

SGS SABHA CHARITABLE TRUST
7th Annual Report of the Board of Trustees
For the year ended 31st March 2010

The Board of Trustees have great pleasure in presenting the 7th Annual Report, along with the Audited Accounts for the year 2009-2010, a year marked with steady progress and significant achievements. The Report shows that the financial position of the Trust presently is adequate to meet its present activities but not for expanding its activities or for any major improvement.

Trust Meetings: During the year, the Board of Trustees held 10 meetings for reviewing and guiding the activities of the Trust. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi R. Pai, Dr. (Mrs.) Shantha M. Kamath and Mr. S.E. Shankar Rao were present as invitees to these meetings.

Financial Highlights: The Receipts during the year were Rs.1,221,753 as against Rs.837,271 in the previous year; an increase of 46%. The receipts consisted of donations Rs.640,688 (52%), Interest on Investments Rs.281,367 (23%) and hire of premises Rs.276,573 (23%) and other Income Rs.23,125 (2%)

The Expenditure during the year was Rs.897,104 as against Rs.739,302 in the previous year, an increase of 21%. The expenditure on running the Old Age Home was Rs.401,365 (45%) and Rs.35,049 (4%) as Administrative expenses. Depreciation amounted to Rs.368,159 (41%) and the balance 10% represents on building repairs and maintenances.

Old Age Home: As in the previous year, running the Old Age Home continued to be the main activity of the Trust. As on 31st March 2010, there were 9 residents against a capacity of 12. Earlier in the year, one resident (Mrs. Saraswathi Shenoy) aged 92 passed away. Every assistance was given to her relations for disposal of the body and final rites. Two sisters, Ms. Baby Sujatha and Ms. Rajeswari who had come from Cochin and stayed in the Old Age Home from July 2008 to January 2010 requested to go back and were escorted by our Manager. We expect the available vacancies will be filled by new entrants.

Mr. Sadanand A. Pai took over as Manager of the K.P. Mahale Centre in September 2009. He is in-charge of managing the Old Age Home and the first floor hall which is rented out for holding small functions. This has enabled a responsible person present at the time of need to assist the residents and also to manage and improve the booking of the first floor hall.

As usual, the residents cook, clean and maintain the home taking them subject to their physical condition. This not only helps them to be active and occupied but also boosts their self-respect and confidence level.

Anna Poshana Corpus Fund: This is for receiving donations of Rs.24,000 or multiples thereof with specific instruction that only the interest received on the Corpus donation is to be used in perpetuity to meet one day's running expenses of the Old Age Home (presently Rs.1500) on a day/dates specified by the donor. During the year we received Rs.183,094 taking the Corpus Fund total to Rs.2,639,094 as on 31/3/2010.

Sponsors of Day's Expenses: This is the main stay of our donation income and enables any donor to meet one day's expenses of the Old Age Home by a donation of just Rs.1500 on a date such as one's birthday, wedding anniversary etc. We received such donations for sponsoring 241 days during the year. Details of these donations are shown in Appendix 1.

Our heart-felt thanks to all the past and present donors for their generous support which we hope will continue. We request our donors to persuade some of their friends also to support the activities of the Trust so that all the 365 days in the year could be sponsored by some donors or others.

Utilization of the First Floor: The Lessee, Mrs. Saraswathi Bai, who took on lease the first floor hall from February 2008 expressed her desire to discontinue from September 2009 for personal reasons. This was agreed to. The hall is now managed by our Manager Mr. Sadanand A. Pai and his staff. We are happy to report that the utilization of this hall has picked up and we expect that from 2011-12 the Trust should be able to run the Old Age Home without any strain on its resources.

Further Plans: There have been suggestions from many a source that the Trust should start a "Paid Old Age Home" for about 8 to 10 persons who are able and willing to bear the entire expenses on that home. It is possible to build one, on our present premises, if the intending residents also pay an interest-free refundable deposit to fund the construction cost. A brochure is being prepared for circulation among interested persons.

A most urgent need is to replace completely the worn-out weather proofing surface on the terrace to prevent leakage of rain water. This will cost approximately Rs.300,000. All along, the Trust had deferred the work for two reasons – viz. the available funds were to be used on facilities needed for the Old Age Home and the income from the first floor hall was minimal. Now that the income from the first floor has picked up, this cannot be delayed any further. Hence the Trust has decided to take up this work and complete this work before the rains start in August/September. A donation drive has been initiated to fund this major work.

Other Activities: Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pai's visits to the Old Age Home are eagerly awaited by the residents not only to learn tuneful bhajans but also for social inter-action. In fact she is looked upon as a mentor and all residents find in her a willing shoulder for unburdening their worries. Mrs. Deepa Shenoy and Mr. K.R. Baliga have also been visiting the home for their weekly lecture on spiritual topics and Bhagavad Geetha. Dr. Shantha Kamath is a regular visitor for taking care of the medical problems of residents. Our sincere thanks to all of them.

We look forward to another 8 to 10 persons who can spare their time and visit the Old Age Home at least once a month and talk to the residents on any contemporary topic of interest – not necessarily spiritual. Those who wish to volunteer for this may please contact Mr. A. Arjuna Pai on Ph: 2486 7022/9840213891.

Acknowledgment: The SGS Sabha, as the parent of this Trust, has been a great support during the infancy of the Trust. The intention all along has been that the Trust should stand on its own feet, without parental support, in due course and certainly before 10 years of its birth. During this period apart from substantial financial assistance, the Trust has also been lucky to have the secretarial and office assistance from the Sabha Staff who have shouldered this most willingly in addition to their usual work. We wish to place on record our gratitude to the Sabha and its dedicated staff.

The Trust office has now started functioning from April 2010 in the Dr. K.P. Mahale Centre, though the Registered Office continues to be in the Sabha premises in Habibullah Road.

We thank also the Madras Shri Kashi Math for providing medical care to our residents during the monthly medical camps held by them in the Math.

Place: Chennai
Date: 10th July 2010

U. Prabhakar Rao
Managing Trustee