



# SAMURDHI

NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION



MONITORING AND EVALUATION DIVISION  
**SAMURDHI AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA.**





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## **Foreword**

Samurdhi (prosperity) is the national programme for poverty alleviation. The programme is addressing the major problem of unemployment among youth and poverty. The country faces a difficult task in generating productive employment and income earning opportunities for a workforce which will continue to grow faster than the growth of the total population. The programme therefore is making a head way on broadening development horizon and creating opportunities for income enhancement and employment.

The main thrust of the poverty reduction strategy as embodied in the Samurdhi programme is to ensure the participation of the poor in the production process. This is to be achieved through increasing the access of the poor to resources for self employment, their health and nutritional status and improving the rural infrastructure. Peoples participation has been considered essential for a sustainable poverty alleviation programme. The policies of my government have always reflected a high degree of concern for the general well being of the population, and consistent efforts have been taken directly or indirectly to help the poor and the under privileged.

The Samurdhi Programme is being implemented at village and family levels using participatory development principles. All aspects of decision making is devolved at the village level where the programme has been planned and implemented by village level organisations for the last four years with the active participation of the youth.

Several of the programmes that have been implemented for the poor are; Rural Infrastructure Development, Small Irrigation Rehabilitation, Compulsory Savings, Credit Schemes, Samurdhi banks, Lotteries and many more.

The programme is being implemented under the guidance of Her Excellency the president Chandrika Bankaranaike Kumaratunge. I am confident that the programme will be successfully implemented for the benefit of the poor.

***S. B. Dissanayake***

**Minister of Samurdhi Youth Affairs and Sports.**



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## SAMURDHI PROGRAMME

### INTRODUCTION

When compared with other third world countries, our country is noted to be enjoying a more improved standard in terms of indicators such as a high literacy rate, longer life expectancy, low rate of infant mortality etc. Despite these achievements, to-day, the country is faced with a host of grave Socio-economic problems caused mainly due to unemployment and poverty.

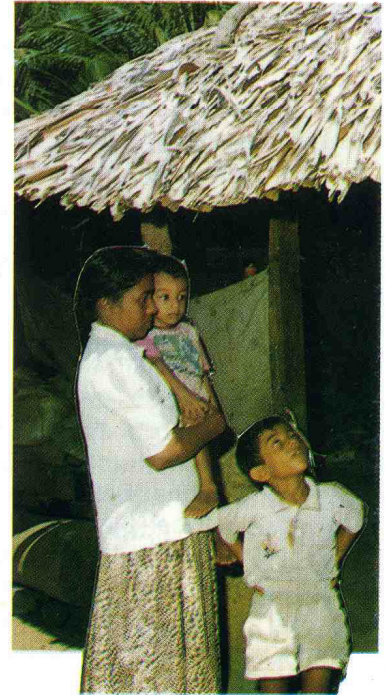
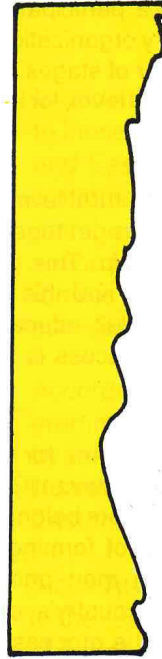
Even though Sri Lanka's per - capita income has been gradually increasing during the past decades, an anomaly seems to exist in the income distribution. In 1973, the low income group which constitutes 40% of the population is recorded to have earned an income of 19.3%, of the country's total income and it has been reduced to 14.8% in 1991. Employment opportunities have increased only by 1.1% per year. But the increase of the labour force has been recorded as double this amount. At present nearly 800,000 persons remain unemployed while 35% of this number are educated youth who have completed their secondary education.

Poverty can be described as a characteristic that displays people's inability to fulfil the basic needs which are vital for their living and the inability to secure social justice. The poor can be classified into three different categories; ie. those who have become poor as they disown any inherited property or wealth, those who have become poor during old age, for not having spent their past earnings wisely and methodically, and those who have been destined to be poor for being disabled persons. Majority of them can be relieved of poverty by providing them with employment opportunities.

A nutrition level based measurement is used to measure poverty. The existence of a strong link between malnutrition and poverty has been observed through the surveys carried out in different countries. Children suffering from malnutrition are found largely among poor families. According to the findings of a survey on nutrition, carried out between 1980 - 82, 36% of pre-school children of our country suffered from malnutrition. As a result their growth too had been adversely affected. A survey conducted by the Nutrition Policy Planning Division in 1993, has revealed, that the number of age wise under weighing children were in the region of 35%.

A distinct differentiation, of the three different sections of people; within the society, ie the unemployed, the under employed and the poor is rather difficult. Most of those who are unemployed are not poor persons. In the same way, there are poor people even among those who are employed. Meanwhile, some of those who are employed are not receiving a sufficient income for them to fulfil their basic needs. Thus it would be seen that the poor are engaged in occupations with marginally low productivity, and that the actual earnings generated through low productivity of labour would be gradually reduced and those engaged in certain occupations too will eventually fall into the category of the poor.

According to available statistics, it is seen that poverty is prevalent largely in rural areas and not in urban areas. Most of the urban poor are those who migrated from villages to towns. Those who come to the town from the



village in search of employment are engaged in jobs which carry low salaries. They are unskilled labourers. Very often their jobs are temporary ones. Engaging themselves in informal sector employment is a common feature among them.

Several efforts have been made by successive governments from time to time, to find solutions to the problem of poverty. The Ten Year Plan presented in the decade of 1950 s, the five Year Plan presented in the decade of 1970 s, the Integrated Rural Development Programme initiated in the 1980 s and the Janasaviya programme presented in the latter part of the same decade can be cited as positive steps taken in the direction of poverty alleviation. Generating more employment opportunities and minimizing unemployment and poverty through the enhancement of the country's economic development were the envisaged goals of all these programmes.

Introduction of employment and income generating opportunities with higher productivity, introduction of value added new production opportunities, providing opportunities to engage in production oriented activities by using new and appropriate technology and providing access to markets can be suggested as suitable steps that could be taken to achieve these goals.

The national programme presented by the present government in 1994 for eradication of poverty was the Samurdhi programme. Providing solutions to unemployment which has become the gravest problem among the youth, eradicating poverty in general, and mobilizing the direct participation of youth in development are the main objectives of this programme. Introduction of employment opportunities and sources of income generation, with high productivity for the rapidly expanding labour force, is not an easy task. However, this programme has given prominence to rural infrastructure development, upgrading of health and nutrition standards among the rural people and the enhancement of access to opportunities for self employment among them, which are of much relevance to the objectives of this programme.



## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF THE SAMURDHI PROGRAMME

Samurdhi movement being a participatory development programme, community organization units have been established at a number of stages ranging from the rural level up to the national level, for its successful implementation.

### The Group of Five :

The lowest organization at the rural level is the small group of five. Five poor families get together on their own consent to form this group. This group meets weekly and holds discussions and this can also be described as a very good adult education system through which the planning process is conveyed to the family.

### Samurdhi Task force :

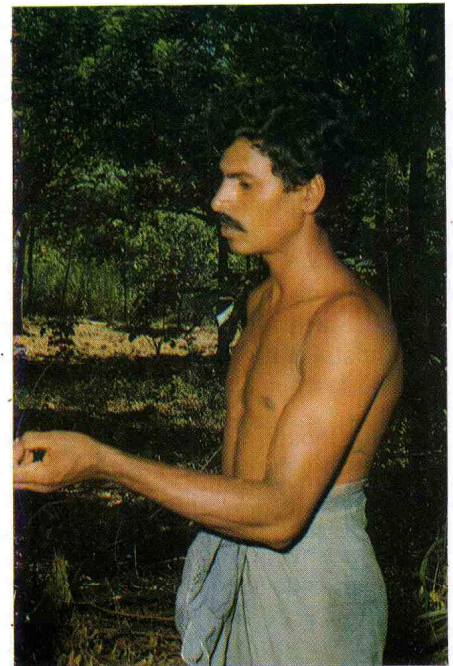
There exists a Samurdhi Task force for each Grama Niladhari Division. Youth of the relevant G. N. division, between the ages of 18 - 35 years belong to this task force. The primary objective of forming these task forces is to mobilize young men and women to participate in planning the country's development process and to link them to the process of progress evaluation.

### Advisory Boards :

An advisory board comprising of intellectuals and elders residing within each division has been instituted and this board provides necessary advice to the Samurdhi Task force.

### Divisional Samurdhi Committees :

Divisional Samurdhi Committees have been instituted in all Divisional Secretariat Divisions on the basis of



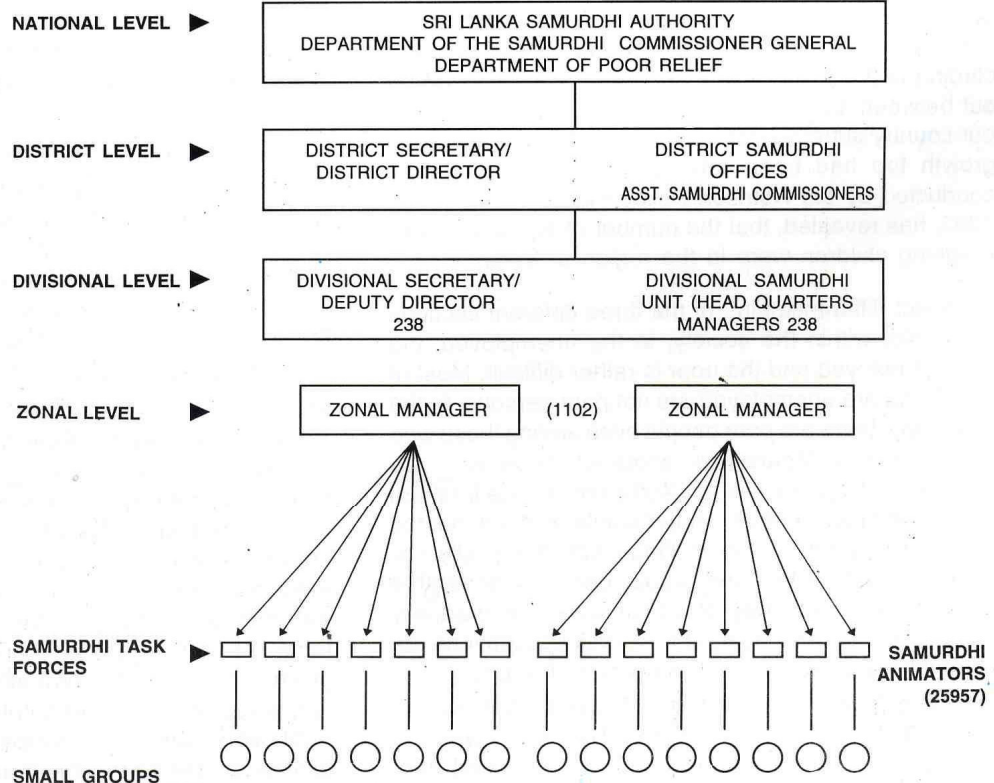
one committee for each division with the Divisional Secretary as its chairman. All divisional level public officers are members of this committee. This committee is entrusted with all responsibilities involved in the implementation of the Samurdhi programme within the relevant Division.

### District Samurdhi Committees :

These committees comprising of all heads of state institutions at district level are headed by the District Secretaries concerned. Implementation of the Samurdhi programme within the District is the responsibility of this committee.

## SAMURDHI PROGRAMME

### ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE :





## POOR RELIEF PROGRAMME

The distribution of Samurdhi relief assistance which is one component of the Samurdhi Programme for the alleviation of poverty, is carried out by the Department of Poor Relief. Having identified the low income families, arrangements have been made to provide a monthly allowance as an assistance to those families for the purchase of their daily needs of essential food items.

Samurdhi relief assistance is provided to poor families whose monthly income is less than Rs. 1500/-. Out of those families too, families whose monthly income is less than Rs. 500/- and having 4 members or more in the family are entitled to a monthly allowance of Rs. 1000/-. Of the remaining families who draw a monthly income of less than Rs. 1000/-, and having 3 members or more, are issued a monthly allowance of Rs. 500/-. Such families with two members are paid a monthly allowance of Rs. 200/-. Single member low income family units are entitled to an allowance of Rs. 100/-.

Apart from these the clergy and the members of Social Service Institutions are also provided a monthly allowance of Rs. 100/-

In addition to these, as a means of encouragement to those engaged in military operations in the North and East, the income earned by the family being computed without adding the income earned by the member of the force to the income of the family action has been taken to provide such low income families with Samurdhi relief assistance as a special concessions

Accordingly by August 1997, the poor relief programme has been conducted through out the country with the exception of North and East provinces. However 8 D.S. Divisions of Ampara District of the Eastern province were provided with relief.

Since August 1997 this programme was extended to the rest of the ampara District and to the District of Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Vavunia North and Welioya D.S. Divisions the low income families of these areas are paid a sum of Rs. 250/- per month.

Thus the particulars of Samurdhi relief allowances issued up to December 1997 are given below.

### Number of families who received Samurdhi Relief during 1996 - 1997.

Value of Relief Rs.	No. of families		Monthly value in Rs. Million	
	1996	1997	1996	1997
1000/-	23310	17888	23.31	17.89
500/-	902675	900148	451.34	450.07
250/-	412257	561109	103.06	65.82
200/-	317774	329089	63.55	22.15
100/-	230389	221491	23.04	140.28
Total	1886401	2029725	664.30	696.21



## SAMURDHI BANK SOCIETIES



The standard of savings of the poor people in Sri Lanka remains at a low level. This has resulted in the decrease of investments and production as well as a reduction of incomes. Samurdhi Banks have been introduced with a view to relieving the poor people of the above mentioned plight. Enhancement of their savings and granting them loans out of their own savings have been envisaged through Samurdhi Banks.

### OBJECTIVES

- Providing a sound investment capacity to the poor people through the enhancement of their savings.
- Providing them with the necessary small scale credit facilities.
- Developing their production capacity and introducing sound income sources.
- Taking action to relieve them of poverty.
- Saving beneficiaries from the grips of money lenders who charge exorbitant rates of interest.
- Relieving them from problems such as the need to provide securities and guarantees.
- To instill in them a credit discipline and thereby inculcate better banking habits.

Loan schemes provided to the poor through approved banking systems and successive governmental programmes have continuously been proved to be unsuccessful. Cultivation loans and Janasaviya Loans can be cited as examples.

Non repayment of Loans and reluctance to deal with commercial banks etc. have been the causes for the failure of these loan schemes.

### HOW SAMURDHI BANKS OPERATE

Group of Five families have been formed at village level. A portion of their savings is deposited in the accounts. Once a zonal level savings have increased to a considerable level, a Samurdhi Bank is provided to that zone.

### CAPITAL

Ways of finding the necessary capital for a Samurdhi Bank.

- Members' Shares.
- members' and Non-Members' Savings.
- Loan grants obtained from the Samurdhi Union.
- Membership of the Samurdhi Bank.

Members of the Group of Five are entitled for the membership. Obtaining a Rs. 500/- share is necessary to make one entitled for membership. They should also register themselves with the Samurdhi Union. Distribution of profits for shares is in operation. Members as well as non-members are eligible to maintain accounts with the bank.

### TYPES OF ACCOUNTS OPERATIVE IN SAMURDHI BANKS :

- Members' Savings Accounts.
- Group Savings Accounts.
- Kekulu Accounts (Children's Savings Accounts).
- Diriya Matha Accounts. (Women's Savings Accounts.)
- Non-Members' Savings Accounts.

### GRANTING OF LOANS :

On the instructions of the Samurdhi Bank Union, loans are granted to members, for their economic growth, as well as to meet the consumption, distress and housing needs of members. Security for these loans is the fidelity of members of the Group of Five. In the case loans exceeding Rs.15,000/- it may also be necessary to keep properties as security.

These loans are granted by the Samurdhi Banks of the 1st and 2nd levels.

### Progress of level I - Samurdhi Banks.

Having started in 1996, by the end of 1997, 250 Banks have been established under level III, and 125 banks have been established under level I, in 128 Divisional Secretaries Divisions, within 18 Districts.

### Children's Savings Accounts (Kekulu)

By 30th April 98, a total of 30073 children's Accounts has been opened and their total value stood at Rs. 4.426 millions.



### Diriyamatha Savings Accounts.

By 30th April 98, a total of 8615 Accounts of this category were in operation and the value was Rs. 4.64 million.

### Non - Member's Savings Accounts

By 30th April 98, the number of accounts in operation was 5929, while the total amount saved was Rs. 5.906 million.

### Group Savings Accounts

By 30th April 98, 21667 accounts were in operation with a total value of Rs. 22.22 million. The highest number of accounts ie 1587 has been reported from Hanguranketha Divisional Secretary's Division. The highest value of accounts recorded was from the Attangalla D. S.

### Members' Savings Accounts

At the end of 1997, a total of 58962 accounts were in operation. Of this number 39662 accounts were held by women members while the balance 19300 were maintained by men. Highest number of accounts was reported from Kesbewa Divisional Secretariat Division and the number was 8016. By 30.04, 1998, total value of Members' Savings Accounts stood at Rs. 25.662 million'

The highest amount of money earned through these accounts too was reported from Kesbewa Division the amount being Rs. 3.804 million.

The total number of accounts of all types held at level 1 Bank unions was reported as 114087 while their overall value was Rs. 42676000. Average value of an account was Rs. 374.

### Membership Strength of Level 1 Samurdhi Banks.

125 level I Samurdhi banks have been established as at 30.04.1998 and the reported membership of these banks had been 181153 with paid up Shares Valued at Rs. 85.109 million. Of this membership, 66102 ie 36.5% are males who have bought shares valued at Rs. 27.512 million, the number of women who had become members is 115951 ie 63.5% having obtained shares to the value of Rs. 57.597 million.

The highest number of paid up shares was reported from the Attangalla Divisional Secretariat and the amount was Rs. 618300/-. The minimum number of shares valued at Rs. 232000/- was reported from the Divisional Secretariat Division of Mahaoya. During the period, February to December 1997, savings in all accounts have shown a gradual increase.

1997	February	December
Kekulu	5131 (19.9%)	25411 (22.2%)
Diriyamatha	31 (0.1%)	7083 (6.2%)
Non-Members Accounts	620 (2.4%)	4489 (3.9%)
Group Saving Accounts	2654 (10.3%)	18142 (15.9%)
Members Savings Accounts	17310 (67%)	58962 (51.6%)

Although members' savings have increased, the relative per-centages have decreased.

The money value of all accounts have increased during the period February to December 1977 (In Rs. 1000/-)

1997	February	December
Kekulu	281.1 (7.6%)	3363 (7.8%)
Diriyamatha	2.3 (0%)	2880 (6.7%)
Non-Members Savings	470.7 (12.8%)	3847 (4%)
Group Saving Accounts	1836 (50%)	15294 (35.8%)
Members Savings	1045 (28.5%)	17292 (40.5%)

### Overall Increase :

The rate of increase of accounts during the period, February to December 1997 was between 25746 to 114087. Till then, it is observed that it's monthly rate of increase as a percentage has decreased,

### Samurdhi Banks under level II.

By the end of 1997, 136 Samurdhi Banks belonging to level II have been established in 33 D. S. Divisions. In Divulapitiya and Dompe establishment of 9 banks in each had been recorded. By the end of 1997, 3874 children's accounts and 721 Diriyamatha accounts are reported to have been opened with their money values being Rs. 377400







and Rs. 377650 respectively. The highest saving recorded was from Thumpane D. S. Division. (Children's Savings 1029 and Diriyamatha Savings 155) with their money values being Rs. 117000 and 134000 respectively. At the same time 534 non member savings accounts (Rs. 377360) and 4391 Group Savings accounts (Rs. 2924000) are reported to have been started.

11659 Members Savings Accounts were reported. Out of this 9385 accounts were held by women members while 2287 were held by men (Percentage 80% - 20%).

#### Overall progress of Level II Banks.

By the end of 1997, out of all types of accounts, the highest number recorded was from the Members Savings accounts. The number was 11659. The minimum number reported was from Non-member savings accounts, the number being 584.

#### Membership and shares

The membership reported from level II Samurdhi Banks at the end of 1997 was 94770. Of this number 63741 were women while the balance 31029 were men. Percentages were 67% and 33% respectively.

Total value of paid up shares was Rs. 19364000 and the average value of each was Rs. 204.

#### Overall progress

The 261 banks coming within the 1st and 2nd levels have been established by now and the number of accounts reported to have been opened with them is 135266, the total value being Rs. 49202420. The Average value of an account held with level I and II banks is shown below.

Type of Account	Average value of Account	
	Level I	Level II
Kekulu	132	97
Diriyamata	406	523
Non-member	852	706
Group	843	665
Members	293	212

The best average value out of all types of accounts held with banks of both levels had been shown by non-member savings accounts. The highest number of accounts held with all banks of both levels has been reported from the category of members savings accounts. The number was 70621, which is 52% of the total number of accounts of all types. Other percentages are Kekulu - 22%, Groups - 16%, Diriyamatha - 6%, and Non-members 4%.

The maximum amount saved too was reported from Members Savings accounts. The amount is Rs. 19762000, percentage of Group Savings was 37%, Non-member Savings - 8%, Kekulu - 8% and Diriyamata 7%.



## AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Agricultural Development projects hold a key position in the Samurdhi programme which aims at poverty alleviation.

Home gardening, Vocational training of indigenous medicinal plants, tree planting and integrated rural agricultural programmes are the major activities implemented under this component. Main objectives of the agricultural development programme are reducing cost of food consumed by beneficiaries thereby upgrading their living standard motivating them to engage themselves in environment friendly agriculture, through which they could earn more profits, creation of agro-based employment opportunities and building up of an environment suitable for cultivation purposes and conducive to healthy living through tree planting etc.

Under the home gardening programme, 90 nurseries and 1279 model home gardens were established within 21 Divisional Secretaries. Divisions in the year 1996, while conducting 760 programmes for creating awareness on these activities, among beneficiaries.

Under the component of planting indigenous medicinal plants, action has been taken to organize beneficiaries to grow medicinal plants on a commercial basis, enabling them to earn an additional income. In the year 1997, this project was implemented in 14 D. S. Divisions.

## AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

### INTRODUCTION

Alleviation of poverty is the objective of the Samurdhi Programme. Agricultural Development is also of particular importance in this exercise.

Increasing the produce of small scale farmers, providing opportunities for them to earn additional income, tree planting etc are the basic components of the agricultural development programme.

Following are the activities carried out for the purpose of realizing the above goals:

- Cultivation Programmes
- Vocational Training Programmes
- Cultivation of indigenous medicinal plants
- Awareness Programmes for beneficiaries
- Environment friendly tree planting Programmes
- Integrated rural agricultural programmes



### Objectives :

1. Reducing the cost of food of beneficiaries through developing their home gardens, thus bringing down their cost of living and upgrading their living Standards.
2. Motivating beneficiaries who are engaged in small scale farming to take up environment friendly agriculture and thereby guiding them to a position of minimizing costs incurred on agro-products and earnings profits'
3. Improving the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary for undertaking self-employment ventures and providing necessary facilities for them.
4. Building up a sound and conducive environment for them to live through home grading and planting of trees with an economic value. Sums of Rs. 3640000/- and Rs. 2800000/- were spent during the years 1996 and 1997 respectively, for implementing the above programmes.

### Home Gardening Programme

The primary objective of the home gardening programme is to enhance the nutrition level of low-income earners through minimizing their expenditure and increasing their incomes.

A nursery of plants in every Zone and a model home garden in every Grama Niladari Division are being established. The necessary awareness programmes are being conducted and action has been taken to hold home gardening contests as a means of creating incentives. In 1996, the home gardening programme has put into effect in 21 D. S. Divisions Selected from 17 Districts. A nursery in every G.N. Division was established. In the year 1996, the establishment of 90 nurseries and 1279, home gardens and the conducting of 760 awareness programmes have been put into effect.

The total number of families participated was 33565, In the year 1997, home gardens and plants nurseries have been started in 19 D. S. Divisions.

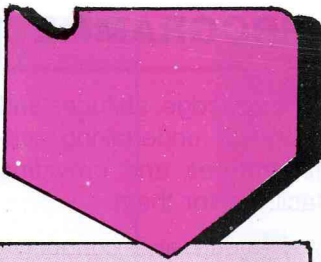
### Cultivation of Indigenous Medicinal Plants.

The main objective of the project is to get the beneficiaries to grow indigenous medicinal plants that are being largely used locally. Through this a supplementary income earning opportunity will be provided. The above programme was implemented in 14 D. S. Divisions in the year 1997 and 06 very important Species of medicinal plants had been grown.

### Environmental Tree Planting Programme.

This programme has been put into effect with the aim of conserving the environment on a long term basis, Planting of valuable timber Species, and plants on the lands





- Long term environmental Conservation under the environmental tree planting Programme.
- Action Plans designed for future benefits such as increasing incomes, facing the scarcity of fire wood etc., are being implemented
- Introduction of new agricultural techniques and creating an understanding on environmental friendly agriculture are the activities implemented under the awareness programme.
- Increasing the income of beneficiaries is an objective of the Integrated Rural Development programme.



and home gardens of beneficiaries takes place., under this program. This would enable beneficiaries to earn an additional income and prevent adverse consequences of soil erosion, land slides, floods, drying up of water resources such as fountains; etc.

On 12th November 1997 an island-wide tree planting programme was launched by the Samurdhi Authority, 5000 Jak Seedlings were planted in the D. S. Division of Moratuwa with the participation of school children.

#### **Awareness Building programmes**

Even though a large number of people are engaged in agriculture, quantity and quality of their products have been reduced because the majority of them still use traditional agricultural methods.

New agricultural methods are therefore being introduced while educating them about

environment friendly agriculture. Conducting training programmes on Anthurium Cultivation, mushroom cultivation bee keeping etc. as well as training courses on the use of new agricultural techniques and machinery is carried out under these programmes.

In the year 1997 about 50 such training programmes have been implemented. Training programmes on methods of reducing agriculture costs have also been conducted and 1800 beneficiaries have been trained in 1997.

#### **Integrated Rural Development programme.**

Agricultural projects identified by Zonal Samurdhi officials are implemented in order to optimize income of beneficiaries. In the year 1997 action was taken to conduct a survey relating to agricultural development in 17 zones selected from 17 D.S. Division.





## SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMME

### SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMME

Samurdhi recipients who are receiving relief assistance of Rs. 1000/- and Rs. 500/- are entitled to become members of this programme. Its monthly membership fee is Rs. 20/-

Assistance is provided for deaths, births, marriages and illnesses.

Payments of assistance is subject to a maximum amount as stipulated below :

Rs. 5000/- for a death.  
Rs. 2000/- for a birth.  
Rs. 3000/- or Rs. 1000/- for a marriage and Rs. 1500/- for an illness.

During the year 1997 and during the first 3 months of 1998, claims for relief have been paid in the following manner:

1. Rs. 12.90 million for 14374 deaths.
2. Rs. 1.33 million for 7872 illnesses.
3. Rs. 9,190 million for 26557 child births.
4. Rs. 12.123 million for 26349 marriages.

### NENA NUWANA PROGRAMME

Its objective is to improve people's knowledge and wisdom, and thus build up a prosperous society.

## SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMME



### OBJECTIVES

1. Preventing the present living standard of the poor from being further deteriorated.
2. Helping the poor to come up above the poverty line.
3. Improving the knowledge and skills of the poor thus enabling them to develop their attitudes that would suit a better behavioural pattern in them.
4. Organizing them and getting them to participate in decision making and implementation of such decisions.

### TARGET GROUPS IDENTIFIED UNDER THE SAMURDHI SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMME

1. Extremely poor families who deserve security.
2. Poor families who have the potential to become self-reliant.

Families generating an income below Rs. 1000/- are selected for this programme.

### Samurdhi Social Security Programmes:

1. 1465000 families receiving of relief assistance in amounts of Rs. 1000/-, Rs. 500/-, Rs. 250/-, Rs. 200/- and Rs.100/- per month have been identified.
2. Getting them to contribute to the Social security Fund on a monthly basis'

### MEMBERSHIP

Families receiving Samurdhi relief assistance of Rs. 1000/- and Rs. 500/- are entitled to be members of this programme. Membership Fee is Rs. 20/-

### ACTIVITIES

1. Providing relief at times of distress. ie to provide financial assistance to poor families to minimize their expenditure at the time of sudden disasters, deaths, illnesses etc.
2. Providing financial support for essential social activities such as family marriages, child births etc.
3. Helping to develop personality and self-reliance of the poor
4. Helping to develop the educational standard of the poor through the Nena-Nuwana Programme.

Providing Nena-Nuwana Scholarships to Children of families who receive relief assistance to motivate them to receive secondary, higher or professional education.







- Obtaining the people's contribution to development through the fostering of their favourable attitudes.

- Awareness building among teachers and students in regard to Samurdhi strategies, directing children to higher education, skills development in children and improving their nutrition levels and the standard of health.

1. Nena Nuwana Samurdhi Secondary Education scholarship programme.
2. Nena Nuwana School Exercise books and school equipment supply programme.
3. Nena Nuwana Teachers Seminar.
4. Nena Nuwana Essay, Art and Poster competitions and oratorical contests.
5. Providing assistance to the children of Samurdhi recipient families to develop their skills in sports.
6. Supporting them in income and employment generation.

#### Beneficiaries :

Wives and unmarried children of Samurdhi recipients who pay the monthly instalments are entitled to be the beneficiaries.

#### BENEFIT

1. **DEATH** : Financial assistance is provided subject to a maximum of Rs. 5000/-. In the year 1997, financial assistance has been provided for 11543 deaths, while a sum of Rs. 13.89 million has been provided for 2831 deaths, during the first three months of the year 1998.
2. **ILLNESS** : When hospitalised for more than 07 days, financial assistance up to Rs. 1500/- is provided for 30 days per year at the rate of Rs. 50/- per day. During the year 1997, financial assistance has been provided to 6448 patients, while a sum of Rs. 1.33 million has been spent for 1424 patients during the first 3 months of 1998.
3. **CHILD BIRTHS** : At the first and second child birth, a sum of Rs. 2000/- is provided as financial assistance. In the year 1997, assistance has been paid for 22044 child births and during the first three months of the year 1998, a total of Rs. 9.190 million has been provided for 4513 childbirths.
4. **MARRIAGE** : Provision of financial assistance for one of the following two occasions is made : ie. A sum of Rs. 3000/- for the marriage of the beneficiary or Rs. 1000/- for his child's marriage. In 1997 financial assistance has been provided for 21353 marriages and sum of Rs. 12.123 million has been paid for 4996 marriages during the first 03 months of the year 1998 alone.

#### Nena-Nuwana Samurdhi Education programme

#### Strategies :

1. Educating the teachers and students about poverty, its nature and the Samurdhi poverty alleviation programme.
2. Assisting to direct children of poor families for secondary and higher education.
3. Assisting in the skills development of children of poor families.
4. Helping to develop the standard of nutrition and health of children of poor families.

#### PROGRAMMES LAUNCHED

##### 1. Nena-Nuwana secondary education scholarship programme.

These scholarships are awarded to clever students selected from among children of relief recipient families, who qualify themselves to follow G.C.E. (A.L.) A sum of Rs. 250/- is provided to them monthly.

237 Scholarships were provided in 1997 and it has been planned to offer 550 scholarships in 1998 and 2500 in 1999.

##### 2. Nena-Nuwana Exercise Books and school equipment distribution programme.

Exercise books and equipment sufficient for one year are provided to children of beneficiary families. This programme is intended to benefit 150 students from each district. During the first quarter of 1998, 600 sets of equipment were supplied and they will be distributed among 1700 students.

##### 3. Nena-Nuwana Teachers Seminar :

Creating awareness among teachers about the background which is needed to mould students' attitudes and conduct towards the Samurdhi programme and the progress made in its poverty alleviation component, in line with the current socio-economic situations.

In 1997, 700 teachers were educated while it has been planned to educate 1500 teachers in 1998.

##### 4. Nena-Nuwana Essay, Art and poster Competitions and oratorical contests.

This is designed to provide opportunities to school children to display their creative talents. This is carried out under the full patronage of the Department of Education.

5. Assisting children of Samurdhi recipients families to enhance their skills in sports.

6. Helping in the generation of income and employment by providing tools and equipment required by young men and women under a credit programme with easy terms. Interest on these loans is not chargeable and time limit for repayment is 1-3 years. 5000 sewing machines were provided in 1997 and 250 machines have so far been distributed in 1998.



## CREDIT PROGRAMME



### Compulsory Savings

Families receiving relief grants of Rs. 1000/- and Rs. 500/- are required to make compulsory savings at the rate of Rs. 200/- and Rs. 100/- respectively. By now depositing of compulsory savings in investment accounts have commenced. Number of accounts opened as at 31.05.1998 is 320485.



### Accelerated Credit Animation Programme :

Credit Animators have been appointed and the granting of loans to the poor people, has now been implemented. This programme which was initiated in July 1996, has awarded Rs. 45.8 million as consumer/distress loans. By end of March 1998, 18435 persons have been provided with consumer loans, and 49632 persons were awarded development loans.

### Samurdhi Development Loans : (SANASA)

This is implemented with the aim of increasing the family income and upgrading their standard of living. People's Bank and the Bank of Ceylon jointly operate in 12141 task forces throughout the island. The amount given to each task force (balakaya) for the issue of credit is Rs. 41500/-. Amount set apart is 500 million. Amounts ranging from Rs. 2500/- to Rs. 10,000/- are provided as loans, on an annual interest of 10%. The number of loans issued up to May 1998 is 74508 its value being Rs. 440 million.

### Samurdhi Leasing programme :

Under this programme it is intended to provide credit facilities to 5000 animators (Niyamakas). Rate of interest is 10% per annum. Sri Lanka Samurdhi Authority and the people's Leasing Company jointly operate this programme. By 31.05.1998, 117 machines including Three Wheelers, Two Wheel Tractors, and Water pumps valued at Rs. 28134485.00 have been distributed.

### Samurdhi Entrepreneurship Credit (SAWANA):

Through the 1998 Budget proposals credit facilities are provided to the beneficiary families under this programme to start business ventures, and for improving them. samurdhi Authority, Bank of Ceylon and the People's Bank jointly implement this programme. The amount set apart for this project is Rs. 295 million. Minimum amount available as a loans is Rs. 10,000/- while the maximum is Rs. 50,000/-. Rate of interest is 10% per annum.





## ACTION PLAN

### ACTION PLAN :

- Improving Rural Road facilities.
- Implementing the Environmental conservation programmes.
- Common Infrastructure Facilities.
- Access to primary Health Facilities.
- Market Development Bank Buildings and Intra Structures relevant to them.
- Development of Minor Irrigation projects.
- In implementing the above programmes it is divided into 02 components

1. Programmes for which financial provision is made by the Samurdhi Authority.
2. Programmes funded by other financial institutions.

### Programmes for which financial provision is made by the Samurdhi Authority :

1. Rural Community Projects programme.  
30836 projects have been implemented during the years 1995/97.
2. Labour intensive programme for development of Dry Zone Tanks.

## COMMUNITY PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



Provision of infra Structure Facilities and a system of Relief Service relevant to the development of beneficiaries are envisaged.

The following programmes have been designed so as to involve, the participation of beneficiary families and to provide a source of income to those engaged in the relevant work.

- Improvement of Rural Road Facilities.
- Implementation of environmental conservation programmes.
- Common infrastructure facilities.
- providing access to primary health facilities.
- Marketing development programmes, bank buildings and the relevant infrastructure facilities.
- Development of minor irrigation programmes

Provision of infrastructure facilities to beneficiaries and their development with special attention to the above activities are envisaged through this programme.

### OPERATION OF PROGRAMMES

Programmes implemented under this can be mainly divided into 02 categories.

1. Programmes for which financial provision is made by the Samurdhi Authority.
2. Programmes funded by other financial institutions.

### 1. Programmes funded by the Samurdhi Authority.

#### 1.2.1 Rural Community Projects Development Programme

The primary objective of this is to provide the essential infra structure facilities to remote villages. The number of families to be benefited under this is approximately 70392. This programme was initiated in the year 1995 and particulars of community projects implemented are given below :

	1995	1996	1997
Roads	4768	6065	4666
Water Supply	2988	3488	2374
Buildings	-	127	194
Irrigation	-	1048	2024
Other miscellaneous projects	994	176	208





## ACTION PLAN

771 tanks in 9 districts have been rehabilitated under this programme

3. Rehabilitation of rural minor irrigation channels 437 projects have been implemented in 10 districts
4. Zonal Development is taking place in 218 selected zones.
5. Samurdhi Banks and Zonal Offices.
6. Vocational Training is being undertaken in 90 D.S. Divisions 2437 trainees are receiving the training.

### Projects funded by other financial institutions :

1. National Development Trust Fund is operative in 41 D.S. Divisions. Work on 377 roads, 250 irrigation channels, 30 water supply schemes and 2 marketing centres has commenced.
2. 220 water supply and Sanitation projects have been implemented in 44 D.S. Divisions. They have been sited at schools.
3. Projects implemented under the Forest Department.

In 1996, 111 community forestry projects have been implemented.

A sum of Rs. 355 million has been made available as financial provision for implementing 9632 rural community projects in 18 districts under the rural community projects programme.

### 1.2.2 Labour intensive tank rehabilitation Programme in the Dry Zone.

This programme was implemented in the years 1996 and 1997. The renovation of small tanks at the rural level was initiated under this programme. Financial provision of sum of Rs. 96.19 was allocated for 771 tanks in 09 districts. The number of tanks renovated and financial provision allocated under this programme are as follows :

DISTRICT	Number of Tanks	Financial provision allocated Rs. Millions
Anuradhapura	267	24.6
Hambantota	72	12.9
Kurunegala	365	17.1
Badulla	22	2.9
Ampara	25	8.1
Ratnapura	21	4.2
Monaragala	47	8.1
Puttalam	65	13.2
Polonnaruwa	12	3.6
Total	896	94.7

### 1.2.3 Rural Minor Irrigation Rehabilitation programme

Commenced in 1977 A sum of Rs. 62 million was allocated for 437 projects in 10 districts. The special feature of the programme is that no machinery whatsoever was used and only human labour was used for its implementation. A payment was also made for the labour.

#### 1.2.4 Zonal Development :

This programme was initiated in 1997 as a pilot project Various components such as agriculture, animal husbandry, social development, credit animation, family development etc. are integrated and implemented within the Zone. Amount allocated is Rs. 22.6 million. This is being implemented in 218 selected zones.

#### 1.2.5 Samurdhi Banks and Zonal Offices:

193 Samurdhi Bank buildings have been constructed in 114 D.S. Divisions and 237 zonal Offices too have been established. The estimated amount for this is Rs. 37917 million.

#### 1.2.6 Vocational Training.:

This is being jointly implemented by the Sri Lanka Samurdhi Authority and the National Apprenticeship and Industrial Training Authority. This has provided the opportunity for young men and women of Samurdhi

recipient families to obtain vocational training. At present the programme is operative in 50 D.S. Divisions. 2437 trainees are receiving their training in vocations such as tailoring, machine operators, fitters, carpentry, motor cycle repairs, printing, production of leather products, electrical work, photography ornamental crafts, barbers, small industries etc.

### 2. Projects funded by other financial institutions :

#### 2.1 National Development Trust Fund.

Projects are being implemented in 41 Selected D. S. Divisions under this component. A sum of Rs. 130 million is being spent. 377 road related projects (bridges and culverts) 250 irrigation projects (canals and dams, tanks and anicuts) 30 water supply projects (wells, water pipes, bathing wells) 02 marketing centres have been established under this component.

#### 2.2 Implementing school based water supply and sanitation projects.

220 such projects have been implemented in 44 D.S. Divisions.

In 1996 funds were provided by the Ministry of Housing and the projects were implemented through Samurdhi Task Forces. Ratnapura, Matara and Badulla Districts were selected at the first step.

#### 2.3 Community Forestry projects implemented with Forest Department.

In 1996 111 Community Forestry projects were completed. A sum of Rs. 11.22 million was provided as financial provision for the projects.





## SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

### SAMURDHI FLAG DAY

#### SALE OF FLAGS

Every year a special Flag day is conducted to raise funds for the establishment of the Social Development foundation offices in all D.S. Divisions. Money collected through the sale of flags is deposited in an account titled "The Social Development Fund" and the Samurdhi Authority provides an amount equivalent to 25% of the income so collected.

#### World Literacy Day

September 8 is set apart as World Literacy Day.

On 8 September 1977, the Samurdhi Authority initiated a special programme for non-school going children of the ages of 6-15 years in collaboration with the Non-formal Education unit. The principal objective of this programme was to get these children admitted to schools.

reports of surveys conducted revealed that 17% of the children of the school going age were not attending school.

## SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Samurdhi Authority is taking action to identify sections of the society which do not receive the attention and focus of the society and to implement social development programmes for such sections. Beneficiaries addressed by these programmes are :

1. Disabled persons.
2. Adults who are helpless.
3. Mothers living with fatherless children.
4. Families of persons who have been subjected to grave suffering through addition to Liquor and Drugs.
5. Families faced with problems caused by parents being expatriated to the Middle East seeking employment.
6. Destitute children.

With a view to providing relief to the above social sections, social development foundations have been set up in every D.S. Division. The Divisional Secretary is the chairman of the Foundation and the Social Service officer is its secretary. Local religious dignitaries, representatives of social service oriented NGOs are the other members of the Social Development Foundation.

The principal objective of setting up the Social Development Foundation is to identify community based programmes for these social sections and put them into continuous effect.

Collection of the relevant data of their Divisions, designing of the necessary programmes and implementing them are the basic responsibilities of this foundation.

#### Sale of Samurdhi Flags :

In order to raise funds for the Social Development Foundation, a day of the year with specific importance is chosen for the sale of flags and the income so derived is deposited in the bank to the credit of the foundation. An amount equivalent to 25% of the funds collected by each Divisional Secretariat, through the flag sales is provided by the Samurdhi Authority too. All these moneys are deposited in an account known by the name "Social Development Fund".

Social Development Foundation is in a position to adopt various courses of action for strengthening the financial status of the fund. A system of awarding prizes as an incentive to those who optimise the income through the sale of flags has also been devised.



As October 17 has been set apart as the International Day of poverty alleviation, the same date has been fixed as the Samurdhi Flag Day as well. Up to now two flag days have been conducted in the years 1996 and 1997. The total income derived from the 1st Flag Day was Rs. 2666141 and the Authority's contribution was Rs. 666446/- The highest income earned through the sale of flags in 1996, were reported from Kurunegala, Gampaha and Kandy Districts respectively. The lowest income was earned by Ampara District.

The total amount earned through the flag day conducted on 17 October 1997, was Rs. 2383581. This amount was supplemented by the Samurdhi Authority by providing an amount equivalent to 25% the above mentioned amount.

The D.S. Division which collected the largest amount in 1997, was Dehiattakandiya the amount being Rs. 33941/- The lowest amount collected was from D.S. Division of Monaragala the amount being Rs. 1015.

#### WORLD LITERACY DAY

September 8 has been set apart as the World Literacy Day. In collaboration with the Unit of Non-Formal Education of the Ministry of Education, Samurdhi Authority launched a special programme focused on non-school going children. The basic objective of the programme was to identify non-school going children of the ages of 6-15 years and to direct them to schools.



## SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

### PROGRAMME FOR MINIMIZING THE CONSUMPTION OF LIQUOR AND DRUGS

Liquor and drugs have a direct link with poverty.

Samurdhi programme which correctly realized this situation, has initiated an island wide programme to minimize the consumption of Liquor and drugs.

In its first phase, managers were trained and the animators were trained by the managers.

Preventive measures are being introduced to beneficiaries through Samurdhi animators.

#### Samurdhi Dignity of Labour Training Camps

The Objective is to improve knowledge, skills and attitudes of animators. Dignity of Labour Training Camps are conducted at District Level.

Speciality of this programme is the fact that it is monitored by the animators themselves. Co-operation, Co-existence, participations, Solidarity Philanthropy and leadership are also developed through this programme.



It is revealed that 17% of children who are of the school going age are not attending schools. The reasons for such a large number to be non-school going children are; non-availability of birth certificates, deprivation of the protection of parents, economic hardships and other social factors. This programme was implemented extensively at the District and Divisional Secretariat levels.

Two special posters too were distributed for this purpose. Emphasising on the importance of learning to read and write was its objective. Several programmes were launched. they are :

- Awareness creation among non-school going children and their parents.
- Conducting Literacy classes.
- Directing ophthalmically sub-normal and Autistic children to special education units
- Distribution of school equipment
- To stress on the importance of school education through lectures and seminars.
- Taking action to establish pre-schools.
- Organizing vocational training courses for children who are unwilling to attend schools
- Opening of children's libraries.
- Institution of children's clubs'
- To obtain birth certificates for children who do not have them.

Instances of teaching how to place their signatures by members of small groups when they assemble at groups can be cited as examples of imparting education to adults.

#### Programme for minimizing the consumption of liquor and drugs.

It is clear that the consumption of liquor and drugs have a direct link with poverty.

Therefore a more tactful and comprehensive scheme of work is implemented for the benefit of families who have become helpless and desperate owing to the consumption of liquor and drugs.

Accordingly an endeavour to minimize the use of liquor and drugs is being put into effect, throughout the island. For this a special training is being given to Samurdhi Managers with the full co-operation of the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board. Taking this message to animators through managers and then to the general public through animators, in an extensive manner is the ultimate objective of this programme.

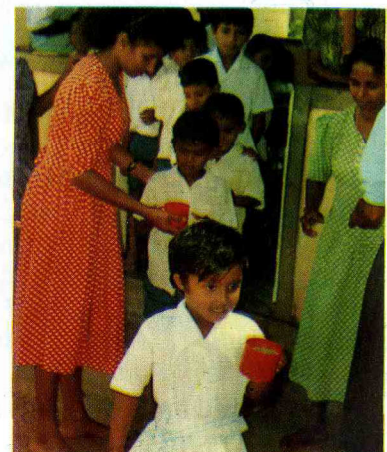
A sum of Rs. 173190/- released as financial provision for this programme had to be spent for 6 programmes under this programme.

At the end of 1997, 52 training programmes have been initiated.

#### Training Camps to develop dignity of labour.

Training camps are being organised for the Samurdhi animators who are working at village level in order to develop their attitudes and skills towards the dignity of labour. These camps are being conducted at district level.

The speciality of this programme is that the programme is being organised conducted and monitored by the participants themselves with the guidance provided to them. Co-operation, Co-existence, participation, solidarity philanthropy and leadership qualities are developed among them through this programme.





### A few more objectives expected to be achieved by this programme.

- Knowledge about social services, working together and sharing responsibility.
- Contributing to the broad approach of alleviating poverty through community services
- Development of leadership qualities.
- Personality development.
- Imparting knowledge about the current social, political, cultural and economic issues.

Creating awareness about drug addicts and finding solutions to the problem.

Providing opportunities to develop sporting skills.

Providing the opportunity to demonstrate various capabilities, and skills and appreciate them.

Providing the opportunity for enjoyment and development of goodwill.

### Commonly Implemented activities of the Force

1. Exhibition of one-man shows in Art/Sculpture Handicrafts.
2. Camp Fire.
3. Cultural and religions programmes.
4. Sports meets.
5. Educational programmes, lectures, discussions and seminars.
6. Community development programmes:  
Cleaning a hospital, sacred place, school building, Elders' or Children's home, road or any such, public place on a shramadana basis.
7. Creative activities.
8. Issue of a publication daily about the activities of the camp.
9. Inviting guest speakers for lectures :  
Artists, sportsmen, media personnel, politicians or any such popular persons.
10. Obtaining the observations and suggestions of participants about the activities carried out by the camp. These would serve as a guide to organise its future activities. The task of analysing the views expressed by participants can be entrusted to a group of selected officers who will obtain such views through suggestions, discussions etc.

By the end of 1997, 3 Dignity of labour camps have been held. The initial workshop was held at the Embilipitiya Yodhagama Training Centre for the training of village leaders. Animators from Embilipitiya, Kolonna, Moratuwa, Walapane and Hanguranketa participated in it. The second workshop was held in April 1997 at Wilpita Nilwala Educational Centre with the participation of animators from the Matara district.

The third workshop was held at Mahiyangana Central College with the participation of animators of the Badulla District. Carrying out special programmes in addition to those carried out at the previous workshops was a striking feature in this exercise. Training of Pre-school matrons, donating artificial legs, wheel chairs, inaugurating a scholarship programme for clever children, prevention of child abuse and drug addiction, conducting a special clinic at the Sri Jayewardenepura Hospital and an awareness programme for women who are seeking foreign employment on handling money, by the Foreign Employment bureau were some of the special activities handled.

### SAMURDHI LOTTERY

In August 1996, a lottery known by the name "SAMURDHI" was introduced jointly by the Ministry of Samurdhi, Youth Affairs and Sports and the National Lotteries Board. At the end that year the total income received from this lottery was Rs. 281,800,000/- and the income was distributed in the following manner :

Prizes	- 47%
Sale Agents	- 15%
Cost of the Lottery	- 18%
Samurdhi Fund	- 20%

The programmes so far carried out under the Social Development programme are given below :

Programme	No. of programmes.
1. Drug prevention	- 300
2. Conducting the Flag Day	- 02
3. Welfare activities for the disabled	- 133
4. elders welfare activities	- 101
5. Children's welfare activities	- 82
6. Family Development activities of women who have gone for middle east employment	- 05
7. Literacy Development programmes	- 25
8. Religions Programmes	- 94
9. Nutrition Programmes	- 47
10. Programme for obtaining contribution through Shramadana	- 33





## ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

### Introduction :

Various programmes are implemented for upgrading the income and living standards of low income persons through Samurdhi which is the formidable programme of poverty alleviation.

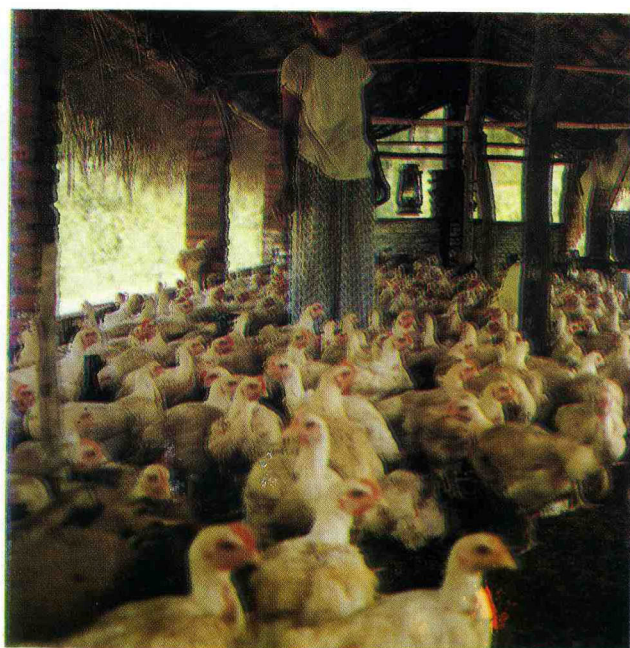
Animal husbandry, fisheries and nutrition programmes can be described as the main components of this programme. Through the fields of animal husbandry and fisheries, steps have been taken to improve the income levels of rural low income people, for the generation of self employment opportunities and to provide the necessary support for these activities. At the same time, action is taken to identify the families of low nutrition levels and to provide the knowledge and understanding on how to relieve them from their plight, through the nutrition programmes.

### Animal Husbandry

Various projects in the animal husbandry field that would help open up prospects for a large number of self employment opportunities have now been implemented. Employment opportunities have been provided to 2 persons through two projects launched in goat rearing carried out in the Mahiyangana D.S. Division. 17 projects in Broiler production have been started in the Pallama D.S. Division and action has been taken to link 08 more beneficiaries to this project. Prima Ltd., a leading private sector Company has patronised this project by providing the necessary inputs and through the purchase of the produce.

In addition to this it is intended to introduce 75 beneficiaries from 3 more D. S. Divisions, to this company and to engage them in self employment relating to broiler production.

All measures have now been finalized to launch 05 livestock farming projects in the Hanguranketa



Divisional Secretariat Division. 05 beneficiaries will be provided with 02 cows each to enable them to engage in the activity as a self employment sector.

Further to these activities, it has been planned to direct Samurdhi beneficiary families to self employment opportunities through the production of various other productions associated with the field of Animal Husbandry.

Among these activities, rearing of pigs, production of eggs, milk collection and transport, marketing of milk, sterilization of milk at the rural level and marketing such milk, and yorghurt production are some of the key areas under the project.

Animal husbandry training programmes are also being conducted in collaboration with the relevant organizations. 603 Samurdhi beneficiaries, 141







Samurdhi animators and 40 Samurdhi Managers have already been trained through these programmes. Programmes for educating school children on the consumption of cow milk have also been conducted under this component and a further batch of 800 students are due to participate in these awareness programmes.

#### **Fisheries Sector :**

As in the case of the animal husbandry sector, many self employment opportunities can be generated at the rural level, through the fisheries sector too.

Under this component 05 projects are now being implemented in the D. S. Divisions of Tamankaduwa, Suriyawewa, Dambulla and Hanguranketha for the rearing of fingerlings inside cages. 08 beneficiaries have been benefited through this project

Projects for the rearing of fingerling in muddy ponds have been started in the D.S. Divisions of Thanamalwila and Angunakolpelessa. Rearing of fish in resevoirs have now been started in the D. S. Divisions of

Dambulla and Tamankaduwa for which about 40 beneficiaries have been involved.

Also with the aim of improving the income level of small scale dry fish producers, assistance has been provided to organise a producers society consisting of 30 members including those who are already in the trade. Providing technical knowledge needed by them is fulfilled with the co-ordination of other institutions involved.

92 Samurdhi beneficiaries, 37 Samurdhi animators, 06 Samurdhi managers have so far been trained within the fisheries sector.

#### **Nutrition programme :**

Samurdhi Nutrition programme was initiated under the patronage of the National Development Trust Fund. In this exercise Samurdhi animators and managers have been trained with the assistance of the Department of Health Services. Thereafter having identified the target groups, nutritionally vulnerable families were grouped and awareness programmes, and demonstrations for the preparation of supplementary food for the infants have been conducted upgrading the nutrition and sanitation level of Samurdhi beneficiaries, Establishment of home gardens and animal husbandry units, supplying drinking water and toilet facilities, providing solutions to environmental problems have been carried out with the intervention of Samurdhi animators.

The nutrition programme is in operation within 2874 Grama Niladhari Division in 42 D. S. Divisions and 2829 Samurdhi animators and 232 Samurdhi Managers have been trained under this programme.

6541 awareness programmes for mothers and 3069 demonstrations for the preparation of supplementary food for infants have been conducted. Also 10034 home gardens, 3355 animal husbandry units, 1429 latrines and 218 drinking water supply units have been established with assistance obtained from various organizations.





## EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME GENERATING PROJECTS



### FAMILY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME :

#### Objectives :

- To introduce the activities that are necessary for Samurdhi relief recipients to develop their Families in the economic, social, cultural and spiritual aspects.
- To develop the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes within every family to enable them to identify the problems and needs relevant to their families and resolve them and plan their future well being.
- To design bottom up plans for family development based on the needs of the beneficiary families, in an upward bound manner starting from the level of the small group, Grama Niladhari Division, Zonal level, D.S. Division level and finally leading up to the District level.
- To co-ordinate the support services system provided by the state institutions and the non-governmental organizations in consistence with the people's needs presented in the plan.
- To co-ordinate the other activities of the Samurdhi programme accordingly.
- Providing the opportunity of participating in development work to young men and women belonging to the task forces and entrusting to the youth, the leadership in introducing production activities needed for improving the income level of beneficiaries.

- Getting the people themselves to evaluate the progress achieved by them through the Samurdhi programme.

Action has been taken to train Samurdhi Managers of 18 districts, and to train Samurdhi Animators and beneficiaries through the managers on the designing and implementing of a family development programme in order to achieve the above objectives. During the first quarter of 1998, the designing of a bottom-up plan based on the needs of beneficiary families and its implementation at district level will take place. Suitable collective income generating projects have been initiated for enhancing the income level of families who participate in this programme. Some of the projects so initiated are as follows :

- |                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Cashew Processing           | - Gampaha      |
| 2. Minor export crops          | - Kandy        |
| 3. Vegetable dehydration       | - Nuwara Eliya |
| 4. Kitul honey                 | - Hanguranketa |
| 5. Kitul honey and Jaggery     | - Kandy        |
| 6. Jak dehydration             | - Kandy        |
| 7. Curd making                 | - Nuwara Eliya |
| 8. Curd making                 | - Kandy        |
| 9. Drying of sprats            | - Hambantota   |
| 10. Drying of sprats           | - Puttalam     |
| 11. Compost fertilizer         | - Dambulla     |
| 12. Production of fruit drinks | - Hanguranketa |



13. Rearing of ornamental fish - Kalutara  
 14. Cashew processing - Anamaduwa  
 Bingiriya  
 Hettipola  
 Wanathavilluwa  
 Arachchikattuwa

The establishment of export development companies of the above mentioned type as a formal scheme of providing employment to the youth and incomes to Samurdhi beneficiaries has been jointly planned by the Youth employment planning Division and the Samurdhi commissioner Generals Department. In this context greater emphasis is laid on unemployed youth attached to the task forces. Through this process opportunities would be pro-

vided for them to be trained and to develop their skills enabling them to start their own production projects. Homogeneous producers who are operating individually will be brought together as share holders of groups and converted into companies with the aid of helping them to earn more profits.

Having created organisations with self reliance, a characteristic which is essential for the competition that builds up direct and long term relations between the entrepreneurs and investors who are simultaneously engaged in the production of goods as well as in marketing will be registered as limited and private companies under Companies Act No. 17 of 1982.