

# livelihoods

*today and tomorrow*

April 2013

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(Imageries)





Happy Ugadi! Happy New Year!

Dr Ambedkar, we remember you!

May Day!

It appears certain that we are heading for early polls!

# Images speak better than words.

In this context, 'livelihoods' has focused on presenting livelihoods in imageries.

Please read, if you can catch hold of, 'Roots' by Alex Haley.

'How to' supplement discusses 'How to do Visioning?' Usual e-links include a video (Participatory Identification of Poor), book (Small is beautiful), LEAP (Vellatur), value-chain/subsector (tamarind), fourth issue 'Introduction to Planning Understanding Self' of e-livelihoods learning course.

With the faith and hope that you find this kind of unorthodox editions interesting and useful, we keep trying and till the next edition, we remain.

the 'livelihoods' team

The total number of international migrants has increased over the last 10 years from an estimated 150 million in 2002 to 214 million persons in 2010 . IDP numbers have grown from 21 million to 27.5 million. (Source: International Organization for Migration)



Placement oriented training programs which can provide employment to the youth don't seem sufficient. There is a need to design interventions that result in collective marketing centers, processing units and generate self employment.

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**'How to' Supplement**

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Sir/ Madam

Thanks for sharing the magazines. Article are good and informative.

Venkata Ramana

Hyderabad

I just turned the pages of the livelihood magazine that was really a good work by you people thank you.

Some of your articles really heart touching

Sriramoju Santhosh,

Hyderabad.



Can women bank  
achieve  
universal  
financial  
inclusion of  
women?

## Israeli Restrictions Undermine Livelihoods, Rights of Vulnerable Gazan Families, says UN Official:

In response to a deteriorating security situation in and around Gaza, in recent weeks Israel has announced a series of heightened restrictions on the movement of people and goods to and from the Gaza Strip, including closures of the Kerem Shalom crossing. The United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley, expressed serious concern regarding the impact of these restrictions on the civilian population. "These measures are resulting in the depletion of stocks of essential supplies, including basic foodstuffs and cooking gas, and undermine the livelihoods and rights of many vulnerable Gazan families", said Mr. Rawley. "If these restrictions continue, the effect upon the Gaza population will be serious".

## Grain Farmers Diversify To Forestry:

Investment in private forestry is becoming profitable, in Western Kenya due to increased demand for wood fuel by textile and food processing industries. Grain farmers who have invested in commercial forestry are recording huge profits as a result of the high demand for wood products that has outstripped forest plantation establishments.

## Rural Development Grants Not Necessarily Having Added Value:

The European Court of Auditors (ECA) found that grants available to enterprises that process and market agricultural products have not been proved to either have added value to agricultural products or to improve the competitiveness of agriculture. Instead, the auditors found that only general objectives were set and that 20% of the EU money is paid to food-processing companies without requiring a demonstration of the success of the funding. As Jan Kinšt (CZ), the ECA member responsible for the report stated: "Member States are not clearly identifying the need for funding or setting meaningful objectives. ❖"

## World Bank Lauds Achievements of National Livelihoods Mission in AP:

Better achievements under National Livelihoods Mission in Madhya Pradesh have been lauded by the World Bank. Representatives of the World Bank held detailed discussions with Additional Chief Secretary Panchayats & Rural Development Aruna Sharma and other senior departmental officers on implementation of the mission.

## Rs 5,500-crore India Innovation Fund by June:

The proposed Rs 5,500-crore India Inclusive Innovation Fund, focusing on generating employment and supporting livelihoods across the country through innovative enterprises, is expected to be in place by June. The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is working on the fund, which will help Indian enterprises in building innovative solutions for developmental challenges. "It is in the process and we will send the proposal to the Cabinet for its consideration in the next few days. The fund is expected to be in place in the next two months," an MSME official said. The fund would be guided by four objectives -- focus on the poor, combine social and commercial returns, drive employment and livelihood generation and help establish a model for wider inclusive innovation funding, he added.

## 'Smart Agriculture' To Overcome Vagaries of Weather:

Small and marginal farmers across the State may soon be better equipped to tackle the vagaries of climate-dependent agriculture and market dynamics. Researchers at the Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) and the International Centre for Free and Open Source Software (ICFOSS) have joined hands to develop a technology-assisted system to generate detailed information on soil and agro-climatic conditions. Named Smart Agriculture, the project seeks to utilise precision farming methods to improve crop output. The researchers are working on an IT-enabled system to provide real time data on soil and micro weather conditions. The Cloud-based platform will be based on sensors installed in each plot to keep a constant tab on different variables. ICFOSS has developed the prototype of a solar-powered remote station for monitoring soil and atmospheric conditions. ❖



## TERI Takes Solar Power to Tribal Ashram Schools:

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) a global NGO in collaboration with the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) is setting up 1 KV solar power generation plants in 20 Tribal Ashram Schools in the Agency areas in the district as a panacea to the power cut problem which has hit the studies of tribal students. TERI had taken up the same as a pilot project and will be completing it by August 2013. TERI is spending Rs. 2.75 lakh on each 1KV plant. .

## Rabi Paddy Yield Likely to Be 14 Lakh Tonnes:

Paddy yield during current rabi is expected to be 14 lakh tonnes, which will be 3 lakh tonnes more than the yield during the previous rabi. Harvesting of paddy is in full swing in almost all places in East Godavari district. Farmers of the upland areas have completed the task much ahead of their counterparts in the Delta region. Farmers of the district have grown paddy in an extent of five lakh acres during the current rabi. The average production per acre is expected to be between 40 and 44 bags. Officials of the Agriculture Department estimate the contribution of the Konaseema area to be 5.60 lakh tonnes. Neelam cyclone during kharif had affected paddy farmers badly.

## CM to Inaugurate Drinking Water Scheme:

Chief Minister N. Kiran Kumar Reddy will take part in a slew of programmes on the second day of his Indiramma Baata in Gudur and Sarvepalli areas in Nellore district. He will interact with MGNREGS beneficiaries at KGR Palem and visit Indiramma Amrutha Hastam Centre at Chaganam and interact with Yanadi Samakhya members at Chennur of Gudur mandal. ❖

# Grounded Assumptions!

Happy Ugadi! Happy Gudi Padwa! Happy New Year!

Let us remember Ambedkar!

As workers, let us remain united!

Supreme Court raps CBI for saying it is not 'autonomous'. For 'Coalgate', CBI may come under the purview of Supreme Court. Rapes and rapes of children are still in the news and troubling aam aadmi. Governments seem unperturbed and get going.

97<sup>th</sup> Amendment to Constitution relating to Right to Form Cooperatives as a fundamental right is in news again. Gujarat High Court has held parts of the amendment unconstitutional. We should quickly appreciate the implications of these.

Karnataka elections are on. It appears certain that we will have Lok Sabha elections sooner than what we thought four years ago. It is time to think of the manifestos of the people for the parties to take them on board in their manifestos and later some of them could find their place in the common minimum programme(s).

I have stumbled upon a letter which explains why we need to explore space (read: universe). The letter says –

*...by retaining some of one's spending money for research and discovery, contributed far more to the relief of human suffering than he could have contributed by giving all he could possibly spare to his 'plague-ridden' community. This underscores the need to invest on small but important explorations in every endeavour we have. Our Earth is a beautiful and most precious island in an unlimited void, and that there is no other place for us to live but the thin surface layer of our planet, bordered by the bleak nothingness of space.*

So true!

If our Acts, Plans and Budgets are based on assumptions not really correlating with the ground reality and the processes at the cutting edge despite our 'great' out to achieve. For example, high attendance in schools; all children do not earlier); all children have in a given class accommodates students of more than one class, quite often; most children are at least 2 grades/classes behind (sad, but true!); design (curriculum, books) is appropriate to the learning level of the students is wrong in majority of the cases; and as children graduate, their learning levels have not shown corresponding improvement. This would mean we need to appreciate the reality more deeply than we currently do.

## Perspectives

G Muralidhar

design(s), we may not achieve what we set enrolment in schools does not mean high go to school after they are six (many go are homogenous in terms of age, ability etc.; generally assumed; a classroom

This example is just an illustration. This could be similarly true of development and poverty reduction programs. We need to have a deeper and extensive ground reality check as often as possible so that we assume as nearly as possible to our reality and therefore we plan accordingly. This planning would not be based on 'feeling' and 'fancy'; not based on the donor-driven assumptions; not based on wild imaginations based on quick surveys and feedback from 'unreal' primary stakeholders etc.

Obviously it is not enough to have a perspective based on reality, a set of strategies that address the issues on ground very clearly with scope for local specificities, planning exercise sheets and allocations. We need timelines, responsibilities fixed and tight follow-up. Of course, we need machinery that delivers these plans with dedication and commitment.

This machinery would include amongst others, cutting edge multiple multi-purpose professionals and community professionals at the front-end and thematic professional support at the back-end to respond as quickly as possible. ICT-based support would enhance the efficiency and reach. Reading, person-based training, per-to-peer learning, immersion, exposure visits, pictures and videos in the local context - together they boost learning levels and possibilities of applying knowledge to use dramatically.

Community social, human and spiritual capital would ensure the usefulness and relevance of the program and its design. This capital both at the community level and at the individual level needs to be nurtured. The processes that take us into better life include both collective efforts and individual efforts and this understanding has to be built into the program design and the machinery's ways of work.

***We hope - our Learning Centres could ensure that we remain glued to realities on ground and real efficacy of the processes we design and set in motion. As a result, I guess, our assumptions would be more realistic. Our programs and plans would be more robust. And we would be more humble. ❖***

# Livelihoods Imageries

*A picture, they say speaks louder than a thousand words. This edition of livelihoods' prime focus is on images that speak for themselves and it has strived to put together multitude of occupations of people through the lens of a camera. People engage in a number of profitable activities in their day to day life to earn a living and notch up a meal for themselves and their families. So, efforts of people to earn their living have been captured in the pictures.*

*Team "livelihoods" went to various places to capture pictures portraying people engaged in activities. Profitable chores around the city, in the rural areas and in the tribal belts have also been clicked. Our team travelled from Hyderabad to as far as Pochampalli, districts of Godavari, Yanam and the neighbouring state of Odisha capturing weaver's looms, fishing hamlets and the bustle of early morning newspaper distribution, vegetable, fruit and flower vending, the hustle of the buyers and sellers in the markets throughout the day.*

*This pictorial submission portrays various livelihoods one comes across on the footpaths and roadside, around bus-stands and markets, in the belly of forests and seas & deep waters, in agriculture and at construction sites. There are livelihoods that are initiated collectively and yet those which are micro enterprises. Many of the activities seem quite laid-back day to day chores and we don't realize or acknowledge that they actually form an integral part of somebody's existence. The fact that the venture means a lot to the hard-working folks since their sheer survival depends on such gainful activities.*

*There are several livelihoods which concentrate on garment making on sewing machines and many on handlooms weaving a fabric with vibrant hues and designs, jewelry making on one hand and bag making and creating plates out of paper, leaves and foils on the other. There are yet those occupations which are related to health and education sectors which are deemed as important service providers. Health sector contributes in providing numerous job opportunities at various levels as compounders, Rural Medical Practitioners (RMP) or Private Medical Practitioners (PMP), ANMs, nurses, traditional healers, pharmacists and ayaahs. Similarly, Education too is one of the lucrative employment providing sectors. People function as teachers, tutors, vendors of books and stationary, stamp-makers and book-binders.*

*Lots of livelihoods are generated in the informal sector in our country which involves myriad activities like land development, road construction etc and even post harvesting chores. This provides opportunities to casual labourers, agriculture labourers and seasonal labourers. A visual vista has been served depicting all these livelihoods from paddy, pulses, flowers and vegetables & fruits cultivation to the other agricultural activities and livestock sector. A mapping of various livelihoods has been done through the visuals of the handlooms, rural and tribal genre. Marine fishing and inland fishing are livelihoods which provide living to scores of fisher-folk along the stretching coast line of our country and the lakes and rivers. Our team has visually mapped their efforts in the magazine. Forests generate a myriad of livelihoods. Large portion of casual labour, the tradition of shifting cultivation, the significant NTFP-- Non-timber Forest Produce collection provides lucrative livelihood for the forest dwellers and even tribals too.*

*The pictures also focus on the efforts of casual labour which provides livelihoods for many people. Efforts, therefore have been made to capture the pictures of those livelihoods which are seen on footpaths, road crossings, around bus-stops, railway platforms and merchandizing on planks placed on stools and in baskets and on carts and bicycles.*

*This issue has focused on those traditional livelihoods which have formed profitable occupation for many people like that of laundry, pots making, running of a saloon, mostly under the shade of a tree, making of baskets and bags and carpentry and even making of a bell! Though due to urbanization and mechanization and an exodus has been seen, in terms of a shift from traditional livelihoods to work in mechanized sector and factories and industries largely in the form of casual labour.*

*In trains and buses there are a number of vendors selling food items & beverages, toys and books etc. the transport sector therefore has generated opportunities for many people. The travelers travel in comfort as some of their wants are satisfied which in turn endows a livelihood prospect for the vendors. Technically qualified yet unemployed youth function as chauffeurs, yet another profitable livelihood finds a place in our section on transport sector generated occupations.*

*The emerging micro and small enterprises have a shining future with the adoption and implementation of technology, utilization of government schemes and support for Small and Micro Enterprises (SME) sector – thereby making the poor especially women self sustainable and economically strong and independent. Hence, an attempt showing pictures illustrating collective initiatives from women banking to women entrepreneurs has been clicked for this magazine. This issue of 'livelihoods' unfolds a visual presentation of Imageries in Livelihoods. Dedicated to all people who struggle for survival. ❖*

# Agriculture









# Livestock



# Fishery Based Livelihoods



# Artisans

## Handloom







# Forest Based Livelihoods





# Labourers







# Livelihoods in Transport



# Education Based Livelihoods



# Health Based Livelihoods



# Garments Making



# Collective Initiatives





# Livelihoods in Market











# Micro Enterprises

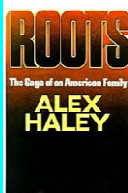








## Roots



Name of The Book: Roots

Author: Alex Halley

Alex Haley penned Roots, which earned him a Pulitzer Prize in 1977. Translated and published into 37 languages.

“Roots” was first published in 1976; it narrates the story of seven generations of Kunta Kinte family. 17 year old boy, Kunta Kinte who is abducted by slave traders. The traumatic sea passage to America is described vividly in a heart wrenching tale. Kunta survives a possible death on the voyage in which many of the Africans succumb and those who reach the American shores are actually half dead than alive. They are sold to work as plantation workers along with Kunta. He lives a life of bondage and the story stretches over five generations holding feebly on to the remnants of African identity. This is a saga of every black family in America which has fought to survive withstanding all odds. The story follows the trials and tribulations and traces his alleged descendents to Haley. The saga was adapted into a television series.

Roots has promoted an extraordinary nexus between past, present and future issues which need to be pondered upon. ❖

## Resources

**SkillPro India:** It works on the issues of livelihoods, education and resource management in rural and urban areas in the country. In livelihoods sector it provides skills to marginalized sections of youth and also facilitates placements to youth in the market. It also develops training modules and conducts impact assessment studies.

<http://www.skillproindia.org>

## Omnibus



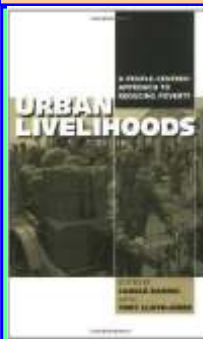
Name of The Book: Omnibus

Author: Andre Beteille

Andre Beteille is a professor Emeritus of sociology at the Delhi School of Economics, Delhi university. Prof Beteille is country's leading sociologists and known for his elaborate studies on the caste system in India. Presently Chairman of the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata and ICCSSR, Prof Beteille received padma Bhushan in the year 2005. He has been quite vociferous against the caste based reservations.

The book *Omnibus* published by the Oxford University Press in the latter half of 2011 by Andre Beteille brings together essays written by him. The essay on *Class, caste and Power: the changing patterns of stratification in a Tanjore village* remains a famous treatise till date on the changing patterns of stratification, a gradual transformation of village social system. The essay *The idea of natural inequality and other essays* critically look at the assorted characteristics of inequality in the Indian society. The aspects delve into the various forms of inequality in addition to the alternative ideas of equality. *Essays in Social and Political Theory* tackle issues of Social Theory & Social Policy. It examines the variation between the idea of equality and the practice of inequality, caste hierarchies, and making basic rights available to all irrespective of individual merit and need. ❖

## New Book



Name of The Book: Urban Livelihoods: A People-centred Approach to Reducing Poverty

Edited by Carole Rakodi & Tony Lloyd-Jones

## e-Resources

LEAP: Vellatur

[http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc\\_download/195-leapvellaturdoc](http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/195-leapvellaturdoc)

VCA: Tamarind [http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc\\_download/196-ntfp-tamarind-value-chain-analysis](http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/196-ntfp-tamarind-value-chain-analysis)

Sub-sector : [http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc\\_download/197-sorghum-](http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/197-sorghum-)

e-Book: Small is Beautiful <http://www.ee.iitb.ac.in/student/~pdarshan/SmallIsBeautifulSchumacher.pdf>

v-Book: Participatory Identification of The Poor <http://www.youtube.com/embed/coxEMsPLKf4>

## e- Course

Capsule 4: Introduction to Planning: Understanding Self

[http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc\\_download/203-e-course-april-13-introduction-to-planning-understanding-self-](http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/203-e-course-april-13-introduction-to-planning-understanding-self-)

## Learning to Live .....



There was a farmer who had a horse and a goat.....

One day, the horse became ill. So he called the veterinarian, who said:

"Well, your horse has a virus. He must take this medicine for three days.

I'll come back on the 3rd day and if he's not better, we're going to have to put him down.

Nearby, the goat listened closely to their conversation.

The next day, they gave the horse the medicine and left.

The goat approached the horse and said: "Be strong, my friend. Get up or else they're going to put you to sleep!"

On the second day, they again gave the horse the medicine and left.

The goat came back and said: "Come on buddy, get up or else you're going to die!

Come on, I'll help you get up. Let's go! One, two, three..."

On the third day, they came to give the horse the medicine and the vet said:

"Unfortunately, we're going to have to put him down tomorrow.

Otherwise,

the virus might spread and infect the other horses".

After they left, the goat approached the horse and said: "Listen pal, it's now or never!

Get up, come on! Have courage! Come on! Get up! Get up!

That's it, slowly! Great!

Come on, one, two, three... Good, good. Now faster, come

on..... Fantastic! Run, run more!

Yes! Yay! Yes! You did it, you're a champion...!!!"

All of a sudden, the owner came back, saw the horse running in the field and began shouting:

It's a miracle! My horse is cured. We must have a grand party.

Let's kill the goat!!!!

The Lesson: Nobody truly knows which employee actually deserves the merit of success, or who's actually contributing the necessary support to make things happen. ❖



# 'Yoga'kshemam

*Happy Ugadi! Happy Baisakhi!*

*Let us remember Ambedkar, Mahavir!*

Manoharan continues to be in the thoughts and discussions. I ended up reading various mails he has sent over the last 2-3 years. One of them is the text of the Commencement Address of Steve Jobs. Three stories – three endorsements - .

- \* You can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something — your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever. This approach has never let me down, and it has made all the difference in my life.
- \* The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle. As with all matters of the heart, you'll know when you find it. And, like any great relationship, it just gets better and better as the years roll on. So keep looking until you find it. Don't settle.
- \* Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose. You are already naked. There is no reason not to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become.... Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish.

During the month I gather that we need to avoid – one who refuses to do anything new; one who always looks for a deal; one who is obsessed with how one spends time; one who does not know what s/he is looking for; one who controls every 'second'; and the one who don't like partner's friends.

This month has endorsed Daniel Goleman's assertion - *"Overloading attention shrinks mental control. Life immersed in digital distractions creates a near constant cognitive overload. And that overload wears out self-control."* Therefore, let us turn off phones and emails at least 2 hours of our waking time every day and two half days every week; and spend at least an hour a day to read/write/do an activity unconnected with our main work/routine.

Subrato Bagchi describes achievers who save themselves from self-destruction - they are in a marathon of over 40 years; they deliver; they own failures but success; they seek forgiveness; they seek advice from people with higher reputation capital; they listen to the people who love them; they do not succumb to the high testosterone; they do not retrofit the reasoning to the pre-decided pathways; they do not go after recognition; they bother about the company

they keep; they build some 'back up'; when they have to leave, they leave with grace; they respect the system(s); and they trust the larger power of the universe.

To be useful, we need to harness the ability. For this, we need to repeatedly step outside of our comfort zones. Let us acknowledge that it helps; let us embrace the discomfort; let us notice our fears; let us not over-think about it; let us go the whole hog; let us celebrate; and let us reflect. Of course, as JT O'Donnell says, everyday, we need to do some items routinely on a daily basis that add value to ourselves and the world.

I remembered the signal from the inner voice – lose in the flow and keep flowing towards merger in the flow of the universe. If the flow is wrong, we will know and we get to change the course of the flow. A recent 75-year long longitudinal study (by Harvard) confirms that the flowing is the end. Warm relationships are the clues to lasting joy of satisfied life. It concludes: **Happiness is Love. Full stop.** We know - *Genuine happiness results in increased usefulness to the Universe.*

In this context, as *we live, lead and are led, it is important that we appreciate these universal truths and glued to them -*

## G Muralidhar

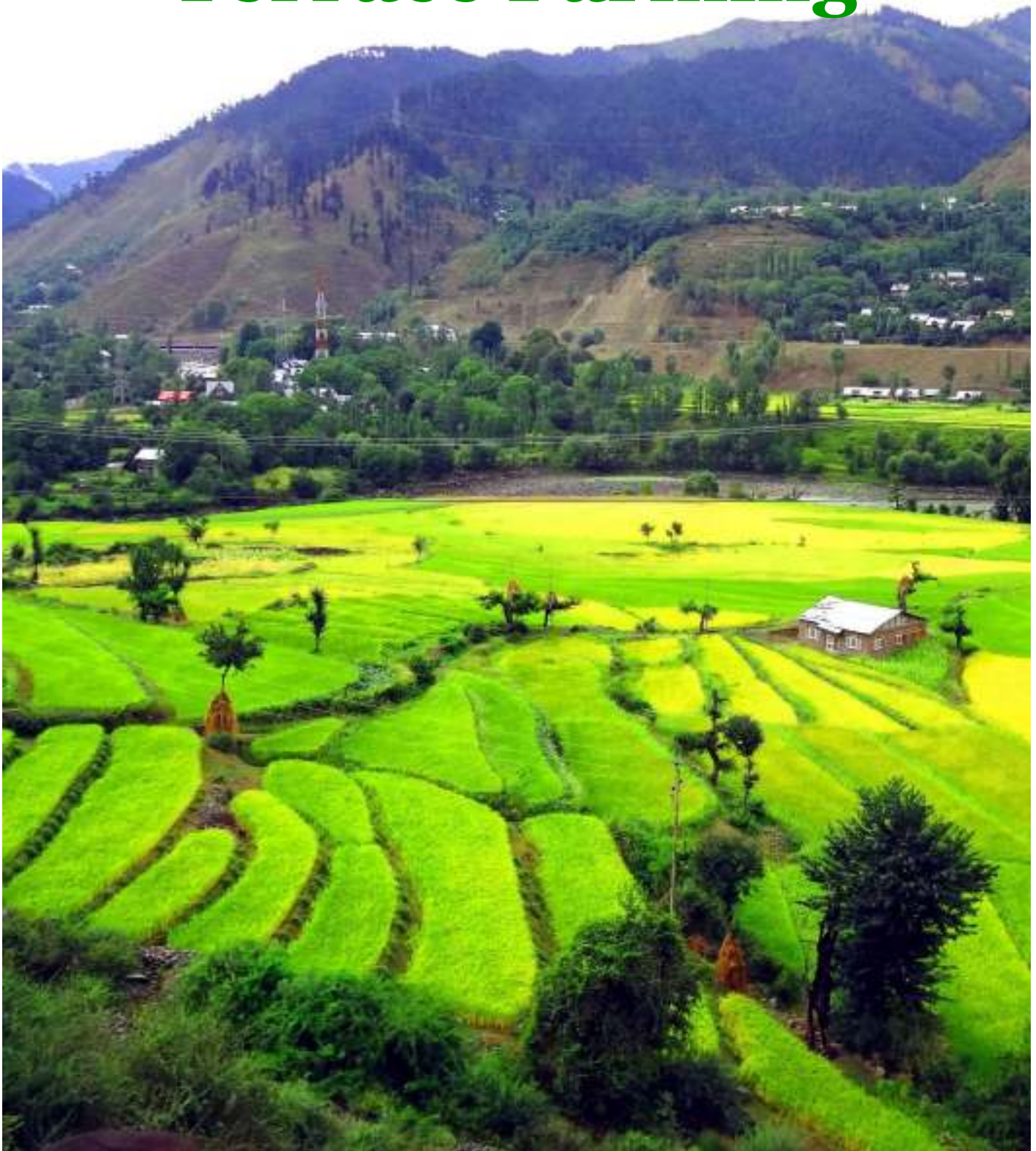
- \* we are a short-lived insignificant speck in this universe;
- \* our existence is a function of existence of and dependence on other animate/inanimate objects;
- \* there is diversity and existential equity around us everywhere;
- \* our present/potential achievement is infinitesimally small vis-à-vis what we have been 'graced' with;
- \* what we have/got is merely with us as its trustees for the time being;
- \* 'I' of life resists surrendering to the universe's infinite intelligence and humility helps in flowing with it; and
- \* living with and loving all life and nature, apart from intense reflection, is a way to above appreciation.

This is the spiritual journey! It is the bliss! It is the beginning of the end, driven by **antaratma into antaryaami!** This is antaryamiyogam.

Can we be there? **Yes, if we pursue Atma Yoga.** If we pursue deep and intense reflection with all the senses on usefulness to the 'universe'! Krishna confirms – the free soul with dedicate thought, speech and action becomes one with the universe, for sure.

Join us in the world of yoga – for improving our capabilities and being more useful – towards sangamayogasiddhi. You will not regret it. ❖

# Terrace Farming



**livelihoods**

*Policy and Innovation*