

May 2025 | Vol 1 | Issue 3

Daya Anjali

MANJAKKUDI & BEYOND

Sowing Heritage, Reaping Sustainability:

We look into the work done at Swami Dayananda Farms, and why it is a model of sustainable farming at its best.

Page 6

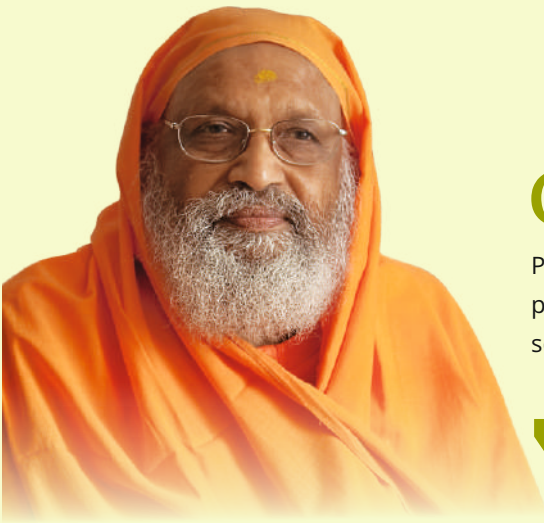
Seeking the Divine: Vedanta Retreats

Glimpses from the 'Mukthinath Shibir' camp by Swami Brahmayogananda, held at Jnana Pravaha

Page 18

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Educational Trust





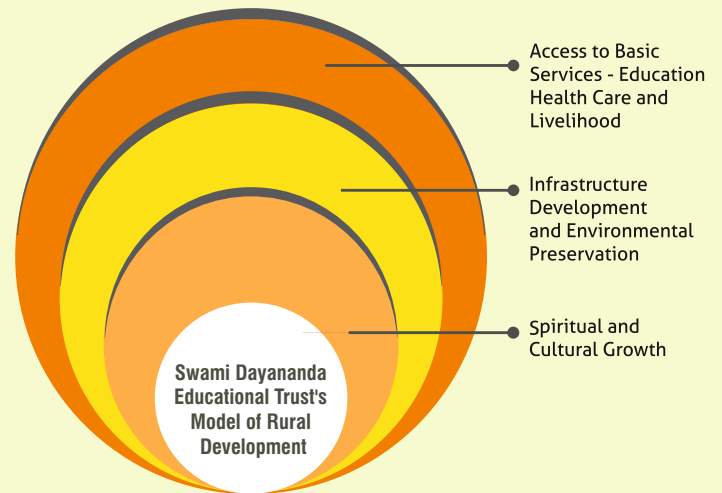
Our Founder

Puja Swami Dayananda Saraswati was an acclaimed spiritual leader, profound thinker, philosopher and master of Vedanta who worked towards societal transformation at the grassroots level.

“A human being needs to become a contributor, and not merely exist as a consumer.”

The Journey of Trust and Transformation

Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET) focuses on sustainable rural development in and around the village of Manjakkudi, Tiruvarur District, Tamil Nadu. Founded in 2003, by Puja Sri Swami Dayananda Saraswati, it aims to create societal change and progress from the grassroots without compromising the essential character of the rural traditions, culture and lifestyle.



Promoting Education

Swami Dayananda Vidyalaya - 783 students | 421 Boys | 362 Girls

Semmangudi Government-Aided Higher Secondary School - 1011 Students | 526 Boys | 485 Girls

Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science - 2074 Students | 1136 Boys | 937 Girls



Promoting Health Care

Rural Ambulance Service

Runs over 1,000 kilometers annually, transporting villagers to the nearest healthcare facility, 24x7

Swami Dayananda Ayurveda Clinic

Every month, over 300 patients benefit through this free ayurveda clinic in Kodavasal



Ensuring Environment Sustainability

Swami Dayananda Farms

289 heritage rice varieties are being conserved, cultivated and distributed every harvest season

Dayavanam - A Micro Forest

23 varieties of fruit and nut trees | An array of medicinal plants, flowering plants, shrubs, herbs, vines and perennial vegetables

Swami Dayananda Gaushala

65 indigenous breeds of cows | Gir, Rati (Gujarat) Tharpakar, Sahiwal, Red Sindhi (Punjab)



Promoting Heritage, Art & Culture

Swami Dayananda Vedapatashala - 28 students | 7 years course | Krishna Yajur Vedam and Vaikhanasa Agama

Jnana Pravaha - A Vedanta Retreat Centre for students who are ready for a more in-depth study of Vedanta

Contents

4 Words of Inspiration
from Our Founder
and Guru

10 Updates from
Swami Dayananda
College of Arts &
Science

5 A Message from
the Chairperson &
Managing Trustee

14 Updates from
Semmangudi
Government-Aided
Higher Secondary School
and Swami Dayananda
Vidyalaya

6 Cover Story
Sowing Heritage,
Reaping Sustainability:
The Manjakkudi Model

18 Seeking the Divine:
Vedanta Retreats

Words of Inspiration from Our Founder and Guru



The whole universe is intelligently put together. From the standpoint of the big-bang theory, there was every possibility for the universe not to come into being, with a temperature measuring billions of degrees of centigrade, fifteen billion years ago. With the grand movement of certain immutable forces, the particles were somehow born. Yet, for the life forms to happen, certain atmosphere was required. All the way, if we analyse it, at every stage the probability of the universe, as we know it, not happening was always there. In fact, the possibility for not happening was greater. But it happened, all the time it happens. The whole movement is an intelligent movement. If you look into the nucleus, or you look into the macro world, you find it is an intelligent movement.

When there is so much intelligence, naturally, you cannot say that the particles assembled themselves. Dumb, insentient, unintelligent particles cannot assemble themselves to become your eyes and ears. Your eyes are particles, your ears are particles, everything is particle, no doubt. But all these particles have been put together, and that is where the intelligence is involved. A physicist being limited by his own paradigm cannot talk of that intelligence, and naturally he can only wonder. Anything intelligently put together either at the quantum level or at the macro level, presupposes certain knowledge and that knowledge has to rest in a conscious being.

When we say knowledge, we are talking of all-knowledge, so the conscious being must be all that you know plus all that you don't know. All that you know alone is not 'all'. All that you know, all that you don't know, and all that you cannot know but that does exist, all these put together is what is called 'all' or sarva in Sanskrit. So, the giver of 'all' is the knower of 'all'.

Take a pot for example. A pot is not naturally occurring. If I say that pots keep coming from the earth, you are not going to accept that. If that is so, is there a pot-maker or not? Yes, there is a pot-maker. You need not see the pot-maker. Whether he is alive is a different point, but you are sure that there is a pot-maker. You also know that the pot-maker must have the knowledge of what the pot is like and how to make it. Without that knowledge he or she cannot make the pot. We say that a ghata-karta, pot-maker, is ghatajnah, pot knower. He knows what a pot is. Jnah means one who knows. A pata-karta, cloth-maker, is patajnah, cloth knower. If ghata-karta is ghatajnah, pata-karta is patajnah, then we can say that sarvasya karta, the maker of all, is sarvajnah, all-knowlege. This all-knowledge conscious being who has the skill and the power to create is sarvakarta whom we call in Sanskrit Isvara and in English they call God.

Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati

A Message from the Chairperson & Managing Trustee



Dear Readers,

Namaste

Respect for the Earth and the produce it gives us, particularly rice, is deeply ingrained in our culture. We have prayers to request for Mother Earth to bless us with our bounty, for offering thanks to her gracious generosity, prayers to chant before eating as a recognition of the food as Brahman.

Thus, agriculture is not just a 'business' for us, it is a commitment to partake of nature's offerings in a responsible, conscientious manner and to return unto nature the nutrition needed for growth. And this is the primary driving force behind Swami Dayananda Farms, a truly beautiful project in the heart of Manjakkudi, established and sustained by SDET since 2012.

We began our efforts with just 3 rice varieties from Tamil Nadu and 14 acres under cultivation – and it was a moment of great

happiness when Pujya Swamiji himself blessed and planted the first seeds on our farm. His grace has helped us sustain our efforts over the past decade.

Today, we are growing and propagating 289 varieties of indigenous rice varieties on 58 acres of land at Manjakkudi. These distinct heritage rice varieties, which come from 18 states across our country, have been sourced, carefully conserved and grown in an organic manner through line farming or in grow bags. We have also specially designated 10 acres for the conservation of traditional paddy, ensuring the continued survival and proliferation of these ancient grains. Furthermore, alongside these efforts, we organise regular farmer training sessions on use of all-natural substances and organic farming practices so as to help them retain the richness of the soil, and propagate better health. This has also helped to empower farmers, giving them greater confidence and encouraging the next generation to continue to take up this work in the years to come. Most importantly, thanks to conscious cultivation and organic practices, the soil we till has become rich in nutrients over the years.

World over, we are seeing a realisation that true progress is possible only when we find a way to balance our efforts with respect for our environment on the one hand, and for fellow human beings on the other. I am glad to say that all of our efforts have been in line with these principles in Manjakkudi, Pujya Swamiji's janmabhoomi. We seek our Guru's grace that we may continue this seva for more years to come.

Ms. Sheela Balaji

Chairperson & Managing Trustee
Swami Dayananda Educational Trust

Sowing Heritage, Reaping Sustainability: The Manjakkudi Model



In the quiet village of Manjakkudi, Tiruvarur District, Tamil Nadu, an extraordinary agricultural story has unfolded—one that blends tradition with innovation, and conservation with community upliftment. At the heart of this story is the Swami Dayananda Farms, a unique initiative that has grown 289 indigenous rice strains sourced from 18 states. Today, the farm stands as a living archive, a research centre, a training ground, and a beacon of ecological sustainability.

With inputs from Subhashini Sridhar, Farm Consultant

Nestled in Manjakkudi, the Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET) has envisioned and steadily built a truly sustainable natural ecosystem—one where every element interacts in harmony and mutual reinforcement. Through the development of Swami Dayananda Farms, the Trust has led a revival of ancient agricultural practices, offering local farmers both a means of dignified livelihood and renewed purpose to continue their traditional vocations.

Central to these efforts is the conservation of India's rich heritage in rice cultivation. Across 58 acres, Swami Dayananda Farms has dedicated itself to preserving and propagating indigenous rice varieties and organic farming methods. The Farms is home to an extraordinary collection: seeds from 289 distinct heritage rice varieties have been sourced, carefully conserved, and grown with utmost attention. These seeds flourish in fields specially allocated for conservation, whether cultivated through line farming or in grow bags; 10 acres are set aside exclusively for seed preservation, safeguarding these crops for future generations.

Every step in the cultivation cycle—from sowing and harvesting to threshing and husk removal—is carried out painstakingly by hand, ensuring the seeds remain intact and undamaged throughout the process. Importantly, a portion of these seeds is shared with local farmers to foster a continuous cycle of organic production, empowering the community to sustain both harvests and traditions.

The commitment to natural farming extends further. Only all-natural fertilizers and pest-control methods are used on the fields, and the crops benefit from the nourishing products and by-products of the Swami Dayananda Goshala—a vastly superior alternative to chemical inputs. In choosing this path, Swami Dayananda Farms cultivates not just crops, but a living model of ecological balance, traditional wisdom, and community resilience.

On the Ground Impact

Since its inception in August 2012, Swami Dayananda Farms has been committed to conserving traditional paddy varieties drawn from 18 states across India. Starting with just 3 varieties from Tamil Nadu and 14 acres under cultivation, through the dedicated efforts of Ms. Sheela Balaji (Chairperson & Managing Trustee, SDET), the Farm has grown to house an impressive collection of 289 traditional paddy varieties. These are now cultivated across 58 acres, making it a unique hub for in-situ conservation. Each year, during the samba season (August–March), the farm conserves all 289 varieties—a key distinguishing feature of its operations.

Within this, 15.59 hectares (38.51 acres) have held certified organic status since 2018 (approved under APEDA/NPOP standards by IMO, Bengaluru). Of this area, 10 acres are specifically designated for the conservation of traditional

paddy, ensuring the continued survival and proliferation of these ancient grains.

Through sustained commitment to traditional seed conservation, organic practices, training, and community partnerships, Swami Dayananda Farms continues to deliver wide-reaching benefits—empowering farmers, nurturing students, and advancing sustainable agriculture across Tamil Nadu.

Sustainable Organic Practices

A cornerstone of the Farm's sustainability model is its self-produced farm inputs. Approximately 80% of all organic fertilizers and pest controls—such as vermicompost, five-leaf extract, neem seed extract, Panchagavyam, and the locally formulated amirtha karaisal—are produced on-site using resources from the farm's goshala (cow shed). Vermicompost production alone accounts for 1 to 1.2 tonnes daily and is carried out in dedicated facilities. Cow urine and dung are systematically collected, stored, and used to prepare organic mixtures for irrigation and foliar sprays.

Supporting its operational excellence, the farm maintains a chemical-free storage area with a capacity of 50 tonnes, including seed storage facilities. A modern rice mill equipped with a colour sorter and vacuum packaging unit allows harvested grains to be processed into raw and boiled rice, which are packed in five-kilogram bags for sale in Chennai and distribution to hostels managed by the Trust.

Training and Capacity Building

As a recognised training center for organic farming and traditional paddy conservation in Tiruvarur district, Swami Dayananda Farms has conducted 15 training programs from 2021 to 2024, benefitting 790 farmers from five blocks (Kudavasal, Koradacherry, Valangaimaan, Nannilam, and Needamangalam in Tiruvarur District). These sessions, held in

collaboration with the Department of Agriculture under the ATMA programme, have imparted vital knowledge about organic practices and the significance of traditional varieties.

Further, Swami Dayananda Farms works with several key partners, including:

- KVK, Needamangalam
- TRRI, Aduthurai
- Valanadu Sustainable Agriculture Producer Company Ltd., Sirkazhi
- Veerachozhan Uzhavan Producer Company Ltd., Manganallur
- Thaiman Producer Company Ltd., Tiruvarur
- CREATE, Madurai

Farmer Impact

Over the last four years, 420 farmers have transitioned to organic farming, cultivating 600 acres across 13 blocks in Tiruvarur and Mailaduthurai districts. This shift has not only boosted soil health—evidenced by improved microbial populations and carbon/nitrogen ratios—but has also delivered significant economic savings, with farmers saving Rs. 2,400 – 2,600 per acre (on fertilizers and pesticides) or Rs. 14.4 – 15.6 lakhs per season collectively.

Education and Student Outreach

The farm regularly hosts awareness programmes for school and college students. Most notably, in September 2025, 44 higher secondary (vocational agriculture) students and 48 B.Sc. (Botany) second-year students from Government Arts & Science College, Tiruvarur, visited the farm to learn firsthand about vermicompost and biopesticide production, as well as the importance of traditional rice varieties. Over the past three years, regular training has reached approximately 1,200 undergraduate students and 1,500 school students.





Expanding the Conservation Network

Swami Dayananda Farms' reach and impact extend beyond Manjakkudi. A collaboration with CREATE, Madurai, led to a two-day documentation and seed production training programme in December 2024. Sixty farmers from seven districts participated, learning about agronomic traits and seed production methods. As a direct outcome, 20 farmers across these districts now conserve between five to 60 traditional paddy varieties each—effectively decentralising in-situ conservation.

Academic Collaborations

Partnerships with academic institutions continue to strengthen the farm's research impact. Through collaboration with the Department of Plant Breeding & Genetics, Faculty of Agriculture, Annamalai University, agronomic characteristics of selected paddy varieties have been documented at both AU Farm, Chidambaram and Swami Dayananda Farms, Manjakkudi. In December 2023, 62 B.Sc. and 22 M.Sc. agriculture students from Annamalai University participated in field visits, enhancing their knowledge of traditional rice and organic methods.

Certified Seed Production and Distribution

Since receiving seed selling licensure from the Department of Seed Certification, Tiruvarur, the Farm has produced and

distributed certified seeds for six traditional rice varieties. In 2021–22, 2,800 kg of seeds were distributed to 162 farmers across seven districts and one union territory, covering 128 acres in samba season 2022. This initiative promotes wider adoption of traditional crops and supports ongoing seed production at the farm and among the broader farming community.

Recognition and Awards

In recognition of its pioneering work, the Farm received the Best Traditional Paddy Seed Conservator Award from the Department of Agriculture in January 2023. Mr. M.G. Srinivasan, Correspondent, SDET, Manjakkudi, accepted the award from the District Collector of Tiruvarur, including a letter of appreciation and a cash prize of Rs. 3 lakhs. The farm also hosted a visit by Ms. Charu Shree, District Collector, Tiruvarur, accompanied by the Joint Director of Agriculture, in December 2023—a strong endorsement of its broader regional impact.

With a commitment to natural farming inputs, farmer empowerment, and education outreach, the Manjakkudi model offers a powerful blueprint for reviving agricultural heritage while nurturing the future—one seed at a time.

EVOLUTION, GROWTH, AND FUTURE

ExNoRa Inaugural Function Report



The ExNoRa Inaugural Function for the academic year 2024–2025 was successfully held on 21st February 2025, with the participation of 40 beneficiaries.

The initiative aimed to preserve nature, prevent environmental degradation, and create awareness about the importance of sustainable practices. The event was coordinated by Mr. S. Srinath, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, and Ms. K. Bhuvaneshwari, Assistant Professor, Department of Business Administration.

The Inaugural Address was delivered by Dr. V. Hema, Principal, who highlighted the significance of ExNoRa. She spoke about the need to protect nature through activities such as tree plantations, preventing deforestation, and adopting villages to ensure cleanliness and sustainability.

A key highlight of the event was the special lecture by Mr. K.S.S. Senthurpari, President, ExNoRa International Foundation. He addressed critical issues concerning environmental protection and suggested innovative practices (see box).

- ❖ Tree plantation using milk covers
- ❖ Reusing discarded clothes from rivers to make useful items like mats
- ❖ Adopting villages and undertaking activities like cleaning, plantation drives, and creating tobacco-free zones

The session was further enriched by speeches from our eminent guests, Mr. G. Prabhu, Vice President, Youth ExNoRa, Mr. S. Shaikdawood, District Coordinator, ExNoRa International, and Mr. M. Sivakumar, Director, Priyam Trust.

Mr. Shaikdawood also shared his efforts in running a franchise company that offers low-cost cancer medicines for patients, emphasising the role of ExNoRa beyond environmental causes.

More than 60 students from the ExNoRa Club actively participated in the function. They shared their thoughts during the interactive session and took up leadership roles within the club.

The newly announced office bearers were:

- Mr. Manoj (II AI & ML) – President
- Mr. Aravind (I BBA) – Vice President
- Mr. Gilchrist (II AI & ML) – Secretary
- Ms. Gayathri (I IT) – Joint Secretary
- Ms. Krishna Meera (II BCA) – Treasurer

The event created greater awareness about environmental preservation and sustainable practices. Students not only learned the importance of tree plantation and waste reuse but also pledged to implement these practices within their communities.

International Conference on “Computation and Artificial Intelligence”



The Department of Computer Science at Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, organized an International Conference on Computation and Artificial Intelligence on the 03 and 04 of March 2025. The event brought together students of B.Sc. Computer Science, IT, BCA, AI & ML, M.Sc. Computer Science, along with faculty members of the department. Students and faculty from E.G.S. College, R.A. College, and Government College, Nannilam also actively participated.

The conference began with a Welcome Address by Prof. T. Venkatesan, Head of the Department of Computer Science, who highlighted the significance of Artificial Intelligence and computation in shaping the future. The Inaugural Address was delivered by Dr. G. Kumaravelan, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Pondicherry University – Karaikal Campus. He emphasized the role of AI in various fields and its expanding scope. Dr. V. Hema, Principal, felicitated the gathering, extending a warm welcome and expressing gratitude to the resource persons, guests, and participants.

Day 1 (03 March 2025) – Technical Sessions

The first day featured three technical sessions led by distinguished experts:

Generative AI by Dr. G. Kumaravelan, Assistant Professor, Pondicherry University – An insightful session on the applications, challenges, and future of generative models.

AI in Education by Dr. Suresh Palarimath, Senior Lecturer, University of Technology and Applied Sciences, Sultanate of Oman – Highlighting AI's transformative role in teaching, learning, and assessment.

AI Evolution, Growth, and Future by Dr. Muhammed Yousoof, Assistant Professor, Dhofar University, Sultanate of Oman – A comprehensive discussion on the evolution of AI and its promising future.

Day 2 (04 March 2025) – Sessions and Valedictory

The second day opened with a lecture on Computation and Artificial Intelligence by Mr. Venkat Kumaresan, Assistant Vice President for Quality Assurance, Learning and Development, Exela Technologies. He illustrated how AI and computation are revolutionizing industries, sharing practical insights from real-world business scenarios.

Certificates for robotics training were distributed to students by Mr. Balaji Harinathan, Director & Co-Founder, Prag Robotics Pvt. Ltd.

The Valedictory Address was delivered by Dr. M. Hemamalini, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, A.V.C. College (Autonomous), Mayiladuthurai. She explained the design and methodology of AI models and their transformative impact across industries, concluding with an optimistic outlook on AI's future.

Certificates were awarded to all participants, followed by a Vote of Thanks from Mrs. V. Mohanapriya, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, who expressed gratitude to speakers, participants and organizers.

The conference was a resounding success, serving as a platform for experts, faculty, and students to engage in meaningful discussions, exchange ideas, and gain valuable insights into the evolving world of Computation and Artificial Intelligence.

Scifest 2k25

On 27th February 2025 at Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, and organised in collaboration with the BOSE Science Society (BSS) and the Tamil Nadu Scientific Research Organisation (TNSRO), Pudukkottai, the event brought together eminent scholars, researchers, academicians, and students from across the state.



The programme commenced with a Welcome Address by Dr. K. Sathish, Head of the Physics Department, who stressed the importance of scientific research and innovation in societal development.

The Presidential Address was delivered by Sriman M.G. Srinivasan, Correspondent of the College, who highlighted the transformative role of education and research in shaping future generations.

A Thematic Introduction was then presented by Mrs. M. Aishwarya, Research Coordinator, TNSRO, Pudukkottai, who set the tone for the conference by highlighting significant contributions in the field of natural sciences.

The session included Felicitation Speeches by:

- Dr. V. Hema, Principal, Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science
- Mr. G. Saminathan, Founder, S. R. Renganathan Library, Pudukkottai
- Dr. A. Radha, Assistant Professor of Zoology, Kunthavai Naacchiyaar Govt. Arts College for Women, Thanjavur
- Mr. S. Kanagaraj, Assistant Head Master, Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Pandhanallur, and recipient of the Best Teacher Award from the Government of Tamil Nadu

The Keynote Address was delivered by Dr. S. Vijikumar, Director of TNSRO and President of BSS, who spoke about the latest advancements in natural sciences and the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration.

The Inaugural Address was presented by Dr. P. Sakthivel, Professor and Deputy Director, Department of Political Science & Public Administration, Annamalai University, who underscored the interconnection between scientific progress and societal advancement.

Scientific Presentations

BSS Resource Persons presented their research findings across disciplines such as physics, chemistry, biology, and environmental science. These sessions offered valuable insights into emerging scientific trends and their real-world applications.

Panel Discussion

A Panel Discussion involving scholars and students focused on the future of natural sciences, scientific education, and the role of emerging technologies in research.

Plenary Session and Award Function

The Valedictory Address was delivered by Dr. K. Selvakumar, Director, Centre for Political Science, PMIST Deemed to be University, Vallam, who emphasised the vital role of research in advancing knowledge and societal progress.

This was followed by the BSS 13th Annual Award Function, which recognised outstanding contributions to natural sciences and celebrated academic excellence.

The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Mr. K. Ramanathan, Secretary of BSS and Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, Maruthupandiyar College, Thanjavur. He extended gratitude to the dignitaries, speakers, participants, and organisers for their role in making SCIFEST 2K25 a resounding success.

Quiz Competition 2025

On March 23, Shankar IAS Academy, Tiruvarur branch, hosted an inter-college quiz competition that witnessed enthusiastic participation from students representing 21 colleges across the Delta district. The event featured three competitive rounds, testing the knowledge and quick thinking of participants. The programme commenced with a warm welcome by Mr. Surya Narayanan, Branch Manager of Shankar IAS Academy, Tiruvarur. The function was presided over by Dr. Vaishnavi, Director of Shankar IAS Academy, while Revenue Commissioner Soumya addressed the gathering with words of encouragement.



A special highlight of the event was the presence of Mr. N. Adithyan, an alumnus of the Tiruvarur branch who successfully cleared the Group-I examination and now serves as the Assistant Commissioner of Commercial Taxes. His felicitation inspired the young participants to aim high in their academic and professional pursuits.

In the competition results, students of Dr. M.G.R. Fisheries College and Research Institute secured first place, earning medals and a cash award of Rs. 10,000. The second prize went to students of Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, who received medals and a cash prize of Rs. 5,000. Teams securing third and fourth places were each awarded medals and a cash prize of Rs. 2,500. Additionally, all participating students were granted tuition fee concessions by the Academy.

The prize-winning team from Swami Dayananda College of Arts & Science, Manjakkudi, comprised of the following students:

R. Kalaivani – III Physics | K. Abirami – III Chemistry | K. Abinisha – III Chemistry

The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Ms. Srividya Suryanarayana, Academy Officer, marking the end of a day filled with learning, competition, and inspiration.

Student Seminar on Git and GitHub



The Department of Computer Science organized a student seminar on the topic “Git and GitHub” on 28 February 2025, to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of version control systems and collaborative development tools.

The seminar was presented by S. Dhanalakshmi, II B.C.A. I Section, who began with an introduction to the importance of version control in programming. She explained how Git, as a distributed version control system, helps manage code changes efficiently, covering key concepts such as commits, branches, and repositories. She also provided an overview of GitHub, highlighting its role in collaboration, project management, and enhancing teamwork among developers.

The session was attended by 70 students from CS, IT, BCA, and AI & ML programs. Combining theoretical explanations with practical demonstrations, the seminar offered students hands-on exposure to essential tools used in modern software development, enabling them to grasp both the concepts and applications effectively.

Preparing for Success

Outstanding Board Results 2024-25

Swami Dayananda Vidyalaya, Manjakkudi, has once again set a benchmark of excellence in academics with its remarkable performance in the 2024-25 Board Examinations.

The school proudly achieved a 100% pass rate in Grade 10, reflecting the dedication of students and the commitment of teachers. In Grade 12, the school recorded an impressive 99% pass rate, with a large number of students securing outstanding scores and distinction grades.

This stellar achievement stands as a testament to the school's focus on holistic education, academic discipline, and continuous support from faculty and parents.

SWAMI DAYANANDA VIDYALAYA (CBSE)
A Unit of Swami Dayananda Educational Trust, Swami Dayananda Center
Manjakkudi, Kuttuvattai Park, Tiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu - 602 819
Phone: 94456 20114, 92295 9446

PROUD TO SHARE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF SDV TOPPERS

10th PUBLIC EXAM 2024 - 25

Results
More than 82% Students Secured Distinction

100/100
Social Science - 07
Maths - 03
Science - 01

Above 490 - 03 Students
Above 475 - 13 Students

12th PUBLIC EXAM 2024 - 25

Results
More than 75% Students Secured Distinction

100/100
Computer Science - 11
Commerce - 4
Computer Applications - 1

Above 550 - 11 Students
Above 500 - 29 Students

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS - THE MANAGEMENT, PRINCIPAL & STAFF

Capacity Building Programme for Teachers



A two-day Capacity Building Programme for Teachers was organized on 18 and 19 April, 2025, to enhance effective teaching and learning of Mathematics. The sessions focused on India's rich mathematical heritage, including Vedic Maths, ancient contributions, and their relevance today. Teachers also explored common errors, effective practices, and strategies to connect math with daily life. The programme was held at Rajaji Vidyalaya Senior Secondary School, Tennur, Trichy.

Day 1 emphasized interactive classroom approaches through mind maps, memory aids, activity-based methods, and discovery learning, aiming to cater to different learner needs.

Day 2 highlighted Bloom's Taxonomy (cognitive, affective, psychomotor domains), lesson planning, periodic tests, assessment vs. evaluation, and the LAAR cycle (Learning outcomes, Activities, Assessment, Reflection). Teachers also gained insights on setting balanced question papers to meet board exam standards.

The programme equipped teachers with innovative teaching methods, effective assessment strategies, and renewed appreciation of India's mathematical heritage. It strengthened their ability to make mathematics engaging, practical, and student-centered.

Training Session on Observation of Classroom Practices



A teacher training session was conducted with the primary objective of observing classroom practices and providing constructive feedback to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes. Teachers were informed in advance about the session's purpose and the key focus areas to ensure alignment with effective lesson delivery. Observers focused on several indicators of strong learning implementation:

Environment Print and Vocabulary Building: Labeling of classroom objects, games like 'Find Me' to reinforce

vocabulary, and teacher support in building familiarity with object names.

Circle Time Activities: Designed to encourage meaningful language use and expression.

Read Aloud Story Sessions: Use of predictions, repetition, props, and interactive opportunities during storytelling.

Centre Time: Activities aimed at strengthening vocabulary through hands-on practice.

Pretend Play: Creating authentic speaking opportunities for learners.

The session highlighted the progress made in classroom practices while emphasizing the need for lesson plans to be not only well-structured but also interactive, engaging, and language-rich.

Overall observations and progress points observed included increased use of English during instruction, more fact-based questioning, active centre-time activities, use of videos to support listening skills, and the presence of story corners in classrooms.

Areas for improvement included greater focus on methodology, activity design, and stimulating introductions to further enhance the quality of classroom experiences and promote better student participation. Intentional planning for speaking opportunities and the use of open-ended, thought-provoking questions to foster critical thinking was also encouraged.

Teacher Training Workshop

Swami Dayananda Vidyalaya organised a two-day teacher training workshop focusing on enhancing lesson planning and classroom practices, on 24 and 25 April, 2025, in Manjakkudi. The workshop aimed to improve teachers' instructional clarity, communication, and engagement strategies for more interactive learning.

On the first day, teachers explored picture conversations to strengthen listening, speaking, and vocabulary skills through visual prompts and collaborative activities. Centre-time sessions were restructured as purposeful learning blocks, and expressive reading techniques were introduced via Reader's Theatre to make story sessions more engaging.

The second day emphasized lesson planning, including methodology, activity design, and effective use of provocations. Teachers revised their lesson plans to integrate these strategies, while incorporating Teacher's Guides and e-resources to add depth beyond student textbooks.

The workshop encouraged creating interactive, language-rich classrooms, promoting peer learning, micro-teaching, and critical thinking. Overall, it equipped teachers with practical strategies to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes, marking a key step toward improved educational practices in Manjakkudi.



'Caught Not Taught' - Math Workshop



The 'Caught Not Taught' Math workshop introduced innovative ways to teach mathematics through hands-on learning. Held at the Sri Vageeshavidhya Saram Senior Secondary School, Trichy, the workshop was led by Mr. Bose from the Ramanujam Museum Centre, Trichy. Students explored 70 manipulatives to understand complex concepts, engaged in 15 interactive activities covering operations on integers, Pythagoras Theorem, and volumes of cones and cylinders, and learned the Bodhayanar Theorem as an alternative geometric approach.

The session emphasized student-centered learning, fostering curiosity, deeper understanding, and engagement. Teachers gained practical strategies to make math lessons more interactive, while students experienced a fun, explorative approach to mathematical concepts. A key takeaway from this workshop was that integrating hands-on activities and alternative perspectives enhances both teaching and learning of mathematics.

Publisher Training by MTG



Swami Dayananda Vidyalaya organised a training session led by Mr. Jeevanantham from MTG to enhance the teaching methodologies of Maths and Science foundation course teachers. The session focused on 21st-century teaching skills, emphasizing the 4Cs—critical thinking, creativity, collaboration,

and communication—along with strategies to integrate digital literacy and foster innovation in the classroom.

Teachers explored practical approaches to assess 21st-century skills and incorporate them into lessons effectively. The training provided insights into nurturing student engagement and improving learning outcomes. It emphasized that continuous learning and small, consistent steps can create significant impact in education.

The session concluded successfully, equipping teachers with valuable tools to elevate their teaching practices and embrace a modern, skill-focused approach.

Publisher Training by Cardova



A productive training session on English grammar was conducted for teachers at Swami Dayananda Vidyalaya on 26 April, 2025. The session was led by Ms. Magline. The session began with engaging insights into English grammar, followed by an introduction to the features of Cardova books for Grades 1–8, along with effective teaching strategies. Teachers were guided on lesson planning techniques, learning how to structure chapters into weekly, monthly, and semester plans.

An interactive activity allowed teachers to participate in hands-on learning, and the trainer demonstrated the Cardova web portal, giving teachers practical experience with online resources. The session provided valuable strategies for teaching grammar, familiarized teachers with Cardova resources, and offered practical lesson planning techniques.

The training concluded with positive feedback from the participants, reflecting its success in enhancing English teaching practices and equipping teachers with tools to make lessons more engaging and effective.

Publisher Training by Oxford and Macmillan



On 23 and 28 April 2025, Swami Dayananda Vidyalaya conducted two training sessions—for the science teachers, and for math and kindergarten teachers. The sessions were led by Macmillan and Oxford Publisher resource persons. Both sessions focussed on the concept of learning outcomes—clearly defined goals that articulate what students should know and be able to do by the end of a lesson or course. To guide this process, teachers were introduced to Bloom’s Taxonomy, a widely used framework that categorizes learning objectives into six levels: Knowledge, Comprehension, Application, Analysis, Synthesis, and Evaluation.

The publishers’ approach aligns with the 21st Century National Curriculum Framework (NCF), which is built around essential skills such as critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving, communication, and collaboration. The NCF emphasizes not just academic knowledge but also the development of life skills, including literacy, time management, and self-awareness, all of which are key to lifelong success. At the core of the National Education Policy (NEP) and the NCF is the goal of holistic development. This includes a focus on flexibility, encouraging students to explore different disciplines, and fostering an education system that emphasizes 21st-century skills.

In today’s educational environment, blended learning plays a crucial role, in terms of integrating traditional teaching methods with digital tools. This includes online courses, educational apps like the MEE Platform.

EXE, and a variety of interactive activities that enhance the learning experience. Blended learning allows students to engage with content in multiple ways, making learning both more personalized and more effective.

The publishers’ educational programs aim to develop not only academic knowledge but also critical skills, attitudes, and

values. These curricular goals focus on creating well-rounded individuals who are capable of thinking critically, working collaboratively, and communicating effectively. The development of these 21st-century skills is fundamental to preparing students for success in an ever-changing world.

To support a comprehensive understanding of student progress, the training introduced the 360-Degree Holistic Progress Card. This innovative tool assesses students in multiple areas: academics, life skills, and emotional intelligence. By evaluating students from a broader perspective, it provides valuable insights into their overall development, beyond just academic achievements.

The training session also offered interactive learning resources like the Hop, Skip, Jump book and app. This resource blends engaging content with gamification and app-based activities, making learning fun and interactive while reinforcing key concepts. It’s designed to inspire curiosity and enhance student participation in the learning process.

For math education, Macmillan offered the Math Express Course Book and App, a comprehensive program that combines both online and offline access, interactive lessons, and educational games. This ensures that students not only learn core math concepts but also engage with them in a way that makes learning enjoyable and meaningful.

Lastly, teachers were encouraged to pursue creative thinking through activities such as the role-play exercise titled “After 1000 Years: The Future of Education”. This activity challenges students to envision how education might evolve over the next century, sparking imagination and promoting problem-solving skills. By exploring future possibilities, students can begin to think critically about the role of education in society and how it might address emerging global challenges.

Seeking the Divine: Vedanta Retreats

Jñāna Pravāha was conceived and designed not just as a memorial but a living tribute to Pujya Swamiji's memory and the continuing tradition of his teachings. The name 'Jñāna Pravaha' ('Perennial Flow of Knowledge') was arrived at after deliberating upon the true purpose and design of the place. Like the Ganga, which embodies the flow of wisdom through generations, Pujya Swamiji's words carry the eternal essence of Vedanta – and will continue to touch and enlighten seekers world over for eons to come. We share details of the recent Vedanta retreats held here.



Mukthinath Shibir Conducted by Swami Brahmayogananda (14 to 16 March, 2025)

The 106th Brahavidya Shibir was held in Manjakkudi on March 14, 15, and 16 by Swami Brahmayogananda. Swamiji named this camp 'Mukthinath Shibir', and taught from the Brahmasutra — Chapter 4, First Section (4.1), known as the 'Avrttyadhikaranam'. The term 'Avrtti' appears in this section. The classes began with the question: Are we the literal meaning—the jiva, or the implied meaning—the Paramatma?

Swamiji shared that it was in Manjakkudi, on August 22, 2022, in celebration of India's 75th Independence Day, that he first began teaching the Brahmasutra. That session began with a grand flag-hoisting ceremony and continued with classes. Returning to Manjakkudi for a second round of Brahmasutra classes, especially to teach the final chapter, was a gesture of gratitude and a special moment.



This fourth chapter is the final one in the Brahmasutra. Until now, no one has taught all 555 sūtras as a complete course—this is another unique distinction.

Swamiji has offered Chatusstuti three times to Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati, at Arsha Vidya Gurukulam in Anaikatti, and at Manjakkudi. Teaching this chapter in Manjakkudi is Swamiji's way of expressing thanks.

The first section of Chapter 4 contains 19 sutras. Swamiji completed all of them in 15 classes. This time, classes were held even in the early morning and late at night. Completing 15 sessions in just three days is a remarkable achievement. Swamiji explained the concept of Avrtti, and the ideas of Pratima, Pratikam, and Rupam with great clarity and simplicity.



Rooted in Seva

Puja Swami Dayananda Saraswati was a profound thinker, philosopher, spiritual teacher and one of the greatest masters of Vedanta. Posthumously awarded the Padma Bhushan, he was the Founder of AIM for Seva, Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET), Arsha Vidya Research & Publication Trust (AVRPT) and Arsha Vidya Gurukulams in India and USA. Swamiji's drive to found these organisations stemmed from his desire to bring positive change to everyone in the best ways possible.



AIM FOR SEVA

Founded in 2000, AIM for Seva is a registered non-profit organisation which aims to transform our society through a network of seva. AIM for Seva instituted its flagship project, Chatralayams (Free Student Hostels) with the aim of enabling children from impoverished rural and tribal areas to have the same opportunities as children of means. This was the start of a legacy of seva across India in the fields of education and social empowerment. Today, we are running 191 projects (covering a wide range of social issues) impacting over 20,000,000 people across India.

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SWAMI DAYANANDA EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Founded as a registered non-profit organisation in 2003 in Manjakkudi, a village in Tiruvarur, the birthplace of Puja Swami Dayananda Saraswati, Swami Dayananda Educational Trust (SDET) has transformed the village into a vibrant yet serene village by continuously and consistently working towards achieving sustainable development. SDET's projects, spread across education, employment, Vedic school, farming, gaushala and community healthcare have ensured education to thousands of children and livelihood to villagers from Manjakkudi and beyond.

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ARSHA VIDYA RESEARCH & PUBLICATION TRUST

Knowledge of Vedanta gives every individual the wisdom to pass through this life in peace and adhering to one's dharma. With a view to preserving and propagating this wisdom, Puja Swami Dayananda Saraswati, a traditional teacher of Vedanta, founded the Arsha Vidya Research & Publication Trust (AVRPT), a registered non-profit charitable organisation in 2005. AVRPT is the single-source centre for editing and publishing Puja Swami Dayananda Saraswati's wealth of teachings in all formats.

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SCAN TO DONATE



At every step, SDET makes all efforts to bring in modernity and development while staying rooted in the village's essential rural ethos. This work is our seva to our beloved Guru, and his vision of each one of us becoming a contributor to the welfare of others. We place a humble request before you to join us on our journey, to enable a positive cycle of change, and bring Puja Swami Dayananda Saraswati's vision to life.

To support us, please scan the QR code given, or visit <https://sdet.in/support-us/>



Swami Dayananda Educational Trust

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