

Sri Ramacharan Charitable Trust

Annual Report 2024-2025

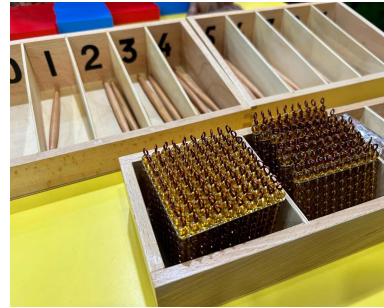
Sri Ramacharan Charitable Trust

- ▶ Sri Ramcharan Charitable Trust (SRCT) was founded in 1999 with the vision of bringing about social transformation through quality education for children studying in Corporation schools in Chennai.
- ▶ In 2004, the Trust started its first Montessori Environment in the Corporation School at VP Koil Street, Mylapore, with 45 Kindergarten students – in two sections (environments).
- ▶ As an intergral part of offering Montessori education, the Trust also facilitates Montessori Teachers' Training for underprivileged women.
- ▶ Thus started, the Trust has made impressionable impact over the last 25 years and is endeavoring to scale greater heights in its social cause.

Sri Ramacharan Charitable Trust

Aims of Montessori Approach

- Concrete methods and specialized materials used for teaching tools.
- Helps children develop their full potential through activities tailored to their needs
- Children are respected and allowed to learn at their own pace.
- Children develop a positive attitude towards learning and school
- Children develop self esteem, critical thinking, independent mind.



Sri Ramacharan Charitable Trust

Concepts of Learning

By working independently and repetitively with the materials, the child makes these concepts an innate part of oneself

Shapes



Numbers



Arithmetic



Language



Geography



Sri Ramacharan Charitable Trust

25 Year Journey

1999	SRCT Registered
2004	Started the first environment in VP koil street, Corporation School
2024	Marching forward with 63 environments across 22 schools in Chennai and Thanjavur
	With 17 Corporation Schools 03 Government Schhols And 02 Balwadis



Environments	Total No of Students	Total No of Teachers	Total No of Helpers
KG:: 59	1107	45	
Std I:: 04	113	04	
63	1220	49	20



Of the 63 environments, SRCT teachers work in 45 environments; project support is provided in the remaining 18 environments (see details in Table 1).



Table 1: Schools with SRCT supported Montessori classes (as of 31 March, 2025)

S.No	Chennai Corporation Schools	No. of KG classes	No. of Std I classes	Total class environments	No. of Teachers	No. of Helpers	No. of Montessori materials
1	Ashok Nagar	1		1			1
2	CIT Nagar West	1		1	1		1
3	Kottur	2		2	2	1	2
4	Mettupalayam	2		2	2	1	1
5	MGR Nagar	8	3	11	11	3	11
6	MGR Nagar Market	6		6		1	5
7	Nesapakkam	4		4			4
8	Puliyur	4		4		1	3
9	Rangarajapuram	2		2			1
10	Royapettah	2	1	3	2	2	2
11	Saidapet	8		8	8	2	8
12	Seniamman Koil	1		1		1	1
13	Shankarapuram	2		2	2	1	1
14	T Nagar	2		2	2		2
15	Teynampet	2		2	2		2
16	South Canal Bank	2		2	2	1	1
17	Ezhil Nagar	1		1	2		1
Total		50	4	54	36	14	47
	Other Schools						
18	Egmore Govt School	2		2	3	2	2
19	Kumbakonam Panch- -ayat Union School	1		1	1	1	1
20	Thanjavur Corporation School	1		1	1	1	1
	Balwadi Centres						
21	Thiruvallur Balwadi	1		1	4		1
22	Saidapet Balwadi	4		4	4	2	4
Grand Total		59	4	63	49	20	56

Sri Ramacharan Charitable Trust

Montessori Teachers' Training for Underprivileged Women

As an integral part of Montessori Learning, the Trust started facilitating Montessori Teachers' training for underprivileged women – the goal being to train and employ women with aptitude.

Till 2020, the Trust had sponsored the training of 71 such women for one-year training course conducted by the Centre for Montessori Training, Chennai.

In 2023, at the request of Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC), SRCT developed a nine-month certificate course for training in Montessori approach. The same was launched in August 2023 with 44 candidates in the first batch.



Sri Ramacharan Charitable Trust

Activities during the period April 2024 to March 2025

- The certificate programme on training in Montessori approach was successfully completed in April 2024 with the conduct of theory and practical exams for the 44 teachers who underwent training.
- A valedictory function was organized for awarding certificates to the trainee teachers on 4 September, 2024. The training programme had been supported by Cognizant Foundation. Mr. Deepak Kumar Matti, CEO, Cognizant Foundation, was the Chief Guest.
- See blog: <https://sriamacharan.org/certificate-course-on-montessori-method-for-chennai-corporation-school-teachers/>

Mr. Matti handing over certificate to one of the trainees



- SRCT's project coordinator and a teacher participated in a panel discussion titled "An exploration of teaching experience, career opportunities in education and the challenges encountered in the profession" organized by Cognizant Foundation, on 5 September, 2024.

Activities during the period April 2024 to March 2025 contd..

- The renovation of an unused and dilapidated school building in Ezhil Nagar part of Kannagi Nagar, a large slum on the outskirts of Chennai, off Old Mahabalipuram Road was completed in May 2024. The work was undertaken under the government's 'Namakku Naame" plan, with generous support from Caplin Point Laboratories Limited (CPLL), after SRCT got necessary approval from GCC.
- With due permission from GCC, the Montessori environment in the KG section commenced at the renovated premises from 15 August, 2024. This marked the realization of a long cherished dream for SRCT!
- The honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M.K. Stalin visited the school on 25 November 2024 and formally inaugurated it. He also interacted with the children and teachers. The hon'ble CM was accompanied by Mr. M Subramanian, Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu, the Commissioner of GCC, Mr. J Kumaragurubaran, and other government officials. Mr. C C Paarthipan, Chairman, CPLL, Justice K Chandru, Retired Judge, Madras High Court, were also present on the occasion. A sapling in the name of each student was planted in the school ground on the occasion. See blog: <https://sriramacharan.org/montessori-classroom-in-kannagi-nagar/>

Activities during the period April 2024 to March 2025 contd..

- The Tamil magazine “Rani” published an article in August highlighting the Montessori methodology and the contributions of Sri Ramacharan Charitable Trust over the past 25 years.
- The Trust organised an overnight excursion trip to Mahabalipuram for the teachers in September
- A professional development initiative for the teachers was undertaken under the supervision of SRCT’s project coordinator Sudha Gandekar in August-September. The teachers were divided into groups and assigned to visit Montessori classrooms other than their own, observe and assess the classroom environment with particular focus on the condition and presentation of the Montessori materials. They were asked to examine whether the materials were complete, clean and neatly arranged as per Montessori standards and give feedback. This hands-on experience helped reinforce best practices in classroom presentation and also encouraged reflection and idea-sharing among colleagues, thereby contributing to a more enriching learning environment.
- Shelves, mats and EPL(Exercises for Practical Life) material were procured for 37 classroom environments where GCC teachers who had undergone the training conducted by SRCT in 2023-2024, are employed.

Activities during the period April 2024 to March 2025 contd..

- Purchase of EPL material for these classrooms was entrusted to SRCT's teachers under the supervision of the project coordinator and was done in December-January. This activity provided the teachers with valuable insights into selection of appropriate and purposeful material that align with Montessori principles. It was a learning opportunity for them to understand the process of budgeting, setting up, and enriching the classroom environment.
- In September-October, project coordinator Sudha Gandekar and faculty member Brinda Raghunath undertook a followup visit to 61 classroom environments across 30 GCC schools where Montessori materials had been provided by GCC in 2019. The objective was to assess practice of the approach, operational challenges faced and help teachers refine their practices, overcome difficulties, and facilitate better implementation of the Montessori methodology.
- SRCT commenced the second round of certificate training program in Montessori training with ten women trainees in February 2025. This is being done in collaboration with Muthal Thalaimurai Trust at Kannagi Nagar. The objective is to train local women who can then be engaged in outreach of the Montessori approach to more children in the area.

Sri Ramacharan Charitable Trust

Photographs of Activities

Montessori training
Certificate Awardees



Valedictory function to award certificates



Hon'ble CM of TN with the SRCT team



Class in progress at Ezhil Nagar



Teachers' day out



Write-up in Rani Magazine



Photographs of Activities

Montessori training program in progress at Kannagi Nagar



Children in the Montessori Environment



Exercises of Practical life

Sri Ramacharan Charitable Trust

Our Lifelines

Major Sponsors

- Cognizant Foundation
- Computer Age Management Services
- Guru Krupa Foundation, USA
- Child Vikas International, USA
- Bhavitha Foundation
- Swelect Energy Systems Ltd.
- Caplin Point Laboratories Limited
- Administrator General and Official Trustee of Tamil Nadu

And

- Several Individual Donors

BHAVITHA
FOUNDATION

CAMS 30 years

 **cognizant**[®]
foundation india

CHILD VIKAS
INTERNATIONAL USA

GURU  KRUPA
Foundation Inc


swelect
Stay powerful when sun shines. And thereafter...