

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

SRI RAMAKRISHNA SEVA SAMITHI

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GOLDEN JUBILEE 1970 TO 2020

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Members of the Managing committee of the Samithi:

1. Prof. Pannala Syamasundara Murthy, President
2. Sri K.S.S. Prasad, Vice-president
3. Sri Amirapu Natarajan, Secretary
4. Dr. Nemmani Ramagopal, Treasurer
5. Sri Bethalam Srinivasa Raju, Joint-secretary
6. Prof. (Smt.) Chandaluri Chiranjeevi, Member
7. Sri Amirapu Naresh, Member
8. Smt. Lavu Anuradha, Member
9. Sri Polimera Santosh Kumar, Member

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Facade of the Golden Jubilee Vivekananda Bhavan.



Inside the Vivekananda Bhavan ready for inauguration.

SRI RAMAKRISHNA SEVA SAMITHI, BAPATLA-522101

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‘AtmanO mOkshArtham - jagaddhitAyacha’ - ‘For the liberation of oneself and for the benefit of all!’ - Our organization founded in the year 1970 as a registered society with the inspiration of monks of the Ramakrishna Order, continues to work, upholding the twin ideals given by Swami Vivekananda.

The year 2020 is our Golden Jubilee year.

We present hereunder the various activities under-taken on several fronts during the financial year 2019-2020 : 1. Golden Jubilee Vivekananda Bhavan; 2. Children’s activities; 3. Youth Activities; 4. Narayana Seva; 5. Annual Competitions; 6. Publication of Books, 7. Spiritual activities, 8. Regular lectures; 9. COVID-19 Lockdown and Relief; 10. Acknowledgements.

1. GOLDEN JUBILEE VIVEKANANDA BHAVAN (A NEW BUILDING FOR YOUTH ACTIVITIES)

The *Golden Jubilee Vivekananda Bhavan* is inaugurated on 1st January 2020. This new building, intended for advancing the youth activities of the samithi, is constructed at a cost



of Rs. 97,89,076/- and is completed in Dec., 2019.

Need of the Building: It would fulfill the long standing need of the samithi for extra space for conducting youth activities, classes, meetings and other cultural and sports events. The foundation stone for the building was laid on 24 July, 2016 by Rev. Swami Divyanandaji Maharaj. The actual work started on 12 March, 2018. The youth members of the samithi did a lot of voluntary work for the construction saving a substantial amount of money.

Facilities: The building has a built-up area of 3500 sq.ft with an auditorium of 1975 sq.ft. It consists of two large halls (20’x35’) and an auditorium (35’W x 50’L x 20’H) for conducting various programmes and meetings, which was christened *Sri BSR Anjaneyulu Auditorium*. A grand image of Swami Vivekananda was made in fibreglass and affixed to the facade of the building. The hall in the ground floor is for yoga therapy and training and the one in the first floor is for computer coaching and soft skills. The Yoga therapy room was furnished with several ‘props’ intended for therapy of various body ailments. Most of these props are fabricated by the youth members of the samithi. The computers were transferred from the



Dhyanamandiram of the samithi to the Bhavan. The Gymnasium was stocked with dumbbells and weights and various items, like benches, fabricated by the youth members of the samithi.



Inauguration: A grand function for inauguration of the building was organized on the Kalpataru Day, 1 Jan 2020 as per the advise of Most Rev. Swami Divyanandaji Maharaj, (Senior Trustee, Ramakrishna Mission and Secretary, Sarada Peeth, Belur Math, Kolkata). Rev. Swamiji graced the occasion and inaugurated the building. Rev. Swami Atmavidanandaji Maharaj, Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Visakhapatnam and Rev. Swami Achintyanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Mission, Kadapa graced the occasion. Sri C. Sridhar, IAS, Dy. Director (Senior), LBSNAA, Mussorie, Uttarakhand was the chief guest and the president of our samithi Prof. Pannala Syamasundara Murthy presided over the programmes.



Procession: On the morning of 1 Jan, 2020, at 8 AM, a procession was taken out from Samithi campus to the Vivekananda Bhavan. The pictures of the holy trio





were carried by the children of Balavihar. With the children sprinkling ganges water and flowers and chanting Bhagawad Gita, the three Swamis led the procession. All the devotees joined with singing bhajan. On reaching the new building, the image of Swamiji and the plaques were inaugurated and the images of holy trio were placed in the BSR Anjaneyulu Auditorium. The pictures of the Holy trio are placed in all the rooms and the Swamiji placed flowers and lighted lamps and incense. Sri Ramakrishna Puja and Homa were conducted on the dias at 9 AM.

Public Meeting: The three swamis and chief guest Sri C. Sridhar IAS and Prof Pannala Syamasundara Murthy were seated on the dias. Sri Murthy garu presided. Joint Secretary Sri B. Srinivasa Raju conducted the proceedings and Treasurer Prof. Nemmani Ramagopal presented a vote of thanks.



Felicitations: The donors were felicitated with books and calenders. The workers and labourers were felicitated specially by the Swamijis with clothes and calenders. Chief mason Sri P.V.Subbarao, supervisor Sri K.V.Subrahmanyam, Sk Jani were felicitated with shawls. The masons, carpenters, electricians, plumbers and labourers - most of them are products of the Samithi Balavihar.



Talent Show: Along with Secretary's report on the Bhavan, the invitees spoke. Interspersing the speeches, the balavihar children gave a show of talent like mridangam, singing, Yoga, Mallakhamb, Rope-Mallakhamb, Rock climbing, Rope-climbing, Karate, Karrasamu etc. The meeting concluded with a sumptuous lunch.



Attendees: Many of the members of the Samithi and several devotees long associated with samithi, attended the function. Sri M. Dasaratha Maharaju, Prof. Ansavarapu Srikantha phani (Canada), Sri Donthu Narasimharao (Bengaluru), Sri Machiraju Ramasarma (Amalapuram), Sri Uddandam Guruprasad (Bengaluru), Sri Marri Vamsikrishna (Switzerland), Sri Bodhanam Venkat Rao (Baroda), Smt. Chillara Bhavani Devi (Hyderabad), Sri Devulapalli Subrahmanyam (Huzurnagar), Sri Y.Ramakrishna Rao, Sri Trivikrama Rao (Vijayawada), Smt. Shaila chandra (Chennai), Smt. N. Jyotsna (Tanuku), and Sri Mohana Rao (Vijayawada) among several others. The parents of Balavihar children, and the youth members of the samithi from several places, attended in a large number.



Planning the Inauguration function: The members, youth and Balavihar conducted several meetings in the run up to the inauguration and minutely planned all the events. All



the members were given various duties to which they attended whole-heartedly and diligently. The youth and Balavihar spruced up both the campuses and beautifully decorated them with hand-made paper flowers, garlands and mango-leaves - all made

in-house. All arrangements of lunch including the menu and serving are planned minutely and executed to perfection. The transport of Swamis from airports etc and guest house arrangements were made.

Making of the base-relief of Swami Vivekananda: Chi. Arun Vikas and Chi. Koti John Augustine prepared this 8 foot, beautiful, life-like image.



2. CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

The daily activity of children - christened 'BALA VIHAR' by our founder Sri BSR Anjaneyulu garu - continued as a very important activity of the Samithi. About 60 children from the nearby locality, irrespective of caste and religion, attend Samithi regularly and actively involve in all kinds of activities. An amount of 3,20,912.41 was spent on this programme during the financial year. Among other activities, the children were taken to excursion to Kondaveedu Fort (21/09/2019).



Play equipment: This year, an amount of Rs.1,79,555/- was spent on promotion of sports. The amount was utilized for purchasing and fabricating various items of sports like Mallakhamb, weight-training, rock climbing etc.



Moral Classes and Informal coaching: Moral classes were conducted for the children which include narration of moral stories from Indian culture, life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda by using multimedia. The samithi publication "Pushpanjali" is extensively used for this purpose. 'Academic assistance' was given to the children by the volunteers of the samithi.

Supplementary Food: Every evening the children were provided with supplementary food. A common kitchen run by the volunteers is being maintained in the Samithi. Everyday 5 kgs of food was served in the evening which was cooked in samithi along with fruits, juices, milk, snacks and curd.

Yoga Classes: Every evening, yoga classes for the children were conducted by Sri P. Santosh Kumar, a qualified yoga trainer and a member of the management committee of our samithi. Volunteers of the Samithi under his leadership attended various schools and colleges and conducted free yoga classes.

Mallakhamb: Mr. P. Santosh Kumar visited Mumbai to get training in Mallakhamb - a traditional Indian sport. We purchased a mallakhamb along with crash mats (30 May, 2019.) We also purchased rope mallakhamb which were suitably arranged in the BSR



auditorium. The mallakhamb also can be conveniently practiced there. (Total cost of Rs.90,000/-)

Mridangam Classes: Four boys of balavihar are being trained in playing Mridangam. The classes are held for three days in a week. The classes are free. The teacher is being paid an honorarium by the samithi. A renowned Mridangam artist from Vijayawada, Sri Kamaraju V. Kishore garu is conducting classes. Chi. Koti John Augustine prepared the bodies of 4 mridangams out of fibreglass. These are also being used by the children.



Carnatic Classical Music Classes: Six children of balavihar are being trained in Carnatic classical music. The classes are held for three days in a week (Thursday, Friday and Saturday). These classes too are free. The music teacher, Smt. J. Ramadevi, is being paid an honorarium by the samithi.

Hindi Examination: The children of Balavihar were encouraged to attend the Dakshina Bharata Hindi Prachara Sabha examinations. An amount of Rs.3000 was spent on books, fees and transport and 12 students were sent for this examination.

Karate Classes: Chi. Gopi, a black-belt trainer, who himself was a balavihar member, was teaching Karate to six children of balavihar. A few college students of samithi were practising Karra Samu (stick fighting).

School Uniforms, Karate and Yoga Dresses: Eight children of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Suryalanka, Bapatla of Balavihar were provided with school uniforms. The children were given 20 Yoga mats on Apr 4, 2019. On Apr 28, Karate dresses were given to six children. Yoga dresses were provided to 40 children.

Summer Camp: A summer personality development camp was conducted from May 1 to May 10, 2019. Twenty students from local schools participated. Message of Vivekananda, Yoga, Public speaking, story telling and group discussion were the main items of discussion. The students were given away participation certificates on 10 May.



3. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Vivekananda Run: “Strength is life and weakness is death” said Swami Vivekananda. Samithi conducted a programme of 2 km, 5 km and 8 km “runs” for the public of Bapatla. More than 200 youth and elders participated in the programme conducted on 08 December, 2019. The competition was organized for different age groups of men and women



seperately and suitable mementoes and prizes were given away. The run was flagged off by Prof. Damodar Naidu, Principal, Bapatla Engg College and Sri Khadar Vali (85), a yogaguru, sportsman and gymnast of local repute. He also gave away the prizes and mementoes.

International Yoga Day June 21, 2019: International Yoga day was conducted in the samithi premises and in various schools and colleges around the town. Twenty five colleges and schools were covered by 8 teams of volunteers of the samithi who gave discourses on the importance of yoga asanas, demonstrated various yoga poses and conducted a short training programme for the students.

Gymnasium: Swami Vivekananda laid much stress on physical culture. A gymnasium was established in the samithi, which is presently transferred to Vivekananda Bhavan. This activity was organized by Sri P. Santhosh Kumar.



Study Circle: Study circle was conducted regularly. Teachings of Swami Vivekananda were the topic of discussion along with

learning English and general knowledge, through reading, discussing, and watching documentaries on the computer. The youth were encouraged to practice yogasanas. Sri A. Natarajan, Secretary and Sri N. Ramagopal, Treasurer, were conducting a special study circle by online conference from 8 to 9 pm on every Sunday. Around 10 youth members from across the globe were attending this meeting. Bhagawad Gita in the light of Swami Vivekananda was the main topic of discussion.

Financial Aid/Scholarships: In the financial year an amount of Rs.1,80,928/- was disbursed as scholarship to several needy children from the Balavihar. The beneficiaries were Koti John Augustine (studying BFA, JN University of Architecture and Fine Arts, Hyderabad), M. Venkateswaramma (M.Sc.), P. Durga Rani (Nursing), I. Durga Bhavani (Nursing), L. Kaarunya (9th class), A. Venkateswarlu Reddy (9th class), L.Naimisha (6th class), A. Kalpana (7th Class), Koti Eswar (8th class), P. Manoj Ramakrishna (6th class), P. Vinod Ramakrishna (5th class) and Sk. Mehboob Basha (9th class).

Earn while you learn: Swami Vivekananda exhorted the youth of India to stand on their own feet. Samithi is making efforts to impart various skills to the youth attending the Samithi. The youth were also encouraged to learn skills by plumbing, electric wiring, gardening, tailoring, packing books and other maintenance works in the samithi on a voluntary basis. The youth members fixed steel mosquito nets for the annexe building in the main campus in Apr, 2019.



Book-stalls: Book-stalls to spread the life-giving message of Swami Vivekananda by selling the low-priced books of Ramakrishna Math and the Samithi were conducted by the youth members. A nominal incentive was paid to the volunteers. Ramakrishna Math, Hyderabad supplied a van for the purpose of displaying the books and a pictorial exhibition on the life and message of Swami Vivekananda. More than 30 book-stalls along with the pictorial exhibition in various colleges and schools in Bapatla and surrounding areas were conducted.



Afforestation programme: Under the leadership of our Treasurer, Prof. Nemmani Ramagopal, the volunteers of the samithi actively planted pongamia, gangaravi, neredu and other plants in several locations in and around Bapatla. The pongamia and other plants which were planted

were regularly watered by the volunteers and Balavihar children of the samithi. More than four hundred saplings were planted during the year.

Carnatic Music programme 'Sangeetha Jhari': With a view to encourage young learner's of Carnatic Music, monthly programmes entitled "Sangeetha Jhari", were

arranged on the last Sunday every month, where young talent was showcased. In this, Young singers would sing to accompaniment of drums and other instruments played mostly by youngsters. The programme celebrated the 8th anniversary this year on 26 January, 2019. On this occasion a special lecture was conducted by Revered Pravrajika Bhavani Prana Mataji of Sarada Math, Guntur. Smt. G. Lakshmi, Music Teacher, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Guntur and Smt. Ramadevi, music teacher participated. The participants of monthly programmes conducted during the year, gave a special music recital and were given away participation certificates and mementoes and four meritorious participants were given Rs.1000 each.



4. NARAYANA SEVA:

Free Dental Camp: A free dental camp on 14 July, 2019

was organized in collaboration with SIBAR Dental College, Takkellapadu, Guntur. Our member, Dr. A. Kaavya Sai organized it. More than 200 patients utilized the services of the camp.

Free Homeo Medical camps: (Monthly) Homeo Medical camps were conducted by the Samithi on first Sunday of every month. Dr.N.Aruna Kumari, DHMS, a renowned homeo-physician, was treating the patients. All the medicines were provided free of cost. The activity received good response from the citizens of the locality. Nearly 70 to 100 patients were attending each monthly camp and were availing the services.

Narayana Seva (Annadanam): was conducted on 25 Feb, 2020 to celebrate the jayanthi of Sri Guru Maharaj. 100 people were sumptuously fed.

5. ANNUAL COMPETITIONS FOR YOUTH:

34 VIVEKANANDA CULTURAL AWARDS PROGRAMME

Annual cultural Competitions were conducted for students of school and college separately under the name Vivekananda Cultural Awards Programme.

From 01.08.2019, competitions for school children were conducted from L.Kg to 10th class at 4 levels. Various events like Essay writing, Elocution in English and Telugu, Quiz, Recitation of Poems, Slokams and quotations of Swami Vivekananda, Spot painting, Singing devotional songs, patriotic songs, model making and vocabulary tests, group discussion were conducted. For several of the competitions, the Samithi publication 'Pushpanjali' was used as a source book. A total of 2200 children from 25 schools hailing from Bapatla and surrounding areas, participated in the event. On 18.08.2019 at 4 p.m. the

school level VCAP prize distribution ceremony was conducted. Revered Swami Shantimayanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Mission, Rajahmundry graced the occasion, blessed the children and gave away the prizes and mementoes.

College Level competitions were conducted for intermedite and degree students. A Youth Seminar was conducted on 01.09.2019 in which Revered Swami Tattvarthanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Math, Hyderabad spoke, answered the questions posed by students and later gave away the prizes to winners of the competitions.



THIRD VIVEKANANDA YOGA COMPETITIONS:

The event was held on 1 Dec., 2019. The competition was held for three levels - 5 & 6; 7 & 8; and 9 & 10 classes. Judges were invited from various places. Around 150 participants attended the event. At the ending, prize distribution was held at 11 AM. Sri Mamidala Santosh, Sri Khadarvali and other judges gave away prizes.

6) PUBLICATION OF BOOKS: "Being Divine - Here and Now", a book by Rev. Swami Dayatmanandaji Maharaj was published and released on the occasion of the inauguration of the Vivekananda Bhavan. During this year several of our publications were reprinted and all of them continued to receive good response from public. Books worth Rs.8,00,574/- were sold during the financial year.



7) SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES:

Daily and Annual Activities: Daily Prayer meeting was held on all days throughout the year.

Vivekananda Ashtottara stotra is read on Mondays, Ramakrishna Stotra on Wednesdays and Sarada stotra on Fridays along with Sankirtan. On Ekadasi Days Ramanama Sankirtanam was conducted in the evenings. All the important celebrations like Tithi Pujas of Bhagavan Sri Ramakrishna, Holy Mother Sarada Devi and Swami Vivekananda were held with Special Puja in the morning and with Arati, sankirtana and discourses in the evening.



The Birthday of Sri Sarada Devi was celebrated on 18 Dec, 2019 with Puja in the morning and by lighting of candles and a lecture meeting in the evening. Sri Ramakrishna Jayanti was celebrated on 25 Feb, 2020. Puja was performed in the morning Sankirtan and lecture were conducted in the evening. Swami Vivekananda Jayanthi was celebrated on 17 Jan,



2020. On 2 Sep, 2019, Vinayaka Chaturthi was celebrated. The youth members made an idol of Ganesh with clay which was worshipped. In the evening 'Nimajjanam' was performed with sankirtan. Dasara was celebrated with daily chanting of "Devi Saptashati" and Vijayadasami, which happens to be the anniversary of our samithi, was celebrated on 8 Oct, 2019 with puja in the morning and Sankirtan and Bilwa leaf offering in the evening. On 27 Oct, 2019, Deepavali, Lakshmi puja was conducted in the evening. An

effigy of 'Narakasura' was prepared by the youth members and the same was burnt in the evening. Sweets and crackers were distributed among children. All the other important celebrations like Shiva Ratri (21 Feb, 2020), Gurupurnima 16 Jul, 2019 (Homa), Krishna Ashtami (24 Aug, 2019) were celebrated. Christmas eve (24 Dec, 2019) was celebrated with speech on the life and message of Jesus Christ and children erected a christmas tree and sang christmas carols.

Spiritual Retreats:

During the year, First spiritual retreat was conducted by Revered Swami Shantimayanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Mission, Rajahmundry on 18 Aug, 2019.

Second spiritual retreat was conducted by Revered Swami Tattwarthanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Math, Hyderabad on 1 Sep, 2019.

Third spiritual retreat was conducted by Revered Swami Aksharatmanandaji Maharaj, Ramakrishna Mission, Colombo, Sri Lanka on 30 Oct, 2019.

Visits of Swamis of the Ramakrishna Order: On 13 May, 2019 Revered Swami Vinischalananandaji Maharaj of Ramakrishna Mission, Rajahmundry visited our samithi.

Visits of Important Guests: During the year, on 13 Sep, 2019, Dr Pannala Krishna Subrahmanyam visited our samithi. On 16 Jan, 2020 Sri M. Satyanarayana Raju garu, Visakhapatnam visited. On 30 Jan, 2020 Dr. Boddupalli Maruthi Prasanna, CYMMIT, Mexico, a relative of Sri BSR Anjaneyulu garu, visited our Samithi.

8. REGULAR LECTURES

Throughout the year, Lectures on Bhagawad Gita were conducted by Sri A. Naresh on Thursdays and lectures on Kathamrita were conducted by Sri B. Srinivasa Raju, Joint Secretary, on Sundays. Dr N. Ramagopal, Treasurer, conducted talks on the life of Holy Mother Sri Sarada Devi, Sister Nivedita and the Memoirs of Swami Vivekananda on



Mondays and Fridays. Smt. BPNV Ramani, member, spoke on the birthdays of the direct disciples of Sri Ramakrishna on their life and message.

9. COVID-19 Lockdown and Relief: In view of the pandemic conditions prevailing the samithi activities were put under lockdown from 20 Mar, 2020. The balavihar children were advised to stay home and were given prophylactic homeo medicine.



10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: M/s Chandra-sekhar & Co, Chartered Accountants, Hyderabad, audited our accounts. We thank them for the same. During the financial year 2019-2020, Samithi recieved Rs. 16,13,720/- as general donations, Rs.14,70,560/- as donations for building fund. A total of Rs. 8,00,574/- worth publications of Samithi and of the Ramakrishna order were sold.

We are grateful to the monks of the Ramakrishna Order for their continued guidance and patronage. We also thank the numerous friends, well-wishers and donors for their continued support for the Samithi. May Sri Sri Guru Maharaj bless them all is our constant prayer.

Since the year of its inception in 1970, there were no paid servants in the Samithi. All the maintenance work like sweeping, dusting, cooking food for children, cleaning the vessels, maintaining the accounts etc., in the samithi are done by the volunteers. We pray to the Holy Trio to shower their blessings on all the volunteers for their tireless efforts.

OM TAT SAT SARVAM SRI RAMAKRISHNARPANAMASTU

Date: 01.12.2020
Place: Bapatla.

(Amirapu Natarajan)
Secretary



SOME MORE IMAGES: Summer Camp images



Making of the Vivekananda Base-relief



Voluntary work for the Bhavan



Mallakhamb



Vivekananda Run 2K, 5K and 8K



Decoration of Vivekananda Bhavan

