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ABBREVIATIONS

CG	-	Colgrain (an estate division)
CSPA	-	Coordinating Secretariat for Plantation Areas
EPF	-	Employees Provident Fund
EPO	-	Estate People's Organization
ETF	-	Employees Trust Fund
FD	-	Factory Division
GK	-	Galloway Knowe (an estate division)
HM	-	Hermitage (an estate division)
HMQ	-	Hermitage Quarters (an estate division)
JVP	-	Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front)
LS	-	Leadership Seminars
LTTE	-	Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam
MOH	-	Medical Officer of Health
MoU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
PA	-	People's Alliance
SCI	-	Service Civil International
SLFP	-	Sri Lanka Freedom Party
SLMC	-	Sri Lanka Muslim Congress
TD	-	Top Division
TULF	-	Tamil United Liberation Front
UD	-	Upper Division
UNF	-	United National Front
UNP	-	United National Party
VPO	-	Village People's Organization
WD	-	West Division

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The compilation was cheerfully and perseveringly undertaken by Mangala Fernando, a psychology undergraduate of the University of Peradeniya and one of the most recent recruits to our community. Mangala sometimes felt somewhat frustrated by the delays he encountered in obtaining data and photographs, but he quickly overcame all this by recalling that our traditional and ancient culture is largely an oral and not a written one! Mangala sought and obtained the assistance of Paul Caspersz for the final drafts. The office-bearers also thank Shamala Keegal and Rohan Benjamin for their computer assistance and Sunil Fernando of our Audio-Visuals Unit for their role in the publication of this report.

The office-bearers now offer this Report to the members of Satyodaya, to the members of our EPOs and VPOs, to Donor-Partners, to other donors and well-wishers and finally to all our readers.

We shall be glad to have their comments.

10 July 2003

The Office-bearers
Satyodaya Centre

SATYODAYA CENTRE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH & ENCOUNTER ANNUAL REPORT 01.04.2002 – 31.03.2003

(incorporating the Performance Report April-September 2002)

I. Introduction

Satyodaya's last Programme Proposal was a 3-year one, 01.04.2001 – 31.03.2004. This report covers the period 01.04.2002 – 31.03.2003. We issued a 6-month Performance Report covering the period April-September 2002 early this year and sent it to all Donor-Partners. This Annual Report incorporates all the information provided in the 6-months Performance Report in such a way as to present an overall view of the work done during the year 2002-2003.

I.1 Methodology

The methodology we follow in the report of our field work is simple and direct. First, it identifies the activities planned. Secondly, it states the objectives of the planned activities or what motivated us to plan these activities. Thirdly, it identifies the activities carried out. Finally it reports the results of those activities. Therefore, it should be easy for anyone to get an idea of what we have been doing during the period, 01.04.2002 – 31.03.2003.

It will also be easy to get an idea of what we should have been doing, but were not doing, or not doing well enough.

I.2 Situational Analysis

We identify four environments or situations in which Satyodaya works: the country, the plantations, the villages and finally there is the situation in which Satyodaya itself functioned during the year under review.

We shall now briefly analyze each of these four situations.

I.3 Country Analysis

The last parliamentary elections were held on 5 December 2001. The results gave the UNF a victory that was sufficient to allow it to form a new government. The UNF won 114 seats distributed among the constituent parties of the Front as follows: UNP 109 seats, SLMC 5 seats.

The Parliamentary Opposition was formed by the PA which won 77 seats. The JVP won 16 seats, while the TULF won 15 seats and three other parties won 8 seats. The UNF was led by Ranil Wickremesinghe, declared Prime Minister by the President,

according to the Second Republican Constitution of 1978. The PA was led by Ms Chandrika Kumaratunga.

We had therefore a situation of a forceful President from the party of the Opposition and a Prime Minister from the party which formed the Government. Thus arose the need for peaceful co-habitation. Instead there was a continuous tug o'war between the two, the President claiming that she was the principal Real Executive and the Prime Minister that he was the Head of the elected Government.

To the political stage in the country there thus returned the struggle between the two main parties of the majority Sinhalese: the UNP and the SLFP. This has been the bane of the political system of the country since Bandaranaike broke away from the UNP in 1951 and formed the SLFP which today is the main constituent party of the PA. The party which commands a majority forms the Government, the other does all it can not merely to oppose the Government constitutionally but to obstruct it. So was the SLFP Agreement with the Tamils of the North in 1957 wrecked by the opposition UNP; the UNP Agreement with the Tamils in 1965 was wrecked by the SLFP and its allies; the new constitutional proposals of the PA led by the SLFP and meant to meet some of the legitimate demands of the Tamils were obstructed by the UNP. So today anything proposed by the UNF to solve the inter-ethnic problem tends to be obstructed in devious ways by the PA led by none other than the President of the country.

It was in this context that the Peace Process was initiated at the beginning of the present Parliament on 5 December 2001.

The new Government responded positively to the unilateral ceasefire declared by the LTTE on 24 December 2001. Ranil Wickremasinghe expressed the formal willingness of the government to come to the negotiation table in order to end the two-decade long war by signing the MoU on 22 Feb 2002. The 2002-2003 period was therefore dominated by the Peace Process between the Government and the LTTE. Norway acted as the facilitator/mediator between the two sides while all other Western countries and Japan openly expressed support for the Peace Process and encouraged the LTTE and the UNF to come to a settlement.

The Ceasefire was greeted with enormous delight by almost all the people in the country, both Sinhalese and Tamils. People were seen engaging in their proverbial carefree manner in all sorts of celebrations during the year. The overwhelming majority showed keen interest to keep the Peace Process going in order to end the bloody war and to ensure its culmination in a political settlement, just and honourable to all sides.

But there are some groups who do not favour the Peace Process as it has been conducted. They use the tension prevailing between President and Prime Minister in order to prevent the Prime Minister and his party from giving reasonable and necessary concessions to the LTTE. The LTTE on its part is in danger of becoming increasingly intransigent and therefore acting dictatorially towards even other Tamil groups who

also want a just peace. “Who has not been with us is against us”, the LTTE seems to say.

There are also vested interests in purchases from the arms industry: these want war, not peace.

Meanwhile, the cost of living in the country kept on rising. The people do not express excessive concern about it both because of their usual happy-go-lucky character and because they do not want to sabotage the government and the Peace Process. Yet, criminal underworld gangs appear to be growing in strength over the past four or five years and the rate of crime keeps soaring. This growing brutalization of all sections of the people is probably the saddest legacy of the inter-ethnic violence that has gripped the country since the early 1970s.

During the whole of the period under review the Government adopted the Open Economic Policy which began with the J. R. Jayawardena UNP Government of 1977. The country was also subjected to the Structural Adjustment Programme imposed on it by the conditionalities of aid made available by the World Bank and the IMF. The policy of “user pays” and “cost recovery” on the whole hit the poor very badly, especially in the fields of education and health. Satyodaya did what it could by articles to the Press and by conferences to put forward its constructively critical understanding of the country situation.

It was in this country situation that Satyodaya worked in the past year. It is worthy of note that whatever the activity we undertook we tried our best to make it contribute positively to the achievement of peace-founded-upon-justice in the country. Satyodaya is an inter-ethnic community. Hence all its field work is geared to inter-ethnic harmony and understanding.

1.4 Plantation Analysis

Many official reports and surveys divide the population of Sri Lanka into three sectors: urban, rural and estate. The estate sector covers the plantations. At the beginning of 1992, there were 495 large estates of tea and rubber with a few containing coconut under the management of the State. In June of that year 443 of these estates were privatized and given over by the State on lease-ownership to 23 Regional Plantation Companies. These set up 23 management companies to manage the operation of the estate. Some estates which were not nationalized in 1972 and 1975 because private owners of plantations were permitted to retain 50 acres for themselves and for each of their children over 18. Satyodaya’s Centre for Plantation Studies and its Research and Documentation Unit published in 1995 a monograph on the Privatization of the Estates and adduced data which showed that privatization has greatly benefited the companies which no longer had to pay taxes to the State (while the State management agencies had to pay high taxes during the period of nationalization), but increased the hardships of the workers.

The plantation sector is the most disadvantaged of the three sectors in all the indices of socio-economic well-being: income, education, health, housing and sanitation. Moreover, the integration of the plantation community into the mainstream of Sri Lankan society still leaves much to be desired. Satyodaya which seeks to work with the poorest of the poor therefore finds in the plantations its favourite constituency.

I.5 Rural Sector Analysis

In the year under review, Satyodaya worked in 42 estates or divisions of estates, 28 villages and in 2 urban settlements. One of Satyodaya's overall objectives is to work for inter-ethnic justice and equality. Therefore, though its favourite constituency is the plantations, and indeed because of this fact, Satyodaya found it necessary to work also with the peasants in the villages or village settlements close to the plantations. This became even more necessary after the all-island communal riots of 1977 in which Satyodaya estimated that at least 10,000 Tamil estate families were frontally attacked for the only reason that they were Tamil. Of these 10,000 families Satyodaya assisted 2663 (the records are still available!) which had lost everything or nearly everything. Hence Satyodaya had to be with the people in the villages too in order to attain its overall constitutionally established objectives of inter-ethnic understanding, as stated earlier. This meant also estate-village harmony and understanding.

The rural sector is also disadvantaged in relation to the urban sector. Many in the villages are landless, or owners of very small uneconomic fragments of land, are poor and indebted to the village moneylenders, and are denied the human rights to decent education and health care. Satyodaya understood that it had the duty to intervene, limited only by its own resources of personnel and finance.

I.6 The Situation of Satyodaya

Satyodaya faced bravely the fact that during the year we encountered a severe shortage of funds. Many Donor-Partners after having a fruitful partnership with us for many years indicated during the year their intention to withdraw in 2003.

But we did not want to stop our service to the poorest of the poor. Instead we were engaged in successful discussions among ourselves and with our people in order to find a solution. As a result, we tried our best to achieve some degree of self-financing. The trouble is that our work with the people is not income-generating. Very early in the history of Satyodaya we thought of achieving self-financing through the export of tea. But we were advised by friendly tea export experts that the export of tea is a full-time job for experts in the business: "I shall be able to give you one of the tea factories which we have closed down. But I must warn you that you will not be able to export tea and do your work for social justice at the same time. The export of tea is not a game for amateurs." And another good friend told us, "Accept the fact that you are not income-generating. And do not agonize any more about not being so. So, ask for, and accept, foreign donor funds."

In its first and second decades Satyodaya was fortunate to find in Christian Aid and Novib donor-partners who shared our vision and wanted to be true equal partners with us to build the New Society of truth and justice for all. Both have now decided not to partner us any more.

The Unit system which we introduced in 1997 made it less difficult for us to face many challenges. The concepts of collective leadership and grass-root level leadership make each member a respected stakeholder in the whole of Satyodaya and that feeling enhances the members' ability and helps them to make every effort to achieve some degree of self-financing without loss to our main objective of the service of truth and justice to our people. The six units are as follows: Library, Research & Documentation; Finance; Administration: Field Programmes; Transport; Farm.

During the year Satyodaya continued to maintain the three interlocking aspects of its life and work: (1) the life in the community of Satyodaya, built as we have often said on the three guiding principles of honesty, cheerfulness and forgiveness; (2) the programmes of the Centre revolved around the Seminar Hall, the Administration and Finance Units, the Library, Research & Documentation Unit and of course, the Kitchen; (3) the field work, conducted on the three principles of perseverance, social analysis and commitment, by which we take the message of Satyodaya to our people and bring back to Satyodaya what the people teach us..

The community now consists of 47 persons; 12 are residential members, 35 non residential; 24 Sinhalese, 20 Tamils, 2 Burghers; 1 Muslim; 25 Buddhists, 12 Hindus, 1 Muslim and 9 Christians. We believe that the residential character of Satyodaya is important and must be preserved. To make up for the fact that several members are now married and so have their own homes, we had during the year 8-10 residential vocational trainees, both Sinhalese and Tamil. They have contributed vitally to maintain the life and spirit of Satyodaya. We have often reminded ourselves of the three principles of our community life: cheerfulness, honesty and forgiveness.

Note that in the interlocking of the three aspects lies the identity and perhaps the uniqueness of Satyodaya.

On 7 October 2002 A.C. Emmanuel, a member of our community passed away in the Kandy Hospital. Emmanuel had many illnesses (which however he never allowed to interfere with the faithful performance of his assignments at Satyodaya) but his death, when it came was a shock to all of us. We keep Emmanuel in our thoughts and prayers.

Having reached the age of 60, Vasantha Imbuldeniya (our faithful typist and office secretary), E.M. Dissanayake (of our Finance Unit), Ms R.M.K. Sumanasinghe (our Agricultural Instructor) and Ms Sheilani Premaratne (Galaha Area Coordinator Amarapathi's right hand) retired from service. We thank them very much for their service: their wisdom and experience were of great help to us.

2. The Field Programmes in the Six Areas

2.1 General

Satyodaya works in 72 field centres in 6 geographical areas: Galaha, Kandy, Kegalle, Matale, Nawalapitiya, Pussellawa. All are located within a radius of 30 miles from Satyodaya Centre, Kandy.

2.2 The Work Places

The Work Places were as follows:

	AREA	ESTATES	VILLAGES	URBAN
1	Galaha	Hermitage Quarters Hermitage Division Colgrain Galloway Knowe Erin Upper Galaha Pitawala	Gurukelle Parapaha	
	Total	7	2	0
2	Kandy	Hantana FD Hantana WD Hantana MD Kitulmulla LD Kitulmulla UD Ooragala Hantana TD Craigingilt	Ooragala Colony Walapena Mawalawatte Sethsiripedesa Tankiyawatte	Market Porters Pavement Hawkers
	Total	8	5	2
3	Kegalle	Kumarapura Kalugala	Pahinipaddera Moragammana Kumarapura Colony Pallebage Parapitiya Narangala Gavilipitiya	
	Total	2	7	0
4	Matale	Gammaduwa Opalgala Ovala Nicoloya UD&LD Midland Pansaltenne Galekoluwa Ensalmada	Gammaduwa Village Ovala Colony Hapugaspiya Pattu Acre Thibbatukanatha	
	Total	8	5	0

AREA		ESTATES	VILLAGES	URBAN
5	Nawalapitiya	Maryville LD Maryville UD Montecristo UD Cholankande Coolbawn Greenwood Ruwanpura Bowhill	Somerset Montecristo Pallepitiya Raja-alla Uduwella Telihunne Meepitiya Kande	
	Total	8	7	0
6	Pussellawa	Sanquhar UD Sanquhar LD Sogama LD Black Forest Melfort New Melfort Sogama MD Sogama GC Sogama UD	Udahinnepatana	
		9	1	0
Grand Total		42	28	2

2.3 Situations of Concern

The situations which were of concern to us during the year in all these areas were as follows:

- (i) Given the weakness of many existing local communities, the need to promote sustainable, well-formed, active EPOs/ VPOs (Estate/Village People's Organizations)
- (ii) Given the crucial inter-ethnic problems in the country, the need to promote a correct understanding of our country's inter-ethnic situation, wean people away from ethnocentric chauvinism, to build a Sri Lankan consciousness which would transcend, without denying, the particularist consciousnesses of being Sinhalese, Christians etc., and to bring all the people together to protect and promote the environment which is for all. The slogan may also be, To inter-ethnic harmony through the protection of the environment.
- (iii) Lack of awareness of the human rights of women and the empowerment of women
- (iv) Lack of awareness of the human rights of children, child labour and child abuse
- (v) Low wages and income
- (vi) Health and nutrition inadequacies
- (vii) The lack of basic housing and sanitation
- (viii) Excessive consumption of alcohol and sometimes the use of narcotic drugs
- (ix) The need for remedial education for illiterates and for school drop-outs
- (x) The need to promote pre-primary education
- (xi) The need to train social work volunteers and group them together
- (xii) The need to organize children and youth together and prepare them for future leadership

However, the following have to be noted:

- (a) These 12 situations were generally of greater concern on the estates than in the villages. Hence we worked on 42 estates, only 28 villages and 2 urban areas.

- (b) Not all the situations listed above were serious in all our work places and, where some situations were serious, they did not have the same seriousness everywhere. Hence in each work place we had to prioritize our interventions – always in consultative participation with the people at all stages, from planning to implementation and monitoring – in the field of community development.

2.4 Activities Planned to meet the 12 Situations of Concern Outlined in 2.3 above

- (i) Identify with the people the causes of the weakness of the EPO/VPO and decide on countervailing measures.
- (ii) Examine the prevailing attitudes of the people as regards the inter-ethnic situation, analyze the reasons for the prejudiced understanding of the situation, and find ways and means to bring all together to protect and promote the environment.
- (iii) - Seminars and workshops to create awareness of the role of women in society.
 - Aiming at adequate female representation in the leadership of local societies.
 - Have some IGPs for women
- (iv) - Seminars and workshops on theme
 - Get the facts about child labour and child abuse.
 - Create awareness of the extent of child labour and child abuse among the general public.
 - Seek to educate parents and adolescents about the problem.
- (v) - Create awareness of the socio-economic and political situation in the country
 - IGPs to produce at least supplementary income.
- (vi) - Identify Problems
 - Create awareness
 - Mother and Child Care programmes
- (vii) - Create awareness among public
 - Shramadanas for neighbourhood sanitation
- (viii) - Create awareness
 - Educate adults, especially on estates about the dangers
- (ix) - Literacy classes for the illiterate
 - Extra tuition classes for potential school drop-outs
 - Look for avenues of vocational training and skills acquisition for school dropouts.
- (x) - Set up pre-schools where needed
 - Improve existing pre-schools
 - Refresher courses for pre-primary teachers
- (xi) - Leadership Seminars for potential local leaders, esp. for youth and young adolescents.
- (xii) - Establish societies of the young
 - Organize Cultural Programmes to develop their skills

2.5 Activities Carried out and Results of These Activities

2.5.i.a. *Causes of weakness of existing local societies identified as follows:*

- Political divisions among people, making common actions difficult.
- Diversity of trade unions of estates and lack of readiness to co-operate in common programmes
- Leaders too poor and with insufficient educational qualifications to earn the respect or others
- Inadequate representation of women
- Lack of awareness on the importance of community

2.5.i.b. *Activities Carried out:*

- Where necessary, new leaders were elected.
- Increased representation of *women who are generally more committed and effective at the local level than men*
- Exposed freshers to systematic training e.g., youth were trained at Leadership Seminars to Peoples' Organization activities)
- Conducted awareness programmes

2.5.i.c. *Results of Activities:*

- Many local societies today act as the mediator or the catalyst of almost all the programmes that we undertake. In addition, they motivate people to seek governmental as well as estate management assistance when necessary.

2.5.ii.a. *Prevailing attitudes in the inter-ethnic situation:*

- Almost 100% desire of, and welcome to, peace
- Unwillingness to admit legitimate grievances of the "other" ethnic group
- Influence of politicians for and against a just negotiated settlement
- Lethargy and disinterestedness

2.5.ii.b. *Activities Carried Out:*

- **Formulating and organizing a Youth Movement called 16+ to achieve Peace, Equality and Love, through protecting other nationalities, human rights, women's rights and the environment.**

2.5.ii.c. *Results of Activities:*

- All the work that we did through 16+ was done with the participation of both male and female youth representing Sinhalese, Tamil and Muslims.

16+ is truly a great achievement.

Therefore, in addition to the explicit benefits to the area, the 16+ movement helps youth to build inter-ethnic and inter-religious harmony and goodwill.

Moreover, these youth actively participated in protecting their environment.

2.5.iii.a. *Prevailing Situation of Women:*

- Prevailing attitudes and religious beliefs that keep women secondary to men
- Lack of women's rights education
- Lack of women's representation in Pos. State or local authority elected bodies
- Lack of women's social involvement
- Economic dependency of women on their male partners
- Young women are subjected to various forms of molestation.

2.5.iii.b. *Activities Carried Out:*

- Seminars were conducted concerning women's rights
- Women's groups were formulated
- Programmes on health and nutrition of women were done
- Female youth were given vocational training and were made to take part in Leadership Seminars
- Women were helped to start self-employment

2.5.iii.c. *Results of Activities:*

- An improvement can be seen in terms of women's rights education among these women
- Some women can be seen engaging in income generation activities and hence some economic improvement can be seen in those families
- Those girls who participated in the LS training programme 2002 can be seen actively participating in CBO activities
- Women's small groups have helped them to collectively find new strategies for their economic well being.

2.5.iv.a. *Prevailing Situation of Children:*

- Parents are forced by the system to allow their children to engage in child labour; this led to interruption in their educational career.
- Great difficulty to eliminate child labour, because employed children contribute vitally to the family budget. As a result there is a considerable number of school drop-outs.

2.5.iv.b. *Activities Carried Out:*

- Seminars and workshops were held on site on the themes indicated, and awareness of the extent of child labour and child abuse among the general public was created.

2.5.i.c. *Results of Activities:*

- With the help of probation officers 16 children who formally working in well to do houses outside the estate were re-admitted to schools.
- Some parents can be seen actively encouraging their children to attend school.

2.5.v.a. *Prevailing Conditions of Wages and Income:*

- Maximum wage rate of a tea estate worker today is Rs 147 (USD approx. 1.5) which is very low in relation to the wage rate of other sectors of the country.
- Satyodaya does its best to influence concerned people to increase the wage to a satisfactory level, and at the same time, we encourage the plantation people to engage in extra income-generating activities so that they can have a decent living.

2.5.v.b. *Activities Carried Out:*

- Fr Paul Caspersz, s.j., now our Chief Researcher, engaged in writing articles to the newspapers and in giving talks on the issue of plantation worker wages in order to make the concerned individuals and general public aware (*copies available on request*).
- Youth were given facilities to engage in self-employment
- Form saving groups (a group consists of 5-8 lactating mothers)
- Seventeen youth (11 girls and 6 boys, 13 estate youth and 4 village youth) were given training in printing presses and in motor workshops
- Thirty five loans were given to start home gardens

2.5.vi.a. *Prevailing Problems of Health and Nutrition:*

- Varying degrees of malnutrition
- Insufficient knowledge of Mother and Child Care
- State-appointed health and nutrition personnel do not visit the people regularly
- Necessary clinics are not held.

2.5.vi.b. *Activities Carried Out:*

- In some work places we conducted monthly or bi-monthly health and nutrition clinics.
- Three health volunteer training programmes were conducted at Satyodaya
- Food security and home garden programmes were conducted in our work places
- Several adult health clinics were conducted.

2.5.vi.c. *Results of Activities:*

- Emergence of well-trained health volunteers in the village and, more importantly, in the estate, so that they themselves can take the initiative to solve their health related problems.
- Mothers obtained knowledge about child caring
- Infants of our target group enjoy fair health security
- State-appointed health personnel have been motivated and spurred on by our health workers to visit the poor people regularly (as indeed it is their duty to do)
- Health volunteers were trained in leadership.

2.5.vii.a. *Prevailing Conditions:*

- Insanitary environment especially around the estate lines
- Lack of toilets or unsatisfactory toilets

- Lack of smoke-free kitchens
- Lack of drains or broken drains around line rooms.
- Lack of waste disposal management
- Many lines in the estates are hardly suitable for any form of decent living
- Lack of safe drinking water.

2.5.vii.b. *Activities Carried Out:*

- 12 drinking water schemes were constructed and 2 schemes are ongoing
- 85 houses were repaired
- 126 toilets were constructed
- Shramadanas (food for work) were conducted to clean the environment and short discussions were held with the shramadana groups about the advantages of a healthy environment and the dangers of an insanitary one.

2.5.vii.c. *Results of Activities:*

- People enjoy clean and healthy environment around their houses.
- Improved housing conditions
- Improved sanitation conditions
- Beneficiaries of our water projects have access to safe drinking water.

2.5.viii.a. *Prevailing conditions of the use of Alcohol and Narcotics:*

- As a result of lack of recreational facilities in the plantation sector, many adults and youth take alcohol and sometimes narcotic drugs
- Drunken husbands usually create trouble at home and their wives and children become the targets.

2.5.viii.b. *Activities Carried Out:*

- Conducted awareness programmes and seminars on alcohol and drug menace
- Displayed posters and placards depicting the danger of alcohol and drugs
- Distributed a Tamil leaflet on the dangers of Alcohol, produced by the CSPA.

2.5.viii.c. *Results of Activities:*

- We have tried to create a young generation free from alcohol and drugs. It will take some time to see the results, but we now see the beginning.

2.5.ix.a. *Prevailing conditions of Education and Literacy in the Plantation Sector and in the Rural Sector:*

Literacy and School Avoidance Rate

	Urban	Rural	Estate
Literacy	93.0	89.5	68.5
School avoidance rate	7.4	10.9	32.3

Source: P. P. Manikam, Human Rights in the Plantation Sector (Unpublished Paper), quoting figures supplied by the Ministry of Education

- This appalling situation is a result of
 - * Poor school facilities
 - * Lack of qualified teachers

Untrained Teachers (in N’Eliya, Kandy, Badulla, Ratnapura and Kegalle)

	Sinhala	Muslim	Tamil
Total number of Teachers	48,467	3,428	5,166
Untrained Teachers	13,548	965	2,841
% of Untrained Teachers	27.9	28.1	54.9

Source: ibid.

2.5.ix.b. Activities Carried Out:

- In many of our centres we conducted remedial education programmes in order to promote their studies of various subjects: Sinhala, English, Tamil, Mathematics and Science
- Conducted seminars on importance of education
- For the new education year 2003, we helped parents where necessary to buy their children’s school exercise books and other school requisites.

2.5.ix.c. Results of Activities:

- Both children and parents show more interest in education

2.5.x.a. Prevailing Condition of Pre-school Education:

Although both urban and rural sectors of Sri Lanka have identified the need of pre-primary education the estate sector does not value it as other two sectors do.

But as a result of many years of efforts to create public awareness regarding this, today we have come to a satisfactory level.

2.5.x.b. Activities Carried Out:

Pre-schools in the Six Areas

Field Work Area	No of Pre-schools	No of Teachers	No of Children			
			Total	S	T	M
Galaha	6	11	99	36	61	2
Kandy	3	6	46	10	26	10
Kegalle	4	8	54	54	-	-
Matale	4	7	57	30	27	-
Nawalapitiya	5	7	55	55	-	-
Pussellawa	1	2	17	-	17	-
Total	23	41	328	185	131	12

Source: Satyodaya Bulletin: No 194: April 2003

S=Sinhalese; T=Tamil; M=Muslim

Of the 41 teachers, 27 are Sinhalese, 12 Tamil and 2 are Muslims: of the 328 children 162 are female and 166 are male.

Some of these pre-schools need to be improved in the matter of the building used, in equipment and in quality of teaching. We should here make special mention of a grant collected for our pre-schools from many good people by Lyn Moldrich of Western Australia, herself a pre-primary teacher.

- A 5-day residential pre-school teacher refresher course was held at Satyodaya and thereafter 3 follow-up seminars were held. As a result of those follow-up seminars a set of 15 guidelines for our pre-schools was drawn up (*available on request*).

2.5.xi.a. Prevailing Conditions:

Although our plantation and village youth are really interested in engaging in social work, they lack necessary training

2.5.xi.b. Activities Carried Out:

- We have intensively trained 50 youth in Leadership
- Three Health and Nutrition volunteer training programmes were held. We trained 121 volunteers.

2.5.xi.c. Results of Activities:

- All those who have been trained through the LS and as health volunteers now engage in community development programmes at estate and village level.

2.5.xii.a. Prevailing Conditions:

As there is no helpful environment around them, children tend to engage in socially unacceptable activities.

2.5.xii.b. Activities Carried Out:

- Set up Children's Societies
- Set up small and simple Children's Libraries or Readers' Clubs
- Organized programmes on importance of Education
- Cultural Ceremonies were organized with the help of Children's Societies

2.5.xii.c. Results of Activities:

- Children's Societies bring them together for social work and prevent them from being involved in harmful activities.
- Children's improved their reading abilities which is one way of reducing the illiteracy rate prevailing in the plantation sector.
- Children's Societies offer them good opportunities to cultivate their natural talents.

3. Area-wise Achievements to Meet the Twelve Situations of Concern

As we have already stated, Satyodaya has conducted its field work in the six geographical areas of Galaha, Kandy, Kegalle, Matale, Nawalapitiya and Pussellawa.

What we seek to do in this Section of our Report is to report on the activities undertaken in each of the six Areas in alphabetical order. As the previous Section reported the activities of the six Areas, taken together, this Section seeks to be specific about each separate Area.

The numbers in each Area report follow the number order given in the Situations of Concern in Section 2.3 above.

While these separate Area reports are of importance to us in order to rectify mistakes and to improve performance, readers who are not interested in so much detail may skip these pages and move on to Section 4.

In our next Annual Report, after the Activities Report of each Area, Area Coordinators should also report on the strengths and weaknesses of each Area, as these are highlighted in the various Area and EPO/VPO meetings held during the year. Certainly much of our work can be improved even with the constraints of personnel and finance.

3.1 Galaha Area

- i. - Necessary steps taken to increase attendance at meetings, e.g., at Pitawala.
 - Increased the representation of women (who generally are more committed and effective at the local level than men), e.g., at HMQ.
- ii. - A shramadana campaign at Gurukelle with the help of all the 16+ members of Gurukelle
 - In HMQ an awareness programme on communal harmony followed by a shramadana programme
 - A Leadership Training Programme was conducted in HM and thereafter, a shramadana programme related to cleaning the waste pits along the road leading to HM
 - A Sports Meet and a shramadana programme were held at CG in order to foster communal harmony
 - Road and community hall of Parapaha were repaired by the 16+ group
 - With the help of SCI a tree planting and distributing programme was held at Gurukelle
- iii. - Two Seminars were conducted on Women's Rights
 - Four women's groups were formed
 - Three awareness programmes on health and nutrition were conducted
 - Thirteen female youth participated in the year 2002 Leadership Seminar Programme at Satyodaya
 - Established 4 women's societies at Erin and Parapaha
 - Established an Area Women's Group and gave them an opportunity to find their own solutions to their problems
- iv. - With the help of the Probation Officer, 5 children who were working in well-to-do homes outside the estate as domestic workers were re-admitted to school
- v. - Two youths were helped to achieve self-employment
 - Ten individuals were helped to engage in small-scale vegetable cultivation

- Formulated 10 savings groups with each consisting of 5-8 lactating mothers
- Ten savings programmes for pre-school children
- Twelve youths have been trained in printing and motor mechanism
- Conducting seminars on large-scale vegetable cultivation at Upper Galaha
- Giving loans and training for home garden programmes at Erin, GK and Parapaha
- vi. - Conducted health volunteer training programmes both at the estate and at Satyodaya
- Food security and home garden programmes are also conducted under the health and nutrition programme
- A special adults' health clinic was held at Erin-Mulgama Hospital. Patients at Erin were checked and treated by the doctors who came to the clinic
- vii. - At Gurukelle and Pitawala a safe drinking water scheme was completed; 52 families are the beneficiaries of the programme and people around the centre gave their assistance for the construction
- At Parapaha 5 houses were repaired and 6 toilets were constructed
- At Galaha 11 houses were repaired
- Conducted more than 50 shramadana programmes to clean the insanitary environs and to dig waste disposal pits
- The Community halls at Gurukelle, CG, HMQ, Upper Galaha and Erin were repaired
- viii. - Measures were taken to help the Police net the 5 illegal alcohol and drug pedlars in the area and thus those activities were stopped.
- ix. - At Parapaha, GK, CG, HMQ, HMD and Erin remedial literacy classes were conducted on subjects like Sinhala, English, Tamil, Mathematics. Both those who are still schooling and school drop-outs attend these classes
- x. - In Galaha Area we conduct 6 pre-schools

Pre-school	No of Teachers	No of Students
Erin	1	17
CG	2	19
HMD	2	17
Upper Galaha	1	10
Gurukelle	2	16
Parapaha	2	20
Total	10	99

- In all these 6 pre-schools annual functions were held to exhibit the performance of the children to the parents and others in the community
- These 6 pre-schools were upgraded with due repairs to the buildings, adding new desks and chairs and other necessary equipments
- xi. - Fifteen youth were sent to the 2002 Leadership Seminar Programme held residentially at Satyodaya
- Ten youth were sent to 3 nutrition volunteers programmes in 2002 held at Satyodaya
- Ten female health volunteers were sent to "Kantha Rekum Dale" to have a residential training in First Aid and the programme was supervised by the Medical Faculty of the University of Peradeniya
- Health and nutrition volunteers were given on-site training
- xii. - At Erin, CG and HMD we set up children's societies
- At Pitawala and HMQ we set up children's libraries and readers' clubs
- Organizing an area-wise programme on the importance of children's societies (more than 75 children participated)
- A cultural ceremony was organized at Upper Galaha with the help of Upper Galaha Children's Society

In addition the following community development programmes were held by the people, with minimum assistance from Satyodaya.

- Setting up of an adults' society at Gurukelle in order to develop their economic, religious and social conditions
- A tree planting and distribution campaign at Gurukelle with the collaboration of SCI
- At Gurukelle, a Pirith Ceremony (a Buddhist religious activity) was organized by the parents' society.
- A large scale shramadana campaign was organized at Parapaha with the help of the 16+ group and the community hall and the public roads were repaired
- An income-generating programme was conducted with the help of "Kantha Rekum Dela". The programme was on food preservation and it was a 10-day residential programme and 10 girls were beneficiaries
- A food preservation programme was organized at Parapaha and it was a 7-day programme
- A human rights awareness programme at Erin
- A medical clinic for older people was conducted at Erin-Mulgama Government Hospital

3.2 Kandy Area

- i. - All CBO's in Kandy area have established a federation and they share in the running of that federation
 - The market porters have been successful in getting a rest-room in the market. This was a very great and significant achievement of people's power
 - Strongly helped the pavement hawkers and market daily paid porters to get a suitable place for their business. This too was a great achievement of the people. We here record the great and very useful advice and guidance given to the hawkers and to the market porters by Mr Basil (who says that his name is also his surname), our Legal Aid Officer in our Sub-centre in Nawalapitiya.
- ii. - 16+ Groups number 37 in the Area
 - With the help of Craigingilt, Tankiyawatte and Sethsiripedesa 16+ groups, a shramadana campaign was conducted at Ooragala colony
 - Under the theme of "Making Alawathugoda, an environment-friendly town", we conducted a shramadana campaign with the help of over 250 16+ members from the Kandy Area (Alawathugoda is 15 km away from Kandy). After cleaning the town, 20 refuse bins (empty tar barrels) were kept in suitable places for the proper disposal of refuse. The Chairman of the local Council, the MOH, the PHI and the Police supported the programme
 - The Secretariat of 16+ was established at Satyodaya Centre in a small room given to it for the purpose.
- iii. - Ten women have been economically empowered with due training in packing tea for sale, making joss sticks and small bags
 - Six young females were given a training of one year in printing and sales
- iv. - A programme of giving small loans has been launched after identifying a target group

- v. - 12 houses have been improved and 9 toilets have been constructed. In addition, families have been motivated to ask for 120 toilets from the Plantation Housing and Social Welfare Trust (PHSWT)
 - A water project at Ooragala with 21 taps was completed and 78 families are the beneficiaries
 - Twenty two shramadana campaigns were done throughout the Area with the purpose of keeping the environment clean
 - Several campaign and protests were staged at Akurana because the Akurana Urban Council had been using a place of land at Alawathugoda for waste disposal which created health hazards and other social problems in the area. As a result of these protests another piece of land has been allotted by the Council for this purpose
- vi. - In each centre some posters and placards on health and nutrition were displayed
- vii. - At Tankiyawatte, Sethsiripedesa, Ooragala, Hantana TD, Hantana FD, Hantana WD, and Craingilt remedial classes in English, Maths, Religion were conducted
 - The purpose of these classes was to help students with their studies in school and to lessen their addiction to cheap television programmes
- viii. - In the whole Area there are more than 300 social work volunteers and they support almost all programmes that we undertake in the area
 - Nine Youth (6 females and 3 males) have been given a training of one year in motor mechanics or printing or sales.

3.3 Kegalle Area

- i. - An Area programme on the responsibilities of VPOs (Village People's Organizations)
 - Ten awareness programme on VPO functioning at village level
 - Actively engaged in village development programme like making and maintaining small anicuts
- ii. - Conducted activities through 16+ on peace
 - Organized shramadana programmes to protect the environment
- iii. - Conducted programmes on women's rights
 - Conducted self-employment training programmes and people were assisted to engage in various jobs like animal husbandry, flower planting, mushroom cultivation, sewing
- iv. - Paddy farmers were trained in better paddy farming practices and 20 sets of paddy farming equipment were distributed
- v. - Conducted seminar on malnutrition
 - Eight dengue eradicating programme were held
 - Constructed 10 wells to provide safe drinking water
 - Repairing of 12 kitchens and 12 houses
- vi. - At Warangala a Grade V Scholarship class was conducted
 - An English class at Moragammana and Narangala
 - Conducted a seminar on Education

3.4 Matale Area

Matale Area is a difficult Area, perhaps the most difficult of our six Areas. While the Kandy-Matale bus service is frequent and good, from Matale the transport services to the estates is very irregular, uncomfortable and crowded. Often our field workers have to spend 5-6 or more hours of the working day in travel. The Evaluators of 2001 (Dr R.

S. Perera and Mr Dulan de Silva) recommended motor bikes but funds were in short supply to buy them.

- i. - Eight seminars ethnicity were held throughout the area
 - An exposure programme was conducted by 16+ members of the area
 - A shramadana campaign at each workplace was organized by 16+ members order to clean the environment
 - With the help of Government officers waste management programmes were held
 - At Thibbatukannathe, a shramadana campaign was held in order to repair the kitchen of the pre-school
 - A toilet was constructed by 16 + members for a disabled person at Thibbatukannathe
- ii. - Establishment 5 women's societies in the Area
 - A personal counselling programme is being conducted by our field workers in the Area for 22 families in which the mother has gone to the Middle-east for employment creating a lot of social, psychological and educational problems in the family
 - Three women with some legal problems have been assisted to obtain advice and guidance without being fleeced by lawyers
 - Trained 20 women volunteers throughout the Area
 - Ten women have been trained in home gardening
 - Five women have been trained in animal husbandry
- iii. - An awareness programme at each centre on Child Abuse and Child Labour was conducted
 - An awareness programme was conducted at Gammaduwa explaining the importance of protecting children
 - At Thibbatukanatta a programme was held on Child Abuse at the school
- iv. - A medical clinic was held for adults over 35 years of age
 - At Hulangamuwa village 6 individuals have been assisted to engage in animal husbandry
 - At Pattu Acre 4 individuals were assisted to engage in vegetable cultivation, small business enterprises and in sewing
 - At Gammaduwa a training programme on animal husbandry was done
 - Thirteen individuals at Gammaduwa have been given banana plants for cultivation
- v. - A medical clinic was held for adults over 35 years of age
 - At Opalgala, a seminar on family planning was held
 - At Opalgala and Galekoluwa a children's nutrition programme was held
- vi. - Nine houses were repaired and 23 toilets were constructed
 - Over 60 shramadana campaigns were conducted throughout the area to clean the environment
- vii. - At Opalgala, Galekoluwa, Gammaduwa and Thibbatukanatta, an awareness programme was done and some posters and placards showing the dangers of alcohol and narcotic drugs were displayed
- viii. - At Galekoluwa, Opalgala and Gammaduwa remedial education classes were conducted on subjects like Sinhala, English and Mathematics
- ix. - Nine youth were sent to the year 2002 LS programme at Satyodaya.

Workers education programme was held and topics such as EPF. ETF, workers' rights were discussed

3.5 Nawalapitiya Area

The Area is the only one of the six which has an established sub-centre. The activities conducted of this sub-centre are reported separately below.

- i. - Training for office bearers at Coolbawn and Telihunne
 - Twelve monthly meetings in each location
 - An establishment of an Area Committee consisting of representatives from each local centre in the Area
 - People have been directed to get due governmental support
- ii. - Thirteen 16+ groups have been formed in order to work for peace, unity, love and to protect the environment
- iii. - Conducted 21 awareness programmes basically on women's due place in society
 - Fourteen exchange programmes for women
 - Formed 15 small groups in the Area so women, may be economically assisted
 - Formed 8 mothers' societies
 - Self-employment training given to women
 - Promoted savings among mothers
- iv. - Established small groups where the members advise & help one another
 - Promoted savings among people
 - Conducted a vocational training programme and 5 individuals were directed to job opportunities
- v. - Forty five toilets have been constructed
 - Improved 23 houses with better kitchens, floors and pavement
 - Conducted more than 50 shramadana campaign to clean the environment
 - Constructed 15 wells in the area
 - Conducted seminars on basic sanitation
- vi. - Remedial classes at Uduwella
- vii. - 3 new pre-schools were started
- viii. - 10 volunteer social work groups each consisting of 15 members were set up and trained

Sub-Centre Programmes

This Sub-Centre was opened a few years ago in order to decentralize the field work of Satyodaya and make travel to the field work places less time-consuming and costly. We list below the main activities conducted at the sub-centre.

(a) Legal aid programmes

- Helped the people who seek legal assistance on various subjects like work problems, family problems, social problems, land disputes, women's problems, property problems, unfair termination of employment
- During the period 2025 cases have been attended to

Satyodaya is most grateful to Mr Basil (he insists that his name and surname are the same!), retired Court Interpreter, for making available so selflessly and expertly his advice and guidance to these people. Basil is a precious asset to Satyodaya.

(b) Juki Machine Training programmes

This programme has been temporarily stopped as there is no participation since similar programmes are conducted free of charge elsewhere in the Area

(c) Woodwork Training Centre

This programme also has been stopped because of lack of orders. Or is it that there is a lack of orders because the programme has not been conducted?

(d) We conducted an educational programme at Saraswathi Maha Vidyalaya, in which A/L students were helped to complete their A/L projects

(e) A Sports Meet was organized at Sanquhar UD

(f) When the Plantations Trust (PHSWT) implemented some useful work on the estates we helped to coordinate the work and motivate the people so that a better service might result

It is our opinion that the Sub-centre can be made into a much more vibrant centre of service to the people in the Area. Besides the programmes of the Legal Aid Unit, which were of high quality, the vibrancy of the Sub-centre was not apparent.

3.6 Pussellawa Area

Pussellawa is a 'new' area for Satyodaya. We began work there tentatively in 1998 but got going only in 2000/2001. The Area is full of potential but is 20 miles from Kandy and getting there by bus takes 2 hours from Kandy.

- i. Nearly 25 small groups have been established and greatly help the functioning of the existing EPOs and VPOs.
The VPO at Udahinnapathana is a new work place and it needs much more work and assistance from us which we must provide next year
- ii. A cultural show, intended to uplift the peace, unity and love among various nationalities and religious, was held at Saraswathi Maha Vidyalaya. A happy atmosphere prevailed.
- iii. In each centre, a seminar was held on human rights of women with the help of the CSPA
- iv. In each Centre, a seminar on child labour and child abuse was conducted
- v. Two Area seminars were held on proper management of income. People in the area, are now better able to handle their small income and have something left over for saving.
- vi. Health and Nutrition Clinics at Black Forest and New Melfort have been stopped as a result of over-involvement of the estate management and lethargic attitudes of people
- vii. More than 20 sharamadana programmes have been done throughout the area in order to dig waste disposal pits and small canals.
- viii. A seminar at Sanquhar UD, was held on alcohol and drugs
- ix. Seven school drop outs have been re-sent to schools with the necessary educational requisites
- x. We have temporarily given up Udahinnapathana pre-school, until the VPO begins to function well
- xi. In each centre we have trained social work volunteers and they are very useful for all out work undertaken in the area. We have trained 25 social work volunteers for this year.

4. Important Field Programmes Covering the Six Areas

4.1 The Sixteen Plus Programme

The Idea

We do not want to play the prophet but we believe that the 16+ Programme will in future years be THE most important programme of Satyodaya. What is its aim? The coloured board outside its small one-room Secretariat at Satyodaya reads: 16+. Peace, Equality, Love.

Peace is most relevant in the context of Sri Lanka and the World today, but peace with justice and equality, a living peace which responds to the aspirations of all sections of the People.

Equality, which includes issues of the empowerment of women and gender, equality between nationalities, castes and creeds, the rights of minorities. We here remember Comrade Bala Tampoe's comment when in 1979 Satyodaya helped to set up the Movement for Inter-racial Justice and Equality: "Equality, more than Justice, is the cutting word".

Love, recalling Che Guevara's statement that love is the quality most needed by a revolutionary: love for the oppressed, love that is strong, decisive, fearless. One day everything else will disappear. Only love will remain - forever.

Events

Between April and June 2002 the youth in our six Areas were made aware of the programme. Detailed information about it was given to the youth of Galaha at the Ramakrishna MV, Kandy at Hantane, Kegalle at Hathgampola MV, Matale at Rattota MV, Nawalapitiya at our Sub-Centre, Pussellawa at Saraswathie MV. At the end of the day, area youth groups were formed.

Several motivational programmes were held at Satyodaya for the leaders of the youth group in each Area, and for the leaders of the youth groups set up within each Area. At Satyodaya were held two cultural programmes of song and dance to convey the message of Peace, Equality and Love.

However, the great event of the year was the rally of the 16+ Movement at the Red Cross Society Hall in Kandy on 30 June. The Hall was fully packed. There were seats for 900 but many more than 900 stood in the passageways and even outside the Hall.

At the end of the year under review, 16+ had nearly 100 groups, each comprising 25 or more members. Sixteen Plus has established links with like-minded organizations: National Resources Movement, Environmental Movements, Anti-imperialist Anti-War People's Alliance.

As readers of this Annual Report may already have noticed, 16+ has been behind many programmes of awareness-creation and the meaning of true development in the Areas.

The present stage of 16+ is as follows;

- 16+ is a voluntary youth led organization
- Satyodaya members also are a part of this movement
- Now 16+ has a separate office at Satyodaya. It functions during weekends.
- 16+ has its own Central Committee, its members being both female and male, and with Sinhalese, Tamil and Muslim representation
- 16+ has started a network with other groups such as
 - National Resource Movement
 - Environment Protection Movement
 - Anti-Imperialist People's Alliance (Anti-War Movement)

In the second part of the 2002-2003 budget year, 16+ worked several programmes for the achievement of its stated objectives. All those activities are described in the General Areas report and in the 6 separate Area reports.

It has to be noted that 16+ is not a Satyodaya Project as such. Rather it is a purely voluntary Movement of committed youth owned and led by the youth themselves. This, we believe, is the most important aspect of the 16+ Movement. During the year the Movement was managed by a youth committee while Dinusha Karunarathne of Ooragala Village, Kandy and S. Alagurani of Matale acted as the Conveners.

4.2 Leadership Seminar Programme for Youth

Every year Satyodaya conducts a LS Programme which claims success as nearly 40-50 youth from our working areas are given knowledge and experience of leadership.

This year's LS programme sought answers to the following problems:

- Lack of leadership in our working areas
- Lack of adult education
- Insufficient knowledge of present political, social, economic, educational, religious issues
- Lack of social involvement and lack of organizational skills in the plantation sector

- Lack of women's involvement in the field of community development and their negative self-image in matters of leadership.

In order to find answer to these problems, the 2002 residential weekend LS programme was held from June to September at Satyodaya Centre.

- 50 individuals completed the training
- 20 days of programmes were held
- 60 classes were conducted on various subjects; sociology, economics, women's rights, political science, communication, history of Sri Lanka, ethnic problems, development, poverty, human rights, plantation sector etc.
- so far as possible, the participatory method was preferred to the lecture method
- At the end of all the sessions a cultural programme was held by the trainees
- Two weeks after the completion of all sessions, an examination was held
- Two weeks after the examination their marks were released and each one was given a certificate in which performance was indicated.

4.3 Nutrition Programme

Three problems in both estate and village:

- High malnutrition rate among children below age 5
- Anaemia among plantation women and children
- Iodine deficiency

Causes:

- Low income in family
- Lack of environmental sanitation
- Lack of awareness about nutrition
- Social problems

The way to some solutions of these problems was to train several volunteer groups with necessary knowledge on the basis of both theory and practice.

Instruments used:

- Social mapping
- Getting the State-appointed officials to intervene in health problems
- Data analysis of children below 5
- Climate chart

Health volunteer training programmes for volunteers from the 6 Areas at Satyodaya. At these training programmes they were given due knowledge on the above subjects and taught how to apply that knowledge to the estates or villages where they work.

The following chart shows the numbers of follow-up programmes held at Area level.

Health Volunteer Training Programmes

Area	No of Programmes	Total Number of Participants
------	------------------	------------------------------

Galaha	9	108
Kandy	8	68
Kegalle	8	72
Matale	9	98
Nawalapitiya	11	120
Pussellawa	10	92
Total	55	558

The purpose of these follow-up programmes was to share the nutrition knowledge at the level of the local workplace.

Health Volunteers Follow-up Programmes

Area	No of Programmes	Total number of Participants
Galaha	14	64
Kandy	6	55
Kegalle	6	48
Nawalapitiya	13	167
Matale	12	81
Pussellawa	8	80
Total	59	493

Awareness programmes on the subject of nutrition were organized and held in the 6 Areas. The target group of these seminars were children, pregnant mothers, lactating mothers, young girls and parents.

Health and Nutrition Awareness Creating Programmes

Area	No of Programmes	Total number of Participants
Galaha	12	323
Kandy	6	168
Kegalle	8	233
Matale	8	163
Nawalapitiya	11	238
Pussellawa	8	153
Total	53	1331

The following points were highlighted at these estate and village level programmes

- The importance of nutrition of children below 5 years of age; lactating mothers and pregnant mothers.
- The importance of balanced diet
- Infectious and contagious diseases
- The importance of immunization
- The importance of having a clean environment

- Respiratory diseases of children
- Worm infections

Nutrition clinics have been conducted throughout the year

Nutrition Clinics

Area	Centre	No of Clinics	Total Attendance
Galaha	Gurukelle Erin	8	339
Kandy	Hantana FD Hantana TD Kitulmulla	36	458

After analyzing the social map, the need to improve basic needs of the people was identified and as a result the following activities were carried out in order to improve the living condition of the people.

Improvement of Basic Needs in the Six Areas

Area	Centre	Item	No of Families
Galaha	GK	Electricity	12
	Parapaha	Kitchen	5
		Roof	15
		Toilets	6
Kandy	Hantana TD	House Renovation	1
	Hantana	”	1
	Hantana MD	”	2
	Ooragala	”	2
Kandy	Kitulmulla	”	2
	Ooragala	Toilets	1
	Kitulmulle	”	6
	Mawalawatte	”	1
	Craingilt	Waste pits	3
	Hantana FD	”	2
Kegalle	Kumarapura	Toilets	5
	Mooragamma	Kitchen	2
	Gavilipitiya	Toilets	10
	Narangala	Wells	12
	Kumarapura Watte	Toilets	11
	Kumarapura Colony	”	19
Nawalapitiya	Telihunne	”	16
	Uduwella	”	6

4.4. Food Security and Food Preservation Programme

The purpose of these programmes were:

- To teach the participants to preserve food for out of season periods
- To suggest avenues of supplementary income

Food Security Programmes

Area	No of Programmes	Nature of the Programmes	No of Participation
Galaha	1	Farmers training	62
	1	Home gardening	47
Nawalapitiya	1	Home gardening	28
	1	Animal husbandry	10
	1	Mushroom	12
	1	Jams	16
Kegalle	1	Mushroom	18
	1	Drying Gerkins	32
	1	Jams	26

4.5 Pre-school Programme

- (i) A pre-school refresher programme was held on 12-21/ 08/ 2002. Pre-school teacher participants from 24 of our work places were taught the following subjects:
- Checking the IQ of the child,
 - The three stages of a child's development between birth and the 7th year
 - Developing the numeral and language acquisition skills of the child
 - The child's all round development: physical, mental, emotional
 - The need for the pre-school teacher to be both profession-oriented and community-oriented
- (ii) 3 follow-up seminars were held in December and January:
- Galaha Area pre-school teachers met on 5 December at Satyodaya
 - Kegalle and Matale Areas pre-school teachers met on 11 December at Satyodaya
 - At Satyodaya for the 6 Areas: 30 pre-school teachers met on 18 January.

As a result of these refresher and follow-up programmes, a set of 15 guidelines was drawn up at Satyodaya in participation with the teachers. The guidelines serve to ensure successful pre-school teaching.

- (iii) Renovation of pre-school building where it was not up to the standard required for pre-primary education: 10 pre-school buildings were renovated
- (iv) 22 pre-schools were provided with necessary basic equipment
- (v) Conducted awareness-programmes with the help of the Family Health Supervisors on balanced diet and the proper use of toilets for the mothers of the pre-school students
- (vi) A balanced diet for each and every pre-school student at mid-day in all the 23 pre-schools.
- (vii) Teachers of all 23 pre-schools attended the volunteer training programme conducted by the office of the MOH
- (viii) Established a Mothers' Society in each pre-school and the maintenance of the pre-school was undertaken by them.

4.5 Vocational Training Programme

In order to make a contribution towards the reduction of unemployment in the plantations and poor villages this year also we conducted the one-year vocational training programme.

During the year we helped 17 youth (11 female, 6 male) to train in the following job opportunities: in printing 9 trainees, juki sewing 3, motor mechanics and sewing 2 each, in pharmacy 1.

Monthly meetings were held at Satyodaya in order to check the progress and performance of the trainees.

Regular visits were made to the places of training in order to check the working conditions of the trainees.

A Data Book was prepared with more than 1500 job openings for unemployed youth.

A Vacancies Board is displayed at Satyodaya so that unemployed youth can get some information about job opportunities.

4.6 Technical Programme (Sanitation)

Sanitation Programme

Name of Project	Area	Proposed Toilets	Completed Toilets
Parapaha	Galaha	10	6
Pitawala	Galaha	8	
Hantana Estate F/D	Kandy	10	
Hantana Top	Kandy	10	
Hantana Estate – Kitulmulla UD	Kandy	15	
Kumarapura Estate	Kegalle	15	5
Kumarapura Colony	Kegalle	15	15
Gavilipitya	Kegalle	10	10
Owala Colony	Matale	10	5
Pathekar	Matale	10	6
Galekoluwa	Matale	10	9
Reven's Craig	Nawalapitiya	10	5
Bowhill	Nawalapitiya	20	20

Mariville L/D	Nawalapitiya	10	10
Telihunna	Nawalapitiya	20	16
Udahinnapathana	Pussellawa	15	4
Total		198	126

Out of 198 proposed toilets 126 toilets were constructed. The reasons for not being able to build the rest were due to the following factors:

- (i) In some estates, the Trust gave the toilets
- (ii) Some NGOs like Plan-International constructed toilets for some families, free of charge. Therefore we find difficulties because we construct toilets on a loan basis for purpose of building up a revolving fund in order to ensure the sustainability of the programme.

4.7 Drinking Water Supply Schemes.

Drinking Water Supply Schemes

Area/ Location	Implemented	Beneficiaries
Gurukelle (Kiriwana)	Done	146
Ooragala Colony	Done	456
Hantana W/D	Done	135
Hantana Estate	Done	254
Kumarapura	Ongoing	
Gammaduwa LD	Done	238
Nicholoya LD	Done	280
Galekoluwa	Done	264
Ovillikanda	Done	44
Hulangamma	Ongoing	
Melfort estate	Done	320
Uduwela	Done	62
Montecristo UD	Done	n.a.
Mariville LD	Done	256

All the completed schemes are now functioning successfully.

The reasons for not being able to complete the schemes in some centres were as follows:

Ooragala Colony (Stage 3) – because people who were supposed to settle down there did not arrive.

Sogama Estate LD (Stage 2) – because individuals were asking private lines and that was not our policy.

Sogama Estate UD – the geographical setting of the scheme was such that we had to use motors to take water to the top tank. As we did not have sufficient funds we gave that up and we shall see what may be done next year.

Sanquhar Estate – because the Trust wanted to work together with us in the implementation of this scheme but our way of proceeding did not tally with theirs, so we decided to leave it entirely to the Trust.

4.8. Technical Unit Training Programmes

This unit conducted two types of training during the year.

(i) Caretaker Training

The purpose of training caretakers of water schemes was to give them a para-professional training on how to maintain the water schemes.

(ii) General Training

A training programme was held at Satyodaya with 18 participants, 22-24 February. The subjects treated were:

- Operation and maintenance of the water supply scheme
- Operations and maintenance fund
- Water sources
- PVC fittings
- Responsibility of a caretaker
- The importance of clean water for a healthy life

In addition we implement an awareness programme in each of the centres before we start any sanitation or water supply project.

5. The Units

5.1 Administration Unit

The Maintenance of the buildings and the premises at Satyodaya, the carrying out of necessary repairs, making the infrastructural arrangements for the proper conducting of seminars and training programmes both by Satyodaya and by outsiders who hired the facilities were the responsibilities of the Unit during the year.

It has been calculated by us over the years that approx. 10% of the cost of a building is needed every year for its proper maintenance. During the course of the year Satyodaya had financial difficulties in providing the funds needed. Only the most necessary repairs were therefore attended to. Especially to be noted is that painting was not done and decaying door frames were not replaced. With these difficulties, the Unit did all it could to maintain the buildings and the premises clean and functional. The Unit wishes to express its thanks to the 9 or 10 residential vocational trainees who every morning faithfully performed the tasks of sweeping and dusting under the guidance of Noeline Siriwardena, our resident matron.

5.2 Seminar Unit

We have 2 kinds of programmes

(1) Seminars and workshop conducted by Satyodaya

Leadership training programmes – 2002

Month	No of Programmes	No of Individuals	No of Days
July	2	59	4
August	2	46	4
September	2	41	4
October	3	41	4

Health and nutrition programmes – 2002

Month	No of Programmes	No of Individuals	No of days
October	1	24	2
November	2	40	4

Pre-school training programmes

Month	No of Programmes	No of Individuals	No of days
2002 August	1	24	5
December	1	35	1
2003 January	1	30	1

(2) Programme held at Satyodaya by outsiders

Outsider Programmes - 2002

Month	No of Seminars	No of Individuals	No of days
2002 April	2	32	4
May	Nil	Nil	Nil
June	2	47	6
July	1	20	2
August	1	28	2
September	2	47	4
October	Nil	Nil	Nil
November	Nil	Nil	Nil
December	1	27	3
January 2003	1	15	1
February	Nil	Nil	Nil
March	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	10	216	21

(3) For residential Seminars, our own or outsider, we have also the availability of 3 guest rooms (each with two beds, attached toilet and bath) and 2 dormitories, each of 16 beds. We have to improve these residential facilities, as well as the kitchen, pantry and dining room, in order to meet the needs of seminar participants. But to do this we needed not only the constant care taken by our own personnel, but also money, which was in scarce supply.

5.1. Guest Rooms (including 2 dormitories each with 16 beds) used by outsiders

Outsider Use of Guest Rooms		
Month	No of Guests	No of days
April	Nil	Nil
May	3	5
June	6	6
July	20	14
August	7	2
September	3	3
October	70	7
November	30	1
December	7	5
2003 January	Nil	Nil
February	14	2
March	14	1
Total	167	46

It is from the use of our Seminar facilities and our guest rooms that we seek to raise sufficient funds for their maintenance.

5.3 Transport Unit

The mileage covered by each of the 3 vehicles during the period is as follows:

Pick-up	27,897 km
Toyota Van	31,031 km
Maruti Car	12,623 km

N.B.: Having sold the old Maruti to one of our own members, we bought a new one in April 2002

In order to raise funds our vehicles were also made available with our driver on hire to reliable individuals and organizations. Among the latter were a group from the Mahaweli Project who travelled in our Toyota with Ranjit, our driver-member, to Randenigala and back twice each week. Both they and we were very satisfied with the arrangement.

5.4 Audio Visuals Unit

We bought a new risograph machine and as a result our service to both Satyodaya and outsiders has been higher in quality and more productive than in past years.

A Cinefora programme was held at Satyodaya on 8-3-2003 by this Unit. More than 80 individuals were participated. Another programme on tele-drama was held at Nawalapitya sub-centre, 15 youth were present.

There can be little doubt but that cultural programmes of this kind draw even more participants that we can easily accommodate. Maybe this is a line of action which we should pursue during the coming year.

The Audio Visuals Unit (and the whole of Satyodaya mourns the death of the great composer and singer, Gamini Kapuge, who fell off the gangway of his plane upon return to the island after a programme abroad and died shortly after. We recall that Gamini Kapuge was our guest for a member of days a few years ago when he wished to have some time for himself to prepare new songs and music.

We are glad that Sunil Fernando, our Audio-Visuals member, tried very hard to restore these cultural programmes, which reached their height at the time of our comrade, Nandana Marasinghe, who died tragically 1989. All strength to Sunil for the year ahead!

5.5 Library, Research & Documentation Unit

With more than 12500 books in Sinhala, Tamil and English, the LRD Unit tries its best to make one of the visions of Satyodaya – strengthening civil society through the empowerment of the powerless – a reality.

This Unit is well aware that the liberation of the poorest depends on their own awareness. Our efforts to make the library of service not only to pro-people social researchers but also to the people themselves are known to all.

The Reference Section catered to researchers, writers, University lecturers and students, especially in the areas of Plantation Studies, Economics, Sociology, Human Rights, the National Question and Theology of Liberation.

During the year 68 visitors read in the Library. In the Lending Section, 5585 books were taken out by users, for the most part OL and AL students. Books are expensive, so we tried to increase the number of books most in demand by the students.

We purchased 957 books (Sinhala 533, Tamil 402 and English 22). Nearly 200 books were gifted to the library. We are grateful to those who made the gifts.

The catalogue system has been computerised on the “Purna” system. The system need to be simplified so that serious readers may use it unaided by the Librarian.

As a step to establish the sustainability of the LRD, a paying membership system was introduced but it on the whole discouraged many bona fides but impecunious students and others and so we scaled down the system.

Seven readers' clubs were established at Erin, Upper Galaha, Ruwanpura, Sogama GC, Sanquhar UD, Sanquhar LD, Udahinnapatana. Our assistant librarian went to these places, and helped to establish these clubs. We recommend that the Area Coordinators do more in the coming year to make these clubs active and vibrant and a part of community development in the Area.

The problem of storage has also become a serious one. We solved it to some extent by sending past copies of Hansard, Bills, Gazettes etc. to the library room in our Sub-Centre at Nawalapitiya. Maintenance of the library material there has to be improved so far as possible.

Regular and systematic newspaper documentation was attended to.

The following research monographs were composed and published during the year:

Youth and Development – S. Vijesandiran
Responses of Plantation Youth to the Peace Process - S. A. Ramya
The Peace Process - Rajan Phillips in collaboration with Paul Caspersz, Kumar David, Vijaya Kumar and others

Fr. Paul Caspersz, sj published a series of articles in the Daily Mirror on subjects of Development, True and False, and on Plantation Labour.

In order to reach a wider and very important public, translation of these publications from English into Sinhala and Tamil is necessary, but money is the bottleneck. Good translators want as much as Rs 100 per A4 page.

The plantation data base is being updated regularly.

5.6 Finance Unit

This unit performed its functions in the usual manner.

In addition, the Finance Unit attempted to raise funds through Satyodaya Consumer Seva. It also conducted a sale for 2 days in Dec 2002 at the Methodist Church, Kandy and for 2 days at the Satyodaya premises. Towards the end of the year, the Unit began a raffle. The winners will be drawn early next year.

The collection from these small ventures amounted to Rs, 33,000 by March 2003.

The Unit also made available some basic needs, specially of school-going children at a little above cost on a loan basis. The items included household goods, school bags and pre-school garments.

5.7 ExCo Meetings and House Meetings

The Executive Committee (ExCo), the decision making and implementation body of Satyodaya, held 10 meetings during the year.

Twelve House Meetings were held during the period and the purpose of holding them was both to educate all our members and to get their ideas regarding the decisions taken or to be taken by the leadership.

These two kinds of meetings reflect the democratization and decentralization processes under way at Satyodaya.

6. Satyodaya Jana Seva Farm

Satyodaya Farm

The five-year Rehabilitation Programme of the SJS Farm, which began in January 2000, achieved great success during its first 1½ years. The main objective of the rehabilitation programme was to make the farm a profitable venture. For the first time in its history it made a profit during the first year under the new management. When we come to the period under review in this report, the situation changed and a large loss was incurred unexpectedly. Review meetings were held to detect the errors which caused the loss. The Manager, who took the challenge of making the farm profitable, has made the following comments on the adverse situation that developed during the year under review.

In the year 2001 the economic situation of the whole world changed, due to various reasons, mainly political. Therefore the economic situation got imbalanced. This affected the livestock industry very badly. The prices of essential items, vital for the livestock industry, went up and the prices of livestock products declined to below the cost of production.

The SJS Farm too had to face this unexpected crisis and with greatest difficulty it survived this unexpected shock. Therefore the following measures had to be taken to avoid further disaster.

- 01 Reduction of labour
- 02 Minimize maintenance costs
- 03 Rearing of broilers in the former way was discontinued
- 04 Feeding pigs with rice bran stopped and feeding with swill was substituted
- 05 The number of layers had to be reduced
- 06 Wholesale was not encouraged.

07 Introduction of the Buy-Back Broiler system

Although the SJS farm has various small units, their contribution is insignificant in the calculation of profit and loss, e.g., rabbits, turkey, dairy, vegetables, fruits. Therefore the Farm had to depend mainly on poultry. The period under review in this report was the lean period of livestock products; however, it was able to survive. The Farm is still in the rehabilitation process. The rehabilitation process, we believe, is not a total failure compared to the financial burden Satyodaya had when the present manager took charge of the Farm in the year 2000.

7. Conclusion

Satyodaya is not sure whether it merited to be told at the end of the 2002-2003 period, “Well done, good and faithful servant!” But it is sure that it tried to do its best, finding its way through an ambiguous NGO culture towards the ideal of a People’s Organization, trying to do the small things faithfully, always with the large vision of a New Society of Justice, Equality, Peace and Love.

Satyodaya has also to ask itself one question during the next year. Is our work in some danger of losing in depth what it has gained in expansion during the past few years? On the one hand, efforts like Sixteen plus would not have been possible if we had not been present in many places. On the other hand, we have to be mindful of our capacity. If a travel bag can carry only 20 kgs, it will break if one tries to squeeze in 25!

We know that the future will be difficult. We have to resist the onslaught of neo-liberal and capitalist globalization while at the same time aim at the globalization of solidarity, partnership and justice. We have to resist the political, economic and cultural domination of the First World over our own Third World. Some may say that we are fighting a losing battle. But it is our right, and our duty, to continue the struggle.

We have here to thank the Donor Agencies, and a fair number of individuals donor friends, but more for what they offered us in true partnership in joy and in sorrow than for their financial help, without which of course much of our work would not have been possible. We have to thank especially the individual persons who helped the Donor Agencies to help us, the little persons who were inspired by the thought that our humanity is the ultimate bond that binds all persons and nations together and that the world we live in is not for some only, but for all.

And so do we move on to the future, not without anxiety but always with hope.