



## Shanthimalai Trust & Shanthimalai Research and Development Trust

### QUARTERLY REPORT

January - March (Q4)

Submitted by the Executive Committee, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026

The report aims to give a brief but accurate overview of the developments and activities of each quarter of the Financial Year, for publication to interested readers of all kinds. For questions and suggestions please write to Mrs. Vijayalakshmi ([vijayalakshmi@shanthimalai.in](mailto:vijayalakshmi@shanthimalai.in)).

## A. SHANTHIMALAI TRUST

### Direct Help Programme

In January 2026, Direct help Programme launched a new Diabetes Prevention Initiative aimed at addressing the growing risk of diabetes in rural communities. As part of the first phase, we successfully organized free blood test camps across five villages—Pandithapattu, Perumbakkam, Che-Agaram, Periya Kolapadi, and Periyapaliyapattu—reaching underserved populations with limited access to preventive healthcare. A total of around 400 individuals were screened, and notably, 40% were identified with diabetes or at risk, highlighting the urgent need for early detection and awareness in these areas.

This initiative has not only enabled timely medical guidance for affected individuals but also created awareness about lifestyle changes and preventive care. The strong participation from villagers reflects the growing trust in our programs and the critical importance of such interventions.



## SSA (Primary) School

At SSA School, the quarter focused on parent engagement, academic review, cultural celebrations, and student participation in co-curricular activities. The school reopened for the third term on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026, marking the beginning of a structured and activity-driven phase.



A One-to-One Parent–Teacher Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> January reviewed each child’s academic progress, areas for improvement, and participation in co-curricular activities. Participation stood at 90 per cent, ensuring personalised feedback and strong parent–school alignment.

Sports events were conducted on 9<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> January for students from kindergarten to grade 5, with active participation and enthusiasm. The Republic Day and Sports Day celebrations on 26<sup>th</sup> January included prize distribution, recognising student achievement and encouraging sportsmanship.

The pongal festival was celebrated on 14<sup>th</sup> January at the SRM campus through cultural activities such as rangoli (traditional floor art) competitions, promoting creativity and traditional values. A mass parent meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> January, attended by the chairman, community members, and good number of parents, presented the school’s developmental initiatives and ongoing programmes.

The third mid-term examinations were conducted from 25<sup>th</sup> February, ensuring systematic academic assessment. On 14<sup>th</sup> March, a Concept Presentation Day was organised for classes I–V, where students demonstrated subject understanding through creative presentations. Parents appreciated the confidence, clarity, and learning outcomes displayed by the children.



### **Intercultural Exchange – Yoga Meditation Centre**

We had 5 guests this quarter, and a revenue of Rs. 3 lakhs were made which helps towards maintenance costs. The ashram's houses regular maintenance for electrical, plumbing, carpentry, and painting was done in accordance with the requirements. The gardens were kept up as usual, with seasonal organic manure, pruning, and regular cleaning and watering.

On 1<sup>st</sup> February, we organized the Sri Bala Murugan Consecration Ceremony at Appa Sannidhi, bringing together devotees to witness the sacred rituals and receive divine blessings. The event was conducted with devotion and drew meaningful community participation.



### **Skill Development (SSDP)**

SSDP continued to strengthen employability, technical skills, and career readiness through structured training, alumni engagement, and financial support.

Sunday special training classes focused on website development, led by Mr Ashok, providing hands-on technical exposure. Fifteen students will receive certification, reflecting skill acquisition and programme impact.

An alumni meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January featured former students including captain Gautham and Ms Harini, who shared their experiences and guided current students. The session was attended by institutional leaders, reinforcing motivation and career clarity.

Students had the opportunity to interact with their sponsors (godparents), fostering meaningful connections and strengthening emotional support systems.



On 1<sup>st</sup> February, financial assistance was distributed to 64 students at Appa Sannathi, in the presence of institutional leadership, reinforcing the programme's commitment to educational support.

An interactive session on 8 March featured alumnus Mr Jayaprakash demonstrating a self-developed website, inspiring students through practical application of skills.



A career guidance programme on 27<sup>th</sup> March, led by Dr Jeeva Sundar, career guidance expert provided structured insights into course selection, career opportunities, and higher education pathways. The session also highlighted SSDP's role in supporting academic and professional growth.



On 29<sup>th</sup> March, a session on Public and Team Communication led by Ms. Kanimozhi strengthened confidence, teamwork, and communication skills through activity-based learning.



## **Shanthimalai Environment Care (SEC)**

**Girivalam Seva (GVS):** During this quarter, we focused on cleaning the areas behind the fencing along the Girivalam path. In addition, we conducted regular maintenance drives to preserve the cleanliness and sanctity of the path, ensuring a safe and respectful environment for all visitors and pilgrims.



**Environmental Training Program:** As part of the Environmental Training Session held in March to commemorate Women's Day, Dr. Rajasekaran and his team conducted a women's empowerment program for 40 participants from Devanandal village. The session aimed to inspire and guide the women toward self-employment opportunities, with a focus on sustainable organic farming practices.



**Solid waste management:** A hands-on training session was conducted for 35 women from local Self-Help Groups, focusing on the preparation of bio-fertilizers. Participants were equipped with practical skills to produce natural, organic manure for sustainable farming, supporting both livelihood opportunities and eco-friendly agricultural practices.



**Integrated Farming System:** a) During this cultivation season, we successfully cultivated marigold in our Kailash Garden, with an estimated yield of 200–300 kilograms. This reflects healthy crop growth and efficient utilization of the land.



b) We also cultivated organic, pesticide-free vegetables such as lady’s finger (okra) and cluster beans through natural farming methods. These were used directly in our community kitchen, ensuring fresh and nutritious meals.

c) Additionally, one acre of paddy was cultivated on our natural farm to secure high-quality rice for the Amma Anbu Old Age Home. The by-product (straw) is also utilized as feed for our cows, supporting an integrated and sustainable farming system.

**Green Earth Mission:** A variety of saplings—including gooseberry, timber species, Arjun, and bur-flower trees—are being cultivated in our nursery and are being carefully maintained to ensure healthy growth.

### **Amma Anbu old Age Home at Arunachala (AAA H):**

We are pleased to share that we will inaugurate our Elder Care Home on May 9, 2026, beginning with 10 widows from nearby villages who are in urgent need of care and support. Each resident has been carefully identified and verified by our team to ensure assistance reaches those most deserving.

This initiative marks our pilot phase, which will continue until the completion of our permanent facility in 2027. For this purpose, the existing Kannappa Land building has been thoughtfully renovated and repurposed to provide a safe and comfortable living environment.

A dedicated operations team of eight members has been established to manage and support the home effectively. In addition, we will collaborate with SRM Hospital to ensure timely medical care during emergencies.

Our vision extends beyond providing food and shelter. We are committed to offering compassionate care, emotional support, a sense of security, and meaningful companionship—so that our residents can experience dignity, peace, and comfort in their later years.



## **B. SHANTHIMALAI RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

### **SRM School**

The quarter emphasised cultural engagement, physical development, academic enrichment, and career awareness.

Pongal was celebrated on 13<sup>th</sup> January with traditional rituals, preparation of Pongal in earthen pots, and a Kolam competition involving 350 students and 45 teachers. Traditional games such as Uriyadi added to the festive spirit, fostering cultural awareness and teamwork.



The annual sports day on 26<sup>th</sup> January, held alongside Republic Day, featured march-past, athletic events, and a special tug of war for teachers. A total of 618 students participated, demonstrating discipline, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Career guidance sessions were conducted for classes VI–IX by industry professionals and alumni, focusing on self-awareness, career planning, and realistic goal setting. These sessions were interactive and well-received, with follow-up planned.

The upper kinder garden graduation and Concept Expo showcased student learning through performances, exhibitions, and presentations. The event highlighted holistic development and marked an important milestone in the students' academic journey.



### **Train The Teachers (TTT) Program**

TTT initiatives during the quarter focused on strengthening classroom practices, subject delivery, and learner-centric approaches through structured workshops and feedback sessions. Training included observation-based reviews, subject-specific workshops, drawing as a teaching tool, and outcome-based learning strategies.



A distinct and valued dimension of the programme was led by Dr Andreas Bachmann, who facilitated the well-being component of TTT. Each training day included brief guided meditation and reflective sessions, helping teachers develop inner awareness, emotional balance, and a calm, centred approach to their professional role.

Complementing this, English Communication Training continued through offline and online sessions led by Ms Sumaiya, engaging 52 participants. The programme strengthened spoken English, workplace communication, and overall professional confidence.



### **Hybrid Team initiatives**

As part of strengthening technology-enabled learning, the Computer Laboratory at SRM School is now fully ready for inauguration. The facility has been completed with all infrastructure, interiors, and equipment in place. Course materials and subject-specific resources have also been prepared, enabling immediate implementation of the computer curriculum. The school is now fully equipped to provide structured, hands-on digital learning experiences for all students.



## **Joyful Learning**

The quarter focused on strengthening joyful learning practices through student engagement, teacher development, community involvement, and strategic planning.

Children actively participated in experiential and culturally grounded learning. Kindergarten students expressed creativity through stone painting and Warli art (a traditional tribal art form) on campus walls, while Grade 1 students engaged in differentiated learning through dioramas and life-skill activities such as weaving. Pongal celebrations and Kindergarten Sports Day provided opportunities for sensorial learning, physical coordination, and teamwork.



Kindergarten Graduation Day marked an important milestone, with students showcasing their learning through dance, drama, role play, and recitation. Parents appreciated the classroom exhibitions, reflecting children’s experiential learning journeys. The school kitchen garden further enabled hands-on learning in plant growth, fostering environmental awareness and responsibility.



Teacher development continued through DOT Learning Circles sessions on inclusive teaching and parent partnership. An academic audit in January combined classroom observations and student assessments, identifying strengths in foundational learning and areas for improvement such as reading fluency. A year-end review meeting enabled teachers to reflect on their journey and set goals for professional growth and well-being.



Community engagement remained strong, with visitors appreciating the transformation in classrooms. Contributions from well-wishers, including books and programme proposals for teacher well-being, further strengthened the ecosystem.

Infrastructure planning was initiated to support expansion, with proposals for additional classrooms, improved ventilation, and open learning spaces. Strategic discussions with alumnus Mr Sathish led to the development of a structured digital growth plan, including initial steps towards social media presence to enhance visibility.

## Sponsorship Programme

At the end of the first quarter of 2026 (Q4 of the academic year 2025–26), the number of sponsored students remained largely unchanged from Q3. However, the percentage of sponsored children increased from 45 per cent in 2024 to 48 per cent in 2025, and 52 per cent in 2026, due to a reduction in overall student strength and an increase in sponsored students, particularly at SSA School.

During the quarter, structured meetings were held with students and parents. A session for Class XII students and their parents, led by a professional counsellor, focused on higher education and career options. A similar meeting for Class X students is scheduled for April.

Student meetings for sponsored children were conducted in March across age groups: Classes IV–V by Dr T. S. Sudha, Classes VI–VII by Dr Andreas Bachmann and Mrs Rathna, and Classes VIII–IX by Dr Anu. These sessions addressed the purpose, benefits, and responsibilities of sponsorship, tailored to each group. In addition, several one-to-one interactions with students and parents addressed individual developmental concerns.



On 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026, sixteen sponsoring parents from the USA and Germany met their sponsored children across both schools, strengthening personal engagement.



The school meal programme continued to support student well-being, with 16,004 meals served during the quarter. At SSA School, approximately 88 per cent of students availed school lunch, while at SRM School, around 40 per cent participated.

## REPORT Q4 (FY 25-26):

### Income

A total income of 1079 lakhs (723 L from foreign, 356 L local sources). Local income includes 226 lakhs of school fees which is 91% of the expected income for this year. Schools are working with parents, and there is a noticeable improvement in fee payment behavior. (INR 1 lakh ~ 935 Euro)

### Expenditure

With total expenses of 946 lakhs and a head count of 3592 beneficiaries, the current financial expense position is well within budget. The decline in the beneficiary numbers until FY 24-25 is mainly due to a drop in school strength.

The spike in FY 25-26 beneficiaries is due to SEC including Environmental Training activities for the first time, which counts all participants in the total.

### Overview

	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26
BENEFICIARIES	2453	2351	2207	2207	3592
INCOME*	901	928	940	829	1079
EXPENSES*	668	812	781	785	946
<i>*1 lakh INR ≈ 935€</i>					

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