

Highlight April 2024.

NTI is growing, entering into new rural villages, as matured Branches are removed but allowed to continue the journey with NTI. Thirty five percent of the beneficiaries have achieved the target set to get minimum of 20 layers that will generate Rs; 15,000 monthly income. Same percentage of HGP participants got their required vegetables from their home gardening. Five students are following skill training such as caregiver, nursing, ICT and sewing. Also facilitated five working girls with used bicycle and providing assistance to continue their lost education. NTI has moved out of peninsula and established branches at Iththavi & Yakkachchi in Palai and Thirunagar. Vevekananda nagar, Selva nagar and Ponnagar in Killinochci. Planning Whatsapp meetings are held fortnightly. Managing the NTI operation has been broad based and 15 volunteers are in the corporate body. Recommendations are made by them to the NTI Board and its decisions are conveyed to the Director/CEO for implementation. While some branches are made independent to run their affairs same number of villages are taken in.

Beneficiaries meetings: . Branches are encouraged to conduct regular review meeting and this is one such meeting at Tholpuram Branch Centre



Visit by Srikumar Australia

Srikumar Australia and Praphath USA are batch mates at Engineering faculty, Peradeniya. Srikumar came to know the work of NTi through Prabhath and visited two projects in Pandavedai/Kaddupulam led by two women entrepreneurs. First he met Kayalini Project Officer who got support from Prabhath and successfully cultivated on six larchams farm land onion for three seasons. As we were there due to seasonal difficulties she has harvested late half the field and ready to plant onion in the rest of the field for the next season. She showed us the only shallow well available for irrigation and the water pump that was in the well. Then visited Thusyana and her mother K.Selvathy who are making chilli powder and sell it at retail and wholesale.. They make at one time 50kg chilli powder costing Rs;60.310 and sells it at s;77,000 making a profit of Rs;16.690/. NTI is to embark on goat rearing pilot project.



Establishment of more NTI branches at new villages:

With a view to expand the NTI services in new frontier villages, visit was made on 5th May to 03 new villages .

i) .New Branch - Kumarapuram (No; 21).



ii). Kalvilan (No:22) ,



iii).. Arali North (No:23) .



We discussed the needs and requirements expressed by the participants in all three villages. We emphasized that the villagers should think of creative ways of generating self-employment to get income. We informed that NTI gives priority to self-employment activities and would support them in their endeavours. All three villages run their nursery schools. Parents and prospective beneficiaries attended the meeting at which instructions were given on the implementation of NTI projects. There was further request to visit 3 more villages and the visit report will be submitted in the next Highlight.

Leadership Batch II Third seminar of Leadership Batch II was conducted on 6th April followed by Project Officers meeting. Our aim is to train and equip participants to become leaders in their own societies. Forty students attended and submitted their reports while a few expressed their understanding to the group. Admission was closed and concentrated on training the forty students.



Opening of NTI branch No: 24 at Ponnalai

NTI director/CEO and a few Project Officers visited Ponnalai village situated far end of Chulipuram on 26th April. Ponnalai village ends at the beginning of Karainagar once known as Karaithevu Island. There are approx 500 permanent families confined to fishing, rain fed cultivation, petty business and labour.

Twenty people assembled, interacted with the NTI staff and expressed their desire to engage in self-employment. Agreed to organize them as a body, start Home Gardening and select 10 families to start on FRPK financed by the ISLF. Dorita will liaise and report to NTI . *Picture: NTI POs and beneficiaries*



FRPK supported by ISLF, USA @ Ponnalai

Chicks were issued to 10 beneficiaries i.e., 2 female and 1 male per beneficiary by the organiser Doritina. After the construction of strong cages and agreeing to manage it well, replace the loss of birds and attempt to increase the chicks up to 20 by traditional hatching method. The Project Officer (PO) is expected to make regular visit and report.



Photos depict the distribution of chicks to 10 beneficiaries at Ponnalai

Training program organised by Livestock and production Dept, Kn.



A Training was conducted for livestock breeders in NTI Killinochchi Picture shows the beneficiaries at Pon Nagar Killinochchi attending the meeting. Domestic animal management and cost benefit food production were discussed. Devika PO for Pon Nagar and SelvaPuram coordinated the program.

NTI Branch Killinochi issuing chicks:

Ten beneficiaries received chicks sponsored by the ISLF organised by Kalaiselvi



Supply of seeds and seedlings:

S.Sureshkumar, of Navaly donated Rs;5000/ in support of Home Gardening Project. Seeds and seedlings were supplied at Navaly , Ponnalai and Moolai South by the HGP Project Officers. Recipients appreciated the little help that will go long way and requested similar help in the future.



NTI Golden Club and savings scheme

The Golden Club, (GC) has successfully opened a savings account with the Co-operative Bank at Chankanai and members began making monthly voluntary saving of Rs;200/. Once a member reaches the target amount such member is entitled to obtain loan approved by the GC office-bearers. The GC is also promoting NTI Branches to start savings schemes

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