



**Shanthimalai Trust &
Shanthimalai Research and Development Trust**

QUARTERLY REPORT

**April - June (Q1)
2026**

Submitted by the Executive Committee,
25th Aug 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).



More Information:
www.shanthimalai.in

SHANTHIMALAI TRUST

DIRECT HELP PROGRAMME

Health & Nutrition Support for Vulnerable Communities



10

Villages
Covered



710

People
Screened



40%

High-Risk
Identified



50

Families
Supported



DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAMME

During this quarter, the Diabetes Prevention Programme reached 710 people across 10 villages through free diabetes screening camps. The screenings identified that around 40% of the participants are in the high-risk category for diabetes.

This programme focuses on early detection, health education, lifestyle guidance, and regular follow-up. Our goal is to prevent diabetes before it becomes a serious health problem and to support individuals to lead healthier and more active lives.

FOOD SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE FAMILIES

This quarter, 50 physically disabled and poor families received provision packages containing rice, dal, cooking oil, and other essential grocery items.

These families often face financial difficulties and struggle to meet their daily food needs. This support helped reduce their immediate burden and ensured they had access to basic food items.

The provision support aims to improve food security and help physically disabled persons maintain a healthy and dignified life.



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Early detection and timely support are helping vulnerable families lead healthier and more secure lives.

SSA (PRIMARY) SCHOOL

The quarter focused on successfully concluding the academic year while laying a strong foundation for 2026–27. The Third Term Examinations were conducted from 9 to 16 April, following which students proceeded on summer vacation. The majority of students who completed Class V continued their education at SRM School, ensuring a smooth transition to the next stage of learning.

To support admissions for the new academic year, the school organised the "Mom and Merry Kids Carnival", an outreach programme designed to educate prospective parents about the school's philosophy, learning approach, and facilities. The initiative generated encouraging interest from families and contributed positively to the admission process.



The Mom and Merry Kids Carnival brought families together through creative activities and joyful games, reflecting the school's nurturing environment, promoting parent engagement, and generating positive interest among prospective parents for admission.

In preparation for the new academic year, the school adopted textbooks from leading private publishers for the Primary section to enhance classroom teaching and align with the National Curriculum Framework. The publishers provided comprehensive teacher handbooks, structured training, and digital teaching resources, equipping teachers with high-quality instructional support.



The new academic year commenced with a special pooja at Bala Ganapathi Temple, seeking blessings for the students and staff. Senior Kindergarten to Class V reopened on 11 June, followed by Junior Kindergarten on 17 June. Students also began the year in their newly introduced school uniforms, marking a fresh and enthusiastic start to the academic session.

The academic year began with prayers, warm greetings, and joyful interactions. Students proudly wore their new uniforms as teachers, guests, and children together celebrated a positive and inspiring new beginning.

“ Early learning builds the foundation for confident and capable children. ”

Intercultural Exchange – Yoga Meditation Centre

9th of May 2026 we celebrated our beloved Appa's Jayanthi day with all staff and some devotees.



We had six guests on site this quarter, and revenue of Rs. 6 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.

Skill Development Program (SSDP)

The Shanthimalai Skill Development Programme (SSDP) continued to support young people through career guidance, educational sponsorship, skill development, employability training, financial assistance, and mentoring. A Career Guidance Programme was conducted for Class X students and their parents, explaining options after the SSLC (Secondary School Leaving Certificate) examination, including Higher Secondary, Diploma, Polytechnic, Industrial Training Institute (ITI), and skill development courses. Students were encouraged to choose pathways suited to their interests and career aspirations.



The sponsorship application process for 2026–27 commenced during the quarter. A review meeting was held to improve transparency and ensure that assistance reaches genuinely deserving students. Forty applications were received by the end of June, and home visits were scheduled as the next stage of verification. A strategic review and planning meeting also identified priorities in sponsorship management, career guidance, employability training, and student monitoring. Mr Gowtham assumed responsibility as Project Executive, strengthening programme coordination and implementation.

On 20 June 2026, sponsorship cheques were distributed to 15 college students at Appa Sannidhi, helping them overcome financial barriers to higher education. The event was attended by Managing Trustee Mrs Vijayalakshmi and other officials, reaffirming the Trust's commitment to supporting students' academic aspirations. An Alumni Meet was also held on 21 June to strengthen alumni connections and encourage former students to contribute through mentoring, knowledge sharing, and their personal success stories.



Regular Sunday Skill Development Classes were launched, covering communication, computer literacy, aptitude, personality development, and employability skills. The inaugural aptitude session was led by SSDP alumna Ms Aruna from Cognizant Technology Solutions, who shared her journey and encouraged students, reflecting the growing involvement of alumni in mentoring.



“ Skills create opportunities, confidence and pathways to meaningful livelihoods. ”

ENVIRONMENTAL CARE

Protecting Nature • Conserving Water • Building Sustainable Communities



1. GIRVALAM SEVA (GVS)

Maintaining the sacred Girvalam pathway through regular environmental service and community stewardship.

GVS focused on the areas behind the fencing along the Girvalam path, conducting weekly maintenance drives to preserve the cleanliness and sanctity of this sacred route. Through the consistent removal of litter and obstructions, the pathway remained clear, safe, and accessible for the thousands of pilgrims who visit throughout the year.

2. GREEN EARTH MOVEMENT (GEM)

Enhancing biodiversity through afforestation, nursery development, and ecological restoration.

This quarter delivered measurable progress in building a more resilient green landscape. 350 tree saplings were planted across the campus and project areas, including 150 saplings added to the Star Forest. The nursery was further supported with 600 new saplings, 750 grow bags, and 400 plant covers, creating adequate planting resources for future programmes.

The Trust also established 150 Aloe Vera plants and maintained the Herbal Garden and Skanda Orchard through regular pruning, cleaning, landscaping, and watering.



World Environment Day Clean-Up Drive – June 5, 2026

All staff members came together to remove nearly 2 tonnes of waste from behind the fencing along the Girvalam Path, reinforcing the ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship. This collective effort reflects the belief that a clean and healthy environment is essential for sustainable community well-being.



A cleaner environment today creates a healthier future for every community.



3. INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEM (IFS)

Promoting sustainable agriculture through diversified crop production and integrated farm management.



During this quarter, the farm continued to promote sustainable agriculture through diversified crop cultivation, improved soil management, and value-added processing of farm produce. Cluster beans, ladies' finger, brinjal, and marigold flowers were successfully cultivated across 1 acre and marketed. The seasonal paddy harvest was completed on 75 cents of land, and cultivation of Nava Dhanyam (a traditional mix of nine nutritious grains) was initiated, broadening the farm's sustainable crop base.

The Adhiban Garden (a dedicated cultivation area for native and medicinal plants) was expanded, the soil in the Jasmine Garden was enriched, and turmeric was processed and tamarind packed for market. At the same time, dedicated turmeric cultivation continued in the Skandhalaya Garden (a farm section named after Lord Skanda/Murugan), improving productivity and strengthening soil fertility.

4. WATER AUGMENTATION & CONSERVATION (WAC)

Improving water use efficiency through sustainable irrigation infrastructure.



The farm faced a shortage of water due to the dry season. To use the available water more efficiently, a drip irrigation system was installed in the Jasmine Garden and later extended to Saroja Forest and Bairava Garden. This system delivers water directly to the plant roots, reducing water wastage and improving irrigation efficiency.

“ Every drop saved today ensures a greener tomorrow. ”

4. ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Building Knowledge. Inspiring Action. Creating Impact.



To celebrate World Environment Day, an environmental awareness and capacity-building workshop was conducted in partnership with Bannari Amman Institute of Technology (BIT), Sathyamangalam on 1 June 2026. The programme engaged over 240 students, encouraging them to become responsible environmental leaders. Through interactive sessions aligned with the World Environment Day theme, students learned about sustainability, waste reduction, and ecosystem protection.

The workshop inspired participants to take practical environmental actions both on campus and within their local communities.



The Capacity-building programme trained 50 elected local government representatives from four districts to strengthen solid waste management in their communities. The regional training, held in Tirunelveli on 30 June 2026, brought together Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons, Presidents, and Vice-Presidents from Corporations, Municipalities, and Town Panchayats to share knowledge and best practices. The programme covered the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, four-stream source segregation, waste collection and processing systems, IoT-based monitoring, and circular economy practices. By strengthening the capacity of local leaders, the programme aims to improve municipal waste management, promote cleaner communities, and support long-term environmental sustainability.

“ Today's environmental awareness inspires tomorrow's environmental leaders. ”

AMMA ANBU OLD AGE HOME AT ARUNACHALA

A sanctuary of dignity, love, care and belonging for abandoned and vulnerable elders.



The Amma Anbu Old Age Home was inaugurated on 9th May 2026 to provide a safe and supportive living environment for elders who are destitute, abandoned, neglected, or without adequate family support. During this quarter, the Home began its early phase of residential care and community outreach, reaching 11 elder lives. Support included nutritious food, essential supplies, basic medical guidance, welfare monitoring and compassionate care.

The Home is more than a place to stay. It aims to help elders feel safe, respected, and connected, while supporting their physical, emotional, and social well-being.



Daily activities such as pooja, garland-making, gardening, nutritious meals, and social engagement help create a family-like environment and give elders a sense of purpose and belonging.

The Home gives priority to:

- Destitute and economically disadvantaged elders
- Abandoned or neglected senior citizens
- Elders without adequate family support
- Vulnerable elders facing insecurity or isolation

“ Every elder deserves love, dignity
and a place to call home. ”



SHANTHIMALAI RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST

SRM SCHOOL

The quarter marked the successful completion of the 2025–26 academic year and a smooth transition into the new academic session. Students from Kindergarten to Class IX concluded the year with a variety of creative and activity-based classroom activities, reinforcing the belief that learning should be joyful, engaging, and memorable for every child.

Before the reopening of school, a Mass Parent–Teacher Meeting (PTM) was conducted to share the school's vision, academic priorities, and key initiatives for the 2026–27 academic year. Individual meetings with teachers enabled parents to discuss their children's progress, strengthening the partnership between home and school and ensuring a shared commitment to each child's development.

A major milestone during the quarter was the inauguration of the new state-of-the-art Computer Laboratory with 40 computer systems. The facility provides every child with access to individual computers, creating new opportunities to integrate technology into everyday classroom learning while equipping rural students with essential digital skills for the 21st century.



To support students entering Class X, a six-day Academic Support Programme was organised during the summer vacation. Based on an assessment of individual learning needs, selected students received focused instruction in language and mathematics through activity-based learning, strengthening their foundational skills and preparing them confidently for the demands of their Board examination year.

TRAIN THE TEACHERS (TTT)

The annual Train the Teachers (TTT) programme brought together teachers from both SRM School and Sri Sundaram and Alagammal Nursery and Primary School (SSA) during the summer vacation to prepare them for the 2026–27 academic year. The programme focused on strengthening teaching quality, enhancing classroom practices, and equipping educators with modern pedagogical approaches before the reopening of schools. Through a series of structured professional development programmes, teachers developed greater confidence, collaboration, and instructional effectiveness.

A three-day intensive workshop on English Fluency and Communication enhanced teachers' spoken English, listening, collaborative writing, peer review, and classroom communication skills, enabling them to use English more confidently as the medium of instruction. Teachers also participated in comprehensive curriculum orientation programmes conducted by Oxford University Press and Orient BlackSwan, gaining a deeper understanding of the newly adopted textbooks, learning outcomes, and the effective integration of digital teaching resources into classroom instruction.





External Trainers from Oxford and Orient Blackswan: Special emphasis was placed on strengthening early childhood education. Kindergarten teachers from both schools participated in professional development initiatives, including specialised DOT Curriculum training at Ramco Schools, which enhanced their understanding of child-centred, activity-based teaching methodologies and prepared them to deliver engaging learning experiences for young children.

DOT Training workshop on Social Emotional Learning:

The TTT programme reflects the Trust's long-term commitment to continuous professional development, ensuring that teachers across both schools begin each academic year equipped with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to provide high-quality, learner-centred education.



JOYFUL LEARNING PROJECT (JFL)

The Joyful Learning Project began the new academic year with a clear focus on four strategic priorities: preparing teachers for the year ahead, strengthening collaborative planning, building meaningful partnerships with parents, and creating enriching learning environments for young children. Together, these initiatives laid a strong foundation for delivering joyful, child-centred and experiential learning throughout the academic year.

Teacher capacity building remained at the heart of the project. Five Joyful Learning teachers successfully completed an eight-day blended professional development programme through DOT Learning Circles, combining online learning with intensive residential workshops. The programme strengthened their expertise in systematic phonics, the science of children's learning, activity-based mathematics, social-emotional learning, classroom facilitation, and child-centred teaching practices. To ensure a common vision across both schools, a Boot-Up Workshop was also conducted for the pre-primary teachers of SSA and SRM, focusing on teaching methodologies, classroom environment, English communication, parent relationships, professional development, and teacher well-being. These initiatives significantly enhanced teacher readiness and fostered greater collaboration across the two schools.



Recognising parents as essential partners in early childhood education, orientation programmes were organised for Kindergarten parents from both SSA and SRM Schools. The sessions introduced the principles of structured, activity-based learning and encouraged parents to actively support their children's development beyond the classroom. For many rural families, this hands-on experience brought understanding on how a child learns and provided valuable insights into their role in nurturing confidence, curiosity, and lifelong learning.



The learning environment was further strengthened through the refurbishment of three classrooms in the SSA Primary Block. The process of redesigning spaces providing larger, child-friendly classrooms with improved natural light and ventilation, creating environments that encourage movement, collaboration, and activity-based learning is underway during this summer vacation.



These infrastructure improvements represent an important investment as JFL is expanding its 4th year in the new academic session providing developmentally appropriate learning spaces that support the long-term vision of the Joyful Learning Project.



Education opens the doors to knowledge, opportunity and a better future.



SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

The sponsorship selection process for the 2026–27 academic year commenced during the quarter. By early July, 83 applications had been received, including requests for upgraded sponsorships and new applications. Home visits and assessments were initiated to ensure that financial assistance reaches students with the greatest need through a transparent and systematic selection process.

The programme also celebrated the academic achievements of sponsored students. Among the highest-performing students in the 2024 Board Examinations, the majority were sponsored children, with sponsored students securing seven of the top nine ranks across Classes X and XII. During the quarter, sponsorship support continued for students who had transferred to other schools following the transition from the State Board to the CBSE curriculum, ensuring continuity until the completion of their schooling. Overall, the Sponsorship Programme continued to support 357 students across SSA, SRM, and students studying outside the Trust's schools.



A parent orientation programme was conducted for the families of newly admitted Junior Kindergarten children receiving Swiss sponsorship. The session emphasised the shared responsibility of parents in nurturing their children's development and introduced them to the principles of the Joyful Learning approach.



Throughout the quarter, annual sponsor letters and sponsorship applications were collected, home visits were initiated for new applicants, and individual counselling was provided to students and parents to support informed educational and career decisions.

The School Nutrition Programme continued to support students' health and learning. Around 30 students received a nutritious breakfast each school day, while approximately 56,700 nutritious lunches were served during the academic year across SRM and SSA Schools. The meals, consisting of rice, vegetables, legumes, and soya, continue to play an important role in supporting the health and well-being of students.



“ Supporting a child’s education is an investment in a brighter future. ”

REPORT Q1 (FY 26-27)

INCOME

Total income is 356 lakhs (227L from foreign sources, 129 L from local sources). Local income includes 62 lakhs of school fees, which is 25% 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 ~ 907 Euro)

Due to Bhagavan's Grace, Shanthimalai is flourishing and growing despite the dire worldwide economic and political circumstances.

EXPENDITURE

With total expenses of 157 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	FY 26-27
BENEFICIARIES	2453	2351	2207	2207	3592	2149
INCOME*	901	928	940	829	1079	356
EXPENSES*	668	812	781	785	946	157
* 1 lakh INR ~ 907€						

