

Milestone-9

Rural Appropriate Technology Programme:



The Rural Appropriate Technology Centre (RATC) of the Council has been involved in research and development activities in order to evolve technology to suit rural needs. In view of scarcity and increasing cost of fossil fuel, inadequate and undependable supply of electricity, it had become necessary to devise ways and means of efficient utilization of human and animal energy which are available in plenty.

The aim of research and development has been in this direction, and also to ensure that the drudgery involved in the traditional methods is reduced to the minimum possible. A special bicycle attachment and portable pedal power device were evolved, and their compatibility to operate a variety of agricultural and small industrial machines was tested successfully.



This programme was initiated by Dr. Job S. Ebenezer, Executive Director of the appropriate Rural – Technology Association, Inc., Los Lunas, New Mexico, U.S.A.,

Originally, the work was concentrated in developing human energy along with limited work on Solar and Wind energy Development. As a result, bicycle pedal power attachment and small agricultural and industrial machines that could be operated with such attachments on the Bicycle were developed and popularized among rural people.

Research and development were also initiated on innovative uses of animal energy in agricultural processing and small industries. In the process a circular animal treadmill developed and fabricated. The treadmill consisted of a set of gear systems that could be operated by animals moving slowly along a circular path as a result of which a variety of small agricultural equipments and industrial machines could be operated. Its compatibility to operate paddy threshers was tested and found to be satisfactory. A Plunger pump, simple and cheap, which could be operated by this animal treadmill, was also developed.

A Persian wheel or Bucket pump normally used in Hosur area was procured and the gear system which was rather crude improved upon.

A hand operated briquette press was also fabricated. With this press, briquettes of agricultural and forest wastes, waste paper, saw dust etc., could be made, dried and used for cooking purposes. A stove suitable to utilize the type of briquettes that could be made with this press was also developed.

Milestone -10

Poultry Training Programme – 1985.



Around 1.20 acres of land was procured in Malalinatham village near Chingleput and was utilized for running a poultry rearing unit as a prelude to starting a Poultry Extension and Training Centre to help rural unemployed youth and landless labourers. They could start similar units to improve their economic status. Rearing of broiler chicks was also taken up at this Centre.

Attur Farm:

CSI Farm in Attur in Salem District was taken up for agricultural development as per the request of the CSI Coimbatore Diocese. The farm was been taken on a 10 years lease, and developed as a model farm for raising agricultural crops and setting up subsidiary occupations like poultry and piggery.

Milestone-11

Non –formal Vocational Training:-

Motor Vehicle Driving and Basic Mechanism:-



Non – formal Vocational Training in Motor Vehicle Driving and Basic Mechanism was started in collaboration with Shramik Vidyapeeth (Worker’s Polyvalent Adult Education Institute) of the Government of Tamilnadu and three Batches of training of three months were completed. The Sharmik Vidyapeeth provided the salary of the instructor. C.S.I. Council for Technical & Vocational Training (CTVT), Madras kindly sanctioned the Scholarship towards training expenditure for the first two Batches. For the third Batch, the Church of God in Christ, Mannonite, Madras helped with the training expenditure. We are grateful to them. Forty five unemployed youth from very poor families in and around Madras were provided training through the three Batches. Most of those trained got employment. About 220 youth were trained on this vocation.

Welding:-



Four months Non-formal Vocational Training in Welding was also started in 1985. Eight unemployed youth selected from among very poor families in and around Madras were given training. CSI. Council for Technical and Vocational Training (CTVT) was kind enough to give scholarship for the Candidates. The salary of the Instructor was mobilized from Shramik Vidyapeeth of the Government of Tamilnadu.

This project was supported by the LWF/CDS –Geneva. Non formal Training in Welding, Tailoring and Electric wiring, Rewinding, Pumpset repair was imparted. The duration of each of these courses was 4 months. Training was provided in two Batches for each trade every year, and 20 were trained in each Batch. A total of 120



persons were trained in a year. The training enabled the candidates to acquire the required skill and be in a position to render the needed service in the villages besides attaining self-employment or employment potential to improve their own socio-economic status.

Milestone -12

Social Education Programme- 1986



This programme was initiated with the objective of achieving holistic growth and development of people including Socio-economic Development through Developmental programmes, by encouraging increased participation of the people themselves in all aspects of various rural development programmes. A three days workshop on Pantomime for effective communication was held in Madras and a week long workshop on Social

Education was conducted at Y.M.C.A. Rural Centre at Kanyakumari in which over 30 village leaders participated besides our field staff.

Training was also given in: Soap Making, Phenyl Making, Candle Making, Preparing Juices and Jams, Rope Making.

CASA Food for Work Programme –Phase II - 1986



CASA Food For Work Programme was implemented in 23 villages in Chingleput District, including Ruler Colony, Keerapakkam, Thirumani, Sundaranagar, Kulipanthandalam, Kamarajapuram (Sembakkam), Achiravakkam, Gandhinagar, Viralpakkam, Royalapattu, Pallur, Puyiluppai Ambedkar, Karumbakkam, Mullipakkam, Overtenpet, Irumbakkam, Vakarkundram, Andrewpuram Leprosy Colony, Melamaiyur, Thandarai and Andrewpuram. In Thandarai village, the work

involved deepening of the pond and digging supply channel in Andrewpuram, while a drinking well was dug in Irular Colony. In all other places, deepening of wells was taken up under this programme.

Milestone-13

Community Drinking Water Wells - Phase I

With the help of Church of God in Christ Manonnite, six Community Drinking Wells were dug earlier in six villages in the Chingleput area.

During 1986, one bore well including laying of pipe line was sunk at Mannameri village near Arkonam. This bore well was connected to the Panchayat water supply system with the approval of the village Panchayat. This water supply system was dedicated by Rev. John Duke of the Church of God in Christ Mannoite on the 11th February, 1987. The bore-well sunk by TNCC was the only source then from which the entire village population of over 2000 people got adequate drinking water.



The Church of God Christ (Mannonite) also came forward to provide support for one bore well for the Scavengers Colony near Kancheepuram since they had been suffering a great deal for want of drinking water in their colony.

With the support of CORAR, deepening of one community drinking water well was taken up at the premises of KERIETH in Yelasandra village, Bangarapet.

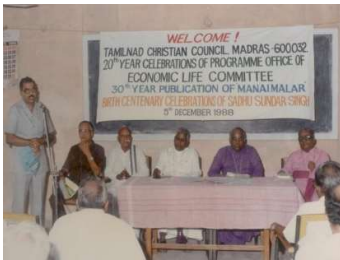
Milestone -14

Vayalum Vazhuvum

The Madras T.V. telecast our rural development programmes in their “Vayalum Vazhuvum” with 12 minutes duration in 3 parts. There was good response from the viewers and enquires were made about our appropriate technology and other programmes. These programmes were telecast on 8th February, 7th March and 30th March, 1988.

Milestone -15

Birth Centenary Celebrations of Sadhu Sundar Singh -1988



The Birth Centenary Celebrations of Sadhu Sundar Singh began on the 3rd September 1988. Our Council was able to help in conducting several programmes as part of the Celebrations. Katha Kaletchebams on the life of Sadhu Sundar Singh was conducted by Arul Kalaiginner Thiru Wilson Dhanaraj of the ALC, in different places in Tamilnadu. The first Kaletchebam Programme was held at the TELC. Adaikalanathar Church on 28th October 1988 and was inaugurated by Bishop H.S.

Thanaraj of the CSI Madras Diocese. This gave a great opportunity for the Christians and non-Christians to know about the life of Sadhu Sundar Singh.

Under the directorship of Rev. E. Sounderarajan of the CSI- Madras Diocese, a drama was staged on the life of Sadhu Sunder Singh on 21st February 1989 at the Narada Gana Sabha, Madras. A repeat performance was organized in Madras on the 20th October, 1989 at Raja Annamalai Mandram,

Milestone -16

20th Anniversary and 30th Year of publication of “Manai Malar” Magazine-

On the 5th December, 1988 a thanksgiving service was held to celebrate the 20th year anniversary of the Programme Office of the Tamilnad Christian Council Economic Life Committee (TCC ELC) and the 30th year publication of “Manai Malar”.

In the evening a drama “Thamizhagathil Thomaiyar” written by Rev. Dr. Dayanandhan Francis was organised at the Krishna Gana Sabha.

