

Report on the Global Service Project of the SS/O

Project Background

"Serve The Planet" is a global service project of the Sathya Sai International Organisation. Its aim is to unite Sathya Sai volunteers around the world for a common service project in their respective zones, countries, regions and cities. For the first time, it is done on the same day around the globe.

This will allow our organization to translate Swami's message of "Love in Action" into practice at the very same moment, in unity and harmony as well as creating a resound in our local communities.

Participation by the general public is also encouraged to further help spread His message. Our working hands will be a prayer for the world, around the world.

Selected Date & Theme

This inspiring service project took place on Sunday **20**th **October 2013**. It was on this date in 1940 when our dearest Lord Sri Sathya Sai, founder of this precious spiritual organization, declared His Divine mission to re-establish the practice of Human Values in the world.

The selected theme on this occasion was "Feeding the Needy". This report reflects the loving services that have been carried out across the globe and clearly, it has been a great opportunity to strengthen the feeling of Unity as well as create an echo in our communities.

Our heartfelt **gratitude** to you dearest Swami for always guiding us, walking with us and inspiring us at every step we take. May we continue to be worthy instruments in your Divine hands.

"The core of the spiritual discipline of Service is to see everyone as yourself and yourself in everyone.

You are not doing service to others,

you are doing service to yourselves,

to the God in you who is equally present in all."

~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba (November 21, 1981)







Reports received from four Sathya Sai
Centres and Groups.
700 people served
(approx.).



- On Saturday Oct.19th, hot meals were served in a Community Centre.
- On STP day, organized visits and distribution of food took place in shelters, on the streets, a park & locations where there are many homeless and people in need.
- Members spent STP day serving breakfast, lunch and dinner to the homeless.
- © Companies such as "Starbucks" and "No Frills" collaborated by donating 100 cups of coffee and donating 40 loafs of bread, 150 cereal bars, 50 bottles of water and 150 bottles of green tea, respectively.







Reports received from six Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

5820 people served.

(approx.)

- @ Gathered at a local food bank to prepare 4700 packed bags ready to be delivered to low income seniors.
- A soup-kitchen service activity at a women's shelter; guided meditation sessions, stress relieving exercises and dancing were organized, to everyone's delight.
- © Collaboration with a group of churches who have set up a unique shelter providing hot lunches, haircuts, showers and clean clothes.
- Offering over 1000 meals on the streets meals were cooked and then assembly stations were set up to pack and distribute the food appropriately.

vvest







Reports received from five Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

1380 people served
(approx.).

- In Guyana, meals were prepared and served to people in old-age homes, those in need in villages, children and needy families, people at a night shelter and children in convalescent homes.
- In Suriname, youth, adults and SSE students cooked and distributed meals to homeless people.



"The inherent benefits derived from Service go beyond all limits. Service purifies the heart, strengthens the spirit, puts an end to personal interest and ennobles our perspective. It demonstrates that Unity is the very essence of human nature."

~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba (Sanathana Sarathi, December 1987)



Dominican Republic





100 participants (approx.) (including members and people served)

- Por several months, members have been teaching Human Values in a community. They are also teaching the children and adults how to read and write.
- On STP day, food was prepared and served to this community of people living in extreme poverty. Beverages such as coffee and tea were also served. The youth went house to house and distributed food and clothes.

El Salvador

Food was prepared and served on the streets and in a park.



Reports received from two Sathya Sai Centres and Groups. 256 people served



Guatemala



Breakfast, including coffee and tea was prepared and served to people waiting for their family members at the emergency room of a national hospital.













Reports received from nine Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

- Food was prepared and distributed to the needy on the streets & homeless immigrants.
- Youth, visited their local general hospitals and served food to the needy.
- We Human Values classes were given to children in their communities and they were served breakfast.





Panama



50 participants (approx.) (including members and people served)



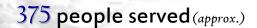
- The youth prepared and served food in a nursery home of the Red Cross.
- @ Bags with cleaning supplies, such as disinfectant, etc. were also delivered.
- Additionally, supplies such as grains, cereal, oil, milk, pasta and rice were distributed.



Brazil

serve the

Food was distributed to the homeless living on the streets.





Colombia







Reports received from two Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

- Members visited the families of the children of Prema Sai School to see the impact of Human Values on children as well as parents. Yogurt and cookies were also distributed.
- @ Bags with several items of food were distributed to families in need. Recreational activities for the children in the neighbourhood were also organised.









Reports received from five Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

- Services in hospitals: distributing breakfast, sandwiches, cakes and juices to the families of patients, mainly in the area of intensive care. Every meal was accompanied by an inspiring quote from Swami.
- Services in nursing homes fruits, juices and biscuits were distributed and entertainment was provided.
- Maintenance, painting and re-decorating of the Sathya Sai School.
- Worked with a local association for the conservation of the environment by providing hydration, snacks, logistical support and making the "Liz Flower" (universal symbol) with recycled cans.

"However, do not think that you will reform the world through Service. Maybe you will or maybe not. This does not matter. The real value of Service, its most visible result, is that it reforms you."

~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba (Sathya Sai Speaks vol. 5, chapter 66)



Australia



Reports received from 69 Sathya Sai Centres & Groups.



- Morning tea and concerts for seniors.
- Assembly of more than 600 birthing kits for disadvantaged women.
- Collection and distribution of grocery items for disadvantaged families and refugees.
- Blood donations drive.
- Service activity for mentally challenged people.
- Service projects for the Sathya Sai school.





Reports received from six Sathya Sai Centres & Groups.

Local community served.

- National tree planting initiative. A six months project that promoted planting of trees and vegetables at homes, Sai centres, Sai school and public schools.
- @ National oratory contest for SSE students.
- Art contest for youth and adults.







Reports received from 12 Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

- A community event took place at the Sathya Sai pre-school in Otara. Creative activities representing the 5 Human Values, presentations by children from the SSO and the local community, free medical check-ups, a healthy living stand with freshly prepared meals served, a traditional sports event, and tree planting of selected fruit and native trees around the school campus were included.
- Fresh fruit buns were provided to children of three primary schools and 600 book marks with Swami's messages were distributed to them.
- Other activities around the country included: a soup-kitchen, cooking for relatives of hospitalized children, picnics for children, blood donation, a park restoration project, cleaning a beach, rubbish picking and youth on a bus singing devotional songs.

"Everyone must strive to promote the peace and welfare of the world. You must broaden your outlook and shed the narrow concern about your own well-being. Recognize the basic truth that your individual well-being is bound up with the well-being of all."

- Sri Sathya Sai Baba (April 10, 1986)



ndonesia







Reports received from 24 Sathya Sai Centres

and Groups.

- Prepared food packages and cooked meals were served. Additional items distributed included bedding, personal hygiene items and clothing. Homeless, poor children, street cleaners & singers, rickshaw drivers, garbage landfills workers, senior citizens and needy families benefited from these services.
- SSE students practiced the Ceiling on Desires programme to prepare grocery packages which were distributed to the poor, door-to-door.
- Food distribution took place in two hospitals and an Old Folks Home.
- Other service activities carried out included: medical clinics, blood donations, cleaning the surroundings, cow-feeding, hair-cutting and entertainment programmes for senior citizens, a house reconstruction and repairing and painting of a Sai Centre.



Malaysia



Reports received from 18 Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

- © Cooked meals and other provisions were distributed in children's homes followed by games. A youth group has officially adopted one of these homes.
- Food was cooked at the Sai school and distributed to people in a dilapidated area which is planned to be adopted.
- A free vegetarian food fair was organised.
- Additionally, food was provided to poor families, refugees, street dwellers and two homes.





Myanmar



- Feeding needy patients at a government hospital.
- Providing food to orphan & needy children.
- From the 10th-13th October, essential goods were distributed to 50 needy families.
- A medical camp was organised.
- A 4 day SSEHV teacher training programme was conducted.









Reports received from 198 Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

- The youth played a leading role in the STP project.
- Over 5000 people were served cooked food. Blankets, clothes, packets of raw food items were also distributed.
- Blood donations were conducted at a few Centres by youth.
- The SSS Central Trust in Nepal has launched a Sri Sathya Sai Community Drinking Water Project in a very remote hilly area of eastern Nepal that would serve 335 families and students of a community school.









- Food distribution in September at Whitefield to needy families.
- Oistribution of snacks to village residents and feeding workers.
- Serving food rations to a Health Centre run by the Sathya Sai social service for needy families.
- Serving the Sun Love/Surya Home residents with lunch and providing entertainment.
- "Willing Hearts" programme by youth a soup kitchen providing 3000 free meals daily to the needy.

Sri Lanka

- Ory ration packs & cooked meals were served to the needy and lunch packets were distributed to recently resettled people.
- Youth, elders and senior devotees participated.









- On 19th October a beach was cleaned.
- On STP day, lunch was provided for boys and staff of a Boys Foundation. Games were organised and chocolate, notebooks and pencils were also given.
- Packets of food were distributed to workers of a construction site.
- An orphanage was visited where lunch and basic necessities were given.
- Lunch was served and clothes packets were distributed in an old age home.

"What was the intention that prompted you to do Service? You may measure the service and boast about its quantity but, God seeks quality of the heart, purity of the mind & sacredness of the motive."

~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba (November 19, 1981)



China



21 Participants.

Mentally challenged children of two orphanages were served. A truckload of blankets, bed sheets and pillow cases were distributed to the orphanages.





Hong Kong







310 people served (approx.)

- @ Breakfast service took place which provided morning nourishment to street sleepers. Packets consisting of cup noodles, homemade dumplings, sandwich, biscuits, cake, fruit, water and 3-in-1 tea mixtures were distributed.
- In the afternoon, hot vegetarian meals were cooked and distributed to street sleepers.
- Service also was carried out at Cage Homes, where residents are mostly elderly who live in dilapidated conditions. In three cities 13 homes were visited where rice bags were distributed to each family.
- Additionally, two special projects: "Switch off to Switch On" and "Say a prayer to Mother Earth" were organized to celebrate the Avatar Declaration Day. Also an event entitled "Children – Our Future" was organized by EHV students, parents and youth.









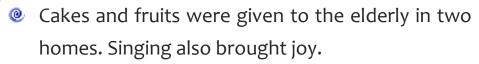
- Food was distributed in various cities.
- Three tents were arranged due to the weather conditions. Rice and vegetable curry was served. A packet containing a banana, bread and some sweets was also given. Hot Japanese tea was served as well. Finally, a packet containing a soap and a napkin was also distributed.



aiwan



Service in two homes for the elderly and in an hospital.



A women and children's hospital was visited. A goodie bag with a handmade stuffed-toy (heart), a CD of EHV songs on Love & some cookies with a message from Swami was distributed to each child. Packets of cookies containing Swami's messages were also distributed to the parents and relatives of the children. A performance of EHV songs was organized as well.



"Love more and more people,
love them more intensely.

Transform the love into Service;
transform the Service into worship.

That is the highest spiritual practice."

- Sri Sathya Sai Baba (Sathya Sai Speaks vol. 1)

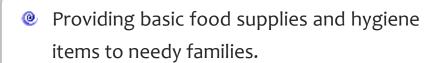


Bosnia





Reports received from three Sathya Sai Centres and Groups. 39 people served







Reports received from 20 Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.



- Serving hot meals on the streets.
- Providing basic food supplies, hygiene items, clothes, etc. to needy families.
- Serving food to elderly and visiting old-age homes and sharing food.



France



Reports received from one Sathya Sai Centre. 125 people served (approx.)



- Distribution of food bags for immediate consumption as well as bags with preserved food for homeless people.
- Personal hygiene items were also given.



Greece



Reports received from six Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

- A celebration with cooked food, music and dance for poor families.
- ② Distribution of food, as well as blankets, clothes, toys, beds, mattresses, etc. to the homeless.
- Sharing food with mentally challenged patients.





Reports received from 15 Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

- Distribution of hot meals for lunch and dinner to the needy (a local newspaper reported this).
- ② Distribution of pre-packed food to poor families and the homeless sleeping in train stations.
- Serving the needy in collaboration with other local associations.







80 people served (approx.)

The Sai Center supported 80 youth from a village together with their mothers and educators. Most of them had been taken in 1993 from orphanages to newly established homes. Now they are students or working in good jobs. On STP day, a celebration was held for them.

Serbia



Reports received from two Sathya Sai Sathya Sai Centres & Groups. 15 people served.

Providing bags of food to homeless people living on the streets.





Slovenia



Reports received from three Sathya Sai Centres & Groups. 108 people served (approx.)

- Helping needy families with food and clothes since August. Helping with painting and cleaning their houses.
- Feeding the homeless in collaboration with a local association.





Reports received from eight Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.
720 people served (approx.)

- Gathering food for local food banks.
- Feeding the homeless at shelters, on the streets.
- Distributing food to needy families.
- Serving food to the homeless (a local newspaper reported this service being rendered for more than 20 years and the international STP project.)
- © Caring for and providing food to injured and abandoned animals living in a vegan sanctuary.

Solidaridad y entrega más allá de la religión

Los miembros de la organización Sathya Sai acuden como voluntarios los domingos al comedor de Cáritas Amparo R. Montero | 18.10.2013 | 23:52

"Ama a todos. Sirve a todos". Cuando se trata de darse a los demás y ayudar a quienes más lo necesitan, religiones y culturas quedan relegadas a ese plano que todos posicionan en segundo lugar ante la primacía de otras cuestiones. Al comedor de Cáritas, solo los domingos, acuden más de un centenar de personas. A su atención y cuidado se dedica un número de voluntarios más reducido, pero vital para llevar a cabo la asistencia. Entre esos incondicionales que trabajan de manera altruista, se encuentran los miembros de la Organización Sathya Sai (OSS). La asociación espiritual no religiosa, desde hace



Miembros de la asociación Sathya Sai, ayer, en su centro de

más de dos décadas, pone en práctica las enseñanzas de su maestro en el centro situado en Escaleritas. Mañana es un día especial para ellos.

Por primera vez, todos los centros y grupos OSS del mundo van a trabajar de manera conjunta para llevar a cabo un proyecto común: Servir al planeta a través de la alimentación a los más necesitados. En el caso de la capital será el comedor de la institución católica el lugar para ponerlo en práctica, sobre todo, con la "actitud". La fecha elegida es mañana, al coincidir con el día en el que en 1960 Sathya Sai declaró su firme misión de trabajar para ayudar a restablecer los valores humanos.

Switzerland





Reports received from seven Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.
120 people served (approx.)

- @ Gathering non-perishable food and offering it to a monk to distribute to the needy on his "magic table".
- Collecting winter items for an asylum.
- Serving food to homeless people.
- Blood donations.

"Before embarking on a Service project,
one must introspect and examine whether one's heart
is full of selfless love, humility & compassion;
whether one's hands are eager to offer the
healing touch; whether one is ready to
share time and energy to help others in need."

~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba (November 21, 1986)









Reports received from 150 people served (approx.)

- STP was integrated into the annual National Meeting, which took place on October 19th-20th.
- Food was cooked for the needy (soup, main dish & dessert) and delivered along with homemade pralines and gifts.
- © Children and adults prepared packed lunch (fruit, sandwich, cake, cookies & drink) for the homeless in a hostel. This will take place every 4 months from here on.
- Additionally, choir-singing was organised at an old-age home and gifts were distributed.



Homeless Shelter

Czech Republic



70 people served (approx.)



Warm food was served in a shelter for the homeless.

Denmark







Reports Received from five Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

- The poor were served soup, sandwiches, cookies, fruit and coffee on the streets. Parcels with clothes were also distributed.
- Refreshments were served to refugees at the Red Cross Asylum Centre. The tables were decorated with autumn leaves and candles.
- Soup, sandwiches, cakes and coffee were served in a settlement for the homeless. Clothes were gifted. Also, a music performance with songs from the Love All Serve All songbook of the Danish Sai organization took place.



- Jars of jam and small candy packets with inspiring quotes were prepared for prisoners and were distributed during the church services conducted in the jail.
- © Cooked food was served at a day-care centre for the homeless, at a local organisation serving the homeless and at hostels for homeless men.
- In one case "love packages" with fresh, home-baked muffins, various chocolates, golden candy and a big cake made of poppy-seeds were given out. The parcels were wrapped with a red ribbon and the words "I have JOY in my HEART". Gift bags with Swami's quotes were also prepared.
- @ Games and creative activities were organised in a refugee camp. Fresh waffles were served to the children.

Netherlands





- On October 19th youth took the elderly for a walk.
- Weed was removed in an elderly handicapped citizen's garden. New plants were also planted.
- Indian and Surinam dishes were prepared and served to the homeless living in a shelter.
- Additionally, choir-singing was organised at an old-age home and gifts were distributed.
- Food was provided to a poor family and given to local food banks.
- A choir sang devotional and Christian songs at a nursing home and cooked food was provided.





Reports Received from 13 Sathya Sai Centres and Groups.

- On October 17th, a hot meal and small packages with doughnuts & sandwiches were distributed to people in need.
- On STP day, food, clothes and cleaning agents were distributed to families in need (sick, homeless, single women with children, elderly people). In many cases it was decided to continue to assist these families.
- In addition, food, clothes, blankets, cleaning agents, etc. were distributed to the poor and homeless, in a community centre for children in need, in centres for lonely women, in a centre for handicapped people and in an animal shelter. In some of these services, human values quotations were also distributed.



Belgium

A national day on Service was organised. Activities such as meditation, devotional singing, a
 presentation on selfless service and study circles took place.

Estonia

Served a needy family with wood and food. Food was also prepared at a shelter for women and children. Games were played and cakes and ice-cream were shared.

Hungary Reports Received from four Sathya Sai Centres and Groups. 260 people served (approx.)

Food was distributed to needy people in 3 homeless shelters and 1 home for the blind. Hungarian delicacies, sandwiches, fruit, biscuits, cakes and tarts were served. Local language songs about God were sung and inspiring stories were shared.



Lithuania

In 3 cities people in need were fed with nourishment for the stomach and music for the soul.

Slovakia

In addition to providing food for the needy, which is done as a regular service, on STP day the Gayatri Mantra was chanted 108 times.

Sweeden

Members collaborated with a local restaurant that provides food for homeless every Saturday. They helped with making cookies & donated food for this beautiful project. "Man is born in society. He lives in society.

He grows affluent by serving the society.

Under these circumstances, if man becomes distant from society, he will be distant from everything.

Through Service he should be able to fulfill the purpose of life."

- Sri Sathya Sai Baba (Summer Showers, Brindavan 1973)



Russia & Adjoining Countries



- On STP day hot meals (soups, cereals, tea, etc.) as well as biscuits, cakes and candies were distributed to the needy, including low-income families and people with disabilities.
- In many cities warm clothes, shoes, medical supplies and hygiene items were also distributed.
- In some cities in Russia, the food service area was cleaned in cooperation with the people who were fed.
- In one city, leaflets with Swami's quotations were given out with information on the dangers of consuming alcohol.

Russia

Siberia



Ural





Tartastan



St. Petersburg



Ukraine







"The underlying truth of service is the demonstration of the unity that subsumes the diversity in the universe. Desireless action demonstrates & promotes the principle of Love. The tendency to distinguish between the spiritual path, the path of service and the path of knowledge and regard the three of them as separate is incorrect. Service is spiritual knowledge."

~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba (November 7, 1985)



Botswana





Reports Received from one Sathya Sai Centre. 150 people served (approx.)

Children at an SOS Orphan Centre were served a hot meal, fruit and milk. This is an ongoing monthly service activity.

Gabon



40 people served (approx.)



Service was carried out at an orphanage which has 40 abandoned children. Rice, biscuits, milk, sugar and other food products were given. These products were purchased with donations given by the Sai youth.



- Kenya
- 500 people served (approx.)

- Every Sunday morning throughout the year, food is served to 450 – 500 children. On STP day, the youth took part in this service. Each child was served with a hearty portion of food consisting of: rice, beans, bread, biscuits, cupcakes, sweets, a banana and juice.
- The students and teachers of the Sathya Sai school distributed food in a residential home for 85 year old plus and other physically challenged ladies.





Mauritius



All Centres & Groups from all 8 regions

150 families served (approx.)

- Children, youth, adults and the elderly all participated together in the service activities.
- Food was distributed to the needy. The youth helped in the preparation of hampers; the service wing distributed the boxes; the EHV wing gave inspiring talks to some needy families.
- Additionally, blood donations and services at hospitals took place.

South Africa

- Regions participated in study circles on topics such as the importance of service, practicing of CoD programme, etc.
- Service was done in suburbs, towns, children homes, schools and homes for the aged.
- All areas which were served are sustained on an ongoing basis by the neighbouring centres as part of their village upliftment programmes.



13 Regions 19000 people served (approx.)







Ghana 550 people served (approx.)

Service was provided to the poor and the needy in Muslim communities on 18th Oct. This date was chosen in order to help make the Edil-Adha celebration within the Muslim communities a memorable one.

Orocco 100 people served (approx.)

Lunch was served at a school for handicapped children.

anzania One Sathya Sai Centre. 410 people served (approx.)

@ Fresh Vegetable Biryani (rice) was prepared and was taken to a mosque. The Imam of the mosque arranged a prayer session in which all members participated.





One Centre carried out services in an orphanage and at a hospital. Both concluded with a satsang and group devotional singing.

Uganda

One Sathya Sai Centre

120 people served (approx.)

• Lunch was sponsored for the 120 children at an orphanage. The youth also participated actively in this service activity.

U.K

99 Sathya Sai Centres and Groups. 1000 people served (approx.)

- Youth took lead for this global offering.
- All centres & groups donated 4.5 tonnes of food items to local food banks.
- The poor and needy were served food at homeless shelters, soup runs etc.

"The wise ones use money, strength, intelligence, skills, aptitudes and opportunities for helping others and making their lives happier. Thus, they win divine grace. For sevā (selfless service) is the highest form of worship."

~ **Sri Sathya Sai Baba** (November 21, 1985)



Abu Dhabi



70 people served (approx.)

On STP day, food packets of rice, lentils and oil were distributed to laborers belonging to various nationalities at a labor camp.



Bahrain



- On Oct. 16th, Eid holiday, food packets including rice, lentils, oil and sugar were distributed to low-income laborers belonging to various nationalities at a labor camp.
- On STP day, members cooked various food items including rice, curry, lentils, etc. at their homes and served them to laborers who had come to the monthly medical camp for free basic medical treatment. This service is done in collaboration with the Indian Community Relief Fund (ICRF) under the auspices of the Indian Embassy on a monthly basis.



Dubai



- Food packets including rice, lentils, oil, sugar, biscuits, peanuts & spices and toiletry kits were distributed to lowincome laborers belonging to various nationalities.
- The youth and pre-youth volunteers distributed a buttermilk packet, a banana and a biscuit packet to construction workers of various nationalities at their respective working sites.











- Food packets including rice, lentils, milk powder, flour, sugar, tea bags, chickpeas, oil, tomato paste, chips and chocolates were prepared and distributed to children in need in the interior villages.
- This service activity takes place on a monthly basis.

Most certainly, this international service project has been the best way to celebrate a date in which our dearest Sri Sathya Sai Baba gave His Divine proclamation to walk beside us until we recognize our true Divine identity and experience Selfless Love.

May we always remember that the ultimate and true purpose of service is the transformation of our hearts and how it reforms each one of us.

"Love All, Serve All.
Help Ever, Hurt Never."