

**Rural Institute of Social Empowerment
(RISE)**

Varadarajanpettai, Ariyalur district, Tamil Nadu, India – 612805

Annual reports for the year 2023-2024

Introduction

Rural Institute for Social Empowerment (RISE) is pleased to present the annual reports for the period from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024 to our members, Governments, Donors and Supporters and to the target people in our area. It has been year of achievements for us where we have implemented important projects to reach and enable target families and groups in our area. The details of the activities implemented are as follows;

1. Women Development Program

RISE in collaboration with ICICI Bank Ltd, enabled women members in the women groups in the target villages to avail economic assistance to undertake income generation activities viz. petty shops, rearing of Milch animals, doing vending activities to have regular work and income around the year on their own. 80 women groups, 1200 members of the groups benefitted. An amount of Rs.640 lakhs credit channelized to the women members of the women groups during the year under review.

2. Consumer Awareness program

An intensive awareness programs among school going youth who do their studies in 5 Government Higher Secondary Schools at Sendurai, Ariyalur, T. Palur, Jayamkondam and Andimadam in Ariyalur district. 247 students took part in the programs. Quiz programs and essay writing competitions on various topics related to consumer awareness and rights were held in 5 schools. Prizes, and certificates of appreciation were distributed to the student's participants.

Activities:

- ✓ Product Certification
- ✓ Hall Marking for Jewelry
- ✓ Management system certificate
- ✓ Laboratory services
- ✓ Consumer Affairs
- ✓ Training
- ✓ ISI certification

3. Financial Literacy Program

RISE and Tamil Nadu Grama Bank jointly conducted financial literacy programs among 73 women groups and its members. M. R. Baskaran, M.Sc. Agri. Branch Manager, Tamil Nadu Grama Bank oriented the participants on Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM_JAY), PMJJBY, PMFBY, PMVVY, etc. He also spoke on Health Insurance, Savings activity, Gold schemes.

4. THOZHI network for Campaign against Exploitation of Women workers

RISE in partnership with THOZHI network, engaged in educating the women workers in various non-agriculture firms in the district. There are hundreds of women workers in various non-farm firms in the district, who are facing exploitations and work in poor working conditions.

RISE did survey of the women workers in the district. After collection of data of women workers, they were oriented on their working conditions, laws meant for them and protecting their rights. Then they were helped to form their groups for collective activities. 5 women groups were formed in Thennur, Kavarapalayam, Varadarajanpet, Sendurai and Andimadam.

This campaign educated the women and general public to prevent trafficking of women and girls for forcing them into begging, commercial sex, sexual abuses and violence to make villages women and girls friendlier and sensitive one.

Mr. Aruldoss, Director, RISE proposed a vote of thanks.

5. Legal Awareness Program against Anti Human Trafficking

RISE , and IJM organized program to educate the public on laws to prevent human trafficking , and the types of trafficking and reasons for trafficking, vulnerable pockets and clusters and vulnerable families prone to human trafficking in the name of employment, better job and wages to do away with family poverty situation etc.

Mr. Alagesan, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Ariyalur, and Mr. Vellaichamy, Senior Advocate, District Sessions Court, Ariyalur educated the participants on the threats of human trafficking and exploitations.

6. Launching Anti Human trafficking clubs

Anti-Human Trafficking Club was formed by the college students studying in Government Arts College, Ariyalur by the efforts by RISE and its team members.

International Justice Mission, Chennai and RISE Varadarajanpettai jointly organized this program to prevent human trafficking in the area around the college and villages of the students are living.

320 students from the college turned out and participated and benefitted.

Mr. FerozHabibullah, Superintendent of Police, Ariyalur, Mrs. Mahalakshmi. District Sessions Judge, District Court, Ariyalur, Mr. Alagesan, Secretary, Legal Services

Authority, Ariyalur district court, District Officer for Eradication of Bonded Labor System, Ariyalur, Mrs. Malarvizhi, Principal, Government Arts College, Ariyalur, and Mr. Prabu, Advocate, International Justice Mission, Chennai are the guest speakers to promote the Anti-Human Trafficking Club in the college.

7. Leadership training to office bearers and key members of women groups

237 women office bearers and key members of the women groups were trained in leadership skills, qualities, and types of leadership, collective leadership during the year under review. These are being done to strengthen the groups and the governance for their best performances.

8. Animators and Representatives training to women group members

~~236 women Animators and representatives~~ of the women groups were trained in the roles and responsibilities of the women office bearers of the groups. Their roles are important to facilitate the groups effectively and efficiently. The training methods are participatory, and activities based to impart the inputs effectively to build the knowledge and skills of the participants.

9. Self-help Groups training

236 women from the women groups that are function in the areas under Maruthur, Koovathur, Thullikuthichan, Andimadam, and Kattathur clusters in Ariyalur district were trained in women self-help group formation, rules and regulations, books and accounts keeping, minutes, resolutions documentation, bank accounts operations, do's and don'ts, savings, internal lending, credit linkages with banks, subsidies and loans, economic assistance, group loans, repayment, rates of interests, etc.

It was stressed the cooperation, mutual respect, solidarity with all members, cooperative functioning, service mind, and compromise on the interests of all members. Master Trainer Mr. Aruldoss facilitated the training to women office bearers.

10. Environment education and awareness

Members of eco clubs in schools were educated on environment, ecology, bio diversity, threats to eco system and environment through pollutants, polluting day to day activities by human beings, plastic abuses, polluting water, air, soil etc.

It was stressed that people should practice eco friendlier practices and day to day behavior; water conservation, recycling, reuse and recharging the water sources to ensure the water sustainability and continuity to all living beings.

Students were asked to motivate their parents, the farmers to give up chemical fertilizers to crops, cultivation to save crops, water, soil and air qualities.

Need of planting of new tree saplings, protecting the existing trees in their surroundings, villages and schools, public places are very much essential to contain global warming and reduce the impact of climate changes.

200 students of eco clubs took part and benefitted. Mrs. Ramya, District Coordinator facilitated the training of students. Mr. Aruldoss oriented the students to keep the eco system and environment intact.

11. Health Education and promotion

Dr. Kannan, M.D., Medical Officer , Government Hospital spoke on personal health, hygiene, common diseases, infections, how to keep one's health especially the adolescent health, nutrition, keeping mindset focused and free from negativities, etc.

Mrs. Fatima, Village Health Nurse, Government Hospital, addressed the students about adolescence, adolescent health, nutrition, common illnesses during adolescence, and child health, safe pregnancy, delivery and child hood.

Conclusion:

It is our bounden duty to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to our donors, Tamil Nadu Grama Bank, ICICI Bank Ltd, Thozhi Network, Tamil Nadu and other organisations, networks who contributed RISE to execute the projects and interventions to our people in our area.

We thank District Collector, Ariyalur, Superintendent of Police, Ariyalur, Deputy Director of Health Services, Ariyalur, Department of Labor, Ariyalur, Government Higher Secondary Schools in the district, the Headmasters and the teachers, Bankers, Village Panchayats, Block Development Officers, for their support and cooperation.

For RURAL INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
EMPOWERMENT (RISE)

DIRECTOR