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Vanavil Trust  
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## Background of the communities

Traditionally these communities were of nomadic traders, musicians, astrologers. They are now primarily beggars or engaged in tiny trade and often live in abject poverty.

The **Boom Boom Mattukarars** speak Telugu and travel the landscape accompanied by their traditional music; a mixture of cow bells, a homemade drum, and Nayanam.

This community have slipped through the cracks not only of State welfare programs but very often, even the census. Merely a decade ago they made a living predicting futures while travelling with their decorated cows and receiving rice in return. Today a vast majority of the community, especially women and children are beggars or plastic ware vendors. They often travel as far as Chennai and Kerala for their trade.

**Narikuravars** are the gypsy descendants of central Indian plains. To make a living, they sell beads, make artifacts and small implements like needles, hairpins, pins etc. This community known for their vibrant culture, now exist outside the social boundaries of society and thus sell wares at bus stops and festivals and at times begging.

## Future Plans

We aim to build a vocational training centre to expand the children's job options

We aim to build a cultural troupe with dropout children to help re-establish their traditional role as performers

We aim to work with the parents to encourage them to look into options other than begging to make a livelihood

We aim to run a campaign exposing the circumstances in which begging occurs amongst these communities in the Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur districts.

We aim to create awareness about domestic violence, alcoholism, early marriages within the nomadic communities in the three districts.

With dreams to chase and aims to fulfill the first step of financial sustainability is not only crucial but imperative.

వినవల



" I have a million wings and I can transform the world, my world atleast, if given a chance at child hood ."