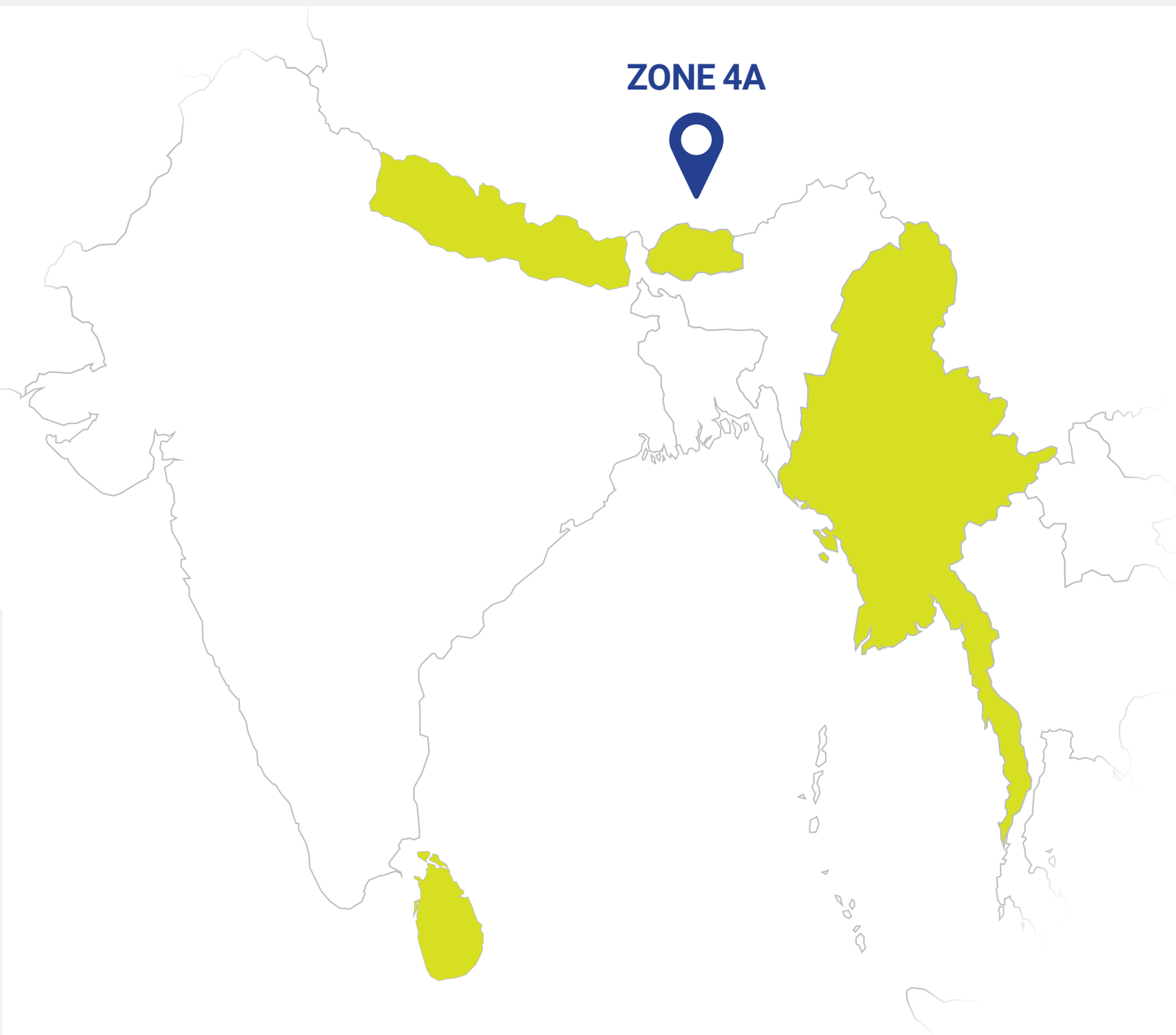


**BHUTAN**  
**TAKTSHANG MONASTERY**

# Zone 4A

# HIGHLIGHTS | ZONE 4A

COUNTRIES	CENTRES/ GROUPS	SSIO MEMBERS	SSE STUDENTS	ISSE	SATHYA SAI SCHOOLS
Bhutan	1	60	25		
Myanmar	1	55			
Nepal	219	31,717	9,194	1	2
Sri Lanka	80	6,088	1,020	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>37,920</b>	<b>10,239</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>



## ZONE 4A | COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS



### Nepal

SSIO volunteers brought joy to many, by serving the underprivileged, prisoners, seniors, and others. They distributed sewing machines to ten families in need, in addition to wheelchairs. The SSIO provided scholarships to 641 students, and distributed school uniforms and stationeries to 480 students. SSIO volunteers distributed clothing to 2,150 people, organised temple cleaning drives and served freshly cooked food to more than 25,000 people in need.

The Terai (lowland at the foothills of the Himalayas) region of Nepal, home to some of the poorest communities, experience extreme cold winters. Last year, SSIO volunteers from across the country distributed warm blankets to over 2,000 indigent families living in this region.

Numerous villages in Nepal lack access to clean drinking water. To alleviate their suffering, the SSIO of Nepal had supplied clean drinking water in many remote areas, bringing great relief and joy to the residents. Last year, the YAs completed construction of the Eighth Water Project benefitting over 150 households in Shyagme village in Dhading district.



Nepal

## COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS | ZONE 4A

Religious leaders representing Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Jainism, Sikhism, and Buddhism participated in two interfaith workshops on 7th April 2018 in Central Nepal and in western Nepal on 1st September 2018. The representatives celebrated the underlying unity of all religions, emphasising the concept of brotherhood of man, as taught by Sathya Sai Baba.

The 23rd of each month is observed as Animal Service Day in Nepal, commemorating the birth date of Sathya Sai Baba. Last year, devotees of different Sathya Sai Centres across the country offered food and water to around 40,000 animals and birds.

Over 850 delegates attended the National Women's Conference in the picturesque city of Pokhara on 15th and 16th February 2019. On the first day, an exhibition was held at the scenic shores of Fewa lake, which included a display of handicrafts created by women from across the country. On the second day, various plenary sessions, panel discussions, and workshops were held. A team of five doctors, supported by healthcare specialists and general volunteers worked tirelessly to serve 189 patients.



## ZONE 4A | COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS



### Sri Lanka

In Sri Lanka, many rural townships lack access to quality medical and dental care. To alleviate the suffering of the poor in distant communities, SSIO volunteers in Sri Lanka organised a series of medical camps across the island in Maruthankernikulam, Muruthanai, Akkurana, Miniminithaveli, and Thirumalpuram to provide healthcare services and preventative screening to hundreds of destitute patients.

On 4th April 2018, 45 SSIO members, in cooperation with the local government authority, cleaned up the beach area between the villages of Thambiluvil and Thirukovil. SSIO volunteers joined 73 villagers and residents of Nehrupuram to collect and remove three truckloads of plastic waste from the beach.

In July 2018, SSIO volunteers organised a special week-long medical camp during the famous Esela Festival in the sacred town of Katharagama, where they served over 1,900 patients. Medical services were supplemented by service to children in need, the destitute and the local communities as well.



Sri Lanka

## COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS | ZONE 4A

SSIO volunteers organised around 200 cataract surgeries for patients in need in Hambantota District, during December 2018. Many indigent patients who were served, had waited for years to access affordable medical procedures. As part of the global 'Serve the Planet' initiative, 45 SSIO volunteers, along with local government representatives and more than 70 villagers from Thambiluvil, Thirukovil and Nehrupuram, collected three truckloads of plastic waste from the local beaches.

After monsoon rains in northern Sri Lanka had devastated the region's landscape, 15 YAs joined hands with local school children on 18th January 2019, and planted trees in public areas. The service not only beautified the surroundings but also provided the children and YAs an opportunity to serve the community at large.

On 16th February 2019, SSIO volunteers from the Colombo Sathya Sai Centre, including YAs and Sai Spiritual Education children, celebrated Valentine's Day with 32 elderly residents at the Leprosy Home in Hendala, which helped raise their spirits. The YAs served a special lunch and presented an interactive entertainment programme thereafter. In spite of their illness, many senior residents joined in the singing and dancing.

Sri Lanka

