

DMI MISSION INDIA



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE MISSION DIRECTOR



Dear colleagues/friends,

A world without compassion is a world without love. No matter how rich we are; if we have no compassion towards others, then our lives become empty and meaningless. To give to those in need is its own reward; 'No one has ever become poor by giving' - Anne Frank.

An impactful year has passed and we are beginning a new year ahead. Welcoming the New Year, I wish that all of you be blessed with good health, happiness and success in your endeavours. Firstly, I want to thank you all most sincerely for your incredible generosity in supporting SDMIC over three decades. Your support enables us to continue our invaluable work with the most vulnerable women, children, and communities living in the rural /sub-urban areas, and build sustainable futures for them.

Every woman and child in the world is entitled to the love, care and protection that a family can provide. Our women and children always feel all compassion and love in DMI family. Moreover, they feel empowered holistically by accessing their fundamental rights to education, health, participation, and development.

2023 is very special for DMI Mission in India that supported and reached not only 50,173 women and children but also mobilising 1,687 adolescent girls to form 124 adolescent girls' group for enhancing their self-confidence and empowerment. DMI has also established a strong collaboration with TNSDC to provide various skill development trainings for women across 11 program districts in Tamil Nadu.

Women members were trained in SBM-small business management to choose and run their small businesses successfully with profit. The children were trained in national governance and child rights to cherish their childhood, enhance their knowledge, and continue their education. Our biggest strength remains the trust of women to whom we serve. This trust will fortify our commitment to provide quality socio-development services continuously in 2024.

2024 will be more special for our beneficiaries, as we endeavour to continue our work in line with SDGs and as we aim to enrich them with more knowledge and skills to improve their standard of living and accessing a dignified life.

I extend my deep appreciation to country director and all Indian staff team for their dedication, loyalty and support. I look forward to 2024 being a year of further achievement with productive team work. The continued guidance and support extended to us by the father founder, superior general, and provincials have been extremely helpful and encouraging.

We sincerely thank you all for your incredible generosity and ongoing support to enable underprivileged communities especially women, children, and youth, to become champions of change with the best opportunities for their development.

May you all remain in my prayers!

Sr. Vijili Dali, DMI.

DMI GLOBAL MISSION DIRECTOR

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR

"A society's progress can be measured by the opportunities it provides to its women and children." By Abdul Kalam



I am very happy to write about the mission of DMI Development programmer for the women and children in the States of TN, AP and Bihar in India for the year 2023.

The significance of the programs focused on the empowerment of marginalized women and children, and their communities how they contribute to a change in themselves, their families and the society at large. Our main programs that supported the women is through Capacity Building training for the members and leaders of Self Help Groups and various levels of Federation to address various emerging issues of women and children. Household poverty alleviation through providing various Business skills, Bank Linkages to start the business in order to increase the income of the family to live a good standard of living. Children parliament programs has supported the children to build their leadership qualities by practicing National governance structure. The important events were observed by the women and children, this leads to personal growth, a broader perspective, and the ability to contribute to positive change in society. The network with different ministries to avail the programmer for women is remarkable. DMI is privileged to work for the marginalized and vulnerable communities to enhance their capacity to cope up with the emerging trends and more specially to address the different forms of violence against women and children.

I would like to sincerely thank our founder father for giving us the space to work for this mission and his guidance and support, Sr. Lalitha, the Superior General for her plan to support the sisters and staff to realize the charism of DMI, Provincials for their support to strengthen the mission. My wholehearted thanks to DMI Global Team Mr. Vengatesh, Sr. Viji, and Mr. Eroniimus for their guidance to train the staff and sisters to build the capacity and to plan for the coming years to achieve the results. I express my special thanks to Mr.Susai Micheal, DMI Consultant who have contributed in this mission to strengthen the federation through training and motivation.

My sincere thanks to the line ministries of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship through TN Skill Development Corporation and Directorate of Tribal Welfare for recognizing DMI to reach out to the vulnerable communities to improve their standard of living. Also special thanks for ICICI Bank for their support to SHGs Bank Partnership to get loan to start the Small Business by the SHGs in TN.

Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort. With the support of Sr. Vincent Teresa, the Country Program Manager, and the implementing team DCOs and her team, staff, Federation Leaders we have achieved the goals of the mission.

Once again, Congratulations on this well-earned accomplishment. May our journey continue to be filled with success, fulfilment and realization of the charism of DMI.

May God bless you all.

**Sr. Jeny Maila, DMI
COUNTRY DIRECTOR**

INTRODUCTION

SDMIC is a non-profit and nongovernmental development organization, a religious body committed to human values run by catholic nuns (DMI) to serve the poor and the underprivileged unconditionally. It was founded by Rev. Fr. J. E. Arul Raj in 1984, India. DMI launched its first social development mission in 1984 at Keechalam a remote village in the State of Tamil Nadu. DMI is registered under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act in the year 1985 since then all our activities were covered under this DMI society. Its development programs were eventually extended to other States: Andhra Pradesh and Bihar.

DMI's programs are currently covering 683 villages, 216 panchayats, 28 wards, and 24 blocks in 11 program districts in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar states in India. In 2023, DMI programs supported over 51,800 women, children and young girls of the poor and the marginalized in India. In this development mission, 43 staff (sisters and lay persons) have committed and contributed their services with passion.

The organization creates a platform and an understanding of this marginalized and voiceless section of society. Taking impetus from its previous work DMI this year articulated and highlighted issues of reducing household poverty, violence against women, health issues, and child protection issues.

This annual report portrays the empowerment of women through Small Business Management (SBM), capacity building, access to credit linkages, skill training, and to safeguarding their rights through awareness on 16 days of activism. Our women have access to equal opportunities in economic, cultural, social, and political spheres of life and realize their full potential. We have highlighted child protection, leadership skills, and child development activities that help children ensure a dignified and decent life for women and children in society.

VISION

A world where the poor live with dignity and empowered towards self-reliant to continue their development.

MISSION

To enable underprivileged communities exclusively women, children and youth providing opportunities for their education, development and they become champions of change.

CORE VALUES

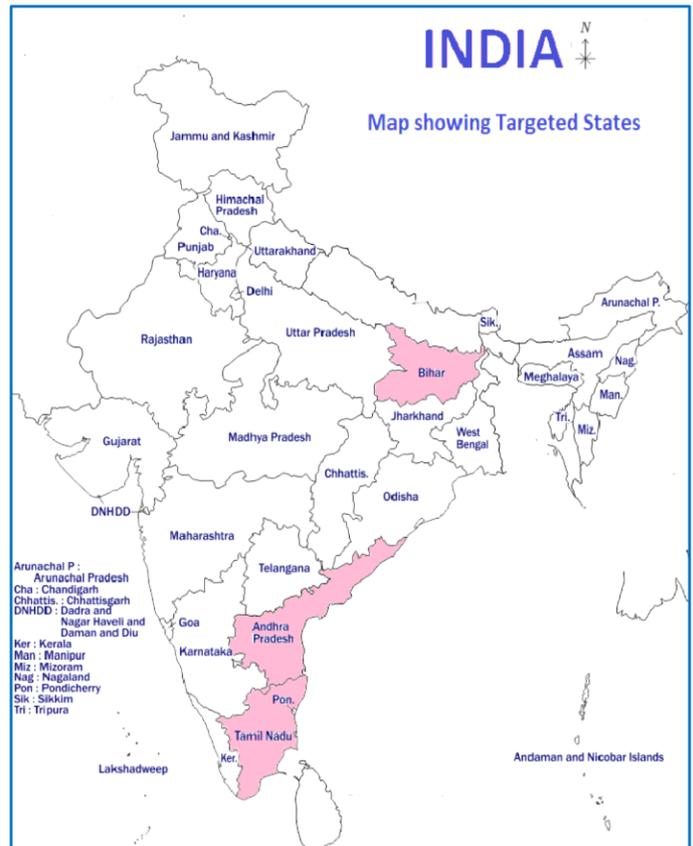
Accountability, Justice, Integrity, Dignity and Collaboration

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

Tamil Nadu is a state in southern India. Its capital and largest city is Chennai. Tamil Nadu lies in the southernmost part of the Indian subcontinent and is bordered by the union territory of Puducherry and the South Indian states of Kerala, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh. The state shares a maritime border with the nation of Sri Lanka. The region was ruled by several empires, including the three great empires – Chera, Chola and Pandyan empires, which shape the region's cuisine, culture, and architecture. The state is home to a number of historic buildings, multi-religious pilgrimage sites, hill stations and three World Heritage sites. Tamil Nadu is the tenth largest Indian state by area and the sixth largest by population.

The economy of Tamil Nadu is the second-largest state economy in India. It ranks 11th among all Indian states in human development index. Tamil Nadu is the most urbanised state in India, and one of the most industrialised states; the manufacturing sector accounts for more than one-third of the state's GDP. Its official language is Tamil, which is one of the longest-surviving classical languages in the world.

Andhra Pradesh is one of the south Indian states and is positioned in the coastal area towards the south eastern part of India. Historically known as the “Rice Bowl of India”, this state has got a number of places of visit that are of historical importance. The state is sprawled in an area of approximately 2, 76, 754 sq kms. Location of this state lies between 77° and 84° 40' North latitude and 12° 41' and 22° East longitude. This state shares boundary with Orissa and Madhya Pradesh in north, in east with Bay of Bengal, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to its south and in west, Maharashtra flanks the border. For smooth administration of this state, it has been divided into twenty-three districts. There are three prominent regions as per geographical aspects, and these are Telangana, Kosta or Coastal Andhra and Rayalseema. Several rivers flow through Andhra Pradesh, providing water for irrigation and contributing to the state's agricultural productivity.



The major rivers include the Godavari, Krishna, Pennar, and Tungabhadra. Its official language is Telugu.

Bihar is located in the eastern region of India. It is the third-largest state by population and twelfth-largest by territory, with an area of 94,163 sq km. It is a land-locked state having boundaries with three Indian states namely Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and West Bengal. Bihar is also the world's fourth-most populous sub-national entity. Bihar Geography consists of important rivers, climate, soil, area of land, etc. Bihar plain is divided into two unequal halves (North Bihar and South Bihar) by the river Ganges which flows through the middle from west to east. Bihar's land has an average elevation above sea level of 173 feet. Bihar is located in the eastern region of India, between latitudes 24°20'10"N and 27°31'15"N and longitudes 83°19'50"E and 88°17'40"E. Maithili, Bhojpuri and Magadhi are all languages spoken in Bihar. Hindi is also spoken in Bihar.

COUNTRY PROGRAMME FACT SHEET

| S. No | Particulars | Status as of December, 2022 | Status as of December, 2023 |
|----------|--|---|---|
| A | Geographic Coverage | | |
| 1 | Number of program states | 3 | 3 |
| 2 | Number of program districts | 11 | 11 |
| 3 | Number of program Block & Ward | 24 Blocks & 6 Zones | 24 Blocks & 6 Zones |
| 4 | Number of program Panchayat & Ward | 254 Panchayats & 28 Wards | 216 Panchayats & 28 Wards |
| 5 | Number of program Villages | 862 | 683 |
| B | Participant coverage | | |
| 6 | Members of Women SHG & federation | 31,008 | 34,251 |
| 7 | Participants in Child Parliaments | 12,098 | 15,922 |
| 8 | Members of Adolescent girl groups | 0 | 1,687 |
| 9 | SHG members trained on 'Improved Agriculture production and marketing skills' | 398 | 575 |
| 10 | SHG members trained on Small business Management (SBM) | 1,695 | 1,604 |
| C | Key program results | | |
| 1 | Number of SHGs formed by Federation | 132 | 143 |
| 2 | Number of trained SHG members involved in prevention of violence against women and children | 11,016 | 13,652 |
| 3 | Number of members availed bank loan and started small-business with support of DMI | 7290 members availed 22 Crores bank loan | 8664 members availed 49 Crores bank loan |
| 4 | Number of SBM trained members who started/expanded their business | 1285 | 2547 |
| 5 | Number of children trained on Country Governance structure, functions and leadership development | 722 | 765 |
| 6 | Number of children trained to recognize and protect themselves from Child abuse | 4045 | 5090 |
| 7 | Number of trained youth facilitated for employment in companies | 0 | 30 |

PROGRAM STRATEGIES, ACTIVITIES AND IMPACTS

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

SDMIC empowers women through women SHGs and federation platforms....,

- Formed 143 self-help groups with women members covering 10 districts.
- Trained 2015 SHG members on SHG concept- savings, credit linkages and importance of record maintenance
- Trained over 13,652 SHG members in the areas of social development and leadership skills (leadership; right based approach, women rights, violence against women, book Keeping, EDP, A&R and Income generation).

Strengthening Federation:

- 3,199 members joined in DMI federation and 8,661 members renewed their membership.
- Facilitated federation leaders to conduct regular meetings for members at various levels such as PLF, BLF & DLF in their respective locations. Over 2000 members participated in the federations meetings during 2023.
- Women members implemented annual plan and addressed their needs and social issues such as – Sexual harassment, removal of TASMALC, water facilities etc.
- Federation leaders supported 3,556 marginalized and oppressed women to avail government schemes such as OAP, Widow pension, Aadhar ID, marriage scheme, maternity scheme & destitute women to get Jeevanamsam.
- Federation leaders supported Balwadis with utensils to prepare nutritious food for the children.
- Federations leaders paid education fee and study materials for school going children.
- 217 children supported by DMI social security scheme to continue their higher secondary education and the total amount is given out total Rs.4,34,000/-
- Federation members organized rally and protested against injustice for Manipur people at National Level. 2200 women showed their solidarity by raising their voice for peace promotion.
- Motivated women to participate in the Grama Sabha meetings and More than 10,000 women participated addressed their community issues on Government schemes, basic needs, and drinking water and Road facilities.

Income Generation:

SBM Training:

- 1,048 Members trained on Business management, marketing strategy, pricing and costing to choose right trade, start and expand their small business.

Skill Training:

- Trained 1,112 urban & rural women in various trainings such as Agriculture, Vermi-Compost, Tailoring, Aari-work, Bee keeping, candle making, Jewels making, Beautician, Mushroom cultivation, animal husbandry and Computer. Those trainings supported to earn additional income and cover the basic needs of the family members.
- Facilitated 56 members to get job in various companies.
- Launched a short term skill development training program-“Inline Checker” with employable opportunities for 30 women through TNSDC, Chennai, Tamil Nadu in Aug-2023 at DMI Resource Centre, Poonamallee.

Economic Activities through credit linkages:

- Facilitated 722 groups to avail bank loan of Rs.49, 30,51,800 to start various business and address their family needs.
- 715 members newly started and expanded their business such as chocolate making, petty shop, tailoring, tiffin center, fruit stall, textiles, weaving, vegetable selling and milk animal etc.
- Provided 98 tailoring machine to the individuals to initiate tailoring trade and increase the household income

CHILD DEVELOPMENT:

Formation of Children parliament/Adolescent Girls Groups:

- 43 children parliament promoted with 765 members
- Trained 765 members of children parliament in national governance structures, functions and leadership development
- Conducted children camps, life skill programs, child rights and value education for 8,500 children
- Formed 124 adolescent girls' groups with 1,687 adolescent girls in 11 districts.

Awareness program for children:

- 5,090 children sensitized on child abuse, good touch and bad touch, merits and demerits of cell phone usage and drug addiction through awareness seminars.

COMMUNITY HEALTH:

Health Camps:

DMIs promoted its desire of “Health for all and health is our right” across all the program districts in Tamil Nadu, Andhra and Bihar states.

- Organized various medical camps focusing on ENT, cervical and breast cancer, general medical checkup, Malaria and elephantiasis disease to ensure good health of the marginalized people.
- 3,947 members participated and benefited from the medical camps.

Awareness Program:

- Created awareness and sensitized 6,465 women on environmental protection, demerits of plastic usage, bio degradable, solid and waste management, breast feeding, and cancer & dengue.



CAPACITY BUILDING TO DMI DEVELOPMENT TEAM:

- DMI Global Mission organized 3 days training on Leadership for 35 DCOs, BCOs and CCOs from 11 districts at Aathur. Mr. Vengatesh, Program Director for DMI Global Mission was a resource person.
- DCOs, BCOs, CCOs participated and increased their knowledge on the program clarity and methodology to set results based activities.
- Organized two days' capacity building training for 50 members of DMI who are involved in the Development mission. The theme of the training was DMI Charism and Development Mission and the resource persons were Mr. Stephen from (IRCDS) and Mr. Micheal, DMI Consultant.
- Conducted SLF training for 79 women members at Chennai & Nagapattinam.
- Country team trained 27 mentors from 6 districts of South Region in Small Business Management in July 2023.
- Enhanced 52 sisters and staffs on federation bylaws in July and November-2023 to function all the level of federations effectively.
- Sr. Jeny Maila the country director trained sisters and staff of Thiruvallur dist., on the mission development and impact stories at Poonamallee.

Sr. Jeny Maila the country director and Sr. Vincent Treasa the program manager monitored and strengthened development programs, and participated in DLF, ALF, SHG meetings in Kancheepurem, Thiruvallur, Chennai, Dindigul and Salem districts.



IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

- 143 SHGs updated and maintained group records and registers.
- 575 women improved agriculture production and marketing skills.
- 2,547 trained women in SBM initiated/expanded various micro-businesses.
- 22 women members were successfully employed in the companies after the inline checker training.
- Women members increased their household income and improved their standard of life.
- 8,664 members availed 49 crores of bank loan and started small-business with support of DMI.
- 9,552 trained SHG members engaged in prevention of violence against women and children.
- Federation leaders developed the skill of planning, implementation and started addressing social issues in the communities.
- Federation members decided not to use plastic cover/bags.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

- 765 children enhanced their self-confidence and knowledge on child rights.
- 5,090 children prevented from child abuse and improved their positive behavior.
- 217 children supported with Rs.4,34,000/- through DMI social security scheme to continue their higher secondary education and pursue their dreams.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

- 3,947 community members (women and children) aware and prevented from various communicable and non-communicable diseases.
- 4,465 women members planted trees in the communities and schools.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR DMI TEAM

- Sisters developed planning and implementation skills.
- Sisters and staff improved their documentation skills.



PROGRAM PHOTOS



SHG MEETING



GRAMASABHA MEETING



DISTRIBUTION OF SEWING MACHINE



ENTREPRENUERSHIP TRAINING



LEADERSHIP TRAINING



AARI WORKTRAINING



CHILDREN PARLIAMENT MEETING



AWARENESS PROGRAM ON CHILD ABUSE



CHILD LINE

STORIES OF CHANGE

A story of Mrs. Dhana Lakshmi- Standing up to injustice, the path of freedom with responsibility



Dhana Lakshmi, who is living in Nanganallur is a member of Gnana Sakthi SHG. She has one elder brother and one sister (Maheshwari) who is also a leader of the SHG group. She married and settled in Koyilambakkam with her husband. When she got married, her family gave her 25 kg of Gold as dowry and other items for the house as part of Indian culture. Just after 3 months, she conceived, which was not happy news for her husband and his family. Her husband gave her some medicine to abort the child. That was the moment, she realized the nature and background of her husband. Her husband was already married and had two children as well.

From that time onwards, they quarreled, and her husband ill-treated her to chase her away from the home. During the time of Corona, her mother-in-law did not give her food properly to eat. When the mother of Dhana Lakshmi heard this, she rushed to the house, picked up a quarrel, and brought her daughter home.

Women SHG noticed this incident and the group members supported her to learn computer with employment opportunity. She started managing her life with a small income. After some days, she contacted her husband to live with him but he did not accept her and said that he could not live with her anymore and he wanted her to apply for divorce.



The women's group filed a complaint and took this issue to the Women's Commission. They moved this case to Chengleput Court and after 5 hearings she got 15 lakh Rupees from her husband's family and her husband himself gave a divorce.

Now, with the support of SHG, she is employed with a regular income feels proud of being a woman, and enjoys freedom with responsibility. She is happy about her life and receives enormous support from her family members in society.

A story of Master Varshan- Overcoming child Labor and accessing the right to Education

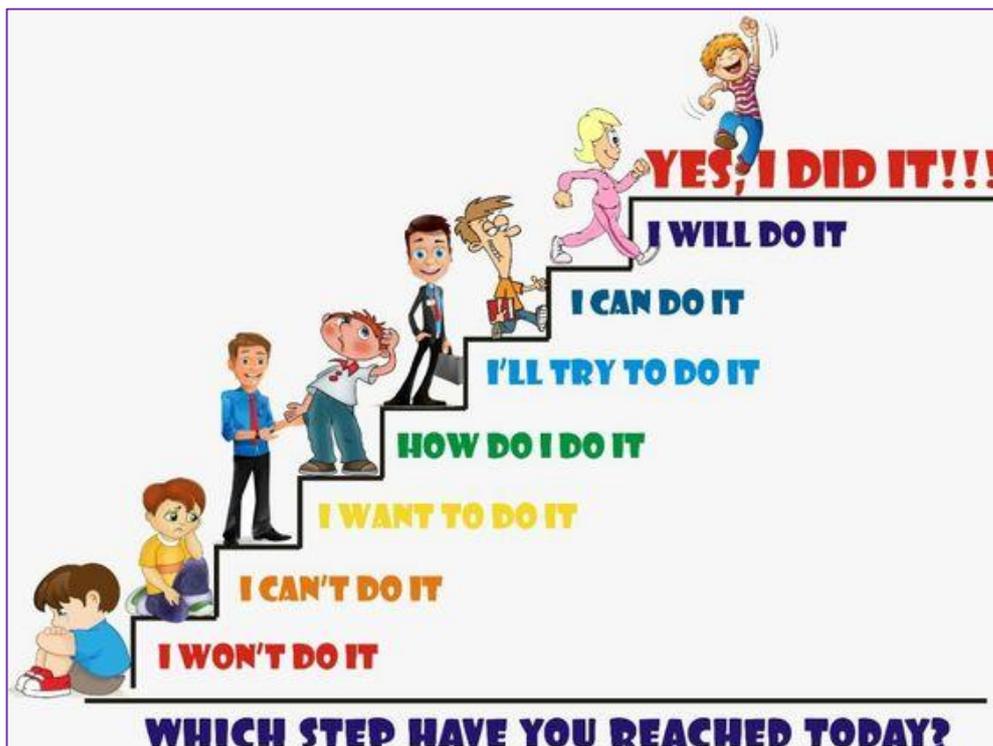


Master Varshan is a 15-year-old boy who was studying in a government school and discontinued his studies in 10th standard due to poverty, unemployment of his parents, etc. His father asked him to go to work and did not want him to continue his studies. So, he has started supporting his parents through casual labor and daily wages at Nagapattinam.

His father is a drunkard and did not go for any work. His mother is also earning daily wages to meet the basic family needs. He has a young sister who is continuing her studies in 8th STD. To support her, he looked for a job opportunity and got a job in one of the flower-selling shops to earn an income of Rs 300. In this way, he started supporting her parents and his sister to continue her studies and became a child laborer. And his aspiration for higher education has been shuttered merely as dreams.

Once, Mrs. Kavitha, the DLF leader came across this boy's life. Hearing of his pathetic situation, and seeing the family condition, she started supporting and encouraging him to attend classes. She paid Rs. 2000 to purchase educational supplies and continue his schooling.

Now, he is happily going to school and continuing his studies. The DLF leader also supported his mother in getting a job in one of the supermarkets with a decent income in Nagapattinam. She started her own tailoring shop through the support of SHG. They came to know about the DMI programs in Nagapattinam. They are very happy and thankful to the DMI and DLF leader for their support and encouragement to come up in life.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Pongal Celebration

Celebrated Pongal in all the districts and conducted games and distributed prizes for the winners.



‘MANIMEHALAI’ Award to SHG

Collector Arun Thampu Raj gave away “Manimekalai Awards for outstanding performance of women self-help groups” for the year for 2022-23 and a cheque of Rs. 25,000 to representative Mrs.M.Chitra, of Angalamman Women SHG from Nagoor on 25th, April 2023, at Collectorate office in Nagapattinum.



International Women’s Day Celebration-

Observed the international women’s day with a theme of “Through women leadership we see social change” covering 11 districts in 3 states in India. Over 8,000 women mobilized from 11 districts in TN, AP and Bihar states in India. this celebration helped women members to understand the importance of being a woman and a part of the DMI Federation access their rights and bring social change in the society. Significantly the guests who have graced the occasion and motivated every woman to strive their collective action to bring change starting from the families, and communities.



Celebration of Children’s Day-

Celebrated children’s day on the theme “Towards the greater Quality of Children’s Life” covering all program districts. 2,863 children participated, demonstrated their talents and they have realized the importance of girls’ education to promote gender equality.



Celebration of National Girl Child Day

National Girl Child Day observed in all the districts. The purpose of National Female Child Day is to draw attention to the discrimination and unfairness that girl children experience. Sisters gave awareness to promote the education, rights, health, and nutrition of a girl child.



16 days of Activism: To end Violence against Women

Created awareness on violence against women for community members in all the Districts of TN, AP and Bihar states in November 2023. 1600 women participated and learned the different forms of violence to protect girls and women from all forms of abuse, exploitation and violence. The invited guests sensitised women on the prevention of women from abuse in their daily life.

Entrepreneur Awareness Training Program

Loyola Institute of technology collaboration with MSME organized the EAP Programme for 109 women members at Mount. The chief guest was Mr. Leela Krishnan, Mrs.Sujatha principal, DMI Representatives from DFT and Development Mission, Sr. Arul Seeli Provincial. Mrs.Sumathi explained about the benefits of millets and how to cook and eat to have healthy life. Totally 109 women participated and gain the knowledge. They have inspired the women to register their business to MSME.



COUNTRY ANNUAL PLAN - 2024

A. Program & Financial Plan

| Program Area/Plan details | No of villages/Panchayats – 2023 | No. of villages /Panchayat-2024 | No. of direct participants | Annual Projected budget (IRS) | Funds raised for this program | Balance funds to be raised for this program |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Women Empowerment program | Panchayat:216 Village: 683 Block:24 Ward:20 District -11 | Panchayat:216 Village: 683 Block:24 Zone: 6 Ward:28 District -13 | 38,790 | 9,089,800 | 0 | 10,000,000 |
| Children Program | | | 17,934 | 2,00,000 | 0 | 2,00,000 |
| Youth Program (Adolescent Girls) | | | 8,000 | 1,00,000 | 0 | 2,00,000 |
| Livelihood program (Tribal Project) | | | 200 | Waiting to be approved | 0 | 39,00,000 |
| Vocational Skill Training | | | 400 | 2,500,000 | 0 | 2,500,000 |

B. Staffing Plan

| Category of staff/Numbers in each category | No. of Senior Leadership staff (CD/DCD/Senior Manager and others) | No. of Middle-level staff (Unit/office/program/Project Manager, Coordinator) | No. of Entry-level staff (Officer/Assistant and other support staff) |
|--|---|--|---|
| DMI members | CD - 1 Program Manager - 1 | District Coordinators - 11 Block Coordinators – 15 | Cluster Coordinators – 17 |
| In-country staff | | Skill Trainer -- 1 | Cluster Coordinators - 47 Business promoters – 2 Office staff - 2 Driver - 1 |
| Consultant (part-time) | Training & program designer -1 | | |

C. Revenue Generation Plan

| S.No | Sources of revenue generation | Annual Surplus amount that will generated |
|------|-------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Vocational School | \$ 4000 |



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