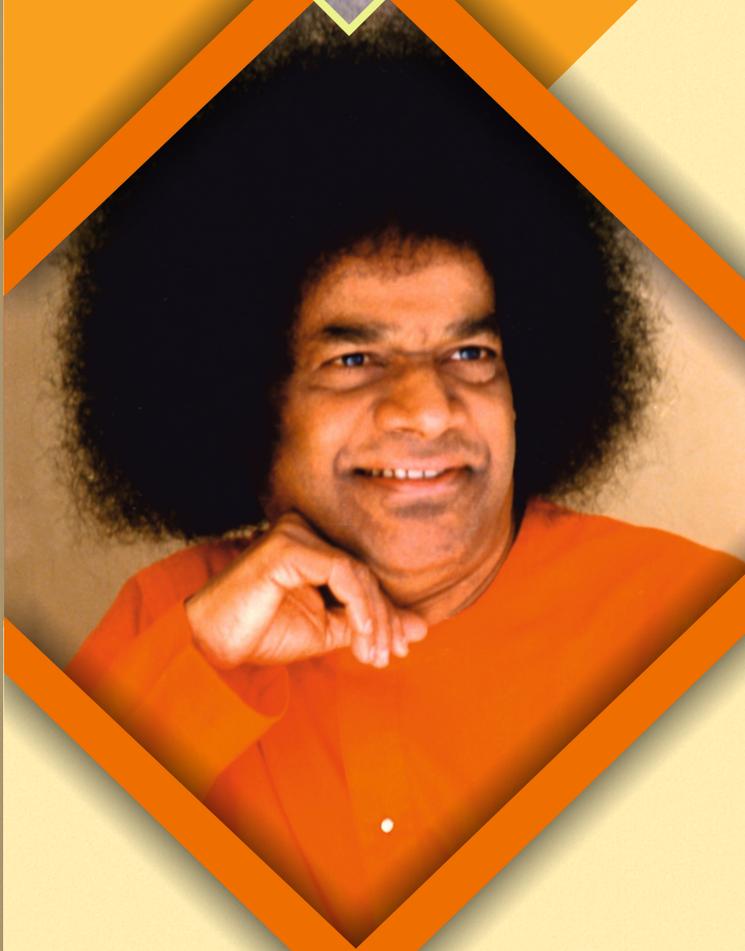




SRI SATHYA SAI SEVA ORGANISATIONS

WEST BENGAL



HOOGHLY

**DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT
2018-19**



“Let the different faiths exist, let them flourish, let the glory of God be sung in all languages in a variety of tunes. That should be the ideal. Respect the differences between the faiths and recognize them as valid so far as they do not extinguish the flame of unity.”

*This report is dedicated at the
Lotus Feet of our Lord and Master
Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba*



Foreword

My reverential salutations to Bhagawan Baba for affording me the opportunity to offer a gist of the activities being undertaken in Hooghly district at HIS lotus feet.

The saga of our divine organization started in Hooghly or Saptagram which was a flourishing port-cum-harbour on the banks of Saraswati river and attracted traders from all corners of the country and abroad. Later, during the reign of a Muslim ruler, the port along with its vast neighbouring areas was made a zilla or district known as Hooghly, a name apparently coined from "Hogla" weeds widely used by the locals for making their huts.

The district is witness to the life and activities of great spiritual masters, social reformers and literary giants like Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, Swami Vivekananda, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay etc. Holy pilgrim spots like Mahesh, Tarakeswar Temple, Furfura Darga Sharif & Bandel Church, adorn the spiritual arena of the district since generations. Being nurtured in the

legacy of spiritual and social brilliance since generations, Bhagawan Baba, blessed this district with his divine organization in the early seventies. HE continues to afford opportunities to us to be HIS humble instruments through HIS relentless guidance and inspiration in building a more inclusive and a universal organisation for higher spiritual pursuit of all.

I humbly offer an account of the activities which have been organized across the district covering all wings of the organization in the succeeding pages. I pray that Bhagawan may bless each one of us with greater zeal and commitment so that we may be able to offer greater gifts of our loving service at HIS Lotus Feet in the days ahead!

Jai Sai Ram.

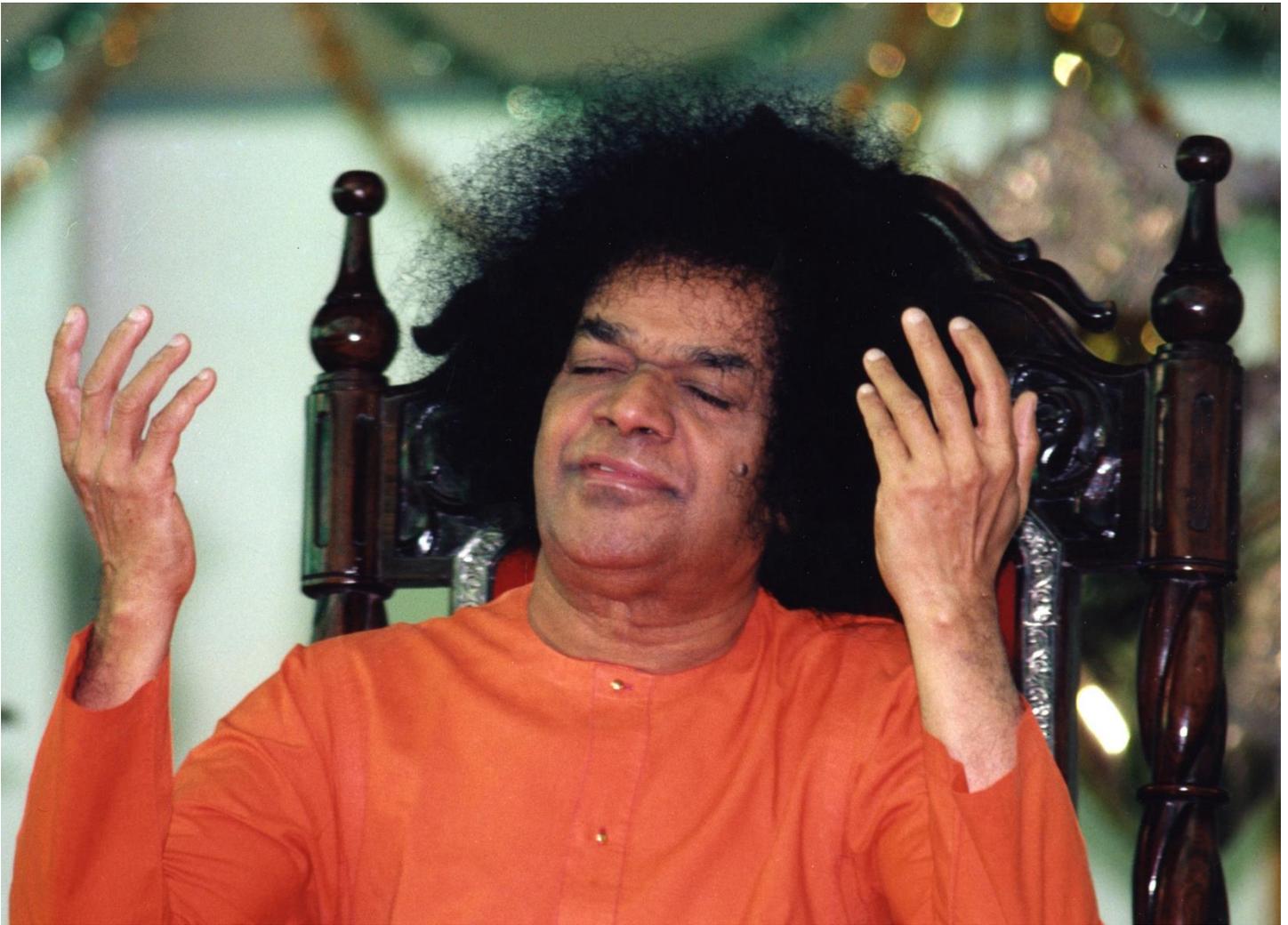
Ever in Sai Service,

Debasis Lahiri

District President

Seva (selfless service) in all its forms, all the world over, is primarily a spiritual discipline for mental clean-up. Without the inspiration given by that attitude, the urge is bound to ebb and grow dry; or it may meander into pride and pomp. Just think for a moment. Are you serving God? Or is God serving you? When a pilgrim stands waist deep in the Ganga, takes in his palms the sacred water and, reciting an invocatory formula, pours the water as an offering to the Deity—an arpañ (offering) as he calls it—what he has done is only poured Ganga into Ganga. When you offer milk to a hungry child or a blanket to a shivering brother or sister on the pavement, you are but placing a gift of God into the hands of another gift of God. You are reposing the gift of God in a repository of the Divine Principle. God serves. He allows you to claim that you have served. Without His will, not a single blade of grass can quiver in the breeze. Fill every moment with gratitude to the Giver and the Recipient of all gifts.

 Sri Sathya Sai 



CONTENTS

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations	2	Activities.....	8
Wings of the Organisation	3	Specific Service Projects or Initiatives.....	10
Administration of the Organisation.....	3	Important Events or Conferences	10
The 9 Point Code of Conduct & 10 Principles.....	4	Glimpses Of Few Activities	12
Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, HOOGHLY	5	Office Bearers	14
Brief History	5	Current Office Bearers of The District.....	15
Overview	7	Past District Presidents.....	16
Sri Sathya Sai Seva Kendra.....	7		

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations



The Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, founded by Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba in the year 1965, is a service organisation with a spiritual core and base to benefit all mankind irrespective of religion, caste, creed or sect. The Organisation serves as a platform for its members to undertake service and other activities motivated by an urge for one's own transformation with the aim of realising one's inherent divinity.

Without any distinction of religion, nationality, race, socio-economic status, either for those who work in the Organisation or for those who are served by it, the Organisation transcends all barriers leading humanity towards the ideal of 'Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of Man'.

The concept of fees or membership subscription is alien to the Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, for there cannot be any fee or subscription for one's journey towards his own self.

The organisation functions through its primary units called as Samithis and Bhajan Mandalis of which individuals - from different strata of society, different ethnic groups pursuing different religions and faiths - are members bound by the dictum of "Love all, Serve All" and pursue their own sadhana towards self-transformation following the path of selfless service to humanity.

At no point is an individual asked to follow a certain religion or rituals. On the contrary each is inspired to follow his own faith so as to ensure that a Hindu becomes a better Hindu, a Muslim becomes a better Muslim, a Christian becomes a better Christian and so on. In fact, this spiritual basis inspires everyone to pursue his own religion better by putting into practice Love and Selflessness. That is why the Organisation features in its emblem the symbols of the major religions of the world.

The Organisations named after Me are not to be used for publicising My Name, or creating a new cult around My worship . . . They must render seva (service) to the helpless, the sick, the distressed, the illiterate and the needy. Their seva (selfless service) should not be exhibitionistic; it must seek no reward, not even gratitude or thanks from the recipients. Seva is sadhana (spiritual exercise), not a pastime of the rich and well placed.

You must have the firm belief that the aim of this Organisation is to remove the obstacles that keep man away from God, that separate maanavathwa (Humanity) from Maadhavathwa (Divinity).. This Organisation must elevate the human into the Divine."

❧ Sri Sathya Sai ❧

SRI SATHYA SAI SEVA ORGANISATIONS, HOOGHLY

WINGS OF THE ORGANISATION

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations functions under three wings viz. (i) Spiritual, (ii) Education, and (iii) Service. Each activity in a wing is directed to facilitate and help the members in their own spiritual advancement. Although, the nature of activities undertaken under different wings appear to be distinct and dissimilar, but there is an inherent interrelationship amongst all the three wings. The three wings stand for Worship, Wisdom and Work.

Spirituality and Service are complementary to each other. Spirituality is the motivational force behind service and service is the fulfillment of spirituality. Therefore, spiritual concepts learnt through education must be put into practice in form of service to humanity. Thus, in order to successfully realise the objective of joining the Sai Organisation, one must participate in activities of all the three wings.

Activities under different wings of the Organisation

Spiritual Wing	Educational Wing	Service Wing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bhajan •Nagarsankeertan •Study Circle •Sadhana Camps •Study of Sai Literature •Meditation, and •Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Non-formal education of children in the age group of 5-14 years through values-based educational training •Bal-Vikas •Educare •Parenting Programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Gram Seva •Slums Service •Medical Camps and Health Care •Sanitation activities •Visit to orphanages, old age homes etc. •Disaster relief •Poor feeding •Free Coaching Classes, and •Others

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ORGANISATION

Headed by an All India President who is supported by the National Vice Presidents and State Presidents, the Organisation functions like a well-oiled machine, focused on its purpose, clear in its vision and dedicated in its efforts to live up to Swami's message "Love All, Serve All".

The Samithis and the Bhajan Mandalis constitute a genuine spiritual movement where the members are united by a common bond Love for God and Service to fellow human beings.

The members of the organisation work as one cohesive unit whether as sevadals providing service

at Prashanthi Nilayam, at medical camps, doing Narayan seva or the Bal-Vikas gurus who work with young children to imbibe in them a desire to follow the five human values of Truth, Righteousness, Love, Peace and Non-violence, or the teachers who having undergone the training in EHV help in guiding the young minds towards the higher goals of life or the Sai Youth who work tirelessly in the Sri Sathya Sai Village Integrated Programme bound by one goal of practicing the ancient dictum of "Service to Man is Service to God".

THE 9 POINT CODE OF CONDUCT AND 10 PRINCIPLES

Every member of the Organisation is expected to undertake Sadhana (spiritual discipline) as an integral part of his/her daily life by observing by the following Nine Point Code of Conduct which has been given by Sri Sathya Sai Baba for one's spiritual and personal development. In addition, the ten principles that form the core of guidance for all the members of the Organisation as ordained by Baba himself are also produced hereunder. The nine-point code of conduct and the ten principles are fundamental to the spiritual development of the members of Sai Organisations.

9 Point Code of Conduct

- ❖ Daily meditation and prayer.
- ❖ Devotional singing/prayer with members of one's family once a week.
- ❖ Participation in Bal Vikas programme by children of the family conducted by the Organisation.
- ❖ Attendance at least once a month at Bhajan or Nagar Sankeertan programme conducted by the Organisation.
- ❖ Participation in community service and other programmes of the Organisation.
- ❖ Regular study of Sai literature.
- ❖ Speak softly and lovingly with everyone with whom he comes into contact.
- ❖ Not to indulge in talking ill of others especially in their absence.
- ❖ Putting into practice the principle of "Ceiling on Desires" and utilise any savings thereby generated for the service of the mankind.

10 Guiding Principles

- ❖ Treat as sacred the land in which you were born. Have patriotism to your nation - but do not criticise other nations or put others down. Not even in your thoughts or dreams should you think of bringing grief to your country.
- ❖ Respect all religions equally.
- ❖ Recognise humanity as one family - treat everyone as a family member - love all
- ❖ Keep your house and surroundings clean - for this will promote hygiene and health.
- ❖ Practice charity - but do not encourage beggars by giving money. Provide food, clothing, shelter and help them on other ways (do not encourage laziness)
- ❖ Never give a bribe or take bribe - never give in to corruption.
- ❖ Curb envy and jealousy; expand your vision and outlook, Treat all equally regardless of caste or creed.
- ❖ Be self-reliant. You may be wealthy and have servants to do your bidding, but service to security must be done by yourself.
- ❖ Have and cultivate 'Love for God and fear of sin'.
- ❖ Never go against the laws of the land; follow these diligently both in word and in spirit. Be an exemplary citizen.

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, Hooghly

BRIEF HISTORY

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation commenced its sojourn in our district way back in 1971 when Sai Bhajans were started at Serampore in the houses of Dr. G.D.Nag and Sri Ashok Mitra. In 1972, the then District President -Shri. Bidhu Bhusan Banerjee started the organization with a single unit at Chuchura. Thereafter, in 1973 Shri. M.N. Haldar was entrusted with the responsibilities of the District President (he was also the District Judge at that time).

In 1973, the Chandannagar unit of the organization was formed with Shri. Rabin Banerjee as the Convenor. During this time the main activity was confined to occasional bhajans only. In 1974, Shri. Biren Sadhu was blessed to take up the role of District President and he started expanding the organisation to five more important towns, viz; Sheoraphuli in 1974 with Shri. Ashok Mitra as the Convenor; Serampore in 1975 with Shri. Atin Bose as the Convenor; Uttarpara in 1976 led by Shri. Durga Chatterjee as the Convenor; Hindmotor in 1977, where Shri. Shankarnath Nag was appointed as the Convenor; Arambagh in 1977 with Shri. Ajit Kr. Sen as the Convenor; and at Rishra in 1977, with Shri. B. R. Gupta as its Convenor. During this time the organization started to diversify its activities through regular house bhajans, cleaning & sanitation seva, slum visits, cooked food Narayan Seva etc.

In 1978-1979 Shri. Sibani P. Roy was entrusted with the role of District President. During this time

the district experienced the worst possible floods in recent times in Arambagh Sub-division and adjoining areas. Sri Sathya Sai Seva organization offered yeoman's service in the areas like repairing river side bandh (embankments), reaching out to the marooned people with dry foods, clothes, medicines etc. Later on, seva activities like cooked food distribution camps were set up in the remotest parts and marooned areas of the subdivision and continued for a fortnight through the untiring efforts of Seval members like Shri. Ajit Sen, Shri. Nihar Kanti Pal & Shri. Amarnath Dutta, Shri. Sunil Kr. Lahiri, Shri. B. R. Gupta, and the like. Sri Shyamal Sur, the then Zonal Service Co-ordinator, W.B. also joined the camp and inspired the seval members in this great endeavour.



Cataract Operation Camp 1984

Sri Shankar Nath Nag was appointed as the District president in 1979 and he continued to offer his seva till 1986. During this time a new unit was started in 1979 at Telua, with Shri. Nimai Modak as the Convenor. New activities like the Bal Vikas programme were started in Arambagh, Serampore, Rishra, Hindmotor & Uttarpara. The Bal Vikas

programme gained momentum with the relentless efforts of pioneering gurus like Shri. Nihar Kanti Pal, late Smt. Pratima Motilal & Smt. Mita Ghosh. On the Service front activities like free coaching centre (Serampore), free vocational training (tailoring, thonga (Paper bag) making, Jail Visits, visits / feeding the disabled / physiotherapy assistance to the inmates of Cheshire Home, Cataract operation camps etc. at Serampore and Hindmotors were taken up.

Thereafter, Shri. Shankar Batbyall was entrusted with the responsibilities of Zonal Co-ordinator in 1987 while Shri. Nihar Kanti Pal took up the mantle in 1991. In the year 2000 Shri. Nihar Kanti Pal was appointed as the District President and he continued to serve in the said post till 2005. During this time the organization expanded to places like Rangtakhali, Goran, Gholarpar, Kulki, Moigram, Goswami Malipara, Kabley and Dunlop. Bal Vikas Centres were operationalised at Moigram, Goran Kabley., Goswami Mali Para. Along with other regular activities, some new seva activities like establishment of Kabley Sai centre, free coaching and computer training centre at Kabley, Cycle ambulance in the villages, Shrabani mela camp at Kamarkundu, cleaning and sanitation seva at Tarakeshwar temple premises, Cricket tournament at Rantakhali as an outreach programme, etc. were initiated.

Shri. Atri Saha took up the responsibilities of the post of District President in 2006 and continued till 2014. During this time some new initiatives like spoken English class at Kabley, visit and service at Mankundu Mental Hospital, cleaning/sanitation in Uttarpara vagrant home, Chinsurah hospital cleaning, lifesaving duty (with full gears) at Dudhpukur, during the Srabani Mela at Tarakeshwar Temple, participation in Telemedicine Seva at the

Barrackpore Centre, Blood grouping camps, participation in post "Ayla" Cyclone seva in south 24 Parganas District, Seva in post flood Camp in Bihar etc. were done.

Subsequently, Shri. Biswajit Lahiri was appointed as the District President in 2015 and he led the expansion of the organization in places like Sheorafuli, Konnagar, Katabani, Dharampota, Mayapur and Tarakeshwar. During this time several new activities like Data Bank of SSSIHMS patients, blood grouping camps, vocational training camps (Beautician), rural medical camps, district level blood donation camp on Aradhana day, online forms filling up program for college admissions were added.

Shri. Debasis Lahiri was blessed to take up the role of District President in 2016 and since then activities like several Samitis, Bhajan Mandalis, and Study Groups have been opened/ upgraded. Seva programmes during the festival of "Eid" has been started to carry forward the universal spirit of the organization. Similarly, seva camps are being set up for the Christian pilgrims to the famous Bandel Church during Christmas. Water camps are being organized in different schools for the waiting guardians during board exams. Drinking water is also being served to traffic policemen and pedestrians during peak summer days. Other new activities include tree plantation by Bal Vikas students, foot and mouth disease detection and vaccination camps for cattle etc. A district OPD centre for Eye and Dental care has been started at Kabley Sai Centre in 2017. A Vocational Training Centre (Tailoring) was also inaugurated at Kabley Sai Centre in 2018. In addition to the above, regular cooked food Narayan Seva is being organized at Kabley Sai Centre and in other Samithies. Anti-Dengue spraying in different public places, schools

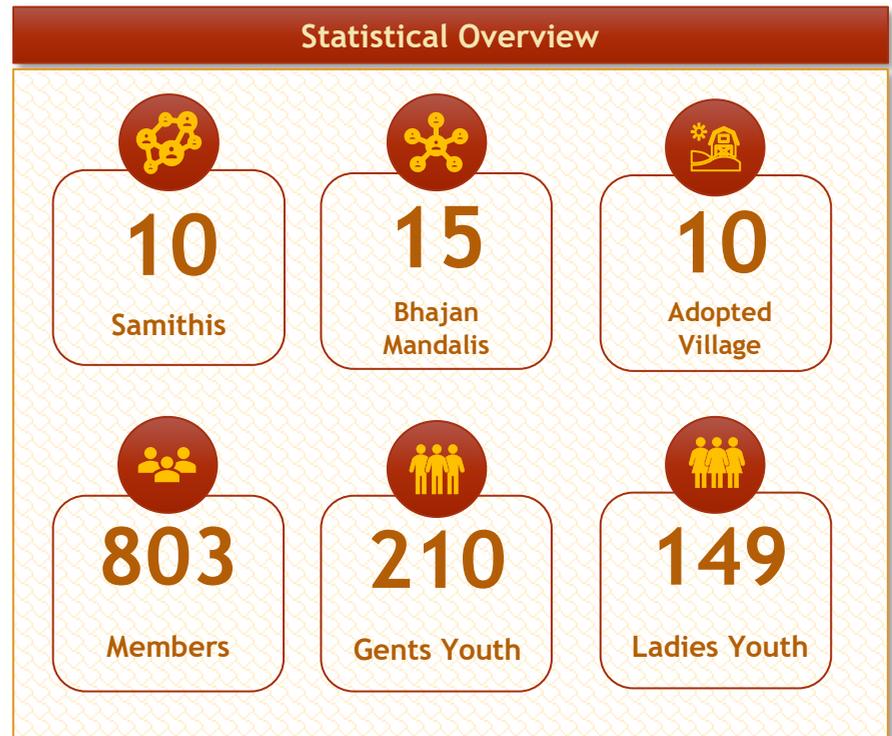
and other institutions is also being undertaken. Disaster management awareness activities are being organized for Sevadals, students and NCC cadets. Sai literature was taken to 120 public libraries in the district. Seven new "Sri Sathya Sai Bal Vikas" centres have been added during the year.

Outreach programmes have been organized in uncovered areas while a one day "Sri Sathya Sai Unity Cup" football tournament was also organized for the youth

OVERVIEW

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations is functional in Hooghly with members from various cross sections of society and different faiths. With 10 Samithis and 15 Bhajan Mandalis, the Organisation serves as a platform for its members to undertake spiritual practices through its various wings such as spiritual, education and service for their own betterment.

The thrust is on self-transformation for it is only individual transformation that would ultimately lead to global transformation.



SRI SATHYA SAI SEVA KENDRA

The following district level Sri Sathya Sai Seva Kendra is functional at which various activities are undertaken through the year. Samithis function from the residences of the office bearers and/or members

Seva Kendra	District/Samithi	Address	Contact Person
Sri Sathya Sai Seva Kendra, Kable	Hooghly	Dakshin Rasulpur Kable, Hooghly	Smt. Binota Roy Mobile No. 9609565808 Sri. Sisir Roy Mobile No. 9732505224

ACTIVITIES

The members of the Organisation are involved in various activities on regular basis which primarily includes Spiritual Study Circles, Community Bhajan, Nagarsankirtan through the spiritual wing; Bal-Vikas and Parenting programmes through the Education Wing and various service activities through the service wing. Importance is given to regular service activities as only through constant involvement in good work can self-transformation be achieved. Service activities which are regularly undertaken at Samithis for the transformation of the members and for the benefit of the society include visits to leprosy, correctional and old age homes, medical camps in villages, Narayan-seva, free coaching classes, vocational training for employability enhancement of the villagers, sanitation at public functions, fairs, and public urinal cleaning.

SPECTRUM OF ACTIVITIES			
	Educare	Medicare	Sociocare
Spiritual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Circles for Adults and Youth 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Bhajans Nagar Sankirtan Conference/Retreats Sadhana Camps
Educational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bal Vikas Classes based on human values Bal-Vikas and Guru training 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents' Awareness programs on Parenting Parenting Workshops
Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free Coaching and Tuition Centers Computer Training Spoken English Adult Education Literacy programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical Centers Medical Camps in villages Eye Camps Blood Grouping Camps Blood Donation Camps Dental Treatment Camps Veterinary Camps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Narayan Seva Programme Visit to Leprosy Villages, Correctional Homes, Orphanages, Hospital, Disabled/ Old Age Homes Narayan Seva Service Camps Vocational Training Centers Employability enhancement programmes for village youth Sanitation at different government run hospitals, fairs, and public places including public urinals Disaster Management Awareness programmes in Schools/Colleges and other institutions

A summary account of regular activities that have been undertaken during the period covered by this report is depicted in the following table.

	Activities	Total Number	Total Number of Participants
Spiritual	Devotional Singing		
	No. of. Community Bhajan Centers	19	
	No. of. Bhajans Held	228	2736
	Seven Household Bhajan		
	No. of Houses	125	
	No. of Bhajans Held	6000	30000
	Nagar Sankirtan	269	1500
	Study Circles	261	1400
	Conference/Retreats/Sadhana Camps	50	500
	Activities	Total Number	Total Number of Students
Educational	Bal Vikas Centers		
	(i) Urban	33	225
	(ii) Rural	6	148
	(iii) School	1	25
	Total (i+ii+iii)	40	398
	Bal Vikas Gurus	40	
	Activity	Total Number	Total Number of Beneficiaries
Service	Visit to:		
	Orphanages	25	150
	Hospital	15	350
	Disabled / Old Age Homes	15	90
	Camps:		
	Narayan Seva	96	2880
	Veterinary Camps	2	300
	Medical Awareness Camps	2	60
	Blood Grouping Camps	6	1000
	Vocational Training Centers	1	20
	Free Coaching Centers	10	110
	Medical Centers	1	150
	Sanitation (Public Urinals)	60	In thousands
	National Narayan Seva	7920 kgs	3000
	Blood Donation Camps	3	150

Great sage Veda Vyasa has declared that service to human beings is the highest form of worship ("Paropakarayya puñyaya, papaya parapidanam"). Do not offend or harm anyone. That is true adoration of God for, in truth, the other is you yourself. Awareness of this truth is moksha (liberation). Share your joy, your wealth and your knowledge with others less fortunate. That is the surest means of earning divine grace.

Sri Sathya Sai

SPECIFIC SERVICE PROJECTS OR INITIATIVES

Rural Vocational Training Centres

With a view to empower rural women, tailoring training is being imparted to them at Sri Sathya Sai Seva Kendra, Kabley. Each batch has around 15 students. Certificate will be awarded on successful completion of the course after 6 months. Furthermore, the district youth team has decided to help these women in procuring orders in their respective areas with the help of social media.

Sevā (selfless service) can be identified by means of two basic characteristics: compassion and willingness to sacrifice.

Medical Centres

A weekly free eye OPD is being run at Sri Sathya Sai Seva Kendra, Kabley since 23rd November 2017. It caters to around 150-175 beneficiaries per week. This apart specs are also provided to the ones who cannot afford it themselves.

Spend the years of life, the wherewithal you earn or possess, in the service of others who are in distress. Love grows on such service. Service is the sincerest form of adoration of God.

❧ Sri Sathya Sai ❧

Disaster Management

Regular disaster management training and practice sessions are conducted for sevadals so they themselves are prepared to combat any sort of natural or man-made calamity. Disaster Management Training Awareness programs are also conducted at several higher secondary schools and colleges for the youth. This apart a special DMT awareness camp was also organized for the NCC and State Civic Police. The trained sevadals also perform rescue duty during Srabani Mela at Tarakeswar.



Tailoring class in progress



Eye Medical Centre, Kabley



Rescue Duty at Srabani Mela, Tarakeswar

Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Jyoti Program

The Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Jyoti Program is being done at three schools across the district. This activity includes cleaning & sanitation, regular drawing classes, occasional medical checkup, balvikas class, distribution of stationery, distribution of winter garments, tree plantation, anti-dengue chemical spraying. These are done by a local team comprising of both youth and senior members.



Oral Check-up at SSSVJ School

IMPORTANT EVENTS OR CONFERENCES

Annual District Conference

An annual conference was held immediately after the Annual State Conference for all district office bearers and conveners. The decisions conveyed by the state team along with upcoming plan of action were discussed.

Service does not mean helping with hands alone. Talk softly and sweetly. Speak good words. That is also a form of service.

Balvikas Alumni Meet

A day long program was organized for the Balvikas Alumni in the month of May at Konnagar Library Hall, Hooghly. There were around 150 participants for the program. Successful balvikas students shared their experience which inspired all.



District Annual Conference

All India President's visit to Hooghly - Some Special Moments



A.I.P with District Team



Inauguration of Ophthalmology Medical Center at Kable

Glimpses of few activities

Facilitation of Eye Surgery

The sevadals of Hooghly district facilitated free of cost phaco surgeries for around 10 needy patients from a private hospital

Eid Celebration at Local Mosques

Keeping in line with the sarva-dharma path as shown by our Divine Master Sri Sathya Sai Baba, Eid was celebrated at two mosques in the district. The sevadals greeted the namazis with water, sweets and fruits outside their mosque. Women sevadals even went to every household of the locality in order to greet the women.



Facilitation of Cataract Surgery



Eid Celebration with Muslim Brothers & Sisters



Winter Seva

A team of around 25-30 sevadals toured the district at midnight in the last week of December and provided blankets to the needy who were lying down on the streets and were shivering due to severe cold. This apart many samithis distributed blankets in their respective areas across the district.

Start practicing love. That is the correct spiritual practice. Share your love with more and more people. You will experience oneness. Once you start sharing your love with everybody, then the whole world will become one family.

❧ Sri Sathya Sai ❧

Health Check-up Camp

Weekly ECG Camp was organized at the district office where around 25-30 patients were catered to each day along with blood pressure check-up.

A society, a community or nation can be safe, secure and happy only when the individuals comprising it are mutually helpful and bound together in skillful and sincere service.

❧ Sri Sathya Sai ❧

Water Camp during Rathayatra at Mahesh

A water camp was organised during the two days of the iconic rathayatra at Mahesh, Hooghly. The sevadals carried bottles of water from the camp and served it to the policemen and the people pulling the rath. First aid facility was also arranged at the said camp. This apart single use plastics were collected from the road.

Some glimpses of other activities



Blood Pressure at Health Check-up Camp



Drinking Water Distribution



Flood Relief Operation



Multi-faith Program



Sale of Sai Literature at Railway Station



Sale of Sai Literature inside Local Train



Unity Cup Football Tournament



Raksha Bandhan at Menta Asylum



Dental Clinic



Paediatric Health Care

The world has to be brought back to the rails. Only Love and Peace can achieve this. Fill your thoughts, speech and actions with Love, Truth and Peace and engage yourselves in service actions.

❧ Sri Sathya Sai ❧

Office Bearers

CURRENT OFFICE BEARERS OF THE DISTRICT

Name	Designation	Contact Details
Debasis Lahiri	District President	Mobile : 9874693852 Email : dp.hooghly@gmail.com
Arnab Chakraborty	District Service Coordinator (Gents)	Mobile : 9874080400 Email : arnab27chakraborty@gmail.com
Sumit Kunwar	District Joint Service Coordinator (Gents)	Mobile : 8100345949 Email : skunwar251@gmail.com
Madhumita Sabui	District Service Coordinator (Ladies)	Mobile : 9477461485 Email : sabuimadhumita@gmail.com
Binata Roy	District Joint Service Coordinator (Ladies)	Mobile : 9609560808 Email : binotaroy@gmail.com
Tapan Manna	District Education Coordinator (Gents)	Mobile : 9932392042 Email : tapankmanna56@gmail.com
Swati Sengupta	District Education Coordinator (Ladies)	Mobile : 9831602716 Email : swati8@gmail.com
Sarbani Lahiri	District Joint Education Coordinator (Ladies)	Mobile : 9874769454 Email : sarbanilahiri2015@gmail.com
Tanmoy Chakraborty	District Spiritual Coordinator (Gents)	Mobile: 9051348229 Email : chakraborty67tanmay@gmail.com
Sarbani Mukherjee	District Spiritual Coordinator (Ladies)	Mobile : 9831875208 Email : sarbanimukherjee.sahooghly@gmail.com
Bijaya Chatterjee	District Joint Spiritual Coordinator (Ladies)	Mobile: 9831477932 Email : bijayachatterjee7@gmail.com
Balasai Lahiri	District Youth Coordinator (Gents)	Mobile: 7278462954 Email : bslahiri@gmail.com
Jinia Boral	District Youth Coordinator (Ladies)	Mobile: 8017587523 Email : jinia28boral@gmail.com
Jogesh	District I.T. In-charge	Mobile : 8981580442 Email : dit.hooghly@gmail.com

Everyone in the world is a servant and not a master. All relationships—husband and wife, mother and child, the employer and employee—are based on mutual service. The world is progressing because of such mutual service. If the principle of service did not operate, the world would come to a halt.

 Sri Sathya Sai 

PAST DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

Name	Period
Sri. Bidhu Bhusan Banerjee	1972 - 1973
Sri. M. N. Haldar	1973 - 1974
Sri. Biren Sadhu	1974 - 1977
Sri. Sibani P. Roy	1978 - 1979
Sri. Shankar Nath Nag	1979 - 1983
Sri. Shankar Batabyall (Zonal Coordinator)	1987 - 1990
Sri. Nihar Kanti Pal	1991 - 2006
Sri. Atri Saha	2006 - 2015
Sri. Biswajit Lahiri	2015 - 2016
Sri. Debasis Lahiri	2016 - Present

When a sculptor converts a piece of rock into a beautiful idol to be worshipped in a shrine, what was inert and worthless becomes sacred. This is transformation. Similarly, an idol made out of silver becomes an object of worship. In the same manner, everything which is petty and worldly can be transformed in course of time into something sacred and divine. Such a transformation is necessary for the human being. Take, for instance, the body. It is an entity which houses much that is bad and that is undesirable. Externally we take great care of the body through bathing and cleaning. We are aware of the external impurity and we try to get rid of it but are we aware of the internal impurities? How do we purify them? For this internal purification, we have to acquire sacred thoughts and do sacred deeds. We have the concepts of jiva (individual self) and Deva (God). The human being is composed of the three guṇas namely satva, rajas, tamas (qualities of purity, passion and sloth). As long as you are part of these guṇas, you are jiva. Once you transcend these three qualities you become Deva. The three guṇas (qualities) are like the husk that covers the rice in the paddy. When you remove the husk it becomes the rice-grain. Whatever we do, whatever actions we undertake, if they were to be permeated with thoughts centred on God, they would become sacred. Today in our sevā (selfless service) activities, we do not have this lofty sense of dedication. We should get rid of the thought that sevā activities are being done for others. You should understand that they are being undertaken for your own sake and for your own betterment.

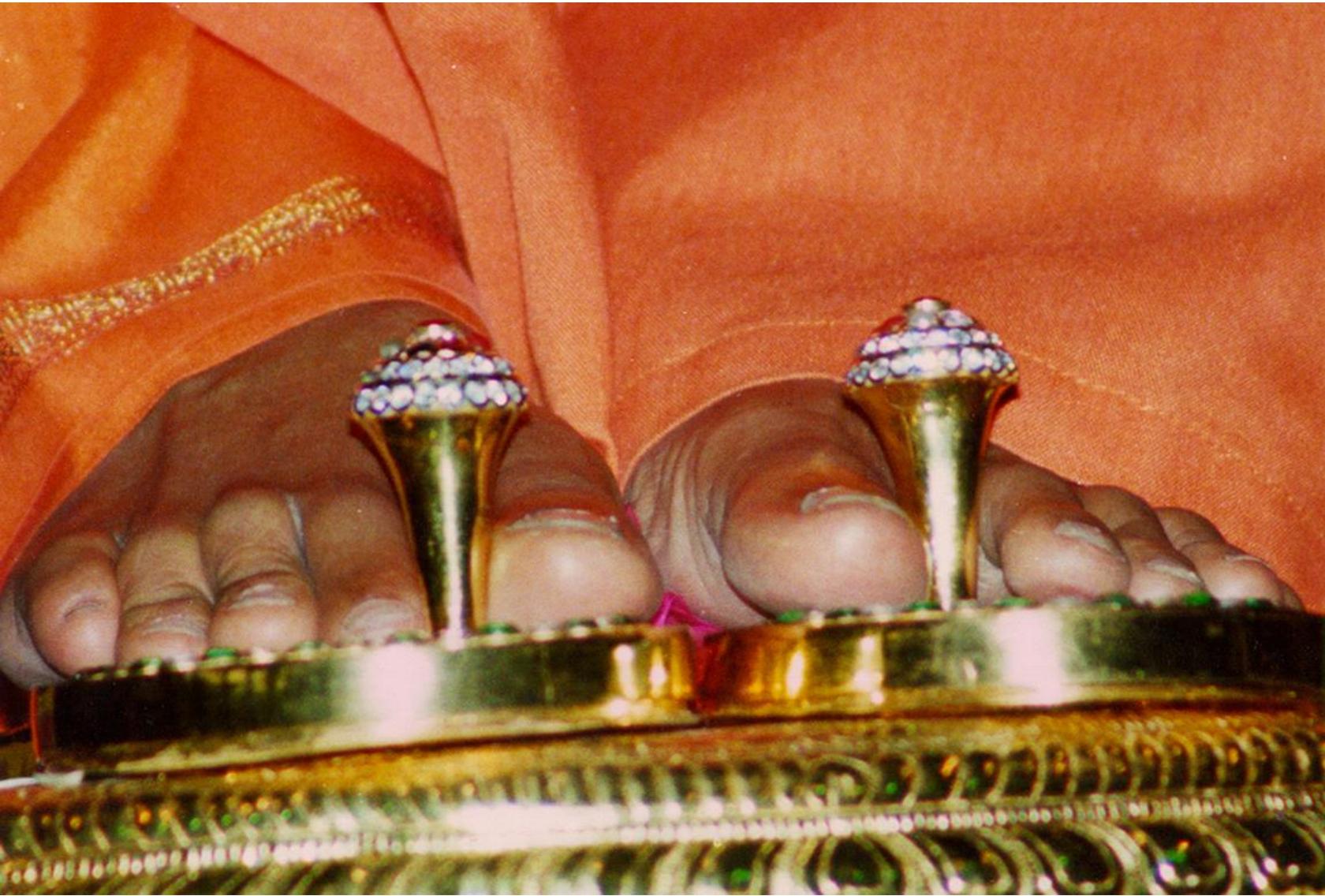
 Sri Sathya Sai 

Seva (selfless service) in all its forms, all the world over, is primarily a spiritual discipline for mental clean-up. Without the inspiration given by that attitude, the urge is bound to ebb and grow dry; or it may meander into pride and pomp. Just think for a moment. Are you serving God? Or is God serving you? When a pilgrim stands waist deep in the Ganga, takes in his palms the sacred water and, reciting an invocatory formula, pours the water as an offering to the Deity—an arpañ (offering) as he calls it—what he has done is only poured Ganga into Ganga. When you offer milk to a hungry child or a blanket to a shivering brother or sister on the pavement, you are but placing a gift of God into the hands of another gift of God. You are reposing the gift of God in a repository of the Divine Principle. God serves. He allows you to claim that you have served. Without His will, not a single blade of grass can quiver in the breeze. Fill every moment with gratitude to the Giver and the Recipient of all gifts.

I consider seva (selfless service) as the most important activity of the samitis (centres or service groups), for it is the highest sadhana (spiritual discipline). Do not entangle yourselves in pros and cons, in arguments for and against, whether this way or that. They are the consequence of wrong or perverted scholarship. Love ignores logic. Seva respects no syllogism. Try to observe the rules that have been framed through Love, to canalise the Love that you are required to cultivate. I have said this so often that all of you know my mind already: "Start the day with love; spend the day with love; fill the day with love; end the day with love; that is the way to God".

There are many who come forward when there is a call for social service, but most of them crave publicity seeking the camera whenever they help others and very disappointed when they are not mentioned in newspapers. Such persons push themselves forward and climb into positions of authority, just to parade their importance before the public. They forget that service is worship, that each act of service is a flower placed at the feet of the Lord and that, if the act is tainted with ego, it is as if the flower is infested with slimy insect pests. Who will contaminate the Feet with such foul offering? Have no egoism while you serve the people of your district. Be guides in their spiritual struggle. Nourish faith in God. Upon that faith you can build any type of spiritual organisation. Trees that grow by the side of canals will flourish thick with foliage and fruits. So too, bhajan mandalis (devotional wings) and other units of this Organisation will flourish when faith in the Divine feeds the roots. Emphasise simplicity and sincerity more than pomp and show. Make the mind the shrine.

 Sri Sathya Sai 



○ Lord, take my love, and let it flow in fullness of devotion to Thee;

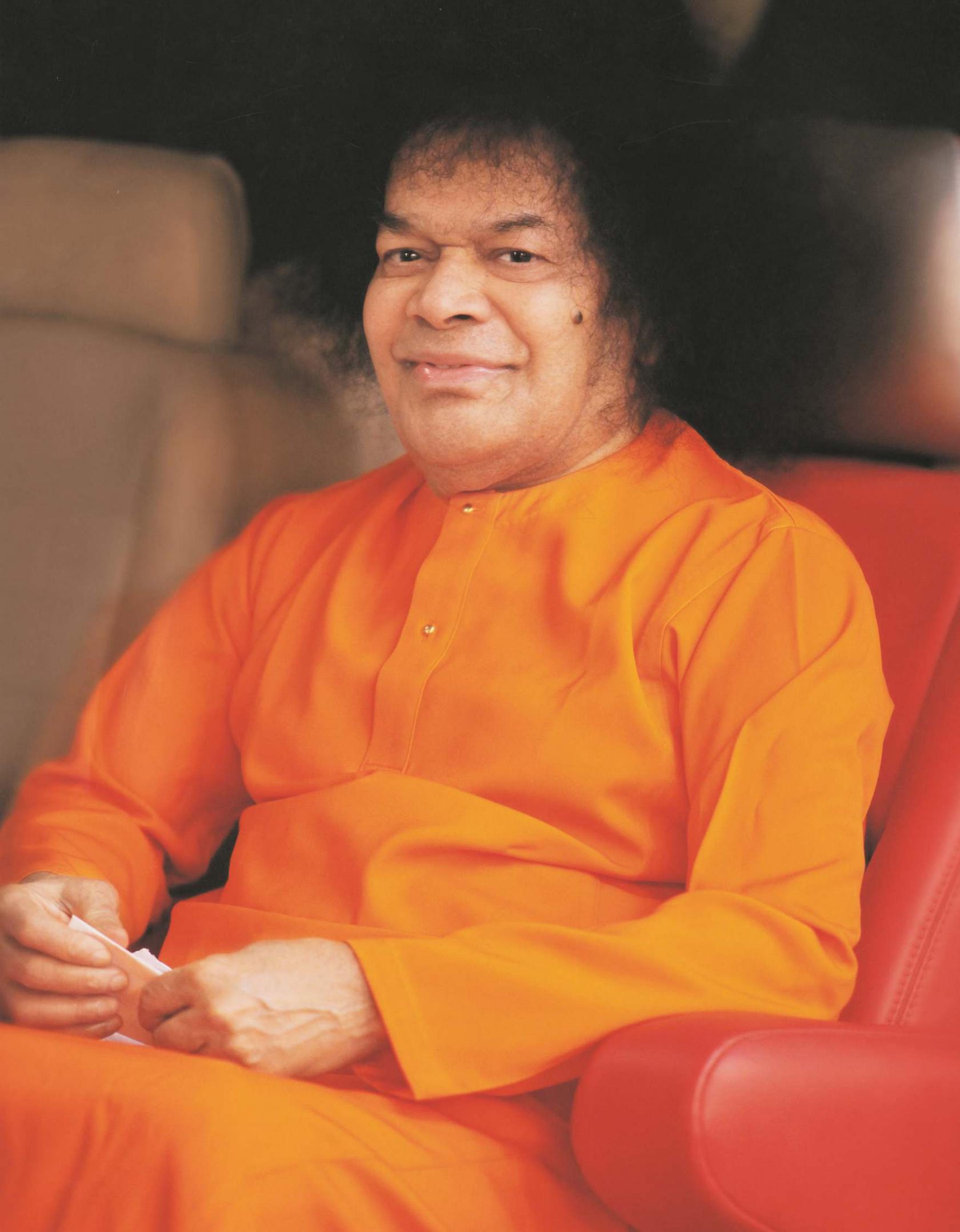
○ Lord, take my hands, and let them work incessantly for Thee;

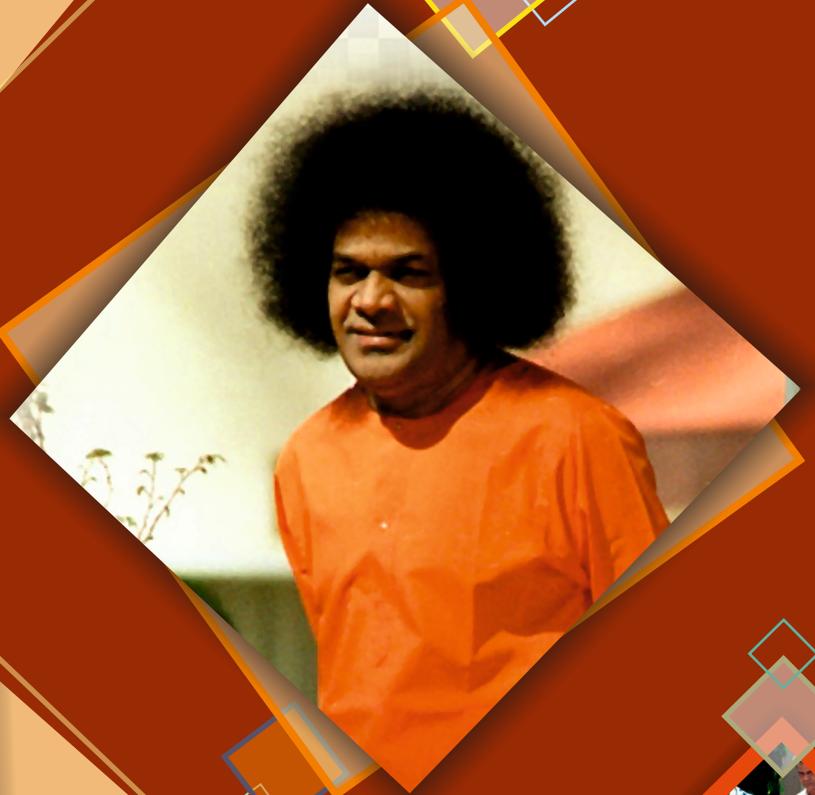
○ Lord, take my soul, and let it be merged in One with Thee;

○ Lord, take my mind and thoughts, and let them be in tune with Thee;

○ Lord, take my everything, and let me be an instrument to work for Thee.







**SRISATHYA SAISEVA ORGANISATIONS, WEST BENGAL
DISTRICT : HOOGHLY**

22/A Bhaduri Lane, Lahiri Para, Chatra, Serampore 712204, Email: dp.hooghly@gmail.com
State Office: 163, A J Bose Road, Kolkata 700 014, Email: ssssowb.mail@gmail.com, Website : ssssowb.org