

# Ratnam Foundation

179 Norval Road, Wembley,  
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Registered Charity No: 1108787



CHARTING YEARLY  
**ACCOMPLISHMENTS**  
**2025**



# Milestones and Moments

## Charting Yearly Accomplishments

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025

**“Education is not just about acquiring knowledge,  
but about shaping character, nurturing creativity,  
and serving humanity.”**

**- Mahatma Gandhi**



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## FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

The year 2025 was one of reflection, resilience, and renewed commitment for the Ratnam Foundation. Sri Lanka continued its slow recovery from a prolonged period marked by economic instability, social vulnerability, the lingering effects of conflict, and repeated climate-related disasters.

Within this complex landscape, the Foundation reaffirmed its mission to empower individuals, strengthen communities, and foster long-term, sustainable development.

Since its establishment, the Ratnam Foundation has believed that meaningful change begins with dignity, opportunity, and education. Our work during the year extended across education, leadership development, technology integration, healthcare, disaster response, livelihood support, and correctional rehabilitation. Each initiative was guided by compassion, accountability, and a deep respect for the communities we serve.

What distinguishes our work is not only the scale of activities but the intent behind them. We strive to ensure that every programme addresses root causes, builds local capacity, and contributes to long-term transformation rather than short-term relief alone. This approach has been made possible through strong partnerships with local institutions, international organisations, volunteers, and donors who share our values and vision.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have supported the Ratnam Foundation throughout 2025. Your trust, encouragement, and guidance continue to inspire our journey. As we look ahead, we remain committed to building a future where education empowers, communities thrive, and every individual is given the opportunity to realise their full potential.

**Dr. Ratnam Niththyananthan**  
Chairman, Ratnam Foundation

# I. INTRODUCTION

The Annual Report 2025 of the Ratnam Foundation is presented at a time of gradual recovery and renewed responsibility for Sri Lanka. While signs of economic stabilisation have emerged, many vulnerable communities – particularly in war-affected regions, estate sectors, and low-income household – continue to face significant challenges. In this evolving context, the Ratnam Foundation has remained steadfast in its commitment to inclusive development, guided by the belief that sustainable progress is rooted in education, dignity, and opportunity.

Throughout the year, the Foundation advanced a holistic approach to social development, addressing interconnected challenges across education, leadership development, technology integration, healthcare, livelihoods, disaster response, and rehabilitation. Our interventions were designed not merely to meet immediate needs, but to strengthen long-term resilience and self-reliance among individuals and communities.

Education continued to be the cornerstone of our work. Through scholarships, smart board installations, innovation-focused robotics and IoT programmes, and leadership training, the Foundation sought to equip children, youth, and university students with the skills, confidence, and values required to thrive in a rapidly changing world. These efforts were complemented by initiatives that recognised academic excellence and supported children from highly disadvantaged backgrounds.

Alongside education, the Foundation prioritised compassion-driven responses to humanitarian and social challenges. Our disaster relief efforts, healthcare support – including the continued operation of the diabetic centre at Moolai Hospital – and rehabilitation programmes for incarcerated individuals reflected a deep commitment to human dignity and social reintegration.

This Annual Report reflects the collective contributions of our partners, donors, volunteers, and community stakeholders. Their trust and collaboration have been central to our impact. As we look ahead, the Ratnam Foundation remains dedicated to serving humanity with integrity and purpose, while contributing meaningfully to a more just, resilient, and hopeful Sri Lanka.

## II. VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



## III. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2025

**During 2025, the Ratnam Foundation focused on five strategic priorities:**

1. Expanding access to quality education for disadvantaged children and youth
  2. Integrating technology to modernise learning environments
  3. Developing leadership, life skills, and civic responsibility among young people
  4. Supporting vulnerable communities through healthcare, livelihoods, and disaster response
  5. Strengthening rehabilitation pathways for incarcerated and at-risk individuals
- These priorities guided programme design, resource allocation, and partnership development throughout the year.

## **IV. ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025**

The achievements highlighted in this report reflect the Ratnam Foundation's unwavering commitment to empowering individuals and strengthening communities across Sri Lanka. Throughout the year, the Foundation translated its vision into tangible action through impactful programmes in education, technology, leadership development, healthcare, livelihoods, disaster relief, and rehabilitation. Each achievement represents a meaningful response to real needs, shaped by collaboration, innovation, and compassion. Together, these milestones demonstrate not only measurable outcomes, but also the positive transformation of lives and communities. They stand as evidence of the Foundation's dedication to sustainable development and its belief that lasting change is built through opportunity, dignity, and collective effort. The programme/project wise achievements are jotted down below under different topics.

### **1. RATNAM FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME**

Education continued to remain the cornerstone of the Ratnam Foundation's work in 2025, marked by a significant milestone made possible through a restricted donation from the late Mr. and Mrs. Ragunathan of the United Kingdom. In recognition of the transformative role of higher education in breaking cycles of poverty, the Board resolved to allocate these funds toward supporting disadvantaged university students across Sri Lanka.

In partnership with Visions Global Empowerment, Ratnam Foundation designed and implemented a comprehensive scholarship programme. The initiative was structured to provide monthly financial assistance to around 40 students over a two-year period, reducing financial barriers and enabling students from economically marginalised backgrounds to continue their studies with greater stability and motivation.

The programme generated strong national interest, receiving 154 applications from across the country. Following a rigorous selection process that included document verification, interviews, and field assessments, 25 students were

shortlisted for scholarships in 2025, while an additional 11 eligible candidates were placed on a waitlist for potential support in 2026. Ultimately, 18 university students from underprivileged backgrounds were awarded scholarships during the first phase of implementation. Priority was given to students from war-affected families, female-headed and single-parent households, plantation communities, and other socio-economically vulnerable groups. Participant feedback reflected increased confidence, strengthened leadership skills, and a renewed commitment to contributing positively to their communities.

**Table 1 – Number of students awarded scholarships**

No.	Field of Study	Male	Female	Total
1	Medicine	0	1	1
2	Engineering	4	1	5
3	Technology	1	1	2
4	Pharmacy	0	1	1
5	Law	0	1	1
6	Bachelor of Science	2	1	3
7	Management	2	3	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>



The scholarship awarding programme was held on 30th and 31st August 2025 at the Northern Provincial Communication and Technology Centre in Vavuniya. The event was graced by the Hon. Nagalingam Vethanayagam, Governor of the Northern Province, and Prof. Arulampalam Arputharajah, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Vavuniya. The two-day programme included a leadership development workshop followed by the formal scholarship awarding ceremony, reinforcing the Foundation’s commitment to holistic student development. Each scholarship beneficiary received a monthly scholarship of Rs.8,000.

## University of Vavuniya



**Ms. Kanagarajan Janani**  
Management



**Ms. Kirushnamoorthy Fathhima  
Shahila, Management**



**Ms. Abdul Nayeem Sujitha**  
Bio Science



**Mr. Sathananthamoorthy Saranithan**  
Applied Mathematics & Computing



**Mr. Mahenthiran Susepan**  
Management

## South - Eastern University



**Mr. Thevaraj Anton Anojan**  
Engineering



**Mr. Mahendran Rishanath**  
Engineering



**Mr. Selvakumaran Lakwin**  
Engineering



**Ms. Perumal Archana**  
Engineering

## University of Colombo



**Ms. Kamalanthan Kalaivani**  
Management



**Mr. Vimalakumar Sathurshan,**  
Information Communication  
Technology



**Ms. Sebasty Arulthasan**  
Harshana, Law

## Eastern University



**Ms. Kulendran Jensi**  
Bio Science



**Ms. Moorthy Pranavi**  
Medicine



**Mr. Jalaldeen Sujah**  
Engineering

## University of Jaffna

## Jeyawardenapura University



**Ms. Kirishnathasan**  
Kathampary  
Bachelors of Pharmacy Honors

## Uva Wellasa University



**Mr. Vijayathasan Nithushan**  
Management

## SLIIT University (Northern University)



**Ms. Kanthavel Tharsika**  
Technology



## 2. TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION IN EDUCATION

### 2.1 Smart Board Programme

The Ratnam Foundation continues to strengthen the quality of education in Sri Lanka by promoting smart board-enabled teaching across schools in eight provinces. Smart boards play a critical role in modernizing classroom instruction by enabling teachers to move beyond traditional chalk-and-talk methods. Through interactive lessons, videos, animations, and digital resources, learning becomes more engaging, inclusive, and effective. This approach enhances student participation, improves comprehension, and supports the development of digital literacy and other 21st-century skills.

Importantly, smart board education helps bridge disparities between urban and rural schools by providing access to standardized digital content and innovative teaching practices. By expanding technology-driven classrooms, the Foundation contributes to equitable learning opportunities and prepares students to thrive in an increasingly digital world.

A total of 288 smart boards were installed across schools nationwide, as detailed below:





### Distribution of Smart Boards by Province and District

S. No	Province	Districts Covered	No. of Smart Boards
1	Uva	Badulla	1
2	Southern	Matara	1
3	Western	Colombo, Kalutara	5
4	Sabaragamuwa	Kegalle, Ratnapura	6
5	Central	Kandy, Nuwara Eliya	32
6	Eastern	Ampara, Batticaloa, Trincomalee	49
7	Northwestern	Kurunegala, Puttalam	29
8	Northern	Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Vavuniya	165
Total			288



The largest deployment occurred in the Northern Province, reflecting the Foundation's focus on supporting education in historically underserved and conflict-affected regions. These smart boards enable interactive lessons, multimedia integration, and collaborative

learning, moving beyond traditional rote-based teaching methods. Teachers reported improved student engagement, while students demonstrated greater curiosity and participation in lessons.

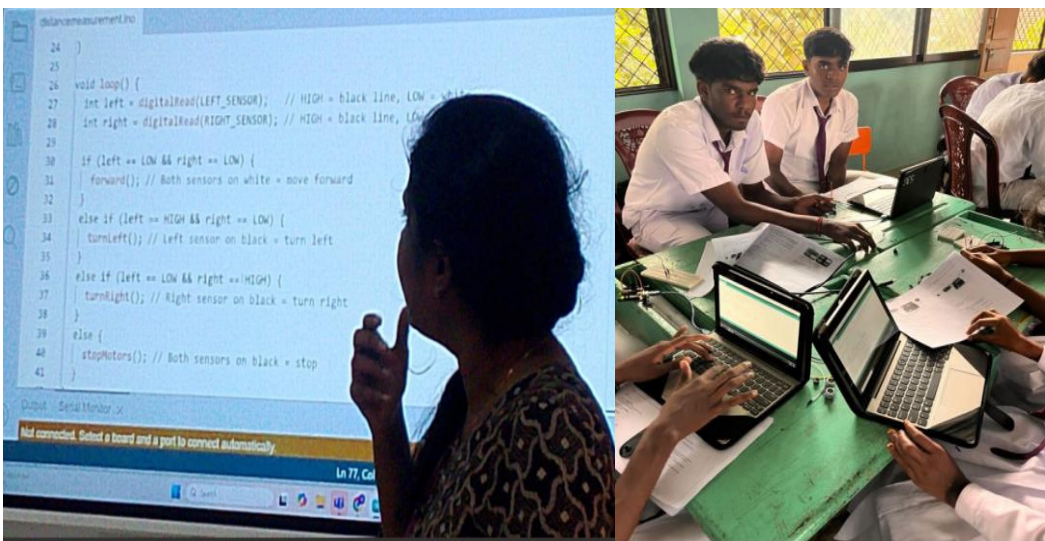
This achievement was made possible through the generous support of partners such as the International Medical Health Organization (IMHO), USA, which supported 180 schools, and Vanni Hope Australia, which contributed to 20 schools. Numerous voluntary organizations and individual donors also played a crucial role in expanding the programmes reach.

## 2.2 Robotics, IoT, and Innovation Initiatives

To promote innovation and strengthen digital literacy, the Ratnam Foundation supported the introduction of robotics and IoT education in schools across the Kilinochchi North Education Zone. A successful pilot phase demonstrated strong student interest and potential in emerging technologies. Building on this momentum, on 6 June 2025, Arduino kits were distributed to 18 schools, enabling students to gain hands-on experience in robotics, automation, and basic electronics. This practical exposure enhanced problem-solving abilities, creativity, and applied learning.

To ensure sustainability, ICT teachers from participating schools attended specialised training workshops conducted by an IoT trainer from Yarl IT HUB, with support from the district coordinator. This capacity-building initiative strengthened local teaching expertise and enabled teachers to independently guide students in technology-based learning.

Students actively participated in innovation platforms, including the Yarl Geek Challenge (YGC) 2025, Sri Lanka's premier technology and entrepreneurship competition. At the provincial level, students from Kili/Paranthan Hindu Maha Vidyalayam achieved notable success, with Mr. P. Powsikan securing first place in Hardware Application and Mr. C. Kovarththan winning third place in Application of Science, highlighting the programme's effectiveness.



# கிளிநொச்சி வலய மாணவருக்கு Arduino Kit வழங்கிவைப்பு

**Ratnam Foundation (UK)**  
**அமைப்பினருக்கு நன்றி**

கிளிநொச்சி வடக்கு வலயத் தொகுப்பின் மாணவர்களின் புத்தாக்கத் திறனை விரைந்தி செய்வதற்கும், Technology, IOT பயிற்சிகளை வழங்கும் நோக்குடனும், புத்தாக்கப் போட்டிகளில் பங்குபற்றும் மாணவர்களின் தொகையினை அறி



கரிப்பதற்காகவும், IT துறையில் அம்மாணவர்களின் ஆர்வத்தை அதிகரிக்கும் முகமாகவும், Ratnam Foundation (UK) அமைப்பினரின் நிதிப்பங்களிப்புடன் 06.06.2025 ஆத் திகதி கிளிநொச்சி வடக்கு வலயப் பாடசாலைகளுக்கு 26 Arduino Kit கள் கிளிநொச்சி வடக்கு வலயக் கல்வி அலுவலகத் தின் கேட்போர் கூடத்தில் நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்வில் வழங்கி வைக்கப் பட்டன.

அந்நிகழ்வில் Yarl IT HUB நிறுவனத்தின் கிளிநொச்சி மாவட்ட இணைப்பாளரின் உதவியுடன் அந்நிறுவனத்தின் IOT வளவாளினால்

கிளிநொச்சி வடக்கு வலயப் பாடசாலைகளில் ICT பாடத்தினை கற்பிக்கும் ஆசிரியர்களுக்கான Robotic Technology, IOT தொடர்பான திறன் விரைந்திச் செயலமர்வும் நடத்தப்பட்டது.

அத்துடன் கிளிநொச்சி வடக்கு வலயக் கல்வி அலுவலகப் பிரதிக் கல்விப் பணிப்பாளரிடமிருந்திருந்த ராஜிகா பாடசாலைகளுக்கு Arduino Kit வழங்கிவைத்த Ratnam Foundation (UK) அமைப்பினருக்கு நன்றி தெரிவித்துக் கொண்டோம். இந்நிகழ்வின் மூலம் மாணவர்களின் புத்தாக்கத் திறனை விரைந்தியாகும் என்ற நம்பிக்கையையும் அவர் தெரிவித்தார்.

To further deepen technical competencies, an IoT and Robotics Workshop was conducted for students in the Kilinochchi Education Zone. The workshop aimed to equip students with future-ready skills in innovation, engineering, and problem-solving through practical exposure to sensors, controllers, automation tools, and robotics kits. Expected outcomes include the formation of robotics clubs, strengthened STEM career aspirations, and long-term technology-driven development in the Kilinochchi region.

## 3. EMPOWERING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

### 3.1 Leadership Training for Students in Kilinochchi and Valikamam Zones

With the financial support of the Ratnam Foundation and Solve Foundation, Visions Global Empowerment successfully implemented leadership training programmes for school students in the Kilinochchi North and Valikamam Education Zones. These initiatives aimed to nurture confident, socially







Building on this success, a similar five-day leadership training was conducted from 24–28 March at J/Thanthai Selva Primary School for 42 students from four schools in the Valikamam Zone. Students in Grades 6–9 engaged in leadership-based participatory activities, daily planning exercises, and the development of individual self-development plans. The training enhanced students' leadership capacity and equipped them to apply these skills effectively within their schools and communities.

## 3.2 Leadership Training for Career Development

A five-day Leadership Training for Careers programme was jointly conducted by Visions Global Empowerment and the Ratnam Foundation in collaboration with the Career Guidance Unit of Vavuniya University. Delivered in English, the programme engaged 35 undergraduate students from the Faculty of Business Studies, representing Sinhala, Muslim, and Tamil communities.



The training focused on personal growth, career readiness, leadership development, and self-reflection, enabling students to prepare individual self-development plans.





Implemented as a year-long initiative with ongoing monitoring, participants worked in groups to design action plans addressing social issues such as entrepreneurship, environmental protection, technology awareness, and waste management. The programme concluded with a certificate award ceremony graced by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Atputharajah, with participants highly appreciating the inclusive and English-medium approach.

## 4. DISASTER RESPONSE AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF: CYCLONE DITWAH



Cyclone Ditwah caused widespread devastation across Sri Lanka, affecting nearly 1.8 million people, claiming over 600 lives, and resulting in an estimated USD 4 billion in damage. Torrential rains triggered severe flooding and landslides, inundating almost 1.1 million hectares of land and displacing more than 450,000 families to safety

centres. Homes, schools, and essential services were destroyed, leaving over 275,000 children in urgent need of clean water, sanitation, and healthcare. The disaster highlighted Sri Lanka's vulnerability to extreme weather events, particularly in coastal and landslide-prone areas.





## 5. HONOURING GRADE 5 SCHOLARSHIP ACHIEVERS



On 8 February 2025, the Ratnam Foundation proudly honoured over 200 Grade 5 Scholarship winners from the Kilinochchi Educational Zone at a special ceremony held at the Kilinochchi Cooperative Association Auditorium. The event was attended by key educational dignitaries from the zone, highlighting the importance placed on academic excellence and early achievement. In addition to recognising the students, more than 100 head teachers and class teachers were also honoured in appreciation of their dedication, guidance, and continuous support in nurturing young learners.

The Grade 5 Scholarship Examination is a significant milestone in a child's educational journey, demanding discipline, perseverance, and resilience at a very young age. Many of these students balanced rigorous academic preparation with the everyday challenges of childhood, demonstrating exceptional commitment and determination. Publicly celebrating their success not only validates their hard work but also reinforces the value of education, curiosity, and goal setting.







For the students, this recognition serves as a powerful source of motivation, building confidence and encouraging them to dream bigger and strive for continued excellence. For teachers and school leaders, the event reaffirmed the vital role they play in shaping future generations. Overall, the ceremony reflected the Ratnam Foundation's continued commitment to investing in education and empowering young minds to realise their full potential.

## 6. RATNAM FOUNDATION EDUCATION CENTRE AT THE CENTRE FOR CHILD AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT



The Ratnam Foundation Education Centre was established to support children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds who are often left behind within the mainstream education system. Guided by the belief that every child has an equal right to quality education, the programme aims to help these students reach academic levels comparable to their peers, enabling them to attend school with confidence and dignity.

In 2018, two learning centres were established in Kondavil and Thirunelveli



under the Centre for Child and Youth Empowerment. Currently, more than 200 students from Grades 1 to 10 benefit from the programme. The centres provide academic support in core subjects alongside basic computer education, helping students strengthen both learning foundations and digital skills.

Many of the children come from single-parent families, and some have lost both parents. Without consistent academic support, mentoring, and encouragement, these students face a high risk of school dropout and early entry into child labour. Through this initiative, the Ratnam Foundation plays a vital role in safeguarding children's education and nurturing their long-term academic and personal development.

## **7. INTEREST-FREE MICROCREDIT SCHEME**

Building on the success of last year's pilot initiative, the interest-free microcredit scheme was expanded to a new village identified for its high number of women-led households and families living below the poverty line. These groups often face significant challenges in accessing formal financial services, particularly small loans needed for agriculture, home-based enterprises, or livelihood activities.



The programme is designed to reduce financial stress while creating pathways for sustainable income generation. Following a careful, transparent, and community-based selection process, ten individuals with urgent capital needs were identified. Each beneficiary received an interest-free loan, repayable over a ten-month period, ensuring affordability and minimizing financial risk.



Beyond providing immediate financial assistance, the initiative seeks to empower households to invest confidently in their livelihoods, enhance self-reliance, and strengthen local economic activity. By promoting responsible borrowing and supporting small-scale entrepreneurship, the interest-free microcredit scheme contributes to long-term resilience, dignity, and economic stability within vulnerable communities.



## 8. DIABETIC CENTRE AT MOOLAI HOSPITAL

The Diabetic Centre at Moolai Hospital plays a vital role in improving the health and well-being of the local community by providing specialised care, education, and long-term support for individuals living with diabetes. The centre facilitates early diagnosis, regular monitoring, and effective disease management, significantly reducing the risk of complications. It also serves as a platform for awareness programmes, nutritional guidance, and lifestyle counselling, empowering patients and their families to adopt healthier practices.



Established in 2005, the Ratnam Foundation has been a steadfast supporter of the Tamil community in Jaffna, responding to the high prevalence of diabetes with sustained commitment. Even during challenging periods such as the Sri Lankan civil war and Cyclone Ditwah, the centre ensured uninterrupted access to essential medications, reflecting the dedication of the hospital administration.

Over the years, the centre has become a lifeline for thousands, recording more than 46,000 patient visits and contributing over Rs. 11 million towards diabetes care. The expert guidance of consultant endocrinologist Dr. M. Aravinthan has further strengthened the centre's impact, offering patients hope and continuity of care for a healthier future.



## 9. CORRECTIONAL REHABILITATION INITIATIVE FOR DRUG-DEPENDENT OFFENDERS – JAFFNA PRISON

Drug addiction has emerged as a major contributor to rising incarceration rates and severe prison overcrowding in Sri Lanka. Jaffna Prison alone houses nearly 800 inmates affected by substance dependency. The recurring cycle of addiction, reoffending, and imprisonment underscores the urgent need for structured rehabilitation and reintegration interventions.

To respond to this challenge, the Ratnam Foundation, in collaboration with the International Medical Health Organisation (IMHO), USA, initiated a comprehensive correctional rehabilitation programme combining therapeutic support with vocational skills development.

The programme aims to equip drug-dependent offenders with market-relevant vocational skills that enhance employability and promote sustainable livelihoods after release. By strengthening self-reliance and income-generation capacity, the initiative seeks to reduce relapse into substance abuse and criminal activity while fostering long-term social stability.

### 9.1 Tailoring Training Programme

The first phase of the initiative focused on women inmates through a tailoring training programme. Launched on 13 April 2004 by Dr. Rajam Theivendram, President of IMHO, the course was implemented under the supervision of the National Institute of Technical and Academic Institutions (NITA). The training enhanced participants' technical skills, self-confidence, and readiness for self-employment or small-scale entrepreneurship.

Total beneficiaries: 30 women across three batches.

### 9.2 Welding Training Programme



Officially inaugurated on 17 August 2024, the welding training programme provides hands-on, industry-aligned skills for male inmates. Follow-up monitoring confirmed that several released participants are now employed as welders and earning stable incomes.

Total beneficiaries: 25 men across two batches.

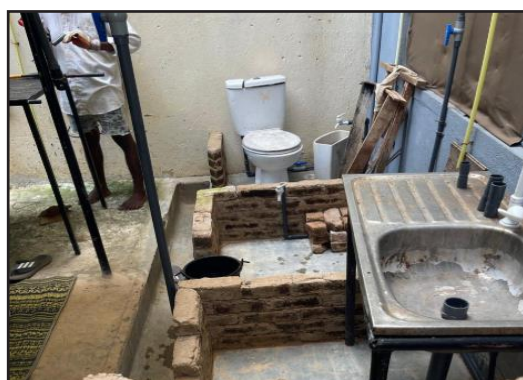
### 9.3 Computer Training Course

Commencing in January 2025, this course delivers basic computer literacy and digital skills essential for today's technology-driven job market. Participants demonstrated strong motivation and high satisfaction with the training.

Total beneficiaries: 18 prisoners across two batches.



### 9.4 Multiple Skills Training Programme



Launched in February 2025, this programme offers training in masonry, electrical work, and plumbing. The multi-skill approach increases employment flexibility and post-release job opportunities.

Total beneficiaries: 20 prisoners across two batches.

## 10. SMALL PROJECTS

The small projects reflect our commitment to supporting inclusive education, child wellbeing, and community development. Through targeted school-based interventions and essential infrastructure support, we aim to enhance learning environments and student outcomes. Each initiative addresses practical needs while promoting long-term personal and social development. Together, they demonstrate the impact of modest yet meaningful investments in underserved communities.

# 10.1 Promoting Home Gardening in Schools

560 students from Grade 6 to Grade 9 were actively involved in establishing model gardens in eight schools namely J/Myliddy North Kalaimakal Maha Vidyalayam, J/Tellippalai Union College, J/Piranpattu Kalaimakal Vidyalayam, J/Varany Central College, J/Navatkuli Maha Vidyalayam, J/Chavakachery Hindu College, J/Imayanan GTM Vidyalayam and J/Kottawathai American Mission College. This initiative was in response to a request from the school and aimed to further support the Life Skills Education program implemented by Visions Global Empowerment in these schools.

**Table 2 – Students involved in the School Gardening**

S. No	Leadership Skills	Boys	Girls	Total
1	J/Myliddy North Kalaimakal Maha Vidyalayam	37	30	67
2	J/Tellippalai Union College	87	44	131
3	J/Piranpattu Kalaimakal Vidyalayam	37	27	64
4	J/Varany Central College	10	12	22
5	J/Navatkuli Maha Vidyalayam	10	14	24
6	J/Chavakachery Hindu College	45	20	65
7	J/Imayanan GTM Vidyalayam	40	34	74
8	J/Kottawathai American Mission College	64	49	113
<b>Total</b>		<b>330</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>560</b>

The support provided for this project included various plants and seeds, such as lady's finger, brinjal, chilly, tomato, bitter gourd, snake gourd, pumpkin, tomato, beans, and more. The primary objective was to encourage the practice of home-based cultivation, a tradition followed in the past, among the school children. This initiative served the dual purpose of promoting food security and encouraging self-reliance in food and vegetable production at the household level. The 10 schools were able to have a yield of more than 80 kgs of brinjal, chilly, tomato, ladies finger, and beans from the home garden till now and use it for cooking mid-day meals.

The home gardening initiative at Myliddy North Kaliamahal Maha Vidyalayam has seen remarkable success. The students enthusiastically engaged in planting and maintaining the garden. The project has been productive, yielding over 20 kilograms of fresh produce that has been utilized in the school kitchen to prepare nutritious midday meals for students.

## 10.2 Support for Children with Learning Difficulties

Table 3 – Catch up Classes’ Beneficiaries

S. No	Leadership Skills	Boys	Girls	Total
1	J/Piranpattu Kalaimakal Vidyalayam	9	3	12
2	J/Drieberg College	8	2	10
3	J/Imayanan GTM Vidyalayam	13	3	16
Total		30	8	38

Three catch up classes were conducted in J/Imayanan GTM Vidyalayam, J/Drieberg College and J/Piranpattu Kalaimakal Vidyalayam for 38 children identified with difficulties in reading and writing of mother tongue. This initiative was launched in response to a request made by the school principal, acknowledging the pressing need for foundational literacy support in the area. The schools witnessed progress in reading and writing skills of six children and thereby, the improved students have been put into the mainstreaming regular classes.

In the student catchment areas of these schools, many parents are self-employed, and students often engage in income-generating activities, which have contributed to a lack of awareness regarding the importance of education. As a result, several students have fallen behind in basic reading and writing skills at Grade 6. The classes are conducted daily during the early periods by the capable / trained teachers and are supervised by the Principals. The programme is being implemented effectively with the use of specially prepared training manuals provided to both students and the teacher.

While these students may not achieve the highest academic performance, the primary aim of this initiative is to ensure that every student is put into mainstream education with required skills of reading and writing and leaves school with the ability to read and write.

## 10.3 Promoting Reading Habits

Regular reading enriches knowledge, improves concentration, and strengthens language skills. It also fosters empathy and cultural understanding, shaping thoughtful and well-rounded individuals. To encourage reading habits among students, books were sponsored for prize winners in the following schools:

- Thavalai Saiva Tamil Vidyasalai
- Sithankerny Sri Ganesha Vidyasalai
- Vaddu Hindu College
- Araly Saraswathy Vidyasalai



## 10.4 Tube Well Project – KG/Golinda Tamil Vidyalayam



Golinder Tamil Vidyalayam, located in Kegalle District, serves students from Grades 1 to 11 in the Tamil medium. Due to the lack of a reliable water supply, the school faced significant challenges. With donor support, a tube well and pipeline system were installed, ensuring continuous access to clean water for students and staff.

## 10.5 Support to J/ Vaddu West A.M.T.M. School



Founded in 1909 to serve underprivileged families, J/Vaddu West A.M.T.M. School currently educates 61 students from 53 economically vulnerable households. Support provided during the year included:

- Salary support for a temporary English teacher
- Donation of 71 children's books to the Arul Aham Library
- Provision of electric fans
- Transport support for Provincial Competitions in Kilinochchi

## 10.6 Small Donations

In addition to major programme interventions, small yet timely donations were provided to address immediate educational and community needs. These contributions supported learning resources, child-friendly facilities, healthcare services, and food assistance. Such targeted support helped strengthen institutions and improve wellbeing at the grassroots level. Additional support included in the form of donations are:



- Yarlini Pre-School – miscellaneous items
- Araly Valliamman Memorial School – playground materials
- Imayanan GTM Vidyalayam – repair of play equipment
- Uthyapuram Tamil Vidyalayam – science practical materials
- Donation of two laptops to Moolai Hospital (23.07.2025)
- Vaddukoddai East Thuraddippani Muthumari Ambal Paripalana Sabai – food assistance for the needy.

## V. KEY OUTCOMES IN 2025

**Ratnam Foundation Scholarship Programme:** Supported 18 disadvantaged university students with monthly scholarships, enhancing academic continuity, confidence, and leadership skills. Beneficiaries reported improved motivation and a stronger commitment to contribute to their communities.

**Technology Integration in Education:** Installation of 288 smart boards across eight provinces and the introduction of robotics and IoT kits enabled interactive, technology-driven learning. Students demonstrated increased engagement, problem-solving abilities, and digital literacy. Teachers gained skills to sustain innovative teaching practices.

**Leadership Development:** Leadership workshops for school and university students improved self-confidence, teamwork, communication, and planning skills. Participants reported applying these skills in academic and community contexts.

**Disaster Response – Cyclone Ditwah:** Distribution of 325 relief packs provided essential food, hygiene, and medical items to affected families, alleviating immediate hardship and supporting early recovery.

**Education Centres and Small Projects:** Over 200 children benefited from academic support and digital literacy at Kondavil and Thirunelveli centres. Home gardening, reading promotion, learning support for children with difficulties, and small infrastructure projects enhanced holistic learning, student wellbeing, and school environments.

**Livelihood and Health Initiatives:** Interest-free microloans empowered 10 women-led households to generate sustainable income. Diabetic Centre at Moolai Hospital supported over 46,000 patient visits, improving health outcomes.

**Correctional Rehabilitation:** Vocational training for prisoners improved employability, confidence, and social reintegration, with participants securing stable employment.

## VI. PERCENTAGE OF FINANCIAL DISTRIBUTION FOR INTERVENTIONS

S. No	Programmes	% of Funds Disbursement
1	Ratnam Foundation Scholarship Programme	5.2%
2	Technology Integration in Education	53.44%
3	Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders Rehabilitation Initiative for Prisoners	6.2%
4	Disaster Response	8.95%
5	Education Support Activities Small Projects	22.19%
6	Interest Free Loan Programme	0
7	Health	4.02%
Grand Total		100%

## VII. CLOSING NOTE

The journey of the Tamil community in Sri Lanka has been shaped by extraordinary challenges - from the long shadows of war and the disruption of the pandemic to the devastation of Cyclone Ditwah, economic hardship, and the growing social challenges faced by our youth. These trials have tested our resilience and impacted our cultural, educational, and social foundations.

Yet, despite these adversities, we have continued to move forward. Each step, no matter how small, reflects the collective strength, determination, and spirit of our community. What may seem like a single effort is, in reality, part of a larger tide of renewal and hope.

This progress has only been possible through your unwavering support, guidance, and encouragement. Your partnership serves as a compass, helping us navigate challenges and stay focused on our mission of building sustainable development and empowering communities.

As we welcome the new year, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all who have walked this journey with us. May the coming year bring peace, joy, and prosperity to you and your loved ones. Together, let us continue to nurture hope, strengthen communities, and shape a brighter future for generations to come.

With sincere appreciation,

**Dr. Ratnam Niththyananthan**

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