1977 2026

49 Years of Service

Standing Committee of Tamil Speaking People (SCOT)

Annual Report Message by the President

It gives me great pleasure to present this message and report to the SCOT Members as the President for the year 2025/26.

A Look Back at 2026

As we approach the end of another year, I am pleased to share with you an update on SCOT's work and the difference your continued commitment has made to Tamil-speaking communities in Sri Lanka. Your generosity, encouragement and belief in our mission remain central to everything we do.

For nearly five decades, SCOT has worked to support vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, particularly across the Northern, Eastern and Central provinces of Sri Lanka. As we look towards our 50th anniversary in 2027, it is encouraging to reflect on what we have achieved together and to recognise the lives and opportunities our collective efforts have helped to improve.

During 2026, SCOT delivered approximately £30,000 worth of projects. Our support has focused on education, vocational training, food security, sustainable livelihoods, and assistance for disadvantaged children and families. The following highlights give a picture of the breadth of this work.

Our work in 2026

- Mannar Poultry Project — £4,300: Helped more than 20 families establish small-scale poultry farms, creating flexible income opportunities and supporting improved household livelihoods.
- Home Farming in Adampan, Mannar — £900: Provided plants and essential farming inputs to support families living below the poverty line.
- Children's homes in Batticaloa District — £3,000 annually: Continued our longstanding support for Thilahavathiyar Mahalir Illam, Hari's Children Home and Vivekananda Children Home. The annual contribution helps meet educational needs and improve facilities.
- Miani Technical Institute, Batticaloa — £4,400: Contributed towards a grinding mill and coconut-processing plant. The initiative supports vocational training and helps disadvantaged women develop practical skills and income-generating opportunities.
- Ootru Valaiulaga Kalaignargal Mandram, Mutur — £3,000: Continued this fifth-year initiative providing additional academic support to children from low-income families, helping strengthen their educational foundations.
- Trinco Hope School — £2,000: Contributed £1,500 to the Rent Chair Sustainability Project and a further £500 for musical instruments for children with special needs.
- Agro Well Project, Vaharai — £3,400: Fully funded an agro well project to provide irrigation support for local farmers.
- Kandenuwara Tamil Maha Vidyalayam, Matale — £2,000: Supported a Modern Cultivation Training Project. Of this amount, £1,000 has been released for land preparation and the establishment of irrigation facilities.

• Vavuniya University food-testing services — £1,800: Covered six months of wages for a chemist, helping maintain access to affordable food-testing services for small-scale producers.

These milestones were made possible only through our collective effort. Further details of these projects can be found in the Project Officer's Report.

Since the last AGM, we have held five General Council Meetings, with a further meeting planned for 15 November 2026.

We ran a SCOT Fundraising Campaign on the *JustGiving* platform during December 2025 to January 2026, raising £3,000.

We also held the 2026 SCOT New Year Lunch Lecture and Fundraising Event on Sunday, 19 April 2026, at *Chiswick Town Hall*. Our Guest Speaker was Dr. Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu, the Founder and Executive Director of the Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA), Colombo, Sri Lanka. The event generated a surplus of £4,540.

We are hosting the 2026 SCOT Autumn Ball Fundraising Event on Sunday, 1 November 2026.

Looking Ahead

Towards our Golden Jubilee in 2027. Next year marks a very special milestone in SCOT's history: our 50th anniversary. Fifty years of service represent five decades of commitment, generosity, perseverance and a shared determination to support our communities.

Our Golden Jubilee will be an opportunity to honour those who founded SCOT, recognise the dedication of everyone who has carried its mission forward, and celebrate the many members and supporters who have contributed to our achievements. We are planning activities to mark this important occasion, and I very much hope you will take part. Our ambition should be not only to celebrate the past 50 years, but also to build a stronger foundation for the next 50.

On behalf of SCOT, I extend my heartfelt thanks to our members, donors, volunteers, partners and friends for your loyalty and generosity. I am also deeply grateful to our General Council for its guidance, cooperation and commitment throughout the year. Please follow our charity activities on our website: https://www.scot-uk.org.uk.Membership forms can also be downloaded from the website.

Thank you for walking this journey with us.

S T Sivakumaran
President, SCOT (2025/26)