



HANDI-CARE INTL. (HCI)

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NEWSLETTER – 54 January 2010

❖ “Super Idol” title was awarded to **Sankara Raman of Amar Seva Sangam** (our major partner in our mission to educate and rehab rural disabled)

[Click here for](#)

- ❖ [Youtube Video](#)
- ❖ [Details of award.](#)
- ❖ [Photo of Aamir Khan presenting the trophy](#)
- ❖ [More photos from web](#)

News!!

Our long time supporters visit Amar Seva Sangam Seva Sangam....**Sugantha & R.K Moorthy as well as Mr. V.I Lakshman** and his brother in law visited ASSA recently. All of them have nothing but praises for the meticulously run organization, offering the whole range of services for the disabled

NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO EVERYONE!!!

Amar Seva Sangam has made us proud again!!

Mr. Sankara Raman, Hon. Secretary of ASSA, was awarded The title “SUPER IDOL” by CNN-IBN on Jan 19, 2010. The award was presented by the famous film star Aamir Khan
(See side panel for more details)





❖ Since 2004, we have been sponsoring the higher education of 25 disabled youth per year. Today, **71 of them have successfully** completed studies and are gainfully employed.

❖ If you are wondering what happened to those children sponsored by you more than 10 years ago, you will be pleasantly surprised that 33 of them have completed schooling and have moved on to higher education or have been integrated back to the society and under the care of their own parents. See this link (scroll down to the bottom) for details.

❖ Consider sponsoring our special children, 100 of whom are placed in our new centre. We welcome you to take a look at some of the children awaiting sponsorship by clicking [here](#)

It is very rewarding to note that all our efforts are bearing fruits and all your donations are being meticulously utilized.

- Our Centre for Special Education is in full swing with activities ranging from Specialized personalized education to an hour (per day) spent on Yoga and Breathing practices to physical education to play time activities. The results are extremely gratifying. 15 children are integrated into the regular school, yet assisted by special educators. All the teachers are qualified in various areas of special education and the class size is about 8 to 1. Photos and videos will be uploaded on to our site soon.
- Amar Seva Sangam, launched a new initiative in 2007 – “Centre for Spinal Cord Injured”. This project was launched after much consideration, based on the dire need for such a service in the rural district. Poor, rural individuals



d unfortunate accidents and sustained severe spinal cord injuries, needed a rehab centre with quality service by dedicated trained staff. Most of these accident victims have become Quadriplegic (paralyzed from neck down) or Paraplegic (paralyzed from waist down). With proper care and intense physiotherapy, the recovery could be remarkable, to the extent that they can have the use of their arms, learn computer applications and eventually become fit for employment. Amar Seva Sangam has taken huge strides in achieving this. The success rate is remarkable. Below is an example of how Mr. Poosari has progresses in just 6 months. His story and other stories can be found in our website.

❖ Want to see the sponsored children at Maithri? [Click Here.](#)

Mr. A. Poosari, S/O: Ayyavu of A. Settarpatti of Madurai District is 25 years old. His mother is a fruit vendor and his father is unemployed. In 2002, he was unfortunately involved in a landslide which resulted in a spinal cord injury due to mismanagement during the rescue process. He was hospitalized for two months in a government hospital in Madurai and was then, sadly, left at home without any therapy or medical attention for seven years due to ignorance. His four siblings did not pay any attention to him. He was admitted at Amar Seva Sangam in July 2009 and underwent surgery. His health status has improved significantly and he is now able to bend his knees. He is currently undergoing training in chair canning. In the future he plans to run a poultry farm.

Functional improvements since arriving at ASSA:

Before joining ASSA (July 2009)	Current Functional Abilities (Dec. 2009)
Severe contracture and tightness in both legs	Reduced contracture and improved flexibility
Bed ridden, unable to stand	Able to stand for 1 hour in a frame
Dependent in transfers and mobility	Independent in transfers (to and from bed, chair, toilet, etc) and wheelchair propulsion
Weakness of both upper limbs	Improved strength in upper limbs allows him to transfer and perform activity of daily living
Unable to work due to physical limitations	Training in handicraft work