

AUM SRI SAI RAM



**SRI SATHYA SAI
SEVA ORGANISATIONS
NILGIRIS DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU**

ANNUAL REPORT

2019 - 2020



LOVE IS MY FORM
TRUTH IS MY BREATH
BLISS IS MY FOOD
EXPANSION IS MY LIFE

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DEDICATED AT
the LOTUS FEET of Our
BELOVED LORD & MASTER
BHAGAWAN SRI SATHYA SAI BABA



FOREWORD

FROM THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Aum Sri Sai Ram

Offering my humble pranaams at the Divine Lotus Feet of our most Beloved Bhagawan.

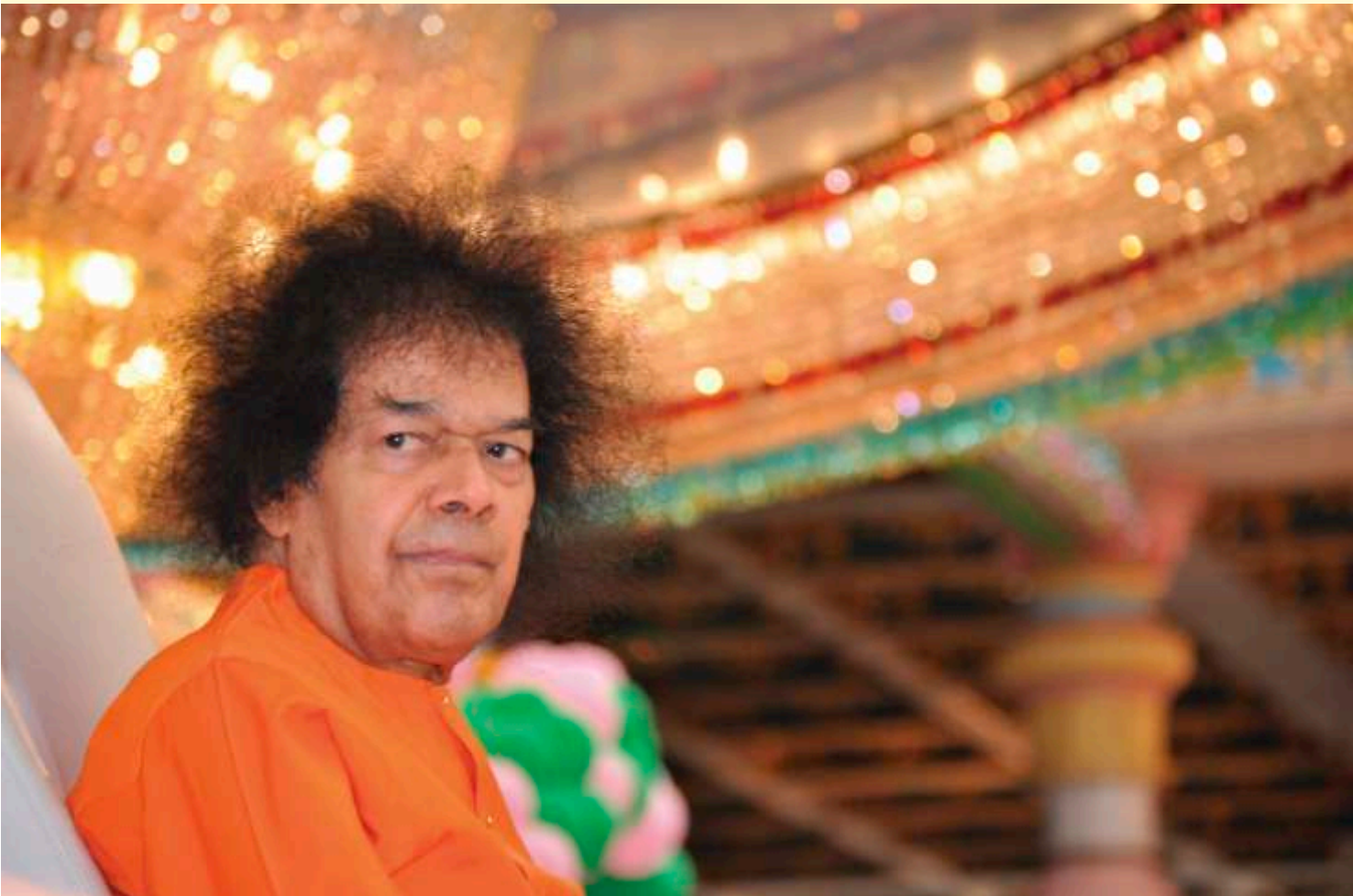
This report consists of all the seva / spiritual activities done by the devotees and members of the **Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations , Nilgiris District** during the period **April 1st, 2019 to December 31st, 2020**.

Bhagawan is all-knowing and all-pervading and is aware of the work of Love done by the devotees of Nilgiris.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, when the entire nation came to a standstill, Bhagawan blessed our sevadals to undertake new avenues of service activities. HIS presence was evident in many places during the course of our activities and it gave us the zeal and enthusiasm to expand our activities.

This brief report highlights the work done and we sure that with HIS Divine Blessings, we will be able to improve upon ourselves and do better in our quest to enrich our lives by the seva we do.

Jai Sai Ram



SRI SATHYA SAI SEVA ORGANISATIONS

AN INTRODUCTION

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 Hindi 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 Baba



WINGS

OF THE ORGANISATIONS

The Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation functions under the three wings viz. (i) Spiritual, (ii) Education, and (iii) Service.

Each activity in a wing is directed to facilitate and help the member in his 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 supplementary and 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.



SPIRITUAL WING

- Bhajan
- Nagarsankeertan
- Study Circle
- Sadhana Camps
- Study of Sai Literature
- Meditation, and
- Others



EDUCATION WING

- Non-formal education of children in the age group of 5-14 years through values-based educational training,
- Bal-Vikas
- Educare
- Parenting Programmes



SERVICE WING

- Gram Seva
- Slums Service
- Medical Camps and Health Care
- Sanitation activities
- Visit to orphanages, old age homes etc.
- Disaster relief
- Narayana Seva
- Free Coaching Classes, and Others

ACTIVITIES

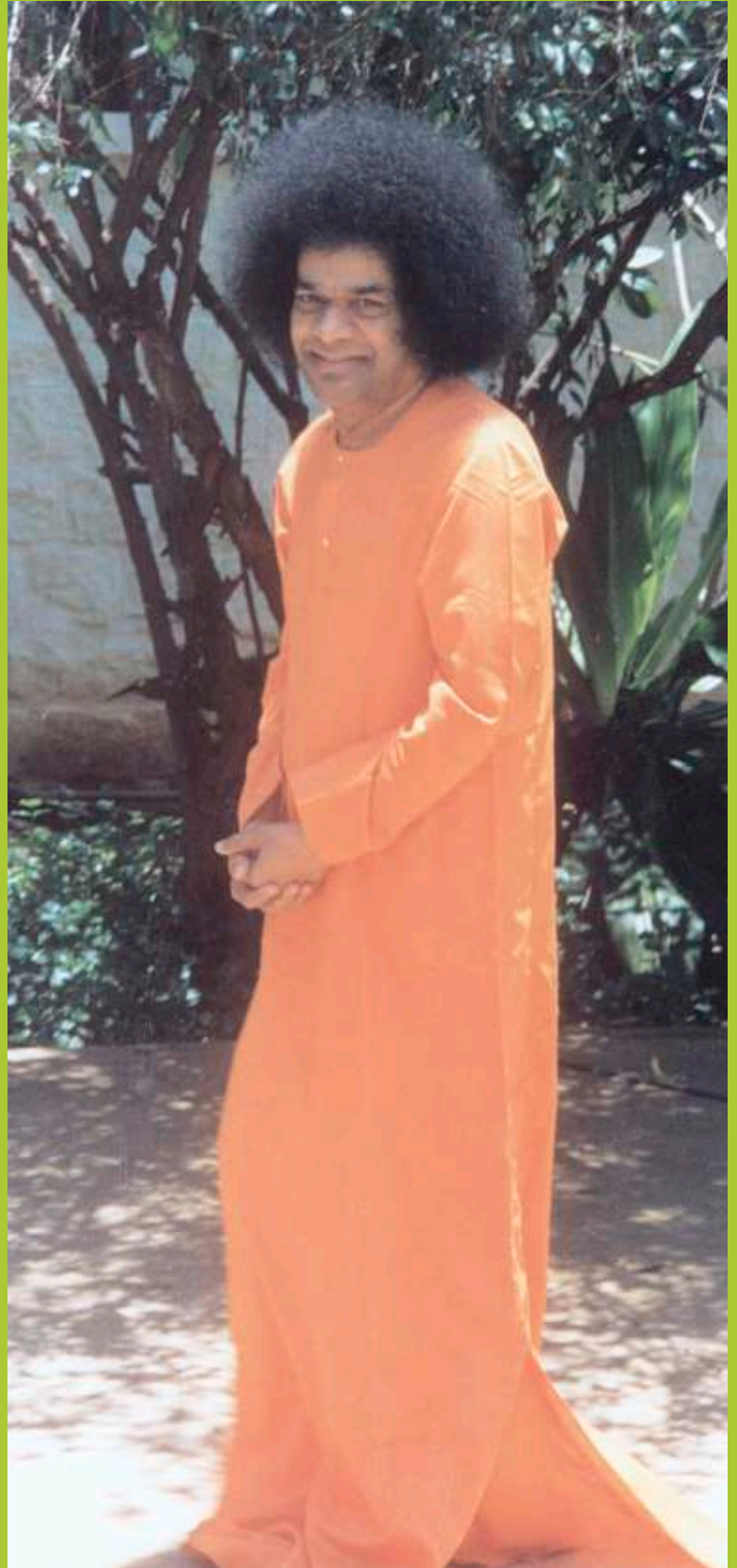
ADMINISTRATION OF THE ORGANISATIONS

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 in the District under the stewardship of the District President, focused on its purpose, clear in its vision and dedicated in its efforts to live up to the 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 inspire in them a desire to inculcate 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 and Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Jyoti Programme - each of them are bound by one goal -

**“Service to Man
is
Service to God”.**



THE 9 POINT CODE OF CONDUCT AND 10 PRINCIPLES

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.

TEN 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.

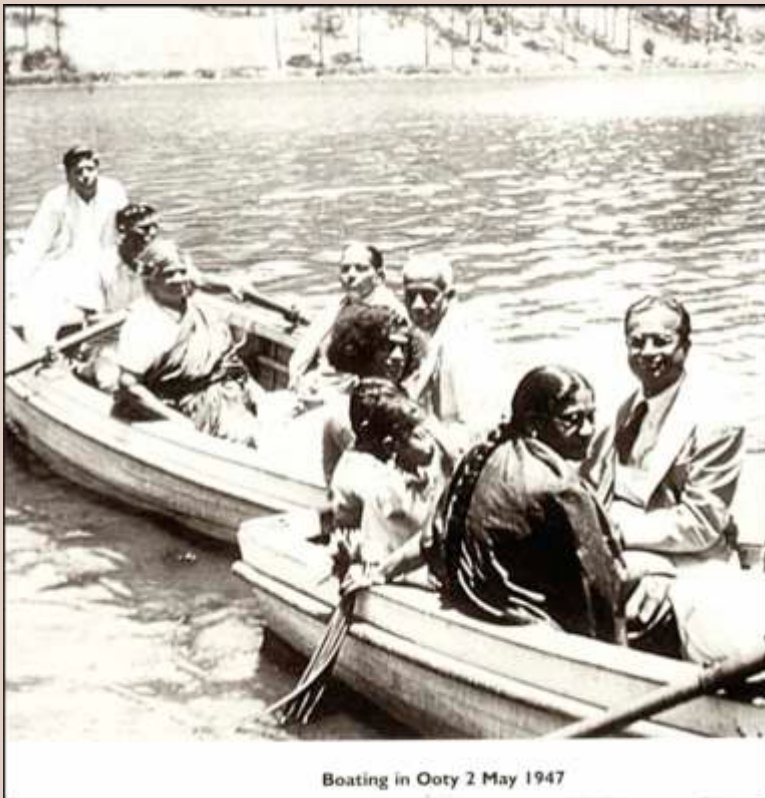


**SRI SATHYA SAI
SEVA ORGANISATIONS
NILGIRIS DISTRICT**



BRIEF HISTORY and DIVINE VISITS

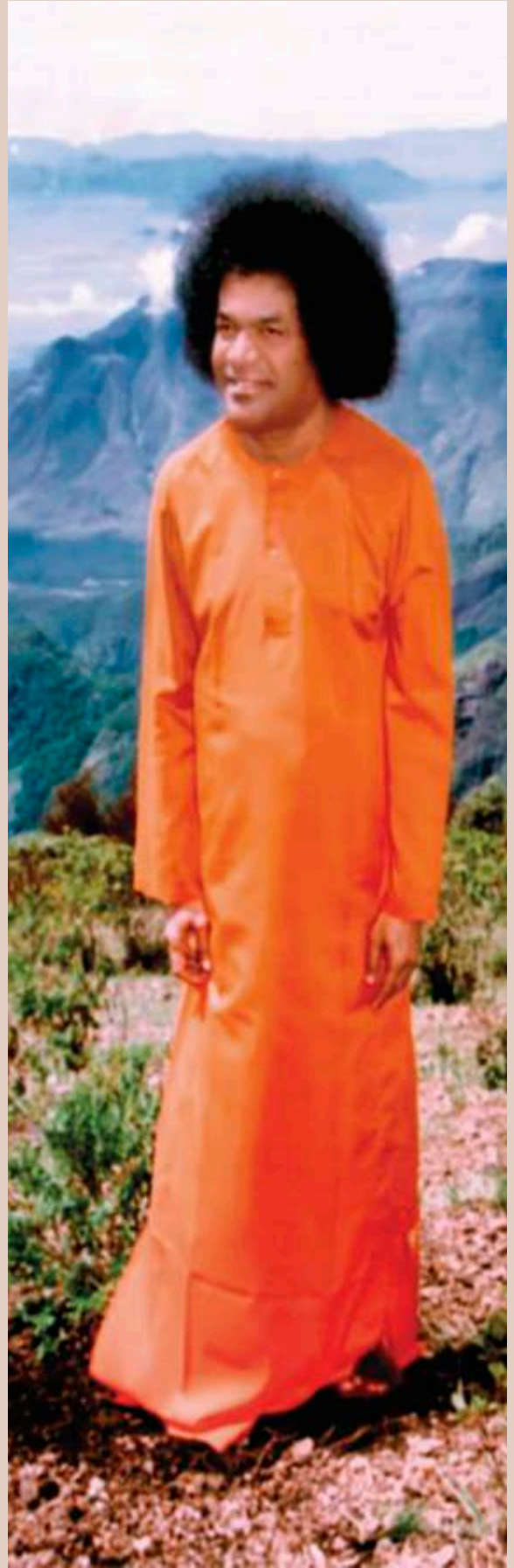
Swami's first visit to Ooty, the queen of the hill stations, was in the year 1947. Swami had written a letter to Smt. Vijayakumari (author of the book Anyatha Sharanam Nasthi, Page no.100) from Ooty. ***"We had an enjoyable stay at Ooty. We went out every day and we went for boating. The scenery was picturesque and a feast for the eyes"***.



Many senior devotees have had the privilege of having Swami's darshan in Ooty at that time. Except one or two, they are all no more now. Sri. Sait Bellie Gowder aged 83 was one of the oldest devotees of Swami. He told, "I had my first darshan of Swami in the year 1951 at the bungalow of Sri. Malla Maistry. I had gone along with my friend Sri. Krishna Gowder to see Swami".

On seeing Sri. Krishna Gowder Swami asked, "How are you Krishna Gowder? You have seen me before. Can you recall when?"

Sri. Krishna Gowder recalled that incident later. "A few years before, I had a dairy farm near Moyar, (a village near Ooty). One



day, a lean young man with a bushy hair and bright face walked towards me, as I was busy doing my work in the farm. Then he took my long overcoat, which was hanging on the wall. He put it on and smiled as though he wanted to ask me, how it suited him and then he walked away. As I was gazing, at him wrapped up in wonder, someone brought me to this world, saying, "he is taking away your overcoat and you have kept your money in it." At that time, a jeep came to a halt near my dairy farm. The white man who came in the jeep made hectic

effort to start the jeep. But it wouldn't. The lean young man waved his hand materialized vibhuthi and sprinkled the vibhuthi on the engine. The jeep started immediately. Then he came back to Krishna Gowder, removed the overcoat and gave it back to Krishna Gowder and went away. All these had happened so swiftly, that I had forgotten all about it.

Swami told Sri. Krishna Gowder, "It was I who came to your farm in Moyar". Then Swami blessed both of them as they took padanamaskar.

SPECTACULAR PAGEANTRY

The Nilgiris, which Swami christened as 'holy hills', had the fortune of being blessed again by Swami's visit on April 16, 1961. The devotees had been praying to Swami for a long time, to visit Nilgiris. When the news of Swami's imminent visit reached them, their joy knew no bounds. The news was not published in the newspapers; no great measures of publicity was adopted, yet, people congregated in tens of thousands from the villages around Ooty and the towns nearby, as well. Sitting gracefully on a decorated chair mounted on the back of an elephant, Swami graced darshan to the devotees.

The procession started from Paarai Muneeshwaran Temple. Swami was welcomed with poornakumbham and veda parayanam. A choice group of Nadaswaram artists added a celestial



sweetness by their music. Trumpets and drumbeats followed. Sri. Raja Reddy with his mellifluous voice started the bhajan. Two beautiful lines of naamavali were sung throughout the procession. People who were in the procession remember the grandeur till date, as the sweetest bhajan session they ever have participated. The procession went upto Lupin Villa..

HOLY JOY

Swami condescended to visit the villages around Ooty, even the very remote ones, where there were not even proper roads. He was touched by the sincerity and simplicity of the villagers. In every village, He urged the people, **“just as you work hard to fill your stomach, you should make efforts to win spiritual fulfillment, hence be full of devotion”**

In the village of Achanakal, Swami laid the foundation stone for **Gopalakrishnar Temple on 24th April, 1961.**

Dr. Mathan's Bungalow

Swami's first visit to Dr. Mathan's bungalow was on April 20th 1961. Smt. Lakshmi Mathan, recalling Swami's coming into their 'Relief House', gave a vivid description.

Swami accepted the traditional welcome. Sri. Mathan offered a garland. His brother waved the coconut and Smt. Lakshmi waved the kumkum water to ward off the evil eyes. Swami went into the pooja room, which had been decorated exuberantly, in honour of Swami's visit. Swami sat on the decorated chair reserved for Him. He told Smt. Mathan, “As the mother of five daughters, your duty now, is to look after your family well. You need not spend a long time, doing pooja or dhyanam. I will look after your spiritual welfare”. He gave them padanamaskar, accepted aarathi, materialized vibhuthi and applied it on their foreheads. Swami had stayed in Dr. Mathan's 'Relief House' several times in 1961, 1963, 1965 and 1966. Dr. Mathan, his wife Smt. Lakshmi Mathan and their daughters had the fortune of basking in the love of Swami.

During His visit to Ooty in April, before leaving for Puttaparthi, Swami purchased a bungalow called Parnakudi situated in Ooty. **On the 30th August, 1961, Swami came back to Ooty and performed the Grahapravesam of the bungalow. Swami renamed it as Brindavanam.** The next day, was Krishna Jayanthi. That year's birthday celebrations of Lord Krishna was a blissful experience for the devotees of Ooty.

In the presence of Swami, the **Sri Sathya Sai Sathsangam** of **Ooty** had its auspicious beginning with **Swami himself selecting twenty-five members for the committee.** Sri. Linga Maistry of Davanai, Dr. Mathan of Ooty, Sri. Ajja Gowder of Ketty were among the committee members. The members discussed the devotional activities to be promoted and Swami Himself fixed the day and



time for the **weekly bhajan of this Satsangam as Sunday evening 3.00pm to 4.00pm.** Devotees recall that during this stay at Ooty, **Sri. Raja Reddy set the tune to the bhajan song 'Subramaniam, Subramaniam' and sang it before Swami.** Previously, the concluding song used to be 'Subramanya Mam Paahi, Swaminatha Mam Paahi'.



Devotees of Ooty wrote letters to Swami, requesting Him to bless them with His darshan once again. Dr. Mathan and a group of devotees also went to Bangalore on 16th May 1965 to invite Swami to come to Ooty. Swami blessed them and promised to visit Ooty in ten or fifteen days. On 26th morning, they received the news that Swami was coming that day evening itself.

Dr. Mathan's bungalow, really looked like Prasanthi Nilayam. Swami was in the pooja room. VIP's like Governor Sri. Ramakrishna Rao, Sri. Venkateswara Rao, Sri. Vittal Rao, Sri. Raja Reddy, were in the hall. A group of vedic Brahmins were chanting the Vedas and devotees were waiting in the lawns. During this visit, **Swami inaugurated the Prasanthi Vidwan Mahasabha at Ooty.** There were discourses by learned scholars and pundits. Swami also discoursed and sang bhajans in the evening. Dr. Mathan had arranged for the 'Katha Kalakshepam'. Swami also very much liked and enjoyed it.

On 27th May, Swami laid the foundation stone for the mandir, on the land, donated by Sri. Ajja Gowder, munsif of Ketty Village.

Swami gave a discourse in kannada for an hour and He Himself sang a few bhajans. The devotees were extremely happy. Swami had lunch with the office bearers of the Satsangam.

Later on Swami used to visit Ooty very often and established Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Vihar which was later shifted to Puttaparthi. During his Summer Showers in Nandavanam at Ooty during 1976, Swami narrated about his childhood days to the students who were with him. He also materialised a map of India showing institutions that would take shape in the next decades of the Avataric Sojourn. Later when he visited Ooty in 1988, He stayed with Sri G Govidarajulu who later on went on to contribute to the construction of Sai Kailas at Yellanalli Nilgiris. We are in the process of collating all the data and history so that we will have more material on Swami's numerous visits to Ooty.



Swami at Nandanavanam, Ooty conversing with Sri Nanjan (father of Sri Radhakrishnan, Swami's Personal Attendant who gave up his life for Swami)

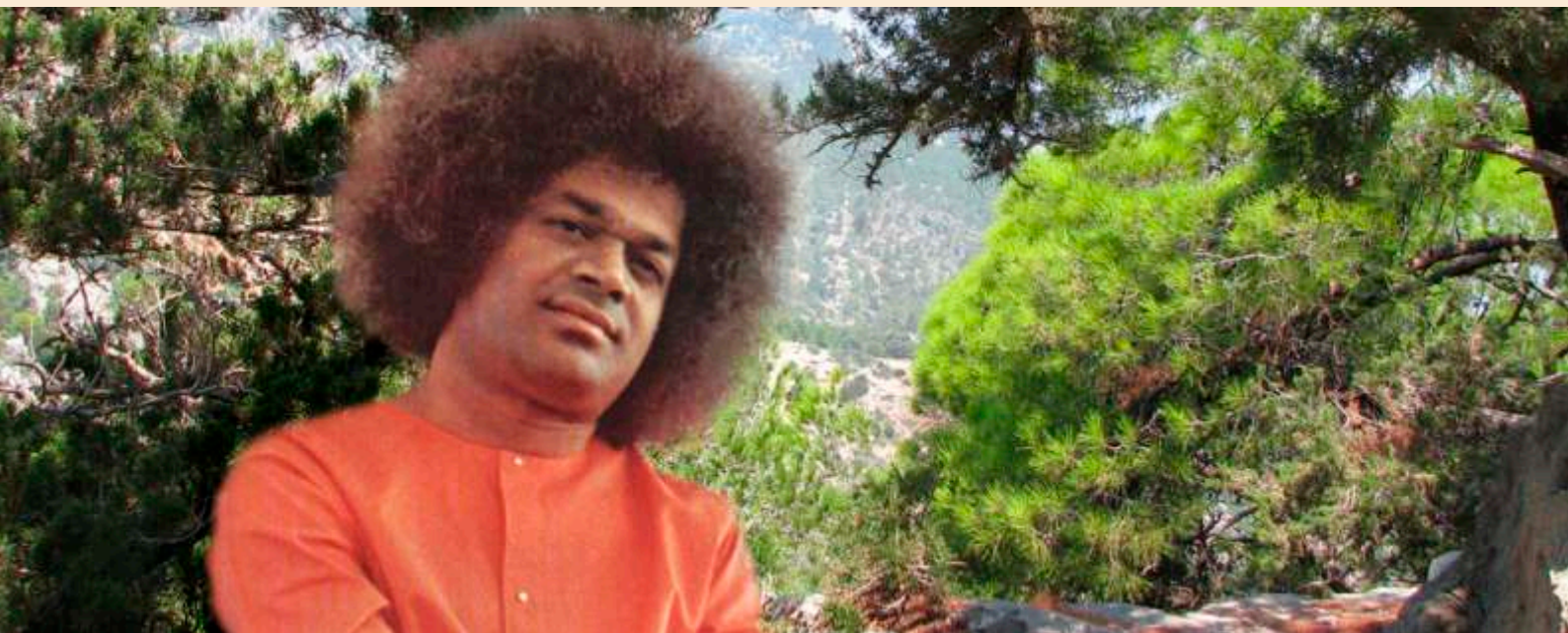
Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations is functional in Nilgiris with members from various cross sections of society and different faiths. With around 27 Samithis and 10 Bhajan Mandalis, the Organisation serves as a platform for its members to undertake spiritual practices through its various wings such as 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.

The following tables give an overview of the Organisation in Nilgiris.

Statistical Overview as on 31st December 2020

Units	Numbes	Number of members
Samithis	27	450
BhajanMandalis	8	180
Total	35	630
No. of Sevadals		
· Gents		162
· Ladies		300
No. of Youth		
· Gents		70
· Ladies		30
Adopted Slums/Villages	Numbers	Number of Beneficiaries
Slums/ Villages Adopted		
Adopted UnderSSSVIP	1	1000
Total		
Adopted Schools under Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Jyoti	Numbers	Number of Students
Schools	1	200





The picturesque Hill Station Ooty has this abode to Our Lord aptly named SAI KAILAS. This place was inaugurated on 23rd May 2012. Swami had taken a keen interest in this project and every year we used to keep Him apprised (as if HE did not Know it) of the stages of construction and the details when he was in His Physical Form.

Now, this is the Centre for the activities of the Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, Nilgiris District and all District Meetings, Celebrations of Festivals and Conducting Events at the District Level happens at Sai Kailas.



The Ground floor has a Big Hall for Prayers, Bhajans and Events. The First Floor consists of Rooms for the Lord. Miracles take place very often reminding us of the HIS Holy PRESENCE.

Bhajans are conducted every Thursday between 12 Noon and 1 pm and Sunday between 11 am and 12 Noon regularly. The District President is the Contact Person for Sai Kailas.

The members of the Organisation are involved in various activities on regular basis which primarily includes Spiritual Study Circles, Community Bhajan, Nagrsankirtan 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.

The following table broadly categories the different activities that are undertaken in all the Nineteen districts of the State.

Overview of activities undertaken across all the Districts			
	Educare	Medicare	Sociocare
Spiritual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Circles for Adults and Youth 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Bhajan Centers Nagar Sankirtan Conference/Retreats Sadhana Camps
Educational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bal Vikas Classes based on human values Bal Vikas 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 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 are undertaken on monthly/weekly basis across the Districts is given in the following table

An account of regular activities undertaken across the Nilgiris District			
Spiritual	Activities	Total Number	Total Number of Participants
	Devotional Singing	—	—
	No. of. Community Bhajan Centres	1	—
	No. of. Bhajans Held	130	5200
	Seven Household Bhajan	—	—
	No. Of Cluster	35	—
	No. of Houses	350	—
	No. of Bhajans Held	2240	22400
	Nagar Sankirtan	150	450
	Study Circles	—	—
Conference/Retreats Sadhana Camps	2	168	
Educational	Activities	Total Number	Total Number of Students
	Bal Vikas Centres		
	i. Urban	22	200
	ii. Rural	34	290
	iii. School	18	1655
	Total (i+ii+iii)	74	2145
	Bal Vikas Gurus	49	—
Service	Activities	Total Number	Total Number of Participants
	Visit to:		
	Leprosy Village	—	—
	Correctional Homes	—	—
	Orphanages	2	50
	Hospital	—	—
	Disabled / Old Age Homes	1	10
	Camps:		
	Narayan Seva	18	3600
	Veterinary Camps	—	—
	Medical Awareness Camps	5	474
	Eye Camps	—	—
	Blood Grouping Camps	—	—
	Service Camps	—	—
	Vocational Training Centers	—	—
	Free Coaching Centers	—	—
	Medical Centers	—	—
	Sanitation (Public Urinals)	—	—
	Dental Treatment Camps	—	—
National Narayan Seva	—	—	
Blood Donation Camps	—	—	

OFFICE BEARERS

Sl. No	Name	Designation	Tenure
1	Sundarraj. H.K.	District President	1.5
2	Senthil Kumar.N	District Service Coordinator	3
3	Saraswathi. M	District Mahila Service Coordinator	19
4	Ganesh. R	District Spiritual Coordinator	5
5	Sheela Ramu	District Mahila Spiritual Coordinator	1
6	Thyagarajan. B	District Educational Coordinator	21
7	Vijayakumar. R	District BPT & Sanathana Sarathi Coordinator	4
8	Senthilkumar. R	District IT Coordinator	1
9	Halan. B	Dist. SSSVIP Coordinator	6
10	M. Gowry Shankar	District Youth Coordinator	2
11	Priya Gowry Shankar	District Mahila Youth Coordinator	1
12	Ranjith	District PSS Coordinator	2
13	B Vivekanandan	District SRP Coordinator	4
14	Devaraj	District DM Coordinator	3



SPECIFIC SERVICE PROJECTS OR INITIATIVES

Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Jyoti (SSSVJ) Program

The objective of the Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Jyothi (SSSVJ) program is to take up existing semi-operational, makeshift and dilapidated government schools and turn them into fully operational, well structured and collaborative schools. The goal is to inspire children by empowering the schools by creating good and healthy learning environment.

The SSSVJ program is being run in a Government School near Yedakkadu village in the Nilgiris district, where infrastructure help water supply, construction / repair and maintenance of toilets was done in the previous year. The program was officially inaugurated by the then State President of SSSSO Tamilnadu, Sri. Venugopal.

During May 2019, students from this school participated in the Prasanthi Seva

During the 1st week of July, 2019, students from this school participated in a tree planting campaign initiated by our Organisation.

23rd Feb 20 Students from this school participated in removing the weeds at the Devarsola Tea Estate belonging to Central Trust.



Tree Planting



Bal Vikas in Sathya Sai Samithis & Schools

The district has many Balvikas Centers, mostly in the Samithis and Bhajanmandalis, imparting Bhagawan's value based education through the five teaching methods of shlokas, bhajans, story telling, silent sitting and group activities to the Group I to Group III students.

Apart from the Samithis, a few schools in the district are conducting value based education as well. Namely Holy Angels School Thummanatty, GEMS Kagguchi, Sathya Sai Matriculation School, Agalar Thuneri, Government HSS - Yedakkad and Government HSS - Ebbanad.

On the 25th of August, 2019 the Balvikas exams for the children from all over the district, took place at Holy Angels School, Thummanatty.

On the 5th of December, 2020, a total of 285 children took up Group II and 10 children took up Group III exams in the district.

In January 2020 Balvikas Gurus from our district attended the Balvikas Alumini meet at Prasanthi Nilayam.

Bal Vikas Talent Search



On the 1st of December, 2019, the annual district level Talent Search Programme for Balvikas children took place at Sai Kailas.

27 children (20 girls and 7 boys) who were selected from various samithis took part in it.

The winners of this event were selected and made to represent our district, in the State Level Talent Search Programme held at Tirupur on 23rd Dec, 2019.

Our district bagged the 1st place in English Elocution for Group III and 3rd place for Tamil Elocution in Group II.



Bal Vikas Cultural Activities

On the 6th of May, 2019, Easwaramba Day was celebrated with grandeur and buzzing cultural activities by the Balvikas children of our district. In commemoration with Bhagawans 94th Birthday celebrations, 94 Balvikas children had the unique opportunity to perform Paada Pooja to their parents at a grand ceremony organized at Sai Kailas. The highlight of the day was the speech by our special chief guest **Dr.R. Ravikumar, Warden of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Whitefield, Bangalore**. Dr.Ravikumar inspired all the children and their parents by sharing his nostalgic memories that he got as a student of Swamis Institute and about the Divine Love of Bhagawan for the Balvikas children.

Bal Vikas Gurus'

Training Programme

On the 15th of Sep, 2019, a special training session for upcoming Balvikas gurus of our district was held at Sai Kailas. A total of 17 gents and 29 mahilas participated in the training and are now handling classes across the district.

EHV Programme in Schools

On the 24th and 25th of Sep, 2019 a two day EHV programme was conducted at Holy Angels School, Thummanatty, wherein 60 students of class X participated enthusiastically. The programme was designed in line with Bhagawans teachings on Sathya, Dharma, Shanthi, Prema and Ahimsa. The session was supported with audio visuals and value based games.

Based on the encouraging response we got from the children and the school management, we conducted the same programme in the following schools as well:

Sathya Sai School Martication School, Agalar, on the the 4th and 5th of January, 2020. Wherein 180 children participated enthusiastically



GEMS school Kagguchi, on the 18th and 19th of January, 2020, wherein 46 class X students participated wholeheartedly and were benefitted.

Government HSS, Thummanatty on the 1st of February, 2020, wherein 59 class XII students participated and were benefitted.

Following the tremendous feedback we got from this programme, we are now planning to take this programme throughout the district in the coming days.





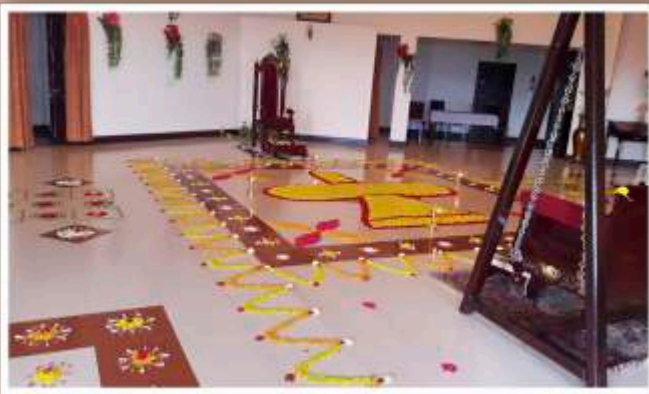
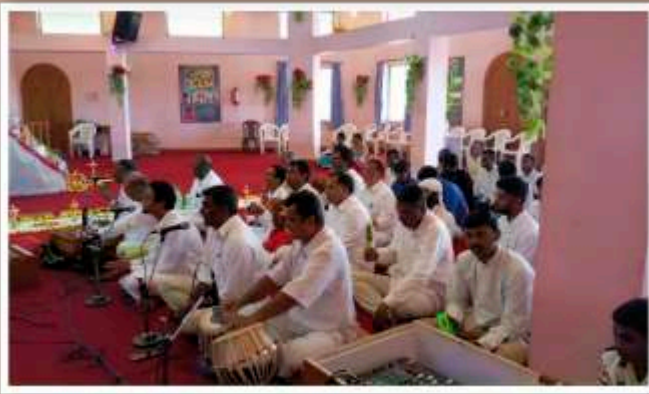
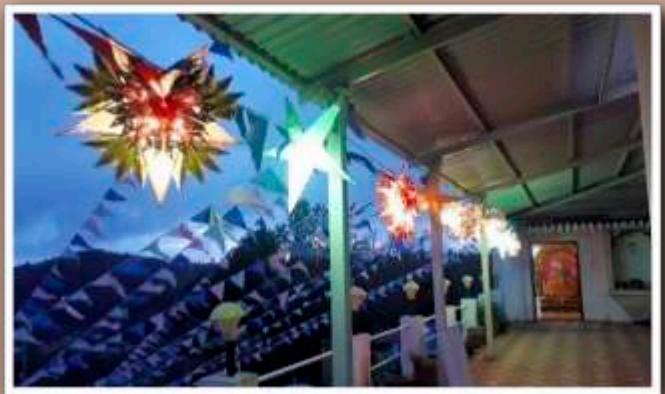


SPIRITUAL WING

Celebration of Festivals

The district organization conducts weekly bhajans on Thursdays and Sundays at Sai Kailas. Study circles and satsangs are conducted on a regular basis.

All major functions of the SSSSO namely the New Years Day, Maha Shivrathri, Maha Aradhana Day, Easwaramma Day, Sai Kailas Anniversary day, Rama Navami, Krishna Janmasthanmi, Ganesh Chaturthi, Navarathri, Akandha bhajans, Bhagawan's Birthday and Christmas were celebrated in a grand manner at Sai Kailas.



Major functions being celebrated

Mahila Wing Activities

Bhagawan says “Women have proved throughout the centuries in Indian History that they have the courage, the vision, and the intelligence needed to dive into the depths of spiritual science and discipline”.

True to the saying, the Mahila wing is like the back bone of the organization. During all the major functions, festivals and other major events in Sai Kailas, the mahila wing will be all active in cleaning the premises of Sai Kailas, decoration of the halls, engaging in prayers and bhajans and so on. Every month, the mahila wing performs Pournami Pooja on the day of the full moon.

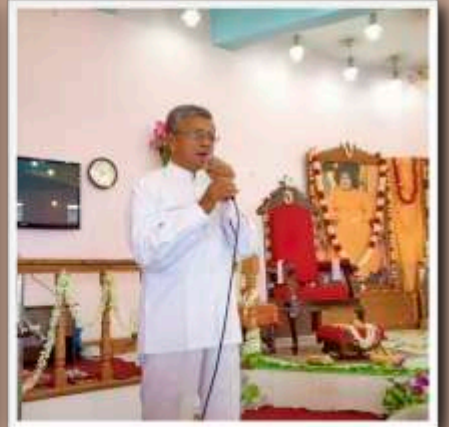
Navarathri, is the important festival where the mahila wing conduct pooja and archanam and pay obeisance to the Divine Trinity. A special Golu was arranged at Sai Kailas displaying the various Gods and Goddesses, and the halls were specially decorated for the event.

Apart from this, mahilas also conduct Vellaku pooja at Sai Kailas and in the Samithis.



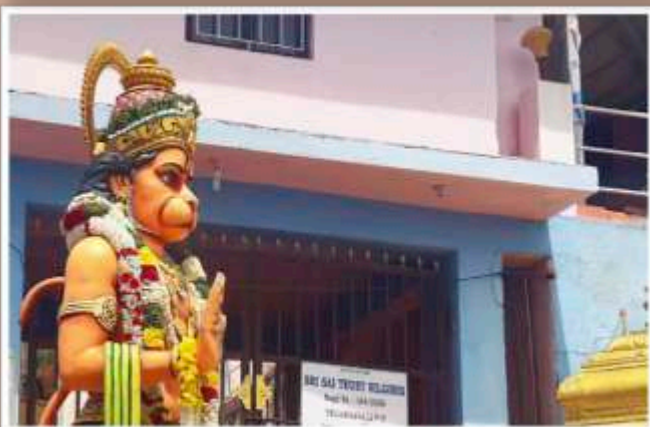
Spiritual Talks

During the major functions, the district organization sees to that senior devotees and office bearers from the state and national level are invited as special dignitaries to share their experiences and address on Bhagawan's divine teachings to the devotees gathered.



Installation of Lord Hanuman Statue at Sai Kailas

By Bhagawan's grace, Lord Hanuman statue was installed in the Sai Kailas premises. The bhumi pooja for the installation was conducted on 9th September 2019 and the Prathista pooja was performed on 13th October 2019.



Spiritual Yatra to Sai Sruthi, Kodaikanal

A spiritual yatra to 'Sai Sruthi' Bhagawan's divine playground and His abode in Kodaikanal was organized during August 2019. About 126 devotees of the district (74 gents and 52 mahilas) embarked on a 2-day yatra to the enchanting paradise in the hills of Kodai.

The devotees engaged in Omkaar, Suprabahtham, Vedam chanting, bhajans and Satsang during the yatra. A sadhana camp on the 'Nine point code of conduct' was also conducted. The program was graced by the National Vice-President of the SSSSO, Sri Ramani who addressed the devotees on Bhagawan's teachings and his experiences. The State Spiritual Coordinator and State Vice-President (Tribal Areas) were the other dignitaries to grace the occasion sharing their experiences.

The Kodai yatra was thoroughly enjoyed by the all those devotees who were blessed to be part of the spiritual expedition. To add to the spiritual vibrance of the atmosphere, showers of blessings by Bhagawan were visible during the event adding bliss and joy to all those gathered.



Sri Sathya Sai National Tribal Development Programme & Convenor's Conference

The SSSSO, India initiated its flagship programme, the Sri Sathya Sai National Tribal Development Programme to reach out to the tribal communities of India. The programme was launched in His immediate Divine Omnipresence in Prasanthi Nilayam during November 2019. The programme was launched to focus on nine major areas namely infrastructure, sanitation, women and child health, education, agriculture, mass marriages, social and cultural development, skill and individual development.

The Nilgiris is home to several indigenous and tribal communities such as the Badagas, Todas, Kothas, Kurumas and Kaatunayakans. The Nilgiris district SSSSO have been conducting various service activities to the tribal communities as Grama Seva, mass marriages, etc.

Members of the Toda, Kotha and Badaga communities along with senior devotees and members of the district organization had the opportunity to attend the event. The tribal communities offered their traditional music and dance presentations in the Divine presence. A brochure was released by senior Trustees of the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust and SSSSO officials.

Subsequent to this event, Convenor's Conference was held at Prasanthi Nilayam, which was attended by the Conveners of the Samithis of the Nilgiris district.



Bhagawan's Birthday Celebrations (23rd November 2019)

Bhagawan's 94th birthday was celebrated with much grandeur at Sai Kailas. The day started with Omkaaram, Suprabatham and Nagrasankeertan at Sai Kailas followed by a visit by members of the Organisation to the Maternity Ward of the Government General Hospital, Ooty. Baby blankets, Vibuthi and Bhagawan's photograph were offered to the mothers in the Ward.

Later in the day, the celebrations commenced with cake cutting, vedam chanting, bhajans, talk by dignitaries, cultural program by Balvikas and so on.



While the celebrations went on with much galore at Sai Kailas, the Samithis and Bhajanmandalis had their share of the festivity. Devotees, both old and young of the villages gathered in good numbers, decorated the Samithis, merged in divine ecstasy by singing the glory of the Lord and along the lanes of the villages filling them with divine vibrations and offering prasadam to the houses. It was the day to pay their humble obeisance to the Kaliyuga Avatar and their Loving God.



Inauguration of New Sai Samithi

For the members of the Kanneri Bhajanamandali, 29th of September 2019 was a day to fondly remember as it was the day that was blessed by Bhagawan for its upgradation to Sri Sathya Sai Seva Samithi. The inauguration of the Samithi was done by the State President. The occasion was also graced by the State Vice-President and State Spiritual Coordinator.

After the inauguration of the Samithi in the morning, the State officials headed to Sai Kailas to attend the Youth Leadership Programme.



Vedam Wing Activity

The Vedam activity in the district is gradually gaining in momentum with more number of members; mahilas, gents and balvikas showing keen interest in learning and chanting the treasure of Vedam. Regular training and recital of Vedam is being carried out in some of the Samithis. The district organization has conducted Ekadasa Rudram and Gayatri Yagna in the past.



By Bhagawan's grace, attempt is being made to promote Vedam in the villages of the district. Vedam is being chanted during the Grama Seva and Grama Vijayam. The impact of Vedam chanting was evident from the happenings in one of the village named Kodhangatty, where the district vedam team was invited to chant Rudram during one of the Pradosha pooja in the village. This further evoked interest in the villagers to know more about Vedam. The district organization provided audios of Sri Rudram and other vedam, as chanted in Prasanthi Nilayam, to the village temple which is now being played regularly during all the Pradosha poojas. Recently, it is learnt that ardent devotees of a private firm have proposed for renovation of this village temple and its surroundings. The villagers have attributed this shower of grace as an outcome of the initiation of vedam chanting by our Organisation in the village. For us it is an opportunity granted by Swami to spread the essence of Vedam to the remote villages of the district.

Parthi Spiritual Yatra

The district office-bearers and Samithi Conveners embarked on a yatra to Prasanthi Nilayam to seek Bhagawan's blessings for the proposed Ratha Yatra to 95 villages in the Nilgiris as part of the 95th Birthday Celebrations of Bhagawan. During the two-day yatra, the members engaged in sadhana by attending the regular events of Prasanthi Nilayam and involving in Satsang and discussing about the future programmes. It was a blissful trip to the Abode of our dear Lord.



Ratha Yatra (Bhagawan's 95th Birthday Celebrations)

During Bhagawan's 90th Birthday celebrations in 2015, the district organization organized Ratha Yatra to 90 villages spread across the district. It was such an impactful event in attempting to spread the glory and message of our Lord.

Similarly in 2020, as part of the 95th Birthday celebrations, Ratha Yatra to 95 villages was commenced during the month of March (2/3/2020) at Melur Hosatty village. The very name of Melur Hosatty rings a bell in the heart of every devotee of Bhagawan, as it is the village that was immensely blessed by the Lord with His physical presence and His divine play.

A specially decorated vehicle was arranged to carry the Pallak adorning Bhagawan's portrait to the many villages. On the inaugural day, the Ratha started from Sai Kailas to Melur Hosatty village. The Pallak was carried from the entrance of the village to the Sai Samithi amidst chanting of the Vedam. It was festival galore in the village, where the

entire villagers joined in the auspicious chanting of the divine name and diving in blissfulness. It was followed by a brief bhajan session in the Samithi, Go Pooja, Nagarsankeertan and Pallak Seva along the lanes of the village. While this was on, a medical camp for the villagers was going on alongside. After lunch, the Ratha Yatra moved to the other adjacent villages.

On the 1st of March 2020, Annual Rath yathra commemorating 95th Birthday Celebrations started Melur hosatty, Kil Hosatty, Harugathci, Naihatty, Meenamalai, Konnatti, Araithatty villages. Inaugurated by Murali Srinivasan, S/o former AIP Srinivasan and Shri Vijayakrishna State spiritual coordinator. Medical camp, Narayana Seva, Cultural programmes.

On 8th March, the Rath yathra was held at 8 villages, Mynalai, Denadu, Gitta Hatti mattam, Melur, Kothiben, Bengal, Masigandi, and Kokkalada

On 15th March, the Rath yathra went to 11 villages, Backorai, Mattakandi, Kandibikkai, Thuneri, Kariamalai, Annamalai, Bellatty Mattam, Kil Kundah 1 and 2, Majoor and Manickal.

The members of the Organisation and devotees from each of the villages actively and joyfully participated in the Ratha Yatra. The Ratha Yatra had to be postponed because of the Covid-19 lockdown procedures.



Satsang (Online Webinars) during Covid lockdown

The Avatar of this age, Our Swami, is beloved to each one of us and to all animate and inanimate things of the entire Universe. However, there are only a handful of devotees whom the Lord chose to bless them with His close physical proximity and personal attention. The Nilgiris district is home to some of those blessed souls. Fortunately, some of the personalities who have had some incredible experiences with the Avatar are amidst us and it was an opportunity bestowed upon us by time and circumstances to engage with them in Satsang and engage in Sravanam, Mananam and Nidhidhasanam.

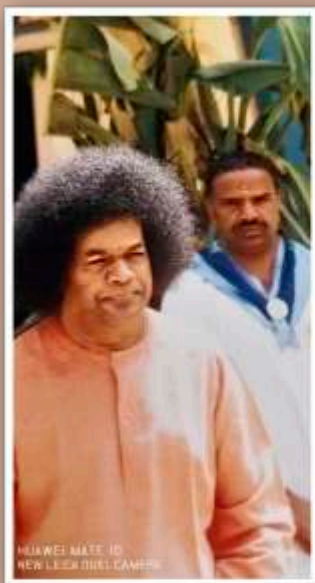
The Covid lockdown opened doors for Satsangs through online webinars, and the senior devotees who were once office bearers of the organization, Sevadals, Alumini and so on, shared their experiences with the Lord and enlightened the listeners on His teachings. Each of the webinar sessions were full of amazement and filled with gratification. While at one side the world was going through a turmoil and standstill due to the Corona virus, it was also a time for us devotees to engage in sadhana to travel inwards and move into deep introspection.

On the 1st of July 2020, Guru Poornima Online state level, by Ooty samithi. Bhajans and prayers were professionally recorded and telecast in state you tube channel

On the 14th July, in connection with Bhagawan's 94th Birthday celebrations, Melur Hosatty Samithi conducted a marathon of 94 bhajans involving 185 Bal Vikas children from all over the district.

On the 11th and 12th November 2020, online akandha bhajans by balavikas children from District was professionally recorded and telecast in state you tube channel.

On the 23rd November 2020, special telecast of Bhajans and a live programme by the District Vice President B. Thyagarajan was done by Naakubetta TV, a local Channel which has a reach across Nilgiris District.





ENGAGE YOURSELVES IN SERVICE ACTIVITY. CONSIDER SOCIAL SERVICE AS SERVICE TO GOD. THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO EARN GODS LOVE. LOVE ALL AND SERVE ALL. YOUR LIFE WILL BE SANCTIFIED THEREBY

Sri Sathya Sai Baba

Going by Swami's teachings, "A person should strive to use every talent and skill they have, not only for their own bebefit but for the benefit of the whole world", all office bearers / active workers and devotees pledge themselves to show their love for God by serving ther fellow-man and are always eager to participate in the various service activities conducted in the district.

Temple Seva

For so many years, our district Organisation has been involved in supporting the annual Temple festival at Maanihaada, Manjacombai, Sri Nagarajar Temple. On the 1st of May every year, more than 50,000 devotees throng the temple to offer their prayers. The temple authorities have always sought our support in crowd control, distribution of food, water, buttermilk etc., for the smooth conduct of the festival. Similarly the Annamalai Murugar Temple is yet another place where huge crowds gather every year for the annual Car Festival. Our devotees / active workers have been offering selfless seva at these places.



Relief Materials for Flood/ Landslip areas

The year 2019 had witnessed severe rainfall and a series of landslides in the district. The victims of the landslide were housed in Relief Camps at the Govt. schools nearby :

-9th Aug, our sevadals distributed 65 blankets to all the inmates of a camp near Kanneri Manthanai

-11th Aug, relief materials were distributed to 29 families at Sriram Nagar, Kuttimani Nagar and Bharathiyar Nagar.

-17th Aug, Our NVP Sri. Ramani Garu, travelled all the way from Chennai to visit the landslide victims and to encourage the sevadals. He personally handed over warm sweaters to 23 small children at arelief camp at Kuttimani Nagar.

-19th Aug, relief materials containing food, groceries and blankets were distributed to 300 inmates in a camp near Gudalur.

-8th October, Sweaters were distributed to 22 small children housed at Rotary ASHIA.



Distribution of Relief Materials during COVID Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic created utter chaos to all sections of people all over the globe and in our district many migrant workers lost their livelihood. They were displaced and left to fend for themselves. By the Divine Grace our lord our district organisation flung into action by providing them with relief materials like groceries, toiletries, handwash / sanitiers etc., called “**Amrutha Kalasam**” as an offering of Love from our Dear Lord. These kits were distributed in the following places :

- 18th April** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 12 families by Annikorai Samithi.
- 21st to 23rd April** Lunch for 300 Labourers from Jharkhand
- 24th April** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 19 families by Thuneri Village and Samithi
- 25th April** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam 75 families in Gudalur Zone
- 27th April** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 65 families in Ooty Town
- 29th April** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 75 physically challenged people in Gudalur
- 30th April** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 113 tribals in Coonoor Zone
- 3rd May** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 15 families by Thummanatty Samithi
- 11th May** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 19 families of Bal vikas children at Palaniappa estate
- 21st May** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 120 families in Gudalur zone
- 22nd May** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 240 physically challenged people in Gudalur
- 26th May** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 400 Tribals in Kotagiri and 160 in Gudalur and 95 in kundah
- 27th May** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 215 families in kundah and kotagiri
- 31st May** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 125 tribals by coonoor zone in tribal villages
- 4th July** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 50 families in Mercanad and Kundah zone
- 8th July** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 6 families at T Oranahalli
- 12th July** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 3 families at Kanneri
- 16th July** Distribution of Kapasura Kudineer to 16 families - 100 nos
- 23rd July** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 85 families in lockdown zone in Annikorai village by Annikorai samithi
- 28th July** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 290 families in total lockdown zone in T. Hornahally village
- 6th and 7th September** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 56 priests in Thodhanad zone
- 17th September** Distribution of Amrutha Kalasam to 22 sanitary workers at Adikarahatty village by Koderi and Adikarahatty samithis



Sl. No.	Item	Quantity
1	Rice	5 Kg
2	Thoor Dal	1 Kg
3	Sugar	500 gm
4	Atta	1 Kg
5	Rock Salt	1 Kg
6	Sambar Powder	250 gm
7	Tea	100 gm
8	Coconut Oil	100 ml
9	Other spices (Pepper/ Jeera/ Mustard/ Cumin/ Turmeric)	500 gm



Grama Seva in the villages of the Nilgiris

During 2019-20, Grama Seva was conducted in the following villages of the district

- **27th Sep, 2019** - Ebbadadu village, 38 sevadals and 178 beneficiaries
- **29th Dec, 2019** - Kokkal village, 40 sevadals and 250 beneficiaries
- **26th Jan, 2020** - Samil Thittu, Kotagiri, 28 sevadals and 82 beneficiaries.

Grama Seva normally constitutes Go pooja, Vedam chanting and Bhajans in the village temple or community hall where the function is being organized, nagarsankeertan along the streets of the villages, prasadam distribution (Swami photo, vibuthi and ladoo), medical camp, temple or village cleaning, vastra dhanam, satsang and mangala arati to Bhagawan.

Prior to the Grama Seva, district office bearers visit the village for initial assessment and to seek permission from the village heads. In all the villages where the Grama Seva were conducted, the village people accorded total cooperation by cleaning their homes and streets to welcome Swami to their homes. Grama Seva day is almost like a festival day where both the villagers and the Organization members and devotees get immersed in spiritual fervor.

The village people, mostly the elderly lot are immensely benefitted from the medical camps. A dedicated team of doctors, technicians and paramedical staffs attend the camps patiently conducting medical care. Information on the number of doctors and technicians attended the camps and the beneficiaries in each of the Grama Seva are listed in the Medical activities section.

Vegetables to Prashanthi Nilayam

With the immense Grace of our beloved Swamy, Vegetable load containing the following items were sent to Prashanthi Nilayam on 19th Nov 2020 from Nilgiris in connection with Swamy's 95th birthday celebrations.

Cabbage 840 kgs, Cauliflower 400 kgs, Raddish 100 kgs, Carrot 60 kgs, Chowchow 60 kgs, Potato 50 kg and Palm leaf plates - 20,000 nos.



Sai Rehabilitation Programme

Sai Rehabilitation Programme - SRP also known as **Hrudaya Sangamam** was conducted at Sai Kailas. 45 patients who had undergone treatment at Bhagawans Hospital and belonging to our district were treated on the day. BP, ECG and Echo was tests were done for all the beneficiaries. 2 Chief Doctors and 7 para medical staff conducted the medical camp.



Vata viruksham

With the blessings of our beloved Swamy, 4 "**VATAVIRUKSHAM**" Saplings were planted on 29th Nov 2020 at Melur Hosatty, Annikkorai, Nellimundu and Gudalur Samithies on this auspicious day of Maha Dheepam festival. Wish to share that, all the above 4 places were visited by our beloved Swamy in His physical presence long back. In Gudalur, Police Officials too have participated alongng with our Devotees



