

# **SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

## **RAJAHMUNDRY CENTRE**

Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa once told his disciples that a great Vaishnava Bhakta by name Vaishnava Charan used to visit him regularly. That devotee always used to say that the realisation of Godhood within Man is the highest achievement of spiritual realisation. He said that he was now able to see that for himself in reality. Thus God sometimes appeared as a Yogi, sometimes as a pretender, and sometimes as a Cheat. However all these different appearances were in reality the manifestation of the Supreme God. That is why he called them a Yogi God, pretender God and Cheat God. Therefore he wished to serve all these Gods in the form of human beings. It was this principle which Swami Vivekananda adopted as the basis of the movement which he established and thus handed over to humanity, the unique principle of real service, "Service to humanity is Service to Divinity". The Ramakrishna Mission was established in may 1897, the motto of the Mission being, "Salvation of the soul and for the welfare of the world".

In the month of March 1897, Swami Akhandananda, a brother disciple of Vivekananda was on a tour near Mushirabad in Bengal. He saw a group of famished children. He learnt that they were in that malnourished condition because of the prevailing famine in that area. He had with him a small amount of money. He immediately utilised the money to purchase edibles for the children. On seeing the conditions in a village Mahula, he thought to himself, "If I can save at least one person without begging from anyone, I will consider my life to be fulfilled. For myself I can live without food for 7 to 8 days. Therefore it will be an act of cowardice to run away from the present circumstances. I must do something for the people before I die". It was this strong determination which made him refuse to go back to the Math, inspite of the repeated requests from his brother disciples. At this time Swami Vivekananda returned to Belur Math from Dehra Dun, and saw the letters written by Swami Akhandananda. Appreciating the efforts of Swami Akhandananda he hailed him as a courageous leader. In his letter to him he said, "Hail to Guru Deva. Continue your work. Do not worry about money. Leave the responsibility to me," He sent to his assistance, Swami Nityananda and Brahmachari Suren, and also a sum of Rs. 150/- to facilitate the work. In this manner the first famine relief service was started by the Ramakrishna Math on 15th May 1897. The first step was the distribution of rice to 18 people in the Mahula village of Bengal. In 1898 plague epidemic was spreading in Calcutta. The Ramakrishna Mission started relief activities along with Sister Nivedita. On one occasion the authorities asked them to stop relief work as they had no funds. Swami Vivekananda however refused to do so. He said that there was no question of going back. They could sell the Belur Math, and continue the work. It is this spirit and determination which has been the guiding force of the Ramakrishna Mission, enabling it to continue its service activities till date.

## **RAMAKRISHNA MATH AND RAMAKRISHNA MISSION AT RAJAHMUNDRY**

Andhra Pradesh was blessed by the visits of  
**Swami Vivekananda** to Hyderabad in 1893,  
**Holy Mother Sri Sarada Devi to Rajahmundry in 1911,**  
**Swami Ramakrishnananda**, founder of South Indian centres, to Machilipatnam in 1901,  
**Swami Brahmananda** to Tirupati in 1916,  
**Swami Shivananda** to Visakhapatnam in 1921 and to Cuddapah in 1925.

Devotees of Sri Ramakrishna opened many private centres at different places in Andhra Pradesh. Thus at Rajahmundry a private centre by name Ramakrishna Seva Samithi was started. Maharaja of Vizianagaram gave 80 cents of land on lease to run the activities of the Samithi. The Samithi maintained a Homoeo Dispensary and conducted religious classes till it was affiliated in 1954.

**Math Centre was opened in 1951 and Ramakrishna Mission Centre was started in 1954** by the munificent donation of Late Sri Duvvuri Ramakrishna Rao, native of Rajahmundry. Later the local Ramakrishna Seva Samithi was dissolved and the leased land was donated to the Mission. Then onwards the Math and Mission Centres of Rajahmundry took up several activities.

### **RAYALASEEMA FAMINE 1952 - 53**

The Ramakrishna Math centre in Andhra Pradesh established in 1951 has rendered different kinds of service activities during the last 50 years. The Central idea of this article is to describe the particulars of the various activities undertaken by this centre. At the time when this centre was trying to establish itself with the assistance of a loan from the Belur Math, a famine struck Rayalaseema in February 1952. On account of continuous failure of crops for four consecutive years, the magnitude of the famine was very high. There was scarcity of drinking water. Huge trees withered away. Cattle perished in hundreds and thousands due to scarcity of water and fodder. Fodder was being purchased with the money got by the sale of the skin of dead cattle. People survived by eating beef. There were no newspapers which did not report these events and publish the photos of thousands of people standing in queues for water from the wells.

Rajahmundry Math took over the work of famine relief. Ramnath Goenka, proprietor of Indian Express and Andhra Prabha came forward to collect funds for the relief work. On March 19th, 1952, Swami Nityabodhananda reached Chittoor and started the first famine relief Centre. Making Cuddapah, the base centre, he extended the relief activities. The first relief activity was supply of water. For this purpose wells were desilted in Chittoor, Cuddapah and Kadri taluks. Within a span of 2 1/2 months wells were desilted which supplied sumptuous quantities of water. To supply milk to the children and the sick, 7 centres were opened. Fodder for cattle was made available in centres opened in Rayachote and Rajampeta mandals in Cuddapah. Initially rice, dhal, salt, maize and other grains were distributed. Later

on rice and wheat were distributed. School children were given mid-day meals in 16 centres. They were also given clothes and books. In addition to this dhotis, sarees and bed sheets were provided. These people who lost all their belongings in the fire mishap were given food, clothes and utensils. There were flash floods in the river Chenur, near Cuddapah due to sudden downpour of heavy rains. The Mission authorities supplied relief in the form of rice, utensils and mats. The mission also took up the construction of roads near the embankments. Medical relief was also given.

The relief activity in Rayalaseema involved an amount of Rs. 4,54,049/- being spent, along with three wagon loads of rice (762 bags), 194 tons of wheat, 31 bales of rugs, 2880 tons of Gollabhama Milk Powder (2 drums of Milk) 20,000 vitamin tablets, 100 tons of baby food, 24 drums of milk powder and 110 tons of Jaggery, for the victims. The Mission opened 192 centres for providing relief. 38 volunteers rendered selfless service.

### **GODAVARI FLOODS 1953 - 55**

The Godavari floods occurred on August 15th 1953. The fury of the floods resulted in the breaching of several bunds between Bhadrachalam and Konaseema, resulting in immense loss of life and property. In the town of Rajahmundry, the bund breached in the night and water entered into the town. Several parts of the town were submerged under 8 to 10 feet of water. Life was totally paralysed for a span of two weeks. Veerabhadrapuram was submerged in 6 feet of water for a whole week. The Math was also submerged. The Ashramities were forced to shift their residence to the mango grove. Unmindful of their own calamity, they plunged headlong into relief activities, and started feeding of flood victims right from the second day. What started with the feeding of 400 people went up to the feeding of 5000 people. Impressed by the Mission relief work, the Government handed over 10 of its centres to the Organization. This Relief work continued for a period of two weeks. The flood having caused great havoc, not only in Rajahmundry but in the entire district relief centres were opened in several places. This time also, Sri Ramnath Goenka, like on the earlier occasion collected funds through the Indian Express and Andhra Prabha, and gave the amounts to the Mission Centre. Rice, dhal, milk, utensils, dhotis, mats and cots were distributed. Students were given books and 15000 slates were distributed. Fees were also paid for some of the students. The Mission gave large scale assistance in the form of bricks and cement for the reconstruction of the school buildings. As part of permanent relief measures houses were provided to the people, in three different ways. The first was to buy the land and construct the house. The second was the provision of land for the construction of the house and the third was the supply of wood, bricks and cement for the construction of the house. In the Kotilingala area of Rajahmundry, 56 families were provided with 28 houses, in Katavaram 53 houses and in Gumagaya gudem area near Bhadrachalam 22 houses were provided and a well was dug. In the Kothapeta Taluk an elementary school was constructed at a sum of Rs. 18000/- The Mission also purchased five areas for Rs. 14075 and distributed it among 64 families in the village of Vanapalli. In the Rajahmundry area 750 families were supplied with wood, bricks and cement. In addition to this the people of Rajahmundry, Kapileshwarapuram and the residents of the surrounding islands were given bamboo poles and palmyra leaves.

The Mission authorities served the needy victims of 339 villages, spending a sum of Rs. 6,87,522/-. Along with the Swamijis, 53 volunteers rendered assistance in the conduct of the relief work. In 1956, half an acre of land was purchased in Alcot Gardens for the Harijans. 40 families were given houses which were constructed at a cost of Rs. 1250/- each. The General secretary of the Ramakrishna Mission inaugurated the colony in 1958. The colony was named, Trivedi Nagar in recognition and appreciation of the services rendered by the then Governor Sri Trivedi. The Mission spent an amount of Rs. 50,840/- for the construction of the colony.

After 1958 the Rajahmundry centre started construction of houses for the flood victims of Chirala on July 21 st, 1969. However, since the work involved heavy investment, The Belur Math took over the responsibility of constructing the houses. It completed the work in 1970 and the colony was named 'Vivekananda Nagar'

On 17-11-1977, disaster struck Diviseema. It was hit by a tidal wave which assumed monstrous proportions. It was described as a 'Jala Pralayam', a mighty catastrophe which wrought havoc, wiping out all trees of life. Village after village was washed away beyond recognition by the terrible floods. The fields were covered with sand dunes. No one could estimate the stupendous loss. The Mission authorities rose to the situation and set in motion the relief activities. They took the first available train to Vijayawada on the morning of 19-11-77. The Vijayawada Railway station wore a totally deserted and forlorn look with absolutely no activity anywhere. The relief team left for Diviseema. All along the route could be heard heart rending wails. The stench from the carcasses was nauseating and unbearable. It was impossible to proceed without holding naphthalene balls to the nose, to ward off the stench. The prisoners from the Rajahmundry Central Jail took up the work of cremating the decomposed bodies, at the very place in which they were found. Diviseema itself appeared to be a big cremation ground. The irrigation canal on the right side of the road leading to Koduru from Avanigadda was filled with corpses and carcasses. It was a heart rending sight, which remains imprinted in the heart to date.

When the relief party tried to talk to the people of Koduru they were unable to get any reply from them. They were shocked and could utter no words. The relief party immediately started distributing rice, tamarind, dhal, chilies, pickles, medicines, salt, mats, fuel, match boxes, clothes, blankets, steel trunks, kerosene and lanterns, in the villages of Irali, Hamsaladivi, Palakayathippa, Gollapalem, Ootagudem, Koduru and other adjoining villages. A large number of philanthropic people also sent many articles. Besides this, the Rajahmundry Ramakrishna Mission spent an amount of Rs. 5 lakhs. After rendering the above mentioned relief, they took up the work of constructing houses for the victims as a measure of permanent relief. The construction work was taken up personally by the Belur Math. The Rajahmundry Math also assisted in the construction work.

It is natural for houses to collapse in times of floods and tidal waves. The coastal belt is more vulnerable to these catastrophies. The Mission therefore decided to build houses which can withstand such catastrophies. It invited plans for such kind of houses from engineers. Sri Krishna Iyer, an Engineer from Madras sent a plan of a house built by him. The government certified that the house could withstand even an earthquake. The Mission therefore selected this plan as it would withstand floods and other calamities.

The construction of this type of houses was based on pre-fabricated cement slabs of 12" x 12" x 4" dimensions which were put in water for 14 days for curing purposes to make them strong. These blocks were to be attached binding them with cement on the two sides of a frame which is of a height of 10" x 10" x 2". This is called panel. After digging the foundation and digging a wall a round 6mm steel rod per foot has to be attached to the foundation. Between every 2 rods, the panel has to be fixed and after a row is completed another 6 mm steel rod has to be attached. Between every 2 panels one rod is attached, the space between the panels being made firm with concrete mixture for binding these rods, is only 4" all of which project from the bottom and proceed towards the roof and get attached there. Even though they are thin walls, since they are bound by steel rods, they will be strong. Several people expressed doubts during the construction of the houses. In the storm which hit again in the year 1990, houses which were earlier built under the rehabilitation scheme by other institutions were damaged, but the houses built by the Mission did not incur any damage. This news was widely published by the Hindu Paper.

In Diviseema, between the years 1977 and 1980, one thousand and four houses, three community halls and three temples were constructed. In the same manner in Bapatla town of Prakasam District 96 houses, a temple and one community hall were constructed. The Mission spent Rupees 60 lakhs for the houses constructed in Diviseema and a lakh and a half rupees for the construction of the Yanadi Colony in Bapatla.

In 1979, a fire accident occurred in the village Muggalla near Rajahmundry. It caused great suffering and rendered many people homeless. The Rajahmundry Mission supplied palmyrah leaves, rafters and utensils to the afflicted. A sum of Rs. 25000/- was spent for this relief.

In the Godavari Pushkaram in Rajahmundry in 1979, the Mission supplied meals in the morning, noon and night. One lakh three thousand children under the age of 10 were supplied with milk. Elders were given butter milk. Several people donated food packets. Four centres were opened for this distribution of food packets. Although a lot was being done for pilgrims, no one cared for the infants and young children. Therefore the supply of milk by the Mission was highly appreciated. An amount of rupees five lakhs was spent for milk distribution.

In 1980 the Vamsadhara River in Srikakulam district was in spate and the entire area was struck by floods. The Rajahmundry Centre took up relief. A base Centre was set up in Kothuru and edibles including rice, vegetables, clothes and utensils were distributed to the residents of Angara, Kothuru, Hiramandalam and the neighboring 50 villages.

A sum of Rs. 5 lakhs was spent for this relief. While carrying on this relief work an unforgettable event took place. At about midnight a lorry laden with rice, clothes and other items was on its way from Srikakulam to Kothuru. There were 5 persons including the driver in the lorry. The lorry was nearing Hiramandalam. It was 11-15 in the night. Some people suddenly stopped the lorry, and immediately

unloaded the articles from the lorry and carried them away. Not knowing what to do, the lorry returned to Srikakulam and a complaint was lodged with the then collector Mr. Girglani. He immediately sent the police and got the stolen goods recovered. On inquiry it was discovered that a politician's hand was behind the incident. The politician had received a message that a relief lorry was on its way. He immediately proceeded on his motorcycle to the village and informed the villagers that he was sending a lorry with relief material for them. He asked them to collect the material. It was this statement, which made the villagers act in such a manner. The relief party stayed there till 1982 and the people cooperated very nicely with them.

After rendering relief work, the Mission took up rehabilitation activity of constructing permanent houses. The vacant site adjoining the road from Kothuru to Parlakimidi was acquired by the Mission from the Government for the construction of 200 houses. The Mission constructed 200 houses, spending Rs. 11,00,000; a committee hall for Rs. 75,000 and a Ramalaya for Rs. 25,000, for the residents of the three villages, near the river Vamsadhara. This new village was named Ramakrishnapuram.

In 1984, a cyclone of great magnitude struck the Nellore District. In Sriharikota pucca houses and water tanks collapsed. There was wide spread damage in Nellore District. The Ramakrishna Mission Rajahmundry took up relief work immediately. It made Naidupeta the base for its relief work to provide assistance to people in places like Ircom and the 50 neighboring villages. Essential materials like rice, dhal, salt, vegetables, clothes, bed sheets, lamps and mats were supplied to the villagers, the MIs. T.T.K. (O., donated one lakh banians which were distributed by the Mission. The relief activities lasted for three months and Rs. 4,00,000/- was spent.

On 15th August, 1986, the Godavari was in floods. Both the East and West Godavari were submerged in floods. West Godavari was affected the most. The Rajahmundry Ramakrishna Mission took up relief work. Bhimavaram was taken up as the base centre for relief activities and relief was rendered to people in places like Yendagandi, Tunduru, Matyapuri, Narsapur, and Tanuku and also to the neighboring 50 villages. As in the past essential commodities like rice, utensils and clothes were distributed. It was decided to construct houses as a measure of permanent relief. The villagers insisted that the houses should be built on the original old sites only and the Mission agreed to do this. However, since it was difficult to build the houses at different places, the villagers were asked to build their houses and they were given the required cement pillars, palm rafters, door frames, two windows made of Bandaru Wood, tiles, palmyra leaves, paints and other requirements free of cost. On an average a sum of Rs. 5,000/- was spent on each house. In addition to this they were given labour charges for construction. In the same manner, the Ramakrishna Mission constructed 50 houses in Yendagandi, 40 houses in Mallavaram and 10. In Garagapuru. This activity was continued till 1987. In 1989 a cyclone struck Kavali. It resulted in the collapse of many houses due to the high velocity of winds. However because there was no rain, there was no loss of human life. The Ramakrishna Mission, Rajahmundry spent Rs. 5 lakhs in giving relief to the victims of Kondapuram, Varikuntapadu, and Kavali. In May 1990 the area around Repalle in Guntur District was hit by a cyclone. Winds blowing at a velocity of 300 to 400 kmph brought down big house. Trees and Electric poles were felled to the ground. Sea water

inundated the coastal villages. The Ramakrishna Mission, Rajahmundry as before rendered relief for several villages in the coastal area and Repalle. Belur Math authorities sent sarees, dhotis and bed sheets. In addition to this, the Rajahmundry Mission spent Rs. 3,00,000/- supplying lamps, rice and other articles to 4439 families. Aware of the need to protect people in times of disasters like the one which struck in the year 1977 the Government constructed several cyclone-shelters. Since the construction was done after the cyclone, some villagers unaware of their utility broke up the walls and spoiled the structures. The Government also ignored the damage. However these damaged centres, were of great help and sheltered several victims when a cyclone struck the villages in 1990. People learnt the utility of cyclone shelters through this experience. On a request from the people, the Rajahmundry Ramakrishna Mission constructed 4 cyclones shelters at a cost of Rs. 6,00,000/- each totaling Rs. 24,00,000/- In order to preserve these shelters the elders of the village were constituted into a society and arrangements were made to run primary schools in these shelters. It was also agreed to hire the premises on rent for marriages and festivals and to utilise the amount collected for the maintenance of the buildings like white washing etc. The Government also realised the importance of the upkeep of these shelters and opened a special cell in the R&B Division. In 1992 the construction and rehabilitation in Repalle was concluded. The Rama Temple which incurred damage in the floods was reconstructed along with the Gopuram at a cost of Rs. 70,000/-.

The year 1992 was the year of Godavari Pushkarams. This time also the Rajahmundry Mission served Horlicks to young children and the elders were given buttermilk. Medical aid was rendered to the pilgrims round the clock. The Horlicks unit of Rajahmundry supplied horlicks free of cost. Rs. 25,000/- were expended for the pushkarams.

In 1995, when earth-quake struck Latur (Maharashtra) the Rajahmundry Mission spent about Rs. 60,000/- and dispatched 600 steel trunks to help the victims.

In the year 1996 cyclone struck Singarayakonda, Darsi, Ongole, Kanigiri, and Kandukuru villages in Prakasam District. The Mission rendered relief as in the past spending Rs. 3,10,000/-

Damage on a wide scale affected Konaseema region due to winds of high velocity in the year 1996-97. The Rajahmundry centre rendered relief by spending Rs. 2,50,000/- In the above manner the Rajahmundry Mission has been rendering help In Andhra Pradesh for the calamities that have struck the areas.

In rendering relief- the Mission has adopted some important principles. For rendering relief, some institutions take great pains to collect materials and reach the affected area with enthusiasm. But the poor people along the routes surround the workers who are obliged to distribute the materials to satisfy their basic needs. Being unable to do anything else they feel happy that they have rendered help to those in distress. But the volunteers of these institutions are not aware of the needs of the residents in the interior villages and as such no help reaches them. The Government also is unable to guide these organizations. Since relief will be available easily to the villages abutting the road, the Mission in consultation with the Government deliberately selects villages which are difficult to reach for rendering relief. Before distributing relief material, the volunteers and Swamiji's of the Mission visit each house in

the villages and obtain details and strength of the inmates in each house and issue identity cards. Even building houses is done for them on the production of the cards. On every occasion entries are made in the card showing details as to when and what is issued to the holders. In Diviseema some other voluntary organizations utilised these identity cards given by the Mission for their giving help to the card holders.

The Mission relief work is not confined merely to giving rice, dhal and clothes, salt, tamarind, onions, chilies, even match boxes were supplied. On one occasion a Government official laughed at the distribution of salt. A Swami who watched this told the official that distributing salt was one of the important activities in rendering relief. But the official was not able to believe it. At this very juncture when materials from lorry were being unloaded accidentally a package of salt broke open and fell on the ground and the whole salt spilled on the ground. Immediately the victims who were around the place ran to the spot and collected it and took away. The official then told the Swami that he had never believed the Swamiji's words that salt was of such high priority in the needs of the afflicted and that his eyes were opened after witnessing the onrushing victims collecting "the salt for themselves and going away.

He said that in big seminars convened by the Government discussions on various matters has been vital, but they never discuss the most essential things required daily, "My eyes are opened now. I have realised that the importance of an article is to be judged by its need and never by its price". He said that he now' understood the basic reason for the supply of matchboxes.

The co-operation between the Mission, the volunteers and the public facilitating the rendering of relief and rehabilitation, after assessing and realising the needs of the victims has got not only the grateful appreciation of the public but has earned a good reputation for the way the work is done. Even construction of houses for victims is intended to help the victims to find employment for themselves by making the victims partners to the process, So that they would also share the responsibility in part. The Mission has not merely provided help to the people and victims in the newly built villages but at its instance societies have been formed with villagers participating to look after the welfare of the villagers and the people.

Thus the Mission from its inception has been rendering selfless service over all these past years.

## **2010**

### **Anna Danam to Patients**

Nearly 350 poor patients are given free food on every Thursday.

### **Buttermilk Distribution**

During the Annual Festival at Korukonda Narasimha Swamy temple butter milk was distributed to 11,000 pilgrims for four days. 6000 water packets were also distributed.

### **General Welfare Works**

To commemorate National Youth Day (January 12th) cloths distributed to poor women and orphan boys with financial help of Dr.K.Suryanarayana.

### **Bhavi Bharatam - Nutritious food to Poor Children**

Powerty and mulnutrition go together in India. As a consequense the education of the poor children is disturbed. To alleviate the mulnutrition among poor children a nutritious food scheme was started in February 2008.

Under this scheme, nearly 50 children are provided with nutrious food daily. They are given coaching in their school subjects also in addition to cultural education.

### **Dravya Yajna (Distress Relief):**

To help the poor people suffering from inflation and distress, essential food items like Rice, Dal, Red Chillies, Oil etc are distributed to 1050 families in Tribal Area with the financial help of M/s Kirpalani Foundation, Suriname, South America.

## **2011**

### **Welfare Works:**

#### **Anna Danam to Patients**

Nearly 350 poor patients are given free food on every Thursday.

#### **Buttermilk Distribution**

During the Annual Festival at Korukonda Narasimha Swamy Temple butter milk was distributed to 13,000 pilgrims for four days.

#### **Help to Leprosy Patinets**

In connection with the Antileprosy week programme , we have distributed Blankets, Cotton Roll, Bandage Cloth, Fruits & Biscuits to 106 Leprosy patients.

### **Bhavi Bharatam - Nutritious food to Poor Children**

Poverty and mulnutrition go together in India. As a consequence the education of the poor children is disturbed. To alleviate the malnutrition among poor children a nutritious food scheme was started in February 2008.

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### **Gadadhar Abhyudaya Prkalpa**

In connection with the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, the Ramakrishna Mission Head Quarters has started an Integrted Child Development Scheme in the name Gadadar Abhyudaya Prkalpa throughout India.

The Ramakrishna Mission Rajahmundry Centre has brought the Bhavi Bharatam scheme under Gadadhar Abhyudaya Prkalpa and started three more units in different places. These three units are managed by respective Ramakrishna Samithies in Bapatla, Pedabrahmadevam, and Donkada. This project aims at the all round physical, mental and intellectual development of children in poor and backward areas. It is a Central Government funded project (through the Ramakrishna Mission Head Quarters) each unit having 100 poor children up to 12 years of age.

### **Vivekananda Swasthya Pariseva Prkalpa**

Similar to Gadadhar Abhyudaya Prakalpa, another scheme in the name Vivekananda Swasthya Pariseva Prakalpa also started by Head Quarters to help pregnant women, lactating mothers and children by providing nutritious food and medical care.

The Ramakrishna Mission Rajahmundry Centre has undertaken one Vivekananda Swasthya Pariseva Prakalpa at Rampachodavaram, which aims at the Holistic Development, particularly preventing and treating malnutrition in back ward areas, so that they may grow into healthy and productive members of society and become enlightened citizens of India. It is a Central Government funded Project (through the Ramakrishna Mission Head Quarters) having 106 poor children up to 12 years of age and 5 Pregnant woman and 6 Lactating Mothers.

## **2012**

### **Fire Relief at Pallam Village**

The Ramakrishna Mission Rajahmundry Centre carried out extensive fire relief work at fisherman colony in Pallam Village, Amalapuram, East Godavari district by distributing 1262 saris, 1070 lungis, 550 towels, 550 thick chaddars, 550 mats and 550 utensil sets (each set containing 2 pots, 1 vessel, 1 plate, 1 tumbler and 3 spoons) among 550 families affected by a devastaing fire in February 2012.

## **150TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA**

### **Special Ayurvedic & Cardiac Medical Camps**

In connection with the Swami Vivekananda 150th Birth Anniversary Celebrations, we have conducted a special Cardiac medical camp on April 21st 2012 and Special Ayurvedic Medical camp on 2nd September 2012. The purpose of these camps is to provide specailst's consultation to poor patients.

## **2014 - 15**

### **For Physical and Mental development of the Triabls**

Moral Classes, Secular Teaching, Games, Varities of Exercises, Distribution of books and on moral lessons & stories are conducted.

## **National Youth Day**

National Youth Day was observed on the Statue of Swami Vivekananda near Kambala Tank was garlanded by Dr. Akula Satyanarayana, MLA Rajahmundry. Youth, Students, Devotees participated in this programme.

### **Distribution of Needy Items to Leprosy Patients**

On 09.02.2015, as part of the 180th Birthday celebrations of Bhagavan Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, the Rajahmundry Branch of Ramakrishna Mission served about 120 Leprosy patients and 96 **Gowthami Jeeva Karunya Sangham Leprosy Patients** inmates. Items meeting their daily requirements were distributed to them. Two steel carriers for them store their food, Boost (1/2 kg packets)one bed sheet, B-complex Tablets and Nutrition supplement food packets were distributed. They were affectionately addressed and advised to take good care of health and motivated them to try to become self sufficient and earn their own livelihood.

On the Tithi puja day, on 20.02.2015, the 100 Inmates of **Gowthami Jeeva Karunya Sangham Old Age Home** were supplied with Horlicks (1/2 kg packets), Nutrition powder packets. Sweets were also distributed to them.

