

FACE TO FACE

Director's Face

Children – Building Strong Foundations

Women – Empowering the unheard voices

Youth – Designer of the Future

Health – Our Concern

Culture and Communication – A Way of Life

*Human Resources – Building Capacities
for sustainable change*

*LIFE Insurance Corporation of India –
Securing Futures*

Award for Life Time Achievement

*Nava Jeevan Vikas –
Sharing in our Mission*

*Partners and Sponsors –
Our Benefactors*

Areas of Operation

Geographical Phase

DIRECTOR'S FACE



At Asha Nivas, We believe that development is more than economic growth. It's about improving the quality of life for all and ensuring that all individuals have the opportunity to thrive. True development encompasses education, health care, equality, political freedom and environmental sustainability. Today our focus is on expanding people's capabilities and creating an environment where they can lead meaningful, dignified lives. Sustainable development, in particular, calls for meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations of flourish.

Women and children are at the heart of this vision. In many communities, they continue to face deep-rooted inequalities - limited access to education, health care, and economic opportunities. Through our initiatives in education, skill training, various awareness and rights advocacy, we have empowered women to transform their lives. This not only uplifts individual families but also strengthens entire communities. Similarly our continued investment in the well-being and education of children breaks the cycles of poverty and builds a just, equitable society.

Asha Nivas Social Service Centre embodies this holistic approach to development. Recognizing the vital role of women in societal transformation, the organization has mobilized over 60,000 women into Self-Help Groups, equipping them with tools for credit access, entrepreneurship and vocational training. These efforts have enabled women to build sustainable livelihoods and become agents of change makers within their communities.

Our commitment to children remains equally strong. Though our Day Care Centers, preschools and non-formal education programs for street children and school dropouts, we have reached some of the most vulnerable. Child parliaments and vocational training initiatives equip young people with leadership qualities and practical skills preparing them for a brighter future. Shelter homes offer safe refuge, while healthcare initiatives - such as medical camps and awareness programs on HIV/AIDS and substance abuse - promote the overall well-being of the communities served.

Asha Nivas stands as a powerful example of community - driven, inclusive development. Its dedicated team and the generous support of partner organizations, donors and sponsors have turned aspirations into reality for thousands. As we look ahead, Asha Nivas continues to inspire renewed hope - proving that targeted, compassionate interventions can lead to lasting, meaningful changes. We also express our sincere thanks to our dedicated staff, sisters, coordinators, organizers, animators and teachers for their unwavering commitment to the cause of development championed by Asha Nivas.

As we reflect on the achievements of the past year, we offer our deepest thanks to Almighty for His guidance and blessings. It is with great pleasure that we present this annual account of Asha Nivas activities for the year 2024-2025.

REV. DR. KURIAN THOMAS, Ph.D
Director

CHILDREN – BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS

Asha Nivas has taken on the challenges and responsibilities of supporting all-round development of children who are most vulnerable such as child labourers, street children, children of pavement dwellers, children of commercial sex workers, begging children, and runaway children.

To respond to the challenges Asha Nivas has developed a holistic framework of care and protection through various intervention programs: out initiatives include:

- ❖ **Preschools and Non-Formal Education Centres:** to lay strong educational foundations
- ❖ **Coaching Centres and a Special School:** to support continued learning
- ❖ **Sponsorship Programs:** to remove financial barriers to education
- ❖ **School Enrolment Drives:** to reintegrate out-of-school children
- ❖ **Child Parliaments:** to encourage leadership, participation, and self-expression
- ❖ **Shelter Homes and an Open Shelter Home:** to provide a safe and secure space for children in crisis

Every program is designed to create a world where no child is left behind. It is a world where every child is safe, supported, free to learn, grow and simply be a child.

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION: NURTURING MINDS AT THE START OF LIFE

At Asha Nivas, we believe that every child deserves the best possible start. Our early childhood education programme, designed for children aged 2 to 5, promotes holistic development through play-based learning, creativity, and social interaction. Recognizing that early education lays the foundation for lifelong learning, we have established 17 vibrant preschools, reaching 375 children across vulnerable communities.

These centres do more than teach – they inspire curiosity, instill confidence, and prepare children to successfully transition into mainstream education. With a strong focus on inclusivity and engagement, Asha Nivas works closely



Children at Preschool

with parents to encourage participation in pre-schooling, ensuring no child is left behind.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS

To complement classroom learning, we conducted targeted skill development sessions with a special focus on motor skills, cognitive abilities, and social-emotional



Activities for Preschool children

growth. Using age-appropriate, play-based activities, our preschools hosted engaging programmes that helped children build confidence in fine motor coordination, communication, and problem-solving.

PARENTS MEETING: STRENGTHENING THE HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

We understand that education is most effective when parents are involved. Our Preschool Parent Meetings are designed to foster open dialogue between teachers and families. These gatherings create a space to discuss a child's growth, challenges, and achievements, helping parents to become active partners in their child's early development.

This year, our meetings served as platforms to celebrate progress, set shared goals, and build a community of support around every child.



Interaction with Preschool Parents

CONVOCATION DAY: A CELEBRATION OF GROWTH

On May 9, 2024, we hosted a heartwarming Convocation Day at the Ottery Shelter Home. Dressed in traditional convocation gowns, 100 proud preschoolers, along with their parents, marked the completion of a foundational phase of education.

Distinguished guests, including Inspector Mukesh Rao and Mr. Nandakumar, teacher from Namalwarpet High



Convocation Day



Convocation Day

School, honoured the children with certificates. A parallel convocation was celebrated at Kannagi Nagar, graced by Sub-Inspector Soundar Rajan and Fr. Gabriel, reflecting the community's shared joy and pride.

EMPOWERING TEACHERS THROUGH SPECIALIZED TRAINING

On 15th to 16th May 2024, Asha Nivas organized an intensive two-day training workshop for preschool educators. The training emphasized child development across five key domains – physical, emotional, intellectual, social, and moral – and equipped teachers with tools to create joyful, stimulating learning environments.

Educators were taught how to design creative teaching aids (charts, puppets, placards), prepare yearly syllabi, and nurture children's readiness for formal schooling. These capacity-building efforts ensure that every teacher becomes a catalyst for transformation in a child's life.



Preschool Teachers' Training

COACHING CENTRES: BRIDGING EDUCATIONAL GAPS

For many children in under-resourced communities, academic success remains a distant dream due to economic challenges. Asha Nivas bridges this gap by operating eight free coaching centres, where expert tutors provide personalized academic support.

This year, 200 school-going children have benefited from our after-school programmes – achieving remarkable academic improvements and regaining confidence in their abilities. These centres act as learning sanctuaries, guiding children toward brighter futures.



Nurturing academic success

TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATION - A Tribute to Dedication

Teachers' Day is a moment to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of teachers to education and bright society. It is a time to express heartfelt gratitude for their



Honouring Preschool Teachers

dedication, commitment, and hard work and positive impact they have on every child's life. The day also serves as an opportunity to reflect on the importance of education and the vital role teachers play in shaping individuals.

Asha Nivas celebrated Teachers' Day on 5th September 2024 at Asha Nivas social service centre, Nungambakkam. Ms. Lilly Josephine, CCDO, expressed appreciation and gratitude by honouring the teachers with shawls and crowns, recognizing their selfless service and unwavering commitment. This celebration reminded us that teachers are true changemakers who inspire growth and hope in every child.

Street Children Project: From Survival to Dignity

A house may be made of bricks, but a true home is built on love, care, and safety. Sadly, for many children, the very place that should nurture and protect them becomes a space of neglect, abuse, or abandonment. Due to broken families, irresponsible parenting, or the tragic loss of caregivers, numerous children find themselves pushed to the margins – fleeing unsafe environments and ending up on the streets.

Urbanization and poverty have further deepened this crisis. With nowhere to go and no one to trust, these children face hunger, exploitation, and emotional trauma. But at Asha Nivas, we believe that no child should grow up feeling unseen or unloved.

Our Street Children Project brings hope and transformation through a comprehensive care package – rescue, protection, emotional support, education, skill-building, and family reintegration. We walk with each child on their journey from crisis to confidence, helping them reclaim their childhood and shape a better future.

Shelter Homes: A Safe Haven with a Heart

Asha Nivas runs two fully functional, government-recognized shelter homes:

1. Sanadhana Girls Shelter Home, Metha Nagar (Capacity: 21 girls)
2. Samarpana Boys Shelter Home, Ottery (Capacity: 27 boys)



Samarpana Boys' Shelter Home

Referred through the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), each child brought to our shelters is provided with:

- Safe accommodation and nutritious meals
- Access to formal education and vocational training
- Medical care and hygiene
- Individual and group counselling
- Recreational activities and life skill development



Sanadhana Girls' Shelter Home



Boys' Open Shelter Home



Girls' Open Shelter Home

But beyond services, what truly defines our homes is the love, trust, and personal care that children receive. Every child is treated with dignity, surrounded by adults who listen, understand, and stand by them.

Open Shelter: A Bridge to Safety and Belonging

Our Open Shelter programme supports children who are in urgent need of care and protection—whether they are found in street situations, lost, or temporarily displaced.

Supported by the Directorate of Child Welfare under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), the shelter provides:

- 👁️ Short-term residential care in a safe and welcoming environment
- 👁️ Food, clothing, hygiene, and medical attention
- 👁️ Recreation and non-formal education
- 👁️ Life skill development, personality building, and leadership training
- 👁️ Awareness sessions on drug abuse, HIV/AIDS, and child rights

One of our most critical efforts is family reunification. After careful counselling of both the child and their family, we help children return to safe and nurturing homes. This holistic approach ensures that the child's dignity, safety, and emotional well-being remain central at every step.

Drop-In Centre: A Lifeline for Young Homeless Men

Asha Nivas operates a Drop-In Centre in Ayanavaram to support young homeless boys aged 18 to 21, many of whom are job-seekers with no safe place to stay. The centre provides:

- 👁️ Basic shelter and hygiene facilities
- 👁️ Nutritious food and clothing

- ☞ A safe environment to rest and rebuild
- ☞ Guidance for job placement and personal development

Currently, 10 young men are benefiting from this initiative. For these youth, the Drop-In Centre is more than a place – it is a second chance at life.

Child Parliament: Raising Tomorrow's Leaders

To nurture active citizenship and social responsibility among children, Asha Nivas has formed over 250 Child Parliaments in each child parliaments there are 20 to 25 members. These child-led bodies empower children to:

- ☞ Stand up for child rights
- ☞ Raise awareness on education, health, hygiene, and environmental care
- ☞ Collaborate on cleaning drives, tree planting, and peer education

Each parliament includes ministers with portfolios and meets monthly for leadership training, discussions on local issues, and planning community initiatives. The goal is clear: to raise a generation of informed, responsible, and compassionate change makers.



Children at Child Parliament Meetings held across various locations

International Day of the Girl Child: Empowering Futures

On 11th October 2024, Asha Nivas celebrated the International Day of the Girl Child at Sanadhana Girls Shelter Home. Activities included:

- ❖ Seminars and lectures on girls' education and rights.
- ❖ Competitions for the children.
- ❖ Cultural programmes by the staff focused on child safety and empowerment.



Celebration of International Day of the Girl Child

- ❖ Prizes and mementos to recognize every child's effort.
- ❖ A special meal to honour the occasion.

The event was a powerful affirmation of our commitment to dignity, equality, and opportunity for every girl.

Child Rights Day & Children's Day: Celebrating Every Childhood

On 14th November 2024, Asha Nivas hosted a joint celebration of Child Rights Day and Children's Day at the All Women's Service Centre, Kelly, Chennai, with over 1000 children in attendance.



The event featured:

- A keynote speech by Mr. Mathiyazhagan, District Child Protection Officer, who praised Asha Nivas for its leadership in child development.
- A tribute to Rev. Dr. Kurian Thomas, Director, for his tireless dedication to children in slums.
- Child Parliament Members were honoured with medals for their exemplary social contributions.
- Organized and facilitated by Ms. Lilly Josephine, the Chief Community Development Officer, reinforced the message: Every child matters. Every right counts.



Child Rights Day and Children's Day

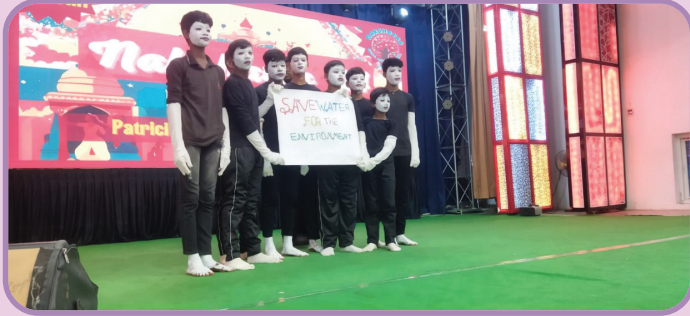
RECREATION: JOY AS A PATH TO HEALING

Recreation is not just play – it is a form of therapy, freedom, and growth. At Asha Nivas, we believe that children deserve time and space to laugh, express, and explore the world through joyful experiences.

- ❖ On 12th October 2024, children from the Girls Shelter Home enjoyed a vibrant day out at Gill Nagar Park, filled with games, laughter, and bonding with staff.

- ❖ On 1st September 2024, children from both shelter homes participated in the Boomi Cultural Competition, where they showcased their talents and won 5 prizes – a proud moment that celebrated their creativity and confidence.

These recreational events are essential to the emotional recovery and holistic development of every child we serve.



Participation in cultural competitions and recreational activities at the Park

Vocational Training: Equipping Youth for Livelihood

At Asha Nivas, we believe self-reliance leads to dignity. Through our vocational training programmes, school dropouts above the age of 15 receive hands-on instruction in:

- Two-wheeler and three-wheeler mechanics
- Music band training

In the past year, 15 adolescents successfully completed training, building their skills, confidence, and readiness for gainful employment.

School Enrolment Awareness Rallies: Every Child in School

To ensure every child has access to education, Asha Nivas led a series of School Enrolment Awareness Rallies in underserved communities. With placards, slogans, banners, skits, and T-shirts, we mobilized children, parents, and local leaders to recognize the value of formal education.



Rally for School Enrolment

Awareness Rally Highlights

Date	Place	No. of Children	Chief Guests
25.05.2024	Pulianthope	105	Ms. Parvathi, SHG Federation Leader
28.05.2024	Ottery	150	Mr. Nandakumar, Head Master
30.05.2024	Debar Nagar	125	Mr. Lokesh, Vyssar Sangam
28.05.2024	Ezhil Nagar	100	Mrs. Saraswathi TNSCB
29.05.2024	Notchi Nagar	170	Mr. Nagamuthu, Local leader
30.05.2024	RA Puram	120	Mr. Susaiya, CDO, Asha Nivas

REPATRIATION: REUNITING CHILDREN WITH LOVE AND SAFETY

Every child has the fundamental right to grow up in a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment. Sadly, due to circumstances beyond their control – such as poverty, abandonment, abuse, or displacement – many children become separated from their families and exposed to serious risks including exploitation, violence, and trauma.

At Asha Nivas, we make family reunion a priority. After ensuring a child’s physical and emotional well-being in our shelter homes, we work closely with the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) to locate families, assess home environments, and provide counselling for both children and parents.

Thanks to our dedicated social workers and child protection officers, 102 children were successfully reintegrated with their families this year. These moments of reunion are not just administrative outcomes but they are deeply human milestones of healing, hope, and new beginnings.

Government Monitoring and Appreciation

A Multi-Level Disciplinary Committee, including the District Child Protection Officer, conducted an official inspection of our boys and Girls Shelter Home several times in a year. After reviewing documentation, infrastructure, hygiene, and child care practices, the team commended Asha Nivas for our standards in care, record-keeping, and cleanliness. This appreciation strengthens

our commitment to upholding excellence in child protection services.



Visit of Government Officials to our Centre

FESTIVALS AND MEANINGFUL OBSERVANCES

Asha Nivas takes pride in celebrating the rich cultural and national heritage of India. Festivals like Independence Day, Republic Day, Children's Day, Pongal, Deepavali, Saraswathi Pooja, Vinayagar Chaturthi, Ramzan, and Christmas are celebrated with our shelter home children and the local community fostering unity, joy, and respect for diversity.

Beyond celebrations, we also mark important awareness days such as Anti-Drugs Day, World AIDS Day, Child



Rights Day, and No Tobacco Day. These observances create awareness, encourage responsible living and empower children to become informed and compassionate citizens. Together, these moments enrich lives, build community bonds and inspire positive social change.



Festival Celebration at our Centre

Independence Day Celebration: Honouring Freedom and Dreams

On 15th August 2024, both the Samarpana Boys Shelter Home and Sanadhana Girls Shelter Home came alive with colour and National pride as we celebrated India's 77th Independence Day.

- ❑ Mr. Sivakumar, Police Inspector, hoisted the flag and addressed the boys' home.
- ❑ Mrs. Divya, Superintendent of Shelter Home, led the celebrations at the girls' home.
- ❑ Cultural programmes, patriotic speeches, and sweet distributions marked the day.

Each activity instilled a sense of belonging, pride, and hope in our children.



Independence Day Celebration

Christmas Celebration: The Gift of Joy

On 20th December 2024, we hosted a Christmas Celebration at the All Women's Service Centre, Kellys, for children from shelter and contact centres. Around 150 children took part in:

- Cultural performances, carols, and festive dances.
- A heartfelt Christmas message by Ms. Divya, Superintendent of the Girls Shelter Home.
- Christmas gifts, snacks, and a special lunch.

More than a celebration, it was a reminder to the children that they are loved, cherished, and never alone.



Christmas Celebration with our Children

ASSESSMENTS: PREPARING FOR SCHOOL READINESS

We carried out comprehensive developmental assessments across our preschools to monitor each child's growth. Through observation checklists and structured tools, we assessed children in areas such as gross and fine motor skills, eye-hand coordination, and recognition of letters, numbers, shapes, and colours.

We are proud to report that 52 children have met the readiness benchmarks and are now equipped to begin their journey in formal schooling – a milestone we celebrate with pride.

Sports Meet: Building Confidence and Team Spirit

Sports offer children more than physical strength. They teach discipline, teamwork, and leadership. On Independence Day 2024, we hosted a Football Sports



Children's Sports Meet

Meet at our Samarpana Boys Shelter Home. Five teams from areas including Ayanavaram, Pulianthoppu, SS Puram, and Ottery participated with great enthusiasm.

The final match was won by the Ayanavaram team, and the trophy was presented by Inspector Mr. Sivakumar, in the presence of Mr. Chandrasekar, Physical Director of Namalwarpet High School. Events like these encourage children to believe in themselves and aim higher.

Tree Planting Drive: Growing With Nature

Environmental education begins with hands-on action. Following the guidance of the District Child Protection Unit, we engaged our children in a tree planting initiative on 1st January 2025 across both shelter homes.

Children not only planted trees but also learned the importance of caring for the earth, nurturing the planet as they nurture themselves. It was a meaningful step toward



Sports Meet

fostering environmental responsibility and sustainability among young minds.



Children plant trees under Swachh Bharat Initiative

Yoga Day: Cultivating Inner Strength

Yoga is a profound path to physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. On 21st June 2024, we celebrated International Yoga Day across our shelter homes and office. Children and staff participated in sessions that introduced yoga techniques to promote focus, balance, emotional regulation, and inner peace.

Yoga is now a regular practice in our homes, helping children build resilience and mindfulness in their daily lives.



Children Practicing Yoga

Eye Camp: Vision for a Brighter Future

On 26th March 2025, Asha Nivas organized a comprehensive Eye Camp for both shelter homes in partnership with Sankara Eye Hospital. Equipped with the latest screening tools, doctors conducted thorough check-ups and provided spectacles for children with vision challenges.

This initiative ensures that every child sees the world clearly and continues learning without barriers.



Eye Camp at Our Centre

SPONSORSHIP FOR EDUCATION: Transforming Lives Through Learning

Education is one of the greatest gifts we can offer a child. It is not merely about literacy. It is the key that unlocks imagination, confidence, and opportunity. At Asha Nivas, we believe that every child, regardless of economic background, deserves a chance to learn, grow, and dream big.

Through our Education Sponsorship Programme, we provide financial support, academic encouragement, and emotional mentoring to children from disadvantaged families. This support covers school fees, uniforms, books, and personal guidance removing the barriers that often force children to drop out.

In a world full of challenges, education gives children the tools to think critically, make informed choices, and build meaningful futures. Our sponsors don't just fund education. They build lives of dignity, independence, and hope.

Summer Camp 2024: Learning with Joy

In April 2024, we organized a three-day Summer Camp for sponsored children aged 6–17 under the theme “Child

Care & Protection.” Held across three locations – Otteri, Saidapet, and Kannagi Nagar – nearly 500 children participated.

S.No	Date	Areas	No. of Children
1	24.04.2024	Otteri	180
2	25.04.2024	Saidapet	140
3	26.04.2024	Kannagi Nagar	180

Each day featured engaging sessions on personal safety, environmental awareness, good manners, and teamwork as well as balanced with games, entertainment, and creativity.

During the valedictory event, medals were awarded to children who demonstrated excellence in participation. Lunch and refreshments were served with love. The children expressed heartfelt gratitude to Rev. Dr. Kurian Thomas, our Director, and to their generous sponsors whose support made the camp a memorable experience.



Children at Summer Camp

Parents' Meetings: Empowering Through Awareness

Each month, we conduct Parents' Meetings for families of sponsored children. These gatherings are not only informative but transformative. Our team facilitates sessions on:

- Personal hygiene and health
- Sanitation and clean living
- Gender equality and parenting skills
- The importance of consistent schooling

Parents are encouraged to support equal opportunities for girls and boys, and many share stories of how their mindsets have shifted through these interactions. Through moral storytelling and open discussions, we nurture a culture where education begins at home.



Interaction with Parents of Sponsored Children

LETTER WRITING - Building Relationship Beyond Borders

In May 2024, Asha Nivas organized a special letter-writing event for our sponsored children, giving them an opportunity to connect with their sponsors. With great



Communicating with the Sponsors

enthusiasm, the children poured their hearts into handwritten letters and colourful drawings, expressing deep love and gratitude. Through this activity, they received their annual financial support, which plays a vital role in their education.

The children were especially happy to thank their sponsors for supporting their studies and to share their achievements. Many children proudly shared their academic progress, especially their promotion to the next grade, as a token of appreciation. A total of 478 sponsored children participated in the event and benefitted from this meaningful exchange.

Awareness Programme: Engaging Parents Creatively

To further enhance parental engagement, our cultural troupe 'SIRPI' conducted awareness programmes in Ottery, Kannagi Nagar, and Greams Road, benefiting over 260 parents. Using puppet shows, songs, and storytelling, we emphasized:

- ❖ The vital role of parents in a child's academic success.
- ❖ The importance of tracking school attendance and progress.
- ❖ How small acts of encouragement can inspire lifelong learning.

These events helped bridge the gap between home and school, ensuring that families become active stakeholders in their children's education.



Awareness for Sponsor Parents

Building Bonds with Sponsors

On 4th December, we hosted a virtual meet with our donors and partners to share the progress of the sponsorship programme and align on future goals. Coordinated by Mrs. Divya, our Sponsorship Project Coordinator, and attended by ACA representatives, the session fostered transparency, collaboration, and shared vision.

This engagement laid the foundation for the five-day ACA training workshop (12–16 February 2025), where five partner organizations across districts gathered at Asha Nivas to learn about reporting, documentation, and sponsor communication standards under the new ACA sponsorship structure.

School Visits: Ensuring Consistent Progress

Our field team conducts regular school visits to ensure that sponsored children attend classes consistently and are performing well. We engage with headmistress and class teachers to:

- ❖ Review attendance and academic progress.
- ❖ Offer additional support for children struggling in studies.
- ❖ Build strong, collaborative relationships with schools.

These visits play a crucial role in identifying issues early, strengthening accountability, and ensuring no child is left behind.

Family Visits: Building Trust at the Grassroots

We also carry out routine family visits to foster trust, understand challenges, and provide counselling. These visits help our staff:

- 👉 Learn about family dynamics and socio-economic challenges.
- 👉 Offer parents practical solutions and emotional support.
- 👉 Encourage children to share their academic and personal concerns.

These touch points create a deeper bond between Asha Nivas, the children, and their families – building a strong foundation for sustainable impact.

ACA Training Programme

From 12th to 16th February 2025, Asha Nivas hosted a five-day training by Action Child Aid (ACA) with participation from five partner organizations across districts. The sessions focused on the new sponsorship structure, reporting standards, and effective documentation.

This programme strengthened partners' capacity in presenting impactful reports and photos, ensuring greater transparency and alignment with ACA's expectations.



Meeting with ACA members and other partners

Christmas Celebration: A Festival of Love and Gratitude

On 14th December 2024, we celebrated Christmas at the All Women's Service Centre, Kellys, with over 500 children and parents. The event featured:



- Competitions and cultural performances where children showcased their talents.
- Inspirational message by Mr. Antony Samy, SDM Superior General, who blessed the Crib.
- Reflections on love, sharing, and caring by Ms. Lilly Josephine.
- Distribution of Christmas gifts, sweets, and a special lunch.

It was a day filled with joy, colour, warmth, and the reaffirmation that every child matters and is worthy of celebration.



Christmas Celebrations for Sponsored Children

SPONSOR CHILDREN

During the event, Rev. Dr. Kurian Thomas, Director of Asha Nivas, took time to personally interact with the sponsor children, engaging them in thoughtful conversation about their future aspirations. He asked each of them about the marks they had achieved in their Class XII exams and listened with interest as they shared their goals—ranging from pursuing higher education in fields like engineering, medicine, and commerce, to vocational training and skilled trades. Encouraging them warmly, Rev. Dr. Kurian Thomas advised the students to remain focused, work hard, and never lose sight of their dreams, regardless of the challenges they may face. He emphasized the importance of discipline, self-confidence, and determination, reassuring them that Asha Nivas would continue to support and guide them on their journey towards a brighter future.



Students interacting with the Director

WOMEN – EMPOWERING THE UNHEARD VOICES

Self-Help Groups: Pathways to Empowerment

At Asha Nivas, we believe that when women are empowered, entire communities thrive. Our Self-Help Groups (SHGs) serve as a powerful platform for women to discover their inner strength, claim their rights, and take charge of their futures. Beyond financial savings, these groups nurture confidence, solidarity, and leadership among women who have long been unheard and undervalued.



SHG Members at Work

Holistic Self-Help Group Development Activities

To support and sustain SHG growth, Asha Nivas organized a wide array of development and enrichment activities:

- Formation of new SHGs
- Leadership training for SHG Animators and Representatives
- Bookkeeping and financial management sessions



- Vocational and skill development training
- Capacity-building workshops
- Credit linkage facilitation
- Participation in exhibitions and trade fairs
- Observance of Women's Day and other special occasions
- Annual Day celebrations and educational picnics

These activities not only foster economic self-reliance but also build community cohesion and a sense of purpose among members.



SHG Members discussing with Officials

Formation and Strengthening Self-Help Group

In 2024-2025, Asha Nivas formed 620 new Self-Help Groups, enrolling 11,160 women across Chennai. Through a robust six-month training period, women were

equipped with skills in leadership, communication, financial literacy, and entrepreneurial planning. Upon evaluation, eligible SHGs were linked to external credit through financial institutions, allowing members to become first-generation entrepreneurs and economic contributors in their communities.

Credit Linkage: Fueling Women's Economic Freedom

Asha Nivas, in partnership with leading banks and financial institutions such as Indian Overseas Bank, Canara Bank, HDFC, ICICI, Catholic Syrian Bank, Union Bank, Chennai Cooperative Bank, Federal Bank, Bank of Baroda and others, facilitated ₹12 Crores in credit linkage for 75 SHGs. This crucial support helped SHG members scale their micro-enterprises, start new ventures, and invest in income-generating activities that uplift their families and communities.

By promoting financial independence, credit linkage initiatives are fostering gender equity and enabling women to assert their roles as decision-makers in both household and community affairs.



Credit Linkages

Women Entrepreneurship: Turning Ideas into Impact

Asha Nivas actively mentors aspiring women entrepreneurs to transform their skills and passions into sustainable businesses. In line with various government and private sector initiatives, we support women in accessing capital, training, networks, and markets.

This year, we proudly supported the launch of 19 small businesses and retail shops across North and South Chennai. These women-led ventures are not only creating local employment but also becoming inspiring models of courage, innovation, and resilience.



MICRO ENTERPRISES FOR SHG WOMEN

S.No	SHG Name	Shop	Area
1	Angel	Tiffin Centre	Kannagi Nagar
2	Natpavi	Nutrition Powder shop	KVP Garden
3	Narumugai	Textile shop	RA Puram
4	Anna Paravai	Wet flour Grinding shop	Madipakkam
5	Vaidooryam	Nursery (plant) shop	Neelangarai
6	Thamarai	Beauty parlour	Velachery
7	Annai	Whole sale Textile Shop	Kaverinagar, Saidapet
8	AginiSiragugal	Tailoring Unit	Saidapet
9	December	Textile shop	Kannagi Nagar
10	Apple	cloth shop	RBIColony, Chrompet
11	Kurinji	Homemade Masala powder making shop	
12	Innaithakaigal	TeffinCenter	Bogipalayam, Pattalam
13	Innaithakaigal	Handcraft shop	Korukkupet
14	Vellai Roja	Aarri work for Blouse	Namalwarpet,
15	Varlarpirai	Beauty Parlour	Perambu
16	Annai Theresa	Cloth shop	Ottery
17	Pavithram	Super market	Ayanawaram
18	Elamthendral	Whole sale Rice shop	S S Puram
19	Imayam	Photo studio	Thousand Light





The Road Ahead

Asha Nivas continues to walk alongside women, ensuring they are not just participants in development – but leaders of it. We remain committed to expanding our SHG network, enhancing women’s capacities, and advocating for gender equality through grassroots empowerment.

MICRO ENTERPRISES – EXISTING SHOPS:

- ❖ Artificial flowers and garlands
- ❖ Jewellery Boxes
- ❖ Sweet Stalls
- ❖ Appalam Company
- ❖ Manpower Agencies
- ❖ Xerox & Print-out shop
- ❖ Soda factory
- ❖ Artificial Jewel making
- ❖ Briyani Centres
- ❖ Canteens
- ❖ Leather items
- ❖ Sea-shell products
- ❖ Medical Laboratory Unit
- ❖ Ladies Hostel
- ❖ Ladies Auto driving
- ❖ Various Plant saplings
- ❖ Textile business

Expanding Women’s Horizons: Empowerment through Engagement

Market Linkages for SHG Products

At Asha Nivas, empowering women through economic independence remains a central pillar of our mission. In collaboration with nationalized banks and partner NGOs, our Self-Help Groups (SHGs) actively participated in exhibition-cum-sale events, offering handmade products to the public. These exhibitions were hosted in the premises of banks such as Indian Bank, Indian Overseas Bank, and Chennai Cooperative Bank during festive occasions like Navaratri, Ayudha Pooja, and Deepavali.

These events not only provided vital income opportunities but also fostered connections with customers, bank officials, and other NGOs – broadening SHG networks and enhancing their market visibility. SHG members were proud to represent their enterprises and showcased remarkable professionalism and creativity in their stalls.

Building Bonds: Recreation & Picnics

Understanding the value of emotional well-being and social cohesion, Asha Nivas organized recreational

picnics for SHG women to places like Hogenakkal, Mahabalipuram, Kanchipuram, ECR Resorts, and Elliot's Beach. These outings provided women with a joyful break from daily responsibilities, helping foster group unity, peer support, and collective motivation.

International Women's Day Celebration at Asha Nivas

Asha Nivas Social Service Centre celebrated International Women's Day on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at Raja Annamalai Mandram, Chennai. The event began with a vibrant cultural programme, inaugurated by Ms. Lilly Josephine, Chief Community Development Officer. Over 1,500 women from Self-Help Groups (SHGs) took part in the



One day Trip by SHG members

celebration. Rev. Dr. Kurian Thomas, Director of Asha Nivas, warmly welcomed the chief guests- Thiru. P.K. Sekar Babu, Hon'ble Minister of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, and Tmt. Priya Rajan, Hon'ble Mayor of Greater Chennai. In his presidential address, Thiru. P.K. Sekar Babu commended Rev.Dr. Kurian Thomas for his tireless service since 1976, supporting marginalized women, children, and youth across Chennai's slums. He acknowledged Asha Nivas' collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Government's Self-Help Group initiatives, empowering women through economic support and skill development.



Mayor Priya Rajan also lauded the organization's efforts in uplifting women through SHGs. As part of the celebration, 50 SHG members were honored for their entrepreneurial contributions, along with awards to the dedicated staff of Asha Nivas. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and the National Anthem.



Dignitaries, SHG members, Cultural Programme

Samathuva Pongal – Celebrating Unity in Diversity

To promote social harmony and interfaith unity, Asha Nivas facilitated the celebration of Samathuva Pongal in all our focus areas, including Ottery, RA Puram, Santhome, and more. SHG women took the lead in cooking traditional sweet Pongal, designing rangoli, and organizing cultural competitions. The celebration attracted enthusiastic participation from diverse communities, spreading a message of equality, gratitude, and inclusiveness.



Pongal Celebrations held across various locations

Health Awareness: Fighting Cancer through Knowledge

In partnership with Vasantham Memorial Trust, Asha Nivas conducted 17 Cancer Awareness Programs across targeted communities. Over 2,800 SHG women received vital information about early detection, prevention, and care for cancer. Free screening services were also provided. These sessions helped dismantle fear and misinformation surrounding cancer and encouraged proactive health practices.



Cancer Awareness Programme

Mathru Bhavan – Feeding with Compassion

Our Mathru Bhavan (Thiyaga Archana) initiative, under the vision of a Hunger-Free India, invites community members – especially SHG women – to sacrifice one meal a week and instead provide a nutritious meal to hungry children. This year, 69 feeding events were conducted, benefiting 2,265 children. The mothers who took part expressed deep joy and fulfillment in becoming agents of nourishment and care in their communities.



Mathru Bhavan

Recognizing Domestic Workers

On International Domestic Workers Day (16.06.2023), a special program was held at our Thoraipakkam Community Centre with 40 domestic workers in attendance. A psychologist conducted an empowering session on stress management and the dignity of labour. Fieldwork students from Christ College, Kerala, helped organize engaging activities. The event honored the unsung contributions of domestic workers and emphasized the importance of their rights and well-being.

Revolving Fund Support for SHGs

To encourage women-led economic ventures, Asha Nivas provided revolving funds of ₹5,000 each to 100 selected SHGs in June 2024. These funds served as seed capital to scale up small enterprises, support new product development, and enhance income generation.

Annual Day: Celebrating Togetherness

SHG members celebrated their Annual Day in joyful fellowship with neighbouring groups and bank managers, NGO staff, and community leaders. The event featured cultural performances, sharing of success stories, and friendly competitions. Gifts and food were exchanged, reinforcing bonds of friendship and mutual support.



Annual Day Celebrations

Menstrual Health & Hygiene Awareness

In collaboration with Dr. Linita G. Lawrence from HLL Management Academy, Asha Nivas organized a Menstrual Health Awareness Program for SHG women and mothers of preschool children at Kannagi Nagar. Participants were introduced to menstrual cups – an eco-friendly, safe, and cost-effective alternative. The session covered usage techniques, hygiene practices, and long-term benefits. Each participant received a free menstrual

cup (worth ₹500). The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with women appreciating this sustainable menstrual solution.

The detail of awareness programme was also conducted in various places as mentioned below.

Date	Name of the Participants	Place	No of Participants
16.03.2024	Maha Vimochana Trust Computer students	Kannagi Nagar	150
19.03.2024	Oasis India, Tailoring centre women	Kannagi Nagar	43
19.03.2024	LP4 Youth Training Centre Girls	Ezhil Nagar	25
19.03.2024	Thazhampoo Nursery School Parents	Kannagi Nagar	35
21.03.2024	JM School Teachers	Kannagi Nagar	28
21.03.2024	Working Women's Hostel Students	Kellys	102
21.03.2024	Working Women's Hostel Students	Metha Nagar	80
25.03.2024	BCC Women	Kannagi Nagar	256
25.03.2024	BCC Women	Ezhil Nagar	198
25.03.2024	BBCL Flat Women	Kannagi Nagar	156

Independence Day Celebration

On 15th August 2023, Asha Nivas proudly celebrated Independence Day across all its target areas. The event brought together children, youth, women, and community members, along with local leaders and well-wishers. The national flag was hoisted with great respect, followed by cultural performances and patriotic songs by the children.

As a gesture of encouragement, educational materials and school kits were distributed to school-going children. Sweets and refreshments were shared with all participants, making it a joyful and meaningful day. The celebration not only honored our nation's freedom but also fostered community spirit, unity, and pride among all age groups.

Areas	VIPs	Participants
Kannagi Nagar	Rev. Fr. Gabriel, Parish Priest	100
Perumbakkam	Mr. Balu, & Mr. Kalaimagan, Makkal Sakthi Movement	205
Gothamedu Chetti Thottam	Mr. Krishnaraj & Mr. Sivakumar Police Inspectors	187
Srinivasapuram	Mr. Pitchai, Advocate	60
St. Thomas Mount	Mr. Velumurugan, Carnal General	50
Sivalingapuram	Mr. Guna, Ex. Councillor	50
Thiruvalluvar Nagar, JJ. Nagar	Mr. Sarangapanni, Temple Archaka Karunaiamman Koil Temple & Ms. Mary Magdaline, CDO	120
Pammal	Mr. V. Karunanithi, Area Leader	100
Samarpana Boys Shelter Home, Otteri	Mr. Pandian, Manager, Indian Bank	150
Sanadhana Girls Shelter Home, Metha Nagar	Sr. Rosily, Moderator General, NJV Mr. V. Kumar, CDO	100
Vysarpadi	Mr. Ravi, Local Leader	75
Nagooranthottam	Mr. Joel, Secretary World Vision of India,	100
Nungambakkam	Mr. Irudayaraj, Local Leader	75

YOUTH – DESIGNER OF THE FUTURE

Youth are the foundation of a thriving society, yet many young people in the urban slums of Chennai lack access to the opportunities their more privileged peers enjoy. Recognizing this disparity, Asha Nivas has committed itself to empowering youth by nurturing their talents, leadership skills, and sense of purpose.

Through the formation of youth groups, we create safe spaces where young people can grow, share, and develop the confidence to become changemakers in their communities. Today, 50 active youth groups are transforming lives across our operational areas.

Job Placement: Equipping Youth for a Brighter Future

In 2024-2025, Asha Nivas successfully trained and placed nine unskilled youth through its vocational training centre at Ottery, under the Youth Development Programme. These young individuals, who once faced limited opportunities, were equipped with practical skills that enabled them to secure jobs across various sectors.



Job Placement

They are now employed in roles such as ticket collectors at prominent theatres, helpers in private companies, sales staff in supermarkets, and housekeeping personnel in public service facilities. These placements not only provide them with financial stability but also help restore dignity and purpose to their lives. This transformation showcases the real impact of skill-building initiatives and the importance of continued investment in youth empowerment.

Empowering Young Girls: Building Confidence and Emotional Intelligence

Understanding the importance of early intervention in shaping the lives of adolescent girls, Asha Nivas organized focused awareness and empowerment meetings across key communities. These sessions aimed to nurture emotional intelligence, healthy self-esteem, and decision-making

skills, helping the girls better understand themselves and how their thoughts and actions affect others.



Each session addressed practical, age-appropriate topics such as safety, hygiene, emotional awareness, and life skills, equipping the participants to handle real-life challenges with confidence and resilience.

Youth Meetings

On 14th and 24th April 2024, Asha Nivas conducted youth meetings in Nagooranthottam and S.S. Puram, engaging 30 young participants. Mr. Bhaskar led the sessions, emphasizing the critical roles and responsibilities of youth in society and family life. He also introduced them to local employment opportunities, inspiring the youth to actively pursue personal and community growth.



Youth meetings

HEALTH – OUR CONCERN

Health is a fundamental right, yet for thousands living in the slums of Chennai, it remains a daily struggle. Poor sanitation, lack of nutrition, and limited access to medical care expose families especially women and children to serious health risks. Many suffer from preventable illnesses such as waterborne diseases and malnutrition, often due to a lack of awareness about basic hygiene and healthcare practices.

At Asha Nivas, we believe that true health empowerment lies in a dual approach combining education with preventive and curative healthcare. Our dedicated Health Department focuses on reaching the most vulnerable through a range of impactful programs, driven by compassion, community involvement, and professional care.

Key Health Initiatives at Asha Nivas:

a) Regular Medical Check-ups for Targeted Children:

Routine health screenings are conducted to monitor and support the overall well-being of children under our care.

b) Medical Camps in Communities:

With the help of committed doctors, nurses, counselors, and volunteers, we conduct camps that offer free consultations and basic treatment to children, women, and the wider community. Thanks to the dedicated support of doctors, health workers, counselors and volunteers.

c) Referral Services:

For individuals requiring specialized care for acute or chronic conditions or surgical condition, we provide timely referrals to hospitals and healthcare providers, ensuring no one is left behind.

d) Health Education and Awareness:

We use creative tools such as puppet shows, street plays, bhajans, and interactive talks, etc. to spread awareness on hygiene, nutrition, and preventive care. These culturally rooted methods make learning both engaging and memorable.

Our work has resulted in increased health awareness, timely medical interventions, and an empowered community that is beginning to take ownership of its well-being. With continued support from generous donors and partners, Asha Nivas remains committed to building a healthier, more informed future for the less privileged.

MEDICAL CARE - Ensuring Health and Hope for Every Child

Medical Check-ups for Shelter Home Children:

At Asha Nivas, we place great emphasis on the physical well-being of children under our care. Regular health and nutrition monitoring is carried out by dedicated doctors. Each child's height, weight, and overall health are assessed monthly, with updates recorded in their personal health card, ensuring individualized follow-up. Children in our preschools are also included, receiving health check-ups facilitated by the local Primary Health Centre (PHC) teams.



Community Medical Camps:

We have successfully conducted medical camps tailored for children, women, youth, and local community members. These camps provide free consultations, basic treatments, and health guidance, addressing both urgent and long-term needs. The generous support of doctors, nurses, and volunteers has been vital in making these camps impactful, accessible, and enriching for the less privileged. With compassion and consistency, these

medical initiatives reinforce our commitment to building a healthier, more resilient future for the communities we serve.



Medical Camps

S.No	Date	Name of the Camp	Area	Beneficiaries	Contact Hospital
1	21.04.24	Paediatric Camp	Gotha Medu	50	Children's Hospital, Egmore
2	26.04.24	General Camp	Kannagi Nagar	92	Chennai Corporation
3	27.04.24	Eye Camp	SVM Nagar, Ottery	80	Sangara Hospital, Bammal
4	05.06.24	Paediatric Camp	Nagooranthottam	30	Chennai Corporation
5	03.07.24	Paediatric Camp	Nagooranthottam	30	Chennai corporation
6	12.07.24	General Camp	Kannagi Nagar	102	Chennai corporation
7	29.08.24	General Camp	Ezhil Nagar	82	Chennai Corporation
8	22.09.24	Eye Camp	Ottery, SVM Nagar	80	Sangara Hospital, Bammal
9	08.12.24	General Medical Camp	MGR Nagar	150	Pranaw Hospital, KK Nagar
10	03.04.24	Health Awareness	Nagooranthottam	25	Staff Asha Nivas
11	05.05.24	Personal Hygiene	Boys Home	20	Staff Asha Nivas
12	05.06.24	Environmental Hygiene	Nagooran Thottam	26	Staff Asha Nivas
13	08.07.24	Personal Hygiene	Dabur Nagar	28	Staff Asha Nivas
14	06.08.24	Environmental Hygiene	SS Puram	30	Staff Asha Nivas
15	09.09.24	Personal Hygiene	Rajiv Gandhi Nagar	30	Staff Asha Nivas
16	11.11.24	Personal Hygiene	Girls Home	15	Staff Asha Nivas
17	13.12.24	Environmental Hygiene	Namachivaya Puram	25	Staff Asha Nivas
18	09.07.24	Cancer Awareness Camp	Neelakarai	100	Vasantham Memorial Trust
19	04.09.24	Adolescent Health Education	Samiyar Thottam	35	Staff Asha Nivas
20	06.10.24	Environmental Hygiene	Rajiv Gandhi Nagar	32	Staff Asha Nivas
21	08.03.24	Cancer Awareness Camp	Choolai Pallam	75	Vasantham Memorial Trust
22	10.07.24	Cancer Awareness Camp	Valliswaran thottam	50	Vasantham Memorial Trust
23	16.07.24	Health Awareness	Saidapet, Annaporrani Middle School	200	Staff Asha Nivas
24	11.07.24	Cancer Awareness Camp	Saidapet	35	Vasantham Memorial Trust
25	20.08.24	Health Awareness	CSI Middle school	250	Staff Asha Nivas
26	15.08.24	Environmental Hygiene	Saidapet, Vazhamanagar	30	Staff Asha Nivas
27	26.08.24	Cancer Awareness Camp	Kannagi Nagar	80	Vasantham Memorial Trust
28	29.08.24	Health Awareness	Ezhil Nagar	300	Staff Asha Nivas
29	11.10.24	Personal Hygiene	SS Puram	28	Staff Asha Nivas
30	15.11.24	Personal Hygiene	Vazhamanagar	25	Staff Asha Nivas
31	05.12.24	Environmental Hygiene	Debar Nagar	30	Staff Asha Nivas
32	06.01.25	Personal Hygiene	Namachivaya Puram	30	Staff Asha Nivas



the dangers of drug abuse and the importance of leading a healthy, substance-free life.

The highlight of the day was a powerful street play titled “*Boothai Illa Padhaiselvom*” performed by the Asha Nivas SIRPI Cultural Troupe, which creatively portrayed the harmful effects of drug addiction.

The programme also featured drawing and slogan competitions, encouraging students to express their understanding of the issue. Prizes were distributed by Ms. Bhavani, Principal of Government Polytechnic College, and Mr. V. Kumar, Community Development Officer of Asha Nivas. The event concluded with a unified pledge taken by over 200 college students and shelter home children to stand against drug abuse and support a healthier future.

International Anti-Drugs Day

On 26th June 2024, Asha Nivas commemorated International Anti-Drugs Day with impactful awareness programmes at Government Polytechnic College, Purasaiwalkam, and Samarpana Boys Shelter Home, Ottery. The events aimed to educate young people about



Awareness program on Anti-Drugs Day

CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION – A WAY OF LIFE

At Asha Nivas, we recognize that culture and communication are powerful tools in shaping community identity and fostering social cohesion. Culture influences how people speak, act, and relate to one another and in turn, communication helps preserve and evolve culture. In diverse and underserved communities, understanding this dynamic is essential to building trust, empathy, and inclusion.

Our Culture and Communication Department actively works to promote meaningful dialogue, cultural awareness, and effective communication across all levels of engagement. This year, the department undertook several key initiatives to nurture learning and connection within our communities:

- ☞ Awareness education sessions for target groups to promote inclusivity and shared values
- ☞ Skill-building workshops for staff on communication techniques and cultural sensitivity

- ☞ Curriculum development tailored to the needs of preschool children
- ☞ Creation of age-appropriate teaching materials to support early childhood education
- ☞ Production of communication materials for mass awareness campaigns

Through these ongoing efforts, Asha Nivas aims to strengthen cultural identity, bridge communication gaps, and create a more informed and harmonious community we serve.

Awareness Initiatives through 'SIRPI' Cultural Troupe

Our 'SIRPI' Cultural Troupe plays a pivotal role in spreading awareness using puppet shows, street theatre, villupattu, debates, and rallies. These programs target a wide range of audiences including school-going children, street children, shelter home residents, youth, SHG women, and parents of sponsored children.

Overview of Awareness Campaigns (2024-2025)

SN	Name of the programme	Methods	No. of Programmes	No. of Beneficiaries
1.	Importance on Education & development of street children.	Puppet shows, Talks & debates	5	1256
2.	School Enrolment Drive	Rallies	6	6000
3	Women empowerment and Domestic violence.	Talks & Debates	5	850
4	HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse	Puppet shows, Talks & Debates	8	950
5	Child Rights	Puppet shows & Talks	5	850
6	Role of parents for the development of their children's education	Puppet shows & Talks	17	425
7	Child Marriage, Posco and child labour	Puppet shows & Talks	3	75
		Total	49	10,406



These creative approaches bring pressing social issues into everyday conversations, making them accessible and engaging for all.

Staff Capacity Building: Training for Transformation

At Asha Nivas, we understand that empowered staff make empowered communities. Our monthly Staff Training Programs are designed to improve life skills, communication, leadership, and technical knowledge, ensuring that each team member works more efficiently, ethically, and effectively.



Staff Capacity Building Training

These ongoing sessions have enhanced our team's ability to connect with communities and deliver impactful services with professionalism and heart.

School Motivation Programme: Preventing Dropouts, Inspiring Dreams

Recognizing that education is key to breaking cycles of poverty, Asha Nivas conducted School Motivation Programmes at Ezhil Nagar and Saidapet on 5th July 2024 and 20th August 2024. Through puppet shows, we creatively emphasized the importance of education, health, and hygiene. The sessions focused on preventing school dropouts and encouraging children to continue their education. More than 400 students participated, with many committing to stay in school and pursue their academic goals with renewed enthusiasm.



Rally to Prevent School Dropouts

SN	Topics for the training
1	Formation of New Self-Help Groups / New Enterprises
2	Characteristic of effective communication
3	Attributes of maturity
4	Time Management
5	Communication with young people
6	Problem solving
7	New policy of government and child rights
8	Characteristic of a Social Worker
9	Games and Rhymes for Preschools
10	Preparation of Preschool syllabus and teaching aids
11	Development on Self confidence
12	Mobilization on local resources
13	Strengthening on women Self-Help Groups
14	Child psychology & Child Care
15	Child Abuse
16	Personality development

In today's rapidly evolving world – shaped by technological advances, shifting political landscapes, and dynamic social transformations – the lives of underprivileged communities often become more complex and challenging. For those with limited literacy and resources, adapting to change can be slow and difficult. This is where human resource development becomes essential.

At Asha Nivas, we believe that impactful social work begins with empowered, well-trained staff who can effectively support individuals and communities in navigating change, resolving conflicts, and realizing their full potential. We therefore prioritize ongoing staff training and development as a core component of our organizational strategy.

Why We Invest in People:

- 👉 To strengthen our field-level programmes and interventions.
- 👉 To empower communities at both the individual and collective level.
- 👉 To ensure that beneficiaries fully utilize the development services offered by Asha Nivas.

Documentation, Research, and Training: Catalysts for Transformation

At Asha Nivas, we view documentation and research not just as administrative tools, but as instruments of empowerment. Through structured data collection, case documentation, and social analysis, we gain deeper insights into the root causes of poverty, discrimination, and marginalization. This enables our team – and the broader social work community – to respond more strategically.

Our internal documentation system preserves valuable knowledge on child development, women's empowerment, health, and livelihoods. This curated resource base is invaluable for training both staff and social work students, creating a ripple effect of impact.

Field Work & Student Internships: Nurturing the Next Generation

As a committed training ground for social work education, Asha Nivas collaborates with academic institutions across Tamil Nadu and beyond, hosting national and international students. We provide opportunities for fieldwork, case studies, and practical exposure to real-world social challenges, empowering future professionals in their formative years.

Field Work Training Programme: Nurturing Future Social Workers

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering the next generation of social work professionals, Asha Nivas partnered with several colleges and universities across Tamil Nadu and other states to provide fieldwork and practical training opportunities. Students from both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Social Work and related disciplines were welcomed to gain hands-on experience in community-based interventions and institutional care settings.

During the academic year, Asha Nivas hosted students from institutions such as:

- ❖ Gonzaga Convent
- ❖ Sacred Heart College, Thirupattur
- ❖ Christ College, Irinjalakuda, Kerala
- ❖ Madras Christian College, Chennai
- ❖ Dr. Ambedkar Government Arts College, Chennai

These students underwent training across various durations ranging from one month to three months, during which they engaged in activities such as:

- Community visits and case studies
- Programme coordination with staff
- Participation in awareness and empowerment sessions
- Field-based assessments and documentation
- Support for shelter homes, SHG programmes, and youth initiatives

This exposure enriched their academic learning and provided them with real-world insights into the lives of vulnerable communities. The students also contributed meaningfully to ongoing projects at Asha Nivas.

Asha Nivas remains committed to being a learning hub for aspiring social workers and extends heartfelt gratitude to the academic institutions that continue to entrust their students to us for practical training.

Orientation Programme for College Students

Orientation programmes introduce young scholars to the world of development work. Onboarding students with the



structure, values, and mission of Asha Nivas helps them embrace the ethos of service and responsibility.

This year, 29 postgraduate students from M.Sc. Criminology, University of Madras, visited our centre for an orientation session. They were welcomed by Ms. Lilly Josephine, Chief Community Development Officer, who introduced the various departments, operational strategies, and collaborative efforts with government and non-governmental organizations. The students expressed deep appreciation for the impactful work of Asha Nivas and left inspired by the field of social service.



Orientation for College Students

LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA – SECURING FUTURES

*I*n the slums of Chennai, many women have no financial assets apart from their physical labour. This makes them extremely vulnerable in the face of unexpected crises whether natural or man-made such as illness, accidents, or the loss of a family breadwinner. To bring a sense of security and financial stability, Asha Nivas has been actively promoting Life Insurance policies among slum dwellers. As a Corporate NGO, Asha Nivas has partnered with the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India, with the goal of extending the benefits of micro-insurance to the poorest and most marginalized communities.

Over time, this initiative has begun to yield significant outcomes. Policyholders have started receiving maturity benefits, reinforcing the value of long-term financial planning even among low-income families.

- 402 members have received surrender or maturity settlements
- 5 families have received death claim benefits, offering timely support during moments of profound loss

This partnership with LIC reflects our ongoing commitment to economic empowerment and social protection for those who need it most.

IN LOVING MEMORY – Mr. R. Susaiyah

With deep sorrow and heartfelt gratitude, Asha Nivas remembers Mr. R. Susaiyah, who departed from us on 29th March 2025, leaving behind a legacy of compassion, creativity, and tireless service. For 25 years, he dedicated his life to the field of culture and communication, championing the cause of empowerment for the poor and marginalized children living in the slums of Chennai.

His unwavering commitment to fine arts and passion for social change have left an enduring impact on the lives of many. We pray that the Almighty grants him eternal peace and joy in His heavenly abode. May his soul rest in peace.



AWARD FOR LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT

Asha Nivas is proud to celebrate the outstanding service of Ms. Lilly Josephine, who has been an integral part of our journey for the past 35 years as the Chief Community Development Officer. Her visionary leadership and tireless efforts in planning, developing, and implementing numerous community empowerment programs have left an indelible mark on the lives of countless marginalized women and children.

Ms. Josephine's unwavering dedication and collaborative spirit with the staff have been central to the success of our mission. In recognition of her exceptional contribution to the development of the social work department and the broader community, Asha Nivas extends heartfelt appreciation and warm wishes for her continued health, happiness, and fulfillment.



Life Time Achievement Award to Ms. Lilly Josephine

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others”

– Mahatma Gandhi

NAVA JEEVAN VIKAS – SHARING IN OUR MISSION

Introduction

Nava Jeevan Vikas is a secular Institute of Consecrated Life approved by the Ecclesiastical authorities for women who are committed to the poor and who want to dedicate themselves to the service of God and His people practicing evangelical counsels and living in small communities with the people in union with Christ, the Divine Master.

Our Presence And Mission In Chennai :

SANADHANA GIRLS SHELTER HOME

The main objectives of this home is provided for shelter to girl street children those who have migrated and runaway children from rural areas due to disintegration of families, utter poverty, loss of parents, domestic violence, drought and attraction to urban life.

There is also a Formation House where the young candidates who aspire to become religious sisters and work for the poor and the needy. The candidate are trained here with integral formation. At present there are 6 candidates and 5 sisters and 35 children in this shelter home.



ASHA NIVAS WORKING WOMEN'S HOSTEL – METHA NAGAR

It has been established with the grant-in-aid from Ministry of Human Resources, New Delhi, for the noble cause of catering a working women's Hostel for women who are in



need of Shelter, care, food and protection. It provides accommodation to the middle and lower class women from in and out skirt of Chennai City.

SAMARPANA BOYS SHELTER HOME – OTTERI

It caters to the needs of the boys street children. They are given orientation and proper guidance and counselling to the boys who had been engaged in anti-social activities, roaming in unhygienic condition and who suffered due to poverty and loss of parents. The boys are counselled and either rehabilitated or sent to regular schooling. They are also trained in skill and vocational training in work-shop situated in the same premises.



ALL WOMEN'S SERVICE CENTRE – KELLYS

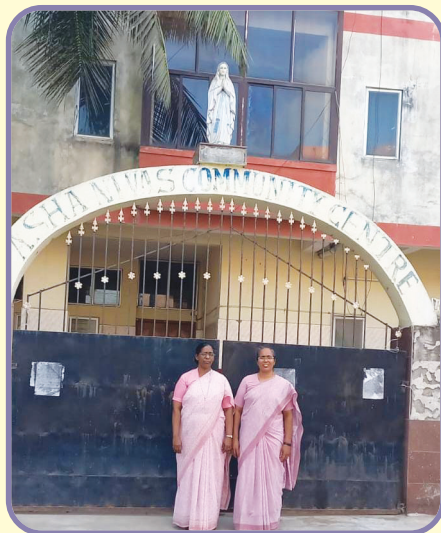
It has been established for a large number of working women who are in need of care and protection, safety and security and above all a place for peace and serenity. This centre also provides regular training for the women and

young girls in Domestic Work and Geriatric Nurse Training.



COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRE - THORAIPAKKAM

This Centre has committed by helping the victims of 'Tsunami affected people' by means of running a Community Centre for the protection of care, food and shelter for the working women from out skirt of Chennai City. It also runs Preschools, Coaching Centers, and Non-Formal Education for children at Kannagi Nagar. It helped in forming Self-Help Groups for both women and youth and organized periodical vocational trainings and helped them to find a suitable jobs.



NAVA JEEVAN BALA VIKAS MEDAHALLI – BANGALORE

In collaboration with Dream India Network, the children's home is provided with residential facilities, formal education, counseling, extra – curriculum activities, drawing, reading books, essay writing, games and sports and outings to the nearby parks. The guardians of the children are invited for religious festivals and celebration

days such as Ayudhapooja, Deepavalli, Pongal and Christmas etc. Improvised foster homes and working women's hostel are under construction at present. Besides, two of our sisters are coordinating with the superiors and provincials of various religious congregations in Bangalore in running about 62 foster homes of the children in Karnataka.



COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRE – HYDERABAD

Nava Jeevan Vikas Secular Institute runs a Shelter Home for Children and Working Women's Hostel at Habsiguda. There are 25 children brought to the home by Child Welfare Committee (CWC). We provide them food, shelter, education, health care, recreation, mental and psycho-social support and counseling. Besides we also provide Short Stay for women with safety and security. A Tuition Centre is also conducted for the slum children. Two of our sisters are working with Montfort Social Institute and are engaged in issues of human rights, housing rights, advocacy, legal, domestic workers and unorganized workers and help them to live with dignity and self respect.



PARTNERS AND SPONSORS – OUR BENEFACTORS

Action Child Aid	– Denmark
Action Mission Und Leprahilfe	– Germany
Ms. Chantal Toulouse & Sponsors	– Switzerland
Catholic Relief Services	– U.S.A.
Caritas India	– Delhi
Mrs. & Mr. Dominique Graz	– Switzerland
Ms. Diethild Ksoll	– Germany
Espoir et Parrainage	– Belgium
Mr. Eckart Keil	– Germany
Foundation De France	– France
Friends of Asha Nivas	– Switzerland
Mrs. & Mr. Gunther and Traudi Albrecht	– Germany
Ms. Irene and Arne Kaer Nielsen	– Denmark
Mrs. Jacqueline Gressot	– Switzerland
Mr. Knud Rehder and Sponsors	– Denmark
Katholische Frauengemeinschaft	– Germany
Le Fond De Donation La Valinier	– France
Ms. Linda Wenzek Barth	– Germany
The Lord Mayer - District of Basle	– Switzerland
Mr. Muthiah Nachiappan	– USA
Ms. Myriam Gross Traverso & Sponsors	– Switzerland
Mr. Oliver Matheau	– France
The Parish of Herz Jesu and the Sponsors, Pegnitz	– Germany
Mrs. & Mr. Raymond Christel Pache - Lausanne	– Switzerland
Mrs & Mr Ramesh Patel and Christine	– Denmark
Ms. Sophie & Ms. Anna	– France /Italy
Mrs. & Mr. Torben Sorensen	– Denmark
Mr. Thomas Machler	– Switzerland
Mr. Tove and Soeren Nielsen	– Denmark
Mr. Wolfgang Rechenhofer	– Greece
Central / State Social Welfare Board / ICDS	– India
Corporation of Greater Chennai	– Tamil Nadu
Deepam Charitable Trust	– Tamil Nadu
Directorate of Social Defence	– Tamil Nadu
District Social Welfare Board	– Tamil Nadu
District Child Protection Unit	– Chennai /Tamil Nadu
IDBI Bank Ltd	– Chennai
Indian Bank - Chetpet / Thiruvanmiyur / Pallavaram	– Chennai
Life Insurance Corporation of India	– Tamil Nadu
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	– New Delhi
Tamil Nadu Urban Habitant Development Board	– Tamil Nadu
Tamil Nadu Development Corporation for Women	– Tamil Nadu
Good Way India Trust	– Tamil Nadu
Mr. Ganesh Kumar - Infotech	– Chennai /Tamil Nadu
Mrs. Suguna Joseph	– Chennai / Tamil Nadu
Government Hospitals	– Chennai / Tamil Nadu
Special Juvenile Police Units	– Chennai / Tamil Nadu
International Foundation for Crime Prevention & Victim Care (PCVC) Chennai	

AREAS OF OPERATION

S.No.	NAME OF THE AREA	PRE-SCHOOL	CHILD PARLIAMENT	COACHING CENTRES	STREET CHILDREN & OPEN SHELTER	CONTACT CENTRES	SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME	WOMEN SHG	YOUTH
	I - TONDIARPET								
1	VOC Nagar					★	★	★	
2	Pallavan Nagar						★	★	
3	Thideer Nagar		★					★	
4	V P Nagar							★	
5	Rajiv Gandhi Nagar		★		★			★	
	II - NEW WASHHERMANPET								
6	Nagooran Thottam	★	★			★	★	★	★
7	Balakrishna Street						★		★
8	Poondi Thangammal Street		★				★	★	
9	Vasarvarathappa Street		★				★	★	★
10	Desiya Nagar		★				★	★	
11	Cross Road		★				★	★	★
12	Sathuma Nagar		★				★	★	★
13	Sivan Nagar		★				★	★	
14	Jeeva Nagar					★	★	★	
15	LG Colony							★	
16	Ashok Nagar		★				★	★	
	III - ROYAPURAM								
17	Rave I		★			★	★	★	
18	Rave II						★		
19	Model Line						★	★	
20	Parrys		★			★	★	★	
	IV - PULLIANTHOPE								
21	Periyar Nagar		★			★	★	★	★
22	Sundarapuram		★				★	★	★
23	Sivarajapuram		★				★	★	
24	Guruswamy Nagar		★				★	★	★
25	Gray Nagar						★		★
26	Ponnappan Street		★				★	★	
27	Rajathottam		★				★	★	★
28	K.P.Park		★				★	★	
29	P.K.Colony							★	★
30	Sathiyavanimuthu Nagar		★				★	★	★
31	Nagathamman Koil Street						★	★	
32	Sastri Nagar							★	★
33	Gandhi Nagar		★				★	★	
34	Kannikapuram						★	★	
	V - MINT								
35	Korukkupettai		★			★		★	
36	Kondithoppu							★	★
37	Bojurajan Nagar								
	VI - OTTERY								
38	Santhiyappa Street	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
39	S V M Nagar	★	★		★	★	★	★	★
40	Bangaru Street						★	★	
41	Bashiyam Street						★	★	
42	Selvaperumal Koil Street						★	★	
43	Bilkingten Street						★	★	
44	Choolaimedu		★					★	
45	K H Road						★	★	
46	Nammazhvar Pettai		★				★	★	
47	Pattalam		★				★	★	
48	Chinnababu Street							★	
49	Kosapettai							★	
50	Cooks Road							★	
51	Dasamahan						★	★	
52	Starances Road							★	
53	Vazhima Nagar		★					★	

S.No.	NAME OF THE AREA	PRE-SCHOOL	CHILD PARLIAMENT	COACHING CENTRES	STREET CHILDREN & OPEN SHELTER	CONTACT CENTRES	SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME	WOMEN SHG	YOUTH
	VII - AYANAVARAM								
54	Sayani							★	
55	Ponnuvelpuram		★					★	★
56	Bangaru Street							★	
57	Vasantha Garden							★	
58	ICF Railway Colony							★	
59	Bricklin Road							★	
60	Thekkakulam			★		★		★	
61	Nehru Jothima Nagar							★	
	VIII - KELLYS								
62	Medavakkam		★				★	★	★
63	Lockma Nagar						★	★	
64	Sanyacipuram						★	★	
65	Secretriate Colony							★	
66	Kilpauk Garden		★					★	
	IX - KODUGAIYUR								
67	Teachers Colony		★				★	★	★
68	Erukanchery							★	
69	Ponniyamman Medu							★	
70	Sharma Nagar							★	
71	Kannadasan Nagar							★	
72	Earikarai							★	
	X - PERAMBUR								
73	Jamaliya							★	
74	Mettupalaiyam							★	
75	Agaram		★					★	
76	Thiru-vi-ka Nagar							★	
77	Mangalapuram		★					★	
78	Eaganthipuram		★			★		★	
79	Rajiv Gandhi Nagar		★	★		★		★	★
80	Semanthamman Colony							★	★
81	Santhirayoki Samathi Street							★	
82	Venus							★	
83	Mathurswamy Madam							★	
84	Ramana Nagar		★					★	
85	Gowthamapuram							★	
86	Chinnakozhainthai Street							★	
87	Brindha Street							★	
	XI - VILLIVAKKAM								
88	Sidco Nagar							★	
89	Kallukadi							★	
	XII - PUDTHUPETTAI								
90	Police Quarters							★	
91	Puthupettai Market							★	
	XIII - THOUSANDLIGHTS								
92	Greems Road		★				★	★	
93	Mackeys Garden		★			★		★	
94	Modern School Road							★	
95	Wallace Garden						★	★	
96	G.A.A.Khan Street							★	
	XIV - NUNGAMBAKKAM								
97	Pushpa Nagar	★	★	★			★	★	
98	Jayalakshmipuram		★					★	
99	Valluvarkottam		★			★	★	★	
100	Kakkan Colony							★	★
101	Vaikundapuram						★	★	
102	Kamarajapuram		★				★	★	
103	Seranipuram		★					★	★
104	Dharmapuram							★	
105	New Street							★	

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	XV - KODAMABAKKAM								
106	Subedar Garden		★					★	
107	Nehru Street		★				★	★	★
108	Choolaimedu		★	★				★	
109	Arcot Road					★	★	★	
110	Periyar Road						★	★	★
111	Mahalingapuram							★	★
112	Metha Nagar		★		★	★	★	★	
	XVI - CHETPET								
113	New Bhoopathi Nagar		★					★	★
114	Osankulam					★		★	
115	Pullapuram							★	
116	M.S.Nagar							★	
117	Dossapuram							★	
	XVII - PURASAIVAKKAKM								
118	S.S.PURAM		★		★	★	★	★	★
119	Salaima Nagar							★	
120	Ponnan Nagar							★	
121	Thideer Nagar		★					★	
122	Ponniyamman Koil Street							★	
123	Parathasarathi Street							★	
124	Kuyapettai							★	
	XVIII - VYSARPADI								
125	Debar Nagar	★	★	★			★	★	★
126	J J Nagar		★				★	★	
127	Sathiyamurthy Nagar		★				★	★	★
128	Mullai Nagar		★		★	★		★	
129	M G R Nagar		★					★	
130	Thamothara Nagar		★					★	
131	Indira Nagar						★	★	
132	Samanthipoo Colony						★	★	
133	Malligaipoo Colony						★	★	
134	Udaya Suryan Nagar						★	★	
135	Nehru Nagar						★	★	
136	Kalyanapuram						★	★	
137	MPM Street						★	★	
138	Moorthinagar Street							★	
139	Sundarapuram							★	
140	Ganesapuram							★	
141	Desikanandhapuram							★	
142	B V Colony							★	
143	Chinnakolanthai Street							★	
144	Erukanchery							★	
145	Sharma Nagar							★	
146	Parrys				★				
147	Central				★				
	XIX - CHROMPET								
148	Sasthri Colony		★				★	★	★
149	C L C Line		★				★	★	★
150	New Colony		★					★	
151	Pammal		★				★	★	★
152	Pozhichalur		★					★	
153	Mugalivakkam							★	
154	Nagal Keni		★					★	
155	Pallavaram		★					★	
	XX - RAJA ANNAMALAIPURAM								
156	Keshavaperummalpuram		★					★	
157	Narayana Samithottam		★					★	
158	Valleswaran Thottam		★				★	★	
159	Dr. Radha Krishnapuram		★				★	★	★
160	Alwarpet							★	
161	Annai Sathya Nagar							★	
162	KVB Garden						★	★	
163	Shanmugapuram						★	★	
164	Mandaveli						★	★	
165	Madhavan Nagar							★	

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	XXI - NANDAMBAKKAM								
166	Ganapathi Colony							★	
167	Ramapuram							★	
168	Tulasingapuram		★				★	★	
169	Butt Road						★	★	
170	XXII - ADAYAR								
171	Indira Nagar							★	
172	Kakkan Colony							★	
173	Govindha Samy Nagar							★	
174	Rajamuthiyapuram							★	
	XXII - THORAIPAKKAM								
175	Kannagi Nagar	★	★	★		★	★	★	★
176	Ezhil Nagar	★	★				★	★	★
177	Mettu Kuppam							★	
178	Karapakkam							★	
179	Okkiyampet							★	
180	PTC Road							★	
	XXIII - SHOLINGANALLUR								
181	Gandhi Nagar							★	
182	Ponniyamman Koil							★	
183	Chemmanchery							★	
184	Perumpakkam	★	★	★		★	★	★	★
	XXIV - SANTHOME								
185	Pattinappakam					★		★	
186	Srinivasapuram		★				★	★	★
187	Mullaima Nagar						★	★	
188	Nochinagar						★	★	
189	Dooming Nagar						★	★	
190	Mylapore		★				★	★	
191	Karneeswarar Koil						★	★	
192	Vislachi Thottam							★	
193	Ayodhya Nagar						★	★	
194	Eagambaram Street							★	
195	Nambikai Nagar						★	★	
196	Rajiv Gandhi Nagar							★	
197	Bharathi Nagar							★	
198	Bhavani Kuppam						★	★	
199	Meenambalpuram							★	
	XXV - SAIDAPET								
200	Godhamedu	★	★			★	★	★	★
201	Thideer Nagar		★				★	★	★
202	Salavayar Colony							★	
203	Mosque Street							★	
204	Samiyar Thottam					★	★	★	★
205	Kavari Nagar						★	★	★
206	Appavu Nagar						★	★	
207	Chinnaiya Thottam							★	
208	Thadandan Nagar							★	
209	Soodiammanpettai							★	
210	VOC Nagar							★	
211	Kothavalchavadi							★	
212	Chetty Thottam		★				★	★	★
213	Neruppumedu		★					★	
214	Jothiammal Nagar						★	★	
215	Jothithottam		★				★	★	★
216	Abid Colony						★	★	★
217	Syed Thottam						★	★	
218	Karani Thottam							★	
219	Vinayapuram		★				★	★	★
220	Duraisamy Thottam							★	
221	Rathinam Thottam							★	
222	Jothi Ramalingam Nagar								

S.No.	NAME OF THE AREA	PRE-SCHOOL	CHILD PARLIAMENT	COACHING CENTRES	STREET CHILDREN & OPEN SHELTER	CONTACT CENTRES	SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME	WOMEN SHG	YOUTH
	XXVI - T. NAGAR								
223	Jafrakhanpettai							★	
224	CIT Nagar							★	
225	Kannamapettai							★	
226	Arulayanpettai							★	
227	West Mambalam							★	
228	Annamaliyar Nagar							★	
229	Kamarjar Colony							★	
	XXVII - GUINDY								
230	Ekkaduthangal		★					★	
231	Ambal Nagar							★	
232	Mettupalayam							★	
	XXVIII - VELACHERY								
233	Nehru Nagar		★				★	★	★
234	Kamarajapuram							★	
235	Kannigapuram							★	
236	Maduvankarai						★	★	
237	Adambakkam							★	
	XXIX - KANTHANCHAVADI								
238	Santhiyappan Street		★				★	★	
239	K P K Nagar							★	
240	Burma Colony							★	
241	Kalainiyar Street							★	
242	Annai Sathya Nagar							★	
243	Taramani		★					★	
244	Periyar Nagar							★	
245	Mahathma Gandhi Street							★	
246	Bharathiyar Nagar							★	
247	Kamarajar Nagar							★	
248	Venkateswara Nagar							★	
249	Seevaram		★					★	
	XXX - PERUNGUDI								
250	Senthil Nagar		★				★	★	★
251	Maruthi Nagar		★					★	
252	Anjugamammiyar Nagar						★	★	★
253	Sempon Nagar							★	★
254	Kurinji Nagar							★	
255	Nanganallur							★	
256	Balaji Nagar							★	
257	Thiruvalluvar Nagar		★						
258	J.J. Nagar		★						
259	Shanthiya Nagar		★						
260	K.P.K. Nagar		★						
	XXXI - NEW AREAS								
261	Arumbakkam							★	
262	Ennore							★	
263	Shenoy Nagar							★	
264	Kolathur							★	
265	Ambathur							★	
266	Thiruvattur							★	
267	Puzhithivakkam							★	
268	Madipakkam							★	
269	Ullagaram							★	
270	Mailai Balaji Nagar							★	
271	Madipakkam							★	
272	Guduvancherry							★	
273	Thiruneermalai							★	
274	Vadapalani							★	
275	Sunambhu Kolathur							★	
276	Palavakkam							★	
277	Kottivakkam							★	
278	Neelankarai							★	
279	Enchambakkam							★	
280	MGR Nagar		★					★	
281	Nesapakkam							★	
282	K.K.Nagar							★	