



TGG Foundation
A PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST
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TGG FOUNDATION CHARITABLE TRUST
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Rural Development & Sustainable Living Practice

ACTIVITY REPORT OF TGG FOUNDATION CHARITABLE TRUST

OUR GOALS

TGG's Sustainable Rural Development Goals: TGG Foundation in 2020 had set its goals for Sustainable Rural Development which encompasses all essential elements to transform and improve the lives of people in rural areas through responsible and sustainable habits. The goals are divided into 16 fundamental pillars; the pillars are as defined below:

- Pillar 1 Agriculture and Food-Production
- Pillar 2 Eco-Cultural Village
- Pillar 3 Health Care
- Pillar 4 Handicrafts
- Pillar 5 Biodiversity
- Pillar 6 Zero Emission Technologies
- Pillar 7 Recycling of Waste Materials
- Pillar 8 Water conservation & clean drinking water
- Pillar 9 Alternate Education System & Employability
- Pillar 10 Responsible consumption
- Pillar 11 Civil rights and responsibilities
- Pillar 12 Rural infrastructure
- Pillar 13 Micro / Small scale Industries
- Pillar 14 Funding & Monitoring
- Pillar 15 Warehouse and Logistic
- Pillar 16 E-Commerce

RESPONSIBLE HUMAN MISSION

- This is the doorway to participate in all activities of TGG Foundation. The said Mission offers an opportunity to people from across the world to volunteer some part of their time to transform the lives of people in rural areas and to work towards accomplishing the goals set by TGG Foundation.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD-PRODUCTION

- **Self Help Group (SHG) Formation:** First SHG fully funded by TGG Foundation started in late 2015 with the participation of 3 women from the farming community in Wayanad assuming collective responsibility. They started their livelihood creation with a stitching unit and a farm under organic conversion with the financial support and guidance extended by TGG Foundation. For fulfilling this requirement, The Foundation has set up a **Women Empowerment Center** for skill development and livelihood creation. The center provides courses on tailoring and handicraft. On 1st June 2016 the Women Empowerment Center was shifted to secondary complex taken on a rental bases and also started a production center. During this period an RHM member of TGGFCT came

forward to support the women engaged in stitching by setting up Wayanad Clothing, a social enterprise. They have also engaged fashion designers to train the women various designs to match the international standards and fashion. In this venture a clothing line was established and the cloths were stitched by women members of the SHG. This clothing line was then marketed in London. This opened up newer opportunities for revenue generation for the members of the SHG. Another RHM member of TGGFCT had undergone a training on Virgin coconut oil production and have trained the women of the SHG and they have started producing Virgin coconut oil creating a new stream of revenue. The research and development division of TGGFCT have developed a hand-crafted tea processing unit for producing green tea, this too have added a new income stream for the women in the SHG. To enhance their income further, a livestock section was added to the farm, which also helped in meeting the manure requirements to maintain the farm organically.

After hand-holding for a period of 24 months directly by TGGFCT, on April 2017 Navajyothi (Kerala) was legally constituted as an SHG supported by TGGFCT with a separate bank account and with an independent management comprising of group head, finance head, and a coordinator. The TGGFCT further offered 12 months of remote support during this period including basic financial support. The SHG was put on a self-sustainable mode and the trust focused on creating new revenue vertical to provide better income and more livelihood opportunities for seven months. However, the team managing the women empowerment center couldn't manage the project profitably and failed to take responsibilities which were collective in nature. As part of the troubleshooting exercise carried out by TGG Foundation, recommendations were made to amend Navajyothi (Kerala) bylaw to make it more responsible and accountable and the amended bylaw was approved by the board of trustees and a new member of the group was elected and made the permanent Group Head of Navajyothi (Kerala) for better financial responsibilities. Now she leads a group of 4 women and generates a revenue by producing an exclusive variety of Chemical Free, hand crafted food items (most of them are LIMITED EDITIONS due to the fact that it comes from one single garden which is organically certified, leased by TGGFCT for providing these lively hood opportunities).

ECO-CULTURAL VILLAGE

- **Sustainable living experience:** For nature lovers, spiritual traveler, and people who are in search of solitude can choose TGG Foundations sustainable living experience offered at The Green Gardens once becoming a member of the Responsible Human Mission. We encourage long stay for all those opting for this unique experience that can detoxify the mind and body completely by engaging in 'slow life, Yoga & Meditation, simple eating habits, barefoot nature walk, spending time with animals, enjoying the music of birds, chemical free life and much more. This will be the foundation of our Responsible Tourism research project.

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HEALTH CARE

- **Medicinal Plants and its health benefits:** The search for plants with health benefits are in progress at present and an in-depth research will be carried out to understand its medicinal properties and its application.
- **Tea:** Research about the factors that are affecting the quality of tea processing like cultural factors such as standard of plucking, pruning, irrigation, shading, manuring, pest management and Atmospheric factors such as Temperature, Humidity of air, Intensity of sunshine, Rainfall and Soil management factors such as soil moisture, soil PH, soil temp, drainage to improve the quality (Colour, brightness, strength and aroma) of orthodox green & white tea production.
- **Essential oil from Green Tea:** Tea leaves have Antioxidant properties and the aroma of the tea is due to the presence of the oil present in it. An intense research to derive the oil systematically without the loss of energy and through maximum utilization of available resources with zero waste is the aspect of research.
- **Virgin Coconut Oil:** TGG Foundation, has turned their hands to make, pure cold pressed 'Virgin Coconut Oil' using manual process. Since the oil is not processed through direct heating and is separated from fresh coconuts with an alternate procedure of extraction, virgin coconut oil is unquestionably more extravagant in benefits than normal coconut oil. It has got high content of vitamin E and cancer preventive agents which makes it suitable for raw consumption. The durability of virgin coconut oil is long and therefore it doesn't go foul that easily. As the oil is rich with Lauric acid, a component which is found in breast milk, it proves good for one's health.
- **Chemical free skin care products:** Goat milk soap, Nourishing oils and Aromatic oils.
- **Permaculture:** Permanent agriculture is a system of agricultural and social design principles centered around simulating or directly utilizing the patterns and features observed in natural ecosystems. Fundamental principles of permaculture are to work with nature not against, mimic natural patterns and principles, encourage diversity, use of local resources, conservation of soil and water and cause minimal disturbance to nature, we are implementing a model project at The Green Gardens farm in Wayanad.

HANDICRAFTS

- **Handcrafted Shawls:** Every individual must learn to survive on their own and to be self-reliant is the moto if TGG Foundation, therefor it's a priority to create revenue streams with whatever knowledge or skills a person has so that it can be enhanced through constant practice. During the COVID period TGG Foundation has created a revenue stream for women in rural area through shawl making. Preference was given for traditional handwoven shawls.

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BIODIVERSITY

- **ARANYAM (Forest) project:** the project aims to restore biodiversity and revive native ecosystems through a natural process involving very little human intervention. This project is implemented at the Green Gardens through the self-help groups supported by TGG Foundation. In this project, people from across the world have participated in the restoration process by sponsoring a tree and thereby contributing to the ecosystem. In continuation to this ongoing project, TGG Foundation in 2021-2022 FY started setting up a nursery at The Green Gardens for developing fruit trees, spices, saplings from parental seeds, cutting and grafting's etc.

ALTERNATE EDUCATION SYSTEM & EMPLOYABILITY

- **International volunteering:** TGG Foundation is a member of World-Wide Opportunities on Organic Farming (WWOOF), an international organization encouraging and inviting urban youth across the world to participate in organic farming activities. This will not only encourage the rural youth to consider the opportunities that exist in farming and agriculture, but will also attract more and more people in the urban area to contribute towards the bottom line of the food chain. TGG Foundation and The **Indo-German Cooperation** has entered into a association for volunteering, Internship and cultural exchange program on 29th July 2019. TGG Foundation has also entered into an association with **Omprakash** for volunteering, international representation, fundraising, Global Connect and International training program on 18th July 2019.
- **#ONEWORLD:** TGG Foundation (2020-2021) commenced International online volunteering program. In this program the volunteers undertake the task of network building through the impact of self-transformation, Assist Project Heads in Managing their Project Based on your Expertise, Copywriting and Content Creation for Social Media Promotion and Video Editing, Voice Over, and Scripting. (2021-2022) TGG Foundation extends these opportunities for University students. The program is recognized as **#ONEWORLD IMPACT** program, where in students are trained to bridge the gap between employment and experience, creating entrepreneurial opportunities to promote team work, value based experiential learning, study exchange program. Also, during the aforementioned period TGG Foundation helps them create a revenue stream.
- **Sustainable Living Practice:** The Green Gardens, a farm has been developed by the TGG Foundation at Anappara - Thekkankolli road, near Ambukuthy, Wayanad on a leased land to offer sustainable living practice to the Urban dwellers , sustainability practitioners and nature lovers from within the country and abroad. This farm also provides livelihood opportunity to local community. We train people on various aspects of organic farming and economic viability program. A, 2 (Two) month internship program on sustainable living practice was started by the Trust in the year 2016.

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- **Minimalist Living Practice:** “what it takes to survive on this planet “is what minimalistic living practices addresses. The center which is spread around on 2.25 acres taken on lease by TGG Foundation, exists to engage those individuals looking to broaden their capacity for purposeful human transformation. Minimalistic living is a very systematic and highly optimized way of living where every resource are used very judiciously without creating any damage to the planet.
- **Research and Innovation:** The Trust has a Research and Innovation Division. The establishment of a Green Tea processing unit in March 2015 is the first indigenous development undertaken by the aforesaid Research and Innovation Division. The said Green Tea processing unit is a 100% energy efficient unit and is affordable to any small tea grower having 2-5 (Two to Five) acres of tea garden. The Green Tea processing unit which is installed at the Farm can produce 6 (Six) kilograms of green tea and 1 (One) kilogram white tea per day (8 hours). TGG Foundation has also signed an MOU for mutual collaboration in the field of Research and Development with **Uka Tarsadia University** on 16th July 2019.
 - I. **Green Tea processing:** We have developed a handcrafted green tea unit using the traditional knowledge of pan-drying and steaming process to make both mild and orthodox handmade green tea. It is highly energy efficient and easy to operate. We can help set-up this unit for small tea growers doing their cultivation ethically and having an organic certification.
 - II. **Solar Drying:** Cost effective development of Solar drying units to dehydrate vegetables, fruits and grains in order to preserve them for a longer period. This can be achieved using sunlight and without any recurring cost.
 - III. **Essential Oil Extraction:** Almost every leaves, flowers, barks or trees, seeds etc. have oil contents which gives them the natural fragrance, these can be extracted through a simple micro extraction process.
- **Wisdom Labs:** Childhood education though nature connect is the heart and soul of this program. This initiative by TGG Foundation provides families with children the opportunity to ground into the growth of their family, this is accomplished by providing families with economic accommodation and robust organic vegetarian sustenance within the rich biodiverse setting of The Green Garden.
- **Village adoption Study program:** On 2020-2021 a need-based assessment was conducted by TGG foundation for a remote village in Mizoram to understand the living condition of its populous. The village adoption plan of TGG is with the

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vision to create sustainable improvement in the lives of people of the village(s) with a special focus on disadvantaged groups by sustainable and inclusive growth.

- **Responsible Tourism:** It is also known as slow and sustainable tourism, is a viable solution to remedy to spoiling actions, and it proposes authentic destinations that enrich local communities and those who invest in eco-friendly activities.
- **DIY Workshop:** In March 2017, the Trust created a workshop to practice DIY made of wood and other natural materials. The said unit has manufactured corner stands, small lamp shades, mirror frames, frames for canvas paintings and other decor items from waste materials and is open for volunteer, interns and researchers visiting the Foundation to practice sustainability.
- **Experiential Learning Program (ELP):** The program aims to restore our traditional knowledge among the younger generation and to connect them with the natural environment. It helps seekers know the importance of preserving the nature with its full bio-diversity and its impact on the overall wellbeing. During ELP, our seekers will get introduced to ethical farming practices and its role to keep the food chain alive. The experience in working with the rural community will enhance their knowledge of 'sustainable developments' by preserving the eco-system for the future generations.

The ELP curriculum will present topics from the fields of architecture, agriculture, ecology, mathematics, physiology, psychology, and what may be referred to as 'life science'. The collaborative presentation of the various topics is tasked to encourage creativity of thought and awareness of socially identified needs.

- **National Conclave:** TGG Foundation in association with C.G Bhakta institute of Bio-Technology in 2019 organized a National conclave to address Sustainable CSR Projects in Rural India. The conclave was tag-lined as "Future of India lies in its village".

CIVIL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- **TGG Aid**
Financial independence is the first step towards self-sustainability. TGG Foundation is providing a helping hand through TGG AID to those who are victims of poverty, discriminations & natural calamities to get back to their feet and manage their own activities without further dependency. All our AID programs are focused towards attaining self-sustainability and to discourage dependency.

- I. **Humanity First:** It is a mission initiated by TGG Foundation to reach out to the most vulnerable and helpless people in the society to extend them a helping hand. The mission ethics states that we are all in a journey to make a difference in this world where people are divided and exploited in the name of religion, politics, race, gender, money power, etc. by upholding humanity above all polarizing ideologies.
 - II. **Sponsorship for Socially Vulnerable:** A 14 years old girl from Lunglei District of Mizoram State in India, who has lost both her parents and was staying with her grandmother in a remote village in Mizoram in a highly vulnerable situation with no means to continue her education and for day to day living. TGG Foundation has received a sponsorship request from TUTPM (an NGO from Mizoram) and after careful study of all documents presented by them, we have agreed to sponsor her education, hostel facility, food, books & accessories, cloths etc. since April 2016.
 - III. **Reconstructed houses destroyed in fire:** Amidst the COVID pandemic, five families in Tuichawng Village in Mizoram were left homeless after a fire broke out in the village burning their houses. This matter was instantly brought to the knowledge of TGG Foundation by TUTPM (a local NGO), In response to this TGG foundation tasked two of its prominent members to mobilize donations and personal contributions to assist the victim families as a result of which the foundation was able to provide the victim families with five new Eco-Homes
 - IV. **Aid to Homeless Cancer and Stroke Patient:** An Elderly couple who lived in our community in Wayanad were living in distress as the elderly man suffered from cancer and also because of poor living conditions as they were living in shacks'. Once the grievance was received by TGG Foundation, with the help of the Foundation members and the participation of a few noble souls the foundation was able to construct a house for the elderly couple.
 - V. **Other Financial AID:** TGG Foundation has supported a widow with two daughters who have recently constructed a house near to the RHM Center in Wayanad, Kerala with the support of the Govt. by donating a smokeless choola (oven) for their kitchen.
- **Fariyaad:** Grievances related to human right violations, fundamental right violations, violence of any kind, social discrimination, gender discrimination, etc. are accepted through Fariyaad. Most of the grievances are dealt through the Govt. & its administrative system to provide immediate justice, if they fail to deliver their duties and responsibilities then only it is referred to the Responsible Human Mission members, Human right organizations, International associations, Public, Media & Judiciary if required.

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- I. **Case-1:** A native of Wayanad, went to Saudi Arabia to work as a driver. He paid for the expenses of travel and visa. He worked as a truck driver for the sponsor for a period of 6 months during which no salary was paid to him. He decided to seek legal action after seeing that the sponsor continuously refused to pay his salary and wanted him to work as a bonded labor. At the start of the legal battle he was out of work with no place to stay, no food to eat.

The Foundation had received the grievance at this point of time and the Foundation immediately reported the matter to the MEA office through MADAD. the senior officials of the embassy were really helpful, they engaged a person who could speak Arabic to go with him to talk to the person concerned at the court, which was again commendable. The foundation had also refereed the file to its legal team to take up the matter with the agent who had an office in Riyadh as well.

- II. **Case-2:** A Victim lost her husband who was working for SEDER Group, Riyadh in a fatal accident while he was on duty in 2014. With her husband being the only source of income for her family, the family suffered. Upon receiving her grievance, the Foundation got in touch with one of the officials from the company who was originally from Palakkad, Kerala. The authorities claimed that they will revise the grievance report and will make efforts to look into it. however, they stopped replying to the messages and soon went silent.

The Foundation conducted a detail study of the organization to see how the Foundation can reach out to the top management, realizing that they are in Joint Venture with few reputed companies in Ireland, UK and UAE where human rights have more values. The Foundation wrote to them seeking their support for justice to the victim. Within 7 days of sending this letter to them the Victim received an official letter from the insurance company saying that she is entitled for the death insurance and the required documents are to be submitted. She has finally received an insurance claim from the Insurance company.

RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- **Center for sustainable development:** It is a long term (5-7 Year) project conceived by TGG Foundation to create a one stop solution for all rural development activities, it encompasses RHM Center & Rural Development Hub and TGG Farm & Research Center. It is a project which helps people to connect with nature and experience a minimalist way of living, the trust intends to set up TGG's Center for Sustainable Development in Wayanad and Mysore at a much larger scale to create opportunities for people from across the world. As the Trust conducts all the present activities from rented premises which is also scattered, the proposed Rural Empowerment Hub in Wayanad can bring all the activities under one roof. It will house a) Skill Development Program; b) Research & Innovation Center; c) Production and Packing Center; d) Engineering and Carpentry; e) Stitching and Printing Unit; f) Rural BPO and other support

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facilities etc., all under one roof. Having an FCRA registration can help the Trust to solicit international funds for such constructive activities which can transform the lives of many people in rural areas thereby ultimately contributing to the development of the nation.

- I. **Land acquired by TGG Foundation:** On March 2018 (13000 Sq. Ft) of land was acquired by TGG foundation as a part of RHM Center & Rural Development Hub.
- II. **Home away from home:** TGG Foundation plans build a base at Wayanad, Kerala for the realization of sustainable development goals. It starts with the development of a guest house intended to provide a home away from home for the people associated with the foundation, Responsible Human Mission Members, Associates, experts visiting from across the world to develop the project. This guest house will provide better coordination, effective time management, and avoid miscellaneous expenses.

MICRO AND SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES

- **Startup Support:** TGG Foundation offers social start up support in following area:
 1. Responsible Technologies.
 2. Machines that are Eco friendly & emits zero carbon.
 3. Energy that are renewable and its application on day-to-day life.
 4. Durable and Zero Maintenance Machines & Mechanisms for best utilization of natural resources.
 5. Sustainable Rural development projects through the empowerment of women in rural India.
 6. Ecommerce and other technology-based projects to enhance livelihood opportunities in rural India
 7. Projects for chemical-free food production and its preservation.
 8. Bio-diversity restoration project

FUNDING & MONITORING

- **Mooldhan:** The operational members of the Trust have started a micro credit system in the year October 2016. This seed capital will support the self-help group for creating new income generating activities that can enhance their income and improve their standard of living. The Interest free Loan received from the Golden Greens has been brought to this division and have further given as interest free Loans to the Self-Help Group to support their daily activities. The TGG Foundation has also purchased a small portion of Land towards the development of one of the activities under The Center for Sustainable Development Project, the Foundation has also created other assets for revenue generating activities.

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E-COMMERCE

- **TGG India:** The social enterprise provides a single-window solution to all rural development activities and projects. TGG India works together with organizations that rigorously engage themselves in working for the welfare of society. Despite all this and strive to preserve our mother nature. TGG India uses technologies that reduce carbon footprint. TGG India also collaborate with national and international business houses' that generate employment in rural areas with an endeavor to attain self-sustainability through local production and distribution.
- **Ekambha:** The social enterprise aims to help the section of small-scale working women with the storage, packaging, branding and selling of the product under the label of "Ekambha Products". Moreover, Ekambha also aims to provide services like that of warehouse, blending, repacking, grading, quality control, processing etc. wherever needed. The enterprise also aims to establish a long-term relation with the women participants in order to help them raise their standard of living and contribute to a better cause.
- **RHM Kiosk (Grameen Seva):** (Project under planning) This project aims to establish a Communication and coordination center for connecting rural India with the mainstream for providing a single-window solution for all rural development activities.

Note: - All these references (TGG, TGGFCT, The Foundation, TGG Foundation, The trust) in the above activity report implies to the organization **TGG Foundation Charitable Trust**.

For TGG Foundation Charitable Trust
S.V Laiju,

Designation: _____

TGG Foundation Charitable Trust
Chairman & Managing Trustee

26/05/2021