



MADRAS SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY

The Official Organ of Social Work in the Archdiocese of Madras – Mylapore
(Registered Society, Regn. No. 183 of 1969)

(1969 – 2019)

Golden Jubilee

CHAIRPERSON :

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Dear Brethren

✠ *Before 1969*

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE CHURCH : All the activities of the Church can be summarized into three : Proclamation, Liturgy and Service to the humanity. As Jesus said, “as you have done all these to the least of the brethren, you have done unto me.” to realize the words of Jesus in action, the Church is engaged from the beginning in social activities such as helping the poor, feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, caring the sick and etc. These have been made as the mandatory for all through the social teachings of the Church in its compendium **HUMAN DIGNITY, COMMUNITY AND THE COMMON GOOD, RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE, PARTICIPATION AND SUBSIDIARITY, DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS, STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION, SOLIDARITY, ROLE OF GOVERNMENT and PROMOTION OF PEACE.** Hence the charitable activities were carried out all over the world including in our nation India. The documents of the Vatican II, invited the universal and particular Church to have common ground for charitable and welfare activities. Hence all the dioceses have started their own Social Work organs and they have been linked with the regional level and national level social organs. In India, “Caritas India” is the official social work organ of Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) and in the regional level Tamil Nadu Social Service Society (TASOSS) functions to unite all Diocesan Social Service Societies of Tamil Nadu.

ARCHDIOCESE OF MADRAS MYLAPORE : St Thomas the Apostle of Jesus Christ came to Chennai on 50 AD and established 13 Churches in Chennai and in 72 AD he was martyred in Chennai. During the time of Portuguese, Chennai was under the Archdiocese of Goa and then Cochin. Thereafter Chennai was erected as the Diocese of Mylapore on 9th January, 1606 from then it had its own social activities to eradicate the regular famine and drought in its jurisdiction till Tanjore. The North Chennai was created as the Archdiocese of Chennai on 14th July, 1832. The Catholic directory of Archdiocese of Madras carried lots of social activities particularly flood and famine relief activities, under its jurisdiction covering half of Andhra Pradesh. Amalgamation of both dioceses took place on 27th November, 1952 both the dioceses were amalgamated as “the Archdiocese of Madras-Mylapore”. Archdiocesan News Letters brought out the numerous social activities done by the two associations such as Society of St Vincent de Paul and Catholic Workers Movements. Since the Archdiocese of Madras Mylapore had a wide jurisdiction, Vellore, Thanjore and Chingleput were made as new dioceses from Madras-Mylapore Archdiocese. At present, the Archdiocese of Madras Mylapore has its jurisdiction of two districts namely : Chennai and Thiruvellore.

MSSS : Madras Social Service Society, the official organ for social work in the Archdiocese of Madras Mylapore, is registered under the Societies Registration Act, on 03rd July 1969. The primary objective of MSSS is to work for the development of the socially and economically marginalised people in Chennai and Thiruvellore Districts of Tamil Nadu, India. The VISION is “**Creation of a Just Society**” and the MISSION is “**Empowering the powerless**”. The FOCUS AREA is Chennai– Coastal, Slums and Sub-urban and Thiruvellur - Rural areas and Special Towns. The FOCUS is given to Fishing Folk and Slum dwellers, Women and Children, special attention is given on Health and Sanitation, preservation of the nature, socially Oppressed and Marginalised in Urban and Rural areas, Persons with disabled and Incurable diseases. MSSS also had functioned as Caritas Madras and Kolping Chennai. MSSS had carried out many tangible projects in these fifty years. As MSSS celebrates its Golden Jubilee of its existence, we concentrate on one project per year and thus achieved carrying out fifty projects totally as of now.

1970 Food Aid Programme: The nutritious food such as biscuits, milk powder, oil, bulgur, etc were distributed by Catholic Relief Services to all dioceses of India and MSSS has got these nutritious food items and distributed them to the poor. This is also used as incentives to impart education on nutrition to the participating mothers, whereby it helped in achieving lasting benefits to the family and to the community in the field of health. MSSS had 37 centers of distribution in which 17 were in Chennai district and 20 were in Chengleput district.

1971 Emergency Relief Projects: MSSS had undertaken flood and draught relief activities from the beginning. In the beginning MSSS had four districts Chennai, Thruvellore, Chingleput and Kancheepuram. All these four districts were severely affected by flood and in which the poor people had lost their houses and belongings. Hence MSSS had undertaken the relief activities with the support of Caritas India. The affected families were assessed and supported by food materials and dry ration. And latter on, few thatched houses were constructed in the selected areas.

1972 Child Development Programme : MSSS has undertaken various Child Development Programmes to eradicate Child labour and to impart non-formal education to the child labourers, sponsoring stationery items and fees for the deserving children for both primary and higher education to continue their education. In this regard, special coaching classes were organized for the drop-outs and slow learners and also technical training was given to the eligible candidates. This project was supported by Andheri Hilfe.

1973 Community Health Education Programme: MSSS had given top priority on Health issues especially in the rural areas. A comprehensive community health programme was conducted in 75 villages. 25 people were selected as health workers to carry out various health projects in rural areas. They conducted Immunisation, referral service and periodic house visiting for health-check up. In this aspect, Intensive and short training programmes for women were organised. This project was sponsored by Comite Catholico.

1974 Mother and Child Health Programmes: This was the pioneer project of MSSS. This project supported both Mother and the children in their health sector. Since the mortality of pregnant women and children were more in number, this programme was introduced to safeguard both the woman and her child with nutritious food and periodic health check-up. This was called Targeted Maternal and Child Health Education Programme. This project was a part of the Food Aid Programme sponsored by Catholic Relief Services.

1975 Food for work programmes: Food Aid Programme supported various other projects to satisfy the need of the rural people. Drought and flood are the recurring phenomenon in Tamil Nadu. To manage this natural adversity, MSSS had taken the initiative of digging wells, canals and ponds to harvest rain water the rainy season to manage water scarcity. Hence, a part of the food aid programme was used as Food for Work to assist the poor farmers in the rural areas. Deepening existing wells to provide drinking water, to level and reclaim agricultural lands for irrigation, to level and reclaim agricultural lands, digging tanks and canals to promote agriculture projects were undertaken. This project was carried out mainly in Chingleput, Kancheepuram and Thiruvellore Districts.

1976 Madhar Sangams: in the beginning "Food Aid Programme" was the major cause to execute various other projects by MSSS. In Continuation of Food Aid Programme, health education programme also was started and this programmes gathered the women folk in good number. Maternal and Child Health Education Programme led to form Madhar Sangams in various areas. Various domestic skills were taught to women groups to support their income. Women were trained how to make cosmetics, surf powder, vim, shampoo, face powder, tooth powder and etc to become self-sufficient, self-reliant in getting supplementary income for the family.

1977 Day Care Centres: Social Welfare Board of Government of Tamil Nadu sought the NGOs to support them in providing day care centers for children of the working women. MSSS got three balwadi centers in Melmanagar, Puthavedu and Indranagar. Three ayahs were appointed as care takers and they were paid by the

Social Welfare Board. All the children of these centers were given pre-kindergarten syllabus, nutritious midday meal and periodical medical check-up. The community and social organizers of MSSS also went to all the villages of this project regularly to guide, motivate and initiate the people to work together for their development. This project is continued even now with ICDS in Thrumullaivoyal, Sastri Nagar and Pulicat and about 120 children are benefitted.

1978 School Feeding Programmes: As we know MSSS got engaged with the Food Aid Programme sponsored by CRS. There were many school drop outs and child labour, common in many villages. Therefore MSSS introduced "School Feeding Programme" for drop outs to raise the enrolment in the schools and to eradicate the child labour. This project was extended to schools, orphanages, crèche, etc. They were fed with nutritious meal. This project was taken up by the Govt of TN as Midday Meals Scheme in latter times.

1979 Dairy Development Projects: Dairy Project was carried out in other Diocesan Social Service Societies to help the farmers who rear the cows. Milk Societies were started in various villages of Tamil Nadu and one such was "Nanjil Milk Society" of Kottar Diocese. To promote additional income for the farmers of Chengleput, MSSS started Dairy Development Project which was sponsored by Freres De Nos. This project was very successful in RN Kandigai where the farmers were trained and given the dairy Animals with insurance and medical help. In the latter period a Men SHG of Ellapuram Block started "Kudumbam Milk Collection Centre" in 2005 and they collected the milk from various villages and sold to Aavin.

1980 Small Savings Scheme: MSSS introduced small saving to inculcate the saving habit among the people to reach better life style and brighter future. This scheme was taken to Mother Sangams. So the Small Saving Scheme was started from all the mother and child health education centres. Initially about 6715 members had joined and they saved about Rs 59,214.85/-. But now there are SHGs which holds more than 10 lacs as savings of the group and some SHGs share their savings once in five years and invest the saved money on real estate or gold.

1981 Promotion of Credit Unions: followed by Small Saving Scheme, MSSS launched the Credit Union Schemes. People were encouraged and motivated how to be self-reliance. MSSS had converted the small saving unions into co-operative credit unions by motivations and trainings. This was wonderfully working in the villages of Chengleput. In these Credit Unions, the savings were invested for the needy and collected with the interest.

1982 Medical Assistance: medical facilities was a distance dream for the rural inhabitants. MSSS made a survey of the areas and launched the medical assistance programme and primary health centers were opened for the people to avail medical amenities. Community leaders were trained to prescribe medicines. Medicines were supplied by "Action Medeor".

1983 Domestic Workers' Development Programmes: Many women in Madhar Sangams were jobless. Few who were employed were not treated well and their situation was pitiable. Taking control of this situation, MSSS thought of getting employment opportunity for the poor and implemented a welfare project in Nazareth Illam for the development of the domestic workers. Scores of poor, uneducated, deserted girls, widows were trained in domestic work and placed in the needed areas. To preserve these women's rights and health, follow up programmes were organised and they were given regular guidance and counselling by MSSS team members. This project was supported by MISEREOR

1984 Social Awareness Programmes: Taking the rural youth in to consideration about their social and economical need, MSSS launch various social awareness programme on primary health and education. The youth were given orientation and motivation to take up better roles in the society as good leaders and citizens of India. This programme was organized periodically in Chengalpet, Tambaram, KK Pudur, Sellampatidai, Nayapakkam, RN Kandikai and other neighboring areas, to create the leadership traits among the youth.

1985 Co-operation of Salt Production Unit: Salt cultivation was done in and around the coastal areas of Chengleput and Thruvellore districts. Salt cultivation was one of the major livelihoods and source of income of many coolies of these areas. With the intention of providing work for as many coolies, MSSS had leased 15 acres of salt land and in which 6 acres had been prepared for salt cultivation with sea water facilities. Salt cultivation generated employment and income for the poor families. This project was undertaken in Cheyur with the support of Caritas India.

1986 Leprosarium: Salesians of Don Bosco had the Project of Restoration Programme for lepers in Villivakkam Block. MSSS had a vision to start a leprosarium to restore the poor lepers from begging. To realize the vision, MSSS had bought 6 acres of land in Ellapakkam and constructed a house for lepers. The stray lepers who were begging in Chennai, were trained in agriculture and other skills to feed and rehabilitate themselves. This project was sponsored by William Brennan and Tom Ward.

Relief and Rehabilitation Programmes: Accidental fire during the hot summers was almost a regular incident in sub-urban of Chennai. Many inhabits were burnt to ashes in 1997 particularly in north Chennai. About 253 houses were burnt in Mahakavi Bharathi Nagar, Vyasarpadi. MSSS provided first-aid, emergency food relief and dry ration to all the affected families. They were temporarily put up in a common place and latter permanent shelters were provided. This was supported by Caritas India.

1987 Roof for the Roofless Programmes : The “Year of the Shelter for the Homeless” was celebrated in the year 1987. Many DSSS got engaged in the low cost construction of Houses. MSSS also planned to construct 600 low cost houses in Chengleput District with the help of Caritas India but owing to shortage of fund MSSS could realise the project of constructing 324 houses that's because Caritas India, SAPF & Kolping were concentrating building houses simultaneously in various places. MSSS constructed 426 Tsunami rehabilitation houses and 2200 individual toilets.

1988 Child Development Programme: The concept of “Happy Children in the Happy Families” gave a new thrust to revitalise and reorganise various child development programmes. Survey was undertaken and the deserving children were identified and supported with sponsorship and scholarship. In course of time, MSSS felt the need of bring a change in MSSS sponsored Homes for boys and girls run by the diocese and religious. So cottage system was introduced in all the Homes for Boys and Girls. As a result, Cottage system created a family atmosphere and the children could feel at home. This system helped the children to grow in a natural and healthy atmosphere. Children were taught different life skills to fetch income for the homes. This was sponsored by Andheri - Hilfe till 2003.

1989 Central Purchasing Services: Medical equipments and mobile units were very costly and the poor could not afford to buy due to custom duty. MSSS introduced “Central Purchasing Service System “which bought the goods in cheaper prices. Thus MSSS had been assisting several social service organizations and health related projects to purchase equipments, mobile units and vehicles under central purchasing scheme at cheaper cost. This project was supported by Catholic Hospital Association and Begeca, West Germany and executed till 1992.

1990 Thrift and Savings: Madhar Sangams were the pioneer in saving scheme. Along with the Madhar Sangams, other groups such as men groups, youth groups, non-formal education students and children all were inspired and motivated in saving schemes. The savings were given as loan to the needy persons in the groups and the interest was shared every year as thrift income. Hence MSSS could mobilised Rs. 8, 40,058.00 from 82 saving groups. Nearly 4078 members got monetary benefits under this scheme and 116 families started various business. This scheme was a great success and the poor people understood the power and of small savings.

1991 Income Generation Projects : The educated youth particularly women folk were not able to get the jobs according to their qualifications. MSSS thought of making them self-employed matching their abilities and introduced various skill-based employment. Under this scheme Kitchen Gardening, Shoe upper making,

Notebook and envelope making, brick-kiln, goat rearing, milch-animal rearing were introduced the youth were trained. This substituted the income for the families who joined in the saving schemes. Even in present time, Individual Income Generation Programme and Group Income Generation Programme are carried out by SAPF, Kolping Groups and SHGs.

1992 Save A Family Plan – Madras: This project was started in the year 1989 and economically most backward Poor families were selected and linked with the benefactors from Canada under the project SAPF INDIA. 100 families were supported for 6 years with Rs 250 as monthly IIG. With the support of this fund, the family could engage in income Generation Programmes which became a source of income for their families. In certain cases, houses and toilets were constructed, milch animal also were given. As a result, now MSSS has 320 SAPF families earning Rs. 900.00 monthly for about six years at the proposal of IIGP.

1993 People's Development through Micro-credit Co-operatives: MSSS had two group concepts in helping the deprived people, In One hand saving scheme and in other hand loan scheme. Both combined, MSSS had launched the Micro Credit Unions in which about 82 villages participated and had credit unions. This was called a Mini People's Bank concept which is even now carried out in one Panchayat that is Uthukottai SHGs.

1994 Empowerment through People Centred Development: The activities of MSSS, could be summarised as Education, Organisation, Promotion of Credit Co-operatives and Income Generation Programmes. All these activities were aimed to empower the people to be self sufficient financially. The main concentration of MSSS is on the Income Generation Programme especially for the Madhar Sangams and students of non-formal education.

1995 Kolping – Madras Projects: was started in 1984 in MSSS and selective the one with work as follows belong in 2004. Most of its groups went to new Diocese Chengalpet the numerals SHGs were 30 in the 421 members then the groups were increase with the members till date. **Kolping Activities :** 1990 – 1991 Tailoring and Typewriting Training Institute ; 1991 – 1992 Kolping Movement , Kolping Trust : Tailoring Programme, Milch Animal Programme, Housing Programme, Spreachwel Training ; 1992– 2000 : Training Programme , Milch Animal Programme, Housing Programme, Vocational Training ; 2000 – 2020 : Milch Animal Programme, Housing Programme, Vocational Training, sanitation, Income Generation Programme. Income Generation Programme from 1991 to 2009 received Rs 1,27,97,500/- and paid back by 84 Kolping groups from 56 parishes with 2160 members. From 1991 to 2018, 78 Kolping groups of 311 members from 34 parishes received Rs. 24,47,000/-. Part payment for the constructions of the houses were given from 1993 to 2018 for 35 Kolping groups of 176 members from 18 parishes, Rs. 35,40,000/-. Vocational Training loans are given from 2000 to 2018 for 28 Kolping groups of 135 members from 42 parishes Rs. 17,18,000/-. Loan is given with subsidiary for toilet construction to 18 groups of 87 members from 16 parishes from 2015-2018, Rs. 13,05,000/- and Collective Income Generation Programme for 10 Kolping groups of 177 members from 7 parishes from 2011 to 2018, Rs. 20,00,000/-

1996 Children as Partners for Developmental Projects: From 1990 onwards MSSS formed Village Development Council with women, men and youth. Now children were taught to participate in VDC. Children were divided into three groups: Public Work Group, Education Group and Economic Activity Group in which the children could participate in the developmental activities. The Student Parliament is organised periodically in each MSSS Literacy centres of Evening School Programmes and MSSS also organises the District Level Students Parliament Programmes for both the districts of Chennai and Thriuvellore. This effort brought out the leadership trait among the students and political awareness in them to make them worthy citizens of the nation.

1997 New Thrust Project of TASOSS: This is the Federation of People's Organisation Project. Based on this project, the staff were trained to form Self Help Groups from Village Madhar Sangams and form them into Grama Sangams, Union Level Federations (ULF), Taluk Level Federations (TLF), District Level Federation (DLF) and State Level Federation (SLF). MSSS had formed its Women groups into this structured formation

and began to participate in the State Level Federation even today with the support of TASOSS. This really gave an opportunity for all women groups to be empowered in all spheres of life.

1998 TN Women Development Projects: Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd., was the project implementation unit at state level and District level. This was a five year project, planned to be implemented in all the Districts of Tamil Nadu and started in 1998-99 in 7 Districts including Thiruvellur District. MSSS was one among the 7 NGOs selected for this project with the target of 2680 SHGs in 14 blocks by 35 clusters (Each cluster consists of 5 Panchayats).

1999 Skill Development Programme: MSSS had organized various skill trainings in Chennai and Tiruvallur District such as Blouse Cutting, Chudithar Cutting, Embroidering Kutch, Masala Powder Making, Decorative Jewel Designing, Floor Mat Making, Jam/Pickle Making, Washing Powder, and Cleaning Powder. More than 500 women have participated in the skill training. It is being continued till today.

2000 Programme for Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees: Since 1992 onwards, about 10 camps were settled in Chennai, Thiruvellore and Kancheepuram. MSSS concentrated on three camps such as Gummidipoondi, Poondi and Puzhal and supplied dry rations and taught them the skills and made the children to enroll in the schools. Coaching classes were organized and common toilets were constructed with bore water tank facilities.

2001 Entrepreneur Development Programme: 288 selected candidates from the Grama Sangams in Gummidipoondi Block were given structured EDP by the certified Trainers of Tamilnadu Government. They were oriented on the concept of business, Types of business, Market, Marketing strategy and Product Development Plan. During the course of the training, many showed great interest in starting new enterprises. EDP was conducted in 7 batches. From then periodically several EDP trainings are being conducted till today in various places for several projects.

2002 Dissemination of Vermi Compost Projects: There was an awareness of cultivating the crops without pesticide and manuring the land by vermin compost. MSSS had launched the trainings for the cultivation of Vermi Compost with the help of soil biologist Dr Ismail Sultan Ahmed. MSSS had planned to have 50 units in Ellapuram Block and SHG members were trained. Each unit produced about 150 to 200 kgs of Vermi Compost in every 50 days. A retail shop was opened in Kannigaipair to sell the Vermi compost and other organic materials. Evaluation was done by Dr Narayanasamy of Gandhi Gram University and appreciated MSSS.

2003 Decentralization Scheme of Caritas India : Under this scheme, MSSS got two projects one is Non-Formal Education for Rural Community and another one is Promotion of Vermi Compost. Based on the assessment, MSSS started to literate the SHG members and others with the support of Tamil Nadu women Development Project and Arivoli Iyakkam in 45 centres and about 416 members were equipped with reading and writing skills. For the promotion of Vermi Compost Project, the model units were fixed in Perumudivakkam and Tholavedu Villages of Ellapuram block with periodic trainings and exposure.

2004 Tsunami Relief and Rehabilitation Projects: on 26th December 2004, Tsunami hit Tamil nadu coastal areas. In Chennai District alone 206 people lost their lives while the death toll in Tiruvallur District was 29. The coastal areas namely Besant Nagar, Fore Shore Estate, Santhome, Royapuram, Kasimedu, Tondiarpet, Bharathiyar Nagar, Ennore, Thazhangkuppam, Thiruvottriyur and Pazhaverkadu were the most affected places in both the districts. Dry rations, boats and fishing nets were distributed for about 5100 and houses and toilets were constructed for about 1200 families

2005 Ruby Jubilee Housing Projects: MSSS learnt that “De Monte Trust” was planning to develop its property at 129 & 130 (New No: 331 & 333), at TTK Road, Alwarpet, Chennai – 600 018 by constructing multi-storied super structure to fulfil the vision of Sir De Monte. In order to continue the social work activities and enable the poor to achieve self-reliance, MSSS joined hands with “De Monte Trust” in developing the above mentioned property

2006 Tsunami Emergency Assistance Project - Sattangkuppam : under this project, MSSS constructed 376 houses at Edamani for the people of Sattangkuppam. **Andarkuppam:** The poor families of Andarkuppam who were evacuated by the Highways Departments were identified and the deserving 50 families were given land with House at Caritas Nagar, Amooore. **Individual Toilets Construction:** The construction of 2200 individual toilets in the tsunami affected areas was launched in Pazhaverkadu area. **Thonirevu Project :** Construction of 60 houses and a community hall was built in Thonirevu coastal village of Minjur Block sponsored by Caritas Belgium.

2007 Pulicat MSSS Bluefield Training Centre : Lack of infrastructure facility was one of the limitations felt by the fishing community in Pazhaverkadu area and they were unable to start successful ventures for their livelihood. This problem was discussed in the executive committee and based on its approval, an office cum Training, Production, and Marketing Centre were established in Pazhaverkadu area. Madras Social Service Society purchased 1.35 acres of land in the survey No: 61/1 (old No: 61) in Kottai Kuppam panchayath, Pazhaverkadu and registered the land on 22nd March 2006. The total area of the construction in each floor is 5940.00 Sq.ft. The entire building with a sanitary block was completed and inaugurated on 30 July 2007. It was supported by Manos Unidas. The field Office acts as a resource centre for the Fishing community of Pazhaverkadu region and a link for the government departments and institutions to serve them better. And also the students of different colleges come for the out-reach programme and stay and learn about the fishing community. Besides the community development activities and learning in the centre, the building also fetches rent for its sustainability.

2008 Post-Tsunami Sustainable Livelihoods Project: This project is being implemented in 14 Coastal Panchayat of Minjur & Gummidipundi Blocks of Thiruvallur District with the financial support of International Fund for Agricultural Development through Government of Tamilnadu. The activities of this project was implemented by Sunnampukulam, Sirulapakkam and Pazhaverkadu Cluster resource Centers which was established by MSSS. 9 Cluster Resource staff are working in this Clusters Resource Centers. This three centers are monitored by District Implementation Office at Ponneri at Thiruvallur District , and also by the PMU Guindy Chennai at State Level.

2009 Construction of School buildings : The following school building projects were undertaken by MSSS: St Lazarus Home for Children at RA Puram, Multipurpose hall at Kamaraj Nagar, St Antony's Primary School at Mugappair, St Anne's Primary School at Nesapakkam, St Roque's Kindergarten School at Old Washermenpet, School buildings and Sanitary Facilities of Mary Immaculate Middle School at Kilpauk, St Anne's Home for Children and Administrative Block of Christ College, Kilacherry were constructed. Additional class rooms of St Mary's Schools, Truttani and a new building for RCM Primary School, Kamaraj Nagar were constructed. St Joseph's Primary School at Priyapalayam, Additional class rooms and sanitary facilities for Sagayamatha Primary School at Minjur, RCM Primary School at Pulicut, Mother Theresa Primary School in Elavembudu, Ponneri, Additional Class rooms at KG Kandigai, drinking water and sanitary facilities for St Antony's School at Puzhal, St Anne's Home for girls at Royapuram, St Andrew's High School at Choolai, St Anthony's Primary School at Velachery, Additional class rooms for St Joseph's School at Kilachery, Sanitary facilities were constructed for day care centre in Nazareth Nagar. Drinking water and sanitation facilities at St Joseph's Primary School, Gandhipet, Sanitation facilities for the tuition and catechism centre at Taramani, Sanitary facilities for tuition and catechism children in Pannur, drinking water and sanitation facilities for Sacred Heart High School, Pandravedu.

2010 Livelihood Development Plan: Livelihood Development Plan of MSSS is a holistic and flexible framework for understanding, measuring, and analyzing poverty, poverty alleviation and building income generating assets for the bottom poor communities in Chennai and Thiruvallur districts. The funds were disbursed from 2009 onwards. This fund has been distributed about 18 times with the total amount Rs.174,462,241.00

2011 Social Security for the Underprivileged project The Aam Admi Bima Yojana (AABY) the Scheme provides life insurance protection to the rural & urban persons living below poverty line or marginally above poverty line. Persons between the age of 18 and 59. The members of the identified 50 occupational groups are eligible to be covered under this scheme. The Scheme provides coverage of Rs.30,000/- on natural death. Causing death or total permanent disability due to accident, the benefit coverage is Rs.75,000/-. Partial and permanent disability due to accident, the benefit is Rs.37,500/-.

2012 Community managed Disaster Risk Reduction Project: After Tsunami, to empower the fishermen community, MSSS launched CMDRR Project, which helped them to get the full knowledge and benefits from the Government schemes and policies. In this regard, MSSS had conducted health camps, skills, networking linkages and etc.

2013 Community Based Rehabilitation of Disabled Project: Community Based Rehabilitation of differently-abled persons, was implemented in 20 Panchayats in Minjur Block in Thiruvellur District, covering 626 PwDs who are supported with Identification, Health, Livelihoods, Social inclusion, Advocacy and lobbying sponsored by CBRF - Caritas India.

2014 Beemanthope MSSS Green Field Organic Farm: MSSS has bought a land measuring 13.07 acres at Beemathoppu Village of Ramathandalam Panchayath of Poondi Block on 12th September 2012 for the Organic Model Farm and Agriculture Training Programmes. Training Centre is being constructed. The fruits and the coconut saplings are planted and the sheds were put up for the livestock with pond for aquaculture.

2015 Chennai Floods : Heavy rainfall due to cyclone in November and December 2015 throw the city of Chennai out of gear. Dry ration was supplied to 4450 families in 77 Parishes and 1000 families in other areas. Shelter assistance was given to 219 families by Kindermissionswerk, Manos Unidas and Caritas India.

2016 Vardha Cyclone Relief: Vardha Cyclone hit Chennai on 12th December 2016 and devastated Chennai and Thiruvellore districts. MSSS was supported in action by Caritas India. CRS made a detailed assessment and distributed dry ration to 3500 members, dress materials to 3290, wash materials to 2000 and study materials to 688 students.

2017 Dutch Academy: At the request of the Fishermen Federation of Pulicat, an English medium school was started titled Dutch Academy for the students of fishing community with Standard English education and nominal fee in the year 2016. The land documents were prepared with patta, chitta and adangal then all the necessary certificates were sought. It has grown up to III Std with 215 students and 5 teachers. The approval file has been submitted to the Department of School Education and waiting for the recognition.

2018 MSSS GOLDENFIELD- Home for Working Women: MSSS has done lot of activities and programmes for women folk for about fifty years and felt the need to start a home for women. The Bible Institute in Poonammallee was leased to MSSS by the Archdiocese of Madras-Mylapore. Hence MSSS has started an Home for Women, a Crèche for children, a skill developmental activities for women and a hall to support the activities of MSSS in that area.

Have a blessed Golden Jubilee Celebration

God Bless You all.

Yours in Christ

Rev Fr Patrick I Joseph