

# Thiyagam Women Trust

*Securing Livelihoods of Physically Challenged Women*



Annual report  
2008-2009

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# Foreword

Thiyagam works for the empowerment of the physically challenged women in rural villages of Madurai district in TamilNadu. We are identifying such physically challenged people and providing them education and relief materials besides livelihood skill development for self employment in the field of tailoring and computer.

We in Thiyagam Trust believes that the growth of physically challenged in fields of education, finance and self esteem will create a good impact among their family and the society at large.

Thiyagam strive sincerely and hard to create spirit among each and every physically challenged women through life and career guidance and counselling. Last year was the learning and exploring phase of all the activities and programmes of the Trust and it has provided way for new ideas and initiatives for the coming years with the view of securing livelihood of the rural physically challenged women.

Thiyagam's enabling approach and individual concern makes the women to feel secured and more interested in their self growth and development. We also feel very happy and proud to work based on the principle of "URUVAGUVOM! URUVAKKUVOM" as this always remembers us and makes all the individuals to show their concern towards the society.

We are taking various steps in providing equal opportunities & ensuring basic rights for the physically challenged with helping hands of Government & private Trusts, youth and general public. In 2005, we started our hopeful journey in the voice of 'The seed of hope will surely sprout' with the helping hands of regular supporters and General supporters. Our Deepest gratitude to all challenged sisters, staff, volunteers and encouraging friends who stood by us. Thiyagam will make it journey for decades & above for bringing changes in the life of physically challenged women as envisioned.

**S.J. Amutha Shanthi**  
Managing Trustee

## *Mission*

Empowering the rural women with disabilities to improve their livelihood by creating opportunities for self employment and providing environment to take up the challenges of life in an optimistic way with enthusiasm and will power.

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# 1. Thiyagam Women Trust - An Overview

## Background

Physically Challenged rural women stand first to foresee and eagerly awaiting for changes in their life. Understanding their sorrow feelings and issues faced by them is still a challenge for many in this rapidly moving world and this call for an explicit need to serve them for their self development and poverty reduction. These Physically challenged women are still the excluded and neglected category of population living in rural areas facing lot of issues and difficulties in living their life.

More than physical problems, they face the difficulties from their relatives as they always find faults and discourage them. Many times and in many places, physically challenged women are kept as identity material during events and functions of Government and other institutions while distributing Government schemes and subsidiary amount.

## Genesis

With the view of serving the rural women with disabilities and to empower them to stand on their own feet, Thiyagam Women Trust, a Madurai Based Voluntary organisation has been promoted. Thiyagam Trust aims at providing hope and confidence for the rural women with disabilities at their doorsteps.

Thiyagam Women Trust is a not for profit organisation registered as a Trust under Indian Public Trust Act 1882. The Trust is promoted by a group of physically challenged women with the aim of securing livelihoods of rural physically challenged women in Madurai.

**Vision:** *Economic independence of physically challenged rural women to lead to a self-contented life and to cultivate the spirit of mutual love and service, entrenched in goodness.*

**Mission:** Empowering the rural women with disabilities to improve their livelihood by creating opportunities for self employment and providing environment to take up the challenges of life in an optimistic way with enthusiasm and will power.

## Core activities and programmes

Thiyagam Women Trust with its ultimate mission of securing livelihood of rural physically challenged women carries out the following activities and programmes for the physically challenged women in rural areas of Madurai district in Tamil Nadu.

- a. Tailoring unit for income generation
- b. Computer centre for learning and placement
- c. Stay home for the rural physically challenged women
- d. Village tuition centres for life skills & value building
- e. Counselling and guidance
- f. Self Help Groups for the physically challenged women
- g. Encouraging friends circle for promoting philanthropy
- h. Cultural team for awareness creation
- i. Environmental protection

## Principles and approaches

- **Enabling approach:** Instead of designing programme by us and taking to them, it is always better to understand their issues and plan and design programmes according and with them will be very appropriate.
- **Individual focus rather than blind approach is the intervention strategy of Thiyagam:** Understanding each one's problem, sit with them and speaking kindly with them and console them



to bring them out of their barrier for taking them relevant development programmes.

- **Making them to realise their dreams:** Getting three times meal a day itself is a big dream for them. Getting them bus pass, train pass, monthly pension, bank loans and government schemes will be of great use and support for them and going beyond this and fulfilling their education, economic and development needs will make them more secured and sustainable.
- **Assessment:** Assessing the needs and demands of the physically challenged women in rural areas will facilitate them to access to higher education and employment opportunities. Only continuous efforts and programmes for them will make them to be self reliant and self sustainable. Only by this we can change the perspectives of the relatives and society on them.
- **Building collaboration:** Collaboration among NGO, Government, individuals, family and society members should involve actively in actions for serving the physically challenged women for making them to be self reliant.
- **Governance and Management :** Thiyagam Women Trust is governed by Board of Trustees

who are the physically challenged women (PCW) under the leadership of Ms. Amuthashanthy, Managing Trustee. The Governing Board meets once in six months where new initiatives and decisions regarding trust activities will be discussed. Thiyagam Women Trust has 6 full time staff and more than 20 part time staff who supports the activities of the Trust. The Trust is also supported by many advisors and well wishers who guides us all through our steps and initiatives towards achieving our mission.

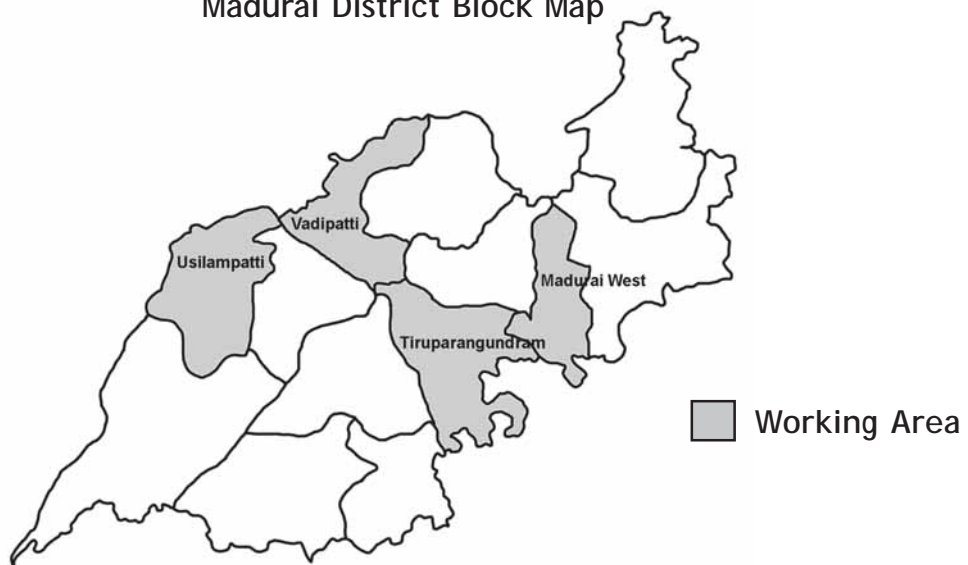
### Reach and working area

Thiyagam Trust works in the rural villages in Madurai district of Tamilnadu. It works with 260 physically challenged people and 310 students in four blocks of the district namely Usilampatti, Vadipatti, Tiruparangundram and Madurai West block.

### Status as on March 31, 2009

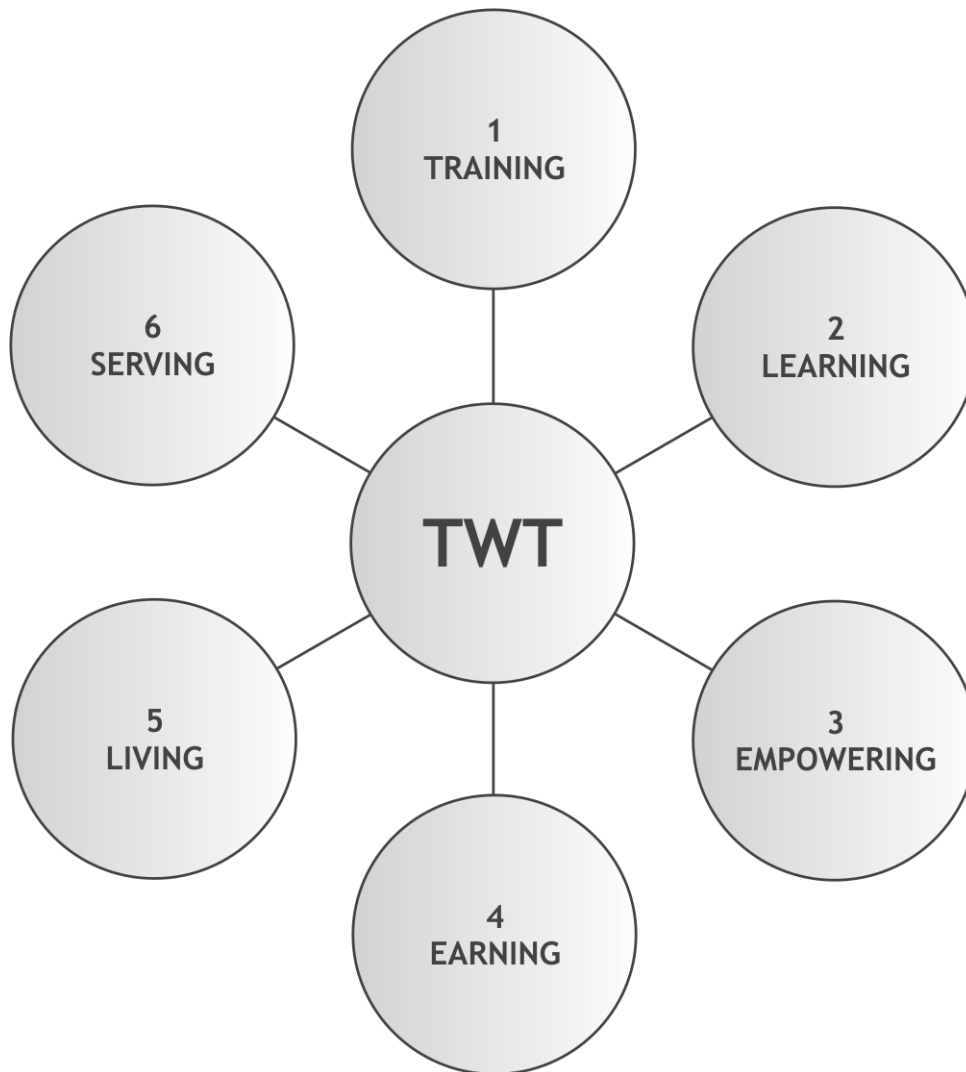
No. of Blocks	-	4
No. of Panchayats	-	15
No. of Villages	-	22
No. of families covered	-	570

Madurai District Block Map



## 2. Thiyagam Process Cycle

Thiyagam process cycle explains the perspective or the process adopted by the Trust to enable and empower rural poor physically challenged women to get out of vicious circle of poverty by providing them skill building for self employment there by securing their livelihood.



### 3. Highlights of 2008-09

75 physically challenged women from rural areas of Madurai district got trained on Tailoring

Free home for 9 physically challenged women from rural areas was established

Free computer education were given to 21 physically challenged rural women

Received the prestigious Helen Keller Award from National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP), New Delhi

Eight out of the 21 trained women in Computer were provided employment

Manava Seva Dharma Samvardhani (MSDS) was awarded to Thiyagam Trust for its significant contribution towards working empowerment of Physically challenged women, Education of rural Children

Summer computer education camp was organised for 16 school going children in Thiyagam working villages

Launched Fabric Printing Training for promoting self employment for the women

Fine arts promotion and refresher camp with participation of 207 school children during their summer vocation was organised in May 2008

Launched website [www.thiyagam.org](http://www.thiyagam.org)

310 rural school children were given value education through village evening tuition centres

Support to six physically challenged woman for their higher education by distance mode



# 4. Progress towards achieving mission

## I. THIYAGAM TAILORING UNIT

Thiyagam Trust offers tailoring training along with the placement of poor physically challenged girls and illiterate girls focusing on skill building for self employment for regular income. We are identifying their ability and adopt different coaching based on their ability. Physically challenged girls who have lost their legs are trained with motor fitted sewing machine and are also offered placement.



Many of the trained girls are encouraged and provided with technical support and guidance for promoting their own income generation activities. Many of them have taken initial steps of doing it from their home and are in a successful manner. The quality of training and the end product, we could get continuous job offers for the production of cotton bags.

Dress making training is also given here for the girls. In plan visit to other industrial centres, training quality and intensity and systematic work plan have made us a reputed tailoring unit in Madurai.

## II. THIYAGAM COMPUTER CENTRE

Physically challenged are showing interests towards computer education to make them also available for



surviving in the fast growing competitive environment. Particularly students from rural areas are showing a great interest. Due to unaffordable cost, and poor travelling facilities, computer education still remains a dream for them. Thiyagam is offering free computer education to such physically challenged girls.

We are offering training in various branches from basics to job oriented syllabus. Girls on completion of the trainings are assisted with a placement opportunity. Opportunities in computer type writing & various Jobs related to computer are collected from various colleges in and around Madurai. Then it is given to the girls who are working at Thiyagam office itself. Monthly once, our computer centre girls are conduction a program called "VAASIPPUM- PAGIRVUM". In this program each and every girl shares a thought they read on that month which made them to learn new things and also in sharing with others there by facilitating co-learning.

## III. THIYAGAM STAY HOME

Differently abled women from other than Madurai who lost their parents and has no one to support them are made to stay in the Thiyagam Home which provides





them free accommodation and boarding. They get trained in tailoring and computer technology. The members of home created the situation to share their work themselves.

Thiyagam provides opportunities to live with the principle of Learn-Earn-Live and share their love. Thiyagam also provides trainings and special classes on yoga, meditation, health, attitude and self analysis.

#### **IV. THIYAGAM NARPANBU KALVI MAIYAM (TNKM)**

##### **Village evening tuition centres**

The centre aims to provide education to the poor students from villages to equip with moral values and grow into good citizens. The centre is extending its services in 8 villages around Madurai. The teachers



are given training and capacity building is done through teacher's workshop, Parents Teachers Association meeting to give students the best possible education with discipline.

School dropouts are identified through survey; counselling is done for their parents to continue their studies. Remedial coaching is given for less performing students and they are monitored on regular basis. Thought provoking competitions are conducted in various occasions like Independence Day, Republic Day and Children's Day.

Life skills base groups are promoted to conduct group discussions on specific moral values among students and the students continue their life journey by getting good moral values of truth, patience, helping others and give up. Thiyagam Moral values education centres trusted by people is running successfully with people participation and their interest.

Education centre with moral values is providing training on culture activities and summer camp for the students on every month of May in the year. Students are gaining significant changes in person, school and college level, skill and in their feelings.

#### **OUTCOMES OF TNKM**

##### **1. Individual level**

**P. Mayandi IX std. Kodimangalam centre**

Tnkm centre students were encouraged to plant saplings as a way of thanking nature. They have planted 40 saplings in their village.

**M.Deepika VI, A.Abitha IV, Manjula III, Oothukuli centre**

An elderly lady who is a visually challenged stays near the first stop in sholavandhan. These three girls support the old lady by providing their pocket money for her daily living.



## 2. Emotional level

**K.Kalaimani** IX std. K.Pudur centre. She is a student of the Tnkm centre. She wanted to share the benefits she had gained with the students in Kodimangalam village. With this social outlook she started a Tnkm centre at Kodimangalam village on her own effort. Her name has been recommended by the Thiyagam Women Trust for 'Disha young achiever Award' 2008.

## 3. Family level

10 students of Kodimangalam centre who have lost any one of their parents are studying at the centre. They are hoping to get good education and values which would be beneficial to their families in future.

## 4. Attitude level

**P.Geetha** IX std. Kodimangalam centre. She is a hearing impaired student. Her classmates **S. Karthiga**, **J. Rajalakshmi** and **O.P.Ranjitham** helps her and clear her doubts and guide her obtain marks on par with other students.

**I.Diana** VIII std. Melakkal centre. She had been pushed by a woman when she had gone to buy things in a ration shop. However she was very patient with the offender and waited for her turn to buy things.

## 5. Education level

### Kamatchipuram centre

All the students of the Tnkm centre have obtained high marks in their school end term exams among them **A.Pragathi**, **V.Nagajothi** and **T.Kannan** have set an example to others.

### K.Pudur centre

In the 2008 X STD Government Exam, a Tnkm centre student **Divya** has scored 422/500 marks with

100/100 in maths. This is an encouraging aspect to those who are about to appear for the X Std exams this year.

## 6. Social level

### Kamatchi puram centre

The headmaster of the local school has observed the activities of the Tnkm centre students and has appreciated the teachers who are responsible for the same.

### Thiruvudagam / Keelamathur centre

Tnkm centres given importance to good education and values. Knowing this, local school teachers encourage their students to join the centre. They also insist on aiming the signature of the centre teachers to ensure the attendance of the students.

## 7. Talent level

**K. Sudharshan** X std K.Pudur centre has acquired the talent of making art works out of waste materials.

**R.Nachammal** XI and **Brinda** IX, std of Oothukuli centre have displayed their talent in fencing sport at school level and have now qualified to play at district level.

## 8. School level

### Kodimangalam centre

In accordance to the 'Learn and Teach' Policy, the students of Tnkm centres are spreading the message of good values to other students in the local schools.

### Keelamathur centre

The Tnkm centre teachers met the local school teachers to share the importance of value based development of the students as the centre students have become a source of role model to others.



## V. COUNSELLING AND GUIDANCE

Thiyagam provides solutions to the problems and does necessary counselling to solve the problems and social issues of differently abled women from rural areas. It identifies and introduces the opportunities in higher studies, sports, Govt. welfare schemes, employment, training programme and health programme to the members. They are encouraged to participate in training and workshops on the theme of “**Women Empowerment**” which was conducted by other organizations.



Explorative meeting have been conducted for differently abled women and people in various platforms like family and society to change their views favourable to the disabled women. Way forward camps have been conducted for differently abled women in and around Madurai.

## VI. THIYAGAM SELF HELP GROUPS

SHGs was started to introduce and strengthen savings habit among the tailoring and computer centre members. Thiyagam SHG enrolls members of tailoring unit women running successfully. Members shared their views in monthly meeting on different topics, which are used for better life. Medical camps, Workshops and special industrial trainings are organized continuously for empowering SHG members.



Continuous training is provided to those who do “Fabric Painting”. They emphasised the members to save one fourth of their income. This savings would help their future and peer and it lays a strong foundation for their life.

## VII. THIYAGAM FRIENDS CIRCLE



Thiyagam Friends Circle is nothing but a place of differently abled women

to share their learning experiences there by gaining new knowledge and skills. Experienced and trained on various departments guiding others with the principle of “Evolve” and “Enable”. It acts as a source of inspiration from the “developed disabled women” to the “aspiring disabled women”.

Friends Circle meeting was organized thrice a month and training is provided on women leadership, health and employment. The training is to help the members to come out of their problems and emerge out as achievers.

## VIII. THIYAGAM CULTURAL TEAM

Thiyagam Cultural Team promoted with the intention of creating awareness and sharing knowledge to the differently abled women on their rights, and society’s concern and support for them. Cultural team member



are expertise in street Play, dance and awareness songs and they performs during all the functions of Thiyagam Trust.



They do also perform the cultural shows in other than Thiyagam functions. Cultural team members are motivated and trained with social concern and to perform in women's colleges in and around Madurai on the theme of women rights, dowry, sexual harassment, infanticide, women education, health and safe guarding environment.

## IX. GRATITUDE TO NATURE - TREE PLANTING

Thiyagam tree planting programme has the objective to create awareness on environmental aspects. Tree planting programme was organized during all the programmes of Thiyagam. Awareness on tree planting was stressed among the Thiyagam moral values



education centre students and village people. Village people believe in the words "Gratitude to Nature" - Tree planting programme because they know the value of tree planting and maintaining them properly.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES DURING THE LAST YEAR

### 1. Fine arts promotion and refresher camp 2008

Thiyagam Narpanbu Kalvi Maiyam(TNKM) has conducted a Life skills (Arts & Talents) Refresher Camp with support from IT Factory, Chennai on 04-05-2008 at Kalanjiam Training Centre, Pulloothu, Madurai.

207 children from the villages of Melakkal, Thiruvedagam, Keelamathur, Kamatchipuram, Oothukuzhi and Pudur have participated in the Camp.

Ms. Saraswathy from Thiyagam Computer Centre explained the purpose of the camp. The major purpose of the camp is to bring out the inner potentials of the village children through interactive sessions, tapping the individual talents and inspire their interest in the arts and cultural.

At the outset, 37 children enthusiastically participated in 'Moral Story Telling' by Mr.Ravi, Mr.Lingeswaran and Mrs.Kanthalakshmi.

'Oyillattam', folk dance training was given to 27 children by Mr.Muthiah (Arts Co-ordinator). TNKM children learnt the 'Oyillattam' so well in a short period.

'Drama', training was also given by Mr.Pandiyan. The theme of the drama is that changes happened in the lives of children through TNKM which received appreciation. 25 children participated. A drama 'Malargal' - expressed how TNKM influenced children on the path of goodness.

'Bommallattam' training was given by Mr.Palpandi and Mr.Joseph. In a short period they catch the hearts of the children. The training was given in a jovial atmosphere which received lot of claps from children. 26 children participated.

'Awareness song' training was given by Mr. Arul Joseph. The theme is on the children on Self confidence. 19 Children have participated and understand the grand opportunities available to them through the 'Awareness' songs.



**'Meditation-Breathing Exercise-Yoga'** training was given in a wonderful way by Mr. Narayanaswamy. Children, teachers and volunteers eagerly took part in the program. All children have learnt this 'Meditation-Breathing Exercise-Yoga'.



**'Hand-work-training'** was given by Ms. Dhanalakshmi by using paper and clay. 28 children have participated in the program. Children have learnt many hand works within a short time.



**'Drawing and Painting'** training was given by Mr. Prem Ananth. Children were given special tips on how to paint on a theme, how to use the painting items etc. 27 children participated. Children have drawn beautiful drawings which highlighted the good themes.



**'Karate'** - training was given by Mr. Radhakrishnan. 18 students have participated and demonstrated 'Bricks broken' and etc.



**'Values in Life'** by Mr. Ravi, V-Set, inspired 207 children with a touching story.



To encourage all Prizes were distributed to all the children. Mr. Samidurai, Secretary-Indian Lawyers

Association and Mr. Shivashankar, IT Factory felicitated the program.

Trainers of the Arts and cultural expressed their admiration over children's receptivity, adoptability and patience during the program. These outstanding qualities of the TNKM children enabled them to make it possible in short time what would take days of training.

The Refresher Camp has helped to identify the subtle talents of the children. It is heartening to see that not only academic knowledge but also life skills are taught to the children of remote villages of Tamilnadu was appreciated by the special guests.

## 2. International Women's day Celebration 2008

International Women's Day 2008 was celebrated by the Trust at their office with participation of over 35 physically challenged women in which they have shared their experience of various challenges and issues faced by them as a women and as well as a disabled. They have also taken oath on the day to show their commitment towards achieving gender development.

## 3. Exposure Visit & Refresher Tour

An exposure visit for the beneficiary members of the Trust was arranged by the Trust to Anandashram in Kerala. They got exposed to various activities and programmes run by the Ashram for the poor.

A refresher tour was organised by the Trust for the women to Kodaikanal FM Radio station at Kodaikanal on March 21 & 22, 2009. The visit was planned basically to get an exposure to the broadcasting system of the Kodai FM station and there was a special programme "Santhosa SaaraI" organised with physically challenged women.

## 4. World Disabled Day

World Disabled Day on December 08, 2008 was celebrated in a grand way by Thiyagam Women Trust. The day was made very special by participation of 27 women members and sharing of life experience and impact of Thiyagam among the physically challenged women.



## Activities at a glance (2008-2009)

S. No.	Month	Activities/Events/Programmes
1	April 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thiyagam Trust Board meeting</li> <li>• Base line survey in Oothukuli, Malaipatti &amp; Narayanapuram villages</li> <li>• Thiyagam Annual Day and World Health day Celebration</li> <li>• Basic course on Computer for TNKM students</li> </ul>
2	May 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in workshop organised by Siragu in Pollachi</li> <li>• TNKM summer Camp 2008 in Pullothu, Madurai</li> </ul>
3	June 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing of Trust activities and programmes in Madurai readers forum</li> <li>• Training on self employment for rural women at Melur</li> <li>• New TNKM groups promoted in Kodimangalam and Keelamathur villages</li> <li>• Organised training on Time Management for the women</li> </ul>
4	July 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated in Fund raising &amp; NGO Management seminar by Give India in Chennai</li> <li>• Tree plantation programme in Kamatchipuram village</li> <li>• Cultural programme in K.Pudur</li> <li>• Leadership training organised for Thiyagam women</li> </ul>
5	August 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of course on Tally in Thiyagam Computer centre</li> <li>• Independence day celebration in Kodimangalam village</li> <li>• Participated in Human Rights of Physically challenged people rally in Chennai</li> <li>• Participated in various events and meeting organised by other NGOs like Give india, Nivethan-Madurai, etc</li> <li>• Training on cultural activities</li> </ul>
6	September 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exposure visit to Anandashram, Kerala</li> <li>• Training on ladies garments for tailoring unit women</li> <li>• Thiyagam Board meeting</li> <li>• Karate class introduction in TNKM centres</li> <li>• Teachers Day Celebration</li> </ul>
7	October 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing by Thiyagam women in Kodai FM on their life experience</li> <li>• Career guidance program for computer centre students by Mr.Gowri Shankar</li> <li>• Training on quality maintenance for tailoring unit women</li> </ul>



8	November 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exposure visit to Cap factory in Thirunagar</li> <li>• Introduction of yoga classes in Kodimangalam TNKM centre</li> <li>• Children's day celebration in all TNKM centres</li> <li>• Maths class for students in Melakkal TNKM centre</li> </ul>
9	December 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helen keller award for Thiyagam women Trust</li> <li>• World disabled day celebration</li> <li>• Job oriented trainings initiation in computer centre</li> <li>• Cultural songs &amp; skit training for members</li> <li>• Tree plantation awareness programme in Kamatchipuram</li> </ul>
10	January 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in Ennangalin Sangamam</li> <li>• New TNKM centre promotion in Melakkal</li> <li>• Participation in Madurai Marathon 2009 by DHAN Foundation</li> <li>• Republic day celebration</li> <li>• Participated in Project Management Training organised by Good will social work centre in Madurai</li> </ul>
11	February 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on fabric printing for tailoring unit women</li> <li>• New TNKM centre at Thottapanayakanur, Usilampatti</li> </ul>
12	March 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National award to The Trust by Manava Seva Dharma Samvardhan, Chennai</li> <li>• Experience sharing during the book release function on disabled in Chennai by Vidyasagar</li> <li>• Participation in women's day celebration by Bharathidasan University &amp; received award for contribution towards working for the disabled</li> <li>• Thiyagam experience sharing in events and meetings of sornammal trust, Oliyagam and Giants Club, etc.</li> </ul>



## 5. Achievements and Impacts

Significant outputs and outcomes of the Trust among the Physically challenged women and children in rural areas of Madurai District are shared as below.

S. No.	Activities	Beneficiaries			
		2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008- 2009
1	Free vocational Tailoring Training & Earning Centre for physically challenged women's and Deprived from rural areas	15	27	38	75
2	Free Tuition centres for poor rural (8)village children (TNKM)	150	165	208	310
3	Free Home for the physically challenged women from rural areas.	3	4	7	9
4	Self Help Groups (2)	-	11	11	22
5	Free counselling to guidance and rehabilitation for physically challenged poor village women through V.B.R	40	58	75	117
6	Free computer training & job to poor rural physically challenged girls & Deprived girls.	-	-	12	16
<b>Total</b>		<b>208</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>549</b>



# Feedback from the beneficiaries

I met with an accident and I lost my right hand by wrong treatment. I am living with my kids with poor economy. After coming to Thiyagam Tailoring Unit, I have learnt tailoring through continuous training. I have a confident to stand on my own leg because I have a profession in my hand. Now I am working in Thiyagam tailoring unit and earning sufficiently to live.

- S. Kamala, Tailoring unit



I have lost my legs in a polio attack and also my parents. Now I am residing in Thiyagam home and working in the Tailoring Unit. With good training and my hardwork in learning Tailoring in motor fitted sewing machine. I am earning a monthly wage which is the only support for my survival. Once I was without any relation & support. But now I am having lot of support in name of colleagues residing mates along with me in home.

- M. Manimala, Stay Home

I have lost my hearing and speaking ability from my childhood. Thiyagam has guided me for living a sustainable life. Now I am happily working in Tailoring section. More over i am doing my best part in Thiyagam cultural group too. In addition to mono acting & dance, I want to work in the field of deaf & dumb language. In particular, I am likely to build confidence among the physically challenged women like me by expressing the dedicated works of Thiyagam through their language itself.



- B. Sornadevi, Cultural Team



I am a physically challenged girl who can move only through crawling. Now I am getting computer training through Thiyagam computer centre. And also I am doing B.A (Tamil) IIIrd year through "Distance Education" in M.K.U. Recently my exam hall was allotted in the second floor. After explaining about my physical scenario from the next day onwards permission was provided to me for writing the exam in the ground floor itself. This is a temporary one. Buildings should be constructed in such a manner that physically challenged Persons like me can also travel easily. More over we are continuing our Journey in the name of hope.

- G. Tamilselvi, Computer centre

I am a village girl from "thottappa nayakanoor" a remote village near usilampatti. I am creating awareness for physically challenged persons around my village about the government scholarship, opportunities etc for them. I joined my hands with Thiyagam friends circle now. After joining I have gained lot of fruitful experiences that make me to feel happy. I am very proud to say that we are enlightening many lifters of physically challenged persons with the help of the Thiyagam friends circle.



- T. Banumathi, Friends circle.



I am a physically challenged girl and experienced family poverty as another disability. My dream of learning computer course becomes a question mark due to unaffordable cost. Computer education dream comes true after I got into Thiyagam. Now I am eagerly learning the computer education through Thiyagam computer centre. Economic growth is also a stepping stone for physically challenged person's freedom. Hence I have joined hands with my colleagues and I have started. "VIDHAI Self Help Group" for addressing the same.

- K. Kaliammal, Vidhai Self Help Group



# 6. Recognition and Awards

## Awards and recognition

Ms. Amutha Shanthi received the prestigious Helen Keller Award from National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP), New Delhi on 2.12.08 on behalf of Thiyagam Women Trust for its services rendered to the rural physically challenged women aiming at securing livelihoods for them.

Manava Seva Dharma Samvardhani (MSDS) was awarded to Thiyagam Trust for its significant contribution towards working for Physically challenged women in rural areas of the Madurai district.

India sudar recognised the work done by the Trust for providing education for the rural poor children in Madurai district and extended their financial support for continuing initiatives taken by the Trust. She also represented the Trust in various forums, events and functions organised by reputed NGOs and other academic institutions such as Bharathidasan University where she was awarded Vetri Pennmani as part of their Women's Day Celebration on March 08, 2009.



# 7. Thiyagam in Media

December 3, 2008  
Indian Express, New Delhi

## On eve of World Disability Day, awards laud work for the specially abled

ANEESHA MATHUR  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 2

Tuesday, the eve of Disability Day, the Government of India...

## நம்பிக்கையின் முகவரி யார் நான் இருக்கிறேன்!

December 2008, Penne Nee

பென் நேயுக்குத் தையல் பரிந்துரையும், வேலைவாய்ப்பையும் வழங்க 10 தையல் இயந்திரங்களையும் 2005ம் ஆண்டில் தியாகம் பெண்கள் அறங்கட்டணர் என்ற பெயரில் நிறுவினார். இன்று தியாகம் தையல் பிரிவு தங்கும் இல்லம் அமைப்பதில் தியாகம் ஆலாசனை மற்றும் வழி காட்டுதல் மையம் கலைஞர் தியாகம் நம்பிக்கையின் முடி தியாகம் சய உதவிக் குழு தியாகம் நட்பு வட்டம் மரக்கன்று நடுத்தல் என்று பல்வேறு பிரிவுகளிலும் உயிர்த்துடிப்புடன் உடைய பணிகளை பல்வேறு நல்ல உள்நகரிகள் உதவினார். பரிந்தி அறிவிப்பதுடன் தொடரிந்து அவர்களுக்கான வேலைவாய்ப்பிற்கு வழிகாட்டும் முயற்சியையும் செய்து வருகிறார். வெளியூரிலிருந்து வரும் வழிநடாட்டும் முயற்சியையும் பழக்கப்படுத்திய யாற்றுகிறார். பொருள்கு குடும்ப உறவோடு விட்டுத் துறவை உருவாக்கித் தரும் தியாகம் இவ்வகைதழும் துணிவுகொண்டு... அறிவின் நலம் திட்டியவராய் பொருள்கு... மற்றும் வழிநடா...

The Hindu May 20, 2008

## Honing skills and learning values



...for the disabled... use our help ten wi...  
...Delhi. Amutha Shanthi S from Madurai, the managing trustee of the Thiyagam Women's Trust, won an award in the disabled category for her work on empowering disabled rural women. The Thiyagam self-help group encourages self-employment, and a tailoring unit has been set up in this regard to provide training and livelihood to rural...

December 10, 2008  
The Hindu

## National award for city social worker

For her service to the disabled

### Tailoring units and computer centres

She runs the Thyagam Women Trust, a centre for physically disabled women, in which she provides employment by running tailoring units and computer centres. The award was given for her under the category A, which is for disabled persons from within and outside the city sector, who...

## A centre that aims to teach values and academics to rural children.

When S. Poornima of Keerthihamathur learnt that her friend Satya could not attend school for want of school uniform, Poornima made her parents help her friend in buying an uniform. Similarly, Kalaimani took a wounded puppy to the veterinary hospital. Pandiselvi, a Std. IX student of Kamatchipuram, has picked up good communication skills in English. Students of five villages — Thiruvudagam, Keerthihamathur and Melakkal, Kamatchipuram and Pudur — have moulded themselves well, thanks to the humble programme of Thiyagam Narpanbu Kalvi Mayyam (TNKM) initiated by Thiyagam Women's Trust. The main focus of...



# 8. Future Perspectives

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**T**hiyagam Women Trust with the ultimate mission of securing livelihoods of the rural physically challenged women has the following futuristic perspectives and vision.

## **Organising the physically challenged women**

Thiyagam Women Trust will involve in promotion of SHGs amongst rural physically challenged women with the aim of inculcating savings habits among them and also facilitate credit linkages for their economic development through linking with banks and other financial institutions.

## **Village resource centre**

The Trust will establish village resource centre in all the working villages of the Trust. Resource centres would be established with the purpose of knowledge and value building of children.

## **Production cum sales unit**

The tailoring unit of the Trust would further be improved technically and also more number of machines would be added to further increase the production of cotton bags and other materials like Nighties and also plans will be afoot to start a sales unit for marketing the same so as to generate more income for the unit and to support more members.

## **Village computer centre**

Thiyagam as it has its computer training centre in madurai city would also have its computer training centres in villages so as to reach out to the members and to increase the number of trainees and there by

ensuring self employment opportunities for the members.

## **Legal help centre**

Thiyagam would also involve actively in setting up a legal help centre at village level and at district level to help support the disabled people get their rights and schemes availed to them from Government and other institutions and to support and guide them in case any problem arise or in case of any needs.

## **Mini library**

Mini Library at village level will be established by the Trust in all its working village which will benefit the school going children to develop their knowledge and skills and to excel in their education.

## **Vocational training centre**

Vocational training centre will be established for the livelihood development skills of the physically Challenged people of the rural areas so as to enable them start their own income generation activities thereby encouraging them for self employment.

## **Collaboration with Government and others**

The Trust would establish strong collaoration and partnership with Government to facilitate the disabled people get all the schemes and programmes of the Government. It would also establish partnerships with corporates and socially concerned individuals to avail technical and financial support for carrying out various activities and programmes of the Trust.



# 9. Financials



## GIDEON & ASSOCIATES

M. GIDEON PAUL B.Com., F.C.A.,  
Chartered Accountant

2/52, West Pandian Agil Street,  
Opp : Raja Barley, Nethaji Road,  
Madurai - 625 001.

☎ 0452-234 6734  
☎ 98421 76946

Email : gideonpaulm@yahoo.co.in

Date: 13.04.2009

### AUDIT REPORT

I have audited the attached Balance sheet of  
**“THIYAGAM WOMEN TRUST”**, No – 66/44, Annai Illam,  
Kambar Street, S.S. Colony, Madurai – 625 010. as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009  
and also the annexed Receipts & Payments and Income & Expenditure Accounts for the  
year ended 31.03.2009 and report that

I have obtained all the information and explanations which to  
the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.

The Balance Sheet, Receipts & Payments Account and Income &  
Expenditure Account dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of  
accounts.

In our opinion and to the best of information and according to the  
explanations given to us, the said accounts give a true and fair view.

- a) In the case of the **Balance Sheet** of the State of affairs of the Trust as  
at 31st March 2009.
- b) In the case of the Income and Expenditure account of the **Excess of Income  
over Expenditure** for the period from 01.04.2008 to 31.03.2009.

**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT**



**CA. M. GIDEON PAUL, B.Com., F.C.A.,**  
No: 2/ 52, West Pandian Agil Street,  
Opp to Raja Barley  
Nethaji Road MADURAI-625 001  
Ph. 2346734 & 98421-76946



**THIYAGAM WOMEN TRUST**  
**No-66/44, Annai Illam, Kambar Street,**  
**S.S. Colony, Madurai - 625 010.**

**RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.3.2009**

RECEIPTS	RS. P.	PAYMENTS	RS. P.
To Opening Balance:		By <b>THIYAGAM TAILORING UNIT:</b>	153,522.50
Cash in hand	1,230.85	" Rent	34,000.00
Cash at Bank	35,454.00	" Electricity Charges	2,650.00
		" Repairs & Maintenance	6,012.50
		" Cloth Materials	8,140.00
To Bank Interest	1,327.00	" Wages	102,720.00
" Donation & Contribution	516,477.00		
" Job Work Cooly (Tailoring Unit)	165,097.00	By <b>THIYAGAM NARPANBU KALVI MAYAM:</b>	104,558.75
" Xorox, Computer Job Work Income	1,494.00	" Honorarium For Teachers	71,778.00
" Nighty Sales Income	3,940.00	" Education Materials	2,660.00
		" Camp & Programmes	19,538.25
		" Training for Teachers	1,873.50
		" Maintenance Expenses	5,022.00
		" Traveling Expenses	3,687.00
		By <b>THIYAGAM HOME:</b>	32,781.50
		" Rent	12,000.00
		" Electricity Charges	1,218.00
		" Food & Other Expenses	18,991.50
		" Medical Expenses	572.00
		By <b>THIYAGAM COMPUTER CENTRE:</b>	51,418.50
		" Rent	14,400.00
		" Electricity Charges	4,700.00
		" Repairs & Maintenance	8,778.50
		" Computer Stationeries	440.00
		" Honorarium	23,100.00
		By <b>WOMEN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES</b>	63,469.00
		" Training Programmes	43,515.00
		" Medical Expenses	6,175.00
		" Self Help Group Training Prog.	2,278.00
		" Rural Development Programmes	9,320.00
		" Library Books	2,181.00



Continued next Page....



	By <b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES:</b>	64,542.50
	" Audit Fees	2,000.00
	" Bank Charges	1,038.00
	" Telephone Charges	10,342.00
	" Postage & Courier Expenses	4,203.00
	" Repairs & Maintenance	8,785.00
	" Printing & Stationeries	29,075.00
	" Honorarium	800.00
	" DRDA Office Rent	1,500.00
	" Accounting Charges	1,000.00
	" Traveling Expenses	5,799.50
	By <b>DEPOSITS &amp; ADVANCES:</b>	55,000.00
	" Bank Fixed Deposit	15,000.00
	" Lease Advance for TNKM	30,000.00
	" Thiyagam Home Rent Advance	10,000.00
	By <b>FIXED ASSEST:</b>	145,170.00
	" Computer & Accessories	40,000.00
	" Computer with Printer	27,300.00
	" Computer Table	900.00
	" Computer Big Table	3,200.00
	" Stool for Tailoring Unit	950.00
	" Chair for Tailoring Unit	410.00
	" Telephone for Home	2,900.00
	" Television for Home	7,000.00
	" Gas Cylinder for Home	1,325.00
	" Wheel Chair for Home	4,300.00
	" Tape Recorder	2,650.00
	" Wall Clock	600.00
	" Calculator	315.00
	" Digital Still Camera	10,000.00
	" Two Wheeler	43,320.00
	By <b>CLOSING BALANCE:</b>	54,557.10
	Cash in hand	908.10
	Cash at Bank	53,649.00
<b>725,019.85</b>		<b>725,019.85</b>



MANAGING TRUSTEE

**THIYAGAM WOMEN TRUST**  
Centre for Physically Challenged Women  
68/44, Kambar Street, S.S.Colony  
MADURAI - 625 010. TAMIL NADU. INDIA  
Phone: 0452 - 2602195



VIDE MY REPORT ANNEXED



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

**CA. M. GIDEON PAUL, B.Com. F.C.A.**  
No: 2 / 52, West Pandian Agll Street,  
Opp to Raja Barley  
Nethaji Road MADURAI-625 001  
Ph. 2346734 & 98421-76946



**THIYAGAM WOMEN TRUST**

No-66/44, Annai Illam, Kambar Street,

S.S. Colony, Madurai - 625 010.

**INCOME & EXPENDIUTE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.3.2009**

EXPENDITURE		RS. P.	INCOME	
To <b>THIYAGAM TAILORING UNIT:</b>		153,522.50	By Bank Interest	1,327.00
" Rent	34,000.00		" Donation & Contribution	516,477.00
" Electricity Charges	2,650.00		" Job Work Cooly (Tailoring Unit)	168,543.00
" Repairs & Maintenance	6,012.50		" Xorox, Computer Job Work Income	1,494.00
" Cloth Materials	8,140.00		" Nighty Sales Income	3,940.00
" Wages	102,720.00			
To <b>THIYAGAM NARPANBU KALVI MAYAM:</b>		104,558.75		
" Honorarium For Teachers	71,778.00			
" Education Materials	2,660.00			
" Camp & Programmes	19,538.25			
" Training for Teachers	1,873.50			
" Maintenance Expenses	5,022.00			
" Traveling Expenses	3,687.00			
To <b>THIYAGAM HOME:</b>		32,781.50		
" Rent	12,000.00			
" Electricity Charges	1,218.00			
" Food & Other Expenses	18,991.50			
" Medical Expenses	572.00			

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To <b><u>THIYAGAM COMPUTER CENTRE:</u></b>	51,418.50	
" Rent	14,400.00	
" Electricity Charges	4,700.00	
" Repairs & Maintenance	8,778.50	
" Computer Stationeries	440.00	
" Honorarium	23,100.00	
To <b><u>WOMEN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES</u></b>	63,469.00	
" Training Programmes	43,515.00	
" Medical Expenses	6,175.00	
" Self Help Group Training Prog.	2,278.00	
" Rural Development Programmes	9,320.00	
" Library Books	2,181.00	
To <b><u>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES:</u></b>	64,542.50	
" Audit Fees	2,000.00	
" Bank Charges	1,038.00	
" Telephone Charges	10,342.00	
" Postage & Courier Expenses	4,203.00	
" Repairs & Maintenance	8,785.00	
" Printing & Stationeries	29,075.00	
" Honorarium	800.00	
" DRDA Office Rent	1,500.00	
" Accounting Charges	1,000.00	
" Traveling Expenses	5,799.50	
To Excess of Income over Expenditure	221,488.25	
	691,781.00	691,781.00



MANAGING TRUSTEE

**THIYAGAM WOMEN TRUST**  
Centre for Physically Challenged Women  
66/44, Kambar Street, S.S.Colony  
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Phone: 0452 - 2602195



VIDE MY REPORT ANNEXED



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

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## THIYAGAM WOMEN TRUST

No-66/44, Annai Illam, Kambar Street,

S.S. Colony, Madurai - 625 010.

### BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.3.2009

Liabilities	RS. P.	Assets	RS. P.
Trust Fund O/B	199452.85	Fixed Asset as per Schedule	267,744.00
Add : Surplus	221488.25	Advance & Deposits	90,000.00
		TDS Receivables	8,640.00
		Cash in Hand	908.10
		Cash at Bank	53,649.00
	420,941.10		420,941.10

VIDE MY REPORT ANNEXED



MANAGING TRUSTEE



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

**THIYAGAM WOMEN TRUST**  
 Centre for Physically Challenged Women  
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 MADURAI - 625 010. TAMIL NADU. INDIA  
 Phone: 0452 - 2802195



**CA. M. GIDEON PAUL, B.Com., F.C.A.**  
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 No. 20, Rajarajeshwari  
 Nethal Road, Madurai-625 001  
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 Ph: 2346734 & 9842176988



**THIYAGAM WOMEN TRUST**  
No-66/44, Annai Illam, Kamar Street,  
S.S. Colony, Madurai - 625 010.

**FIXED ASSET SCHEDULE AS ON 31.3.2009**

S.NO	ITEM PARTICULARS	QNTY	VALUE
1	Sewing Machines (Model-1)	5	17500
2	Sewing Machines (Model-2)	1	5400
3	Sewing Machines (Model-3)	6	7200
4	Cutting Table	1	450
5	Wooden Chair	1	500
6	Bureau(Big Size)	1	5600
7	Bureau(Small Size)	1	3600
8	Stool	11	1500
9	Radio	1	400
10	Water Filter	1	1400
11	Table Fan	2	1500
12	Fan	2	1300
13	Tata Phone	1	1200
14	Chairs	2	500
15	Office Table	1	1000
16	Computer & Accessories	1	19750
17	Sewing Machines	3	5000
18	Computer Cold	3	14000
19	Printer & Scanner	1	22000
20	Computer Table	5	3500
21	Bureau	2	6000
22	Gas & Cylinder (Home)	1	950
23	UPS	1	1850
24	Plastic Chairs(TCC)	5	474
<b>ADDITION OF NEW ASSETS FOR THE YEAR 2008 - 2009</b>			
25	Tape Recorder	1	2650
26	Computer Table(TCC)	1	900
26	Stool (Tailoring Unit)	4	950
27	Computer New (TCC)	2	40000
27	Wall Clock	2	600
28	Calaulater (Tailoring Unit)	1	315
28	Digital Still Camara(TWT)	1	10000
29	Chair (Tailoring Unit)	4	410
29	Phone(Home)	1	2900
30	Television (Home)	1	7000
30	Computer Table (TCC)	1	3200
31	Computer & Printer ( )	1	27300
31	Two wheelar(TWT)	1	43320
32	Second Cylinder (Home)	1	1325
32	Wheel Chair (Home)	1	4300
Total			267744

  
MANAGING TRUSTEE

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**THIYAGAM SELF HELP GROUP**  
**(Run by Thiyagam Women Trust)**  
**No-66/44, Annai Illam, Kamar Street,**  
**S.S. Colony, Madurai - 625 010**

**Receipt & Payments Account for the year ended 31.3.2009**

Receipts	Rs. P.	Payments	Rs. P.
To Opening Balance	6,671.00		
" Savings	6,600.00		
" Bank Interest	315.00	By Cash at Bank	13,586.00
	<b>13,586.00</b>		<b>13,586.00</b>

**Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31.3.2009**

Expenses	Rs. P.	Income	Rs. P.
		By Bank Interest	315.00
To Excess of Income over Expenditure	315.00		
	<b>315.00</b>		<b>315.00</b>

**Balance Sheet as on 31.3.2009**

Liabilities	Rs. P.	Assets	Rs. P.
General Fund O/B - 71.00		Cash at Bank	13,586.00
Add: Surplus 2008-09 - 315.00	386.00		
Savings	13,200.00		
	<b>13,586.00</b>		<b>13,586.00</b>

**VIDE MY REPORT ANNEXED**



**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT**



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## *Our Sincere Thanks to*

Thiyagam Women Trust acknowledges and extends its sincere thanks to the following organisations for providing the technical and financial support for institution building, programmes and activities of the Trust.

Anandashram, Kerala

•

Tayub Mohamed Hajeemoosa & Co, Madurai

•

Unifreight India Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai

•

Indiasudar, Chennai

•

Nandhini Voice for the deprived, Chennai

•

Kumaran Systems Pvt. Ltd., Chennai

•

Siraku Foundation, Chennai

•

Nivethan Trust, Madurai

•

Vishwa Seva Educational Trust, Chennai

•

Ma Foi & Ciosa, Chennai





*Refresher Tour Kodaikanal*



*Thiyagam Annual Day celebration*



*Republic Day celebration*



*Values in life - A sharing & discussion*



*Madurai Marathon 2009*



*Reading and Sharing programme*



## **Thiyagam Women Trust**

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