CHAPTER - VII

Social Service
SOCIAL SERVICE

The word Service best describes all that can be said about Ministry of Jesus. The motto of Jesus Mission is service. He has come not to be served but to serve. In order to convey the lesson that His disciples are to be noted for their lives of service, He wasted His disciples “to wash one another’s feet”. The heart of Jesus is also the paradigm of servant leadership. It inspires the priests to take service as the characteristic hallmark of their ministry. Service is indispensable to the lives of the priests. It is not a secondary character or an additional responsibility entrusted to them but one that gives relevance to their ministry. The meaning and credibility of the order of priesthood is enhanced by the embodiment of service1.

The meritorious service with the special Charism of ‘Proclaiming the Good News to the poor in the love of the Sacred Heart’ over a century among the socially marginalized people is credited for the upliftment of the poor. The objectives and purposes of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart are to provide service to the human, educational, social, cultural and moral development of the people. Their main aim is to improve the economic condition of the people by various means by improved methods of agriculture, by providing technical education, job opportunities by starting cooperative societies, Small Scale Industries, etc2.

The Charism of the founder permeates the entire life of the Congregation. Its ministry consists in preaching the Gospel of Christ, spreading the Good news of liberation to the poor, neglected and marginalized sections of society, liberating them from poverty, corruption, ignorance and superstition. Our country is mostly rural.

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Hence the life style and standard of living of the Brothers are also rural. Rural uplift is one of their main concerns.  

**Service to the Tribes:**

The Congregation of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart was started with lofty ideals at Irudayakulam. A remarkable achievement of the early Brothers was the conversion of a large number of tribals called Kanis of Kattalaimalai in Western Ghats to whom Fr Caussanel was drawn and to whom civilization had not penetrated. A school was started for their children. They were taught to pray. Social contact was established between them and the people of the plains.

The Brothers preached the doctrines of Jesus Christ and Catechism to them. There, they were able to convert about 250 Kanis to Christianity. By the intention of Fr. Caussanel, the Brothers constructed a Home for the Kani children at Regis farm. To do some good to the Kanis Fr. Caussanel constructed the Churches of Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Joseph, and St. Ignatius. He tried to civilize the Kanis and another one tribe called Pazhingers. Many of the Kani tribal people were converted to Christianity by Bro. Alexis. Another one Bro. M. Vincent formed Association for Kani tribal people and constructed 40 houses in the midst of the upper dam and lower dam of Papanasam with the help of the Government. Then he gave training to young lads to learn carpentry at Palayamkottai. Girls were admitted in teacher training course. Cattles were provided to the Kani families for their development. Many wells were dug and motors were fixed to take water. By the guidance of the Brothers, the Kani people

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3 Brothers of the Sacred Heart (India), p.5.  
4 Ibid., p. 10.  
6 S. Sebastian, Oliyai Ettuvom, p. 49.  
7 S. Sebastian, Thengathin Oli- Caussanel, p.90.  
8 R. Kulaandai Arul, Nilavin Thavam, p.63.  
9 S. Sebastian, Thenagathin Oli – Caussanel p.89.  
even placed in the Govt. services and selected for higher education\textsuperscript{11}. Many Kani students were brought by Bro. Mudiappan to the schools of Irudayakulam and ADAikalapuram. The Brothers constructed homes for Kani people near Papanasam and Mundanthurai\textsuperscript{12}. Bro. Maria Innacimuthu gave medicinal help to the Kani people and cured their diseases\textsuperscript{13}.

From 1905 onwards the Brothers performed many help to these tribal people and dedicated themselves for their improvement. They gave training to them to cultivate coffee, teak and lime. From 1930 onwards Kattabimalai region was administered by the Jesuits\textsuperscript{14}. However, the Brothers constructed houses for Kanis and admitted their children in the boardings of Brothers Educational Institutions. Many students got opportunities at Brothers Teacher Training Institute of Tiruchi and became teachers nowadays\textsuperscript{15}.

On August 5, 2011, a Seminar was arranged at Papanasam Tiruvalluvar College. In that meeting, the problems of Kanis were discussed and their rights were stressed by the Brothers\textsuperscript{16}.

All social actions are coordinated by the Generalate of Palayamkottai. From the origin of the House of the Brothers, all accounts are kept by the Procurator General of the House\textsuperscript{17}. All expenses for schools would be paid by the Jesuits up to the time the Congregation was in a position to create schools of its own\textsuperscript{18}. During the years 1922-1931, by the efforts of the Superior General Gnana Pragasam, the number of the

\textsuperscript{11} Ibid., p. 150.
\textsuperscript{12} Ibid., p. 239.
\textsuperscript{13} Ibid., p. 310.
\textsuperscript{14} Athirvalai (Tl.) Journal, October 2006, p.13.
\textsuperscript{15} Ibid., p. 14.
\textsuperscript{16} Athirvalai (Tl.) Journal, September 2011, p.25.
\textsuperscript{17} Alosanai Peravai-1997, p.3.
\textsuperscript{18} Our Patrimony, p.30.
branch houses were increased up to seven\textsuperscript{19}. Now there are more than 250 branch houses. Only from the funds of the Generalate of Palayamkottai, any social service can be moved by the Brothers\textsuperscript{20}.

The Brothers dedicated their lives for the improvement of many tribal people at different places. In the year 1951, by the efforts of Bro. A. Thomas, many social services had been done at Kanthalore in the Kerala State. The tribals there were known as ‘Muthuvan’\textsuperscript{21}. For the benefit of that tribals, the Brothers laid many roads at Kanthalore, Keelandur, Mariyur, Kovilkadavu, Pias Nagar and Perumalai. Hospitals were built at Keelandur and Kovilkadavu. Many charity homes and orphanages were constructed\textsuperscript{22}. A High school was started at Kanthalore and now many tribal children are studying there\textsuperscript{23}.

During the period of Bro. T. Gabriel, who was the Superior General at Palayamkottai, many social actions had taken place for the tribals of Jawadhu Hills at Athipattu in Tiruvannamalai District. Bro. A. Thomas created St. Joseph’s Hill Tribe Development Social Service in 1982\textsuperscript{24}. For the benefits of the hills tribals, the St. Joseph Middle School was started on June 1, 1978. In the year 1985, a Sericulture Training Centre was started for upgrade of that people. They got training in the field of agriculture and learnt the cultivation of vegetables and fruits and irrigation systems\textsuperscript{25}. Vocational Education Centre was started in 1981 for that hill tribes. A Medical Care Centre was also started. For the welfare of the hill tribes a post office was setup by the

\begin{thebibliography}{99}
\item S. Sebastian, Oliyai Ettuvom, p.81.
\item Alosanai Peravai-1997, p.8.
\item Centenary Jubilee Souvenir 1903-2003, p.69.
\item Viludhugal, p.196.
\item Centenary Jubilee Souvenir 1903-2003, p.61.
\item Ibid., p. 39.
\end{thebibliography}
Central Government with the help of devoted service of the Brothers\textsuperscript{26}. In 1981 a Teacher Training Institute was started by Bro. Thomas for the hill tribes. In the beginning 25 students joined. Later the strength of the institute increased to 40. The St. Joseph Middle School was later developed into a High School in 1983 and Higher Secondary School in 1987\textsuperscript{27}. Free Hostel facilities are provided to the students. An orphanage was constructed in the year 1984-85 separate hostel was constructed for the girl students\textsuperscript{28}.

For the welfare of the hill tribes, certiculture, silk weaving, cattle breeding, spinning mill, rice flour mill, etc. were started by the Brothers. The products are packed and sent to Bangalore for sales. With the help of the Netherlands Government, food products were distributed to the Jawathu hill tribes\textsuperscript{29}.

Brothers have been doing the services to the hill tribes in many areas. In the Madurai region, one Brother namely Bro. Mudiappan achieved much in the village of Rayappanpatti, Narayana Thevan Patti, Karunakkamuthan patti and Kullappa Kavundanpatti. In 1970, he got 20 acres of waste land from the Government for lease and helped the poor people to cultivate Raggi, groundnut, etc. The people were happy that they were relieved from poverty and called him Moving Saint and Annai Theresa of Royappanpatti. He met the poor Dalit people and Piramalai Kallar around Royappanpatti and rescued them from poverty and ignorance. He travelled only using bye-cycle. Many Brothers are doing their social services in these villages nowadays also\textsuperscript{30}.

\textsuperscript{26} Ibid., p.
\textsuperscript{27} Ibid., pp 40-41.
\textsuperscript{28} Ibid., p.42
\textsuperscript{29} Ibid., p.43.
\textsuperscript{30} Viladugal, p.240.
The Generalate of Palayamkottai drew many schemes for the development of the hill tribes at Gulberga near Mysore and Badrachalam in Andhra Pradesh. The Generalate of Palayamkottai spent Rs. 2,41,225 for the purchase of 5 acres of land in Gulberga for implementing welfare measures for the good life of the hill tribes. For the tribal children of the suburb of Gulberga, Beray Special School has been started worth more than 40 lakhs. A HIV Hospital has been constructed to offer palliative care to the victims at Gulberga.

CFCA

An organization called the Christian Foundation for Children and Aged (CFCA) was started by Bro. P. Jeyaraj, the then Superior General in August 1994. By this foundation, more than 750 children were benefited. In the beginning, this service was extended only in 12 branches of the Brothers House. But later, it was extended in all branches of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. The CFCA fund comes from USA. The chief coordinator of CFCA is the Superior General; Palayamkottai is the headquarters of this foundation. All intimations are sent by the headquarters to the branches. In 1995-96, Bro. MeLikiyar was the coordinator. Then it was handed over to Bro. Arulraj from 1996. The branch Superiors also acted as assistant coordinators. The details of each student are kept in separate files. All files are preserved in the Generalate at Palayamkottai.

The poor students from Palayamkottai, Caussenelpuram, Illichira, Muthupettai, Naranammalpuram, Paramakudi, Ramanathapuram, Rayappanpatti, Singampatti,

32 12th Chapter Procurator General’s Report, p. 20.
34 Alosanai Peravai-1997, p.89.
35 Ibid., p. 90.
36 Ibid.
Vadipatti and Tiruchi were helped by the Brothers through the US Fund. For instance, from 1996 to 1997 Rs. 13,89,540/- was spent for poor students.

The Brothers adopted some villages like Kodiyanukulam and Maruthur and carried out many social welfare measures there with the help of CFCA. Social service centres were established at Vickramasingapuram and Irudayakulam. On behalf of CFCA, a Christmas function was celebrated in Angelo Handicapped centre at Singampatti on December 20, 1998. In this function, gifts, dresses and sweets were provided to the poor students.

At Illichira in Kerala State, the Brothers have a branch. In that area they provide many helps to the Dalit students of surrounding villages through CFCA. In Kanthalore of Kerala, a CFCA meeting was convened on August 26, 1999. In that meeting the parents of CFCA students participated. Cultural programmes were organized and lunch was provided to all. On August 25, 1999, the Brothers provided new dresses to the CFCA students for Onam festival. Free Medical check up was also arranged by the Brothers for those students.

In the year 1999, the services of CFCA extended to 30 centres of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart and it gave helping hand to 2165 poor children, 40 aged people and 200 college students. It’s main motto was to “Dare to Soar”. The headquarters of CFCA is in the Millenium Block of Christhu Raja Hr. Sec. School. A two days seminar on

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37 Ibid., pp. 93-95.
38 Ibid., pp. 95-96.
39 Ibid., p. 36.
40 Nam Seythi (Tl.) Journal, February 1999, p.5.
42 Nam Seythi (Tl.), Journal, October 1999, p.6.
43 Ibid., p. 9.
Mental and Physical Training was conducted between July 24 and July 25, 1999 at Palayamkottai by CFCA\(^44\).

For the administrative convenience the CFCA organization was divided into 3 zones. The Southern Zonal meeting was held on July 03, 1999 at Naranammalpuram, the Northern Zone meeting was conducted at Gedalahalli near Bangalore on July 17, 1999 and the Central Zone meeting was held on August 22, 1999 at Tiruchi\(^45\).

On August 8, 1999, the CFCA and TSSS of Tirunelveli jointly conducted a training camp about Small Scale Industries for the poor village women at Naranammalpuram. About 80 women participated in that camp. They got training to produce soap, phenoil, tooth powder, surf powder, face powder, Omawater, Ink, etc. Tea and Lunch were provided to them. The CFCA students and teachers of St. Joseph High School of Naranammalpuram participated in that programme\(^46\).

At Panagudi, on 05 December, 2003, the Brothers conducted a prayer meeting for the donors of CFCA foundation in the Sacred Heart Hr. Sec. School. The students and staff participated in the prayer meeting. On 23 December, 2003, Christmas festival was celebrated in that school at Panagudi. Students, staff and parents participated. Bi-cycles were given to three poor students. Sarees and blankets were distributed to the aged people\(^47\).

The CFCA functioned in 4 states. By this foundation, 4500 poor students, 2000 orphans and 700 old people were benefited. It granted fund to the 1500 college students to continue their studies\(^48\).

\(^44\) Nam Seythi (Tl.), Journal, September 1999, p.30.
\(^45\) Ibid., p. 32.
\(^46\) Ibid., pp. 32-33.
\(^48\) Centenary Jubilee Souvenir 1903-2003, p.59.
After 2006, this CFCA foundation was transferred to a Private Service Organization. The foreigners directly help the poor and needy through this private organization. Now there is no contact between the Sacred Heart Brothers and the CFCA foundation\(^49\).

**St. Mary’s Educational Social Developmental Society**

St. Mary’s Educational, Social Developmental Society was organized in March 1997 at Vickramasingapuram in Tirunelveli District. This organization was registered at Cheranmahadevi\(^50\) under the ownership of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Palayamkottai on the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 as Society No. S.9/1945-46 with all the subsisting rights\(^51\). Under the jurisdiction of the St. Mary’s Educational, Social Developmental Society, Irudayakulam, Singampatti, Mukkavar and Vadomalai Samudram would function as its branches\(^52\).

The main objects of the society are to provide human, educational, social, cultural and moral development of the people of Vickramasingapuram, Irudayakulam, Singampatti and Mukkavar and its nearby villages, to provide better living conditions to the same people and to improve the economic conditions of the people by various means of agriculture, dairy farming, poultry farming, bee-keeping and by providing technical education, job opportunities by starting cooperative societies, small scale industries, etc\(^53\).

They have some other aims also. To improve the ecological conditions of the surrounding, to enhance the social health of the people, to start cottage industries for

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\(^{49}\) Interview with Bro. I. Victor on February 12, 2010 at Palayamkottai.  
\(^{50}\) St. Mary’s Educational, Social Developmental Society, Certificate of Registration and Memorandum of Association and Byelaws, Vickramasingapuram, March 13, 1997.  
\(^{51}\) Ibid., p.2.  
\(^{52}\) Ibid.  
\(^{53}\) Ibid.
women to train uneducated rural girls and women and to establish and maintain dispensaries for rendering medical aid to the poor and the needy\textsuperscript{54}.

The President of the Society is the Superior General of the Congregation. The Governing Body consists of seven members of the Congregation\textsuperscript{55}. The present President of the Society is Bro. Victordoss who is the Superior General.

Its main aim is to provide educational and social service to the poor. The Brothers constructed Orphanages and homes for the deserted children\textsuperscript{56}. St. Mary’s Charitable Hostel, Berchmans Home and Holy Family Home for Children were constructed. They distributed dresses and gifts to the poor students. On December 20, 2007, Christmas function was celebrated at St. Mary’s Charitable Hostel. The Brothers distributed free uniforms and gifts to the children\textsuperscript{57}.

In the Holy Family Home of Irudayakulam, there are more than 300 poor students staying there. The Brothers of the Sacred Heart establish scholarships and other financial aids to the deserving students. On January 12, 2008, the Hostel Day was celebrated at Holy Family Home for Children. In that function, Bro. S. Jesuraj, the Superior General of the Sacred Heart Brothers, Bro. Edward Francis, Bro. Sengole and Bro. M. Amalraj were participated. Prizes were given to sports and academic performances of the students. New dresses were given to the workers of the Home\textsuperscript{58}.

On March 12, 2008, on behalf of St. Mary’s Educational and Social Society, gifts were given to 87 poor students of MMA Social College of Singampatti\textsuperscript{59}. On June 19, 2008, gifts, dresses and writing materials were presented to the poor students of

\begin{footnotesize}
\textsuperscript{54} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{55} Ibid, p.11.
\textsuperscript{56} Athirvalai (Tl.), Journal, October 2006, p.10.
\textsuperscript{58} Ibid., February, 2008, p.14.
\textsuperscript{59} Ibid., April 2008, p.12.
\end{footnotesize}
St. Mary’s Charitable Home\textsuperscript{60}. On November 23, 2008, a function was celebrated at Holy Family Home for children at Irudayakulam. Gifts were given to the students and the workers\textsuperscript{61}. On October 25, 2007, the staff and students of St. Mary’s Hr. Sec. School at Vickramasingapuram visited the orphanage of Annai Jothi Trust of Adayakarungulam, situated near Vickramasingapuram. They distributed new dresses to 30 handicapped and 22 deserved children\textsuperscript{62}.

On behalf of the St. Mary’s Educational and Social Society, an environmental awareness meeting was conducted on August 1, 2009. Awareness created against environmental pollution and Global Warming for the students of St. Mary’s Hr. Sec. School\textsuperscript{63}. By the efforts of this society religious harmony and religious toleration was emphasized in the meeting conducted on August 6, 2009\textsuperscript{64}.

To avoid Global warming, 100 saplings were planted at Social College of Singampatti by this Society on July 20, 2010\textsuperscript{65}. On June 11, 2010, the Society gave financial aid to 6 students of St. Mary’s Hr. Sec. School\textsuperscript{66}. The Society conducted Seminars, camps, field trips, lecturers, conferences, statistical surveys, research and training programmes, audio-visual and mass media services, exhibitions, etc. in many areas. During the academic year of 2003-2004, 3 medical camps and 3 eye camps were conducted at Singampatti. It conducted a big rally in Vickramasingapuram to avoid plastic goods and protect forests\textsuperscript{67}.

An organization namely, the Red Ribbon Club was created in the School to create awareness of AIDS. By this society a public road from Singampatti to

\textsuperscript{60} Ibid., July 2008, p.13.
\textsuperscript{61} Ibid., December 2008, p. 22
\textsuperscript{62} Ibid., November 2007, p.36.
\textsuperscript{63} Ibid., September 2009, p.11.
\textsuperscript{64} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{65} Athirvalai, August 2010, p.16.
\textsuperscript{66} Ibid., July 2010, p. 20.
\textsuperscript{67} Interview with Bro.S. Arokiam on February 12, 2010 at Singampatti.
Kallidaikurichi was mended by the students. Tree plantation was emphasized. Road cleaning and hygienic health programmes were arranged. Training programmes were conducted for modern cultivation\textsuperscript{68}.

Sacred Heart Aged Home of Irudayakulam, St. Micheal’s Home for children and St. Micheal’s Creche of Singampatti are managed by the Sacred Heart Brothers through this Society\textsuperscript{69}. This Society is improving the economic, social and educational conditions of the surrounding villages of Vickramasingapuram.

**Towards a new Vision in Social Service**

In the recent years, the Brothers have diversified this educational enterprise by opening technical institutes both formal and non-formal mainly for school drop-outs and physically handicapped. At Susai Nagar in Tiruvannamalai District, they are running Amala Rakkini School for the blind which is recognized by the Government of Tamil Nadu\textsuperscript{70}. More than 70 blind students are studying there\textsuperscript{71}. At Ramnad, the Brothers are running St. Britto Centre for the handicapped, where in the beginning 25 boys were taken care of and 15 of them were sent to schools and the rest were trained in printing technology\textsuperscript{72}. Now the number of studying students increased to 120\textsuperscript{73}.

Recently, the Brothers have taken a big step forward in training and rehabilitating the school drop-outs and the physically handicapped by starting the Fatima Institute of Graphic Arts (FIGA) at Palayamkottai at which they are trained in printing technology\textsuperscript{74}. It is recognized by the Government. The students are studying 5

\begin{footnotesize}
\textsuperscript{68} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{69} St. Mary’s Educational, Social Developmental Society, Byelaws, p.8.
\textsuperscript{70} Brothers of the Sacred Heart (India), p 18.
\textsuperscript{71} Centenary Jubilee Souvenir (1903-2003), p.60.
\textsuperscript{72} Brothers of the Sacred Heart (India), p.18.
\textsuperscript{73} Centenary Jubilee Souvenir (1903-2003), p. 60.
\textsuperscript{74} Brothers of the Sacred Heart (India), p.18.
\end{footnotesize}
types of technical training including composing and binding. Each year more than 40 students studied there\textsuperscript{75}.

Apart from achieving academic excellence in schools, Brothers strive for allround formation and integrated growth of the boys entrusted to them. Students are exhorted to love and respect one another and show concern for the poor. They are asked to beware of the evils in the social and economic systems and encouraged to work for social transformation\textsuperscript{76}.

This new vision has led to do a lot of rethinking on education and to lay emphasize on making it an instrument of social change. With this end in view, they have reoriented their educational system by value-oriented education, faith formation, social awareness and community consciousness, health social relationships and group dynamics, proper physical training and liberation of the oppressed\textsuperscript{77}.

The Co-curricular activities of the students lead to wholesome integration among them. For the benefit of the teachers the Brothers arrange regular camps, seminars and retreats. By these means, the Brothers refresh and animate them to become ideal teachers\textsuperscript{78}. All their schools are situated mostly in rural areas. Priority is given to socially and economically backward children and religious and linguistic minorities in the matter of admission to their schools\textsuperscript{79}.

The Brothers train school drop-outs, handicapped and economically poor students in various trades in their technical institutions. They are thus providing them with opportunities for self-employment, job-oriented training and life-oriented education are also given to school drop-outs and physically handicapped children. Thus

\textsuperscript{75} Centenary Jubilee Souvenir (1903-2003), p.60.
\textsuperscript{76} Brothers of the Sacred Heart (India), p.20.
\textsuperscript{77} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{78} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{79} Ibid.
their Congregation is doing a great deal of service in the field of technical education also\textsuperscript{80}.

In addition to formal educational programmes, the Brothers undertake non-formal education programmes also. Adult education programmes, evening study centres, coaching centres for poor children, small scale technical training are some of the non-formal educational enterprises of the Brothers\textsuperscript{81}.

In their agricultural farms at Caussanelpuram, Mukkavar, Vallanadu, Royappanpatti, Vickramasingapuram, Chinthalur and Tiruchi, small quarters were built for the poor workers. The Brothers give modern training in agriculture and cultivation farms\textsuperscript{82}. Thus they liberate those who are socially and economically exploited by the rich and high class people\textsuperscript{83}. In their annual budget, a separate fund has been allotted for the poor. “Help to the needy” is their basic concept\textsuperscript{84}. For instance, at Rayappanpatti in Madurai District, they give lunch to the 15 old people daily\textsuperscript{85}. At Adrain Nagar, a housing scheme for poor was generated\textsuperscript{86}. By that 100 houses were constructed for the poor people\textsuperscript{87}.

The Brothers run 6 orphanages in different places with the help of the Government. Many foreign agencies give financial help to the orphan and handicapped children through this Congregation\textsuperscript{88}. For instance, Kinder Mission Work, a foreign agency donated Rs. 4,19,022/- for drinking water and toilet facilities for children home

\begin{footnotes}
\textsuperscript{80} Ibid., p.21.
\textsuperscript{81} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{82} Centenary Jubilee Souvenir (1903-2003), p.62.
\textsuperscript{83} Brothers of the Sacred Heart (India), p.28.
\textsuperscript{84} Alosanai Peravai-1997, p.36.
\textsuperscript{85} Ibid., p.50.
\textsuperscript{86} Brothers of the Sacred Heart (India), p.26.
\textsuperscript{87} 12\textsuperscript{th} Chapter, Pontifical Commissary’s Three Years Report (2003-2005), p.2.
\textsuperscript{88} Alosanai Peravai-1997, p.82.
\end{footnotes}
run by the Brothers on September 2005\textsuperscript{89}. Another agency called Missio from Germany donated Rs. 6,12,866/- for boarding house of physically handicapped children on February 2003\textsuperscript{90}. In May 2004, Bischofliches ordinariat, a foreign agency granted Rs. 3,16,113/- for Angelo Home for handicapped\textsuperscript{91}. In January 2005, Gruppo India, another agency made a grant of Rs. 4,15,280/- for the welfare of orphan children\textsuperscript{92}. Thus with the help of foreign aid, thousands of orphan and handicapped children are benefitted through the Congregation of the Sacred Heart Brothers\textsuperscript{93}.

The Brothers usually visit villages and mingle with some families and teach some good qualities to the lay people. For instance, Bro.R. Maria Asrivatham went to each houses and became their family friend. Not only him, Bro. A. Gnanathikkam, Bro.G. Mudiappan, Bro. K.S. Thavamani, Bro.M. James, Bro. M. Arulappan, Bro.A. Basil, Bro.A. Antony Samy, Bro.L. Savarimuthu, etc, and many other Brothers have become friends of the poor. They went to many villages and served for their upliftment. They extended medical help, money, good advises and tried to eradicate social evils\textsuperscript{94}.

**Social Action Commission**

This organization plays a vital role and stands to prove them as social warriors. The activities carried out over the years will throw more light on the accomplishments and the achievements of the commission. The screaming intention is to strengthen the human resource of the Sacred Heart Congregation through capacity enhancement in order to effectively spearhead the mission of serving the poor\textsuperscript{95}.

\textsuperscript{90} Ibid., p.40.
\textsuperscript{91} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{92} Ibid., p. 53.
\textsuperscript{93} Alosanai Peravai-1997, p.82.
\textsuperscript{94} Viladhugal, pp. 229-395.
\textsuperscript{95} All Commissions six Years Report, p.143.
The core principle is to strengthen and reinforce the value system of Brothers through proper formation and personality development. Besides, improving professionalism among Brothers in assuming and delegating responsibilities to fulfill tasks is also important. The objectives and purposes shaped the Commission with the valuable answer of outputs with the source of activities done in the periodical years. The outputs are in good demand to launch the activities with prior intention of interest.

The Social Action Commission members of 1995-1996 convened their meeting on May 11, 1996 at Tuticorin. The Coordinator of 1995-1996 commission was Bro. M.D. Sebastian. Their main aim was to create awareness about social evils. The Commission members of 1996-1997 convened their meeting on January 11, 1997 at Caussanelpuram. The Coordinator of this year was Bro. Arokiyam Peter. Their main objectives were to serve with other social organizations, undertaking particular village with all developmental plans, conduct camps and workshops for students, teachers and social service organizers, and to give a best guidance for the orphanage children.

Bro. Leo Prabhakar, one of the members of this commission participated in the conference of Peoples Watch and the 7th International Human Rights Protection Conference in 1997. This social commission periodically conducted orientation courses to the social service organizers. Evening free coaching classes were taken for poor village students. Counseling was given for family members. Note books and written materials were provided for poor children. Mullipati in Ramnad District was selected

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96 Ibid.
97 Ibid.
100 Ibid., p.118.
for their project and they did many services there\textsuperscript{101}. The Commission of 1999-2000 convened their meeting on May 20, 1999 at the Generalate of Palayamkottai. In that meeting, the Brothers passed many important resolutions. They decided that, a Special Commission should be arranged for the improvement of Dalit people\textsuperscript{102}.

Good schemes were prepared for the improvement of child labour, street wandering children, aged and old people, and handicapped people. Special rehabilitation programmes were arranged for poor women. In that meeting they decided to give training for Brothers in the fields of general medicines, Siddha, Ayurvedic, Homeopathy, Herbal, First Aid, Law, Consumer Protection etc, only to serve for poor people\textsuperscript{103}. The Brothers were instructed that all should be changed as social strugglers. The Brothers should meet the village people and inform the good schemes of the government to them. They decided to construct houses for the people of below poverty line\textsuperscript{104}.

The Commission of 2003-2004 selected Bro. P. Arul Raj as Coordinator and 4 Brothers as Advisers of this body\textsuperscript{105}. In that period, a Trust known as Base Trust was created with the support of Bishop M. Ambrose, D.D.C.L. on July 20, 2003. Bro. S. Rajan was the Secretary and Bro. A. Victordass was the financial administrator of this Trust. By this Trust, the Brothers provided helps to the poor and orphans like conducting marriages, educational help, medical help, and constructing houses\textsuperscript{106}.

The Commission of 2011-2012 was held on January 01, 2012 at the Generalate in Palayamkottai. The Coordinator of this Commission was Bro.R. Arokiyam Peter\textsuperscript{107}.

\textsuperscript{101} Ibid., pp. 119-120.
\textsuperscript{102} 11\textsuperscript{th} General Chapter’s Report (Tl.), Brothers of the Sacred Heart, Palayamkottai, 1999, p. 6.
\textsuperscript{103} Ibid., pp. 29-30.
\textsuperscript{104} Ibid., p.30
\textsuperscript{105} Pontifical Commissary Three Years Report 2003-2005, p.5.
\textsuperscript{106} Ibid., p.6.
\textsuperscript{107} 13\textsuperscript{th} General Chapter’s Report, (Tl.) Brothers of the Sacred Heart, Palayamkottai, 2012, p.8.

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In that meeting the Brothers decided to give remedial schemes to the differentially abled persons, HIV affected children, hilly tribal people, poor village people, unemployed, separated families, Domestic workers, Dalit people and poor Catholic families\textsuperscript{108}. A Central Office was created for social welfare. They decided to provide short term and long term training in social services to Brothers. A School of Social Work has been organized. In that meeting, the child rights of homes and orphanages were stressed\textsuperscript{109}. In the Generalate there is a house for old aged Brothers. It is called Rex Bhavan. It was inaugurated by Rev. Bro. N.S. Jesudoss who was the then Superior General and blessed by Dr. M. Ambrose, Bishop of Coimbatore on February 10, 2006. Now these are 6 brothers in that house\textsuperscript{110}.

The Commission of Generalate in Palayamkottai is responsible for coordinating all the projects of different areas. It has also taken the responsibility to prepare periodic reports on the activity, progress and update stakeholders including donor agencies with the linkage of Mission Cooperation for development\textsuperscript{111}. Apart from this, Boardings, Orphanages, Tribal Hostels, Creches, and Medical Service Centres are regularly monitored by the Commission team\textsuperscript{112}. The statistical information of the Social Service Centres of Sacred Heart Congregation is given below.

**Creches:**

2. R.C. Creche, Vadamalaisamudram
3. Sacred Heart Creche, Irudayakulam
4. St. Micheal’s Creche, Singampatti

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\textsuperscript{108} Ibid., p. 12.
\textsuperscript{109} Ibid., p. 25.
\textsuperscript{110} Rev. Bro. N.S. Jesudoss, the tablet on the building of Rex Bhavan, Palayamkottai, 10.02.2006.
\textsuperscript{111} All Commissions Six Years Report 2006-2011, p. 146.
\textsuperscript{112} Ibid., p.148.
5. St. Joseph’s Creche, Naranamalpuram
6. St. Thomas Creche, Kurichi
7. St. Mary’s Creche, Thoothukudi
8. Sacred Heart Creche, Panagudi
9. R.C. Creche, Madurai
10. R.C. Creche, Royappanpatti
11. R.C. Creche, Ramanad

Centres for the Aged:
1. St. Aloysius Home for the Aged, Royappanpatti, Madurai
2. St. Thomas Home for the Aged, Kurichi, Palayamkottai.

Medical Service Centres
1. St. Joseph’s Dispensary, Susai Nagar, Vellore
3. St. Michael’s Dispensary, Singampatti

Schools for the Physically Handicapped
1. Schools for the Visually impaired, Susainagar, Vellore.
2. School for Physically Handicapped, Ramanad,

Hostels for Poor Students
1. St. Mary’s Hostel, Vickramasingapuram
2. St. Aloysius Hostel, Royappanpatti
3. St. Joseph’s Hostel, Susainagar

4. St. Joseph’s Hostel, Athipet
5. St. Joseph’s Hostel, Muthupettai

**Homes for the Orphan Children**

1. St. Thomas Home for Children, Kurichi
2. Holy Family Home for Children, Irudayakulam
3. St Michael’s Home for Children, Singampatti
4. Sacred Heart Home for Children, Caussanelpuram
5. St. Joseph’s Home for Children, Naranammalpuram
6. St. Aloysius Home for Children, Royappanpatti
7. St. Mary’s Home for Children, Thoothukudi
8. Little Flower Home for Children, Kanthalore, Kerala
10. St. Joseph’s Home for Children, Athipet, Vellore
11. St. Charles Home for Children, Vadipatti, Madurai\(^{114}\).

The following table shows the functioning of Boardings, Homes and Hostels of the Congregation of the Sacred Heart Brothers, Palayamkottai. It shows the strength of the accommodated children in the periodical phase years from 2006 to 2011. Funds are monitored by the Generalate of Palayamkottai\(^{115}\).

\(^{114}\) Ibid., pp. 40-41.
\(^{115}\) All Commissions Six Years Report 2006-2011, p.148.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home for the Children, Athipet</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Home for Children Mullipatti</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home for the Children, Susainagar</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>654</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>696</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blind School, Soosai Nagar</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physically Challenged, Ramnad</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Joseph’s Hostel, Athipet</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cor Jesu Hostel, Budapadi</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Joseph’s Hr. Sec. School Hostel, Muthupettedi</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Joseph’s High School Hostel, Muthupettedi</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Aloysius Hostel, Royappanpatti</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>951</td>
<td>970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Joseph’s Hostel, Susainagar</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s Hostel, VK Puram</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christu Jothi Home for the Children, Caussanel Nagar</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Family Home for the Children, Irudhayakulam</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Michael Home for the Children, Singampatti</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Flower Home for the Children, Kanthalore</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Thomas Home for the Children, Kurichi</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Joseph’s Home for the Children, Naranamalpuram</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s Home for the Children, Tuticorin</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Relief Operation during the ‘Tsunami’ Period:

At the close of the year on December 26, 2004 an intense mood of sadness permeated around the world. The devastating earthquake at the Sumatra Island shivered through the spame of everybody called the Tsunami in Japanese, the Peralai in Tamil wave killed thousands and rendered millions orphaned, destitute and homeless. Fisher folk living in the coastal regions were unprepared for the killer waves, which questioned and displaced the lives and livelihood of many fishing communities in Tamil Nadu and Andaman islands. The districts of Kanyakumari and Nagapattinam were the worst hit in Tamil Nadu State. The Government called the event a ‘National Disaster’ and appealed emergency relief.\(^{116}\)

The situation in the coastal villages of Kanyakumari and Nagapattinam districts were chaotic and panic. With water entering the villages, houses were collapsed, boats were damaged and people were running everywhere to save their lives. When the waves receded, hundreds of bodies were found floating on the shore. Debris stood in the place of houses. ‘Death’ became a common word devoid of any emotional attachments.\(^{117}\)

Many NGO’s and philanthropic organizations responded to the calamity and extended immediate help to the Tsunami victims. The Brothers of the Sacred Heart Congregation was no exception to the spontaneous response in rescue and relief operation. Joining hands with the volunteers, a team of Brothers started offering emergency relief to the victims like taking them to safe places, distributing food, cloths and medicines etc.\(^{118}\).

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\(^{116}\) ‘Tsunami Disaster’, a printed material provided by Bro. Rajan to me in person, n.d. p.1.

\(^{117}\) Ibid., p.2.

\(^{118}\) Ibid.
The Brothers decided to initiate some sustainable livelihood rehabilitation to the most affected victims in selected villages. The activities of the Brothers could be broadly classified as emergency relief works, Trauma care, infrastructure development, livelihood-rehabilitation and child care\textsuperscript{119}.

The Brothers did emergency relief works* such as assisting in rescue work, organizing temporary tenements and distributing food cloths, medicines, etc. Trauma care means counseling services, awareness and motivational camps for adults, youth and children, etc., and then prayer services and conventions. Then the Brothers dedicated for infrastructure development i.e., Housing and repair, providing fishing equipments, boats and nets\textsuperscript{120}.

The Brothers provided livelihood, rehabilitation to the victims, it included career guidance and vocational skills training. Under Child Care, they gave educational assistance, tuition centres for children and sponsorship\textsuperscript{121}. The Brothers commit to make every effect to ensure that people affected by the Tsunami disaster has access to atleast the minimum requirements to satisfy their basic right to life with dignity\textsuperscript{122}.

Since Nagapattinam, Kanyakumari and Andaman Islands were the worst hit places, the Brothers decided to initiate some relief and rehabilitation work in select villages of their regions. In Kanyakumari District, Chinnamuttam, Kadiapattinam, Kodimunai, Helen Colony and Vaniakudy were the worst affected villages\textsuperscript{123}. They lost lives, houses and equipments. Mela Manakudi is a village in the Kanyakumari District with the highest population of fisherman folk. The school in the picture was surrounded by a high wall. Horrified by looking at the high wave a group of 102 people tried to

\textsuperscript{119} Ibid., p.3
\textsuperscript{*} See Plate No. 9
\textsuperscript{120} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{121} Ibid., P.4.
\textsuperscript{122} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{123} Ibid., p.5.
jump over a high wall surrounding a school to save their lives, but were drifted in ferocious waves and died. The bodies were recovered and a mass burial was given. Kodiyakarai, Manyantheur, Perunputtai, Sinnurputtai, Pandaga and Prithukottai were the worst affected villages in the Nagapattinam District. Many of them lost their houses, vallams and nets.

On December 27, 2004, the day following the disaster, the Sacred Heart Brothers formed two relief teams and hurried to Kottilpadu in Kanyakumari and Samathan Patti in Nagapattinam, the most affected villages. The Kottilpadu village, which had about 650 houses, now has only 16 houses while all other houses were destroyed killing about 199 members. The villagers moved to the nearby place as refugees. Seeing the plight of the villages, the Brothers instantaneously involved in relief operation.

Camped in the coastal region, the Brothers were instrumental in mobilizing local resources and intimated many relief measures like erecting temporary sheds to provide shelter for those who lost their houses. 1120 sheds accommodating about 1500 families in 3 villages of Nagapattinam region.

They initiated providing food and medicines to more than 3000 members, distributing ‘basic need kit’ containing minimum utensils, provisions, cosmetics, clothing, bedding, etc., to more than 3000 members. Distributing educational materials to about 600 school children and distributing Thalaisumadu (a large utensil used to transport fishes by women for marketing) to about 100 most deserving women.

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124 Ibid.
125 Ibid.
126 Ibid., p.6.
127 Ibid., p.7.
128 Ibid.
The survivors of Tsunami disaster are suffering emotional turmoil and trauma. Trauma leaves an imprint of lasting horror, terror and helplessness both physical and mental. In order to reduce stress and prevent physical illness, the Brothers initiated a series of activities\textsuperscript{129}. As part of their extended work, in collaborated with the Catholic Diocese, they organized the Catholic lay movement in all the parishes to involve in a process of confidence building and motivating the victims to restore ‘faith and hope’\textsuperscript{130}.

Visiting the houses of the victims, spending time and sharing their grief, gathering them for prayer services – time for solace, organizing spiritual conventions, counseling services and awareness to youth and women groups, health and hygiene awareness programme to women groups, awareness through folk and cultural art forms this served as a media of awareness as well as an entertainment to the victims whose minds were terrorized. These activities were the part of trauma relief process\textsuperscript{131}.

During the relief work and community organization, the brothers developed rapport with the target people and gathered substantial information on the situation, problem and intervention areas. As part of the intervention, the brothers tried to identify and organize some of the poorest victims who have been marginalized from other rehabilitation programmes\textsuperscript{132}.

A “Stakeholders forum” consisting of 7 members from the villages selected for rehabilitation work has been formed. This forum is actively involved in planning of programme, formulating criteria, selection of beneficiaries, evaluation, etc.\textsuperscript{133}. The Brothers constructed and repaired houses for the victims in many coastal villages. At Kadiapattinam, 8 houses were constructed and 29 houses were repaired. In Kodimunai

\textsuperscript{129} Ibid., p.8.
\textsuperscript{130} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{131} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{132} Ibid., p.19.
\textsuperscript{133} Ibid.
14 houses were constructed and 15 houses were repaired. At Vaniakudy, 12 houses were constructed and 18 houses were repaired\textsuperscript{134}. They provided fishing equipments to the poor village people\textsuperscript{135}.

They were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Villages</th>
<th>Vallam</th>
<th>Cattamaram</th>
<th>Nets</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Kanyakumari Region</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kadiapattinam</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25 sets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kodimunai</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17 sets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Vaniakudy</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10 sets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Alikal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 set</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Periyathalai</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 set</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Nagapattinam Region</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pandagasalai Street</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17 sets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>71 sets</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Among many other issues, providing alternate means of livelihood to the victims was seen as the most pressing challenge in rehabilitation work. Building human capacities through livelihood skills development and related services towards livelihood rehabilitation therefore become an important development intervention of the brothers in the target area\textsuperscript{136}. Accordingly the Brothers were involved in career guidance to the youth and offering livelihood skills training in 3 trades as follows\textsuperscript{137}:

\textsuperscript{134} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{135} Ibid., p.10.
\textsuperscript{136} Ibid., p.11.
\textsuperscript{137} Ibid., p. 12.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Villages</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Chinnamuttam</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kadiapattinam</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kodimunai</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Helen Colony</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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A. Tailoring & handicraft skills

<p>| | | | |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kodimunai</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
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B. Boat Engine Mechanism

<p>| | | | |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Kodimunai</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Chinnamuttam</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Driving

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<td>6</td>
<td>Kodimunai</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Chinnamuttam</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | | |</p>
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<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Children are the most vulnerable of all during and after any disaster. Their sense of safety and security gets challenged and their confidence gets shaken. Therefore, children demand special focus in any rehabilitation work. Accordingly the Brothers initiated many activities geared towards child care in the target area\(^{138}\). They were tuition centres in 3 villages- this programme is conducted involving the educated youth where all the school children of the villages get benefited. Catechism and value education for school children in 4 villages, counseling and motivation camps to all the children, exposure visits to school children-around 400 children were taken to Bay Watch to divert their attention and appease their minds, CFCA sponsorship programme for 150 children from 4 villages and scholarship for higher education to 34 youth in 5 villages\(^{139}\).

The Brothers enthusiasm to mitigate the suffering of Tsunami victims was strengthened through the kind and generous support and cooperation of many kind-

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\(^{138}\) Ibid., p. 13.
\(^{139}\) Ibid., p.14.
hearted individuals and institutions. The Brothers made contact with many foreign institutions and received support for this victim. Manos Vadidas of Spain, Knight of Columbus of USA, Bro. Albert Ketelaars FIC of Netherlands and Groupponinda of Rome supported a lot to this calamity. They provided Rs. 45,51,955 for the victims.

On December 31, 2004, 20 Brothers had gone to Muttam, Pillai thoppu and Alikal of Kanyakumari District with dresses, utensils, milk powder, bread, oil, soap, bed-sheets, food items, etc., Bro. Victordass, Bro. Arul Raj, Bro. Arulanandham, Bro. John, and Bro. Abraham met the victims of Melamanakudi, Keelamanakudi, Pallam, Muttam, Kadiapattinam, Pudur, Kottilpadu, Colachel, Simon Colony, Kodimunai, Vaniakudi, Kurumpanai, Ramanthurai, Mullurthurai and Puthanthurai and tried to remove the bloodsheds from the victims.

When Tsunami intruded the people of Tamil Nadu, the Sacred Heart Brothers, Bro. Savariyar, Bro. Simson, and Bro. Xavier presented at Tranqubar after 2 hours of the disaster. They engaged themselves in initial services. They helped to remove the dead bodies, admitted the injured people in the hospitals, provided food, dresses and water bottles to the victims. More than 10,000 food packets were distributed. Temporary houses were built to the people of Samanthanpettai, Nambiyar Nagar and Konar Kuppam of Nagapattinam District. On February 16, 2005, food items, bed sheets and dresses were provided to 870 families of Sirgali by the Sacred Heart Brothers.

At Andaman Bro. Backianathan and Bro. Sathanantham had worked for the affected of Campbell Bay by the direction of Bro. A. Victordass and Bro. S. Augustine

\[140\] Ibid.  
\[141\] Ibid.  
\[142\] ‘Nam Seythi’ Journal (Tl.), March 2005, p.17.  
\[144\] ‘Nam Seythi’ Journal (Tl.), March 2005, p.4.  
\[145\] Ibid., p.5.
K. Raj. They went along with nine skilled welders from BIRDS Social Service Centre. They planned to make 9000 shelters for the Tsunami affected. Since, they had good welding machineries and equipments, they were capable of making four blocks per day because, the sun was very angry there. Despite some inconveniences with regard to health, they tried their best to finish the given work in time.\textsuperscript{146}

Once upon a time Campbell Bay was known to be very prosperous island. It provided all kinds of facilities for a man to lead a happy life. Sometimes the people used to share that they were not able to even think of the time the disaster occurred. They felt that they have come from heaven to hell. After the Tsunami had occurred, they felt tremors too often there. Besides providing temporary shelter for the Tsunami affected, the Brothers took keen interest to provide basic needs.\textsuperscript{147}

The Brothers found little difficult to get along with the people at first. They had to show only actions to make them understand things. Then they gradually started managing to communicate with them properly. This trip to Andaman has really enhanced their zeal for hard work and their commitment to the people.\textsuperscript{148}

In Kanyakumari District, the Brothers provided the training of driving, plumbing, wiring, out boat engine repair and tailoring for the affected youth. On October 22 and 23, 2005, a two days Seminar programme was conducted for young women under the title of Tsunami awareness and motivation at Kodimunai, 63 women participated.\textsuperscript{149} On October 23, 2005, an oneday seminar was arranged at Kadiapattinam. It was presided over by Bro. Athisayam. 173 women participated.

\textsuperscript{146} ‘Nam Seythi’ July 2005, pp. 11-12.
\textsuperscript{147} Ibid., p.12.
\textsuperscript{148} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{149} ‘Nam Seydhi’ November 2005, p.14.
Bro. Savaridoss, Bro. Christuraj, Bro.Lazar, and Bro. Vincent took charge of this Seminar\textsuperscript{150}.

Fredelli Sacro coure of Rome, a foreign Congregation provided 86 lakhs for the victims of Tsunami. With the help of them, the Brothers constructed 23 new houses and repaired 79 houses in Kanyakumari District. Self employment programmes were provided for the women folk in many villages\textsuperscript{151}.

Time and body’s natural healing power can cure majority of survivors, if there is appropriate external support. Absence of support can weaken the process. Though the Brothers are doing meaningful work, the intensity of damage demands sustained and organized efforts. From a situation of ‘death’ as a common word devoid of any emotional attachment, the Brothers have succeeded in bringing smile and hope among the people in the target area\textsuperscript{152}.

Social Action Centres

The blossoming of the Brothers Congregation did not limit itself within the educational institutions, but made them to be sensitive to the “Cry of the Poor” and responded creatively and giving preferential option for the poor and the marginalized and those living at the fringe of the Society. To strive with option for the poor, the Congregation have been instrumental for the steady inspiration and growth. Thus the Brothers are following the footsteps of their founder Fr. Caussanel and they implemented many social action centres to launch welfare measures for the upliftment of the poor\textsuperscript{153}.

\textsuperscript{150} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{151} Pontifical Comissary’s Three Years Report, 2003-2005, Brothers of the Sacred Heart, pp. 7-8.
\textsuperscript{152} ‘Tsunami Disaster’ a printed material, p.15.
\textsuperscript{153} Centenary Jubilee Souvenir 1903-2003, p.44.
CAFED

Caussanel Foundation for Education and Development has been implementing programmes for the “Integrated Socio Economic and the Political Development of Tribal Women and Children in 20 villages of Wazeedu Mandals of Khammam District, Andhra Pradesh”. It is great that CAFED has successfully stepped into the 9th year by 2011.154

CAFED activities are targeting towards children motivation camps, lobbying with the Government officials meeting the children who remain as child labourer, their parents and the formation and motivation of Tribal Women and Children in Wazeedu Mandal for their development155. Residential Bridge Camp is conducted for the women, (RBC) and children tribal women workers are trained as tribal leaders. Monitoring the National Rural Employment Guarantee Card is another activity that includes the issue of NREG cards, creating awareness on the Right Information Act, applying for the old age pension, widow pension, children pension in the target area and formation of children parliament are added activities in this context.156

CAFED* has been working among tribal women for their development empowering them socially, politically and economically come up in life by forming self help groups. It also focuses on the school dropouts to improve their standard of living by providing education and skill training. Proper guidance is provided to rescue the child labours and send them to Residential Bridge Camp of CAFED. The leadership qualities have been improved by motivation trainings. Tribal women are trained as

155 Ibid. 
156 Ibid. 
* See. Plate No. 10
tribal leaders by running small business that builds the ability to manage stress and strain\textsuperscript{157}.

\textbf{Bird Heal:}

Bird Heal is another social work organ of the Sacred Heart Brothers that aims to create a society where brotherhood and egalitarianism are realized. Bird Heal works towards the integrated development of the rural areas of Karnataka especially in the Jewargi Taluk of Gulgarga District. BIRDS-HEAL is working among some of the poorest of the poor people in 125 remote villages of Jewargi Taluk in Gulgarga District since 2002\textsuperscript{158}. The Brothers implemented Dalit-empowerment programmes in 40 villages of Jewargi Taluk of Gulgarga District so far. The organization focuses its attention on health, education and social needs of the poor dalit and tribal population with direct focus on school drop outs, working children, PLWHA (People Living with HIV-AIDS) the physically challenged, Dalit and Tribal Women and Youth\textsuperscript{159}.

Their main target is to work for Dalit community from the target areas, children both school going and school drop outs, children of HIV/AIDS affected families, children and young girls who are at risk, victims of child trafficking and child abuse, children belong to poor and exploited families, physically and mentally handicapped and Lambani Women, landless agriculture labourers, small and marginal farmers and elected representatives\textsuperscript{160}.

In order to build up a good rapport with the people, door to door family visit is made in respect of community health program. Various awareness programs were conducted in the target area to educate the people about the importance of the health

\textsuperscript{157} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{158} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{159} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{160} Ibid., p.152.
care, HIV, AIDS, TB controlling methods, family planning materials etc., Dalit and Tribal empowerment program is introduced to control the violation of human rights over the marginalized communities\textsuperscript{161}.

Theresa Dispensary is an initiative by Birds Heal. This service is implemented with the kind assistance from Dr. Carlo and Theresa Van de Build from Netherlands. The target groups are provided with good treatment, medicines, nutritional food and awareness on health and hygiene. The physiotherapy unit is also one of the activities carried out by the Theresa dispensary\textsuperscript{162}. The achievements of this service centre is that more people in the target villages are able to access the health facilities within their village itself by free of cost and controlled the spread of HIV/AIDS and epidemic diseases in a major level. The number of new TB patients are decreased\textsuperscript{163}.

There is an increase in the number of patients visited and availed treatment from the dispensary when compared to previous years. It shows their awareness. The children of PLWHA (People Living with HIV/AIDS) are given educational assistance. Women Development programmes involved in 126 villages and they developed a lot. The empowerment program was organized in 40 villages\textsuperscript{164}.

**BIRDS**

This service centre is to promote socio-economic development in 20 villages of K.R. puram Taluk in Karnataka State with special emphasis on organizing, training and networking of tribal women. They proposed to address the increasing needs of the Dalit communities to get organized and fight for their rights through capacity building\textsuperscript{165}.

\textsuperscript{161} Ibid.  
\textsuperscript{162} Ibid.  
\textsuperscript{163} Ibid.  
\textsuperscript{164} Ibid.  
\textsuperscript{165} Ibid.
Awareness programmes were conducted for women groups in the target area and simple savings system and loan distribution was effected. Discussions were held with the community people on topics like health condition of the area, self employment opportunities, importance of the formation of community based groups, importance of savings and credit systems, etc Video CDs were displayed among the villages to create awareness. Separate counseling and guidance was given to women to know their rights in the families and the society and fight against harassments, torturing for dowry, abuse female child, etc.\textsuperscript{166}

Women from the self help groups are given exposure training with different NGOs. Through this activity they get ideas about the different programmes and through interchanging and sharing their personal views. Women are much benefitted through this exposure training. Capacity building training was given to the women in self-help groups to develop their personal capacities. Resource persons were invited to give training on this basis. Women are benefitted out of this programme\textsuperscript{167}. Health workers training for drop-out girls of the target area has just begun from June 2009. The course consists of theory and practical sessions in clinics and nursing homes. Weekly and monthly evaluations were conducted to the staff. During the evaluation the weekly and monthly activities and their impacts were evaluated and the required changes were done\textsuperscript{168}.

It is the achievement of the Brothers that awareness on legal issues was roused in the women to make them know their rights and to approach the authorities concerned to establish their rights. Three thousand women from around 100 villages joined together to raise their voice for their rights and to fight against the atrocities against

\textsuperscript{166} Ibid., p.153.
\textsuperscript{167} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{168} Ibid.
women in the society in the Annual Women’s Convention held on 8th March 2010 in commemoration of the International Women’s Day\textsuperscript{169}. A rally was organized from Gubbi Cross to Bird’s campus. All the women participated in the rally singing songs and shouting slogans\textsuperscript{170}.

Bro A. Victor Dass who is an eminent person actively engaged himself in this social service centre of Birds. For the upliftment of the tribals and HIV/AIDS affected people, all the social service organizations of Karnataka presented an award to him called “the Best Social Worker of South India”* in 2010\textsuperscript{171}. Now he is the present Superior General of the Congregation of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

**Planet Hope**

Planet Hope is founded in the year 2002. It focused its concentration on the integrated development of children in Northern rural Bangalore who are denied their childhood, have never been to school and like in miserable conditions in the streets or involved in hazardous work\textsuperscript{172}. Planet Hope strives to expand the growth opportunities and capabilities of such disadvantaged children and protect their growing minds and bodies. This organization focused on working children also. They are trained by creative teaching methods\textsuperscript{173}.

**Little Flower Social Development Society:**

Kanthaloor is a small village near Devikulam in the Idukki District of Kerala. Idukki is a small district surrounded by mountains. In 1950s the illiteracy rate was high in that area and Bro. Thomas started a primary school for the educational development

\textsuperscript{169} Ibid.  
\textsuperscript{170} Ibid.  
\textsuperscript{*} See Plate No. 11.  
\textsuperscript{173} Ibid., p. 154.
of the local people. In 1980 the primary school was upgraded into a Higher Secondary School. When compared to past, the interest shown by the people for education was a bit higher. Almost all the people around this area are living a life below poverty line for pretty long years

At present 200 SC students and 25 ST students (male and female) are studying in this school. Little Flower Orphanage run by Little Flower Social Service Society helps the children in many ways for their education through funds from donors, well wishers and philanthropists through scholarships and financial assistance from donor agencies. School uniform and note books are provided to them. All type of awareness and guidance are given to that Children by the Brothers

AKAS – Asha Kiran Action Society:

Asha Kiran Action Society, Dhani, Madhya Pradesh has been implementing programmes for the Integrated socio economic and the political development of Tribal Women and children in 25 villages of Dhani of Tharampuri District, Madhya Pradesh.

The organization focuses its attention on tribal women empowerment by initially self help groups. Bro. Leo Prabhakar is monitoring the society as for key access. The surrounded 25 villages at Tharampuri district are adopted by this organization and get functioned with self help groups among tribals. These groups are linked with the bank Nimadi for their financing transactions and networking. They get business loans from the bank with the signatory of the group leaders.

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174 Ibid.
175 Ibid.
176 Ibid., p. 155.
177 Ibid.
As for 2011 concern, there are 46 self help groups are in rule under this organization. Basic Health Tips, AIDS awareness program, Federation Meet and Seminar, Non formal vocational training, Two wheeler mechanism courses, Automobile courses, Driving & trades, Tailoring and Embroidery Training are provided by the resource persons through periodical years\textsuperscript{178}.

**Regional Kolping Organization:**

It was in the year 2004, the Kolping Movement was founded in the Palayamkottai Diocese when Bishop Dr. Ambrose was the Commissary of the Institute of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, Palayamkottai. From its very inception, the movement started growing and now it has 42 Kolping Groups with member strength of 711 women. The programs and activities of the Kolping groups are many in number and self sufficiency and empowerment are achieved through all these years\textsuperscript{179}.

The executive committee consisting 5 members that was formed in the year 2008 takes the activities and programs to the forefront along with social undertakings, group activities etc., The members are granted with IGP, Housing Loans and are provided with Vocational Training Programs, CIGP loans and Milch Animal programs. The loans are granted periodically and they are settled in installments\textsuperscript{180}.

Entrepreneurship development programme, skill training, entrepreneurship awareness programme, and leadership training are conducted in the villages by dividing the groups into small units. Involvement of the members in community activities is widely seen. The members have come to the forefront and feel the joy of economic and social freedom. They are confident of coming up in life since they seen light at the tunnel end. The intervention of the money leaders in their life and the burden of paying

\textsuperscript{178} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{179} Ibid., pp. 155-156.
\textsuperscript{180} Ibid., p. 156.
huge interest to the loans they borrowed have vanished. The per capita income of the family is escalating gradually\textsuperscript{181}.

Almost all the services implemented for the Women groups in Kolping India-Palayamkottai have met with grand success so far through the guidance and counseling of the Brothers\textsuperscript{182}.

On June 14, 2011, a consumer awareness programme was conducted at Palayamkottai for the Kolping groups. Bro. Benjamine and Bro. Maria Selvam created consumer awareness for the participants. Mr. Prabhakaran, who was a Lawyer elaborately explained about the consumer protection Laws, consumer court proceedings and consumer cases of Tirunelveli District. In this camp the Kolping members of Palayamkottai, Kayathar and Sivagiri were participated\textsuperscript{183}. On June 28, 2011 a workshop was conducted for the development of Small Scale Industries. In that workshop, the Kolping members discussed about marketing and profit gaining. More than 120 members took part in that workshop\textsuperscript{184}.

The National level Kolping India Second Quarter Evaluation Meeting was held on Asa Nivas Social Centre at Nungampakkam, Chennai from July 11th to July 14\textsuperscript{th}, 2011: Members from 29 Dioceses of Andhra, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu were participated. In that meeting they discussed about monitoring and evaluating. It was conducted by Miss. Cladiya Valacara of Germany. Bro. Maria Selvam and the Palayamkottai Kolping Coordinator Mrs. Helen took part in that meeting\textsuperscript{185}.

On July 27, 2011, a Kolping India awareness camp hold at Palayamkottai. 40 Kolping Group members were participated. The National Rural Employment Guarantee

\textsuperscript{181} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{182} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{183} “Athirvalai”, Journal (Tl.), July 2011, p.18.
\textsuperscript{184} Ibid.
schemes and State and Central Government Loan Schemes were discussed in that camp\textsuperscript{186}.

**Angelo Home Rehabilitation:**

The Brothers run Rehabilitation Home for Physically Challenged students. The children of Angelo home continue their schooling and colleges in Ramnad and Muthupetttai. These children are studying from 3\textsuperscript{rd} Standard to XIIth Standard in the Government Sethupatti Higher Secondary School and in the Caussanel College in Muthupetttai. The home has good rapport with the Government officials of the district and they give priority to home. They also have regular contacts with District Social Welfare and Department of rehabilitation for the handicapped. In 2010, Angelo Home received 6 tri-cycles from the Social Welfare Board. Three college going girls have applied for the three wheel motor bikes from the department of Rehabilitation for handicapped. Sick children are taken to the hospital for treatment. The children are given regular checkup and the regular follow up is made to check the health condition of the children\textsuperscript{187}.

**Sneha Jyothi Care and Support Centre and Thozhamai Illam**

Sneha Jyothi is a new initiative that addresses the HIV/AIDS issue in Tirunelveli District by the Sacred Heart Brothers. It is functioning to help the PLHIV (People Living with HIV/AIDS) who are facing stigma and discrimination in the Society. It is their mission towards the prevention of the deadly disease and provides meticulous care, support and treatment to those abandoned lot\textsuperscript{188}.

\textsuperscript{186} Ibid., p.24.
\textsuperscript{187} Ibid., p. 154.
\textsuperscript{188} Ibid., p. 156.
Due to the lack of livelihood opportunities, the rural population generally migrates to cities in search of menial jobs. Majority of the migrants are young people, particularly male and they ironically land up working in unorganized sectors living in pavements. Their new life style compels them to fall prey to social evils and thereby become victims of HIV. Various studies have revealed that migrant population is the most vulnerable to this killer disease due to the fact that they acquire the disease by contact with sex workers, alcohol and drugs use etc., Since the symptoms are dormant for some time they come home and pass the disease to their life partner and also to the communities. Due to unchecked urbanization in some cities, there are sex workers in the city and they spread the agents to employers.\(^\text{189}\)

With a densely populated population of India, Tamil Nadu is the seventh most populous state in India. Between 1995 and 1997 HIV prevalence among pregnant women tripled to around 1.25%. The State Government subsequently setup an AIDS society, which aimed to focus on HIV prevention initiatives. A safe sex campaign was launched, encouraging condom use and attacking stigma and ignorance associated with HIV. Between 1996 and 1998 a survey showed that the number of men reporting high-risk sexual behaviour had decreased.\(^\text{190}\)

In 2007, HIV prevalence among antenatal clinic attendees was 0.25% and HIV prevalence among injecting drug users was 16.8%. HIV prevalence among men who have sex with men and female sex workers was 6.6% and 4.68% respectively.\(^\text{191}\)

Sneha Jyothi * is a new initiative that addresses the HIV and AIDS issue in Tirunelveli District by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. The aim is to promote, strengthen systems and mechanism that foster quality and sustainable health and alternative opportunities

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\(^{189}\) Ibid., p.157.
\(^{190}\) Ibid.
\(^{191}\) Ibid.
* See Plate No. 12
to live a life of dignity and respect. This has been achieved through care and support services, Nutritional support, Medical and treatment care, Skills training and support services through linkages and network, psychological and spiritual guidance and Palliative care and end life counseling 192.

Sneha Jyothi program comprises of a dual approach to address the issue of HIV or AIDS at one level it helps the AIDS infected people, who fall victim to scores of diseases to take control of their life through rehabilitation programmes, at a parallel level it will create an environment that helps people to protect themselves against the dangerous virus through awareness and campaign 193.

Sneha Jyothi had various output activities since June 2010. There are 4 cluster level network has been built up with schools, health centres and community based organizations. 58 self help groups for women involved in rolling of migrants, dalits and tribals have been formed. Formation of federation and Apex body at the district level with 8 women leaders is functioned 194.

The rehabilitation activities such as plate making, paper recycling and cup making are introduced among women. There are 47 medical camps have been organized in 2008. 81 children out of school are identified and enrolled into remedial, formal school for basic primary school education. 126 PL WHAs (People Living with HIV/AIDS) are given care and support by Sneha Jyoth care and support centre at Caussanelpuram from April 2009 195. 4 CLHIV (Children living with HIV) have been assisted with educational support. 31 PLC WHAs are linked with RNTCP for TB treatment. 16 Health and awareness campaigns were organized for village youth and

192 Ibid.
193 Ibid.
194 Ibid., p. 158.
195 Ibid.
school children. Networking has been built with NGO coordination of Tirunelveli District.\footnote{Ibid.} 

The centre is functioned with 8 bed facility and with 2 part time doctors, 2 nurses, 1 health worker, 2 Janitors, cook and a watchman. Networking, lobby and advocacy to promote monitory system for sustainable care to the victims.\footnote{Ibid.} 

Thozhamai Illam* is a new initiative, in line with Sneha Jyothi to address the HIV/AIDS issue specially to address issue of CLHIV in Tirunelveli District. There are cases where both members of the family are infected which leave the children to become orphans. Much more severe is the stigma attached with the problem which makes it more difficult to address the issue. Children are most affected facing dependency, discrimination and exclusion in all spheres of life-family, school, friends and society in large.\footnote{Ibid.} 

AIDS orphans children experience social stigma, discrimination, isolation, shortage of basic needs such as food and clothing, vulnerability, depression, fear, lack of access to education and health care, malnutrition and homelessness. Stigma and discrimination towards HIV and AIDS infected and affected persons including children are the main challenge. Care needs of HIV infected and affected children are also on the increase.\footnote{Ibid.} This reality has prompted the Sacred Heart Brothers to initiate programme to address HIV and AIDS issue. This specific project focuses on three important components namely:

\footnote{* See Plate No. 13.}
Education and vocational training to the infected children -150 infected children are identified in the entire district who need educational opportunity and skills training so that their career opportunity are assured with dignity and respect\textsuperscript{200}.

Care and support service to the most vulnerable population through referral services – this will be done through an institutional set up at the centre as well as network with the health department\textsuperscript{201}. Commonly awareness to address the issue of stigma and discrimination - this will be done through sensitization campaigns, education in schools, health promotion and media intervention\textsuperscript{202}.

The direct beneficiaries of Sneha Jyothi Centre will be PLWHA, with a particular emphasize on orphan children. In the selected villages people living with HIV and AIDS would be a considerable key population for intervention. Among the PLWHA, priority would be given to women living with HIV and AIDS and children living with HIV as they are most vulnerable. While WLHIV are expected to be care givers, they are the ones who are most neglected, stigmatized and discriminated\textsuperscript{203}.

This service recognizes the urgency of addressing the growing needs of children orphans or made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS. The goal is to help these children at adolescents grow and develop into healthy, stable and protective members of the Society\textsuperscript{204}. The Thozhamai Illam is a residential care unit for children. It is offering formal education, vocational skills training to the children who come to this centre. It is the establishing rehabilitation and counseling centre for people living with HIV and

\textsuperscript{200} Ibid., p.159.
\textsuperscript{201} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{202} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{203} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{204} Ibid.
AIDS. It offering professional attention like testing, medical care and follow up services\textsuperscript{205}.

It offering psychological care and teaching coping mechanism for early HIV Positive victims for reintegration into the society and it offering residential care services for severe cases and those who are destitute and promote sustainable community based rehabilitation program. Generally it launches a district level campaign against AIDS\textsuperscript{206}.

In the Sneha Jyothi Care centre, doctors visit twice in a week. Every Monday and Friday they visit from the Government Hospital of Tirunelveli. The Brothers provided nutritious food and treatment to the HIV patients. At present there are 5 patients are there. Sr. Arockia Mary from Sisters of Bethlemites attends the patients with much care. Another one dedicated staff Ms. Gomathi is caring the patient with much patience. In the Thozhamai Illam, now 25 students are there. The Brothers cared the children with much love\textsuperscript{207}.

The Thozhamai Illam centre was constructed with the help of Friends of India, Switzerland. This centre was inaugurated by Madam Pamela Walshobe, President of the Friends of India, Switzerland in the presence of Bro. A. Victordass, the Superior General of Brothers of the Sacred Heart on February 15, 2012 at Caussanelpuram\textsuperscript{208}. Sneha Jyothi physiotherapy centre was inaugurated by Bro.M. Sengole in the presence of Bro.A. Victordass, the Superior General on February 15, 2012. This building was constructed with the help of Sitching Liliane Funds of Netherlands\textsuperscript{209}.

\textsuperscript{205} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{206} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{207} Interview with Sr. Arockia Mary at Caussanelpuram on November 15, 2012.
\textsuperscript{208} Rev.Fr. Antonyraj, The tablet on the building of Sneha Jyothi Care Centre, Caussanelpuram, 15.02.2012
Activities and Seminars of Social Service Centres:

The two days orientation cum workshop on Child Parliament was arranged by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart on 18th & 19th September 2010 at Pondicherry. 28 Brothers from various Social Action centres were given their full participation. It is to get good vibration among the children to know their rights and commitments. The child parliament introduces children to a world of ideas, motivation for education, creating opportunities for reflection, learning and practicing of social values and critical thinking as a part of main stream society. With this idea, two days workshop cum exposure has been organized by the Congregation for the wardens, and incharge of Hostels. Mr. Christopher and Mr. Packiaraj were the resource persons who presented their livelihood experience. The group went for village visit to meet the Model children parliament group210.

The course cum seminar arranged for all the formatters of the Congregational institutions comprise of 16 Brothers. It was held in the month of February for three days as residential programme at Generalate, Palayamkottai. The resource person Rev. Fr. John Britto took the days with the monumental schedule. The main stream of the program was to revisit the core of the formation, which generate the Human formation and psychological formation211.

The review meet on Social Work programme was conducted on July 10th and 11th 2014 at Bangalore. Brothers from various Social Service centres explained their functions and activities. The Brothers from CAFED, BIRDS, BIRDS HEAL, Planet Hope, Little Flower Social Service Society, Angelo Home for Physically Challenged, Ithya Jyothi. Multi purpose center and Arut Chandra Nilayam gave their glance about

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211 Ibid., p. 163.
their organization. The second session was to discuss the capacity building perspectives and skill development of the Congregation were analyzed by Bro. A. Victordass, the Superior General of the Congregation\textsuperscript{212}.

The Second Review Meet held on January 9, 2011 at Birds Research Centre of Bangalore. It was headed and guided by Mr. Christy from Caritas. Bro. A. Victordass addressed the part of introduction. His brief introduction was about to recall the past attainments in Congregational level in all the Service Centres at Bangalore, Gulbarga, Venkatapuram, Caussanelpuram and others\textsuperscript{213}.

The Third Review meet was held at VIDIYAL Centre, Trichy on May 9\textsuperscript{th} & 10\textsuperscript{th} May 2011. Brothers from Social Mission Centres were invited. Seventeen Brothers took participation in that meeting. The first day engaged with the orientation session by Fr. Arimavalavan. In the evening hours, the participants were with the children who boarded at Panbu Cholai Illam which is cared by VIDIYAL. The children were shared their feelings and thought in a mind free of flowing way\textsuperscript{214}.

On July 17, 2011, a support Group Meeting was conducted by ‘Arumbugal Trust’ for the HIV affected at Manur in Tirunelveli District. On behalf of Sneha Jyothi support and Care Centre, Mr. Mahendran and Mrs. Ponnarasi participated. On July 17, 2011, a care giver meeting was conducted at Kulavanigarpuram in Tirunelveli by Peace Trust Organization. The Sneha Jyothi Project Coordinator Mr. Mahendran took part in that meeting. The NGO-Coordinator meeting was hold on 21.07.2011 at Kulavanigarpuram. Bro.A. Maria Selvam and Mr. Mahendran took part in that meeting\textsuperscript{215}.

\textsuperscript{212} Ibid., p. 165.
\textsuperscript{213} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{214} Ibid., p.166
\textsuperscript{215} “Athirvalai” Journal (Tl.), August 2011, p.15.
On June 25th and 26th 2011, a Seminar was conducted at Birds Heal. The first day was orientation programe for the participants. 12 Brothers from various social centres took part in that seminar. The Resource Persons were Fr. Jagadeesh and Mr. Boni from Social Sector Services. Women Empowerment Program, Education, Health based focus on HIV, Natural Resource management, Disabilities Rehabilitation and community based rehabilitation were discussed. The session was good and stuffed with socio moral\textsuperscript{216}.

Workshop cum Training on Right to Information Act was conducted by the Congregation of the Sacred Heart on August 13th and 14th 2011 at Chennai. Lay people and Brothers took part in that meeting. The right to information is defined is Sec. 2(i) as a right to information accessible under the Act which is held by or under the control of any public authority and includes a right to inspection of work, documents, records, taking notes, extracts or certified copies of documents or records, floppies, tapes, video cassettes or in any other electronic mode or through printouts where such information is stored in a computer or in any other device. The participants were fully loaded with the knowledge of Human Rights and its Act in justice very clearly with needed models and descriptions by the resource person\textsuperscript{217}.

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act of 2000 is the primary legal framework for Juvenile in India. JJ Act is considered to be an extremely progressive legislation and Model Rules 2007 have further added to the effectiveness of this welfare legislation. However the implementation is a very serious concern even in the year 2010. The Congregation was fully aware on this chapter and collected livelihood collections and details about the act related to the children\textsuperscript{218}.

\textsuperscript{216} Ibid., p.167.  
\textsuperscript{217} Ibid., p.169.  
\textsuperscript{218} Ibid.
Thus the Brothers performed many valuable services by the word of their founder “Good News to the Poor, and Serve to the Needy in the love of the Sacred Heart” The Charism of the founder permeates the entire life of the Congregation. They followed the footsteps of their founder. The Brothers stand in solidarity with the poor and the oppressed. Their service brings consolation to the afflicted people. They really fulfilled the task of the founder. The Congregation is now grown as a banian tree and their achievements are also developed day by day by their meritorious service.