

livelihoods

today and tomorrow

January 2013



Happy Makara Sankranti! Happy Ganatantra Diwas! Happy Youth Day!

Let us remember Vivekananda and Gandhi!

Winter takes us closer to God making us seek to go with the diktats of inner self. Near zero temperatures accentuate this.

Five Year Plans in India set the direction of planned efforts of Government (s) in India. National Development Council has just (end of December 2012) considered the draft XII Five-year Plan of India. Inclusive Growth is the slogan of the plan. Of course, Plan Expenditure is just about half of the total the public expenditure. Annual Budgets play a major role in how the public expenditures go including the means and vehicles of expenditures. But, we cannot ignore the catalytic and directive effect of the Plan on the budgets. Planning Commission is struggling with defining the poor and figuring out what constitutes poverty and therefore, what needs to be done for a long time now. We also cannot ignore the federal nature of the planning and the allocations based as per agreed criteria including population, tax realized, poverty and backwardness etc. Within this broad framework, the states and local governments could work with more certainty on the flows from the Union Government, while drawing up their budgets. In this context, 'livelihoods' has focused on 'XII Five Year Plan'.

Prakash Amte, more famous as a son of Baba Amte, is evolved into a legend in his won right. 'Swadhyayee' is a movement of serving the community and helping the poor and vulnerable. 'Kshetram' discusses the livelihoods in drylands of Rayalaseemaram mountains and 'sukshetram' discusses Fisheries. 'Tool' discusses 'livelihoods mapping'. 'Context' presents 'People with Disabilities Act'. The Communist Manifesto, a classic from Karl Marx, is a must read. 'How to' supplement discusses 'How to do accounting in an NGO?'

As usual, we present e-links for a video, book, LEAP, value-chain and subsector. Finally, here is the promised offer - e-livelihoods learning course over 12 months in the e-links begins with its first of the 12 issues during 2013. We are keen to have your response to this our effort.

With the faith and hope that together (un)learn and share, we remain.

the 'livelihoods' team

India is expected to be the top recipient of remittances from its Diaspora in 2012, according to a World Bank report. India receives about \$70 billion by the end of the year, with China coming second with remittances of \$66 billion and Philippines and Mexico, with \$24 billion each, and Nigeria with \$21 billion follow India and China on the list. The other large recipients include Egypt, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Vietnam, and Lebanon.



Lakhs of
community
professionals and
community leaders
are needed to build
and strengthen the
poor people's
institutions.

'livelihoods' team Editor-in-Chief G Muralidhar Working Editors B Ramya T Venkateshwarlu Edit Associates T Aparna Gayathri P Kishore S Laxman Nilendu Mukherjee P Madhusudan K Ramesh M Siddhartha	Focus: 12th Five Year Plan—What to expect from the 12th Plan		10
	walked/ walking with us	Open Page	Contract Sweepers in Bangalore
K Bharathi V Muralidhar G Bhargava D Narasimha Reddy Bhima Shankar Naval Shaini Chandranshu Gupta T Nirmala Dharmendhar LB Prakash Glen Shewcheck M Raja Srinivas Krishna Murari S Rekha M Lavanya B Sai Srinivas B Madhusudhan K Sridevi G Madhu Vamsi M Vijaybhasker P Mahesh K Visweswar Rao Mansi Koushik	Every Month.....		
		Response	
	News		5
	On Ground		6
	Kshetram	Rayalaseema	7
	Sukshetram	Fisheries	7
	Legend	Prakash Amte	8
	Legendary Effort	Swadhyayee	8
	Perspectives	Reaching Out!	9
	Direction	Waste Plastic to Fuel, Pension, Water	23
	People	Youth Leaders, Field assistant, Coordinator	23
	Collective Action	Food Security Program	24
	Convergence	Prevent Child Labour	24
	Vulnerable People	Street Children, Internally Displace People	25
	Vulnerabilities	Women safety Audit , Dam Displacement	25
	Enterprises	Individual, Collective, Social, Public	26
	Common Person Interview	Searching Multiple Sources	27
	Grassroots Activist Interview	My Service to My People	27
	Tool	Livelihoods Mapping	28
	Development in Action	Manjeera MACS, Jattu, CSA	29
	Context	People With Disabilities Act, 1995	30
	Books	The Communist Manifesto, I Have a Dream	31
	Trends	Cotton Production in Last 7 Decades	32
	Case Studies	Out of Poverty, Into Poverty Into Employment, Out of Employment	33
	Contrasts	Fish Selling, Tangawala	34
	Story	Selfish Friendship	34
	'Yoga'kshemam		35
	e-Links	LEAP : Chella Anki Reddy Pally VCA : Groundnut Value Chain Analysis Sub-sector :Raagi E-book : Jonathan Livingstone Seagull by Richard Bach V-book : Life River (Livelihoods Improvement)	31
	e- Course	Understanding a Village/ Slum	31
	'How to' Supplement	:How to Maintain Account for NGOs?	
	http://www.livelihoods.net.in/digital-library/doc_download/602-how-to-maintain-accounts-for-ngos-january-2013-		

walked/ walking with us

K Bharathi V Muralidhar
 G Bhargava D Narasimha Reddy
 Bhima Shankar Naval Shaini
 Chandranshu Gupta T Nirmala
 Dharmendhar LB Prakash
 Glen Shewcheck M Raja Srinivas
 Krishna Murari S Rekha
 M Lavanya B Sai Srinivas
 B Madhusudhan K Sridevi
 G Madhu Vamsi M Vijaybhasker
 P Mahesh K Visweswar Rao
 Mansi Koushik

For Private Circulation only

For enquiries contact:

AKSHARA Network for Development
 Support Services,
 HIG II B-25 F-6, APHB Colony,
 Baghlingampally, Hyderabad - 500044

 Mobile: 09951819345
 www.aksharakriti.org
 www.livelihoods.net.in
 aksharakriti@gmail.com



Dear Sir/ madam

I have gone through livelihoods December 2012, it is looking good.

Thanks and Regards

S.Srinivas.
SkillPro Foundation
Andhra Pradesh

Thanks for the magazines and it is very interesting to know the schemes and the

livelihood patterns of the community.

S.RAMBABU,
Hyderabad.

Magazine is really excellent and qualitative especially yoga kshemam every body should learn from there.

Thank you for sending the livelihoods magazine.

Regards
Lavanya
Hyderabad

I received livelihoods December 2012. Thanks for sending magazine. It is good and informative.

Regards
Ramakanth
24X7 Solutions
Hyderabad

Happy New Year. Received 'livelihoods' December 2012. It is very useful and informative.

with regards

Balu Akkisa Chair of the Board

THE SUN NGO

Livelihoods Management Programme

Akshara Network is introducing the Livelihoods Management Programme (LPM) starting January 2013. This e-course, spanning twelve months aims at helping livelihoods/development professionals in gaining an understanding of livelihoods and managing livelihoods interventions.

The Programme is open to all and can be accessed on our web portal - livelihoods.net.in and website aksharakriti.org. A test would be conducted at the end of the course (December 2013). A certificate would be given on successful completion of the Programme.

Further, participants who are interested/are able to dedicate considerable time can join us in a co-learning process. These participants would receive additional inputs and guidance from the 'livelihoods' team. Twenty-five participants would be included in this group on a first-come-first-serve basis. Those interested can send in their details to livelihoods07@gmail.com by

15 Feb 2013.

Register Now!

You can access Capsule 1: Understanding a Village/Slum at:

http://www.livelihoods.net.in/digital-library/doc_download/603-e-livelihoods-management-programme

News

Ready For DCT From April:

Acknowledging the delay in linking individual bank accounts of beneficiaries with Aadhar number, State Finance Minister said all the 23 districts of the State would be ready for the cash transfer scheme beginning April. Officials said that the glitch in linking bank accounts with the Aadhaar number is the failure to bring some key banks like Andhra Bank and the State Bank of Hyderabad under the Aadhar-based platform. Of the 34 schemes proposed to be included in the Direct Cash Transfer, 25 schemes are directly funded by the Central Ministries and credited to the beneficiaries' bank accounts.

Indiramma Amrutha Hastham Scheme Launched, Andhra Pradesh:

The Indiramma Amrutha Hastham (IAH) scheme has been launched in the Khammam district. As many as 29,604 pregnant and lactating women belonging to 29 mandals under the nine ICDS projects will be benefited by the IAH. The scheme envisages provision of "One full meal" to pregnant and lactating women daily. It is intended to provide nutritious food to the beneficiaries and thereby reduce the incidence of infant and maternal mortality rates. Minister for Horticulture formally launched IAH scheme at Kothalingala village in Kamepalli mandal. The scheme is aimed at improving the nutritional status of pregnant and lactating women. The nutritional intervention will help reduce anaemia among pregnant women and prevent low birth weight infants.

'Mana Biyyam' Scheme Inaugurated:

Chief Minister N. Kiran Kumar Reddy will inaugurate "Mana Biyyam" (Our rice to ourselves). A grade rice among the common variety of rice would be supplied to 2.2 crore white cardholders in the State under 'Mana Biyyam'. ❖

Young Managers to Focus on Social Entrepreneurship Jamshedpur:

XLRI School of Business and Human Resources will host the 5th edition of the national convention on social entrepreneurship. The two-day meet witnessed eminent speakers including mission director of National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM); senior rural development specialist at World Bank and noted social entrepreneurs. Over the last few years, livelihood promotion, skill development and vocational training have opened up immense possibilities for entrepreneurship, and have sprouted many innovative social entrepreneurial models.

Kerala Govt to Get Pilot Projects For Elderly Self-Help Groups:

Two districts in the state will be part of the 12 districts across the country that have been chosen to launch elderly self-help groups, which will help generate livelihood for people who are retired but able to work. The pilot project, which will be launched under the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), will bring in elders through HelpAge India that has been appointed as the national resource organization. The report will be divided project-wise and submitted through the state government for funds from NRLM. After the launch of the pilot, next on agenda is the national urban livelihood mission, which will include a plan for the urban elderly poor who are equally affected due to lack of employment.

Women's Empowerment Centre Launched in Bangalore, Karnataka:

Chief Minister inaugurated a unique "Women's Empowerment Centre" in Bangalore. The centre, opened at Malleshwaram, in heart of the city, is being operated by the Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), a pioneer in distance education. It is expected to enroll over 25,000 women for a variety of courses being offered at the Centre. Officials with the KSOU said the Centre will focus on women's safety, better sanitation, varied educational choices, fitness/well being and finally employment opportunities. ❖



Excavation of ponds Under MGNREGS

New Rural Development Program Schemes Open For Applicants:

Sofia. Seven Bulgarian trade banks will receive BGN 607 million via an initiative of the National Guarantee Fund (NGF), part of the Bulgarian Development Bank (BDB). The financial institutions in question are: DSK Bank, Post bank, UBB Bank, Raiffeisen bank, CIBank, Central Cooperative Bank, and the Bulgarian-American Credit Bank. The fund will provide 80% of the guarantees on credits allocated to beneficiaries, Stroitel weekly informs. Interest rates should be between 7% and 8%.

USDA Highlights Rural Development Projects:

The United States Department of Agriculture is touring southeast Minnesota to highlight rural development projects the agency has helped finance. The Lewiston wastewater treatment facility, the Rushford IGA and Sno-Pac foods in Caledonia, among others, have all benefited from the program. The largest regional project by far is the Lewiston wastewater facility. The city is using \$750,000 in financing to install an equalization basin in the facility, with construction expected to start in April. Another site the USDA highlighted is the Sno-Pac facility, which used revolving loans to expand. Along with financing, the USDA also offers grants. The Rushford IGA used more than \$8,800 in grant money from the Rural Energy for America Program that helped with installation of glass doors on coolers and freezers. The USDA said the project has reduced the monthly energy bill at the store about \$330 per month. ❖

Saraswathi Mahila Gramaikhya Sangham

Saraswathi Mahila Gramakhya Sangham (SMGS) is a attend the meeting and pass on information to other Village Organisation in Bhairavapalem village in Tallarevu members.

Mandal in East Godavari District. There are 191 families in SMGS implements programmes for food security and better the village. education in the village.

SMGS has a membership of 23 SHGs. It monitors all the SHGs in the village. The VO conducts a meeting in the first week of every month. It has 3 office bearers - President, Secretary, and Treasurer is Vydadi Seetha.

The VO has 15 SHG book keepers, one Community Activity (CA), one Health Activist and 5 CRPs (mandal level). The VO is a member of the Tallarevu Mandala Mahila Samakhya which holds a meeting once a month. SMGS's leaders

Saraswathi Mahila
Gramaikhya
Sangam

Formation: 2006

Total SHGs: 23

Repaying loans 98% from members to SHG, 100% from SHG to VO and VO to MS is 100%.

SMGS has a savings of Rs.85470, interest Rs. 525000, resource fee 27940 , CIF Rs. 1464535, Share capital Is Rs. 2560 per SHG and membership fee is Rs.250 per member. Total VO corpus is

18, 34535. . It charges a membership fee of Rs.256. It has a total turnover of Rs. 2,13,52,000 in the form of internal lending. ❖

Scheme/Programme

Facility

Pidikedu Biyyam

Pidikedu Biyyam (Fist of Rice) scheme was launched by Godavari Maha Samakhya in 2010. Godavari Maha Samkhya is a district-level federation of SHGs in East Godavari district. Under the scheme, 5kg rice is distributed to Disabled, Elders, Widows and HIV patients by the Village Organizations (VO).

Each SHG collects a fistful of rice from each of its members every month. This rice is collected at the VO level and sent to the Mandal Samkhya. The Mandal Samkhya redistributes the rice among the villages, as per the requirement.

Currently, 1700 kg of rice is distributed to 259 beneficiaries in 7 mandals of East Godavari. ❖

Balabadi Centre

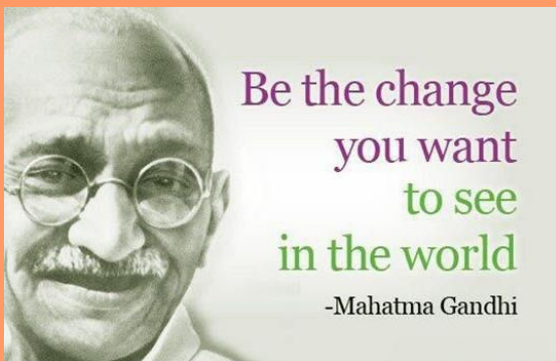
Bhairavapalem is a fishermen's village in Polavaram mandal in East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh. The



Village Organization (VO) runs a Balabadi (pre-school) in the village for children in the age groups of 2.5 to 5 years. 20 children, who do not attend the Anganwadi are enrolled in the Balabadi.

The Balabadi is staffed by a teachers and a ayah. The children are taught English and Telugu alphabet with the help of playing and learning method The Balabadi provides meals and snacks.

The Balabadi teacher helps the children join the primary school once they turn 5. Upon their selection, the Balabadi teacher undergoes a training on managing the Balabadi. The VO monitors the Balabadi and the Balabadi teacher is expected to submit a monthly review report. ❖



(2 October 1869—30 January 1948)

Rayalaseema

Rayalaseema region is situated in the southern part of Andhra Pradesh. It is arid and semi-arid and has been experiencing droughts for centuries. It is said to be the second driest region in the country, after Rajasthan. Rayalaseema comprises of 4 districts—Anantapur, Chittoor, Kadapa and Kurnool.



The region has a population of about 1.51 Crore (2011 Census) which is 18% of Andhra Pradesh's total population. 85% of people in Rayalaseema are small and medium farmers. They depend on rainfed agriculture and cultivate crops such as paddy, cotton, chillies, coconut, maize, sugar cane, turmeric, groundnut, cotton, sunflower, millets, tobacco and pulses like red gram, black gram and Bengal gram and some horticulture crops. On an average, agriculture takes up 100-135 days in a year.

The region witnesses sparse rainfall with an annual average rainfall of 350mm-650mm. There are very few irrigation canals in the area. Therefore, farmers resort to irrigation sources like tube wells, dug wells, canals, tanks, etc.

Other livelihoods of people in Rayalaseema include wage labour, livestock rearing, fisheries, toddy tapping and some parts horticulture works. Migration is also quite high, with Hyderabad, Bangalore and Chennai being the most preferred destinations.

There are very few industries in the region. Till recently, Adoni in Kurnool was a big industrial hub. However, the industrial activity in the area has been on the decline since the 1990s. Mining is still widespread in the area.

Rayalaseema is famous for pilgrim centres like Tirumala-Tirupati, Srisailem, Sree Kalahasti, Puttaparthi and Kasapuram Anjaneya swamy temple. Tirumala-Tirupati is the richest pilgrim center in the country. Thousands of people depend on various types of livelihoods near these pilgrimage centres.

Apart from environmental concerns, the area has also been fraught with factional politics. Though the factions have become relatively dormant, they are instrumental in determining the development efforts in the region. ❖

Fisheries

Fisheries sector is a major livelihood of the poor, second only to agriculture (and allied sectors). It employs 14.49 million people directly and 60 million indirectly. According to 2011 census, fish production is 82.90 lakh tonnes (32.20 from marine and 50.70 lakh tonnes from inland fishing) worth Rs. 28115 crores (as per ICAR estimates). Fishing is done in large groups, small groups or by a single person with the help of Alivi nets and Gill nets for fishing.

There are two major categories of fishing: inland fishing and marine fishing. Fish farming or aquaculture is also gaining prominence.

Inland fishing is practiced by 74% of fisherman communities in the country. These communities make use of the 14 major rivers and 44 medium rivers and numerous small rivers and streams, estimated to have 45000 km catchment area. Apart from this, canals contain 126334 km catchment area,



reservoirs have a catchment area of 3.15 million (40% of the total catchment area) and ponds and tanks harbour 24000 hectares of catchment area. Tanks and reservoirs are maintained by Irrigation, Fisheries departments and the Zilla Parishad. Marine fishing is practiced along the 8118 km coastal line spread across 13 States and Union territories with 3202 fisherman villages.

60% of fishermen sell their catch to local traders who then sell it to wholesale traders. Fisher folk also sell their catch in nearby markets. Fish prices are determined by the region, season, fish species and fish size. ❖

Prakash Amte

Prakash Amte is a doctor and social worker from Maharashtra. Mr. Amte was born on 26 December 1948. His father was Baba Amte, noted Gandhian and Magsaysay Awardee.

Prakash, along with his wife Mandakini once visited Hemalkasa, a village in Dandakaranya forest on the request of his father. On this visit, they witnessed first-hand the poverty, illiteracy, malnutrition and the exploitation of the Gondia tribe. This prompted them to join Lok Birdari Prakalp (LBP), a service organisation set up by Baba Amte.

They set up a make-shift hospital in a hut in the village. Initially, the locals did not approach the Amtes for treatment. Things took a turn for the better when a youth attempted suicide and Mr. Amte nursed him back to health. Through LBP, Mr. Amte submitted petitions to the Government to secure funds to build a well-equipped hospital. The funds were sanctioned after a three-decade long struggle.

Now Lok Birdari Hospital is 40 bedded and serves forty five thousand patients in a year. They want start to blood bank

and HIV/AIDS testing centre.

Prakash Amte also raised awareness about the tribal people's rights and legal means to defend themselves against exploitation. The locals were also made aware of modern agriculture practices,

health, education and sanitation. Prakash and Mandakini started a residential school for the tribal children. In the school, children were taught to make handicrafts with bamboo, agriculture education, and horticulture cultivation with other subjects. Many students from this school became doctors.

Prakash Amte and his wife received the Magsaysay award in 2008 for their work towards improving the standard of living of Gondia tribal people, especially in terms of health and education services. The king of Monaco released a postal stamp in Prakash and Mandakini Amte's honour. ❖



Legendary Effort

Swadhyayee

Swadhyayee (lit., self-study) movement began in 1954 and has brought striking social and material benefits to its followers. It was spearheaded by Panduranga Shastri Athavale. Swadhyayee followers, known as Swadhyayees, have given up drinking, gambling, domestic violence and petty crimes to encourage a better community in hundred of villages.

Swadhyayee promotes adult education, promotion of better health, hygiene, medical clinics, and technical trainings in time of droughts and other natural calamities. It works through a large network of volunteers who visit villages to build rapport and spread the message of volunteerism and the benefits of a good life.

The movement's conservation programs are particularly well known. In nineties, thousands of village wells and ponds were replenished with rainwater that normally flows into drains. Awareness regarding conservation was spread by Swadhyayees who visited each home and farm to explain the techniques involved in undertaking the programme.

Political analyst Ajit Bhattachariewa visited Swadhyaya

villages in 1995 and reported that the residents looked well off, local wells were regenerated, three crops were cultivated instead of one, no crimes were reported and caste differences were eliminated. Women participated in discussions and told visitors that they were no longer restricted to household chores.

Athavale hoped to bridge the apparent disconnection between real life and the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita by focusing on the young. That was what he hoped to do with Tatva-Jnana Vidyapeeth, a university of philosophy. But he also understood that many young people desire formal qualifications to get by in the world. So students attend the usual courses that lead to a Bachelor of Arts degree. But instead of lasting for the normal three years, the program continues for six years because it also includes the study of Sanskrit, English, logic, Vedas, Gita, Upanishads, and philosophy.

The Participants are expected to return home to their family vocation - farming, fishing, construction, and so on - and apply what they have internalized to their daily lives. The Vidyapeeth does not charge any fee from the students. ❖

Reaching Out!

Obama takes oath twice in 2 days for his second term in office. Congress says it is an Obama Moment when Rahul has been appointed its Vice President.

It is more than a month since the All Party meeting held on Tealanga and the uncertainty still looms large.

Government has announced Padma awards. Barring a few like Shivajira Patil, Reema Nanavati and radhika Herzberger, development world has lost out in this round!

I have been talking to my student, a PMRDF in Bihar. She has offered to discuss her experience -

I had been working as a development professional from last one year in one of the 'red corridors' of India. I had grown up in one of the metropolitan city of our country. There is a clear divide between the India that I grew up and Bharath where I am currently located. The divide is not only in terms of infrastructure, opportunities or developmental issues but also in culture, life styles and thought processes. There is a wide gap between the district administration and the citizens of the country. This gaps need to be reduced. Officers need to be more people friendly and spend more time with people in the field, rather than in the meetings.

If we want to empower the society education is the strongest tool in our hands. We also need to look after not only the student's education but also the teachers imparting education. No one wants to send their children to government schools, if they have resources. Even in the elite convent and public schools, the student teacher ratio is 30:1 and even more, as against the ratio of 6:1 in Nalanda, ancient University in India. We need more teachers. We need more teachers with quality. When are we going to have them? How are we going to have them?

Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) has been going on across the country. This is different from the census every decade. It tries to capture the caste. The data is to be collected through tablets. I was assigned a task by my boss to go and actually find out how things are going in the field. I have discovered that the schemes by the Government of India are very beautifully designed but when the actual implementation at the grassroots starts taking place all things go haywire. For example, a data entry operator in SECC is receiving Rs.1.50 per record, as against the norm of Rs.2.60 and not daily and not on time. This seems to be because of multiple levels of sub-contracting.

Life is tough in these 'red corridors'. Basic amenities are missing. People are struggling to meet their daily needs. Their minimal and legitimate expectations are not being met. Aspirations of the youth here are modest. While it may be true globally that the youth aspirations are not being fulfilled. Therefore, the world is becoming ungovernable, says an Israeli leader.

The Self Help Group (SHG) movement that started in the southern part of the country towards late eighties is now spreading in the rest of the country. The country is now ready for taking every poor household in the country into the fold of SHGs, with a fond hope that universal SHG movement brings changes in the lives of its poor and vulnerable. With an intense intent that it lets the poor realize the power inside them. What appear difficult individually, they could realize them collectively.

Working and being with a poor is a blessing in disguise. It cleanses within us. It makes us a better human being and it takes us closer to 'nirvana'.

Perspectives

G Muralidhar

208 individuals with public interest have called for no cash transfers for food under PDS; immediate enactment of national food security and universal PDS; no substitution of public services with cash transfers; no link with UID for cash transfer for pensions, scholarships, etc.; legal safeguards and framework for UID immediately; no condition of UID for accessing any rights, entitlements or public services; and no essential entitlements to be linked with UID alone. It is important to listen to them, consider a way forward that addresses the concerns raised comprehensively. It is important that Government should offer identity in terms of Aadhaar, Passport, Election Card, PAN Card, Ration Card etc., as a right to the citizens rather than a response against the request of the individual seeking it. It should be like a census drive or drive for enrolling voters periodically.

Delivery of Rights, Entitlements and Public Services is an important and large part of the budgets and agenda of the Government at various levels. It can be easily about 30-40%, amounting to something like Rs.5 lakh Crore/Year or Rs.25000/family. Can this kind of outlay left to less sensitive less professional less resourceful individuals? We need to storm into this domain as soon as possible. This may mean **lakhs of professionals, community professionals, resource persons and leaders. Let us work towards reaching out to this need!** ❖

12th Five Year Plan

Planning has been one of the cornerstones of the Indian economy. It is an imperative process to chart and revise India's road to development and growth every five years. The Plans are prepared, executed and monitored by the Planning Commission which is headed by the Prime Minister. 2012 marked the beginning of the 12th Five Year Plan. Each Five Year Plan sets certain targets and lays down strategies and initiatives to achieve those targets.



Planning has been one of the cornerstones of the Indian economy. It is an imperative process to chart and revise India's road to development and growth every five years. The Plans are prepared, executed and monitored by the Planning Commission which is headed by the Prime Minister.

2012 marked the beginning of the 12th Five Year Plan. Each Five Year Plan sets certain targets and lays downs

strategies and initiatives to achieve those targets.

The early Five Year Plans focussed on building heavy industries and infrastructure necessary for building a modern economy. Over the years, Five Year Plans have gone beyond economic planning and have sought to address social issues as well. Since the 90s, the rationale of the Five Year Plans has been questioned in the context of an open, liberalised economy. However, the Plans still

Plan	Notes
First Plan (1951 - 56)	It was based on Harrod-Domar Model. Community Development Program launched in 1952 Focus on agriculture, price stability, power and transport It was a successful plan primarily because of good harvests in the last two years of the plan
Second Plan (1956 - 61) Target Growth: 4.5% Actual Growth: 4.27%	Also called Mahalanobis Plan named after the well known economist Focus - rapid industrialization Advocated huge imports through foreign loans. Shifted basic emphasis from agriculture to industry far too soon. During this plan, prices increased by 30%, against a decline of 13% during the First Plan
Third Plan (1961 - 66) Target Growth: 5.6% Actual Growth: 2.84%	At its conception, it was felt that Indian economy has entered a take-off stage. Therefore, its aim was to make India a 'self-reliant' and 'self-generating' economy. Based on the experience of first two plans, agriculture was given top priority to support the exports and industry. Complete failure in reaching the targets due to unforeseen events - Chinese aggression
Three Annual Plans (1966-69) Plan holiday for 3years.	Prevailing crisis in agriculture and serious food shortage necessitated the emphasis on agriculture during the Annual Plans During these plans a whole new agricultural strategy was implemented. It involving wide-spread distribution of high-yielding varieties of seeds, extensive use of fertilizers, exploitation of irrigation potential and soil conservation. During the Annual Plans, the economy absorbed the shocks generated during the Third Plan
Fourth Plan (1969 - 74) Target Growth: 5.7% Actual Growth: 3.30%	Main emphasis was on growth rate of agriculture to enable other sectors to move forward First two years of the plan saw record production. The last three years did not measure up due to poor monsoon. Influx of Bangladeshi refugees before and after 1971 Indo-Pak war was an important issue
Fifth Plan (1974-79) Target Growth: 4.4% Actual Growth: 3.8	The fifth plan was prepared and launched by D.D. Dhar. It proposed to achieve two main objectives: 'removal of poverty' (Garibi Hatao) and 'attainment of self reliance' Promotion of high rate of growth, better distribution of income and significant growth in the domestic rate of savings were seen as key instruments The plan was terminated in 1978 (instead of 1979) when Janta Party Govt. rose to power.
Rolling Plan (1978 - 80)	There were 2 Sixth Plans. Janta Govt. put forward a plan for 1978-1983. However, the government lasted for only 2 years. Congress Govt. returned to power in 1980 and launched a different plan.
Sixth Plan (1980 - 85) Target Growth: 5.2% Actual Growth: 5.66%	Focus - Increase in national income, modernization of technology, ensuring continuous decrease in poverty and unemployment, population control through family planning, etc.

carry relevance as they help put in perspective economic progress.

Seventh Plan (1985 - 90) Target Growth: 5.0% Actual Growth: 6.01%	<p>Focus - rapid growth in food-grains production, increased employment opportunities and productivity within the framework of basic tenants of planning.</p> <p>The plan was very successful, the economy recorded 6% growth rate against the targeted 5%.</p>
Eighth Plan (1992 - 97)	<p>The eighth plan was postponed by two years because of political uncertainty at the Centre. Worsening Balance of Payment position and inflation during 1990-91 were the key issues during the launch of the plan.</p> <p>The plan undertook drastic policy measures to combat the bad economic situation and to undertake an annual average growth of 5.6%</p> <p>Some of the main economic outcomes during eighth plan period were rapid economic growth, high growth of agriculture and allied sector, and manufacturing sector, growth in exports and imports, improvement in trade and current account deficit.</p>
Ninth Plan (1997- 2002) Target Growth: 6.5% Actual Growth: 5.35%	<p>It was developed in the context of four important dimensions: Quality of life, generation of productive employment, regional balance and self-reliance.</p>
Tenth Plan (2002 - 2007)	<p>To achieve 8% GDP growth rate</p> <p>Reduction of poverty ratio by 5 percentage points by 2007.</p> <p>Providing gainful high quality employment to the addition to the labour force over the tenth plan period.</p> <p>Universal access to primary education by 2007.</p> <p>Reduction in gender gaps in literacy and wage rates by atleast 50% by 2007.</p> <p>Reduction in decadal rate of population growth between 2001 and 2011 to 16.2%.</p> <p>Increase in literacy rate to 72% within the plan period and to 80% by 2012.</p> <p>Reduction of Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) to 45 per 1000 live births by 2007 and to 28 by 2012.</p> <p>Increase in forest and tree cover to 25% by 2007 and 33% by 2012.</p> <p>All villages to have sustained access to potable drinking water by 2012.</p> <p>Cleaning of all major polluted rivers by 2007 and other notified stretches by 2012.</p>
Eleventh Plan (2007 - 2012)	<p>Accelerate GDP growth from 8% to 10%. Increase agricultural GDP growth rate to 4% per year.</p> <p>Create 70 million new work opportunities and reduce educated unemployment to below 5%.</p> <p>Raise real wage rate of unskilled workers by 20 percent.</p> <p>Reduce dropout rates of children from elementary school from 52.2% in 2003-04 to 20% by 2011-12. Increase literacy rate for persons of age 7 years or above to 85%.</p> <p>Lower gender gap in literacy to 10 percentage point. Increase the percentage of each cohort going to higher education from the present 10% to 15%.</p> <p>Reduce infant mortality rate to 28 and maternal mortality ratio to 1 per 1000 live births</p> <p>Reduce Total Fertility Rate to 2.1</p> <p>Provide clean drinking water for all by 2009. Reduce malnutrition among children between 0-3 years to half its present level. Reduce anaemia among women and girls by 50%.</p> <p>Raise the sex ratio for age group 0-6 to 935 by 2011-12 and to 950 by 2016-17</p> <p>Ensure that at least 33 percent of the direct and indirect beneficiaries of all government schemes are women and girl children</p> <p>Ensure all-weather road connection to all habitation with population 1000 and above (500 in hilly and tribal areas) by 2009, and ensure coverage of all significant habitation by 2015</p> <p>Connect every village by telephone by November 2007 and provide broadband connectivity to all villages by 2012</p> <p>Increase forest and tree cover by 5 percentage points.</p> <p>Attain WHO standards of air quality in all major cities by 2011-12.</p> <p>Treat all urban waste water by 2011-12 to clean river waters.</p> <p>Increase energy efficiency by 20 percentage points by 2016-17.</p>

The 12th Plan marks a change in the process by which Five Year Plans are formulated in the country. The Planning Commission held broad-based consultations with stakeholders from civil society. Several thematic High Level Expert Groups and Working Groups were constituted to put forward recommendations for the Plan. As a result, the 12th Plan puts forward strategies taking into account the diverse experiences of the stakeholders.

'Faster, more inclusive, sustainable growth' is the theme of the 12th Plan. The Plan which was approved by the

National Development Council (NDC) in December 2012, hopes achieve a growth rate of 8.2% in 2012-17. Increased GDP growth will result in increased income and if the growth is inclusive enough, it would result in higher standard of living of the poor. For the growth to be inclusive and fast, it must be ensured that sectors such as agriculture, micro enterprises, etc. grow at a quicker pace. Rapid revenue growth would also help the government in funding Flagship Programmes such as MGNREGS, SSA, etc.

Measurable Indicators of 12th Plan

Economic Growth

Real GDP Growth Rate 8.2 %

Agriculture Growth Rate of 4.0 %

Manufacturing Growth Rate of 10%

Every State must have a higher average growth rate than that achieved in the 11th Plan

Poverty and Employment

Consumption poverty to be reduced by 10 percentage points

Generate 50 million new jobs in the non-farm sector and provide skill certification

Education

Mean Years of Schooling to increase to seven years

Enhance access to higher education by creating two million additional seats for each age cohort aligned to the skill needs of the economy.

Eliminate gender and social gap in school enrolment

Health

Reduce IMR to 25 and MMR to 1 per 1000 live births, and improve Child Sex Ratio to 950

Reduce Total Fertility Rate to 2.1

Reduce under-nutrition among children aged 0–3 years to half of the NFHS-3 levels

Infrastructure, Including Rural Infrastructure

Increase investment in infrastructure to 9% of GDP

Increase the Gross Irrigated Area from 90 million hectare to 103 million hectare

Provide electricity to all villages and reduce AT&C losses to 20 per cent

Connect all villages with all-weather roads by the

Upgrade national and state highways to the minimum two-lane standard

Complete Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridors

Increase rural tele-density to 70 per cent

Ensure 50 per cent of rural population has access to 55 LPCD piped drinking water supply and 50 per cent of gram panchayats achieve the Nirmal Gram Status

Environment and Sustainability

Increase green cover (as measured by satellite imagery) by 1 million hectare every year during Plan period.

Add 30000 MW of renewable energy capacity

Reduce emission intensity of GDP in line with the target of 20 per cent to 25 per cent reduction by 2020 over 2005 levels

Service Delivery

Provide access to banking services to 90 per cent Indian households

Major subsidies and welfare related beneficiary payments to be shifted to a direct cash transfer

Considering the current economic slowdown, the Plan admits that the 8.2% growth rate seems colossal. It calls for bold policy changes to create an economic environment that would enable growth. Immediate steps to reverse to reverse the current slump and constructive policy change

component.

Livelihoods

Agriculture

It is estimated that 60% in the country depend on

Allocation of Centre's GBS by Major Sectors—Eleventh Plan Realisation and Twelfth Plan Projection

(₹ Crore in Current Prices)

S. No.	Major Sectors	Eleventh Plan		Twelfth Plan		% Increase over Eleventh Plan
		Realisation	% Share	Projection	% Share	
1	Agriculture and Water Resources	116554	7.33	284030	7.96	143.69
2	Rural Development and Panchayati Raj	397524	25.01	673034	18.86	69.31
3	Scientific Departments	58690	3.69	142167	3.98	142.23
4	Transport and Energy	204076	12.84	448736	12.57	119.89
5	Education	177538	11.17	453728	12.71	155.57
6	Health and Child Development	112646	7.09	408521	11.45	262.66
7	Urban Development	63465	3.99	164078	4.60	158.53
8	Others	458849	28.87	994333	27.86	116.70
Total Plan Allocation		1589342	100.00	3568626	100.00	124.53

to correct the economic environment are a must for achieving this growth rate. The Plan presents three scenarios based on studying the principal drivers of growth and the interaction between them. These three scenarios, termed as: 'Strong Inclusive Growth', 'Insufficient Action' and 'Policy Logjam', each depending on the degree of policy change and initiative taken by the Government.

The Plan lays down strategies for acceleration growth across sectors. Infrastructure, agriculture, manufacturing, science and technology are the thrust areas. To ensure inclusion, the Plan also guides the Government towards achieving universal health, education, access to drinking water and sanitation. The Plan emphasises on the need for sustainable development and eco friendly development.

Poverty Alleviation

The 11th Plan allocated 25% of its budget (Rs. 39,7524 crore) to rural development and Panchayati Raj. In addition, it has spent Rs.1,86,539 crore on its 13 flagship programmes. Rural development continues to remain a priority in the 12th Plan. The Plan has allocated Rs.673034 crore, which is 18.86% of the total budget allocation.

The resources for Rural Development Programmes in the areas of Housing, Employment and livelihood had been substantially increased during the Eleventh Plan as compared to the initial allocations. Even a moderate increase in resources for these programmes proposed in the Twelfth Plan over this high base means a substantial budgetary support for these programmes.

Better housing, employment opportunities and boosting livelihoods of rural poor are the highlights in this

agriculture directly or indirectly for their income. This makes agriculture a priority in economic planning. The agriculture sector has been riddled by crises over the past thirty years. The 11th Plan period saw agriculture grow at an average of 3.3%. The 12th Plan has set a target of 4% growth for the sector.

The Plan states the key drivers of agriculture growth to be:

1. viability of farm enterprise and returns to investment that depend on scale, market access, prices and risk;
2. availability and dissemination of appropriate technologies that depend on quality of research and extent of skill development;
3. Plan expenditure on agriculture and in infrastructure which together with policy must aim to improve functioning of markets and more efficient use of natural resources; and governance in terms of institutions that make possible better delivery of services like credit, animal health and of quality inputs like seeds, fertilisers, pesticides and farm machinery.

'Land hunger' continues to unabated among the poor. For this, the Plan calls for tenancy reforms, setting up of Public Land Banks (PLBs) – where large land owners can deposit unused land for others to use.

The document stresses on routing benefits to small and marginal farmer collectives rather than reach out to individuals in these sections. Availing inputs, credit, marketing the produce collectively and production in small units would ensure better returns to the farmers. The Plan also takes note of the need for better marketing facilities

for farmers. It urges the private sector to increase ware house capacities, cold storage and improve the supply chain.

Climate change and global warming are a looming threat over agriculture in the country. Erratic rainfall, declining ground water and extreme temperatures bring with them the possibilities of drought and crop failure. The Plan suggests the use of technologies such as GIS to make better use of land and water resources. It also calls for watersheds to be implemented on scale across the country for better resource management.

The allied sectors also receive a considerable boost in the Plan. The National Dairy Project (NDP), National Livestock Mission would be reinforced to provide support services in all types of livestock – cattle, poultry, goat rearing, piggyery, etc.

The Plan also announces the launch the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) with the purpose of “transforming Indian Agriculture into a climate-resilient production system through adoption... of appropriate measures...” for crops and animal husbandry. The Mission would focus on efficient resource utilisation, improved farm practices and integrated farming.

Besides these measures, the Plan also lays down in detail measures to strengthen extension programmes to bridge the gap between agriculturists and farmers, high-end research and development in agriculture and knowledge dissemination to farmers.

MGNREGA 2.0

The Plan takes cognisance of the success of MGNREGS in



the six years of its implementation. MGNREGS is the largest wage employment scheme in the world. It is estimated that it has provided up to 1200 crore days of employment to rural poor, especially SCs and STs. It has arrested distress migration in some areas and has increased the purchasing power of the poor across the country. However, the Plan admits to the inherent and deep seated loopholes in the structure and implementation of the programme. The demand driven, rights-based and decentralised approach of the scheme is yet to gain ground. Keeping this success as the base, the Plan has laid down new directions to strengthen the Scheme. Some of the suggestions for a stronger MGNREGS include:

- * And expanded, unambiguous and more specific list of works that cover agriculture, fisheries, sanitation and other works
- * Systems to record the demand for works in order to reinforce the demand-driven strategy of the programme
 - * Labour budgeting to assess the quantum of demand for works and the time/seasonality when the works are required and preparing a shelf of works accordingly
 - * Adopting technology to reduce delays in wage payments – online funds transfer, adopting the electronic Fund Management System (e-FMS), Business Correspondents
 - * Establishment of Social Audit Units by Gram Sabha to facilitate social audits, regular audit of MGNREGS by C&AG



- * Setting up a three-tier vigilance team in the states to deal with complaints of corruption and malpractices in the implementation of the scheme approach to development with focus on rural livelihoods and overall human development. It calls for the formation and nurturing institutions of the poor that would result in

Priority Sectors Identified in the Twelfth Plan

Sectors that will create large employment; Textiles and Garments, Leather and Footwear, Gems and Jewellery, Food Processing Industries, Handlooms and Handicrafts.

Sectors that will deepen technology capabilities in Manufacturing: Machine Tools, IT Hardware and Electronics.

Sectors that will provide Strategic Security: Telecommunications equipment, Aerospace Shipping, Defence Equipment,

Manufacturing Technology Sectors for Energy Security: Solar Energy, Clean Coal Technologies, Nuclear power generation,

Capital equipment for India's Infrastructure Growth: Heavy electrical equipment, Heavy transport, earth moving and mining equipment

Sectors where India has competitive advantage: Automotive Sectors, Pharmaceutical and Medical Equipment,

Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Sector: The base for the Manufacturing Sector—employment and enterprise generation

NRLM – a new paradigm

While MGNREGS 2.0 would continue to cater to the employment needs of poor in the off seasons, it is their social, financial inclusion. The Mission also hopes to build an environment that allows poor to be level players in the market.

Schemes	
National Rural Drinking Water Programme	<p>50% household to have access to piped drinking water</p> <p>Participation of community (especially women, children and marginalised communities) in conceptualisation, planning, implementation of scheme at village level</p> <p>All Government schools and anganwadis will have water supply for drinking and for toilets</p> <p>All community toilets will be provided with running water supply</p> <p>Solar powered pumps in remote areas and areas with erratic power supply</p> <p>Recycling and reuse of waste water would be encouraged</p> <p>Convergence with sanitation scheme to cover open defecation free villages with piped water supply and vice versa.</p>
Total Sanitation Campaign	<p>50% Gram Panchayats receive Nirmal Gram Puraskar</p> <p>All households to have toilets on their premises</p> <p>Special programme to cover marginalised sections</p> <p>Unit cost of latrines raised to 10,000, through convergence with MGNREGA</p> <p>Toilets to be built with locally available materials</p> <p>Nimriti Kendras (sanitation marts) to make available affordable construction materials</p>
Indira Awas Yojana	<p>Improve quality of housing</p> <p>Increase financial assistance</p> <p>Adopt innovative technologies, alternative materials, designs to reduce costs and damage to environment</p>

NRLM that will work towards generating new livelihoods opportunities in rural areas. NRLM comes with a fresh The Mission would be implemented in a phased manner in

order to ensure better resource utilisation and outcome monitoring. NRLM's key components are

- Building institutions of the poor
- Promotion of financial inclusion

Support for livelihoods and social innovations
Recognising the need for professional help at the grassroots, the Plan calls for staffing block-level offices with professionals who would help in the planning and implementation.

Improvement in Health Indicators

- * Reduction of Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) to 25
- * Reduction of Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) to 100
- * Reduction of Total Fertility Rate (TFR) to 2.1
- * Prevention, and reduction of under-nutrition in children under 3 years to half
- * Prevention and reduction of anaemia among women aged 15–49 years to 28 per cent
- * Raising child sex ratio in the 0–6 year age group from 914 to 950
- * Prevention and reduction of burden of Communicable and Non-Communicable diseases (including mental illnesses) and injuries
- * Reduction of poor households' out-of-pocket expenditure - Increase in public health spending to 1.87 per cent of GDP

Skill development is a significant component of the Mission. It is envisaged that 1 crore youth would be employed in automobile, textile, manufacturing, hospitality, retails and other emerging sectors. For this, a thorough demand assessment of the skills required would be made to tailor training courses accordingly. Further, the Mission would also support micro-entrepreneurs by infusing energy into the RUDSETIs, encouraging apprenticeship for micro-entrepreneurs and entering into partnerships with training organisations to impart trainings.

Employment The demographic dividend - the co-existence of a large unemployed population and a huge demand for labour - would be reaped with a slew of initiatives to skill and place unemployed youth in the country. The Plan envisages that 50 million people would be provided employment in the next five years and an equal number would receive certification. Also, the Plan hopes that percentage of the workforce that has received formal training would increase from 10% to 25%.

- Diversification and strengthening of the livelihoods of the poor
- Promotion of convergence and partnerships between institutions of the poor and the government and non-

The current challenges skill development in the country include lack of a uniform standard in training, shortage of capacity to provide skill training, outreach and lack of proper systems to implement skill development programmes.

Towards Food Security

There is an alarmingly wide gap between the demand for food grain and food grain yield in the country. To ensure the food security needs of the country are met, the Plan proposes to strengthen the National Food Security Mission (NFSM).

In the 11th Plan, NFSM failed to accomplish the target of increasing the yield and stabilising the growth in both low productivity area and in high productivity area and hence it has been revamped again in the 12th plan.

In the 12th Plan, a revamped NFSM would focus on:

- * Focus on cropping system/ farming system in an area rather than individual crops
- * Coarse cereals and fodder, wheat, rice and pulses would be covered
- * The 60,000 pulses village programme and the intensive millets production programme will largely be shifted into NFSM from RKVY
- * Preliminary targets - a) enhancing production by additional 25 million tonnes of food grains (10 million tonnes of rice, 10 million tonnes of wheat, 3 million tonnes of pulses and 2 million tonnes of millet)
- * expand fodder production to meet the demand both of green and dry fodder
- * Raising the target of dual purpose feed and fodder to 30 million tonnes, with additional production of coarse cereals put at 7 million tonnes.
- * Targeting 2–2.5 per cent increase in food grains production in the Twelfth Plan.
- * New Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm which will be launched with a target to increase the production of oilseeds by at least 4.5 per cent per annum.

government agencies

- Promotion of skills and placement support

Drawing on the experience from skill programmes so far, the Plan identifies certain key areas of intervention to scale up skill initiatives.

A permanent institution, the National Skill Development Authority (NSDA) would be setup to coordinate all skill development related activities in the country. The NSDA would work with other relevant agencies to prepare strategies and programmes for skilling 8 crore people in the Plan period. The Plan also provides for the setting up of the National Skills Quality Framework (NSQF) with the mandate of ensuring uniformity in skill trainings across the country. Additionally, The NSQF would also be in charge of engaging the industry and ascertaining its requirements. Further, multi-exit and multi-entry in training would be facilitated that would allow students to pursue their education after a gap. This would especially benefit the poor students.

The network of training institutions would also be expanded to hitherto underserved areas. It is proposed that 1500 new it is would set up under the Kaushal Vignana Yojana (KVY). There would be a separate Public-Private-Partnerships



(PPP) window in the KVY through which 3000 ITIs would be established. These ITIs would cater to 30 lakh youth, of which 15 lakh would belong to socially and economically marginalised sections.

The Plan also proposes to introduce a dynamic, online Labour Market Information System (LMIS) as a platform for



knowledge sharing on skill development and employment issues. The LMIS would be regularly updated about the courses, skills-in-demand, training institutions, etc.

Drinking water, Sanitation and Housing

Providing access to basic amenities such as drinking water, sanitation and shelter are important stepping stones towards inclusion.

National Rural Drinking Water Project (NRDWP), Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) and Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) are the dominant vehicles for drinking water, sanitation and housing in rural areas.

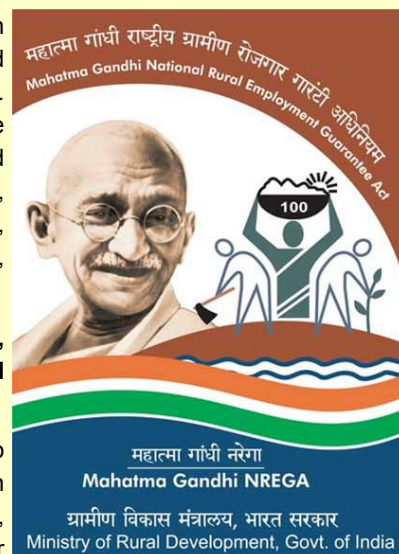
Social Sectors

The volume three of the Plan document is entirely dedicated to the social sectors vis. Health, education, skill development and employment, women's agency and child rights , and social inclusion. These sections of the Plan provide more clarity on how the Government wishes to achieve social inclusion of marginalised communities. Besides that, the volume also presents the strategies for building more equitable, qualitative and accessible public services. Health and Education are the thrust areas in the social sectors.

Health

The Plan recognises the importance and the pressing need for a robust health care system. At present, India's health care sector is characterised by a mix of public and private players. The quality between and within these players differs widely, with private health care beating public health care on most counts. Poor public health services drive the poor to seek services from private institutions. This implies heavy expenditure out of the pockets of the poor. The 12th Plan takes into account the shortcomings in the existing health care system and its failure to reduce maternal mortality, infant mortality and prevent disease. The Plan lays out strategies to create a health care system that is available, qualitative and affordable to every citizen in the country.

The Plan aims at Universal Health Coverage (UHC) which would ensure "equitable access for all Indian citizens in any part of the country...to affordable, accountable and appropriate, assured quality health



services (promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative) as well as services addressing wider determinants of health... with the Government being the guarantor and enabler, although not necessarily the only provider of health and related services.” Health services would be made available to individuals at affordable prices and free of cost for a major part of the population.

Mission (NHM). NHM, which would cover both rural and urban areas would roll out in the Twelfth Plan period and would form the Government’s flagship health care programme. NHM’s core principles include universal coverage, achieving quality standards and decentralised planning.

The Plan calls on the Government to amplify its presence in health care. Increased availability of Government run services would reduce dependency on the private players, who are usually beyond reach of poor. It also expects the budget allocation for health care to be increased to 2.5% by the end of the Plan period. Further, the Plan calls for wider reforms in the way health care is managed and delivered to the poor. Convergence between various health schemes (promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative), expanding human resources, and better regulation of medical practices & drugs are planned for. The Plan lays emphasis on extending accessibility of health services to all vulnerable people. Hospitals would be disabled friendly, gender sensitive and child friendly. Further, it suggests tele-medicine and other technology-based mechanisms to enhance availability and accessibility of health care. In line with its inclusive agenda, the Plan also calls on village level health bodies such as Village Health, Nutrition and Sanitation Committee (VHNSC) to strive for higher representation of vulnerable communities, especially women.

Education: Education is a long-term solution out of poverty. A well-educated population would have access to better employment opportunities and make informed choices. Progress in education is usually measured in terms



of enrolment ratios and literacy rates.

The Right to Education which came into operation during the 11th Plan period has gone a long way in improving these indicators. The current GER is 115%. Of the children who have enrolled in primary school in the 11th Plan period, a majority are girls. However, despite the progress there remain some teething problems in ensuring education for all children in the country.

The education scenario in the country is plagued with issues of accessibility, quality and proper infrastructure. While the number of primary schools has increased considerably, difficult-to-reach areas still remain uncovered. Further, there is a shortage of staff and staff absenteeism in many schools. The facilities in the schools do not provide an environment conducive to learning. The Plan document states that only 4.8% schools have all the nine facilities a school should have, as prescribed the Right to Education Act. The Plan also acknowledges that enrolment at higher and secondary school level needs to be increased to ensure higher employability. It also lays emphasis on learning outcomes rather than titular indicators.

The Plan also pays attention on early child education. Studies prove that the age 3-7 years are the most formative. With this in mind, the Plan calls for learning from international models to improve early child education. It also seeks to increase the availability and accessibility of pre-primary schools. It envisages that 50% primary schools would have pre-primary education facilities by the end of the 12th Plan period.

Out-of-school children (OoSC), Children With Special Needs (CWSN) and children in vulnerable circumstances (streetchildren, etc.) would be approached with special measures to bring them back into schools. Residential

UNIVERSAL ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

REFORMS FOR UPLIFTMENT OF THE
WEAKER SECTIONS OF INDIA

'An Educated India is
A Progressing India'



Education for All

schooling for the 11-14 age group would be strengthened, open schooling, polytechnics, etc. would be involved in skilling Out-of-School children. Efforts would also be made to accelerate their learning abilities to bring them at par with their counterparts in school. Education needs of CWSN would be identified and their curricula would be customised. Also, their placement in general schools, access to aids and construction of disabled-friendly infrastructure in schools would be enhanced.

The Plan also makes note of girl child education. It suggests more gender-sensitive curricula and special modules on sexual harassment. It also provides for the expansion of government-run girls' schools especially in backward regions, bridge schools, etc. In urban areas, the Plan reiterates that private schools must admit 25% students from economically and socially weaker sections.

The document, while outlining a strategy for expanding the presence of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) also puts forwards measures to ensure equity in access to these institutions. It is a fact that students from marginalised sections of the society are underrepresented in HEIs. As school education spreads, more and more students from socially and economically backward segments would want to enrol in HEIs. To encourage these students, the Plan suggests various supportive measures including the National Initiative on Inclusion of People with Disabilities, and model HEIs, polytechnics, etc. in backward, low GER regions.

The Plan also suggests other broad based measures to improve the quality and standards of excellence in education in the country. It lays down strategies for creating an ample professional force to cater to the rising education needs. It also calls for an overhaul in the curriculum and evaluation methods to make them more student-friendly. Importantly, through the re-introduction of the Saakshar Bharat programme for adult education it calls for a shift in the compass from literacy to lifelong learning. In other measures to improve the quality of education, it calls for building model schools, school leadership and school

mentoring to direct other educational institutions towards quality education with focus on learning.

The key education schemes laid down by the Plan include:

- * Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)
- * Model Schools Scheme
- * Girls Hostel Scheme
- * ICT @ Schools
- * Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage
- * Scheme of Vocational Education
- * National Means-cum Merit Scholarship Scheme
- * National Incentive to Girls
- * Appointment of Language Teachers

Conclusion

The 12th Plan has been operational since 2012. The Plan shows the way forward for India to achieve 8.2% GDP growth in an inclusive manner. In the first year of its implementation, the Plan has faced some serious setbacks as far as GDP growth is concerned, spurred by a global economic slowdown and lack of policy change. While the Plan lays down comprehensive and thorough strategies to ensure the agenda of faster and more inclusive growth is met, the extent to which these measures would be implemented remains to be seen. It repeatedly takes note of shortcomings in implementation and suggests convergence, vigilance bodies, etc. to rectify these.

The Plan, being formulated through extensive consultations with various stakeholders and experts draws from field and policy level experience in implementing initiatives. The Plan also indicates that CSO, NGOs and private players would be taken on board in implementation. Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) and involvement of the community has been suggested for all initiatives.

It also marks an important shift by stressing on strengthening the role of collectives and empowering rural masses. It does not look at inclusion or poverty merely as doling out schemes and benefits to the poor but involving them in the process of development.

The Planning Commission should be given credit for adopting the agenda of inclusion, especially in the context of a widening economic, social and cultural gap between the rich and the poor. However, certain corrections need to be made in the environment for these measures to materialise and deliver the desired results. ❖



Contract Sweepers in Bangalore

'Pourakarmikas' or sweepers in Bangalore City come from neighbouring states in the hope of finding decent livelihoods. There are over 20,000 pourakarmikas hired on contract by various contractors. Pourakarmikas are lured to Bangalore with the promise of a well-paying decent job. However, upon their arrival in the city, they realise that they have been recruited to collect garbage and clean the city's dirty streets. They work in some of the most uninhabitable conditions. 'livelihoods' examines their issues.

Health Problems: The pourakarmikas, are suffering with various occupational ailments like Respiratory problems, Lung diseases, Back pains, Joint pains, High blood pressure, Diabetes, Other commutable diseases and cuts and bruises as they are working with their bare hands. Back aches remain to be a major complaint among the women. Some of them say that they face lot of stress because of their supervisors. In instances where VIPs pass through the roads, they are pressurised to clean the roads spot and span within a very less amount of time. This stress, among some people has led to high blood pressure.

None of the pourakarmikas are provided with any of the safety provisions like face masks, gloves, dust jackets etc. Without any safety, the pourakarmikas work with their bare hands while removing the dirt and garbage from the dust bins and the drainage holes. This further increases the chances of attack of various skin diseases and other forms of contagious diseases. They say that in spite of their repeated requests to the supervisors, they haven't been provided with any of the equipment.

The issue of migration: These people are migrants from Andhra Pradesh or Tamil Nadu. They have been working as pourakarmikas for the past 15-20 years. Many of these people have migrated to Bangalore City in the belief that the city would provide them great job opportunities and help them earn sufficient money. All these migrants are from the drought affected areas of the two states. They have migrated along with their family several years ago. Each family consists of more than 4 to 5 members. People end up in this job through word of mouth information. Also as all of them are migrants, they are not eligible for any sort of welfare schemes offered by the government. This further increases their troubles resulting in debts

Lack of access to health schemes: Because of the private sweepers being migrants, they remain not eligible for any of the government welfare schemes. In case of the government

pourakarmika who works in municipality, are paid a monthly salary of 25000 rupees and has free medical treatment from a government or private hospital. They are also provided free housing facility, water facility and other such amenities.

Work Routine: The Pourakarmikas generally work in the shift system. They work 8 to 9 hours a day. At the beginning of the day they are collected at their respective points in the municipality van that carries garbage and are dropped at the work places and are again dropped back at the same points after the work. This can cause severe health problems and is definitely a very unhealthy way to start the day. The supervisor would count the attendance thrice a day. This, they say is quite stressful and does not allow them to work in peace. They cook food early in the morning and bring it along with them to have it in the afternoon.

Role of private players: Among the estimated 20,000 number of pourakarmikas present in the city, majority of them work on a contract basis. These people are recruited with the help of word of mouth information. The migrants who work in the city inform the same to their neighbours in the villages. They in turn land up in Bangalore to take up the same job. Initially, at the time of appointment the pourakarmikas are promised to be paid an amount of 3,000 rupees to 3,500 rupees. But, at the end of the month they would receive something around 2,500 and not more than that. Also this amount has no receipt and when asked no explanation is offered.

They are never allotted any sort of leaves. Many of them said that if they do not come to work for one day, an amount of 150 rupees is deducted from the salary. Also there are no maternity leaves offered to the private pourakarmikas whereas the government workers have enough casual leaves through the year along with the maternity leave.

There is no assigned work space for the private pourakarmikas and the attendance is collected from their daily work place. They are not answerable to anybody. Some of the pourakarmikas have also complained that they are not even being provided with a broomstick. They said that their supervisors ordered them to buy the broomsticks themselves if they would wish to hold on to the job.

The contract system within the city is very well established. We tried to meet any of the contractors of the regions that we have visited which never happened. The Bangalore Pourakarmika Unions in Bangalore constantly participate in various sorts of protests demanding their rights regarding payments and other welfare schemes that they are eligible for.

These protests have had little impact on the government and its behaviour towards the paurakarmikas.

The National Commission for Safai Karmacharis clearly states that the sweepers should be provided with face masks, gloves and soap. Also the Karnataka Municipality Act 1980 states that the Pourakarmikas should be provided with uniforms, protective wears and regular health check-ups. It is evident that none of these acts are in place and have been thoroughly violated.

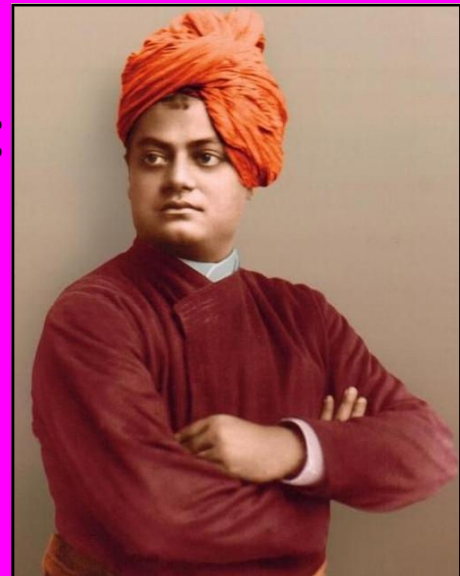
All the contract paurakarmikas which constitute the majority of the paurakarmikas in the city bear all the atrocities of the contractors waiting in the hope that one day their contract would be taken over by the government and hence they would be government job holders. Fifteen to twenty years have been passed and people are still waiting in hope with no use. This waiting has deteriorated their health conditions. Migrating to the city has landed them in a situation where they are not eligible for any sort of welfare schemes making life further miserable.

With the vast expansion in the area of the city and with the domination of the private contractors and the government's inability to make sure that the set laws are in action makes life miserable for the pourakarmikas. It is very shocking to realize



how basic health facilities, protective wears and other facilities are being denied to the paurakarmikas who work in dirt and garbage all through their life to keep our cities clean. There is an urgent need for the government to interfere and make sure that the private paurakarmikas are paid well and also the various welfare schemes are provided on par with the government sweepers. If this is not done, the entire system of paurakarmikas, their massive amount of population involved in the cleaning of the city is nothing but gross exploitation of human resources. ❖

**The more we come out
and do good to others,
the more our hearts will
be purified, and God
will be in them.**



Swamy Vivekananda

12 January National Youth Day

Direction	Idea	Innovation	Emerging Livelihood
Waste Plastic to Fuel	Pension Disbursement	Mineral Water Selling	
<p>Plastic usage, though harmful to the environment has increased over the past 20 years, making plastic waste management the need of the hour. In this context, Pune's Municipal Corporation made an agreement with Rudra Environment Solutions to convert the plastic waste into fuel. It converts plastic bags, bottles, food wrappers, cables and old tyres into fuel. The Municipal Corporation gave space, water and power to Rudra Environment Solutions which incurred the total production costs. It purchased plastic waste from Pune's citizens and converted it into fuel.</p> <p>The project was started on a pilot basis at Dankawadi ward, Pune city. In this ward 9000 kg plastic is produced in a month. With this plastic, 5400 litres of fuel could be produced. On an average, at least 200 kg plastic is produced in each ward every day. ❖</p>	<p>The Himachal Pradesh government started a biometric system for entitlements in 2011. Himachal Pradesh government is giving a monthly pension Rs.330 to old age persons, disabled persons, widows and leprosy patients. In the new system, bank accounts for eligible persons are opened and a smart card is issued to them.</p> <p>Each month, the Government deposits the pension in the beneficiaries' accounts. The bank has appointed a pension delivery person and selects some pension disbursement points in the villages. It also gives pensions at the door steps of the people who are unable to come to the service points. Himachal Pradesh government is implementing this program through Punjab National Bank and UCO Bank. Presently, many states are planning to disburse pensions through biometric system. ❖</p>	<p>Water is a basic need for human beings. With the rapid shrinking of natural water resources, bottled and canned mineral water has become a necessity. Mineral water has already become a permanent fixture in the urban setting while it is slowly establishing presence in rural areas. Mineral water industry grows at a pace of 25% annually. The product is available in bottles, packets, cans, etc.</p> <p>Millions of people in mineral water processing units, transporting and marketing. It is estimated that the demand for mineral water is about Rs.10000 crore. Above 100 national and international companies are selling mineral bottled water in the country. Near 2500 local branded companies are also in this business.</p> <p>The Government recognizes Mineral water plant as self-employment provides loans for setting up mineral water plants. ❖</p>	
People	Leader	Community Worker	Volunteer/ professional
Youth Leaders	Field Assistant in MGNREGS	Community Coordinator	
<p>There are innumerable youth organizations across the country. These organizations are usually started by young people who feel they have a responsibility towards making developing their village/slum/locality. Most youth organizations take up activities such as clean-up drives, awareness programs – on health, sanitation, etc.</p> <p>These organizations are headed by dynamic, visionary and proactive youth. They could be elected by other members of the organizations or may take the leadership role voluntarily. For most youth leaders this is not a full-time vocation. They are either students or have other jobs. They volunteer with their organization in their free time.</p> <p>Youth leaders are expected to -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Be committed to the cause of development * Spend time for activities * Motivate and inspire youth * Transparent ❖ 	<p>Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is being implemented in rural areas since the past 8 years. Field Assistants (FAs) are key functionaries in implementing the program. Candidates belonging to the Gram Panchayats, Intermediate pass and those in the age group 18 to 35 years are considered for the post.</p> <p>FA's responsibilities are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works identification with Panchayat Writing muster rolls and assigning and measuring the earth works Coordinating Srama Shakti Sangalu t Taking attendance of labours every day at work site Ensuring the output from labours Attending all review meetings Ensuring worksite facilities Facilitating Gram Saba meeting ❖ 	<p>Jattu Trust work for the tribal people of Vizianagaram district in AP. The Trust runs a pre-school education programme in collaboration with IKP for tribal children.</p> <p>Under this programme, Community Coordinators (CCs) to manage Balabadis (pre-schools) in 3 to 4 villages. Graduates, willing to travel to remote areas, teaching and language skills are considered for the CC post.</p> <p>The CCs' roles are as follows...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular visit to Balabadi center and ensure full attendance of the children Giving on job support to Balabadi centers teachers Participating in teachers monthly review meetings Reporting to Project Coordinator about the Balabadi centers ❖ 	

Food Security Program

Andhra Pradesh Mahila Abhivruddhi Society (APMAS) and Mission for Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas (MEPMA) Gudivada Town Level Federation (TLF) started Food Security program to provide quality rice to the poor people at less cost comparing market rate and ensure to provide rice in all seasons in the year.

Coordinators facilitated discussions on 'Food Security Program' in SHGs meetings at all slums in the town. SHGs made resolutions by approving and supporting the program. SHGs send their resolutions to the Slum Level Federations (SLFs) about expressing their willingness on 'Food Security Program' and agreeing the terms and conditions of the program. They also send number of interested members in the program. Total 513 Self Help Groups (SHGs) from all 25 SLFs in the town involved in the program. SLFs formed Sub-Committees with 3 to 4 Executive Committee (EC) members to implement the program at the slum level. The same way TLF also formed Sub-Committee to coordinate the program at town level.

TLF organized training on Food Security Program to the Sub -Committee members. The committee members made assessment survey basing on SHGs resolutions. After consolidation interested members list submitted to

the TLF Sub-Committee. After getting all consolidated lists from the SLF Sub-Committees TLF Committee members approached various wholesale dealers or rice mills owner to find out quality rice and at cheaper prices. After dealers survey they selected the suitable dealers and negotiated about rice purchase. The SLFs purchased rice from the dealers. SLF kept the purchased rice in the room. SLF took one room for rice preservation on rent basis. SLF mobilized money from its savings and loan from banks. The purchased rice was distributed to the SHGs members with adding small amount of service charges by the SLF Sub Committee. The members have to repay the money in 4 to 5 installments.

Total 5850 quintals rice was purchased at Rs. 1465 per quintal. SLF sell it members at Rs. 1500 per quintal. At that time market price was Rs. 1650 per quintal. Members got Rs.150 per quintal and they accessed rice on credit. Total members got profit Rs. 877500 and SLFs got Rs. 204750. At all level such as SHG, SLF and TLF levels various books such as general ledger, transactions book and receipts were maintained. Repayment percentage is 100% in all SLFs. With the program poor people are getting quality rice at cheaper rate and also having rice in all seasons in the year. ❖

Convergence

Prevent Child Labour

Sidhur works towards preventing child labour in Andhra Pradesh. It particularly focuses on curbing the practice in the National Highway 9 (NH 9) areas of Hyderabad where there are a number factories and home based production units that are said to be employing children.

The organisation is informed about instances of child labour in the area by 1098 Childline. Then, Sidhur conducts an investigation ascertain whether the information is correct. Upon confirmation of the news, a squad is formed to raid the location and rescue the children. The squad consists of an area inspector, assistant labour officer, assistant commissioner and a coordinator from Sidhur. A woman employee from Sidhur is also included in case there are girl children employed at the location. An FIR is lodged against the employer.

After the children are rescued, the Labour Department notes the details of the child and gives a copy to the NGO and the other to the children's guardians. Sidhur also makes a detailed profile of the children for future use. It then informs the Child Welfare Commissioner about the rescue operation. The children are sent to rescue homes

with the consent of their guardians.

At the rescue home, the children's age is determined with the help of official records and proof documents. In the absence of sufficient proof, age determinations are conducted at Gandhi Medical College. Children below 6 years are sent to Sishu Vihars while those above 6 years are retained at the rescue home.

The case is taken up by the labour court and a judgement is passed on the same day. A compensation of twenty thousand is given per child. The children are sent back home and are enrolled in schools. ❖



Street children

There are an estimated 1.1 crore street children in India. According to UNICEF there are three types of street children: a) Street Living Children: children who ran away from their families and live alone on the streets; b) Street Working Children: children who spend most of their time on the streets, fending for themselves, but returning home on a regular basis and c) Children from Street Families: children who live on the streets with their families.

Most start rag picking, begging, and working in road side tea shops, prostitution and street vending. They are exposed to harsh climate, pollution, unhygienic conditions and suffer from health problems like HIV, TB, hepatitis, bacterial, fungal infections and most of the girls suffer from severe reproductive infections. Due to the bitter conditions they live in they get habituated to drinking, smoking, drugs and gambling.

Street children are sent to remand (Vagrancy Act) in adult jails where they are abused again. There is little provision made for these children to contact their parents or obtain proper guidance or legal representation. Though the street children come under the Juvenile Justice Act, very little is being done regarding their rights and their protection. ❖

Safety Audit for Women

Women's safety is increasingly becoming a casualty of large metropolitan cities. With more and more women stepping out of their homes to study and work, the onus of creating safe public spaces grows heavier. Women have to bear with various forms of verbal and physical abuse on public transport and public spaces like malls, parking lots, bus stops, etc. Taking cognisance of this malaise, the Women's Safety Audit was developed in Canada in 1989 and adopted by the UN-Habitat in 2007.

The purpose of this audit is to identify what works in what contexts, using the women's safety audit as a tool for preventing urban violence as well as empowering. This audit is conducted at many levels and different methods are used to take the data - literature review, email, face-to-face and telephone interviews using an open-ended questionnaire survey.

This tool method was conducted in Delhi by an organization called "Jagore" to analyse the level of safety they found that the infrastructure is not women friendly, badly lit streets, empty lots, badly maintained public spaces, lack of public toilets, Poor public transport and rude, unhelpful, abusive behaviour of bus drivers and conductors, insufficient presence and unresponsive and aggressive attitudes of police and civic authorities, Isolation and lack of community life, neighbours and police do not intervene in situations of domestic violence, etc. ❖

Internally Displaced People

Tribal people from Chhattisgarh have migrated to Khammam, AP to escape Naxal violence and unrest. Most IDPs in Khammam have migrated from Sukuma, Dantewada and Bijapur districts. It is estimated that over 30,000 people have fled from the conflict in Chhattisgarh to settle in AP. The displacement has affected their livelihoods and standard of living.

IDPs live 3-4 km away from non-IDP villages. Their villages are deprived of drinking water facilities, electricity, sanitation, schools, metalled roads, health care and other basic necessities. Malaria, TB, Jaundice have high incidence among IDPs. The community is extremely malnourished and has fragile food security. IDPs in Khammam belong to the Gutti Koya tribe. Agriculture, livestock rearing, wage labour and NTFP collection are their major livelihoods. Agriculture harvest, NTFP produce and poultry are mostly used for consumption. IDPs sell their produce at the local market (shandies). Most still follow the barter system.

The local government views IDPs as outsiders and does not deliver benefits to them. IDPs do not have access to schemes such as MGNREGS, IAY, etc. They are not aware of their rights under the IDP Act. Legal recognition, steps to strengthen livelihoods, food security of IDPs need to be addressed immediately. ❖

Dam Displacement

The Polavaram dam project, whose supposed benefits include increased irrigation and water supplies to big cities, is expected to displace around 150,000 tribals across three states. The environmental impact assessment (EIA) of the project says 276 villages will be affected and estimated 177,275 people live in these villages will be displaced. Researchers estimate the number of impacted people would be about 400,000 after adjusting population growth in the past decade.

The Polavaram dam to be built across the river Godavari, will displace around 200,000 people in the three states of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Chhattisgarh. Of them at least 150,000 are tribals. This package offers land-to-land compensation to tribals, with the land being provided as close to the original area as possible. Compensation will also be given to the landless. But there are a number of drawbacks in the rehabilitation plan, the main one being that many people in the area do not have title deeds to their land and will therefore lose out. The tribal people of this place will lose their livelihoods. They may not find the suitable livelihood they have adapted for generations living in the forest so they will have to adjust to the livelihoods in the plains. This displacement will be a major setback in the cultural, social and economic conditions of the tribal community. The compensation should not only be the land but adaptable livelihood should be shown to them. ❖

Bike Mechanic Shop

Ramesh belongs to Duskal village, Shadnagar mandal, Mahabubnagar district. He has been running a bike repair shop for 14 years at Amberpet, Hyderabad. Earlier he worked as a mechanic for 5 years after which he joined as a business partner in the same shop for some time. Finally he purchased the shop from the owner for Rs. 1 lakh. He invested his savings and borrowed loans from relatives and friends. He took a small space on rent to set up his shop. Within 5 to 6 years his business developed and he appointed two boys as employees for a monthly salary of Rs. 6000 each. Recently he took one helper.

Ramesh travels to Hyderabad from Duskal every day. His shop is open from 9.30 am to 9 p.m. In the first and second weeks of the month, he gets 6 to 8 bikes for repair every day. He does not have his own servicing centre, but took the bikes to nearby service centres. He also sells engine oils.

Expenditure

Shop rent : 2500
Staff Salaries : 15000
Other Expenditure: 1500

Income

Average income : 35000
Net Income : 16000 ❖

Social

Fertilizer Business

Shri Indhryee Mahila Kalanjiam Samakhya started a collective fertilizer business in June 2010, in Dodanda cluster, Indravelly mandal, Adilabad district, Andhra Pradesh. The Mahila Samakhya planned start a fertilizer business to provide fertilizers to small and marginal farmers at reasonable prices and in time to seven villages in the cluster.

A Primary Marketing Group (PMG) was formed with the six board members of the federation. They got a license from the Joint Director of Agriculture Department, Adilabad to sell fertilizers. A demand assessment for Diammonium Phosphate (DAP) – the most demanded fertilizer was undertaken.

After the estimation of DAP, the PMG members met the MRKFED and Joint Director Agriculture to book an order for the DAP required. They borrowed a loan of Rs. 1 lakh from the federation to book 17 tonnes (370 bags. Each bag 46 kgs) of DAP. They put some systems such as receipt book, cash book, minute's book, stock register, bank pass book, voucher and filing system .

They earned a net profit of Rs. 27000 after excluding transport, *hamali* charges, interest on loan and stationery costs. Presently they are planning to purchase 400 bags of DAP and 400 bags of Urea. ❖

Public

Money Remitting

Lakhs of people migrate from Odisha to other states in search of better employment. Sending their earnings back home is often troublesome. A money order via post costs anything between Rs 50 and Rs 1000 and the process takes several days, robbing the wage earner of precious work days.

Adhikar, an NGO with presence in Odisha, Gujarat and Maharashtra found an innovative way out of this problem. It set up a 'Shramika Sahajoga' (SS) in 2002 and facilitated migrants to become members. SS employed Remittance Collection Officers (RCOs) to visit migrants and collect money from them. The migrants are given receipts as proof of the transaction. The money is pooled up by the Accounts Officer and gets it verified by the Operational Manager. The money is then transferred online to branches in areas where the remittances are to be sent. The money is then disbursed to the families by Remittance Disbursement Officers (RDOs).

Migrants can send of Rs. 500-25000 twice a week through the service. They are charged a service fee of Rs. 30 to Rs 280, depending on the amount being remitted. An extra Rs. 10-30 is charged for door deliveries. ❖

Common Resources Management

Kalyam and Hulikallu villages are in Hulikallu Grampanchayat in D.Hirehal mandal, Anantapur district in Andhra Pradesh. Under the Gram Panchayat the villagers manage 300 acres green cover and water tank with support of Mass Education NGO.

The village is at the foot of a hill. The green cover of the hill had been receding for a few years when the Gram Panchayat facilitated the formation of Paryavarana Parirakshana Samithi (PPS) to preserve the land. PPS members met the District Collector and explained their program. The Collector then issued a circular to conserve the greenery on the common land. An exposure visit was planned to Pulikallu village. Later, PPS designed rules and regulations to conserve the land. It appointed a watchman to protect the land from trespassers and sheep and goat.

The PPS members planted 5000 Nalla Tumma (*Acacia Nilotica*) trees in the tank bed area. After three years the trees were sold to sheep and goat rearers for Rs. 2 per animal per year. The Gram Panchayat made auctioned the right to collect dry trees. The PPS members with the help of Gram Panchayat mobilized Rs. 35000 from the villagers for tank renovation. As a result ground water table improved. People accessed drinking and irrigation water. Fish rearing was practiced by the people those who got right by bidding for it. ❖

Searching Multiple Sources

My Services to My People

Ramulu (38) belongs to Mukhtapur Village, Pochampally Mandal. He runs a fancy shop in Pochampally that also sells many other products such as prepaid calling cards. "Livelihoods" conducted this interview to find out more about his life.

Tell us about yourself.

I have wife and two children at my family. I studied up to Intermediate. Currently, I run a fancy shop selling women's products such as combs, bracelets, and necklaces. I also sell prepaid mobile calling cards.

How long have you been working in this profession?

I have been running this shop in the village for eight years.

How much money have you invested for running this shop?

I invested Rs.1,50,000 in total to purchase furniture, pay the first month's rent, and stock up a significant inventory. Since I already had Rs.1,00,000 in savings from my weaving work, I needed to borrow Rs.50,000 from my friends to commence operations.

How many customers do you generally receive per day?

It depends on the season; during the wedding and festival season, I receive many women customers who purchase many products from my shop, on an average, 10-12 customers per day. Moreover, I sell prepaid mobile recharge cards, which further boosts my business.

How is your business now?

Although I wouldn't describe my current business scenario as bad, it was definitely better in the first few years of operation. In the recent past, there have been many competing stores that have sprung up. The spike in demand for women's fancy items and prepaid mobile recharging has been met by an even greater supply of stores in my area. Therefore my business profits have slightly come down.

How do you plan on boosting your competitive edge against other stores?

I want to increase the variety of fancy ladies' products in my shop. Furthermore, I am planning to create a women's tailoring segment at my store with the help of my wife. Since she has good tailoring skills, I am hoping my income would be supplemented by her earnings.

How much income are you earning through this shop?

I earn approximately Rs. 15,000 per month from running this shop.

What are your future plans?

I want to provide good education for my children and help them prosper in life. I also want to develop my business in the future by expanding my store, offering more products, and gaining a larger customer base. ❖

B. Santha Rao (24) intermediate is a Community Coordinator (CC) at Skill Share International Project in Kovel Foundation. He shares his experiences with 'Livelihoods'.

Can you tell about your family?

My family consists of my mother, father, and me; I don't have any siblings. My family has two acres land in the village.

Tell us about your job at Skill Share International Project in Kovel Foundation?

I am a Community Coordinator (CC) at Madavalasa Village in Saluru mandal, Vizianagaram District. I have been working on this job for one year.

How were you selected for the post?

This project established Mutually Aided Cooperative Society (MACS) who collect Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) in my village. One day, my district coordinator came to the village and noticed my curiosity and proposed my admission into the program. From that moment onwards, I've been involved in its initiatives.

Did you undergo any training after you joined?

Yes, I learned about the sustainable NTFP collection, NTFP conservation and regeneration, methods of marketing, value addition, institution building, book keeping, tribal rights, and tribal Acts.

What are your roles and responsibilities as a CC?

I am in charge of twenty-seven remote tribal villages in Saluru Mandal, Vizianagaram District. Most people in these villages NTFP collectors are organised into MACS at the Madavalasa village. I supervise maintenance activities of the collective procurement centers and MACS. I do book keeping, provide training on quality maintenance, give measurements regarding NTFP and pay for them. As CC, I arrange meetings with twenty-seven villages once per month at MACS in Madavalasa Village regularly. Finally, I offer suggestions on value addition of NTFP to boost efficiency in the system.

How much are you paid?

I receive a salary of Rs. 1500 per month. It is not much, given the rising prices and costs of living.

What are your future plans?

I seek to further increase my involvement in MACS and learn more from trainings on tribal issues and NTFP. My increased contribution would directly benefit those who I meet every day. ❖

Livelihoods Mapping

Livelihoods mapping is used to study the livelihoods of the locality. It helps to understand the contribution of various livelihoods in the income of the community. It reveals gaps and opportunities in livelihoods of the community.

Livelihoods are classified into four categories - large number people depending livelihoods, small number people depending livelihoods, new livelihoods and other livelihoods.

- * Seasonality of the livelihood
- * Providing days from the livelihood
- * Income range
- * Required support
- * Availability of support
- * Quality of the support

How to do Livelihoods Mapping?

Livelihoods Mapping									
Village/ Slum:				Mandal & District:					
Date:									
Participants:									
Facilitators:									
S. NO	Livelihood	Depending Household #		Season	Employment Days	Income Range in Rs.	Support Required		
		Primary	Secondary				Name	Availabil-ity	Quality

Organise Focused Group Discussion with community. To map the livelihoods information of the community the facilitator has to ask following information:

- * Number of household depending on the livelihoods including primary and secondary livelihood

Study market demand of the livelihood (product/skill), supply of raw materials, technology used, etc.

Collect specific information: eg. instead of mentioning agriculture as a livelihood, note which crop is being cultivated. ❖

Manjeera MACS

Manjeera Mutually Aided Cooperative Society (MACS) was registered in 2000. Today, Manjeera has 2035 women members in 169 groups from 10 Villages in Jagdevpur mandal, Medak district. Each group has 10 to 15 members. Initially, they formed groups with Dalit women, but now they are open to all the women in the village. The MACS lends loans at 18% to be repaid in 24 months. Manjeera (mandal level) conducts board meeting every month.

At present, Manjeera's savings are Rs 97,40,755 and outstanding loans are Rs.1,45,47,000. Manjeera employs a manager and two assistants. Initially, members saved Rs.10/month and have increased the amount to Rs. 50 to

1 0 0 / m o n t h .

Support Organization

Manjeera lends loans to individuals and member groups. Individual members are eligible to take loans of Rs. 10,000-50,000 and groups are eligible to take Rs. 1 lakh to 2 lakhs. The loan is sanctioned within one week of the request. Loans have been taken for dairy, small shops, autos, bangle stores, small enterprises, children's education, agriculture investment and marriages. Manjeera organised livelihoods trainings and also raised awareness regarding health, education, water, sanitation, leadership qualities and book keeping.

The MACS has been a boon for its members. They have been able to deal with problems in their livelihoods, children's education, food security and health issues with the help of loans and training received from the MACS. ❖

Jattu

Jattu short for is "Justified an action and training for tribal upliftment" also means "a team" in Telugu. Its main aim is to raise the living standards of tribal people through formation and strengthening Community Based Organisations (CBOs). It is working in Viizianagaram district.

Jattu's work involves improving education, promoting livelihoods of tribal people, promoting art and culture of tribal people and increasing people's participation.

It has organized and strengthened CBOs in 426 habitations with 925 SHGs, organized a movement against smoking, liquor drinking, making coal, achieved about 70% literacy rate in 30 tribal habitations.

Jattu has rehabilitated 67 orphan children and 22 destitute senior citizens.

Training Organization

It has promoted organic farming in 100 villages and production of bio fertilizers, distributed 13,50,000 saplings to tribal people and established 356 Grain Banks.

Jattu also runs Jattu Skill Development Centre for Youth and Rural Entrepreneurs, Handmade Paper Unit, Printing and Publishing Unit, Centre for Rural Crafts and Art, Agriculture research and extension centre on organic farming. Jattu runs pre schools for children in tribal area.

It runs 180 pre-schools or Balabadis with the help of IKP. It implements NABARD's "Maa Thota" programme in Gummalaxmipuram, Kurupam mandals. Recently Jattu developed a ½ acre Annapurna cropping model to improve food security among poor and poorest of the poor which is promoted by NABARD & SERP. Jattu publishes a Telugu monthly magazine called "Nagali." It has also published books on tribal culture. ❖

Centre for Sustainable Agriculture

Centre for Sustainable Agriculture (CSA) evolved from the Sustainable Agriculture Desk of Centre for World Solidarity in 1998. It is a professional resource organization engaged in establishing models of sustainable agriculture working in partnership with NGOs and Community Based Organizations by scaling up the successes and engaging with the Government for policy change.

CSA has conducted trainings in Bihar, Punjab, Jarkhand, Karnataka, Utter Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andhra Pradesh. Their training program lasts one week and includes field visits and interaction with farmers in Medak, Warangal and Nalgonda



in Andhra Pradesh. The training course broadly covers understanding agrarian crisis - role of practices and policies, sustainable farming, cropping patterns and integrated farming systems, managing seeds, Non- Pesticide Management, Soil Management.

The course is designed for development professionals working to promote Ecological farming/ organic farming/sustainable agriculture, staff of NGOs, Farmers' Movements, and Government organisations. CSA also conducts awareness programmes for farmers. So far, CSA has created awareness among 50,000 farmers across India. ❖

People With Disabilities Act, 1995

The People With Disabilities (PWD) Act, 1995 was passed in December 1995 in Parliament and enforced from 7 February 1996. It is a milestone in the history of disabled persons' rights movement in India. It aims to provide equal opportunities, protection of rights and full participation for disabled people. The Act's objectives are as follows:

- * To define state responsibilities in prevention of disabilities, protection of the rights, provision of medical care, ensuring training, providing employment and providing rehabilitation to the disabled persons
- * To make barrier free environment and provide opportunities to the disabled persons
- * To take action on any abuse or exploitation on disabled persons
- * To provide special provisions to the disabled person to integrate with mainstream society

The Act recognizes seven disabilities namely blindness, low vision, leprosy, hearing impairment, locomotor disability, mental retardation and mental illness.

To realize aims and objectives the Act define specific responsibilities to the national, state and local level governments in different areas such as prevention and early detection of disabilities, providing equal opportunities in education and employment, designing helpful programs to disabled people in providing aid and instruments and preference in allotting land for house construction at concessional rates to disabled persons. The Act also recommends to set-up business, special schools, factories and research centers for disabled persons. It suggests removing physical barriers for equal participation, providing research staff for development, set-up institutions and providing social security schemes to the disabled persons.

Prevention and Early Detection of Disability: Prevention of disabilities' occurrence is important in combating disability. The Act, mentions measures to government authorities to prevent disabilities -

- * Conduct surveys, research and investigations to find out the causes of disabilities
- * Promote various methods to prevent disability possibilities
- * Test all children once in a year to identify the symptoms of the disabilities
- * Provide training to medical staff to find the symptoms of disabilities in the children
- * Organize health awareness programs on general hygiene, health and sanitation
- * Take measures in pre-natal and post-natal of mother and child to prevent disabilities occurrence in the children
- * Campaign through primary schools, schools, primary health centers, village level organizations and anganwadies to educate people on disabilities
- * Conduct awareness programs through television, radio and other mass media on the causes of disabilities and preventive measures

Education Facilities: The Act recommends some measures to provide equitable opportunities in education to disabled persons. The Act recommends different measures such as ensuring every disabled child free education up to 18 years in suitable environment, promoting integration of disabled students with other students in schools, encouraging special schools for disabled students, providing education through special classes, literacy centers, open schools, open universities, electronic media and providing special books and equipments to the disabled children. The Act instructs to provide 3% seats in all government and government aided educational institutions to the disabled persons.

Employment: The Act, suggests crucial measures to the national and state level governments to provide employment to the disabled persons. The measures include reserving some posts for disabled persons, regular review once in three years about the status of disabled person's employment situation, reserving 3% jobs in government departments, providing training, giving age relaxation, creating suitable employment to the disabled employees, constituting responsible authorities to ensure grounding the schemes to the disabled persons and establish special employment board to direct all government departments to provide employment to the disabled persons.

Schemes: The Act recommends various schemes and measures for the development of disabled persons. They are providing aid and instruments, giving priority or reserving quota for loans with subsidy, allotting land at concessional rate for housing, business, recreation centers, special schools, research centers and factories managed by disabled persons. It also instructs to create barrier free environment in railway stations, bus stations, hospitals roads and all public buildings.

The Act recommends that separate institutions should be set up to implement the schemes and programs for disabled persons development. These institutions have to design rehabilitation policies for disabled persons in government and non-government institutions. It suggests providing financial assistance to the non-government organizations which are engage in disabled persons. It says to frame insurance schemes to the disabled person's social security. It also suggests to providing unemployment allowance to the disabled persons.

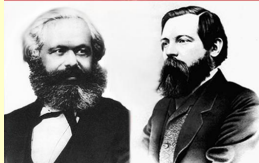
The Act recommends to set-up national and state level coordination committees to facilitate programs and evolves the policies of the disabled persons. It suggests appointing Chief Commissioner and Commissioners to monitor the Act implementation and ensure to protect the rights of disabled persons.

The PWD Act, 1995 sounds committed towards the comprehensive development of disabled persons and their rights. But in reality only 20% of the disabled persons accessing the education facilities and discriminations on disabled persons are practicing at large scale. There is lot more required to implement the Act with commitment. ❖

The Communist Manifesto

Authors: Karl Marx and Frederick Engels

THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO



Karl Marx

Friedrich Engels

The Communist Manifesto was written by Karl Marx and Frederick Engels in 1847. For the last one and a half centuries it has influenced crores of people across the world.

Marx discusses human history and analyses the basic causes behind the changes in society. He scientifically analyses the contradiction between owners and labourers within a production system and break production relations and ultimately facilitates a new system

establishment. He masterly analyzes the contradiction between collective production and individual appropriation in Capitalism which leads to the class struggle and ultimately replace with Socialist system.

Marx describes the nature of working class or proletariat class. It analyzes how it can abolish all types the exploitations and oppressions in the society.

Marx describes various forms of socialism including utopian socialism and different types of socialisms in Capitalist system. Finally he concluded with describing scientific socialism. Scientific socialism depends on dialectical principles which are the general laws of nature, society and human thinking. Lastly he discusses the political economical situation of that time. Basing on principles of the Communist Manifesto in 20th Century working class led the revolutions and established socialist systems in some countries. It achieved unimaginable victories in emergency and complicated conditions. ❖

The Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS) Resources

CESS was established as an autonomous body in the year 1980, by the State Government. The Centre has been receiving maintenance grants from the State Government and the ICSSR and project –specific grants/consultancies from the state government, central government, Planning Commission, Asian Development Bank, World Bank, IRC, Netherlands, TATA Trust, UNICEF, Ford Foundation, European Union and other International Organizations.

www.cess.ac.in

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. LEAP | : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/175-chella-ankireddy-pally-leap |
| 2.VCA Groundnut | : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/176-groundnut-value-chain-analysis |
| 3.Sub-sector Ragi | : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/177-raqi-subsector-analysis- |
| 4. E-book | : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/174-3599086richardbachjonathanlivingstoneagull-1 |
| 5. V-book | : http://vimeo.com/12844740 |

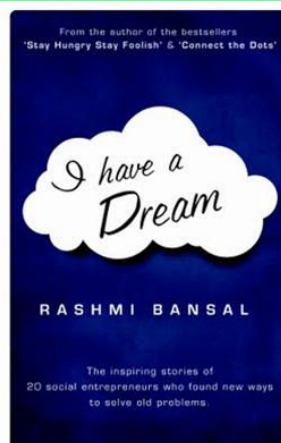
E-Course, Capsule 1: Understanding a Village / Slum

http://www.livelihoods.net.in/digital-library/doc_download/603-e-livelihoods-management-programme

I Have a Dream

Author: Rashmi Bansal

Publisher: Westland

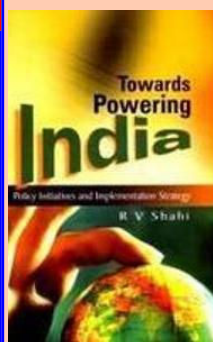


'I have a dream' is a book about social entrepreneurship. It presents real life stories of 20 entrepreneurs who stood out of the crowd and did something different. In most of these cases profit is of concern but certainly not the prime motive. The larger goal was greater common good.

In this book, Rashmi Bansal describes the journeys of twenty entrepreneurs, who took a step towards bringing happiness in the lives of millions, not in the usual charitable ways but in their chosen way.

These stories tell them the power of perseverance and the fact that your background either personally or educationally cannot limit you if you do not want them to. These stories also sensitize young minds of the vast spaces in our societal makeup that have not been touched by the so-called development. ❖

New Book



Name of the Book:
Towards Powering India
Author: R V Shahi
Publisher: Excel Books

e-Resources

e- Course

Cotton Production in Last 7 Decades

Year	Area in <u>lakh</u> hectares	Production in lakh bales of 170 kgs	Yield kgs per hectare
1950-51	58.82	34.30	99
1960-61	76.10	60.12	134
1970-71	76.05	56.64	127
1980-81	78.23	78.00	169
1990-91	74.39	117.00	267
2000-01	85.76	140.00	278
2001-02	87.30	158.00	308
2002-03	76.67	136.00	302
2003-04	76.30	179.00	399
2004-05	87.86	243.00	470
2005-06	86.77	241.00	472
2006-07	91.44	280.00	521
2007-08	94.14	307.00	554
2008-09	94.06	290.00	524
2009-10	103.10	305.00	503
2010-11	111.42	339.00	517
2011-12	121.78	353.00	493
2012-13	116.14	334.00	489

Source: Cotton Advisory Board

Average yield of Bt Cotton in this country is around 500 kg/ha or 200 kg/acre in the last 10 yrs. So if someone is claiming to have achieved 15 q/acre or 1500 kg/ha, for every 10 such farmers there are 100 farmers who got only 50 kgs/acre. When seed packet is costing about 1200/packet officially and 3000/packet in open market, a bag of DAP costing Rs. 1200 and a quintal of cotton costing Rs. 3300/100 kg, do we still need to explain why bt cotton is a failure?. ❖

Labour Became Sales Assistant

Gundaiah (45) has a wife and a daughter. He used to work as a wage labourer in Dasalapally village, Khammam district and earned a daily wage of Rs. 70 – Rs.80. While he was working one day, he felt a chest pain and left work to visit a hospital. He was told that he would suffer a major heart attack if he didn't stop manual labour. He left town with his family to become a measurement worker at Girijana Cooperative Corporation (GCC) in Bhadrachalam.

Every day after work, Gundaiah would meet his neighbor to learn basic language skills. After a few months, his neighbor encouraged him to attempt the 7th standard examinations which Gundaiah passed. He then passed class 10 exams and joined Open University to earn a degree.

One day at work, all of the labour workers were called into the administrative office for signatures. A high-level officer noticed (with great surprise) that Gundaiah signed in English and promoted Gundaiah to the post of sales man. Since then, his family's economic situation improved dramatically. Education and perseverance at such a relatively old age helped him break the threshold of poverty and emerge as a economically well-off man. ❖

Into Employment

Inconsistency Attracts Troubles

P. Srinivas (31) hails from Pochampally village where he lives with his wife and two children. He was forced to stop his education because of his family's harsh economic conditions. Srinivas had no other option but to start earning money through handloom work.

Over the last five years, he learned the skill of repairing cell phones, and started making that his occupation. Within one year, he rented a small space to set up a shop, purchased tools and materials, and kicked off operations with the initial investment of Rs.30,000. He received a large volume of customers. Although he was determined to run his business effectively, he did not have effective communication skills, and this weakness ultimately caused the downfall of his enterprise. Besides this factor, he had also accumulated a lot of debt. Within five months of operation, Srinivas realized that he would not be able to continue running his business profitably. He decided to quit during the sixth month, and all of his fixed assets were sold at a huge loss.

He returned to the handloom, where he wored for a long period of time. He claims that his poor communication skills are the root cause. ❖

Out of Employment

Endeavour May Reach Good

Karam Dharmiah (27) belongs to Kothapalli Gram Panchayat in Dummugudem Mandal, Khammam District. Currently, his family consists of his mother and four sisters. His father died five years ago. Three of his sisters are married. His family belongs to Koya community (Scheduled Tribe) and has three acres lands in the village. He cultivates paddy, maize, and cotton on the land with his mother's help.

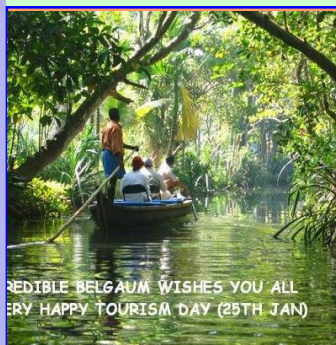
Upon taking up family responsibility after his father's demise, Dharmiah has been working hard to till his land while concurrently completing his education up to D.Ed. His ambition has always been to become a teacher at a government school. He attempted the D.Sc exam also, but unexpectedly was not ranked high enough to become Secondary Grade Teacher (SGT). Four months ago, he joined as a Vidya Volunteer in Maabadi School run by Rajiv Vidya Mssion (RVM). It's located in Gaddamadugu Habitation Village of Kottapally Gram Panchayat.

Everyday, Dharmiah bikes to the school of 16 children in 1st and 2nd grades to teach them Telugu letters, numbers, and words. He earns Rs. 3000 per month as salary. But he has not received any money yet because the system runs its pay roll once every three months. He is confident that would get a SGT posting in a government school soon. ❖

Self –Employment Became Source

Srinivasa Rao (40) lives in Secunderabad with his wife and two children. He used to work as a Mandal Coordinator in the Pudami Primary Schools programme of Dr. Reddy's foundation. He would monitor the schools' performance, clarify doubts on the curriculum, and collect school fees.

Srinivasa quit his job due to some disputes that arose between him and his co-workers. After that he worked at another company for 6 months. This job involved hectic travelling around the state which affected Srinivasa's health badly and compelled him to quit the job. Thereafter, Srinivasa started working as an LIC agent. However, Srinivasa expresses despair over the lack of a regular and stable source of income.. ❖



REDIBLE BELGAUM WISHES YOU ALL
VERY HAPPY TOURISM DAY (25TH JAN)

**23 January
Indian
Tourism
Day**

Fish Selling

Shining Livelihoods



Story

Tangawala

Declining Livelihoods



Selfish Friendship

Once, a cat was caught in a hunter's net. A mouse used to live in a nearby hole. The mouse seeing the cat in the net started playing around the cat. Soon a mongoose came there. He wanted to kill the mouse. As he lifted his head, he saw an owl sitting on a tree trying to catch him. The mongoose went very near the cat's net to save himself. The mouse thought "When the hunter takes away the cat, the mongoose will not spare me and the owl is there to enjoy both of us."



The Mouse went to the cat and said, "I can cut the net if you promise to save my life from the mongoose and the owl." The cat agreed. The mouse started cutting the net slowly and freed the cat only when the hunter was just near the cat. The cat took to heels and so ran the mongoose too. The owl was very much disappointed to see even the mouse running away to safety.

A few days later, the cat being hungry, went to the hole of the mouse and requested him to come out for a game. The mouse replied, "I sought friendship and saved you to save my life." Now you can go home.

Don't nurture friendship with selfish people. ❖



'Yoga'kshemam

Happy Pongal! Happy Youth Day!

Happy Republic Day!

Let us also remember Vivekananda and Gandhi.

I could not catch up Sarvail Alumni Meet and Sagar Parivar Meet, despite my best efforts.

I gather during the month that we should not talk loudly at work when others are sharing the workspace; we should let others have privacy as much as that is possible in a work environment; and we should not be interested/focused on others' personal lives. To lead our associates, as Kalam says –

- * We should have a vision;
- * We have the passion to transform this vision into action;
- * We must be able to travel into unexplored parts;
- * We must know how to manage success and failure;
- * We must have courage to take decisions;
- * We should have management skills;
- * Our actions should be transparent; and
- * We must work and succeed with integrity.

I also gather during the month that the small activities lasting not even 10 minutes are effective in keeping us fit. A total of 150 minutes in a week in short bursts of 10 minutes would do a lot of good in keeping us fit.

I have just visited Nalanda University Heritage Site, one of the early residential education institution of high order. It used to have 10000 students and 1500 teachers in residence, clearly indicating 1:6 teacher student ratio. Individual and shared accommodation for students was available. The classrooms and staying rooms were so near to each other so that energy of the students was on learning and nothing else. Entry into the University was possible only if they satisfy the entry-test conducted by the learned gate keepers. The subjects of study include Multi-religion texts, yoga and meditation, philosophy, logic, science, art and culture etc.

The AP Residential School at Sarvail, a modern day model Gurukulam, a model for Residential Schools and

Navodaya Schools in the country, appears in hindsight that it is modeled after Nalanda. For uninitiated, Nalanda means endless knowledge sharing.

The visit has reconfirmed my vision to reach out through knowledge and mentoring outreach over the coming 15-20 years of third phase of existence – at least 1% villages, 10% blocks, 50% districts, 100% states; 10 hours with 1 million professionals/community professionals, 6-24 months with 1000 learning associates, 5+ years with 100 long-term associates, 10 legacy associates; and long-term association with 100+ significant efforts. All this, broadly, in the development/livelihoods domain!

As a South Indian experiencing winter cold in Delhi and other parts of North India in December and January, I get reminded of Transition 7 – transitory speck in this universe; symbiotic dependent life; ecological equity; infinitesimally small achievement vis-à-vis what one is blessed with; trusteeship; ego coming the way of humility to accept these five axioms; and reflecting and living with nature and life. When you come across the 'one' who shares and takes you up the spiritual heights, you being on transition 7 gets a quick confirmation. A sure road to bliss!

G Muralidhar

We seek responding to the inner voice with undivided attention amidst multiple temptations that will not let us heed to it. We seek ecstasy and bliss of giving this time and effort to the life of the soul, life of the universe. We seek losing ourselves. In this relentless pursuit, we exist, co-exist and exist together in each other. We become the life; we become the universe; and we become one. The joy of oneness and inner peace pervades all around. This is [naalandaanandayogam](#).

Can we be there? **Yes, if we pursue Atma Yoga.** If we pursue intense dedicated undivided attention with all the senses for getting ready to becoming one with the 'one'! Krshna, together with Mahavir, Buddha and Siva, confirms – the universe keeps searching for the one who is ready and/or who is likely to be ready. It communicates in its own way to the one who is waiting and trying. The free soul with the deepest intent would respond, achieve readiness and gets subsumed in the universe.

Join us in the world of yoga – for achieving the ability to see the clutter all around, identifying the 'one' in the chaos, preparing to get ready and celebrating oneness – towards vivekaanandayogasiddhi. You will not regret it. ❖



livelihoods

Body and Bone