

Bright Light Society

Annual Report-2013-2014



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BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIETY

BLS is a not for profit organization registered as a society on 07/07/1995 under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration act 27 of 1975. The organization has also got clearance from ministry of home affairs under FCRA act 1976 and also has been granted 80G status under Income Tax act 1961. The organization was formed by some likeminded people to come under one roof and formalize for the up-liftment of deprived and marginalized communities. The organization was mainly operational within the community and concentrating at village level activities. With new advisory members and consultants incorporated in BLS, it has been in the process of changing its operations to new horizon and expansion to other part of the state and country with keeping its value and commitment towards the community.

Vision

BLS has a vision of social justice and gender equity by strengthening the civil society and ensures participation in decision making through enhancement of livelihood, education, health and environment.

Mission

Enhance the coverage and reach more people through various activities in development and focus on aspects like Skill-training, Livelihood, Natural Resource Management, Education and Health.

Major Activities for the year 2013-2014

Skill Training

India is one of the developing countries with more than 30% people in the age group of 15-35 years and forming the backbone of the workforce in the country. There prevails large scale unemployment and underemployment in this age group that resulted because of mismatch between skills sets existing of the people in this age group and requirement of Industries/ Manufacturing establishments/Service establishments etc.

Skill development that facilitates in skilling the people in this age group is one of the core solutions that could pave way for minimizing the unemployment scenario to a large extent and act as bridge between unemployed youth and employers by providing the necessary skills that empower the youth to be fit for taking up jobs.

Bright Light Society has contributed its part by taking up various skill training projects in Tamilnadu since 2010 and so far has trained 2000 candidates.

Skill training for youth in Virudunagar – CII- HPCL

BLS conducted skill training program, for 242 underprivileged youth in Virudunagar district. They were trained in 3 batches and each batch constituted of 4 trades namely Electrical, Automobile, ITES (IT Enabled Services), Retail Management. Approximately 80 % placement was achieved by the team after completion of the courses. The students were placed in companies/organisation like adayar ananda bhavan, Retail outlets, automobile showrooms and workshops in and around Virudunagar, Axles India pvt Ltd in Chennai etc.



Skill Training for youth in Tirunelveli- CII_ HPCL



BLS conducted skill training program for 182 unemployed youth in Tirunelveli, these youth were trained in various disciplines like ITES (IT enabled services), Retail, Electrical and Automotive services. Approximately 75% of the students were placed, the successfully placed candidates were placed in different automobile showrooms in tirunelveli as workshop assistants, sales persons in retail outlets in tirunelveli, billing assistant in shops & Business establishments.

Skills training of youth- Madurai – CII – HPCL

80 women were trained in Beautician courses in Madurai; these women were from backward classes and deprived sections of the society. These women were trained for a period of 3 months and upon successful completion of training program, they were placed in different beauty parlours in Madurai and some of them preferred to be self entrepreneur.



Education

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
— Nelson Mandela

Education has been one of the key areas and focus for Bright Light society. It has been implementing several programs as part of education initiatives undertaken by the organization, B2B is one such initiative taken up in this academic year.

Back 2 Basic (B2B program)

The concept of B2B emerged as a response to an increasing concern among the policy makers, educationists and common people on the declining quality of learning in government run schools. While this situation is not confined only to the government schools, they form priority as mostly the poor and economically weaker sections access government schools. Attaining minimum competencies by children - though many point out inadequacy of such measurement itself - becomes a major challenge with lot of inadequacies in the system there by questioning the quality of teaching learning processes. Thus, while there are host of systemic issues, quality related to in-school processes, appear to be one of the solutions that would



focus on development of competencies among children. The B2B is therefore a quality enhancement program to achieve acceptable competency levels among children of primary schools. This is visualized as a campaign, where in children attain age appropriate competencies while they are in schools. As an accelerated learning program, “Back to Basics” (B2B) is targeted to address issues of in-school processes, teaching learning processes and intend to impact on the overall learning environment and accountability where in children demonstrate measurable improvements in learning along with institutionalization of a sustainable community owned process which would ensure quality education to promote empowerment. Back 2 Basics aims to create a positive change in the overall learning environment and improve the quality education among the students of Grade I-V. The program recognizes prevailing disparities that limit children and therefore the need for handholding so that they can become adequately competent and ensure a consistent satisfactory performance in the learning process.



B2B project was jointly implemented by Bharati Women Development Center, Nagapattinam and Bright light society in Nagapattinam block and district. 941 school children benefited from this initiative from 10 schools (3 middle schools & 7 primary schools). The project is funded by Child Fund India as part of its education initiative.

Watershed Management

Watershed Management is the study of the relevant characteristics of a watershed aimed at the sustainable distribution of its resources and the process of creating and implementing plans, programs, and projects to sustain and enhance watershed functions that affect the plant, animal, and human communities within a watershed boundary. Features of a watershed that agencies seek to manage include water supply, water quality, drainage, storm water runoff, water rights, and the overall planning and utilization of watersheds. Landowners, land use agencies, storm water management experts, environmental specialists, water use surveyors and communities all play an integral part in the management of a watershed.

Watershed monitoring and evaluation is one of the core competencies of staff of Bright Light society. Every year such activities are carried out in different districts of Tamilnadu. This year such evaluations were conducted in Salem, Dharmapuri & Krishnagiri Districts. It was carried out on behalf of Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute, (CSWCRTI) Udagamandalam who was the funder.

It involved verifying the DPR (District project Report), undertaking field evaluation – sample studied interacting with beneficiaries, physically inspecting the watershed structures – whether there were constructed as per stipulated norms, collecting primary and secondary data, analyzing the data and submission of final reports to CSWCRTI.



Human Resources at Bright Light Society

Team Composition of BLS

BLS has been involved in various capacities, building and training of under privilege community. With a change in team and its strategies in developing and formulating community level programmes, the core team of BLS has rich experience in formulating and implementing innovative skill training programmes, conducting evaluation and impact assessment. The organization emphasizes on use of participatory approaches in all its activities. The team has the capacity to implement

- ✓ Survey, Evaluation and research on Educational programmes
- ✓ Skill training for varied categories of people in vocational skills
- ✓ Large scale research, impact assessment studies, planning, monitoring and evaluation assignments
- ✓ Development and dissemination of quality training material, reference material, training manuals, modules and toolkits
- ✓ Capacity building , awareness generation and training

The Capacity of the team enhances them to work in the following sectors

- Education
- Livelihood
- Agriculture
- Natural Resource Management
- Training and capacity building
- Disaster preparedness
- Women empowerment
- Child Care and development
- Research & Evaluation
- Disability and development
- HIV/AIDS

Board of Bright Light Society

The board members and the core team of Bright Light Society has rich experience in conducting large scale training programs, research, impact assessment studies, evaluation studies etc on various issues concerning rural and urban development like livelihoods, education, natural resource management etc. The key expertise that the team offers includes the following:

- Conceptualizing and operationalizing large scale development programs
- Use of participatory methods in implementation of development programs
- Large scale research, studies, planning and evaluation exercises
- Creative communication, documentation and designing
- Capacity building and training

Mr. Sathish holds a degree in Agricultural Engineering and has worked in the development sector with government institutes in implementing various watershed and

livelihoods programmes. He has also worked in the IT sector and now is into seed production, organic farming, mechanized farming and hitech farming through micro irrigation techniques.

Mr.Kannan holds a degree in Agricultural Engineering and has worked in the development sector with various NGOs in the field of watershed management, livelihoods, disaster management, natural resource management and capacity building

Mr.Ramakrishnan holds a degree in Chemical Engineering and is working in the telecom industry for the past 8 years. Throughout his career he has been supporting various NGOs by volunteering and networking with various philanthropist to raise resources and develop new concepts to benefit the poor.

Advisors

Dr.S.Manivannan, a Soil and Water Conservation Engineer by profession, working for the ICAR, devotes ample time in guiding the team in implementation of various NRM Programs and Watershed Development Programmes.

Dr. A.Raviraj, an academician guides the organization in developing various concepts and proposals and conducts various training for the team members

Mr.Dharmaperumal, is a data analyst working for a Social Research Institute guides the organization in various research documentation and analysis.

Way Ahead for BLS for the year 2014-2015

Livelihood

- Skill-training of unemployed youth in various sectors and provision of placements for the trained candidates
- Implementing large scale skill training projects for various government agencies at state and national level.
- Entrepreneurship development among the community through various government schemes

Education

- Enhance the quality of education in the schools especially in tribal localities
- Support the education of migrant children
- Module development and capacity building in teaching techniques for teachers
- Establish innovative and participative practices of teaching in the schools
- Ensure on inclusion of disabled children in main stream education system
- Reduce the child labor by community participation and innovative practices in child education

Natural Resource Management

- Ensure water harvesting and preservation especially in tribal belts
- Enhancing the farm productivity among farmers by creating awareness and training on environment friendly farming practices
- Ensuring farmers to use better and innovative farming practices for a shift in traditional agricultural techniques

Research and Evaluation

- To conduct various research activities in various sectors like education, livelihood, health etc to ensure that the findings and best practices are being utilized in project formulation and planning
- Evaluation of various projects and helping the agencies in formulating better policies and implementation strategies and also taking the best practices other project implementation areas



CA.R.RAMANATHAN,B.Sc.,F.C.A.,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

73-A, MODACHUR ROAD, GOBICHETTIPALAYAM, ERODE – 638 476.

AUDIT REPORT

I have examined the attached Balance Sheet of **BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIETY, THIMMANAIKENPATTI (P.O), RASIPURAM (T.K), NAMKKAL (D.T)**, Tamilnadu as on 31-3-2014 and the Receipts and Payments and income and Expenditure account for the year ended as on that date which are in agreement with the books of accounts maintained by the said society.

I have obtained all the information's which to the best of my knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of the audit and have found them to be satisfactory. In my opinion, proper books of accounts have been kept by the head office of the above named society visited by us. So far as appears from my examination of the books, and proper returns adequate for the purpose of audit have been received from the head office visited by me subject to the comments given below.

In my opinion and to the best of my information, and according to the information given to me, they said accounts give a true and fair view.

In the case of balance sheet, of the state of affairs of the above named society as at 31-3-2014.

In the case of the receipts and payments account of its accounting year ending 31-3-2014.

The prescribed particulars are annexed hereto.


CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

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Our organization is 80 G Certified, donations from individuals, organizations, and institutions are highly appreciated.

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