



Chinmya Organisation for Rural Development

Progress Report for 2021 (January -June)

Introduction

COVID-19 pandemic that brought fear and misery to thousands of poor rural families in Sri Lanka in 2020, continued to spread throughout the country affecting the people of all walks of life in 2021. Many of the vulnerable women and children in remote villages continued to suffer immensely from severe food shortages during lockdowns. These vulnerable families faced unprecedented difficulties in accessing basic food requirements to feed their children. Food insecurity was severe among the individuals and families who had limited savings and irregular sources of income. Such people, faced poor health and severe malnutrition issues especially among their children. Further, high unemployment was observed with the pandemic-induced worker layoffs and the reduction in working hours. Hence, providing food to these vulnerable families was the priority of CORD during this period.

Food distribution to vulnerable families

CORD Sri Lanka took immediate action during this national emergency to support the poor rural families with children with much needed essential food items. CORD Sri Lanka distributed emergency dry rations consisting of rice, flour, dhal and Soya and other essentials to over 220 SHG families and 63 sponsored children in Piramandanaru, Ulavanoor, Kallaru, Tharmapuram, Nathan Thiitam, Kannahi, Nagar, Sivapuram, Visvamadu & Paranthan.



Urgent medical items donated to Government Base Hospital

With the unexpected outbreak and surge of COVID pandemic situation in the Northern Sri Lanka, some government hospitals needed essential medical items urgently. CORD received a request from the management of Mullaitivu Base Hospital for urgent medical needs for the newly established COVID ward in May 2021. CORD responded immediately by donating Pulse Oximetry, Digital thermometer, Digital pressure box, Nebulizer machine & KN 95 masks for the use in this ward.



Stationary distributed to all the Sponsored children

In January all the sponsored children received a full pack of stationary to support their studies.



New cloths to all the Sponsored children

The sponsored children, both girls and boys received new cloths in January as gifts for the Thai Pongal festival.



Agricultural Livelihood Enhancement project for Rural women

Under second phase of this project 14 SHG women from in Kandawalai Divisional Secretariat in the district of Kilinochchi were supported to grow various cash crops during the second half of Maha season. They cultivated chillies, pumpkin, water melon, chillies and ground nuts from January onwards. CORD provided quality seeds, technical advice, and fertiliser for the cultivation. Except for two cultivation fields that were washed away due to heavy rains, others got good yields and income from their crops. Moreover, they learned proper cultivation techniques from the CORD agricultural consultant who visited and trained them.



Water pump to expand the agricultural activities



Mrs. S. Luxmi was supported to buy a water pump to expand her farming by CORD in February 2021. She is a mother of three grown up daughters and is engaged in farming together with her husband. Though she has water, she wanted a pump to irrigate her 2-acre plot. With that she and her family could continuously cultivate her land throughout the year and earn better income .

Backyard Poultry Farming promoted

Backyard poultry farming was promoted among the SHG families to improve their livelihoods and family nutrition.

Around 300 chicks were purchased from a reputed hatchery and a SHG woman raised these day-old chicks up to two months before distributing them among the beneficiaries. Based on the availability of poultry housing and past experience, 18 SHG women received 2-month old pullets in June 2021.

