

International Medical Health Organization

Hope through Resilience



Annual Convention
June 12, 2021
Zoom

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June 12, 2020

Dear Friends,

After almost a year and a half of uncertainty, stress and hardship, there is seemingly a light at the end of the tunnel at last. While we here in the U.S. and other developed nations find ourselves with access to COVID-19 vaccines and relatively robust healthcare systems, our counterparts in the developing world typically do not have access to such resources. This pandemic has truly highlighted the great global divide between wealthy nations and those still struggling to develop.

This divide is exactly what we at IMHO have always sought to address – to narrow the gap by building up civil society and social infrastructure to meet the needs of our world's most vulnerable peoples. With your support, we have invested over USD \$6.5 million over the last 18 years, helping to address both emergency relief and long-term development needs in service of those who need it the most. We are proud to stand by our local partners who are truly making an impact, often at great sacrifice.

The global pandemic has also been a critical reminder to all of us that we are all connected, and we all have a social responsibility to each other. We may live thousands of miles apart, but we all share this planet and are duty-bound to protect it and each other. We must support each other in our hour of need, whether it occur on account of war, poverty, natural disaster, climate change, a global pandemic...or whatever else may come our way in the future. We must stand together. We must be strong. And we must let compassion lead the way.

Our theme for our annual souvenir program this year is “Hope through Resilience”, because we have all had to overcome hardship this past year. Yet, hope is always with us and will always be there to lead us forward. We thank you for believing in us and for enabling us to provide hope to so many in need over this past year.

With gratitude,
The IMHO Board of Directors

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IMHO is a registered Private Voluntary Organization (PVO) with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID),
and a proud member of InterAction.*

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Assist Resettlement & Renaissance

Charity registered in England & Wales – Reg. No. 1151025



Projects funded by IMHO USA and implemented by Assist Resettlement & Renaissance (Assist RR, UK & SL) in the North and East of Sri Lanka

By Dr. Velautham Sarveswaran, Assist RR

Assisting Victims of War in Parankiyamadu, Kiran DS Division of Batticaloa District

Assist Resettlement & Renaissance, Sri Lanka (AssistRR, SL) visited the above village and identified that there were many desperate needs including wells, toilets, shelters, and livelihood support. AssistRR, SL, also requested AssistRR, UK, to contribute towards the needs of this village. There are nearly 150 families, including rehabilitated former LTTE members, living in this village. One family of 3 children, of which the wife was a rehabilitated LTTE member, did not have mats to sleep on the sand floor and was using a piece of string and a piece of saree tied together to fetch water from the well. This family's need was addressed immediately. The following needs were identified as a result:

1. 49 families needed proper shelters as they are now living in very pathetic condition – Planned to build safe and acceptable shelters @ LKR 350k per shelter.
2. 43 families have no toilets and have been using the bushes as cover in the outskirts of the village.
3. There are 45 half-done toilets that needed completion;
4. Livelihood support to around 118 families as described below.

There are 28 women headed families including a number of young widows. There are another 118 families, who are capable of fishing. However, due to lack of fishing gear, men are working as fishing labourers in Udappu, near Puttalam. The families are very eager to commence their fishing activities in their own village, so that the men can stay at home and work. This required assistance to purchase fishing gear as follows: 33 families have canoes and requested fishing nets only; 3 families have boats and engines but needed nets to go fishing; Remaining 82 families required engine boats and nets for fishing locally. We could provide one set of boat, engine and nets to five families, as we have done in the past. This equated to needing 16 boats.



Parankiyamadu (on 13 October 2020)

The total cost of this project was around LKR 32 million. IMHO USA agreed to join forces and donated LKR 11.5 million towards donating 2 sets of boats, engines and nets, 23 shelters and completing 43 incomplete toilets. AssistRR UK, Malaysian Diaspora through Tamil Forum Malaysia, and Alaka Foundation, Malaysia, are funding 14 sets of boats, engines and nets, 45 new

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Toilets, 168 nets to 36 families, who already own canoes/boats. All the shelters including 23 funded by IMHO USA have been completed and were handed over to the beneficiaries on 16 April 2021. 43 incomplete toilets have also been completed, thanks to IMHO USA's generous support. Fishing equipment funded by the IMHO and others will be donated after lifting of Corona restrictions (April/May 21). Families of this village had full of praises for the donors for making complete changes in their lives. This project is being implemented by AssistRR, Sri Lanka.



Parankiyamadu (on 16 April 2021)

There were many other Projects which were funded by IMHO, USA, and were Implemented by AssistRR, SL, in 2020/21. They are given in the table below. Some photos are also given.

| Project Description | Actual Cost |
|---|--------------|
| Renovation of Computer Room (Estimated Cost-785,800/-), Mullaithivu | 649,790.00 |
| Renovation of Mental Health Unit at Batticaloa (Estimated Cost-2,709850/-) | 1,978,772.00 |
| Construction of Teachers Quarters at Kottaikattiyakulam, Mullaithivu (Estimated Cost-2,365,196/-) | 2,552,982.00 |
| Toilet Construction at Kanchiranmottai, Vavuniya | 1,090,430.00 |
| Construction of Well at Thangavelayuthapuram, Amparai | 408,500.00 |
| Renovation of Dental unit at Pulipanchchakal, Batticaloa | 131,412.00 |
| Payment for Air Conditioning to Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa | 540,315.00 |
| Pre-School at Savarikullam, Mannar | 2,370,588.00 |
| Renovation of Pediatric Unit at Base Hospital Kalmunai | 765,480.00 |

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| | |
|---|------------|
| Thenudayan Pre-School | 111,650.00 |
| Fish Seeds at Kanchikudyaru, Amparai | 126,800.00 |
| Puthukudiyruppu - Pre-School, Mullaithivu | 414,212.00 |



Mu/Koddaikaddiyakulam Maha Vidyalayam, Mullaitivu
Teachers' Quarters



Savarikullam Pre-School, Mannar



Renovation of Pediatric Unit at Base Hospital Kalmunai

Early childhood development for poor children

(Mrs. V.S. Sarojini - Project officer- ECCD & Economic Development - IMHO- Upcountry)



During the year 2016, The IMHO started supporting the eleven below named Preschools in the Upcountry area. These preschool children's parents are estate workers and live in tea estates. They earn low wages and they are very poor. These parents were not interested to send their children to a preschool for an education.

Even If the parents had wanted to send their children to preschool, they are unable to pay the teachers due to poverty. No other organization or department was willing to the salary for preschool teachers in upcountry area. Most children in the estates couldn't attend a preschool education at early stage despite preschool education is the most important foundation to continue their higher education without any setbacks.

Fortunately, IMHO came forward to run these eleven Preschools effective from the year 2019. The IMHO gave teacher training to Preschool teachers to teach the children effectively and lay a strong foundation for their higher future education.



Presently, eleven preschools are under their supervision of IMHO and their details are on the table below. Each teacher teaches an average of fourteen children and a sum of Rs. 5,000.00 LKR is paid as monthly allowance for a Preschool teacher by IMHO.

| No | Name of Preschool | Number of children | Number of teachers |
|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Moray | 11 | 1 |
| 2 | Forress Annai | 15 | 1 |
| 3 | Nallathanner LD Agaram | 15 | 1 |
| 4 | Dottala Sigaram | 14 | 1 |
| 5 | Brownlow Barathy | 16 | 1 |
| 6 | Mousakelle Kalaimahal | 17 | 1 |
| 7 | Ekolsand Little Flower | 18 | 1 |
| 8 | Nynza Sri Krishna | 13 | 1 |
| 9 | Hapugastenne Lower SIDPS | 11 | 1 |
| 10 | Hapugastenne Upper Butterfly | 13 | 1 |
| 11 | Theberton Malarum Mottukkal | 22 | 2 |
| Total | | 165 | 12 |



In addition, the IMHO has funded buildings for toilets, clean water facilities, electricity supply, desks, chairs, cupboards, children park, and play items, as well as maintenance of Preschools. A residential workshop program was conducted to Preschool teachers in Jaffna during the year 2020 by IMHO, Teachers were guided to teach children in an appropriate manner to reach the goal of better education.

In addition, IMHO introduced cultural activities by placing children on stage and gave away prizes to all children to boost their morale, thus providing encouragement for a brighter future. Formal training is in progress to pregnant mothers to raise awareness of the validity of preschools.

The IMHO also issued seeds for vegetables to cultivate in the Preschool Garden. This exercise will encourage these children to notice vegetable gardens and learn the usefulness of vegetables grown in these gardens. Hopefully, this picture will be imprinted in their minds, to follow this eco-system as they grow older to cultivate their own vegetable gardens in their future.



Contributions of IMHO USA to the Cardiology Unit of Jaffna Teaching Hospital

By Dr. P. Lakshman, Consultant Cardiologist, Jaffna Teaching Hospital

The health care sector is a service sector which needs increasing funds and resources every year in order to keep pace with the development and innovative interventions and treatment techniques and to provide better services.

The health care sector in developing countries faces far greater challenges since the economic situation of these countries and various other socio-cultural and political factors that limit the availability of funds and resources. Thus, the contribution from non-governmental agencies and community-based organizations have become important in order to ensure better services to the community.

The Cardiology Unit of the Jaffna Teaching Hospital is indeed fortunate to have a long-standing relationship with IMHO USA which has continued now for more than a decade. IMHO provided financial assistance (4.6 million SLR) in 2008 for the expansion of a high dependency unit and to equip it.

Further, a fruitful collaborative funding programme with the UNDP brought the cardiac catheterization lab building for the Teaching Hospital - Jaffna in 2010. The cath lab was finally established in this building in 2011. IMHO continued the support for many years by providing financial assistance to purchase the necessary hardware to run the cath lab.

The Cardiology Unit of the Jaffna Teaching Hospital also received permanent pacemakers, portable echo machine, and temporary pacemaker generators & leads during this period. IMHO also contributed to the human resource development of this unit. Nursing officers attached to this unit were trained in India in cardiac catheterization.

In the early part of 2021, the Cardiology Unit received a holter system and ambulatory blood pressure monitoring equipment worth of 2.5 million SLR.

I thank the IMHO USA on behalf of the Cardiology Unit, Teaching Hospital – Jaffna and the people of the Northern Province who have benefitted immensely from the contributions of IMHO. I express my sincere hope that this cordial relationship will continue in the future.



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May 31st 2021

Northern Province

1. English Language Promotion Program

1.1. Activity Based Oral English Training Program for 400 teachers to teach Grade 1&2

- Training content covered two basic skills; spoken and listening according to the curriculum for children Grades 1 &2.
- Completed training for 400 teachers from 20 divisions in Northern Province with the support of Regional English Supporting Centre (RESC).
- Each participant teacher received an authentic listening material in a compact disc.
- 400 ABOE books printed and distributed to schools through the respective zones.
- A follow up booster program for the above mentioned participants in 30 schools successfully completed.



1.2. Professional English Courses for 200 English medium graduates and diploma holders who work as English teachers in the Northern Province

- This program was organized by Ministry of Education, Northern Province through Skill Through English for Public Servants Institute, Jaffna (STEPS Institute, Jaffna).
- 200 teachers selected for the training by need analysis and most recruited in Kilinochchi and island zones.
- The duration of English Language training was 20 days and an additional 10 days to teach Methodology through participatory-learner content approach.
- This training given to a total of 200 teachers in 10 groups with 20 participants in each group.

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- Every participant received valuable course book “Empower” printed by Cambridge University Press, authentic listening materials and the video clips
- A total of 100 teachers completed English language training in 5 successive groups.



1.3. “Fun Reading Bee” –Kids Reading Program for 4600 children in Grades 3,4 & 5

- This program was approved by Ministry of education, Northern Province and implemented by STEPS Institute, Jaffna
- Aim to train children with skills and interest to pursue reading both inside and outside the classroom
- Each school will receive exciting and colourful story books from mostly UK to help start or build upon a school library with training in best practice for story-telling.
- A total of 15 primary schools with 4600 children selected from Killinotchi,Vavuniya south and north zones by STEPS Institute. Five schools within each group and each school will be given a book box containing 50-60 English story books in fiction, non-fiction, and a class set.
- 650 books purchased from UK with great difficulty during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- List of the books for every school prepared with the book box and evaluation tools.
- Every 3-4 months a book-box will be swapped with another school within the respective group. After the 5th cycle, the original book-box will reach the original school and it will be in procession
- The key teacher (may be an English teacher) handling the primary classes will attend a five-day training programme. The training will cover five modules.
- The students will be selected from non Fun Reading Bee Project schools for the community event. This event helps them to foster a love of books!
- Schools will be visited by zonal staff for monitoring and evaluation, and teachers will be able to seek assistance from them to conduct this project successfully. The follow up will be scheduled in one year.

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2.Improve behavioral changes in Early Childhood Education and Healthy Lifestyle-Madhu and Vavuniya North Education Zones

2.1. Necessary steps taken for the approval of the project

- Identified the project areas by Education Monitoring Information System (EMIS) of Early childhood Unit, Ministry of Education, Northern Province
- Received the approval for the baseline study from the Secretary, Ministry of Education, Northern Province.
- Ensured the location of the preschools in the project area through mapping on the area surveyor plan
- The first draft of the questionnaire prepared on the participation of respective areas preschool assistant directors and the dynamic resources.
- Conducted the pre-survey activity review and finalized the questionnaire through the field level data collection on an acceptable sampling basis.
- The overall data collection completed on scheduled dates.
- All the details in the questionnaire computerized and findings reviewed by detail format.
- Baseline data used as benchmark to indicate the key areas
- Study on existing external institution working on the preschool sector in the above-mentioned locations (research materials and policy level documents).
- The experts meeting conducted to analyze the project activities and relevant interventions through the analysis made by the detail format.
- Discussed with the Assistant Directors of the respective areas to collect additional details, finalize the cluster family preschools within each zone, that was planned as a resource center.
- Project proposal-Stage I: prepared and approved by the IMHO-USA board.
- Permission granted to proceed by the Secretary, Ministry of Education, Northern Province, to conduct stage I activities at the proposed project areas

2.2. Progress on the implementation

- Conduct ECD project meeting at Vavuniya North and Madhu Education Zones
- Dr. Thavam Thampipillai (President,IMHO-International) visited the project areas in Jan,2020 and provided ideas to accelerate progress.

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- A video clip prepared and released by Mr.Ahilan Arulanandan (Legal advisor- IMHO) and Dr.Karunyan after their spot visit to the project areas in March,2020
- Activity Based Training provided for 128 teachers out of 194 from 144 schools with 2000 children (10 teachers from 10 schools from Upcountry also included)
- Eight model schools renovated - combined with 41 feeder schools with 52 teachers and 668 students
- Fulfilled basic physical needs in those eight model schools - Electricity connection and supply, clean drinking water, toilets and other sanitation facilities
- Two play field constructed and two others repaired
- Provided Teaching-Learning materials Box, Television. Pen drives with the pre-school programs, white boards, notice board and the cupboards with the glass windows to those model schools
- Fulfilled the furniture requirement to the students and teachers
- First Aid Box , dust-bin and sick room facilities provided
- Apart of this project, one school rebuilt and fulfilled all facilities (Savarikulam Preschool) and one school renovated (Thenudayan Preschool) by a suggestion on a spot visit.

2.3.Activities to be implemented on this project

- Teacher training for additional 66 teachers
TOT training
- Activate model school functions
- Improve status of children and pregnant mothers with capacity of nutrition practices
- Increase parents awareness on child rights and healthy life style
- Special training to preschool teachers on early identification of children with disabilities
- Strengthening of Preschool Management Committees



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3. Boosting Education of the children from homes of hearing impaired parents of Vadamaradchy organization of deaf

- Parents are deaf but children can hear well
- Provided 26 bicycles to the most needy children

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- 100 children received school equipment
- Provided vocational tool kit to four deaf youth to promote their livelihoods
- Provided plastic chairs to the organization involved in this project.



4. Provision of office equipment to INIYA VALVU ILLAM (Puthukudirrupu) in Mullaithivu

- 56 children vision or hearing impaired (Aged 5 - 22).
- Provide computer (1), steel cupboards(3) and iron safe
- Purchase of a Braille machine is on progress



5. Enhancement of potential for prospective teachers in NCOE-Kopay through expansion of their digital skills

- 30 laptops
- 30 head phones
- Wi-Fi zone
- Provide efficient service to the future generation through 392 prospective teacher



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6. Provision of Smart Boards to schools in Vavuniya District Schools

- 12 schools selected at the request from the Vavuniya South and North Zonal Directors
- The Proposal and Estimate submitted and approval given by IMHO Board.
- Country Director visited the above 12 Schools located in Vavuniya South and North zones rural areas and instructed about the smart classroom arrangements.
- WhatsApp app group formed to include school principals from the above 12 School, Yaso, IMHO President, Ratnam Foundation and myself



7. Construction of teacher's quarters at M/Koddaikattiyakulam MV in Thunukai

- School situated in a very remote jungle located 16 km from Thunukai and 36 km from Mankulam through Thunukai
- Public Transport unavailable
- Currently the school has 160 students and 17 teachers

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- Currently there are 160 students and 17 teachers
- Up to 6 teachers can use the quarters
- Female teachers who travel from other districts benefit from a safe and accepted environment



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Eastern Province

1. Developmental Activities in Veruhal Division at Muthur in Eastern Province

Veruhal Divisional Secretariat area is the most backward area in Trincomalee District. A total of 15,045 people inhabitants within 4374 families. The poverty rate is highest in the Eastern Province and the literacy rate is the lowest. Malnutrition has been identified among 73 pregnant mothers and 411. One of the main reasons for this is the low level of Education.

Based on the above facts and on the request from the Divisional Secretary, IMHO-USA board decided to intervene the to conduct the following activities in Veruhal region.

- Construction of building with furniture facilities for illiterate students program
- Provision of drinking water facilities, electricity connection and supply to preschools
- Housing projects
- Developing a model primary school with all technology and facilities.

1.1. Construction of Building with furniture facilities for illiterate students program

Uppural is the most backward village in the Veruhal Divisional Secretariat with the highest number of schools dropouts and illiteracy. These illiterate students were selected and taught by the volunteers at the Office in the Grama Niladhari Division. However due to lack of space and the Covid -19 restrictions, this teaching process has been suspended.

Given this background, IMHO provided fund to construct a building with furniture for the above purpose in Uppural village with the following sustainable participation of the Divisional Secretariat

- Illiterate students selected and taught by volunteers recruited by Uppural Rural Development Society
- This process carried out continuously through the Rural Development Society under the supervision of Divisional Secretary, Divisional Secretariat, Veruhal
- Most of this students living in Uppural village under extreme poverty selected from;
 1. Uppural Sivakasakthi Vidyalayam
 2. Seenanvelli Athavan Vidyalayam
 3. Elangathurai mugathuvaram Hindu College
 - Construction on progress.

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1.2.Provision of drinking water facilities and electricity connection to preschools

In Veruhal Division there are 22 functioning preschools, out of these 22 preschools 5 preschools have no drinking water facilities and 3 schools have no electricity connection supply. Children and teachers from these schools go neighboring houses to drink water and wash hands after meals. It's impossible to receive financial contribution from the general public to meet these needs as this is a very poor community.

- Drinking water facilities for;
- Sembian Preschool
- Elango Preschool
- Namahal Preschool
- Yugapriya Preschool
- Gajamuga Preschool



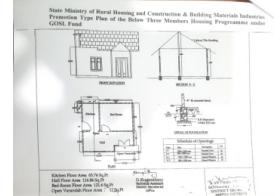
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- Electricity connection with supply.



1.3. Housing Project in Verugal

- Homelessness is a major problem in many poor families in these areas. Divisional Secretary requested us to help one of the families with an old lady and her helpless daughter. IMHO also ensured this request on a spot visit to this area.
- This request was also recommended by the colonization Officer, Grama Nilathari and the Assistant Divisional Secretary
- Estimated cost for a proposed house and the toilet room with septic tank and the soakage pit is LKR 650,000 (USD 3200) approved by the board.



1.4. Development of a model primary school with all technology facilities

- T/Mu/Elanaithurai mugathuvaram Junior School identified as a future model primary school and plans to develop with all necessary technology facilities with various justifications.
- This school located in Veruhal, is in between the borders of the Trincomalee District and Vaharai area of Batticaloa District.
- Once this school becomes a model school, children from Veruhal and Vaharai area will benefit.

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- Principal and the teachers from this school were given the Smart learning awareness in Mulaithivu Sri Subramanya School.
- Smart Board training also given in Trincomalee for three days
- This program is funded by IMHO and Ratnam Foundation UK



2. Provision of Smart Boards to schools in Trincomalee District Schools by IMHO-USA and Ratnam Foundation-UK

- 12 schools selected out of 17 requests from School Principals
- The Proposal and Estimates submitted and approval given by IMHO Board.
- Country Director visited the above 12 Schools located in Trincomalee, Muthur and Kanthalai rural areas and instructed on the smart classroom arrangements.
- A trip organized for 50 school Principals and Teachers from the above 12 schools to visit Mullaithivu-Sri Subramanya Vidhyasalai and Killinotchi- Vaddakachi Junior School to get familiar on teaching for smart board classroom.
- A WhatsApp group formed to the above 12 School Principals, Praba, IMHO President, Ratnam Foundation and myself.
- 12 smart boards fixed by John Keels in the Schools and ensured by the coordinator (IMHO Projects), Mr.Thiagaraja, Prabathran-President,Thirikonam Education and Cultural Organisation,Trincomalee
- Resources were arranged from Jaffna Kacheri-ICT Unit and received approval from the Government Agent, Jaffna.
- Conducted Smart Board Training for 50 participants on March 25th, 26th and 27th 2021 at Trincomalee with the permission from the Zonal Education Office in the two different locations
- Country Director, coordinator and other officials from the Zones and provincials participated in the Smart Classroom opening ceremony in 9 Schools
- At the end of this programme, the participants shared their experience and grievances with IMHO-USA President Dr.T.Rajam Theivendran and Ratnam Foundation-Dr.Nithyanandhan through Zoom. Country Director assisted this meeting.
- A Technical Driving Committee created consisting of 11 Principals/teachers who were selected from the participants

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- A new WhatsApp group will be organized to include Technical Driving Committee with the earlier WhatsApp group to handle issues faced by teachers in a day-to-day classroom setting.
- A Work progress format given to the principals to submit their reports at their convenience.





SOLIHULL

IMHO Convention – June 2021

Cataract Surgery Funding Appeal

Dearest friends,

It is again an honour to be invited to address IMHO supporters worldwide in your annual conference and we are grateful for the opportunity to share details of our current fundraising initiative, both across the internet and here in your souvenir programme.

In February of this year we set about raising funds that would save the sight of significant numbers of Sri Lanka's poorest people. People who are destined to become irreversibly blind, in one or both eyes, without the cataract surgeries they themselves have no hope of ever affording or accessing.

To date, the fundraising has gone well and has reached across the seas, with many Tamils and non-Tamils alike lending their support in solidarity. But our targets are not yet reached and we remain committed to all that needs to be done to effect positive change on such a large scale.

Cataract surgery for just \$40 (£30 GBP)

By again drawing on the operational experience and longstanding fruitful partnership of both IMHO USA and Assist RR UK, all funds raised would provide sight saving operations for significant numbers of adults, at a cost of just \$40 (£30 or 7500 LKR) per surgery – safeguarding their independence in prioritising what is most important in their lives; be it providing for their families, caring for their children or grandchildren, cooking for themselves, reading their holy book or moving freely without the aid of another person.

Through a network of professionals, district officials and charity workers we have been fortunate to get to know on the back of two previous visits to the North and East, and having worked closely with both charities over a number of years, we have the necessary structures in place to organise all aspects of a numerous Cataract Surgery Camps in Sri Lanka this year. These camps will benefit the very poorest members of society and make an enormous difference to their lives. All we need are the funds to do so.

Charitable partnerships

Assist RR – logistics and supporter appeal

We asked the Chairman, Dr. V Sarveswaran, for the support of Assist RR (<http://assistr.org/>). The charity has previously funded and facilitated circa 4000 cataract surgeries across Sri Lanka and has the extensive logistical experience needed to run the camps. Assist RR has pledged its full support in all aspects of the initiative, including extending this appeal to its supporters, and we are very grateful to them for operational framework they will provide.

IMHO USA – supporter appeal and fundraising matching pledge

Mark Penney BA (Hons) PGCE Head of Solihull Preparatory School

Malvern Hall Brereton Avenue Solihull West Midlands B91 3EN Tel: 0121 705 1265

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SOLIHULL

We also asked the Board of IMHO USA (<https://theimho.org/>) for their support with raising funds. Not only have they too agreed to extend this appeal to their supporters, we are also hugely grateful to them for their very generous funding pledge.

IMHO USA has pledged to match everything we raise, up to \$20,000, thereby incentivising the funding of 1000 cataract surgeries if, with your support, we manage to raise \$20,000 through this appeal.

100% of donations guaranteed

Both Assist RR and IMHO USA also guarantee that, once stipulated, 100% of your donations will be used for cataract surgeries alone.

Solihull School group take on The Cotswold Way Ultra Challenge - 53 KM walk in one day

The community of Solihull School has been a long term supporter of Sri Lanka's poorest people. People whose lives have been affected repeatedly, and most deeply, by the 2004 tsunami, the 26 year civil war that ended in 2009, the 2019 Easter bombings and the current pandemic.

Having previously raised funds for numerous education, health care and livelihood projects in the North and East of Sri Lanka, a team of sixteen Solihull School staff, pupils and parents - past and present – ask for your kind sponsorship as together we take on the 53 km Cotswold Way Challenge (<https://ultrachallenge.com/cotswold-way-challenge/>) on June 26 2021.

\$ Donations can be made here: <https://theimho.org/current-projects-need-funding/>

£ Donations can be made here: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Solihull>

Through the generosity of friends, family, our school community, and Tamil diaspora across the UK, Ireland, North America, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, and more, we hope to raise funds for over 1000 cataract surgeries this year and look forward to keeping donors up to date with developments. We would very much appreciate your support, and that of anyone you know who would be interested in donating funds.

Your generosity would be the light that keeps the darkness from the lives of those who have already experienced far too much of it and both they, and we, would be forever grateful for your support.

With sincere thanks to you all for your consideration and all good wishes for a very successful and enjoyable annual convention. We look forward to meeting many of you in person when circumstances permit & to sharing photographs of the Cataract Camps with you in due course.

Best regards,

Mark & Donna Penney

Mark Penney BA (Hons) PGCE Head of Solihull Preparatory School

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SOLIHULL

Cataract Surgery Camp, Mullaithivu (July 2016) sponsored by Solihull School & run by AssistRR



Cataract Surgery Camp, Vavuniya – October 2019, run by Assist RR



Mark Penney BA (Hons) PGCE Head of Solihull Preparatory School

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Optimizing Urology Surgical Facilities at Jaffna Teaching Hospital

By Dr. B. Balagobi, Urologist, Jaffna Teaching Hospital

Urological service of Teaching Hospital – Jaffna is caring for patients with diseases of genito urinary system, such as kidney stones; cancers of the kidney, bladder, prostate and testes; and all other urinary problems. We serve patients from Jaffna, Killinochchi, Mullaitivu, Mannar, Trincomalee and Vavuniya. We play a major role in preventing chronic kidney disease due to obstructive causes. The Northern and Eastern Provinces are suffering from kidney stones more than other provinces of Sri Lanka due to higher temperatures, which contribute to dehydration.

Currently, we do not have well-equipped emergency urological theatre service due to the lack of availability of endourology facilities at the emergency theatre. On account of this, patients may have to wait with obstructed/infected kidneys for weeks or months, which results in further kidney damage.

This year, with the help of IMHO (with a donation of Rigid cystoscopy) we have started basic emergency urology at casualty list. We appreciate and thank the timely help of IMHO, which has improved our service delivery. We have a mission of creating state-of-the-art emergency urology services at our hospital. Toward this end, we need more instruments, including:

- High frequency diathermy cable for resectoscope & light cable (2 of each)
- Pneumatic and Ultrasound lithotripter, air compressor, foot pedal, hand piece and probes for ureter, kidney and bladder
- Video Flexible Cystoscope and accessories
- Optical Urethrotome
- Bladder stone: stone crusher (Cystolitholapaxy)
- G 24 Resectoscope sheath with continuous irrigating sheath with obturator and accessories
- Thin Semirigid Ureterorenoscope
- C-Arm Machine

Due to the ongoing COVID 19 crisis, state health authorities are facing financial difficulties. We are hopeful that donors such as IMHO will further empower us to optimize our urology services and patient safety.



Ampara Special Needs Network: Annual Progress & Finance Report

By M.R.M. Hameem, Board Secretary, Ampara Special Needs Network – Sri Lanka

ASNN is voluntary social service and nonprofit body registered as an NGO with the District Secretariat of Ampara. ASNN is managed by an executive board from Departments of Education, Health and Social Services fields, who have been rendering services on a volunteer basis. We have been working with Persons with Disabilities and their families since year 2008 in collaboration with Departments of Education, Health and Social Services in the Ampara District. We make sure children with disabilities are integrated into mainstream services, such as health, education and social services. ASNN had started 15 special education units in government schools in Ampara District which are still being supported by ASNN. Two special needs clinics for persons with disability at government hospitals are being supported by ASNN as well. ASNN also coordinates several activities in relation to awareness creation and advocacy on disability issues.

Special Needs Units are the backbone of our organization's activities and a crucial lifeline for persons with disabilities in the region. ASNN volunteer teachers continue their services for persons with disabilities with hardship and dedication. They are accustomed to coordinating other activities/services for persons with disabilities with the relevant authorities. ASNN teachers get a meager allowance and provide better services than teachers appointed by the government as special education teachers (*government-appointed special education teachers get a salary at least four times greater than the allowance ASNN teachers receive).

Seventeen (17) ASNN special education teachers are rendering services in these special needs units for the benefit of more than 350 children with disabilities. We are reducing numbers of ASNN teachers year by year, which are now reduced to 17 teachers and hope to reduce more in the near future. While we strive to make sure there are enough teachers in the particular Special Needs Units, many teachers leave when they find a better job to ensure their future career. There are four educational administrative districts in the Eastern Province. ASNN is still working in the Kalmunai educational district. Government special education teachers now started to work in special needs units, and the government provides additional allowance to the teachers work in special needs units to motivate them to work in the special education sector.

Mainly under IMHO-funded projects, we focus our activities on the special needs units. Special Needs Units are the heart of disability-related services in our region. ASNN has been managing these activities with the financial assistance of International Medical Health Organization (IMHO - USA) since January 2015 under the project title of "Empowering persons with disability by providing equal rights and opportunities through strengthening mainstream services."

The following are some of the impacts on the disability sector via IMHO-supported efforts:

- 15 Special Education Units were established. All were integrated into Government Schools and are slowly sustained by government appointed teachers and the respective host communities.
- Nearly 370 Children were enrolled in Special Needs Units where qualified teaching staff of ASNN provide services.
- Weekly special needs clinics for children with disability were started in government hospitals.

- Through advocacy work of ASNN (including by special education teachers, staff and board of directors), awareness of all disability actors has increased with regard to the rights and needs of children with special needs.
- Social stigma has almost been eradicated by the provision of services for children with disabilities. Providing good services is the best way to create awareness.
- School administrators and institutions were convinced to take ownership of disability services, and efforts to ensure the sustainability of those services has slowly ensued.
- Government special education teachers have been appointed to special needs units because of the existence of these units and services.
- A paradigm shift has been created amongst all stakeholders in the disability sector from needs-based services to rights-based services.
- The self-esteem of children with disabilities has increased and parents are more satisfied.
- Social inclusion of persons with disabilities has been facilitated by these services
- Multi-cultural environments are created through ASSN special events, which demonstrate a path to children and their families to understand each other and create social harmony.
- These services for persons with disabilities has facilitated several positive changes with regard to accessing mainstream services and reducing barriers.
- Most of the children with disabilities in this project are from poor socio-economical background benefits, and most of the time poverty is both a cause and consequence of disability.
- Ours is the only setup that provides holistic services to children with disabilities in coordination with all service providers.

We express our heartfelt thanks to IMHO for their generous support in providing sustainable services for persons with disabilities in the Ampara District, especially Dr. Rajam Theiventhiran, and Mr. Murali Ramalingam (*Board of Directors, IMHO USA*) who have physically visited Kalmunai and correspond regularly by email and phone in monitoring the services for these children with disabilities and sharing their valuable ideas. IMHO's support has helped us to breathe easily right now.

“Accept Disability as Human Diversity”

www.asnnsrilanka.org

asnn.org@gmail.com



HEALTH FACILITY FOR PLANTATION COMMUNITY AND STUDENTS BY IMHO

(R. Priyadarshan, Project officer Health & Nutrition –IMHO upcountry)

CLEAN WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION FACILITIES



Clean water supply and sanitation are essential needs for all school going children. Clean water supply and sanitation facilities were inadequate for children attending schools in estates. Although, water supply was available in most of estate schools clean drinking water was unavailable. Water supply to local schools were drawn from contaminated local lakes and rivers and the children were unable to drink school water during intervals.

IMHO installed supply of drinking water and also sanitation schemes in estate schools to prevent communicable diseases spread by contaminated water for schools listed on table 1. In addition, a water consumer society consisting of school teachers and school development society was created for long term sustainability and maintenance of these facilities in each school. An educational program to increase awareness of water supply and sanitation was completed among Principals, teachers, and students.

Table 1

| Name of School | No of beneficiaries | Donors | Implemented by | Water source |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| NALLATHANEE R | (750 +) | IMHO-USA | IMHO | STREAM |
| GOURAVILLA | (700 +) | NAVAMALAR PRAKASHPALAN-USA | IMHO | WELL |
| DICKOYA | (700 +) | ANBUNERY ORGANIZATION | IMHO | TUBE WELL |
| DUNCKLED | (350 +) | MURUGIAH FAMILY-USA | IMHO | WELL |
| ANNANDAL | (120 +) | MURUGIAH FAMILY-USA | IMHO | STREAM |

Principal of Dickoya TMV says..... “In Fact, we thought we ever never get a clean water for Dickoya School and no hope at all to drink clean water. It is impossible for us to do on our own due to financial crisis. Students and Teachers collected water from a stream which dried up in dry season. During that season teachers as well, students had to wait for a long time to collect water from an unprotected and unhygienic well which is very closer to the stream.” (Speech on 14th of December, 2021 at Water Supply Project handing over ceremony)

Parents Say..... “All these days our children were suffering from Dysentery, diarrhea etc. because of the murky or stormy water. But now this era is gone. We take this opportunity to thank IMHO from the bottom of our heart to safeguard our children of the above schools from all sort of diseases related to water. (Speech by parents on 14th of December, 2021 at water supply project handing over ceremony)”

TOILET & SANITATION FACILITIES

Hygienic toilets in schools and public library for the use of children are an essential need. Realizing their importance, IMHO completed the construction of clean toilets in Werlegh Primary School, Agaram and Sigaram Pre-schools and Maskeliya Public Library.



Werlegh School - Dickoya

Only one old toilet existed located outside from the school premises. The children were afraid to use it given its location. IMHO built two new toilets for boys and girls within the school premises alleviating their suffering.

Agaram and Sigaram Pre-School and Maskeliya Public library

Initially, no toilet facilities were available for the above-mentioned pre-schools and library. IMHO has fulfilled this requirement by building toilets for school children in schools and patrons of the library.

DENTAL CLINIC CENTRE FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS



Maskeliya is within Nuwara Eliya district located in Central province. Although, dental therapy is available for general public within the Government hospitals, there are no dedicated dental clinic for school going primary children for preventive care.



A request was made to IMHO by the medical officer of Health Mr. D. Chandrarajan through RDHS, Nuwara Eliya to build an urgent dental clinic within Maskeliya. IMHO donated approximately Rs 1.2 million LKR to convert two existing classrooms into a dental clinic centre at St. Joseph's Primary School – Maskeliya. An approval was granted by Education Department of Central Province through the educational zonal director of Hatton.

This Dental Clinic Centre was inaugurated by the IMHO-Upcountry and Regional Director of health

service on 21st February, 2021 for the use of Primary & Pre-school students of Maskeliya area with 51 and 67 primary and Pre-schools respectively. Mrs. Ranasinghe Arachilage Irushi Chanika was appointed as a dental therapist by the Health Ministry of Sri Lanka to treat these school students.

A few words from dental therapist- Mrs. Ranasinghe Arachilage Irushi Chanika



"When I received my first appointment as a school Dental Therapist, there was no school dental clinic in Maskeliya area. As discussed by the Regional Director of Health Service-Nuwara Eliya, Regional Dental Surgeon-Nuwara Eliya and Medical officer of health Maskeliya decided to open up a dental clinic to treat school children under 10 years of age as there is no such clinic in Maskeliya MOH area. St. Joseph's Primary Tamil School was selected as a suitable Centre for the construction of the school Dental clinic. Accordingly, two classrooms were converted as a Dental Clinic Centre. I am proud to say IMHO, donated the fund for this purpose. This dental clinic unit provides oral health education to Primary and Pre-school children."

IMPORTANCE OF DENTAL CARE

Regular dental checkups are necessary for children. Early dental therapy in childhood enhances oral health, and will prevent gum diseases, cavities, tooth decay etc.

BENEFICIARY'S FEEDBACK *"I K. Inthumathy, teaching at Agaram Pre-school of Nallathaneer lower division. 13 children are studying in this school, in which most of the children are suffering from dental disease. Though several awareness programs conducted among the parents, they have taken no care at all with regard to their child's dental problems. Financial crisis may be one of the reasons for it. With the introduction of dental clinic most of the children got cured with their dental disease. The Dental Clinic Centre has provided more outputs in this regard after operation."*



THANKS A LOT, IMHO!

DONATION OF ESSENTIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR MASKELIYA DIVISIONAL HOSPITAL BY IMHO

It is indeed a pleasure to mention that, IMHO donated essential medical equipment to Maskeliya divisional hospital for the use hospitalized patients. Almost 58 estates are under the umbrella of Maskeliya region and the present available medical facilities available were inadequate to meet the medical needs of patients within this large area.

These enhanced medical facilities will help estate patients to seek medical care locally instead at government or private hospitals for a speedy recovery.

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Hawaeliya, Nuwaraeliya

The Board of Directors,
International Medical Health Organization.

I the Regional Director of Health Services Nuwara-Eliya (RDHS) take this opportunity to thank the IMHO from the bottom of my heart for the establishment with more than expectation of the Maskeliya School Dental Clinic Centre. This is a grate service for school students in Maskeliya MOH area. Free of charge treatment at the young age may not permit the school children to face various diseases connected to teeth in future. May I mention here that there are more than 12000 students are living in Maskeliya MOH area which consist approximately 60 schools.

Furthermore, Dental mobile clinic services were carried out in difficult areas where the school students are living. Here again we have to thank the IMHO for provided accommodation facilities with meals and refreshments to Doctors and staff for mobile Dental Clinic Service in Maskeliya MOH area schools. There are more than 5000 children have been benefited on mobile dental clinic service.

We assure you that our fullest cooperation and support will be there for you ever for your future health related activities.

I congratulate IMHO on completion of 18 years of service to mankind and appreciate your efforts in guiding and helping local organization who are actively engaged in service to the people.

Thank you.

Best regards

Dr. M.M.S.N. Manathunga
Regional Director of Health Service
Nuwara-Eliya
M.S.N. Manathunga
Regional Director of Health Services
Nuwara Eliya.

SMART BOARD EDUCATION AMONG DIFFICULT AREAS SCHOOLS

Initiated by IMHO-USA & Ratnam foundation-UK

Mr. A.Chandrahsan , Project officer (Education) – IMHO Upcountry

Smart board system is a new concept in schools located in the most difficult areas in Upcountry. This smart board system is now in operation in Gartmore, Fairlawn, Dillary Tamil vithyalayam's and Kuyilwatta Tamil Maha Vithyalayam. We take much pride to report that **IMHO** is the only organization to introduce smart board system for school children in upcountry estate areas, in collaboration with **Ratnam Foundation UK** by funding this project. Mr. P. Sritharan, Zonal Education Director of Hatton Zone and Mr. Kandiah Vigneshwaran -IMHO, selected and handed over these smart boards to the above mentioned schools.



School teachers are very keen to teach school children on a smart board instead a traditional black board and estate school children enjoy this interactive system.

The smart board system appears very practical to teach these children and contains series of teaching videos, revision material, practice sessions and information on each subject which can be eventually stored on this smart board. In addition, each topic of study can be downloaded instantly into a smart board. The children show a lot of interest in their studies with this novel technology that will improve their overall education. Rates of student dropout have decreased after introduction of these smart boards in estate schools and rates of students pass Government examinations has increased. These measures will help students from estate schools to excel in their studies, similar to those students who study in Government schools.

Acute Care Unit at Vavuniya District General Hospital

By Dr. Sivagnanam Suthakaran, Psychiatrist, Vavuniya District General Hospital

The mental health clinic at Vavuniya District General Hospital was started in 2001. It was not until 2009 though that patients in need of inward treatment were first admitted to the medical ward. This arrangement caused difficulties for managing people with acute psychiatric conditions and acute medical illnesses.

The Acute Care Unit was opened on 25th April 2009 during the peak of last phase of war and amongst an influx of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). This unit was funded by IMHO. Since then, it has been serving not only the population of Vavuniya, but also part of the population of Mannar, Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu Districts as well.



This acute care unit at our hospital in Vavuniya has a ward with 6 beds for males and 6 beds for females. The bed occupancy rate in 2019 was 95.91%, and the number of electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) sessions was 166. Almost half of these ECT sessions were given for patients from other districts.

The ward is manned by a consultant, a Senior Medical officer, two medical officers, three nursing officers, one psychiatric social worker (PSW), two counselors, 6 health service

assistants and a part-time occupational therapist. Though the staff are very minimal compared to the required cadre, the unit is functioning smoothly thanks to the professionalism and commitment of the staff.

The acute care unit is the foundation of mental health services in the Vavuniya District. We thank IMHO for this timely help for the war-affected population.



SCHOLARSHIP FOR HIGHER EDUCATION SPONSORED BY IMHO & NADARAJAH FOUNDATION

(K.Punniyamoorthy Project officer – Higher Education Scholarship program)

A scholarship programme for under-privileged students to study advanced level(A/L) was initiated by IMHO and Nadarajah foundation in year 2019 in the upcountry area. The selected students obtained good results in their O/L examination but were unable to study advanced level education due to lack of finance and poverty in their family.

A total of 132 advanced level students were selected as recipients for a scholarship, among which 64 students sat for the A/L examination in 2020 and another 68 students will sit for the A/L examination in 2021.

An additional, 34 students were added into this scheme for season 2021 -2023 batch based on their interview scores. Presently, 101 students are listed for a scholarship. School students who study science, Mathematics, and technology have been prioritized in years 2021 – 2023 batch as well as students from poor families and estate workers.



IMHO and Nadarajah Foundation covers expenses related to a student's traveling fee, class fee and purchase of school books.

Monitoring and Evaluation of Student's Progress

Once scholarships are granted to selected students, we focus on students' monthly academic progress. We created a student data collection form to maintain and track all students' monthly progress through term and unit exam marks.

We anticipate almost all students who received a scholarship will be admitted into a University or Teachers college based on their exam scores and moral character.

List of 101 students who received scholarships divided by their A/L Subjects

| No | Subject | 1 st year 2021 | 2 nd year 2022 | Total |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Arts | 08 | 38 | 46 |
| 2 | Commerce | 04 | 11 | 15 |
| 3 | Mathematics | 07 | 6 | 13 |
| 4 | Bio Science | 04 | 8 | 13 |
| 5 | E tech | 01 | 6 | 07 |
| 6 | B tech | 00 | 05 | 05 |
| 7 | Fine arts | 01 | 02 | 03 |
| Total | | 25 | 76 | 101 |

List of 101 students who received scholarships divided by the fund amount

| No | Rs.2500 | Number of students | | | | Rs.2000 | Number of students | | | | Rs.2000 |
|--------------|-------------|--------------------|----|--|--|---------|--------------------|--|----|--|---------|
| | | Rs.2500 | | | | | Rs.2000 | | | | |
| 01 | Mathematics | | 13 | | | | Arts | | 46 | | |
| 02 | Bioscience | | 12 | | | | Commerce | | 15 | | |
| 03 | E - tech | | 07 | | | | Fine arts | | 03 | | |
| 04 | B tech | | 05 | | | | | | | | |
| Total | | | 37 | | | | | | 64 | | |

Our practice is to track all student's monthly performance with a format which is certified by their class teachers and principal of the school.

Advance level examination – 2020 Results schedule.

| No | Faculty | 3A | A 2B | A 2C | 2A C | A B | A C | 3B | 2B A | 2B C | B 2C | B C | 3C | 2C S | C 2S | C S | 3S | 2S | S | All F | Absent | Total | |
|----|--------------|----|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|----|---------|---------|---------|--------|----|---------|---------|--------|----|----|---|----------|--------|-------|-----------|
| | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 35 |
| 2 | Commerce | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 3 | Science | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 9 |
| 4 | Maths | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| 5 | Fine Arts | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9 |
| 6 | E Tech | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 7 | B Tech | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 8 | Total | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 64 |

Summary of the results on the 2020 Advanced level examination

| No | Subject | Entrance to University | Entrance to College | Passed in 3 subject | Passed in 2 subject | Passed in 1 subject | Failed in all subject | Absentees | Total |
|-------------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 01 | Arts | 03 | 14 | 06 | 05 | 03 | 03 | 01 | 35 |
| 02 | Commerce | 01 | 00 | 01 | 00 | 01 | 01 | 00 | 04 |
| 03 | Bioscience | 01 | 02 | 00 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 00 | 09 |
| 04 | Maths | 00 | 02 | 00 | 00 | 01 | 00 | 00 | 03 |
| 05 | Fine Arts | 06 | 01 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 02 | 09 |
| 05 | E tech | 00 | 01 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 01 | 02 |
| 07 | B tech | 00 | 00 | 02 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| Total | | 11 | 20 | 09 | 06 | 07 | 07 | 04 | 64 |
| Percentage | | 18% | 31% | 14% | 9% | 11% | 11% | 6% | 100% |

The above results reveal 63% of all students passed A/L examination. We will continue take positive efforts to improve the ability of the students who received scholarship awards.



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ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICE - HATTON

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The Board of Directors,
IMHO,
USA.

Enthuse education activities are on implementation by IMHO

I the Zonal Director of Education - Hatton Zone indeed very proud to say there are a lot of educational development activities have been activated by IMHO in Upcountry.

Once in quarter there is an important examination styled "VIDYASRI" which includes almost all subjects to evaluate the actual standard of the students which will enable the teachers to categorize them in accordance with their qualified subjects.

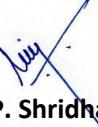
Developing the reading Knowledge of the school children. Conducting coaching classes to student of Grade 10 and 11 those who have obtained 20, 35, 45 and 60 marks level at present in English language so as to enable them to score the marks level of 35, 45, 60 and 75 receptively at the Government final examination and the results of which will permit them to study the course of specially Science and Mathematics.

With the introduction of Smart Board, OPEn E Designed program, Graduate and volunteer teachers the Up country education is in the stage of reaching the league table.

Further to place on record that the IMHO constructed toilets with urinates, water supply and sanitation facilities and dental clinic center for the use of plantations school going children and further constructions are in progress.

On the light of the above the upcountry students have achieved better results in grade 5 scholarship, Ordinary level and Advance level examinations which had resulted more and more University entrance year by year.

Our sincere gratitude to IMHO for the generous support given to us to reach the expected goals in every aspect.


P. Shridharan
Zonal Director of Education
Zonal Education Office
Hatton
Zonal Director of Education,
Zonal Education Office,
Hatton.

2020 Support of the Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation

***By Dr. (Mrs.) J. Ganeshamoorthy, Honorary Chairperson,
Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation***

IMHO's assistance in the area of disabilities through the Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation amounted to SLR 2 million for the year 2020.

All the IMHO-supported projects are implemented towards the economically vulnerable persons. These projects for the benefit of disabled persons consists of a wide range of activities, covering:

- Repair of prosthesis
- Provision of mobility devices
- Provision of wheelchairs
- Educational grants for persons with disabilities



The repair of prosthesis project is seen as a very cost-effective project, in which 491 prosthesis were repaired for the year 2020. This project helps to extend the life of the prosthesis and prevents the complete replacement of prosthesis.

Wheelchairs can play a crucial role in the life of persons with disabilities and can help break the negative social attitudes and beliefs in terms of their dependence upon others. In 2020, we provided 35 wheelchairs to those in need with IMHO's support.

Forty-two (42) custom-made mobility devices designed by the Jaipur Centre were also provided with the financial support of IMHO to help those people who have problems moving around. This helps them to enjoy greater freedom and independence.

Finally, IMHO also provides monthly educational grants for 9 physically rehabilitated students to encourage them to attend school.

We greatly appreciate the assistance the IMHO has provided to the persons with disabilities through JCDDR, and we look forward the continued support from IMHO.





ஆதாரவைத்தியசாலை, பருத்தித்துறை
மூலிக ரேங்கல், சென்ட் பெட்ரே நிலை

BASE HOSPITAL, POINT PEDRO



T.P : 0212263262

PJF0007047.02

FAX : 0212263262

எண்டு இல.
முன்னாலை
My No.

BH/PPD/PL/DI/Gen/2021

திகதி
Date
} 07.06.2021

Our Hospital is Type A Base Hospital. It serves around 150,000 people residing in Vadamaradchy area. Our Bed Strength is 292. Our Paediatric unit consists of Paediatric Ward and Premature baby Unit. We have one Consultant Pediatrician. Our Paediatric unit is well functioning. It gives rendered service to our people we need some Medical Equipments. We made a request to IMHO USA for High flow oxygen therapy machine to Paediatric ward. This machine was already given by IMHO USA. It is very useful to oxygen demanding patients. We improve the functional capacity of Paediatric Unit due to this donation. We wish to thank for your valuable contribution on behalf of Our Hospital Society.

Thank you


(Act) Medical Superintendent,
Base Hospital,
Point Pedro.

Dr.V.Kamalanathan
Acting Medical Superintendent
Base Hospital
Point Pedro



திருமதி. உருத்திராதேவி ரவி
இணைப்பாளர்,
பெண்கள் தேவைகளுக்காக பரிந்துரை செய்யும் வலையமைப்பு, (நியுஅரோ)

'பெண்கள் தேவைகளுக்காக பரிந்துரை செய்யும் வலையமைப்பு' (**newAROW**) என்பது மட்டக்களப்பு மாவட்டத்தில் பெண்களின் நலன்கள், பாதுகாப்பு, பொருளாதாரம் எனும் அடிப்படையில் பல வேலைத்திட்டங்களை முன்னெடுத்து வருகின்ற ஒரு அமைப்பு ஆகும். மற்றும் பெண்களின் அபிவிருத்தி, அவர்களின் ஆளுமை விருத்தி போன்றவைகளை மேம்படுத்தும் முகமாக தெழில் முயற்சியில் ஆர்வம் உள்ள பெண்களை ஒன்றிணைத்துள்ளோம். அதில் ஆரம்பத்தில் 03 பெண்களும், தற்போது இவர்களுடன் புதிதாக 02 பெண்கள் மொத்தமாக 5 பேரை உள்வாங்கியதாக மரமுந்திரிகை பருப்பு பதனிட்டு விற்பனை செய்து வருகின்றோம். (இவர்கள் கணவனால் கைவடைப்பட்டவர்கள், பெண் தலமைதாங்கும் குடும்பத்தில் உள்ள பெண்கள்)

நாங்கள் இச்செயற்பாட்டினை முன்னெடுப்பதற்கு திட்டமிட்டபோது. மரமுந்திரிகை பதனிடுதல் செய்வதற்கான இயந்திரங்கள் இல்லாத நிலையில், எமது நிறுவனம் இருந்தது அச்சந்தரப்பத்தில், **IMHO** அமைப்பின் ஊடாக மரமுந்திரிகை பதனிடுதல் இயந்திரம், தராக, **Oven**, சீலர், போன்றவைகளை எமக்கு முதல் கட்டமாக கொள்வனவு செய்வதற்கு உதவினார்கள்.





மற்றும் எமது அமைப்பிற்கு வழங்கப்பட்ட தொழில் உபகரணங்களை முதலீடாக வைத்து தொழிலை சிறப்பாக முன்னெடுத்து வருகின்றோம். இருந்தும் மரமுந்திரிகை பருப்பினை தரமாக பொதிசெய்வதற்காக பொதிசெய்யும் இயந்திரம் இல்லாத காரணத்தினால், எமது பொருளின் தரம் வீழ்ச்சியடைந்து போகுமோ என்ற அச்சம் இருந்தது. காரணம் சரியான முறையில் பொதிசெய்யாவிட்டால் காற்று போய் அதன் சுவையில் மாற்றும் உணர்க்கூடியதாக இருக்கும். அத்தோடு மரமுந்திரிகை பருப்பினை சந்தைப்படுத்தி அதன் மூலம் பெறப்பட்ட இலாபத்தினைக்கொண்டு குறைந்த அளவு பருப்பினை கொள்வனவு செய்துள்ளோம்.. மரமுந்திரிகை பருப்பும் போதியளவு இல்லாத காரணத்தினால் வாடிக்கையாளர்களுக்கு விற்பனை செய்வதற்கு காலதாமதமாகின்ற சூழ்நிலையும் காணப்படுகின்றது. எனவே இவைகள் அனைத்தையும் தாங்கள் கருத்தில் கொண்டு மீண்டும் எமது கோரிக்கைக்கு அமைவாக எமக்கு தரமான பொதி செய்யும் இயந்திரம், பொதி செய்யும் பை, மரமுந்திரிகைப்பருப்பினை கொள்வனவு செய்வதற்கான பண உதவி வழங்கியமைக்கு **IMHO** நிறுவனத்திற்கு நன்றிகளை தெரிவிப்பதோடு, இவ்வமைப்பின் தொண்டர்களாகிய அனைத்து நல்லுள்ளங்களுக்கும் எமது நிறுவனத்தின் சார்பில் மன்பூர்வமான நன்றிகளையும் வாழ்த்துக்களையும் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கின்றேன்.



திருமதி. ஒருத்திராதேவி ரவி
இணைப்பாளர்,
newAROW
மட்டக்களப்பு.

Economic Empowerment of Women in Batticaloa

By Mrs. Rudradevi Ravi, Coordinator, NewArrow

NewArow is a non-profit organization focused on improving the knowledge, security and economic development of women living in Batticaloa. Our organization creates multiple employment opportunities for enthusiastic women helping their self-sustenance and empowerment, thus transforming their lives.

Initially, we began our journey with three single women and now have added two more women to cultivate and process cashew nuts for distribution and sale. Currently, these five women are the sole heads of their households as they were all abandoned by their husbands leaving them destitute.

At our initial stage, IMHO kindly helped us purchase all necessary equipment to process cashew nuts including processing machine, scales, oven and sealing equipment thus enabling us to implement our vision.

We were concerned about the quality and taste of our cashew nuts due to a lack of vacuum packing machine and funds to purchase additional cashew nuts. Once again, IMHO provided us a vacuum bagging equipment, vacuum bags and funds to purchase cashew nuts.

We would like to thank, IMHO and our long standing well-wishers from the bottom of our hearts for their support throughout our journey on behalf of our organization, NewArow.



A Friendly Hand in Support of Mullaitivu District General Hospital

By Dr. J.M. Nilakshan, Director, Mullaitivu District General Hospital

Mullaitivu District General Hospital is one of the main hospitals in the Northern Province and is the one and only General Hospital in Mullaitivu District. Our hospital provides services through our 14 consultants with many sub-specialty services, which benefit nearly 150,000 people, including seasonal populations that come and go depending on the fishing and farming peak work times of the year.

Mullaitivu is situated within 2,617 square kilometers and is far removed from the area served by the Jaffna Teaching Hospital (at nearly 120 k.m. away) and Anuradhapura Teaching Hospital (at nearly 132 k.m. away). Our hospital is thus far removed from both the one and only Teaching Hospital in the Northern Province, and the closest Teaching Hospital in the neighboring province.

Due to this situation, service development is a compulsory need for the people of Mullaitivu District who have faced twin disasters in recent memory – manmade conflict and natural disaster (tsunami). As a developing country struggling with high level financial challenges and now with the COVID-19 global pandemic, we have encountered critical financial challenges as a health institution as well.

At this very critical juncture, a friendly hand of support from the International Medical Health Organization (IMHO) USA has been a breath of fresh air, and we humbly bow our heads to them for their timely support of our work.

IMHO has supported four projects at DGH-Mullaitivu:

1. Stabilizing Obstetrics and Gynecology wards with proper curtaining
2. Subfertility clinic establishment at the hospital
3. Donating an Ultrasound Scan Machine
4. Roof repair & ceiling repair at the hospital (to prevent pigeons and bats from entering)





These activities have drastically improved our services and quality of our services for our needy poor patients of DGH-Mullaitivu.

1. Subfertility improvement clinic data

| Year | Month | Patients No |
|-------------|--------------|--------------------|
| 2020 | July | 05 |
| | August | 00 |
| | September | 06 |
| | October | 04 |
| | November | 07 |
| | December | 01 |
| 2021 | January | 02 |
| | February | 04 |
| | March | 03 |

2. Ultrasound scan improvement data with new machine (*compared with old data below*)

**Statistics before the New
Ultrasound Scan Machine**

| Year | Month | Statistics |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 2019 | December | 245 |
| 2020 | January | 245 |
| | February | 264 |
| | March | 154 |
| | April | 155 |
| | May | 193 |
| | June | 118 |
| | July | 318 |
| | August | 267 |
| | September | 343 |
| | October | 307 |
| | November | 176 |

**Current Statistics with the New
Ultrasound Scan Machine**

| Ultra Sound Examinations - 2020 December | |
|---|------------|
| Abdomen And KUB | 249 |
| Neck | 37 |
| Breast | 12 |
| Musculoskeletal | 23 |
| Duplex Studies | 18 |
| Obstetrics | 06 |
| Others | 18 |
| Ultrasound Guided Procedures | |
| FNAC | 09 |
| Biopsy | 01 |
| Aspiration | 01 |
| Surface Marking | 02 |
| 2d Echo | 55 |
| Total | 431 |

3. After celling repair, we were able to utilize our consultants lounge, auditorium and other places without the unpleasant smell and infection risk posed by bats and large amount of collections of guano.
4. With the addition of curtains separating patients' beds in the entire ward of Obstetrics and Gynecology, patient privacy has been dramatically improved, especially during exams.
5. As the Director of Mullaitivu District General Hospital, I am extremely delighted and thankful to IMHO, and I hope for a long relationship in the future as well. Thank you.

Caring Hands Project

By Gunasegaran Rajsegaran, Administrative & Community Health Officer, IMHO Upcountry

The purpose of the Caring Hands Project is to help children to develop in their education, health and economic development. We dedicate most of our time to working together with children and their parents / guardians, regardless of religion, ethnicity, etc. Caring Hands Project has been working in the Upcountry since 2016 and has assisted those in need with all their needs.



We have identified 240 vulnerable children and their families residing in Maskeliya and Kotagala of Nuwara-Eliya District in Sri Lanka. All of them are living in a very troubling situation and find it extremely difficult to lead a meaningful and healthy life, often due to neglect and the harsh realities of poverty.

Caring Hands Project is currently working toward a long-term development strategy that provides critical services to youth in 60 locations throughout Maskeliya and Kotagala. We are proud to say that in 2020 we supported 100 of the most vulnerable children in the Kotagala area. We assist each of the children to help develop their lifestyle in every aspect.

Children's Education

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the standard of education has been drastically diminished, which has resulted in the closing down of schools. Therefore, children were left with no alternative but to study at home, which has badly affected their examination results and stunted their learning.

Home Garden Community Health Project

To support families at this difficult time, in 2021 we started distributing vegetable seeds and other related materials for the purpose of cultivation of food at home. This can help to improve food security, reduce spending on food supplies, and ensure proper nutrition.

| Data on Children's Ages | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----|----|
| Age | No of Children | 10 | 21 |
| 2 | 2 | 11 | 22 |
| 3 | 2 | 12 | 12 |
| 4 | 4 | 13 | 26 |
| 5 | 5 | 14 | 20 |
| 6 | 12 | 15 | 27 |
| 7 | 19 | 16 | 13 |
| 8 | 17 | 17 | 6 |
| 9 | 28 | 18 | 3 |
| Total | | 240 | |



An Impactful Story



Kavin is wheelchair-bound and lives with his mother. He Studies well. His hobby is reading books. He scored 130 marks in Grade 5 scholarship examinations, says his sister Sajana. His family is hoping that he will one day become a teacher.

His health condition is in a very difficult condition though. When he was six months old his parents watched his movement deteriorate. They consulted a doctor who said that he could not recommend any meaningful treatment at this stage and that they would have to wait.

Kavin's family lives in Mocha estate in Maskeliya where he is one of four children. Kavin's mother is presently working as a housemaid in Colombo due to poor income in the family. His father abandoned the family and his whereabouts are not known.

Activities of the Caring Project

Each month we organize a meeting with the beneficiary children, in which we collect information with regard to their present status and overall wellbeing. We visit schools that these children attend and meet with their teachers and principals to find out their educational standards, challenges, needs, etc.

We are presently carrying out an initiative to issue food packets to the children on a monthly basis. We also provide counseling for the children who commonly face problems at home. Thanks to IMHO for their support of these activities!

| # of School-Age Children | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Grade | No of Children |
| 1 | 6 |
| 2 | 14 |
| 3 | 16 |
| 4 | 18 |
| 5 | 22 |
| 6 | 15 |
| 7 | 19 |
| 8 | 27 |
| 9 | 19 |
| 10 | 22 |
| 11 | 29 |
| 12 | 7 |
| Preschool | 6 |
| Grand Total | 220 |

Role of IMHO in Providing Food Assistance during the COVID Pandemic and Improved Health Services to Remote Area Populations

By G. Krishnakumar, IMHO Coordinator – Sri Lanka

The COVID-19 pandemic is an ongoing global pandemic of coronavirus disease, which was identified in December 2019. Sri Lanka also has been affected by this outbreak and greatly impacted on peoples' economy due to area lockdowns.



IMHO provided more than US \$60,000 for the purchase and distribution of relief packs to around 10,000 vulnerable families in the Northern, Eastern and Central Provinces of Sri Lanka. The populations of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Vavuniya, Mannar, Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Nuwara Eliya Districts have benefitted from this much needed assistance. Nearly 3,000 families in the Upcountry area received a Rs. 3,000/= loan with the support of IMHO in the later part of the year 2020, and most of them have already paid back the loan. Health sector workers also received Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from IMHO, which has obviously been so critical during this pandemic.

Though many years have now passed since the end of the war, still there is a shortage for human resources and medical equipment in the Northern provincial health sector. At this juncture, IMHO USA has focused on enabling better healthcare services for the population residing in remote areas.

Nainativu is one of the smallest islands, situated 27 km. west of Jaffna, which is only 4 square kilometers in size and has a population of around 3,000 people. A divisional hospital serves this population. However, a permanent medical officer is not available for this hospital. In response, IMHO is continuously supporting to fill this gap. This is considered a great help to this remote area population, as they do not have any land access to other areas, which results in patients having to travel an hour to reach Jaffna Hospital. The IMHO is engaged in providing uninterrupted health services in Divisional Hospital, Unapulavu in Mullaitivu District as well. Similarly, several hospitals in island areas and in the Vanni region that experienced similar shortages were supported by the IMHO in the past.



Apart from this, the IMHO has donated medical equipment to the following hospitals in the Northern Province in response to current needs:

| Hospital Name | Medical Equipment |
|--|---|
| Teaching Hospital, Jaffna | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Holter monitoring System (1) ▪ Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring System (1) |
| District General Hospital, Mullaitivu | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ultrasound scanner (1) ▪ Multi para monitor (7) ▪ Transport Incubator (1) ▪ Set of equipment for establishing sub-fertility centre (worth SLR 1 million) |
| Base Hospital, Mallavi | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Electrolyte Analyzer (1) |
| Base Hospital, Point Pedro | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High flow Nasal Oxygen Delivering system (1) |
| Selected hospitals under Northern Provincial Department of Health Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxygen concentrators (10) ▪ Pulse Oximetres (15) |



The support by the IMHO USA during the crisis to the needy populations of Sri Lanka is highly remarkable, and I sincerely thank the IMHO Board and family for their invaluable services.



மு/தேறாங்கண்டல் அரசினர் தமிழ் கலவன் பாடசாலை
MU/Therankandal G.T.M. School

தேறாங்கண்டல்,
துஞ்சுக்காய்.

Therankandal,
Thunukkai.

Date: 03/05/2021

பாடசாலை தோட்டம் பற்றிய தேவைப்பாடும் பயன்பாடும்

எமது பாடசாலையாகிய மு/தேறாங்கண்டல் அ.த.க பாடசாலையில் ஒரு பாடசாலைத் தோட்டத்தின் தேவைப்பாட்டினையும், பயன்பாட்டினையும் விரிவாக எடுத்துக் கொண்டால் எமது பாடசாலையானது கடந்த போர்ச்குழல், அத்துடன் இணைந்த வளப்பற்றாக்குறைகள் மற்றும் விவசாய விருத்திக்கான பொதீக வளங்கள், பொருளாதார வளப் பிரச்சினைகள் காரணமாக விவசாய உற்பத்தி நடவடிக்கைகள் இடம்பெறாமலும் உள்ளது. ஆகவே எனது பாடசாலையை பொறுத்தவரை அமெரிக்காவில் இயங்கும் சர்வதேச மருத்துவ சுகாதார இயக்கம் மூலம் பாடசாலை தோட்ட செயற்திட்டமானது மாணவர், பெற்றோர், ஆசிரியர் மட்டத்தில் பெருமகிழ்ச்சியை அளித்து வருகின்றது என்றால் மிகையாகாது.

இவ் வேளையில் ஒரு கருத்தினை முன்வைக்கின்றேன். அந்தவகையில் ‘ஒருவருக்கு உணவு தேவைக்கான மீனை வழங்குவதை விட மீனை பிடிப்பதற்கு கற்றுக் கொடுப்பதே சிறந்ததாகும்’ இவ்வாறு பின்தங்கிய பகுதிகளில் காணப்படும் அசாதாரண போஷாக்கு பற்றாக்குறையான மாணவர்களிற்கு வருடாவருடம் உதவிகளை வழங்குவதற்கு பதிலாக விவசாய செய்கையை பாடசாலை தோறும் ஆரம்பித்து ஊக்கமளிக்கும் போது உள்ளூர் பொதீக வளங்களை கொண்டு இரசாயன தாக்கமற்ற சுயதேவை பொருளாதாரத்தை கட்டியெழுப்பும் வகையில் உணவு உற்பத்திகளை மேற்கொண்டு சுயதேவையை பூர்த்தி செய்வதுடன் பொருளாதார நிறைவையும் எட்ட முடியும் என்பதில் ஜயமில்லை.

அவ் வகையில் எமது பாடசாலை தோட்டத்தின் தேவைப்பாட்டினையும், பயன்பாட்டினையும் விரிவாக எடுத்துக் கொண்டால்

01. மாணவர்களுக்கான பாடர்தியான விவசாய கற்பித்தலை மேற்கொள்ள இலகுவாக அமையும்.
02. விவசாய பாடம் சார்ந்த செய்முறை விளக்கங்களை விளங்கிக் கொள்ளல்.
03. நவீன பயிர்ச்செய்கை நுட்பங்களை பெற்றுக் கொள்ளக்கூடியதாக இருக்கும்.
04. பாடசாலையில் மதிய போஷாக்கு உணவுட்டல் செயற்பாட்டிற்கு பச்சை மரக்கறி வகைகள், மீற வகைகளை உற்பத்தி செய்து அவர்களில் உணவில் சேர்த்துக் கொள்ளக் கூடியதாக இருக்கும்.
05. பாடசாலையில் உள்ள பயன்பாடற்ற நிலத்தை பயனுறு வாய்ந்ததாக மாற்றிக் கொள்ள முடியும்.
06. மாணவர்கள் பாடசாலையில் மட்டுமில்லாது தமது வீடுகளிலும் நாம் கற்ற விடயங்களை வீட்டு தோட்டங்களில் பிரயோகித்து பயன்படுவார்.



மு/தேராங்கண்டல் அரசினர் தமிழ் கலவன் பாடசாலை
MU/TheRankandal G.T.M. School

தேராங்கண்டல்,
 துனுக்காய்.

Therankandal,
 Thunukkai.

Date:... २३./०८./२०२१

07. மாணவர் பாடசாலை கல்வி செயற்பாட்டை நிறைவு செய்து சமூகத்தில் இணையும் போது வருமான நோக்கமுள்ள பயிர்ச்செய்கையை மேற்கொள்ள கூடியவராக இருப்பார்.
08. பாடசாலை தோட்டத்தில் உற்பத்தி செய்த விவசாய உற்பத்த பொருட்களை கயதேவை நுகர்விற்கு பயன்படுத்தியது போக மேலதிகத்தினை சந்தைப்படுத்தி வருமானம் ஈட்டக்கூடியதாக இருக்கும்.
09. பாடசாலையில் உள்ள நீர்வளம், நிலவளம், மனிதவளம், தாவரகழிவுகள், சேதன பச்சைகளை உச்ச அளவில் பயன்படுத்திக் கொள்ள முடியும்.
10. பாடசாலை தோட்ட உற்பத்தியில் இயன்ற அளவில் இரசாயன தாக்கமற்ற இயற்கை வேளான்மை முறைகளை கைக்கொண்டு உணவு உற்பத்தி செய்யக் கற்றுக் கொள்ளக் கூடியதாக அமையும்.
11. மாணவர் மத்தியில் விவசாய பாடவேளையில் குழுமுறையில் செயற்பட வைப்பதன் மூலம் வேலைகளை கூட்டுப் பொறுப்புடன் செயற்படுத்த முனைதல்.
12. மாணவர்களினிடை ஓற்றுமை, தனிப்பட்ட திறமைகள், விட்டுக்கொடுக்கும் தன்மை, தங்களுடைய வேலைக்கான சிறப்புத்தேர்ச்சிகளை பெற்றுக்கொள்ள வழிபடுத்தல்.
13. பாடசாலை விவசாய மன்றங்கள், கழகங்களின் செயற்பாட்டை அதிகரிப்பதன் மூலம் கண்காட்சிகளை, சுற்றுலாக்கள் போன்றவற்றை மேற்கொண்டு ஏனைய பிரதேசங்களின் விவசாய முயற்சிகள் பற்றி அறிந்து கொள்ளக் கூடியதாக அமையும்.
14. பாடசாலையின் மன்றங்கள், கழகங்கள் உருவாக்கும் மற்றும் வளர்ச்சிகள் மூலம் உள்ளாட்டு தன்னார்வ நிறுவனங்கள் மூலமும் உதவிகளை பெற்றுக் கொள்ளக் கூடியதாக இருக்கும்.

மேற்காட்டப்பட்ட செயற்பாடுகளையும் பயன்பாடுகளையும் அடைய முயற்சிக்கும் போது பல பின்தங்கிய பகுதிகளில் காணப்படும் பாடசாலைகளின் போஷாக்கு குறைபாட்டினை நிவர்த்தி செய்து பாடசாலையின் கயதேவைகளை பூர்த்தி செய்யப்படுவதுடன் வீண் செலவுகளையும் கட்டுப்படுத்த முடியும். ஆகவே, பாடசாலை தோட்ட செயற்பாடானது பாடசாலையில் கட்டியெழுப்பப்பட்ட எண்ணக்கருவானது படிப்படியபக வளர்ச்சியடைந்து அது வீட்டு குழலுக்கு மாறி கிராம ரீதியாகவும் வளர்ச்சி தன்மையை உண்டாக்கும் என்பது உறுதி.

புகேதீஸ்வரன்.

(/ மீண்டும் நன்றி
 3/2/21)

MR. P. KETHEESWARAN
 Principal
 Mu/TheRankandal G.T.M.School
 Therankandal, Thunukkai.

Greetings from Kalmunai Base Hospital

By Dr. R. Muraleeswaran, Medical Superintendent, Kalmunai (North) Base Hospital

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the IMHO USA for their successful work in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka for the last 18 years.

In order to produce a healthy, dynamic future generation, it is vital that Hospitals are able to deliver the quality of healthcare needed without resource limitations. IMHO plays a major role in achieving this goal.

IMHO has been providing financial and material support to establish several units of our hospital (eg: Diabetic Centre, Children Park, Health Information Unit, Physiotherapy Unit and Mental Health Unit).

We have been providing Diabetic Center services from the year 2018 in our hospital. It was a milestone event in the history of our hospital. IMHO has not limited their support to just the establishment of the unit, but they have been supporting us in paying the salaries of a pre-intern physician and a research assistant as well.

We have recently struggled to renovate our children park. But in 2020, IMHO came forward to renovate the children park in that moment of need. It was extremely useful and a real boost to the children in our Pediatric Unit.

I highly appreciate the efforts taken by the staff and volunteers of the IMHO team, and congratulate them for successfully continuing their important humanitarian works.

I am extremely grateful to IMHO for helping to uplift the health services in our region and investing in this work, and I sincerely hope that they will continue their precious support in the future.



Saving Groups & Upcountry Co-operative Shop

By Kandiah Vigneshwaran, Project Director, IMHO Upcountry

Every human being must develop a habit of saving, which is an essential for day-to-day life. In the plantations of Sri Lanka's upcountry, it has become very necessary to establish savings group accounts due to the reality that banks are not made available to people who reside in these estates.



Therefore, after a long consideration, people in these communities have resolved to open up a savings account amongst themselves. They meet regularly to save, encourage each other and take small loans from their collective savings. There are now 58 savings groups in operation at the estate level, and the amount of savings presently totals Rs. 6.1 million. It is with these funds that members are able to meet their urgent needs and achieve longer term goals.

The Upcountry Co-operative Shop in Maskeliya was opened on 21st of March 2019 with the investment of savings group members, who now number more than 750 persons. As a purely voluntary association, the shop started with the aim of helping its members by way of buying their own products at a reasonable rate that is acceptable to both parties. The co-operative shop is successfully running now. In 2020, it recorded an impressive profit margin of Rs. 3.5 million. The accounting system used by the Upcountry Co-operative Shop is scrutinized and reviewed by the Board of Directors. Profit sharing amongst members is determined based on the % of investment by each member in the Co-Operative.



Agriculture for Prosperity and a Healthy Life: IMHO Home Gardening Project

By Jeyabalan Abinaas, IMHO Upcountry

"The love of gardening is a seed once sown that never dies."

Nowadays people are finding it extremely difficult to purchase organic and healthy vegetables at shops due to the fact that chemicals are used widely on most of the vegetables for economic reasons. As a result, humans are suffering from exposure to these chemicals, which can lead to disease and other health consequences.

Taking this situation into consideration, IMHO introduced a Home Garden Project in 2021. Most people had no prior knowledge in maintaining a home garden, because they did not see the value or need for it. By keeping a home garden though, people find it very easy to get fresh and healthy vegetables that will benefit their overall health, including helping to safeguard them from illness such as COVID-19.

In fact, this project was started on 4th February 2021 – Independence Day in Sri Lanka – by the Manager of IMHO. We selected over 1,000 families for this purpose, in which 760 Savings Group members, 240 Caring Hands Project beneficiaries, and 11 preschools were selected. To-date, 400 families and 11 preschools were issued with vegetable seeds and other required materials. The cost of seeds and materials have been budgeted at the rate of Rs.1,500 per family monthly.

The planting and development of these home gardens is now in progress in Brownlow, Gangewatta, Mousakelle, Dottala, Glenugie, Blairathol and Puliyawatta estates and in Kirveneliya, Athady and Bullathwatha divisions. We have observed that the beneficiaries are very keen and interested in maintaining these organic home gardens. It is the responsibility of the various program managers to maintain close supervision of these organic home gardens and ensure their success.

We expect these beneficiaries will all get a good yield from their home gardens which will help to sustain them. Any excess crops can be sold at local markets for a profit, and net income can be utilized in meeting their urgent needs. We will endeavor to support these beneficiaries in continuing to do their organic cultivation properly so that they may enable a healthy lifestyle, not only for themselves, but also for the next generations.



மலையக மக்களின் கல்வி மேம்பாட்டுக்கான சில முன்மியாழிவுகள்

IMHO வின் பணிகளை முன்றிறத்தி!.....

அறிமுகம்

ஸ்ரீலங்கா உலக வரைபடத்தில் ஒரு சிறிய தீவாகக் காணப்பட்டாலும் உலக வரலாற்றில் மிகப்பெரிய இடத்தைப் பிடித்திருக்கின்றனம் எல்லோருக்கும் நன்ற தெரிந்த விடயம்.

அழகான இந்தத்தீவு கல்வியிலும் பொருளாதாரத்திலும் வளர்ந்து வரும் நாடாகவே (Developing country) அடையாளப்படுத்தப்படுகிறது.

இந்த நாட்டில் காலனித்துவ ஆட்சி நிலவிய காலத்தில் பிரித்தானியர் ஆட்சியின் கீழ் கண்டு இராச்சியம் கொண்டுவரப்பட்ட போது பெருந்தோட்ட வரலாறும் தொங்குகிறது.

முதலில் கோப்பிப் பயிர்ச்செய்கை மத்திய மலைநாட்டில் தொடங்கப்பட்டது. இத்தோட்டங்களில் தொழில் புரிவதற்குக் கூலித் தொழிலாளிகளைத் தேடிய போது தேவையான அளவுக்குக் கிடைக்காத காரணத்தால் தென்னிந்தியாவில் இருந்து தொழிலாளர்கள் வரவழைக்கப்பட்டனர். இதிலிருந்து தென்னிந்திய மக்கள் இலங்கைக்குப் பெருந்தோட்டக் கூலிகளாகப் புலம் பெயரும் வரலாறு தொடங்குகிறது.

இவ்வாறு இலங்கைக்கு வந்த இந்திய மக்கள் மத்திய மலைநாட்டில் குடியேறினர். கோப்பித் தோட்டங்கள் பின்னர் தேயிலைத் தோட்டங்களாயின. இறப்பர் செய்கையும் இடம்பெற்றது.

இவ்வாறு இந்த மக்கள் இலங்கைக்கு இடம்பெயர்ந்து 200 வருடங்களாகின்றன. இந்திய வம்சாவளியினர், மலையக மக்கள், பெருந்தோட்ட மக்கள் எனப் பல்வேறு பெயர்களால் அழைக்கப்படும் இம்மக்கள் இலங்கையின் ஏனைய இனத்தவர்களை விட கல்வி, பொருளாதாரம், சுகாதார வசதி என்பவற்றில் பின்தங்கிய மக்களாகவே காணப்படுகின்றனர்.

அண்மைக்காலமாக மலையக சமூகத்தில் கல்வி பற்றி விழிப்புணர்வு அதிகரித்துக் காணப்படுவது ஒரு ஆரோக்கியமான சமிக்ஞை எனலாம்.

இவர்களின் கல்வி வளர்ச்சிக்கு அரசாங்கம் மட்டுமன்றி பல்வேறு வெளிநாட்டு நிறுவனங்களும் பங்களிப்புச் செய்து வருகின்றன.

GTZ, SIDA, World vision முதலிய வெளிநாட்டு அமைப்புக்கள் கல்வி மேம்பாட்டுக்குப் பணியாற்றியிருக்கின்றன. இந்த வரிசையில் தற்போது பணியாற்றிவரும் IMHO நிறுவனமும் ஒன்று. ஒரு சமூகத்துக்குச் செய்கின்ற உதவிகளில் கல்விக்காகச் செய்கின்ற உதவியே மிகவும் உயர்வானது. கல்விதான் சமூகமாற்றத்துக்கான பிரதான கருவி என்று அறிஞர்கள் பலரும் உறுதியாகக் கூறியுள்ளனர்.

1. IMHO வின் பணிகள்

அந்தவகையில் IMHO அமைப்பினர் பின்தங்கிய ஒரு சமூகமான இலங்கை மலையக சமூகத்தின் கல்வி வளர்ச்சிக்குப் பங்களிப்புச் செய்துகொண்டிருப்பது மிகவும் உத்தமமான தொண்டு எனக்குறிப்பிடலாம். இலங்கையின் வடக்கு கிழக்கு மாகாணங்களில் IMHO ஆற்றுகின்ற பணிகள் மிகவும் உயர் நிலையானவை. Country director திரு.கி.ருஷ்ணகுமார் அவர்களின் நெறிப்படுத்தலில் இச்செயற்பாடுகள் நேர்த்தியாக நடைபெறுகின்றன.

மலையகத்திலும் மஸ்கலையாவைத் தளமாகக்கொண்டு இயங்கும் IMHO வின் செயற்பாடுகள் திரு.விக்னேஸ்வரன்(Director) அவர்களால் நெறிப்படுத்தப்படுகின்றன.

ஆசிரியர் பயிற்சி, கற்றல் வளப் பங்களிப்பு, வலய மட்ட மதிப்பீட்டுச் செயற்பாடுகள், மாணவர் கல்வி ஊக்குவிப்புக் கொடுப்பனவுகள், நிலையான வளங்களைக் கையளித்தல் எனப் பல்வகைப்பட்டதாக இதன் செயற்பாடுகள் அமைந்துள்ளன. அத்துடன் இப்பிரதேசத்தின்

நம்பிக்கையைப் பெற்ற ஒரு உதவி நிறுவனமாக IMHO திகழ்வது அதன் செயற்பாடுகளின் நேர்த்தியைக் காட்டுகிறது எனலாம்.

எதிர்காலத்திலும் IMHO வின் செயற்பாடுகள் தொடரவுள்ள நிலையில் கல்விக்கான உதவியை மேலும் வினாத்திறனுடன்(Efficiency) ஆற்றுவதற்கான வழிமுறைகளை ஆராய்ந்து பார்த்தல் அவசியமானது என்பதை எல்லோரும் ஏற்றுக்கொள்வர்.

2. IMHO வின் எதிர்காலச் செயற்பாடுகள் பற்றி....

அந்த வகையில் மலையகத்தில் கல்வித்துறை சார்ந்து மேலெழுந்து காணப்படும் பிரச்சினைகளை ஆய்வு செய்து அறிய வேண்டும். பின்னர் பொருத்தமான தீர்வுகளை இனங்கண்டு அவற்றைச் செயற்படுத்தும் போதுதான் நிலைத்து நிற்கக்கூடிய நீண்டகாலக் கல்வி அபிவிருத்தி ஒன்றை மலையகத்தில் ஏற்படுத்த முடியும்.

மலையகத்தின் கல்வி அளவீட்டுக் குறிகாட்டிகள்(Indicators) இலங்கையின் ஏனைய பிரதேசங்களோடு ஒப்பிடும் போது மிகவும் குறைவானதாகவே காணப்படுகின்றன. இவற்றுக்கான காரணங்களாக பின்வருவனவற்றைக் குறிப்பிடலாம்.

1. வறுமை
 2. மாணவர் மத்தியில் கற்றல் இயலுமைக் குறைபாடு.
 3. பெற்றோரின் கல்வி அறிவின்மை
 4. கல்விக்கான வளக் குறைபாடு
 5. வரலாற்று ரீதியான காரணங்கள்.
 6. இலங்கையின் கல்வி அமுலாக்கலில் ஏற்பட்ட குறைபாடுகள்
- இவ்வாறான மூலகாரணங்களை இனங்கண்டு அவற்றை நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்காக எடுக்கப்படுகின்ற ஆக்கப்பூர்வமான நடவடிக்கைகள் மலையகக் கல்வியை வளர்ச்சிப்பாதை நோக்கி நகர்த்தும். எதிர்கால அபிவிருத்தி வேலைத்திட்டங்களில் பின்வரும் அம்சங்கள் உள்ளடக்கப்படுவது நன்று.
1. வகுப்பறைக்குள் அடங்கி நிற்கும் ஏட்டுக்கல்வியை மட்டுமன்றி தொழிற்கல்வி சார்ந்த செயற்பாடுகள் பற்றியும் சிந்திக்க வேண்டும்.
 2. இணைப்பாடவிதைஞர் செயற்பாடுகளை ஊக்குவிக்கத்தக்க வகையில் கல்வித்திட்டமிடல் அமைய வேண்டும்.
 3. மகிழ்ச்சிகரமான கற்றலை மாணவர் மேற்கொள்ளத்தக்கவாறு கற்றல் சூழல் அமைவதை உறுதிப்படுத்தவேண்டும்.
 4. நவீன கல்விச்சிந்தனைகளை உள்வாங்கி 21^ஶ நாற்றாண்டிலும் அதன் பின்னரும் தேசிய மட்டத்திலும் சர்வதேச மட்டத்திலும் மேற்கொள்ளப்படும் கல்விச் சீர்திருத்தங்களை கவனத்திலெடுக்கும் பொறிமுறை உறுதிப்படுத்தப்பட வேண்டும்.
 5. கல்விச் செயற்பாடுகளுக்கு தொடர்ந்து பிற்றிடமிருந்து உதவிகளை எதிர்பாராமல் தமது பிள்ளைகளின் கல்வியை தாமே வெற்றிகரமாக எடுத்துச் செல்லக்கூடிய வகையில் தம்மை வளப்படுத்திக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.
3. நீண்டகாலம் நிலைத்து நிற்கும் கல்வி வளர்ச்சிக்கான சில பரிந்துரைகள். (Sustainable Educational Development)
1. நூலகங்களை உருவாக்குதல் இருக்கின்ற நூலகங்களை மேலும் வளப்படுத்தல் நூலகப் பயன்பாடு பற்றிய ஒழுங்குமுறைகளை நிரந்தரமாக ஏற்படுத்தல்.
 2. கற்றலுக்கான வள ஆவணங்கள் (Modules, பயிற்சி நூல்கள்.....)தயாரித்தல்.
 3. கற்பித்தல் மென்பொருள் தயாரித்தல் கற்றலுக்கான இலத்திரனியல் சாதனங்களை வழங்குதல். (Smart board)

4. ஆசிரியர்களுக்கான தொடருறு பயிற்சிகள் வழங்கல்.(Continuous teachers training)
5. விளையாட்டு மைதானம், (Play grounds) , உள்ளக விளையாட்டரங்கு (Badminton court, Table tennis court) என்பவற்றை உருவாக்குதல்.
6. பாடசாலைகளில் இசை அறை, நாடக அறை, நடன அறை, ஓவிய அறை (Music room, Drama room, Dance room, Art room) முதலியவைகளை நிறுவுவதுடன் இவற்றுக்குரிய கருவிகள் முதலியவற்றை வழங்கி இத்தகைய கலைகளை மாணவர்களிடம் வளர்க்க உதவுதல்.
7. மாதிரிப் பாடசாலைகளை (Model school) நிறுவுதல்.
8. பெற்றோரின் வருமானத்தை அதிகரிப்பதற்கான சிறுதொழில் முயற்சிகளுக்கு அடித்தளமிடுதல்.
9. பெருந்தோட்டப் பகுதிகளில் கல்விக்கலாசாரமொன்றைக் (Educational culture) கட்டியெழுப்பத்தக்க வகையில் செயற்பாடுகளை மேற்கொள்ளுதல்.

முடிவுரை

இவ்வாறு மலையகக் கல்வி வளர்ச்சிக்கு IMHO வின் எதிர்காலச் செயற்பாடுகளை வடிவமைக்க முடியும். எல்லாவற்றிற்கும் அடிப்படை நிதித்தேவையாகும். நிதி வளத்திற்கு ஏற்பவே இந்த விடயங்களைச் செயற்படுத்த முடியும் என்கின்ற யதார்த்தமும் இங்கு முக்கியமானது.

இதுவரை இந்த மக்களின் கல்வி வளர்ச்சிக்கு IMHO ஆற்றி வருகின்ற பணி பாராட்டுக்குரியது. காலமும் இடமும் அறிந்து ஆற்றப்படும் இந்த உதவி வரலாற்றில் நிலைத்து நிற்கும்.

இறுதியாக பாரதியின் சில வரிகளைக் குறிப்பிட்டு நிறைவு செய்கிறேன்.

“ அறிவை வளர்த்திட வேண்டும் - மக்கள்
அந்தனை பேருக்கும் ஒன்றாய்
சிறியரை மேம்படச்செய்தால் - பின்பு
தெய்வம் எல்லோரையும் வாழ்த்தும் ”

- பாரதி.

S.கணபதிப்பிள்ளை
முன்னாள் ஆசிரிய
ஆலோசகர்,
ஹந்தேன் வலயம்.
வருகை விரிவுரையாளர்,
ஸ்ரீபாத தேசிய கல்வியியற்
கல்லூரி.

Inspiring Children through Reading Groups

By S. Surendran, IMHO Upcountry

It is a universal truth that reading is good for everyone, especially those young minds of current students. The establishment of reading groups is something that can help to develop the habit and the motivation to read often, including during leisure hours. It is a hobby that will serve those who invest in reading today very well in the future.

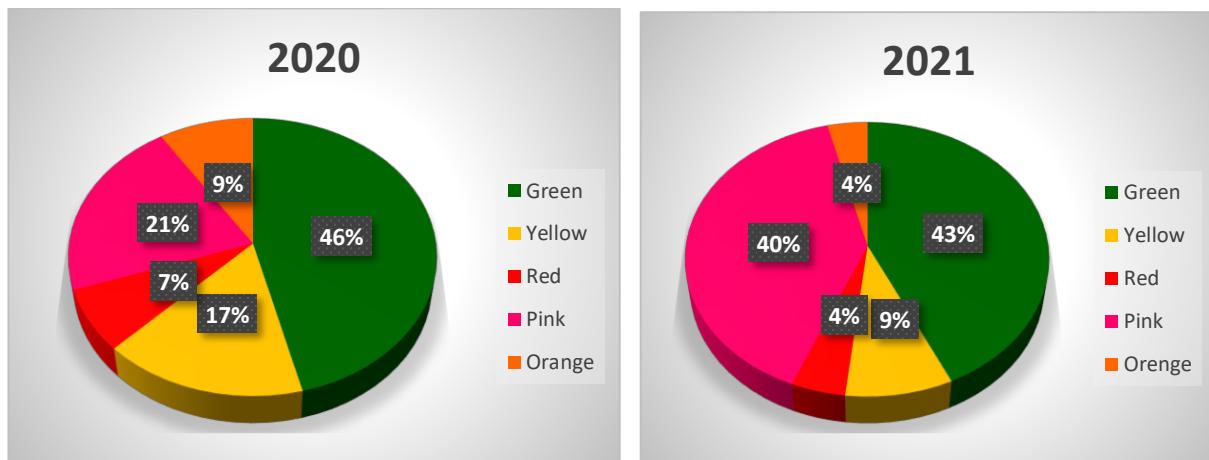
Accordingly, IMHO's existing Reading Circle project enjoys the participation of 952 girls & boys, along with 56 young volunteers. The project is helping to support the development and improvement of crucial literacy skills amongst estate children. The initial aim of the project is not limited to just improving literacy standards though, it is also to enhance the capacity for the children to read and understand the validity of child rights and civil rights.

The formal school curriculum today is bound to a rigid syllabus and provides very little for skills and knowledge to actually be developed. With reading, however, there is no limit to how much a student can learn or grow. Reading books enable students to improve their knowledge and crucial skills such as critical thinking, writing, reading comprehension, etc.

A student who reads regularly is also more apt to take up a position of leadership without fear or hesitation, as they carry with them the full knowledge and understanding gathered through reading books. Children can improve and develop their character and place in the world through reading too.

Various positive changes and unexpected impacts have occurred as a result of these IMHO-supported reading groups for children. From the graphs below, you can reference the details of the Functional Literacy Assessment Tool (FLAT) that was utilized in measuring impact between 2020 and 2021:

- Green denotes children whose progress was unchanged from the prior year
- Pink denotes students who showed a significant amount of progress from the prior year
- Yellow denotes children who showed a moderate amount of progress from the prior year
- Orange denotes children who showed a minor amount of progress from the prior year
- Red denotes students who regressed and are performing behind expectations



Knowledge acquired through reading encourages children to come forward to participate in competitions, writing activities such as magazines and newspapers, cultural programmes, leadership trainings, service work, establishing libraries, social activities, and more. With these type of activities on offer, other children are very eager to participate in reading groups now too. These groups also help to create a situation of leadership development amongst the children who regularly attend reading groups, as they discover new ways and views that help to empower them to stand on their own and to pursue their own goals.



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