               | 919                        | 311                          | 192                             | 119                                  |
| Theni         | 2 federation      | 3               | 252                        | 47                           | 47                              | 0                                    |
| Dindigul      | 2 federation      | 3               | 270                        | 87                           | 31                              | 56                                   |
|               |                   | 14              | 1441                       | 445                          | 270                             | 175                                  |

#### 3.1.3. Nutrition Garden Programme: There are 10057 households got 10057 seed pockets (Annexure -15)

| Nutrition Garden 2023-24 |                     |           |                 |                                     |                                    |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| S. No                    | Name of the Regions | No of Fed | No of Panchayat | Number of Seeds pockets distributed | Number of persons get seed Pockets |
| 1                        | Madurai rural       | 8         | 10              | 2623                                | 2623                               |
| 2                        | Nagapattinam        | 1         | 1               | 140                                 | 140                                |
| 3                        | Kalvarayan          | 1         | 2               | 570                                 | 570                                |
| 4                        | Theni               | 2         | 4               | 1050                                | 1050                               |
| 5                        | Dindigul            | 2         | 6               | 3738                                | 3738                               |
| 6                        | Cuddalore           | 2         | 4               | 800                                 | 800                                |
| 7                        | Pambar              | 5         | 6               | 1136                                | 1136                               |
|                          |                     | 21        | 33              | 10057                               | 10057                              |

### 3.2. Safe Drinking Water - Rainwater Harvesting:



Rainwater harvesting work demonstration had been done in 4 places in Kariyapatti block. One in Sooranoor community building and one in Thenour middle school. Another one is Thenour GSK building. 6000 litres of water have been saved. And one drinking water bore well renovation was done.

### 3.3 Use of Waste Management Vehicle



#### Waste Management vehicle provided to S. Maraikulam and Sooranoor Panchayats

Waste management vehicle was handed over to S. Maraikulam and Sooranoor panchayat during 75th Republic Day, Day celebration and Gram Sabha meeting at S. Maraikulam in which DHAN Foundation handed over the vehicle to the panchayat president in the presence of both village people and sanitary workers. People of Maraikulam panchayat are using the vehicle effectively to remove the domestic wastes. Now the panchayat president is allotting place to segregating the wastes. This quarter, 18000 kgs of wastes were removed from Maraikulam panchayat.



### 3.4 Construction of community toilet:

4 community toilets are constructed in 4 places and 4 renovation of toilets in Thotiyankulam DHAN GSK and Sooranoor

DHAN GSK and Chithanendal DHAN GSK. awareness programme on sanitation also given to them.

## 4. Livelihood and development:

### 4.1 Farm Mechanization and Resilient agriculture

Farm machines like Power tillers, power weeders, mechanical sprayers, manual sprayers and blowers are purchased and utilized for three panchayats of Kariyapatti and handed over to Village Sangamam. All the machines will be engaged at the time of Monsoon seasons. 83 farmers utilized sprayer and 22 farmers utilized the power tillers in affordable cost.



### 4.2 Resilient Agriculture:

Resilient agriculture initiatives are set to be implemented in A. Thotiyankulam, Chithanendal, and S. Maraikulam and Soprano villages. This effort aims to benefit 153 farmers through activities like integrated pest management, intercrop and multi cropping practices, farm manure application, and sheep penning. The total cost of this initiative amounts to Rs 8.21 lakhs, with a portion of the 10.34 lakhs funds being contributed by the 153 farmers as their share for the resilient agriculture development programme. Over all 18.55 lakhs was utilized for resilient agriculture

### 4.3. Farm Mechanization:

Groundnut Decorticator with Grade (2HP, Single Phase, 150 to 200 kg. hr) and Mini oil mill (600 W, Single Phase, 3 to 6 kg / hr)

| S. No | Name of the Village | Name of the activities                     | No. of Farmers | No. of Unit | No. of acres | SBIF Contribution | Contribution by member per acre | People Contribution | Total     |
|-------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| 1.    | A. Thottiyankulam   | Integrated pest Management                 | 16             | 10000       | 12           | 120,000           | 8,000                           | 96,000              | 216,000   |
| 2     | Chithanendal        |                                            | 27             | 5000        | 27           | 135,000           | 8,000                           | 216,000             | 351,000   |
| 3     | Sooranoor           | Inter Cropping,                            | 41             | 5000        | 41           | 205,000           | 8,000                           | 328,000             | 533,000   |
| 4     | Chithanendal        | Multi Cropping and Fodder                  | 33             | 5000        | 33           | 165,000           | 8,000                           | 264,000             | 429,000   |
| 5.    | S. Maraikulam       |                                            | 14             | 5000        | 14           | 70,000            | 8,000                           | 112,000             | 182,000   |
| 6     | Chithanendal        | Orchard development                        | 1              | 13000       | 1            | 13,000            | 7,500                           | 7,500               | 20,500    |
| 7     | Maraikulam          |                                            | 1              | 13000       | 1            | 13,000            | 7,500                           | 7,500               | 20,500    |
| 8     | S. Maraikulam       | Farm manure application, and sheep penning | 20             | 5000        | 20           | 100,000           | 3,000                           | 3,000               | 103,000   |
|       |                     |                                            | 153            | 61000       | 149          | 8,21,000          | 58,000                          | 10,34,000           | 18,55,000 |

### Groundnut decorticator and oil extractor machines were installed in S. Maraikulam village

Groundnut decorticator the primary purpose of using a groundnut decorticator is to separate the edible part of the groundnut from its outer covering, making the nuts more accessible and suitable for further processing. small-scale oil mill, serves The purpose of extracting oil from various oilseeds.

Mini oil machine the primary use of a mini oil mill is to produce edible oils for cooking or industrial applications. Here are some key uses and benefits. In Kariapatti farmer producer organization is available. so that farmers could be get benefit through FPO and affordable price they could benefit from Groundnut decorticator and oil extractor machine.

### 4.3 Collaboration with agriculture department

#### Government provides Minor farm machines to farmers of A. Thotiyankulam

Agriculture department, Kariyapatti provides Minor farm equipment to farmers of A. Thottiyankulam. There are 10 farmers availed the entitlement. Cost of the minor farm equipment is Rs 2000.GSK Thotiyankulam took key role in availing the farm equipment's from agriculture department.

#### Orientation on farm machines

Orientation event on Farm machines available in the government was organized by the government with the support of Chithanendal GSK in which 28 farmers and women participated to know

about farm machine available in the government at concession rate. This training was conducted on 06.02.2024 at Chithanendal village. VAO of S. Maraikulam participated in the training. Women are encouraged to avail the opportunities.

### 4.4 Livelihood training: Tailoring center

Perna tailoring centre is initiated in Thottiyankulam. 18 women are trained through four shifts in a day. They purchased machines. They are very happy as they are ready to earn from the home itself. Presently, they are doing stitching works locally. They are expecting external stitching order as the village is with enough trained persons in addition to Perna trainees. Women are being encouraged to participate actively in Gram Sabha meeting. And after the centre shifted to S. Maraikulam. 21 women in Maraikulam village benefited out of training/ activity. There are 3 shift training is given by the teacher.





### Livestock development:

50 people got goat fund. There are 2 trainings conducted on livestock Traditional medicine production for goats, in Chithanendal and S. Maraikulam.

| S.No. | GSK               | No. of Members | Funded support Provided in Rs. | Repayment      |
|-------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1     | Chithanenthathal  | 18             | 180,000                        | 180,000        |
| 2     | A. Thottiyankulam | 20             | 200,000                        | 140,000        |
| 3     | Sooranoor         | 12             | 120,000                        | 48,000         |
|       |                   | <b>50</b>      | <b>500,000</b>                 | <b>368,000</b> |

Note : One Person Purchased COW in Chithanenthathal

| No of new goat born details         |                              |                     |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| no of birth                         | no of AFGs members benefited | no of new goat born |
| Goats gave birth of only one animal | 9                            | 9                   |
| Goats gave birth of two one animal  | 18                           | 36                  |
| Goats gave birth of three animal    | 1                            | 3                   |
| Goats gave birth of Four animal     | 1                            | 4                   |
|                                     | <b>29</b>                    | <b>52</b>           |
| <b>Pregnant condition</b>           |                              | <b>6</b>            |

### 5. Medicinal Plant Collectors Group:

The challenges for the communities are medicinal plant collectors in Thenour spend Rs 200 weekly and face difficulties transporting plant bags via government transportation. Plants are collected locally and from nearby districts. Regarding Varieties Collectors gather about 10 types of medicinal plants for preservation and sale in the Virudhunagar market.

Three groups were formed in Thenour village to facilitate better organization and support. Exposure visit was happened to Vathalagundu on 31.05.2023. Maruthi Medicinal Plant Collection



Centre which is the company's supporting, non-profit activities, which include supporting cultivators and collectors, preserving plants, and linking groups with banks.

Vathalakundu Medicinal Plant Collectors Group is share their experience. The team visited the storage facility where plants are collected, stored, and barrel-packed for transportation to procurement companies. Plans include forming self-run groups and setting up a local collection center in Thenour.

## 6. Skill development:

### 7.1 Orientation programme by RSETI

RSETI orientation meeting was conducted at A. Thottiyankulam on 29.4.23 in which 60 members participated from 5 villages. Mr D. Kumaravelu, SBI RSETI, Director gave orientation in the event. Mr. Atheswaran, Panchayat President T. Veppankulam panchayat participated. Things explained by the director RSETI share About RSETI Plan of this year, Qualification of participants, Duration of trainings, Certificates offered by RSETI for participants. Financial support to successful candidates and possibilities of off campus training in Gram Seva villages President of T Veppankulam panchayat gave assurance for the successful follow up of the training.

### 7.2 Entrepreneurship development program

Women of Thottiyankulam, Chithanenthal and Maraikulam villages trained in the entrepreneurship development program organized in the village itself with the support of skill building Unit of DHAN Foundation from Kottampatti block.

Soap making, soap powder making, bathing soap making, soap oil, toilet cleaner, home cleaning gel and dish wash were the product demonstrated in the trainings. Participants are very happy and few persons may be a successful entrepreneur in future., Numbers of participants for the trainings were as follows.

Entrepreneurship training – simple chemical products- Soap powder, soap oil, Toilet cleaner, dish wash, phenol

| S.No. | Date of training | Venue          | Participants |
|-------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1     | 27.12.2023       | Thottiyankulam | 12           |
| 2     | 28.12.2023       | Chithanenthal  | 23           |
| 3     | 29.12.2023       | Maraikulam     | 11           |
| 4     | 18.1.2024        | Sooranoor      | 18           |
| 5     | 18.1.2024        | Thenour        | 58           |
|       |                  |                | <b>122</b>   |

### 7.3 Organic fertilizer production preparation training

Organic fertilizer production training was conducted in Sooranoor, Chithanendal, S. Maraikulam and Thotiyankulam in which insecticides and fertilizers were prepared in organic ways with the support of vegetables, sugar, cow dungs, buttermilk, ghee, cow urine and fish wastes. Penniyam karaisal, 3G Karaisal, Jeevamirtham, Themor karaisal, meen amilam were prepared in the trainings.

#### Purpose of organic fertilizer

| S.No. | Organic fertilizer name | Use of the fertilizer                           |
|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1     | Penniyam karaisal       | Size and bio mass increase in vegetables        |
| 2     | 3G Karaisal             | Spayed on in sect to avoid them from the plants |
| 3     | Jeevamirtham            | Growth inducer                                  |
| 4     | Themor karaisal         | Growth inducer                                  |
| 5     | meen amilam             | Growth promoter                                 |

Resource persons from Vayalaga vanoli conducted the trainings in the 4 villages. Totally 68 participants participated in this training.

| S.No | Date   | Venue of the training | Total participants |
|------|--------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1    | 4.3.24 | S.Maraikulam GSK      | 13                 |
| 2    | 4.3.24 | A. Thottiyankulam GSK | 18                 |
| 3    | 6.3.24 | Sooranoor GSK         | 17                 |
| 4    | 6.3.24 | Chithanenthal GSK     | 20                 |
|      |        | <b>4 Trainings</b>    | <b>68</b>          |

#### 7.4 LED bulb training in Thenour village

ICT hardware, DHAN Foundation conducted the training

1. Orientation was given to participants with the support of TV in the smart class TV in Thenour school
2. Each part of LED bulb was explained
3. Assembling procedure was practically demonstrated
4. Participants are finally allowed to produce the LED Bulb on their own effort.

Participants are happy after the training as they were in the feeling that they learnt a livelihood and few participants expressed themselves to become an entrepreneur in LED Bulb production.

Total of 67 participants, participated in the training. each village Sangamam one instrument is given for bulb production. AFGs and youths are encouraged to produce bulb and use it in their home and sale to with in the village and nearby village

| S.No | Date of training | Venue            | No. of participants |
|------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1    | 02.03.2024       | Thenur           | 12                  |
| 2    | 29.02.2024       | Chithanenthal    | 20                  |
| 3    | 29.04.2024       | Maraikulam       | 15                  |
| 4    | 30.04.2024       | Sooranoor        | 15                  |
| 5    | 15.05.2024       | A.Thottiyankulam | 15                  |
|      |                  |                  | <b>67</b>           |





### 7.5 Veterinary herbal medicine training

Two training were conducted for the farmers of Chithanendal and S. Maraikulam village to treat their goats and mulching animals through veterinary herbal medicine prepared from the medicinal plants available in the villages.

| S.No | Date of the training | Venue          | Content of the training                                                                      | No.of participants |
|------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1    | 7.3.2024             | Chithanenthall | Masala Urundai, Masthan thailam, Komari mooligai, Kudal pulu marunthu, Liquid of 5 medicines | 20                 |
| 2    | 7.3.2024             | S.Maraikulam   |                                                                                              | 15                 |
|      |                      |                | <b>2 Trainings</b>                                                                           | <b>35</b>          |

| Name of the medicine         | Use of medicine                                          |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Masala Urundai</b>        | Ti increases the weight and immune system of the animals |
| <b>Masthan thailam</b>       | To treat the wounds                                      |
| <b>Komari mooligai</b>       | To treat Foot and Mouth disease                          |
| <b>Kudal pulu marunthu</b>   | To remove the worms in the intestine                     |
| <b>Liquid of 5 medicines</b> | To strengthen the reproductive system of the animals     |

### 7.6 Promoting Entrepreneurship and encouraging Small millet consumption recipe demonstration training Programme

Promoting entrepreneurship and encouraging Small millet consumption recipe demonstration training Programme in all 5 villages aiming to introduce the millet recipe among the people of GS Villages and encourage the Small millet recipe preparation training was conducted consumption of millets at family level. DHAN Jeevidam organized the 5 training in which 95 persons participated.

| S.No | Date      | Venue             | No. of participants |
|------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1    | 29.3.2024 | A. Thottiyankulam | 14                  |
| 2    | 29.3.2024 | Thenour           | 22                  |
| 3    | 29.3.2024 | Sooranoor         | 24                  |
| 4    | 30.3.2024 | S.Maraikulam      | 19                  |
| 5    | 30.3.2024 | Chithanendal      | 16                  |
|      |           | <b>5 Training</b> | <b>95</b>           |

### 7.7 Livelihood -Women entreprenour programme: Installation of Pulveriser in 4 village Sangamam.

For women entrepreneurship programme, pulverizes were 4 AFGs in Sooranoor, Thenour, Chithanendal and A. Thotiyankulam with the support of Ms Mohan, Engineer from Small Millet Foundation. While launching,

usage and maintenance of the pulveriser by the community importance of small millets, regular supply of millet in GSK was discussed.

Mr. Mohan, Engineer, Small Millet foundation explained the operation of Pulverizer.

## 7.8 Millet consumption in sangamam panchayats 2023-2024

In sangamam panchayat there are 2023 households purchase 2815 kgs of small millet.

| Millet consumption in sangamam panchayats 2023-2024 |                     |                  |                  |                         |                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| S. No                                               | Name of the Regions | No of Federation | No of Panchayats | No of Persons Purchased | No of Kgs Purchased |
| 1                                                   | Mdu Rural           | 7                | 8                | 308                     | 1100                |
| 2                                                   | Theni               | 2                | 4                | 530                     | 530                 |
| 3                                                   | Dindigul            | 1                | 2                | 1035                    | 1035                |
| 4                                                   | Pampar              | 1                | 1                | 150                     | 150                 |
|                                                     |                     | 11               | 15               | 2023                    | 2815                |

## 8.Youth Development

Youth development materials worth of Rs 120000 have been purchased for four GSKs centres, Thottiyankulam, Sooranoor, Chithanenthal and Maraikulam. Materials has been placed in the and installed in 4 villages.

Integrated Health enhancement workshop for youth. There were 4 trainings conducted for youth in the 4 Gram Seva villages such as Chithanenthal, Sooranoor, A. Thottiyankulam and S. Maraikulam. Mr. Sundaresan, Director, Six Dots health enhancement center, Madurai conducted the trainings successfully.

Importance of fitness of health, importance of yoga and traditional health fitness activities, do's and do not's to be followed while handling the health fitness materials were taught.

Fitness materials available in the center were also demonstrated. Totally, 142 youths benefited of the workshop. Youths from project villages such as Sooranoor, Chithanental,

S, Maraikulam and Thotiyankulam are regularly using the fitness materials maintained in the GSK offices. File racks are provided to the 4 villages to keep the books in safe. Youths are using the books for the competitive exam preparation.

| S.No | Date of Workshop | Venue of the workshop | No. of youth participated |
|------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1    | 13.01.2024       | Chithanenthal         | 24                        |
| 2    | 13.01.2024       | Sooranoor             | 55                        |
| 3    | 27.01.2024       | Maraikulam            | 35                        |
| 4    | 27.01.2024       | A. Thottiyankulam     | 28                        |
|      |                  |                       | 142                       |

## Providing Daily newspaper for DHAN SBI Youth centre

Reading habits of the community is almost nil. Through our library initiatives, book of competitive examinations is provided. People and village people are very happy about the initiatives. Usually, advertisement for jobs and carriers and higher studies are being published in daily newspaper. Providing newspaper for the library will be essential know the carrier opportunities from the government side as well as private and industrial sector side. DHAN Foundation provide Dhinakaran,



the daily newspaper for the youth development centre in 4 places such as Sooranoor, Chithanenthal, A. Thottiyankulam, S. Maraikulam from January 12th 2024. Onwards.

## 9. Rural Infrastructure development:

### Rural infrastructure:

- Community toilet construction work in Chithanendal
- New community toilet in Thotiyankulam
- Dry yard in the village has been renovated and ready for usage
- Drying yard in the SC colony with minor repair works
- Pal sealing work has been completed in GSK Thottiyankulam.
- Renovation of Thotiyankulam Anganwadi
- School toilet in Thotiyankulam School in final stage
- Renovation of library building
- Grain storage go down in Thotiyankulam colony
- Toilet construction in Thenour
- Toilet construction in Sooranoor
- Toilet construction in Maraikulam
- Dry yard in SC colony in Thotiyankulam village has been renovated.
- Pal ceiling work has been completed in GSK Thottiyankulam.
- Renovation of Thotiyankulam Anganwadi
- School toilet in Thotiyankulam School
- Renovation of library building
- Grain storage go down in Thottiyankulam colony



## 10. Women Empowerment:

Women were encouraged to take care of the health condition of themselves as well as their family members through getting training on nutritional aspects of millets, preparation of millet recipes and getting the millets regularly from the GSKs.

Women are empowered to manage the water resources through setting up of Rainwater harvesting system in their houses. During the World water Day celebration, women are expressed the importance of water in the villages and conserving the rain water and renovation of water sources in tank .

Newspaper was provided to all village Sangamam GSK. Women of the GS villages eagerly read the daily newspaper to know the day-to-day event in the society and explore the livelihood opportunities and entitlement related details from the daily newspaper.

For empowering the women there are two flow charts prepared for safe drinking water and sanitation. GSK staff gave awareness on both topics.

## 11. Environment:

### 11.1 Water conservation

#### 11.1.1 Water conservation work in Thotiyankulam.

Prosopis in the catchment area has been removed. Deepening of water catchment area has been completed.

Encroachment in the catchment area has been removed. Four and half acres of encroached land have been evicted from four persons. Sluice/outlet of big irrigation tank in damaged condition for long times has been renovated. Prosopis in water catchment area has been removed. Deepening works have been initiated. This tank is now ready for harvesting of rainwater from North East monsoon.

#### 11.1. 2 Water conservation works in Maraikulam

Jungle clearance in the bank of the oorani is completed. Deepening and bund strengthening works of the irrigation tank is completed.

#### 11.1.3 Water conservation works in Sooranoor village

cleaning work on the bund of irrigation area has been completed. Land deepening for wall construction along the bund of the tank has been completed. Removal of prosopis and wall construction has been completed.

### 11.2 Tree Plantation: JAN VAN

As part of the JANVAN program, efforts have been undertaken to recover 4.5 acres of encroached panchayat land. The decision has been made to allocate a 1.25-acre foreshore area within the Small Tank of Thotiyankulam village for JANVAN activities, intending to establish it as a role model. The DHAN Foundation team has meticulously surveyed the foreshore area of the small irrigation zone in Thotiyankulam village. Utilizing specialized instruments, a detailed map has been crafted.

JANVAN was launching on 03.01.2024 in Thotiyankulam in which 80 persons from students, teachers, Mr. Krishnan, Tank federation president, Kariyapatti GSK members and common people participated. had been participants. Importance of tree plantation was explained in the event to the students and people.



Key activities for JANVAN in this area include the removal of prosopis, revitalization of a defunct borewell, installation of a PVC pipeline connecting the borewell to the plantation area, fencing around the plantation, and the planting of trees.

There were 265 trees from the varieties of mango, pomegranate banyon, Arasu, poovarasu, neem, pungai were planted by students as team, teachers, and village leaders. Horticulture department officials and president of T. Veppankulam .

#### **Trees saplings planted on greening the Panchayat 2023-24**

|    |                                               |          |
|----|-----------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1  | Name of the Regions                           | 4        |
| 2  | Name of the Federation                        | 9        |
| 3  | Name of the Panchayat                         | 13       |
| 4  | Saplings Planted streets/ Road side           | 175      |
| 5  | Planted at Public Places                      | 1,380    |
| 6  | Planted around the water bodies               | 120      |
| 7  | Total saplings distributed to Private Parties | 1,800    |
| 8  | Total Trees distributed                       | 3475     |
| 9  | Cost of saplings in Rs.                       | 1,52,250 |
|    |                                               |          |
| 10 | Panchayat Cost in Rs                          | 20,000   |
| 11 | Federation Cost in Rs                         | 31,000   |
| 12 | Forest department Cost in Rs                  | 1,01,250 |

#### **11.3 Solar Home Lighting Systems & Solar Products-**

There are 10 solar lights were installed GSK, Library and youth centres of the GSKs. It will be very useful during the power cut off time. Remedial centre, Prerna centre, Computer lab and youth centre will get benefit of the solar lights

### **12. International /national day celebration:**

#### **12.1 world environment day**

The world environment day is conducted in Sooranoor village. The expected participants are 100. In this event the nursery center will be inaugurated in Sooranoor GSK. And there are 15 trees planted in public places by farmers groups of Sooranoor. The GSK staff were conducted a competition for school students in relevance to environment day in each village. Environment related booklet in Tamil language was given to the participants. In this event introduction about world environment day and Importance of Trees for human life were shared. The Speaker from environment Mr. Haribubu (coordinator of National Green corps) was invited and greening and sacred grooves conservation and water conservation activities of DHAN-SBIF project are shared in this event. Prizes for winners for essay written, drawing, and speech Competition were given. In this day Nursery center also initiated in Sooranoor GSK. And fencing work also in progress.

#### **12.2 International Youth Day celebration**

International Youth Day was celebrated in Thottiyankulam on 12.1.2024. Totally 60 persons participated in the event of which 25 persons are youth. center of Thottiyankulam village was opened by Mr Atheswaran , president ,T.Veppankulam and in his inaugural speech he insisted about the best use of the library.

1. He also appreciated the activities of DHAN -SBI Gram Seva. He also promised that he is going to donate books to the library. Mr Senkuttuvel youth Coordinator shared about importance of education to youth, Skill building, carrier counseling and higher education. Youth appreciated the activities of DHAN -SBI

Gram Seva and expressed that sports facilities should be created in addition to online facilities to the youth centre.

- Children were eager to enter into the library building and happy to be a part of readers of the library. They said that after school times, they will come to library and read one or two page also they want children books in the library. Branding works were completed the library building. File rack is ordered for Library building to keep the books in shape and order.

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### 12.3. Youth events on Pongal day celebration

International youth Day was conducted in Chithanenthal and A. Thottiyankulam on 16.01.2024 by youth group of the village along with Pongal festival. In the event, all youth of the village celebrate it in grant manner. This event is being anchored by the youth group of the village. As SBIF is very keen in youth development, it took part in the international youth day celebration in the villages .Fourteen events conducted in the youth day events at village level were, Water filling in the bottle for both male and female, Balloon breaking for both male and female, Music chair for both male and female, Music ball for both male and female, Rope pushing for both male and female, Running for both male and female, Cycling, Pot with water, Brick holding, Lucky square, Dance, Memory contest, gunny bag competition (Sakku race), and Skinning (Uri addithal)

| S.No | Date of event | Organised by     | No of people participated |
|------|---------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1    | 16.1.2024     | A.Thottiyankulam | 155                       |
| 2    | 16.01.2024    | Chithanenthal    | 79                        |
|      |               |                  | 334                       |

### 12.4. International yoga day celebration on 21.06. 2023

International Yoga Day, yoga event conducted in all 4 GSK with Remedial and school students on 21 .06.2023. The team mobilized 220 students. Everyone was wearing school uniform on that day. Yoga master com physiotherapy Mrs. Mega Sundaresan, from Madurai Six dots health enhancement center and Mr. Sasikumar and Mr. Dinesh Yoga Practitioner were invited as a resource person, for teaching yoga on that day. Education educator and 4 GSK staff are facilitated in this event.

### 12.5 World water day

Importance of water, conservation of water and avoiding water scarcity and conflict through conserving the water at every houses were discussed in the event of World water day event. Points shared by the community during the World Water day event were,

- Rain water harvesting is an important measure towards the water conservation.
- Water bodies in their houses such as irrigation tanks and ooranis and community wells are to be renovated. Wastages of water is to be avoided at every houses

### Visit by SBIF Managing Director in DHAN SBIF GSP Kariyapatti project.



### Inauguration of GSK activities on 8th August 2023



## 13. Resource mobilisation status:

### 13.1 External resource mobilisation:

**13.1.1 SBIF foundation gram seva project** initiated from October 2022 through integrated approach. This center aims to develop 5 model villages in Kariyapatti block of Virudhunagar District. The launch is at S. Maraikulam, Suranoor Thenoor Thotiyankulam, Chithanental in Kariyapatti block. The center aims to provide quality education, enrich primary health care services, ensure safe drinking water, promote livelihoods, leverage government schemes, conservation of environment, empower rural women and youth, improve rural infrastructure and facilitate digital transactions. The sanctioned amount is 2.4 crores. DHAN SBI Gram seva programme funds so far 1,40,96,724 availed for Kariyapatti location. Last year Rs 86,64,421 received.

### 13.1.2 KVB Proposal:

Proposal on ASPIRE (Advancing Sustainable Panchayat Villages through Integrated Rural Ecosystem) is sanctioned Rs 2 crores on March 2024. And the project is going to operationalized from April 2024 onwards.

### 13.2 Internal Resource Mobilization:

Internal resource mobilization is Rs 18.93 lakhs



# Financial Statements

**DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET***(in ₹)*

|                                    | AS AT | March 31, 2024  | March 31, 2023  |
|------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                      |       |                 |                 |
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                |       |                 |                 |
| Fixed Assets                       |       | 29,800          | -               |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS AND ADVANCES</b> |       |                 |                 |
| Bank Balances in Savings Accounts  |       | 88,919          | 1,65,352        |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <b>1,18,719</b> | <b>1,65,352</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                 |       |                 |                 |
| CORPUS FUND                        |       | 10,000          | 10,000          |
| GENERAL FUND                       |       | 78,919          | 18,459          |
| SPECIFIED FUND                     |       | -               | 1,13,373        |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES                |       | -               | 23,520          |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES                |       | 29,800          | -               |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <b>1,18,719</b> | <b>1,65,352</b> |

Sd/-  
Chairperson

Sd/-  
Treasurer

As per our Report of even date  
For H M P S & Associates,  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Registration Number : 011723S

Sd/-  
Chief Executive

Sd/-  
**(R. HANUMANTHAN)**  
Partner  
Membership No. 219096

Madurai  
September 14, 2024

**DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation****CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT***(in ₹)***FOR THE YEAR ENDED****March 31, 2024****March 31, 2023****INCOME:**

|                                         |                  |                  |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Grants from DHAN Foundation             | -                | 3,50,000         |
| Donations                               | 20,71,971        | 22,38,179        |
| Other Income - Interest from SB Account | 6,044            | 9,097            |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>20,78,015</b> | <b>25,97,276</b> |

**PROJECT WISE EXPENDITURE:****Programme Expenditure**

|                     |             |             |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Training Programme  | 8,72,28,025 | 8,30,89,996 |
| Volunteer Allowance | 9,87,87,784 | 8,56,83,748 |

**ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE**

|                                    |           |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Employees' Remuneration & Benefits | 11,65,099 | 15,71,440 |
| Consultancy Fees                   | 3,60,000  | 3,60,000  |
| Travel Expense                     | 71,617    | 63,639    |
| Training and Meetings              | 62,199    | 45,090    |
| Audit Fee                          | -         | 8,850     |
| Postage & Photocopying             | -         | 1,819     |
| Bank Charges                       | 272       | 105       |
| Printing & Stationery              | 8,577     | 22,833    |
| Asset Wirtte OFF                   | 29,800    | -         |

|                                                                                               |                 |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Excess of Expenditure over Income (Deficit) -<br/>Transferred to Appropriation Account</b> | <b>(52,913)</b> | <b>(7,03,149)</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|

|              |                  |                  |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Total</b> | <b>20,78,015</b> | <b>25,97,276</b> |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|

**Appropriation Account - Surplus transferred to**

|                |            |            |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| General Fund   | 60,460     | 9,097      |
| Specified Fund | (1,13,373) | (7,12,246) |

|              |                 |                   |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Total</b> | <b>(52,913)</b> | <b>(7,03,149)</b> |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|

As per our Report of even date

For H M P S & Associates,  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Registration Number : 011723S

Sd/-  
Chairperson

Sd/-  
Treasurer

Sd/-  
Chief Executive

Sd/-  
**(R. HANUMANTHAN)**  
Partner  
Membership No. 219096

Madurai  
September 14, 2024

# Board of Trustees

## MR. M.P. VASIMALAI

Mr. M.P. Vasimalai, Executive Director of DHAN Foundation and Chairperson of DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation, is a highly experienced development professional with over 30 years in the field. A postgraduate in Agriculture and an alumnus of IIM Ahmedabad, he has been instrumental in founding key development organizations like PRADAN and DHAN Foundation. His work focuses on community organization, natural resource management, livelihood promotion, and institutional development, making him a significant figure in India's development sector.



## MR. S. S. MEENAKSHISUNDARAM



Mr. S.S. Meenakshisundaram is a retired IAS officer (1968 batch, Karnataka cadre) with extensive experience in governance, rural development, and decentralization. He is the Vice Chairperson of DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation. He has served in senior roles including Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministries of Rural Development, Space, and Disinvestment, and was Joint Secretary to the Prime Minister. Internationally, he has worked with UNICEF, FAO, World Bank, UNDP, and WaterAid on key development themes.

## MR. S. SINGARAYAR

Mr. S. Singarayar is a seasoned development professional with over three decades of experience in grassroots development, disaster management, local governance, and microfinance. A graduate in Rural Development Science from Madurai Kamaraj University, He is also the Treasurer of the DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation. He has been with DHAN Foundation for over 30 years, currently serving as Programme Leader. He has anchored over 30 major projects supported by international agencies, led large-scale tsunami rehabilitation efforts, and guided over 100 professionals across Tamil Nadu. His work focuses on promoting people's institutions, sustainable livelihoods, disaster risk reduction, and strengthening Panchayat Raj Institutions. Presently he is a CEO of Neithal Mutual Movement .



## SMT. A. UMARANI



Smt. Umarani A., the CEO of Kalanjiam Foundation, plays a key role in empowering women through microfinance initiatives. With academic credentials in agricultural science, personnel management, and sociology, she brings a well-rounded perspective to development. Under her leadership, the foundation has expanded its Self-Help Group movement, championing financial inclusion, sustainable community banking, and policy advocacy. Her impactful work has reached close to a million women, fostering grassroots democracy and poverty alleviation across various self-sustained federations.

### MR. N. VENKATESAN

Mr. N. Venkatesan is an Agricultural Engineer from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu. He is holding present position as Programme Leader. Since last 30 years he is working with DHAN Foundation a nationwide voluntary development organisation on small scale water bodies like Tank and Watershed Programmes. During the period, he is involved in promoting the Nested people's institutions for conservation and development of small scale water bodies, planning and implementing the conservation of these water bodies through people institutions and upscaling the process at large scale. He has headed the DHAN Vayalagam Tank Foundation in DHAN. Presently, he is a faculty at the DHAN Academy, grooming young development professionals.



### MR. S. SENTHAMARAI



Mr. S. Senthamarai, born in 1962, has been actively involved in community development since 2004. Over the years, she has held various leadership roles in DHAN Kalanjiam Self Help Groups. Alongside her organizational work, she serves as a Para Legal Volunteer (P.L.V.), working across multiple government offices and welfare committees focused on child protection and anti-trafficking. She is also a trustee of the DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation, reflecting her enduring commitment to community service and social justice.

### MR. N. JANAKIRAMAN

Mr. N Janakiraman is a senior development practitioner with over 20 years of experience, including 18 years with DHAN Foundation. An alumnus of The DHAN Academy, he holds degrees in Pharmacy and Public Administration. He has played a key role in advancing local governance, designing democratic tools, and leading microplanning initiatives. Within DHAN he has headed Kalanjiam Development Financial Services, DHAN People Academy, DHAN Panchayat Raj theme, mentored projects across Tamil Nadu, and mobilized resources from international donors. Currently, he heads the Centre for Policy and Planning, where he also teaches governance and development courses. He is also a trustee of the DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation.



### SMT N. SHANTHI MADURESAN



Smt. Shanthi Madhuresan is a seasoned development professional with over three decades of experience in grassroots empowerment, institution building, and leadership in the social sector. Currently serving as the Chief Executive Officer of the DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation, she has led various transformative initiatives across India, particularly in promoting people's institutions and participatory governance. Her academic background includes a Master's in Rural Economics and Extension Education, and Bachelors of Education, complemented by management Education Programme (MEP) from IIM Ahmedabad and expertise in occupational health and safety. Shanthi has held key leadership roles across the DHAN Collective, including CEO positions in Kalanjiam Mutual Movement and INFOS, Director in DHAN People Academy and has been actively engaged in national and international training, research, and policy advocacy. She is also a faculty member at The DHAN Academy and a board member of multiple grassroots organizations, reflecting her commitment to inclusive development, gender equity, and capacity building.

## Above DHAN Foundation

DHAN Foundation is a development Organization working towards significant changes in the lives of the poor through innovative themes. It has been promoted with the objective of bringing highly motivated and educated young women and men to the development sector to work with the poor at grassroots. DHAN Foundation has come out with two scalable models Kalanjiam model of Development Finance and Vayalagam model of Tank based watershed development. It is working on developing models on other programmes viz The DHAN Academy, Rainfed, Panchayat, ICT for poor, Climate Change and Adaptation. The new themes on Migration and Development, Youth and Development are on piloting in evolving models. The centres of DHAN Foundation play a vital role in integrating different programmes and themes across, in nurturing and processing the culture of collegiality, mutuality and solidarity.

## About DHAN Panchayat (Sangamam) Development Foundation

DHAN Panchayat (Sangamam) Development Foundation is the one of the subsidiaries of DHAN Foundation, promoted mainly to scale-up the initiatives of grassroots level governance and self-sustainable villages. It is presently working with 100+ Village Panchayats across 3 states to advance direct democracy and good governance via Panchayat Raj Institutions. The major objectives of the DPDF are advancing direct democracy and good governance for Poverty Reduction through Panchayat Raj Institutions. And Promoting village Sangamam institution at hamlet level and Sangamam collective institution at panchayat level and Integrating Community-Level People Institutions (SHGs, Farmers Groups, Youth Associations, etc.) with local governance for leverage and access to entitlements. And Fostering the emergence of community leaders within PRI for political involvement. And Synergizing traditional governance systems with formal Panchayat institutions for cohesive development.



### **DHAN Panchayat Development Foundation**

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