



## THE ROAD AHEAD

India has the world's largest rural population. Most villagers live their lives with very small environmental footprints. They can be role models for people from around the world, who are beginning to now understand how their lifestyles and choices are affecting Mother Nature.

*Villages are India's foundation—Her very life force—and it is society's responsibility to take care of them. In fact, it is our villages that sustain us by providing us, who live in cities, with the nourishment we need in order to survive. It is time to acknowledge that our villages are our very foundation and move forward with one heart and one mind to protect and serve them.*

- AMMA

# Imagine a transformation for Rural India...

**EDUCATION** - After-school tuition centers were started in all villages to ensure that children receive quality education and do not drop out of school. India still has one of the highest drop-out rates in the entire world. Tuition teachers were trained in the use of tablets and innovative learning programs. There is also an emphasis upon bringing the ability to read and write to the older generations, so adult literacy programs are conducted.

**INCOME GENERATION** - Training was given in making artificial jewelry to women in our village clusters and tailoring learning centers were started in many of our villages. In Chhattisgarh, village youth were trained in Dhokra metal crafting art and their beautiful products were sold at Amma's 62nd birthday celebrations.

**ECO-FRIENDLY INFRASTRUCTURE** - Trees were planted in several villages. The goal is to plant tens of thousands in every village cluster over the next few years. 30 houses were built for poor and needy families in the states of Andhra, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Kerala within four months. More homes will be built for needy families. Solar panels were installed in villages in Kerala and smokeless chulhas were built in some states.

**SELF EMPOWERMENT** - In Harirampura, our village in Rajasthan, residents came together to obtain the status of a revenue village for their hamlet. International Yoga Day on June 21 was observed in all our villages. Youth and children are being encouraged to make yoga a part of their daily lives.



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AMRITA  
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SELF RELIANT VILLAGES

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HEALTH



WATER & SANITATION



AGRICULTURE

## AMRITA SERVE - SELF RELIANT VILLAGE

In India's villages, transformation is already starting. **Amrita SeRve** was born in 2013 with the vision to aid villagers in returning to the places of vibrant community they once had. We are currently active in 21 states. Our focus is upon seven areas that are needed to empower our rural communities. Here are some recent milestones in each category:

**HEALTH** - Health workers were trained from several states at the **Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences**. In most rural areas there are no doctors. These health workers are giving preventive and simple diagnostic services in their villages. Regular medical camps were also initiated in Kerala, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh.

**WATER & SANITATION** - A borewell was dug to supply drinking water to the village of Komalikutty in Kerala. This runs through a hydro power source. Water distribution networks were set up in Rajasthan and Odisha. Drinking water filters were introduced in Kerala and Rajasthan. Women's groups from all our villages were taught masonry and plumbing skills so that they themselves could start constructing toilets for their families.

**AGRICULTURE** - Awareness sessions were conducted for villagers from several states on the harmful uses of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Contours and trenches were dug on a farm in Ettimadai in Tamil Nadu to teach the principles of rainwater harvesting to farmers.



EDUCATION



SELF EMPOWERMENT



INCOME GENERATION



ECO-FRIENDLY INFRASTRUCTURE