

## FISHERMEN WELFARE TRUST

10/200, MAIN ROAD, T. SAVERIARPURAM,  
TUTICORIN DISTRICT, PIN - 628 002, TAMIL NADU.

### ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2011 - 2012

Fishermen Welfare Trust (FWT) is a secular, non-profit, non-governmental organisation. It was started by a group of service minded youths in 2001 at T.Saveriarapuram in Tuticorin district, Tamil Nadu.

FWT is implemented various kinds of development programmes / activities in the fields of education, health, agriculture, eco-protection, AIDS control, women empowerment, fishermen development and much more.

FWT is growing day by day with the blessings of wellwishers, philanthropists, wealthy individuals, Still ahead, it has a good rapport with adopted areas population. Hence, all developmental works are going on without any barriers.

Meanwhile, FWT is taking varied steps to get assistance from government local / foreign funding agencies to execute developmental works for the welfare of target groups, needy people and general population.

We are happy to submit the following as an annual report for the year 2011 - 2012.

#### School Enrolment Campaign :

Because of illiteracy and ignorance the rural people, particularly coastal hamlet / village fisher people don't know the value of education. So, the literacy status in shore line area of Tuticorin is low. Besides, school enrolment is poor in some of the coastal slums / villages. Which will lead to child worker, baby sitters, street children, juvenile delinquency etc.

To promote literacy rate and encourage the coastal hamlet / village people send their children to Balwadi, nursery / primary schools, FWT was conducted 4 one day school enrolment campaign in the following coastal villages : 1) Vellapatti, 2) Tharuvaikulam, 3) Sippikulam, 4) Palayakayal, 5) Vembar.

FWT staff, volunteers, respective village leaders people, senior NGOs were largely participated in the above mentioned villages school enrolment processions (in different dates).

The processionists held banners, placards and raised slogans about the importance of education, child rights, free education, evils of child labour etc.

Totally 1250 (250 + 200 + 300 + 350) coastal villages people were participated and made the school enrolment success.

### Free Tuition for Poor Students :

Normally, urban students have educated family background, hence they can get proper guidance to pursue their studies and get clarifications for all of the subjects related doubts. Hence, urban students shine in school studies and score high marks and ranks.

At the same time, slum/rural poor students have no such kind of opportunity because majority of slum / rural students parents are either uneducated or less educated. Besides, they have no time to give attention for their children's studies. Due to lack of guidance and less educated / uneducated family background, the rural / slum children are faced problem in their school studies. For these reasons, some of these children score low marks or fail in examinations. Which will lead to discontinue school study and also affect children's future.

Help to get good marks and ranks and generate interest in school studies in coastal villages and slum areas, FWT was started tuition centres in the following coastal villages : 1) Uvari, 2) Periyathalai, 3) Vembar, 4) Manapadu, 5) Alanthalai

Qualified and trained animators were taken classes for 6th to 12th standard students in the evening time (5.30 PM. to 7.30 PM.) in the mentioned village community centres / private building premises. Because of intensive teaching coaching, majority of tuition centre students passed with high marks.

Totally 165 (33 + 35 + 29 + 37 + 31) coastal village / slum students (boys and girls) were attended tuition classes and benefited.

### Educational Aid to Poor Students :

Some of the poor families in coastal areas could not meet out the children's educational needs like, books, note books, school bags and other essential stationeries. For this reason, even intelligent children in rural / slum. areas faced difficulty to continue their school studies. There will be a possibility that children become child workers / baby sitters / street children / juvenile delinquents etc.

To eradicate their problems in the adopted areas and motivate the fishing community children to continue their school studies, FWT selected deserving poor students through field staff, volunteers, village leaders and well-wishers. According to their selection, FWT was freely distributed books, note books, school bags, geometry box etc.

Totally 137 (72 boys + 65 girls) poor students from different coastal villages and urban slum areas were benefited.

### World Fishermen Day Celebration :

Fishing is a risky vocation and there is no guarantee for fishermen's lives when venturing into the sea. Even though, fishing occupation uncertainty in nature due to there is no alternative, majority of the sea shore dwellers fully depend on fishing and related vocations.

Although, fishing community is leading life amidst of varied socio-economic and natural calamity problems, every year who is celebrated world fishermen day in coastal area of Tuticorin district with happy and gaiety. Likewise, this year FWT was celebrated world fishermen day at Therespuram private building premises.

Rev. Father, coastal village leaders, college lecturer, senior NGOs were attended the world fishermen day function and delivered talk in the following topics : 1) importance of ID card, 2) job reservation for fishermen community, 3) importance of insurance coverage, 4) government fishermen welfare schemes, 5) bank loan and repayment, 6) necessity of fishermen self help group, 7) natural disaster management, 9) shell craft, 10) post Tsunami rehabilitation works, 11) sea fish export.

After the chief guest and special guests speech, the fishermen community children's cultural programmes (like dance, song, fancy dress, role play etc.) were performed. The fishermen day function was concluded with FWT chairman's vote of thanks.

Totally 350 plus fishermen/women and other general public from different villages/slum areas were participated the fishermen day function and made success.

### **Tailoring Training to Fisher Women :**

In coastal areas of Tuticorin district, a considerable number of fisher women facing unemployment and severe economic crisis. To minimise it some of the helpless poor women involved in illegal activities and faced health/legal/social problems.

To reduce the unemployment among the women in the adopted areas and generate employment opportunity, FWT was conducted two 6 month tailoring training for coastal village women (age group 18 to 35). It was held FWT training centre.

Qualified and experienced lady tailoring instructor was taken both theory and practical classes and taught how to cut, stitch and do embroidery works. Interested trainees fully known about sewing within a span of six months. After completion of the training, some of the trained fisher women have started tailoring units in their respective villages/slums. Some other trained women have approached respective are as nationalised banks to get self employment loan to start tailoring units. FWT women organisers assisted the trianed women to get bank loan. The process is going on.

Totally 67 (32 + 35) poor fisher women from different coastal villages/slum areas attended these two free tailoring training and benefited.

### **Fishermen Self Help Groups Formation :**

Fishing vocation is a challengable task. Because at any time, anything may happen when venture into the sea. During the rainy season and rough weather period (like storm, whirlwind, giant waves, tremore, etc.) fishermen will be badly affected. For these reasons, who are facing poverty and severe economic problem. Majority of the fishermen's socio-economic status is in pitiable condition without any improvement. Also, struggling hard for their daily meals.

To remove poverty and economic problem and help to lead prosperous life like others in the society, FWT was conducted fishermen self help group formation meetings in the following coastal villages : 1) Palayakayal, 2) Punnakayal, 3) Periyasampuram, 4) Vellapatti, 5) Keelavaipar, 6) Thalamuthu Nagar, 7) Periyathal, 8) Manapadu.

Large number of fishermen were participated in the respective village meeting and got awareness and realised the importance of self help group. In which, fishermen voluntarily formed SHGs in the mentioned villages with guidance of FWT project co-ordinator.

Each group consists 12 to 20 members. Which are functioning as per SHG norms. FWT has introduced savings and internal lending schemes. Moreover, it has decided to execute income generation schemes with the support of respective areas nationalised banks and co-operative banks. The effort is going on.

### Self Employment Training to Poor Women :

Unemployment is one of the vital issues in Tamil Nadu. Due to various socio-economic reasons, unemployment problem is increasing year by year, generally, government could not provide employment to all. Due to unemployment reasons, many of the urban/rural educated/less educated poor women are faced hardship to lead life. For these reasons, some of these poor women spend their valuable time in time wasting activities and some other poor women fall prey in the hands of anti-socials and involve anti-social activities.

To save the poor women from the social evils and help to stand on their own feet, FWT was conducted 3 one week self employment training to poor women in the following villages private building premises : 1) Therespuram, 2) Sippikulam, 3)Vembar, 4)Alanthurai.

Trained and experienced trainers offered training to the following consumer goods production : Candle, phenyle, liquid blue, cleaning / washing powder, herbal soap nut powder.

Enthusiastic unemployed poor women fully known to produce to above mentioned consumer goods within a short span of one week.

Totally 116 (27 + 31 + 25 + 33) unemployed women (age group 18 to 35) from the mentioned villages were participated the self employment training and benefited.

### Natural Disaster Risk Management Camps :

Due to global warming, climatical changes, over exploitation of natural resources and associated reasons humankind frequently faced the following natural disasters across the globe : Tsunami, coastal flood, rain water flood, river land slide, avalanches, glacier melting, forest fire, volcano eruption etc. which caused great losses to human lives, domestic cattles and other movable immovable properties. Also, cultivating lands and standing crops.

To spread the afore said messages among the coastal population and save lives of humankind / cattles, boats and other movable / immovable properties rescue the victimed persons from the disasters and take coastal people to safe places and also motivate the public involve in relief works, FWT was conducted five 6 day natural disaster risk management camps in the following coastal private building premises : 1) Alanthalai, 2) Therespuram, 3) Amali Nagar, 4) Velupuram, 5) Loordhupuram, 6) Punnakayal.

Rev. Father, Retired school head master, Pastor, Fishermen Association Secretary, village leaders, college lecturers, NGOs were attended these six camps and delivered speech in the following titles : 1) impacts of Tsunami disaster, 2) rescue / relief works, 3) first aid, 4) rehabilitation, 5) counselling, 6) disease prevention, 7) breaks and preventive measures, 8) food materials distribution, 9) Temporary shelters, 10) Tremor and safety measures, 11) coastal flood, 12) flood relief, 13) voluntary service, 14) role of non - governmental organisation, 15) Tsunami construction, 16) government disaster management activities.

Totally 284 (64 + 57 + 51 + 49 + 63) Fishermen and Fisher women participated in the respective village natural disaster risk management camps.

### Free Cloths Distribution to Poor People :

A considerable number fishermen in coastal areas of Tuticorin district are living in below poverty line. Due to uncertainty of income and economic crisis fishermen could not purchase adequate dress materials.

Although, FWT is involved in various kinds of activities / programmes, it has given prime importance to fishing community's welfare. Because, their economic status is low, especially in coastal villages and slum areas.

Cloth is one of the basic needs of human kind, hence to fulfil the basic needs of poor in the adopted areas, FWT was arranged free cloths distribution ceremony at Tharuvaikulam private building premises.

Rev. Father / Brother, Ward councillor, Retired school head master, Several NGOs were attended the function and delivered brief speech on fishermen's socio-economic problems, government fishermen welfare schemes and also felicitated the Fishermen Welfare Trust's developmental works.

At the end of the function, chief guest was freely distributed dhotis, shirts, towels, blouse materials etc. to poor men and women. Of these majority of them were aged people.

About 126 (67 male + 59 female) poor fishermen and women were benefited through this charitable scheme.

### Rural Sports Programmes :

Many of the slum / village youths are sports lovers in Tuticorin district. Further, they like to showcase their talents in district / state / national level sports events. At the same time, they have no such facilities and supportive forces in rural areas. If they get moral support and proper guidance, definitely they will be successful in the state / national / internal sports / games.

To fulfill the coastal areas youth aspirations and encourage to involve in sports and give opportunities to display their performances in the sports, FWT conducted the following sports event in the below mentioned villages in different places in different dates.

	<u>Place</u>	<u>Event</u>
1)	Sippikulam	- Kabadi
2)	Vellapatti	- Running race
3)	Alanthalai	- Long Jump
4)	Manapadu	- Cycle race

Respective village youths and other general public were participated and enjoyed the sports programmes. Experienced physical education teacher conducted the above sports event successfully, also selected winners and runners up.

Sports prize distribution function was arranged at Sippikulam private building premises. Retired college lecturer, school teachers, village leaders, lawyer, NGOs were attended and delivered speech in the following titles : 1) Benefits of sports / games, 2) physical education, 3) gymn, 4) yoga and meditation, 5) physical exercise, 6) olympic / international games, 7) role of Nehru Yuvak Kendra, 8) health and games.

At the end of the function, chief guest was distributed prizes to sports winners, runners and other participants.

Totally 1300 (350 + 300 + 350 + 300) youths and general public from different slums / villages were participated sports programme.

### Mother and Child Health care Training :

Illiteracy, ignorance, poverty, superstitious beliefs, lack of awareness are some of the important reasons for health problems in coastal areas. Especially, during the pregnancy and delivery time coastal, slum / rural women faced severe health problems. Besides, below 5 year children in slum / rural areas have no adequate resistance power. For these reasons, many of the rural poor children have afflicted in malnutrition, anaemia and other ailments.

To save the slum / rural mother and child from the ailments and generate awareness, FWT was conducted 3 one week mother and child health care trainings in the following coastal villages private buildings : 1) Palayakayal, 2) Manapadu, 3) Vellapatti.

Gynaecologist, nurses, Retired Health Educator, women organisers, NGOs were attended the training and taken session in the following titles : 1) pre - natal and post natal care, 2) safe delivery, 3) types of contraceptives, 4) immunization/ vaccination, 5) balanced diet, 6) epidemic and endemic diseases, 7) six deadly diseases of children, 8) personal hygiene and village sanitation, 9) first aid, 10) STD/ HIV/AIDS, 10) goverment mother and child health care schemes, 11) family welfare, 12) benefits of institutional delivery, 13) child rearing.

During the trainings, supplementary food, food mix and Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) preparations were demonstrated. About 108 (39 + 37 + 32) lactating mothers, expectant mothers and women in reproductive age were participated in respective village Mother and Child Health care training.

### Fish Processing Training to Fisher Women :

Majority of the fisher women in coastal areas ignorants / illeterates. Traditionally they know only fish vending and dry fish producing, not other fish processing. Thereby, the socio - economic status of fisher women folk is low in Tuticorin coastal areas. At the same time, some of them are engaged in fish processing vocation and earn huge profit, through marketing in out stations and also exporting foreign countries.

To make popularise fish processing technology in coastal areas and generate employment oppertunity for poor fisher women, FWT was conducted four 15 days fish processing training in the following villages private building premises :

1)Palayakayal, 2) Sippikulam, 3) Periyathalai, 4) Vellapatti.

Experienced trainer was provided training to the following fish food items: 1) fish pickle, 2) fish cutlet, 3) masala dry fish, 4) fish noodles, 5) fish macroni from the different kinds sea fishes. Because of fishing community women, they were known to make the afore said food items thoroughly within the span of 15 days.

Totally 130 (32 + 36 + 33 + 39) fisher women (age group 18 to 40) from the above said villages were participated the fish processing training.

### World Women's day Celebration :

Generally, majority of the women are illiterates / semiliterates particularly rural / slum / coastal area women folk. Hence, they easily victim to varied social problems. To save them from social evils and promote self confidence among the fisher women in the adopted areas, FWT was celebrated world women's day at Therespuram private farm premises.

Morning sports conducted for girls and women. Sports events as follows : running race, skipping, musical chair, floor drawing competition.

Evening public meeting was conducted in the same place. Women councillor, women lawyer, FWT women organisers, women entrepreneurs, school teachers, NGOs were attended the public meeting and delivered speech in the following titles: 1) Altrocity against women, 2) women related social problems, 3) superstitions and beliefs, 4) social control, 5) women literacy, 6) women rights, 7) job reservation, 8) self employment, 9) importance of SHGs, 10) child rearing, 11) evils of foesticides/ in fanticides, 12) government women welfare schemes. At the end of the public meeting, chief guest was distributed prizes to sports / competition winners. Totally 500 plus women, girls and rural masses were participated.