

SRI RAMAKRISHNA SEVA SAMITHI

RAMAKRISHNA COMPLEX ROAD
VIJAYALAKSHMI PURAM

BAPATLA – 522 101

e-mail: rkamithibapatla@gmail.com

For more details visit our web-site: www.unworldliness.org

An affiliate of Sri Ramakrishna Vivekananda Bhava Prachara Parishat, Andhra Pradesh

ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006

Our Samithi was founded in the year 1970 as a registered society with the inspiration of monks of the Ramakrishna Order. We present hereunder its multifarious activities during the present financial year.

We present hereunder the various activities undertaken on several fronts: 1. *Spiritual activities*; 2. *Regular Lectures* 3. *Narayana Seva* 4. *Children's activities*; 5. *Youth Activities*; 6. *Publication of Books*; 7. *Rural Development* and 8. *Others*.

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES

Daily Prayer meeting was held on all days throughout the year. On *Ekadasi Days* Ramanama Sankirtanam was done in the evenings.

Kalpataru Day was celebrated on 1st January with Puja in the morning and lighting of incense sticks and meditation in the evening. All the important celebrations like *Tithi Pujas* of Bhagavan Sri Ramakrishna, Holy Mother Sarada Devi and Swami Vivekananda were held with Special Puja in the morning and with arati and a discourses in the evening.

Sri Ramakrishna Jayanti was celebrated on 1 March 2006. A lecture meeting was arranged on that day which was delivered by Sri N. Ramagopal.

The 152th *Birthday of Sri Sarada Devi* was celebrated on 23-12-2005 with puja in the morning and by lighting 152 candles in the evening. On this day Dr T.G.K.Murthy, out-standing scientist, ISRO, Bangalore delivered a lecture on the life and message of Sri Sarada Devi. The birthday celebrations of Swami Vivekananda were celebrated 21-01-2005.

On 7 September 2005, *Vinayaka Chaviti* was celebrated. Balavihar children made idols of Vinayaka with black soil and the idols were worshipped. In the evening 'Nimajjanam' was performed with sankirtan. On Deepavali day Lakshmi puja was conducted in the evening. An effigy of 'Narakasura' was prepared by the children and the same was burnt. Later sweets and crackers were distributed among children. All the other important celebrations like *Sri Ramanavami*, *Krishna Ashtami*, *Siva Ratri*, *Christmas Eve* were celebrated in the Samithi with special Puja in the morning and special Bhajan in the evening.

SPIRITUAL RETREATS

On 26-1-2006 a Spiritual Retreat was conducted under the guidance of Srimat Swami Aksharatmanandaji Maharaj (Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission, Rajahmundry). Revered Swamiji delivered a lecture entitled "Despondency is not Religion" and conducted Sankirtan.



REGULAR LECTURES

Throughout the year on Thursdays Lectures on Geeta were conducted by Sri N. Ramagopal, Treasurer of our samithi and on Sundays Lectures on Kathamrita were conducted by Sri A. Natarajan, Secretary of our samithi. The Birthdays of the 16 direct disciples were celebrated with a discourse in the evening by Sri N. Ramagopal on the life and teachings of the disciple.

NARAYANA SEVA (POOR FEEDING)

On 5th March, 2006 Narayana Seva was conducted on the occasion of the birth anniversary Sri Sri Guru Maharaj. Approximately 500 people were sumptuously fed.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Children activity '**BALAVIHAR**' continued as a very important activity of the Samithi. About 30-50 children from the nearby locality irrespective of caste and religion attend Samithi regularly and are involved in all kinds of activities.

Every evening a class of yogasanas is conducted. A class of singing is conducted with the accompaniment of musical instruments. A dholak was purchased and the children are learning to play it as well as sing to its accompaniment. Moral classes were conducted for the children in which they are taught moral stories from Indian culture, life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda by using a computer for displaying various items. 'Academic assistance' was given to the children by teaching them.

Every evening the children are provided with supplementary food. A common kitchen is being maintained in the samithi for the purpose. The kitchen is run by volunteers. Everyday 2 to 4 kg food is cooked and distributed to the children. The leaf plates used for serving the food are being stitched in the samithi as a part of the Earn While You Learn programme.

During the year there is excessive rainfall in the area and there was an explosion in the population of mosquitoes. Hence, mosquito nets were stitched and distributed to 30 children. Along with these, 30 bed-sheets were distributed to the needy children of Balavihar.

Cultural programme On Ugadi day 30th March, 2006, a programme show-casing the talents of the children was conducted. Children exhibited their talents by doing yogasanas, reciting slokas, padyams, quotations of Swami Vivekananda, singing and enacting a play-let based on a story of Sri Ramakrishna.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

STUDY CIRCLE

Study Circle was held regularly from 7.45 P.M. to 8.30 P.M. every day. It is receiving good response from the high school and college students. Teachings of Swami Vivekananda are the main thrust along with learning English and General knowledge, through reading and discussing, newspaper etc. The youth are being taught yogasanas.

Some of the dignitaries who visited the samithi addressed the students of the study circle belonging to various colleges. Sri C. Sridhar, IAS visited our samithi and addressed the study circle on 3 December, 2005. Dr TGK Murthy, Out-standing Scientist, ISRO, Bangalore, visited our samithi and addressed the study circle students for three days 25 to 27 December, 2005. Several students from the local Agricultural College and Engineering College participated and interacted with the eminent scientist. A special lecture was given by Dr. TGK Murthy in the Agricultural College, Bapatla on 27 December, 2005 on the topic 'Science and Spirituality'.



EARN WHILE YOU LEARN PROGRAMME

Swami Vivekananda exhorted the youth of India to stand on their own feet. Samithi is making efforts to impart various skills to the youth attending the samithi. During the year the youth were trained in making mosquito nets, making leaf –plates, making cartons with old news papers and painting work. The mosquito nets were distributed to the needy children, leaf plates were used for distributing supplementary food to the children, cartons were used for packing books that were published by the Samithi while they are being despatched to various locations. All the activities are done on a no profit no loss basis. The youth were paid a small nominal amount as an incentive.

The youth were also encouraged to learn skills by doing plumbing, electric wiring, gardening and other maintenance works in the samithi on a voluntary basis.

ANNUAL COMPETITIONS – 21ST VIVEKANANDA CULTURAL AWARDS PROGRAMME (VCAP)

Annual Competitions were conducted for students of School and college under the name Vivekananda Cultural Awards Programme. During this year competitions were conducted for school and college students separately. Sri KVRG Sarma, vice-president acted as the convenor in organizing the competitions.



SCHOOL LEVEL

From 4th to 13th September, 2005 competitions for school children were conducted. Various competitions like Essay writing, Elocution in English and Telugu, Quizzes like General quiz, Science quiz, Culture quiz, Recitation of Padyams, Slokams and quotations of Swami Vivekananda, Spot painting, Singing devotional songs, patriotic songs, making models of science, and vocabulary tests etc. For several of the competitions the book Pushpanjali was used as a source book. The competitions were conducted from L.Kg to 10th class at 6 levels.



Prize distribution ceremony

On 18.09.2005 at 4 p.m. a prize distribution ceremony was conducted. Revered Swami Bhavaniprana Mataji, Secretary, Ramakrishna Sarada Mission, Guntur graced the occasion, blessed the children with her address and gave away the prizes and mementoes. Prof. P. Shyama Sundara Murthy, Convenor, Andhra Pradesh Ramakrishna Vivekananda Bhava Prachara Parishat and Sri K.S.S. Prasad, Auditor, Bapatla participated and spoke on the occasion. A total of 2000 children from some 20 schools participated compared to 1200 in the previous year and more than 260 prizes - mementoes in the form of laminated pictures of Swami Vivekananda and book prizes and certificates were given away.



COLLEGE LEVEL

From 9th to 11th December, 2005, competitions were conducted for college youth. Various competitions like Essay writing, Elocution in English and Telugu, Debating, Quizzes like General quiz, Culture quiz, Spot painting, Kavitha rachana, Kathanika Rachana, Group discussion, Singing devotional songs, patriotic songs etc. were conducted. Topics like the life and message of Swami Vivekananda, and topics of cultural significance and national importance were primarily used for the competitions. A total of more than 400 students from 30 different colleges Guntur and Prakasam districts participated.

Prize distribution ceremony

Prizes for the winners were given in a public meeting organized on 28-11-2004. The meeting was presided over by Shri T.Krishna Murthy, Principal, Konijeti Rosaiah & Siva Lakshmi College, Bapatla

and Dr. M. V. Raghuram, Head of the Department of English, Bapatla Engineering College spoke on the topic 'Youth and Personality Development.'

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Poleramma temple at **Saradapuri** was white washed and painted at a cost of Rs.14,918/-. The amount of Rs.493/- earned by way of interest on the rural development of Rs.16,000/- donated by Most Revered Swami Ranganathanandaji Maharaj was included in this amount.



PUBLICATION OF BOOKS

During this year most of the publications were re-printed and all of them continued to receive good response from public. No new publications were taken up during this year.

BOOK-STALLS AND VIVEKANANDA EXHIBITIONS

In addition to the Book stall that was run at samithi, occasional book-stalls were conducted outside. This year one such stall along with Vivekananda Exhibition was conducted at Bapatla Engineering College. Book-stalls were also conducted at Shirdi Sai Baba Temple.

OTHERS

The members of the Samithi actively participated in the activities of Sri Ramakrishna Math and Mission centres at Hyderabad, Rajahmundry, Vijayawada and Chennai and the Andhra Pradesh Ramakrishna Vivekananda Bhava Prachara Parishat and rendered voluntary service in various areas.

SECTION 80G AND FCRA

Our Samithi received licence under the FCRA (Foreign Contributions Regulations Act) during this year. The donations made to Samithi continued to enjoy exemption under 80G of the Income-tax Act.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to the monks of the Ramakrishna order for their continued guidance and patronage. We thank our auditor Sri K. Krishna Murthy garu, Chartered Accountant for auditing the accounts of the Samithi. We also thank the several friends and donors who continued to patronize the Samithi. May Sri Sri Guru Maharaj bless them all is our constant prayer.

Since the year of inception in 1970 there are no paid servants in the Samithi. All the maintenance work like sweeping, dusting, cooking food for children, cleaning the vessels of the kitchen etc., in the samithi are done by the volunteers. We pray to the Holy Trio to bless all the volunteers.

OM TAT SAT

SARVAM SRI RAMAKRISHNARPANAMASTU

Date: 5-04-2006

Place: Bapatla.

(Amirapu Natarajan)

Secretary