

Mrs. RATNA KRISHNAKUMAR

Managing Trustee

Srishti Welfare Trust

Munnar, Kerala



Started Aranya Natural in March 1994 for the mentally and physically challenged young adults of the plantation in South India. Watched them bloom into responsible adults with responsibility and creativity. Our sales are 60% international and 40% national. Proud to have Yoshiko Wada as our mentor. Recently awarded first international craft award 2017 in the category of "Organization/Company for business development of Craft Sector" on 14th October 2017.

Started Athulya handmade paper in January 1999

Using recycled paper, hosiery waste, leaves, flowers and elephant poop beautiful paper was made and turned into useful articles.

Started Nisarga fruit preservation in May 1994

Started with locally grown strawberries using recycled bottles and sold locally. Now have a state of the art factory making orange marmalade, plum jam, guava jam, passion fruit sauce and orange squash which is distributed in metro cities and luxury hotels.

Started the DELI, the bakery and confectionery unit in November 2009. The unit supplies bread and pastry to all the resorts and hotels in Munnar. Cookies are sent to TCS/TGBL offices in Bangalore and Mumbai. Also run a cafe and has 5 outlets.

All the above units are manned by 132 physically and mentally challenged young adults who have found a purpose in their life and lead financially independent lives. Most of them are married and have bright children who go to regular schools.

Member executive management committee of Paramparik Karigar an organisation of craftsmen and women since 1997. Responsible for fund raising and brand building.

Started Varanasi Welfare project to help weavers with regular employment. The village was adopted and all their medical needs, solar power lights for the looms, schooling for the children with mid-day meals, uniforms and books. Compulsory weaving classes as part of the curriculum to enable the children to continue the tradition of weaving. The weavers were given full payment on receipt of the saree to circumvent the problem of the middlemen.