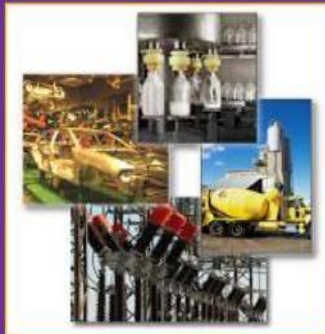


livelihoods

today and tomorrow

January 2015

Five Year Plans



Happy Sankranti/Pongal!

Remember Swami Vivekaananda and Mahatma Gandhi!

Obama in India for the Republic Day Parade!

Delhi is choosing AAP vs BJP, Arvind Kejriwal vs Kiran Bedi!

Five Year Plans have become a tradition in India since 1952 and we had 12 plans so far. With the replacement of Planning Commission with NITI Aayog, Five year plan may be a casualty. The allocation of funds to states would shift into the hands of the finance commission(s) or finance ministry. Five year plans have established direction of India every five years. Plan Expenditure of the Budget came from the five year plan outlays. We have to waiting and watch how NITI Aayog is going to set the direction for India on a regular basis. In this context, 'livelihoods' has explored 'Five Year Plans'.

Find time to read the Andre Maurois' classic 'An Art of Living' that introduces five arts of life – thinking, loving, working, leading and growing old.

Supplements included in this month include: Legendary Effort - 'Bhoodan Movement' and Flagship Programme –National Health Mission.

Usual e-links introduce a video (Capsicum Cultivation in Green House), book (The Governance of Nature and the Nature of Governance), and value -chain/subsector (Sal Leaves/Buffalo Meat).

We are pooling up Daily notes for the month as part of the e-livelihoods learning course and they would be presented next month onwards

With the faith and hope that you find the issue a useful read, were main.

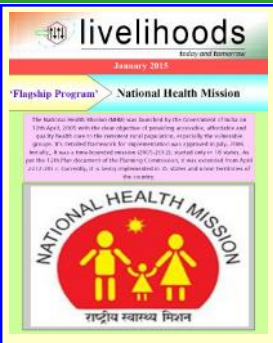
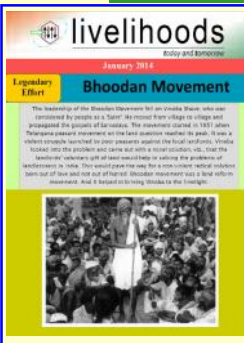
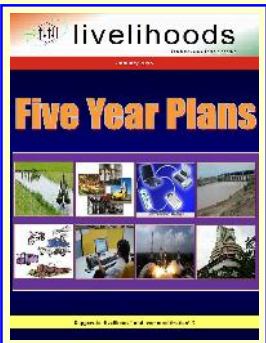
the 'livelihoods' team

Almost 200 million people moved to urban areas in East Asia from 2000-2010 – It is the world sixth largest of population of any single country.
[Source: World Bank]



Facilitation Skills are Vital in Participatory Training.

Latest Livelihoods



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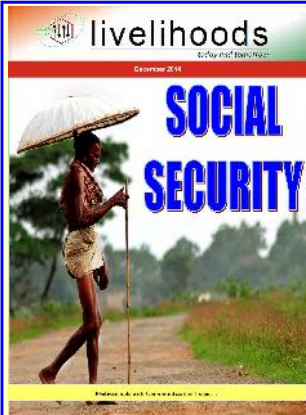
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Legendary Effort Bhoodan Movement

Flagship Program National Health Mission (NHM)

e- course Capsule: 1 Concepts



Thanks for sending the magazines which are very informative

Dr. Smriti Nayak



Can 'Beti Bachao-Beti Padavo' improve the Girls situation ?

News

40 Lakh More to Benefit from Subsidised Rice Scheme: The State government has estimated that about 40 lakh more people will benefit from the Re. 1 a kg rice scheme to be launched across Telangana. There was a ceiling of 20 kg a family and 4 kg per head for supply of subsidised rice every month, but the former has been withdrawn now. Everyone will get 6 kg per head a month without the upper limit on quantum of supply to a family, Finance and Civil Supplies Minister Eatala Rajender told the media on Wednesday. The government also raised the income ceiling for eligibility to the scheme from Rs. 60,000 to Rs. 1 lakh per annum in rural areas and Rs. 75,000 to Rs. 2 lakh a year in urban centres. About 2.9 crore people will benefit against 2.5 crore in the past, he said. Incidentally, the government will also launch on Thursday supply of BPT and superfine variety of rice under mid-day meal programme for schoolchildren. Mr. Rajender also said the programme of supplying milk and eggs to anganwadis will be

expanded as part of the move to provide nutrition to women and children.

Corruption Cause of Poverty: Promising a transparent and corruption free administration, Governor ESL Narsimhan said the Telangana government had come up with a transparent strategy to augment welfare of the poor and to usher in balanced development in all spheres of economy.

US to turn Vizag into Smart City: India and the US have decided to take "quick measures" to develop Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh and Ajmer in Rajasthan as smart cities. The nitty gritty was discussed at a meeting in Delhi between Urban Development Minister and US Commerce Secretary, who travelled as part of President Barack Obama's delegation on his three-day India visit that ended today. Mr Naidu and Ms Pritzker decided to form a task force for each of the three cities to formulate concrete action plans in the next three months, an official statement said. ❖

AU Launches Agricultural Action Plan: The African Union (AU) launched an agricultural action plan aimed at realizing the agricultural transformation of Africa. It was announced by AU Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture Tumusiime Rhoda Peace at a press briefing held on the sidelines of an AU Executive Council meeting, which is scheduled to wrap up. She said the Accelerated Africa Agriculture Growth and Transformation plan – proposed by heads of state and government at a summit in Equatorial Guinea in June of last year – has now entered the implementation phase. "The 2014 AU Year of Agriculture enabled us to move ahead of the rest of the sectors, most of which are just beginning to define their implementation plan for the first decade of Africa Agenda 2063," she said. "The Malabo Declaration's Implementation Strategy and Roadmap does just that for the attainment of the goal of ending hunger by 2025," she added. ❖

News From The States

NITI Aayog Is New Policy Body: On New Year's Day, the Modi government set up NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) in place of the Planning Commission. The Prime Minister will head the new institution tasked with the role of formulating policies and direction for the government. Its governing council will comprise the Chief Ministers and the Lieutenant Governors of Union Territories. The Prime Minister will appoint the Aayog's Vice-Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer. Asian Development Bank's former Chief Economist Arvind Panagariya is tipped to be the first Vice-Chairperson. The government plans to adopt a "Bharatiya" approach to development, says the resolution of the Union Cabinet for setting up the Aayog. India needs an administration paradigm in which the government is an enabler rather than a provider of first and last resort, it says. The Aayog will recommend a national agenda, including strategic and technical advice on elements of policy and economic matters. It will also develop mechanisms for village-level plans and aggregate these progressively at higher levels of government. The institutions of governance and policy have to adapt to new challenges and must be built on the founding principles of the Constitution, the resolution says. On the planning process, it says that there is a need to separate the process from the strategy of governance. Transforming India, it further says, will involve changes of two types — consequences of market forces and those that would be planned. "The maturing of our institutions and polity also entails a diminished role for centralised planning, which itself needs to be redefined." A state-of-the-art resource centre for good governance practices is also proposed. The Planning Commission was set up in March 1950 through a Cabinet Resolution, which the Modi government scrapped in August 2014.

Swavalamban - The Mantra for Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities: The Department of Disability Affairs was created in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on May 12, 2012 to ensure greater focus on policy matters to effectively address disability issues and to act as a nodal Department for greater coordination among stakeholders,

organizations, State Governments and related Central Ministries. According to the Notification dated December 9, 2014 the Department has been renamed as Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. The Department envisions an inclusive society where equal opportunities are provided for the growth and development of persons with disabilities to lead a productive, safe and dignified life. To this end the Department strives to create an accessible barrier free environment for PwDs and also for their empowerment through legislation, policies, programmes and schemes.

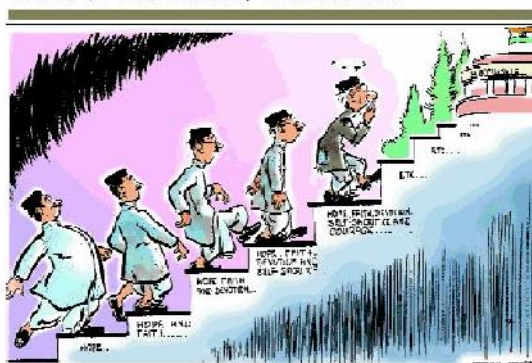
Jan Dhan Yojana Creates Guinness World Records: Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said a record 11.50 crore bank accounts have been opened under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) and the opening 1.8 crore accounts in a week has been recognised by Guinness World Records. "The Guinness World Records has recognised the achievements made under the PMJDY and has given a certificate stating that the most bank accounts opened in one week as part of the Financial Inclusion Campaign (FIC) is 18,096,130 and was achieved by the department of financial services, government of India from Aug 23-Aug 29, 2014," Jaitley said. Till Jan 17, 11.50 crore bank accounts have been opened as against the target of 7.5 crore by Jan 26, 2015. Exclusion of a large number of people from any access to financial services inhibits the growth of the country, the minister said PMJDY - the biggest financial inclusion initiative in the world - is a "game changer" for the economy as it provides platform for Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT) which in turn will help in plugging leakages in subsidies and thereby increasing savings to the exchequer. Jaitley said: "The financial inclusion is one of the top most priorities of the government." Under the PAHAL scheme, which is the DBT in LPG subsidy, he said an amount of Rs.1,757 crore has been transferred to the beneficiary accounts through the banking network since Nov 15, 2014. "So far 19 schemes out of 35 DBT schemes have been rolled-out across the country, including the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in 300 districts," he said. ❖

Tribute to

RK Laxman

(24 October 1921 – 26 January 2015)

TIMES OF YESTERDAY / R K LAXMAN January 23, 1953



Too many demands on the common man who is on the path to a free republic



Tulu Nadu

Tulu Nadu is a region on the south-western coast of India. It consists of the Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts of Karnataka and the northern parts of the Kasaragod district of Kerala up to the Chandragiri River.



Borders of Tulu Nadu: Arabian Sea to the west, Uttara Kannada to the north, Chikkamagaluru to the east and Kerala to the south. Chief cities in Tulu Nadu: Mangalore, Udupi and Kasaragod. Tulu Nadu spans an area of 10,432 km². As per the 2011 census, the population is about 5,500,000, Literacy rate is 88.33% & Sex Ratio is 1063 females per 1000 males. The temperature varies from 24 °C to 33 °C.

Tulu is the primary spoken language; followed by Konkani, Kannada, and Beary. The main religion is Hinduism; followed by Christianity, Islam and Jainism etc. Yakshagana, Piliyesa folk dance and Karadi Vesha (bear dance) are popular dances. The important festivals are Dasara, Janmastami, Vinayaka Chaviti, Ugadi and Deepavali. Udupi cuisine is popular across South India.

Tulu Nadu is famous for its numerous temples like Sri Mahalingeswara Temple (puttur), Sri Udhbhava Raudharatheswara Temple (Madanthyar), Sri Mangala Devi Temple (Mangalore) etc. A glorious church, inspired by the Sistine chapel of the Vatican, built in Mangalore is a monument to the Catholic architecture. This region attracts tourism due to its beautiful beaches like Panambur Beach.

Tulu Nadu once primarily depended on agriculture and fishing. The main crops grown were rice, bengal gram, horse gram, vegetables and fruits. Plantation crops like coconut, rubber, areca nut, cocoa, cashew nut, yeneel, suggi, kolake and black pepper are also grown. Tulu Nadu contributes the second highest revenue to the Karnataka state after the city of Bangalore. The Mangalore tile industries, cashew nut processing, coconut oil industries, printing press, timber industries, ship building industries, many small scale industries and the banking industries grew substantially. IT Companies and medical services are improved, a public sector petroleum refinery Mangalore Refinery and Petro Chemicals Limited (MRPL) some chemical plants were also established in this region. Karnataka Milk Federation (Dairy processing plant at Manipal) is also from this region. Fishing is another source of income including inland fishing and deep sea fishing.

Tulu Nadu is a prominent Educational Hub with the National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK), KMC Manipal, etc. based here. This region has an international airport at Mangalore and also has The New Mangalore Port Trust (NMPT), one of the major ports of India.

There has been large-scale decline in agriculture and related industries due to the non-availability of labour and preference for white-collar jobs. Agricultural land is being converted to commercial and real estate properties. Environmental pollution is increasing drastically due to large-scale deforestation.

The Tuluvas had been demanding official language status for Tulu and a separate state for themselves. ❖

Chenchus

The Chenchus are a designated Primitive Scheduled Tribes in India. The Origin of the Chenchus is connected to Lord Malikarjuna of the Srisailam temple. They densely inhabit the higher ranges of the Amrabad Plateau - the Nallamala forest spread in the districts of Mahboobnagar, Ranga Reddy, Nalgonda in the Telangana; Prakasam, Guntur and Kurnool in the Andhra Pradesh; and a little population is also found in some parts of Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. According to the 2001 census of India, the Chencu tribe population in Andhra Pradesh is 41,787.



Chenchus have independent and personal freedom. Traditionally, Chenchus roamed in the jungles, living under trees and in rock shelters. Their staple food is gruel of Maize or Jowar and boiled or cooked jungle tubers. Chenchus belong to the Dravidian language family. They speak the 'Chenchu' language, but many people of Chenchus speak telugu. They belong to the Hindu community and worship Lord Shiva. The folklore, dance, gaiety and lyricism learnt from their forefathers, inspires and guides them to maintain a solid tradition.

The economic system of the Chenchus primarily relies on hunting and gathering and they aren't used to cultivation, but cultivate a few things like tobacco, corn, and some millets; out of which a little provision is made for "a rainy day". They collect forest products like roots, tubers, fruits, beedi leaves, mahua flower, bamboo, honey, gum, tamarind, green leaves; and sell it to the traders, to the Government cooperatives or nearest local markets, where they are in great demand.

They hunt animals like Deer, Wild Boar, Rabbit, Wild Cock, Rats and Birds and sell the meat for their livelihood. Honey is one of their favorite foods. They make cups and plates with the Adda leaves and also use the Mahua flower in making country liquor which is sold in the local market. A few buffalos and cows are kept in a village for milk but are not eaten. They use bows, arrows and also occasionally use guns for hunting. There is no storing of grains. The men hunt, gather and make baskets, while the women prepare most of the food as well as help in gathering.

The Chenchus are struggling to adapt to new patterns of life as the forest resources dwindle with time.

Many Chenchus have been forced out of their wandering, food-gathering lives by the growing number of peasant farmers. They now work as farmers or forest laborers and live in towns and well-settled villages. The NGOs in the Andhra Pradesh have started many initiatives such as the Chenchus Development Activities, to make them self-reliant and to educate them - in which they have even succeeded to a great extent.

The Chenchus have continued to be vulnerable, in spite of several development measures taken up by the government. The Constitution of India has devised safeguards for their development; consequently, national and state governments have taken several measures for the development of tribal communities. ❖

Support to 'livelihoods' and 'communitization' !

Happy Youth Day!

Happy Pongal!

Delhi is voting for its new Government!

KCR of Telangana talks about KG to PG residential system. It is important that the child is with the parents for 8 -10 years. After that the child can move into a Gurukulam. Hope he is really serious and he has the budget.

Tried to calculate the costs of a good residential school, with 1:10 teacher student ratio. Class 4 to Class 10, with 30 -40 students in each class would require not less than Rs.50 lakh/year for running the school and Rs.25 lakh/year for the stay and food of the students. This translates to Rs.30,000 per student minimum. For Telangana, we have some one million students would be in a class, translating into an annual budget of Rs.25,000+ Crore. For the country, this would be Rs.600,000+ Crore. It is half of Indian National Budget. This appears an impossible rhetoric. The possible would be to offer this Gurukulams to 10-20% poor and meritorious, and some 20-30% should be privately run against fee payment by the students. The remaining should be good quality day schools.

The rumours that Skills Ministry would take over all the skills and placement programs from various Ministries and the National Rural Livelihoods Mission and National Urban Livelihoods Mission would be merged into National Livelihoods Mission. Budget 2015 would throw some clarity on this soon. From the sheer efficiency and effectiveness point of view, it makes sense to have an NLM and have a single Ministry of Livelihoods and Skills in the country. The costs of the establishment at block, district, state and national level would be limited to 60%, against the 100% in the status quo. The synergies that arise would be very useful to both rural and urban areas.

We need generalist integrating professionals with

communitization central focus in our support structures at state, district, and block levels. They need to be provided minimum induction of 90-150 days before they take charge. The induction would include village stay, attachment with the teams of community, attachment with the front-line staff, attachment with peers, immersions and exposures. It would also include classroom training on bookkeeping, micro planning, results framework, participation tools, methods and skills, direct training skills, poverty-vulnerability-livelihoods understanding, appreciation and tools, gender sensitization, costing, long-time (10-years) detailed scheduling for household, group, village and block, management of self, team, project and institution, leadership etc. They need to be inspired and motivated to spend majority of their time in the field and considerable part of this time with the community, particularly through the night stays. They need to practice and become generalist integrators, mentors, trainers, demonstrators and role models, with clear area responsibility accounting for 80% of their work. This work includes building and nurturing large number of community cadres (about 10% of the poor households) and nurturing the third tier institutions of the poor – cluster level federations and above, and their staff. This work also includes augmenting and deploying resource persons (20-30 competent professionals at state level/state, 20-30 community professionals at block level/block) and resource agencies in a dedicated manner, at least 50-100 days/year/person or 500-1000 person-days/year/agency.

This would be supported with customized development programs by resource/management institutes; dedicated team/agency for each state; regular independent feedback from field; livelihoods specialization in management institutes; 30-60 session courses for interested students; and faculty in livelihoods cells working in the field with 'livelihoods' missions. ❖



24 January,
National Girl Child Day



31 January,
World Leprosy Eradication Day

I Get Work Regularly

Tell us about yourself?

My name is Laxmaiah. I am 30 years old. I am living with my wife and 2 children. My wife is doing labour work and children are studying 2nd class and 1st class in a government school. I am staying in Shapelli Village, Eturinagaram Mandal, Warangal District. I belong to the Gutthikoya community and migrated from Dantewada District, in Chattisghad. Lack of work we have migrated to this village 3 years back.



Where are you living in the village? How are you earning your livelihood?

We are a new community. So, the local villagers have permitted us to live in the outskirts of the village. I and my colleague are doing labour works such as taking care of the entire village's cattle etc. We share work on a day shift and night shift basis. I get Rs. 1500 per month from the villagers. Additionally, I sometimes get seasonal work from the villagers like guarding the red gram crops etc., during the night.

What does your wife do?

My wife does Agriculture labour works like paddy plantation, weeding and harvesting. She earns Rs. 1000 per month. In off-seasons, she collects Non-timber Forest Products from the nearby forests and sells it.

What type of works do you get?

I get regular works depending upon the requirement of the owners and the seasons. Like toddy tapping, fire wood collection, night watchmen for crop protection, rearing the villagers' cattle and protecting them from wild animals etc.

What is different here from your native place?

In my native place, we had act of works. We were only collecting forest produce and giving it to the local wine owners and who provided wine for us in return. But here local people are providing works and give groceries and take good care of us. We have a better life than the past.

What type of problems are you facing in your work?

Sometimes, the toddy owners are not giving proper wages, even after making us do back-breaking work. We are also facing the danger of snakes and poisonous insects at our huts near the forest during the night time due to lack of a power line.

What kind of benefits are you getting from the Government?

I recently got selected for the Food security card. I also applied for the adhaar card. Before I got the food security card, the villagers gave rice to me.

How many times do you go to your native place?

I go to my native place twice an year.

What are your future plans?

I have no future plans. If I get work our family eats, otherwise our entire family has to fast. ❖

I Want Develop My Business

Tell us about yourself?

My name is M. Rajam. I am 45 years old. I studied till 10th class.

What is your native village?

My native place is Maddikunta village, Mustabad Mandal, Karimnagar District, Telangana state.



Tell us about your family?

I am a widower and I am currently living with my two daughters and mother. My wife passed away 2 months ago due to Kidney Failure. Prior to that, she had received treatment in the Apollo Hospital under the Aarogyasri scheme in Karimnagar. On my part, I spent Rs. 50,000 for her medical expenses but she could not make it.

My elder daughter got married 6 months ago. My son-in-law does labour work and has recently migrated to Dubai (United Gulf Emirates) on a contract and will return after 3 years. So, my elder daughter stays along with us. She studied till degree and works as a computer training teacher in Mustabad and also makes Beedis part-time and earns Rs. 2000 per month. My younger daughter is studying intermediate and does Beedi work after college and earns Rs.50-70 depending upon the work.

What are you doing?

I am running a Cycle/Bike tyre puncture & mechanic shop from the last 20 years at my house. I earn Rs. 50-70 daily from this occupation. I usually get work from the local villagers.

What kind of problems are you facing?

I cannot do work too much as both my legs are crippled from birth. Nobody else in my family has this disability. My family has 15 guntas of land but it is not useful to me due to lack of irrigation facilities.

What kind of benefits are you getting from the Government?

I have the Sadaram card (Disability Certificate-issued by the State Government), Monthly Disabled Pension, Voter card, Aadhar card, Ration card.

What are your future plans?

I want to perform my younger daughter's marriage. I also want to develop my business further. I will be happy if my daughters are settled in jobs. ❖

I Want to Provide Better Service

Tell us about yourself?

My name is Sayamma. I am 37 years old. My native village is Shapelli Village, Eturinagaram Mandal, Warangal District, Telangana. I am working as an Anganwadi teacher in my village. I live with my husband and 3 children. My daughters are studying degree and intermediate respectively in Eturinagaram, while my son is studying 9th class in a Government school in my Village.



Since when have you been doing the work?

I am working as an Anganwadi teacher since the past 17 years. I completed my SSC and also ANM. I applied for this job after I saw a job notification in a local newspaper. I was interviewed by the Divisional Selection Committee, constituting the following members - the MLA, Revenue Divisional Officer, Local Mandal Revenue Officer, Mandal Parishat Officer and CDPO. I was the only one who applied from my village. At last, I was selected and was trained for a week in the District.

What are your responsibilities at work?

I provide pre-school education to children. I also serve nutritious food to children, pregnant and lactating women; so as to curb malnutrition and to decrease maternal and infant mortality in the village. This Anganwadi centre currently has 27 children (Male-13, Female-14) under the age of 0-6 years, 4 pregnant (3SC and 1BC) and 2 lactating women (SC and BC). I provide health awareness and conduct a vaccination programme on the 4th Saturday of every month at the local sub-primary health centre of Kannayya Gudem. I do a door to door survey of the village and make a list of new born children, pregnant and lactating women and send the list to the Anganwadi supervisor. I advice adult girls on sanitation and provide supplements such as iron folic tablets etc., to them.

Who monitors your work?

Our work is supervised by the Anganwadi supervisor and CDPO. They give instructions and guidelines for the betterment of the programme.

Are you getting any benefits from the government?

I got the food security card, subsidized gas cylinder, adhaar card, voter card etc. Earlier, I used to get disability pension due to an eye problem, but the government recently cancelled it.

What are the problems you are facing?

We, Anganwadi teachers are getting a meagre salary of Rs.4200. It is tough to save money for children's education and marriage with this money. I request the government to increase our salary.

What are your future plans?

I want to provide better service to the Anganwadi children and give nutritious food and improve the standard of their health. I want to provide quality education to my children. And I also want to perform both my daughters' marriages well. ❖

Want to Develop My Community

Tell us about yourself?

My name is Ella Goud. I am 40 years old. My native place is Maddikunta Village, Mustabad Mandal, Karimnagar District. I am living with my wife and 2 children. My daughter is studying degree and son is studying 10th class. My wife is running a hotel in the village and I support her in the maintaining of the hotel. My mother stays with us.



Tell us about your community?

We belong to the Toddy tappers' community and have formed a Toddy tappers association in 2008 at the village level. Before forming the association, our community members were in a Mandal level association. Our association has 42 members and about 62 families are dependent upon this livelihood. The association allocates 8 Toddy trees and 4 palm trees per head. It's recognised by the District Prohibition Excise Department.

Tell us about your association and it's workings?

The association was formed with the members of our caste in the village. There is no membership fee. We save Rs.100 per month for our consolidated fund. This amount is utilized for the developmental activities of the community such as for the plantation of Toddy tress in Government provided land, for the payment of Toddy tax of Rs. 1800 per annum to the Government and for giving loans to any of the members when needed, at an Interest Rate of 24% per year.

We elect a new Executive body every 5 years. We conduct meeting on the 10th of every month at 12 PM in the community hall. If any member is late to the meeting, they have to pay a penalty of Rs 50. In the meeting, we discuss about our community's problems and about ways to enhance our livelihoods. We are utilizing our savings on the purchase of Toddy plants and bore wells for irrigation in the 10 acres of land the Government has given us. We planted 450 Toddy plants so far. We hire a person to take care of the plants and pay him Rs. 4500 per month. Right now there are a total of 150 grown trees. Day to day, number of people who are doing this activity are on the decline due to various reasons, so we are promoting this plantation drive to save our livelihood.

What is the criterion for pension in your community?

Our executive body recommends and identifies people who are aged above 50 for the old age pension. As It is very hard for people to climb trees after 50. So, our community leaders are promoting this pension.

How many members are getting the pension?

In our community, 11 members are getting a monthly pension of Rs .1000.

What are your future plans for your community?

To develop our community and to pass on our livelihood to the next generation. ❖

To Improve The Ground Water Level

Tell us about yourself?

My name is Jalagam Vishnumurthi. I am 34 years old. My native village is Errapahad, Nuthankal mandal, Nalgonda district. I am living with my wife and 2 daughters.

What did you do before joining in CROPS?

I studied M.sc physics & B.Ed and worked part-time as a Tutor while studying Post Graduation. I wrote the District Selection Committee (DSC) exam for the teacher's post, I lost it with one mark. After that I worked as a school teacher for 6 months, but the salary wasn't enough to sustain my family. One of my friends told me about a vacancy in CROPS, which I joined in 2006.

What is the nature of your present job?

Presently, I am working as a project coordinator in CROPS (Centre for Rural Operations Programme Society) NGO. My current project aims for the sustainable development of groundwater management. It facilitates safe drinking water and promotes ground water recharge by rain water harvesting. This project is supported by the Centre for World Solidarity (CWS).

What did you do before joining this project?

I worked in the Oxfam project in 2006. This project ran for five years. It promoted organic cotton farming to enhance livelihoods. It created Enaabavi as a model village for being completely organic in its cultivation and aims to replicate its success in other parts of the state. The project was implemented successfully. After the project ended, I joined a new project supported by the CWS (Centre for World Solidarity). It has been running from 2012 and will run till 2016.

What are your responsibilities in your job?

We at CROPS, promote the sustainable development of ground water management. Apart from that, we also promote rain water harvesting and storage at slope areas and recharging borewell water to improve the ground water levels - which is utilized in the villages both as drinking water and for cultivation.

We support the sanitation programme, to improve the overall hygiene by building toilets. We provide support to those who do not have toilets, by requesting respective government officials for grants to build toilets. In case of an incomplete toilet, we facilitate the reconstruction of toilets by providing monetary support or by seeking government help. We promote the payment of house tax, tap water tax, power bills etc. and thereby promote the development of village infrastructure by the local Gram Panchayath. The cooperation of local representatives, villagers and officials is crucial for the development of the villages.

Apart from these activities, we have adopted two villages in Telangana (also implemented in the Andhra Pradesh). In both the villages of Vadicherla and Wanaparathi, we have

supported the construction of nearly 180 toilets.

We spread awareness to people about ground water management and its importance. This area is dependent upon rain fed crops. In recent years, there have been frequent droughts in the area here due to various climate changes. Crop yield has decreased considerably. To compensate for it the villagers have been using chemical fertilisers to get more yield, but it causes infertility of land in the long run. So, we promote organic farming.

The Centre for World Solidarity is training us on the importance of ground water management in the respective area. We have formed a committee to help teach the importance of rain water harvesting. It has 12 members, comprising of some farmers, Gram Panchayat representatives and Government officials like MPDO, MRO, local MPTC members etc.

We are mobilising the villagers, imparting knowledge and holding discussions with them about social development and related topics and make resolutions.

We are also implementing 2 types of programmes:

1. Borewell water resource sharing
2. Drip irrigation.

Through the first programme, 25 borewells have been constructed, which help in recharging groundwater resources in both the villages. The cost of construction of bore wells is Rs.40000, which has been provided by the Centre for World Solidarity, through funding from the European Union association etc.

We have also supported the removal of silt from open wells to improve the ground water level by providing Rs.12000; while farmers also contributed by giving Rs.2000. About 60 farmers have benefited through this activity.

Who is monitoring your work?

Our work is monitored by the Centre for World Solidarity (CWS). We keep a record of day to day activities and send it to higher officials.

What are the challenges you are facing?

In this village, there is a need to improve sanitation by building toilets and to curb illegal utilization of power. Lack of safe drinking water is another problem. Till now, only 70% of the villagers are paying bills on time.

What is your vision?

To improve the sustainable development of ground water management and free the villages from chemicals and adopt cultivation in an organic way. By these activities, we are trying to promote sustainable livelihoods for the next generation. ❖



Five Year Plans

The Five-Year Plans (FYPs) are centralized and integrated into national economic programs to reduce inequalities between different communities, sectors and regions by providing planned budget allocations. Joseph Stalin implemented the first Five Year Plan in Soviet Union in late 1920s. Most communist states and several capitalist countries subsequently had adopted them. China and India-n both continue to uses Five Year Plans, although China renamed its Eleventh Five Year Plan, from 2006 to 2010, a guideline (guihua), rather than a plan (jihua), to signify the central government's more hands-off approach to development.



FIVE YEAR PLAN

The planned economic development in India began in 1951 with inception of First Five Year Plan. Theoretical efforts had begun much earlier, even prior to independence. It was set up of National Planning Committee (NPC) by Indian National Congress (INC) in 1938. The Bombay Plan & Gandhian Plan in 1944, People plan in 1945 (by post reconstruction committee of Indian Trade Union), Sarvodaya Plan in 1950 by Jaiprakash Narayan were steps in this direction.

The Five-Year Plans (FYPs) are centralized and integrated into national economic programs to reduce inequalities between different communities, sectors and regions by providing planned budget allocations. Joseph Stalin implemented the first Five Year Plan in Soviet Union in late 1920s. Most communist states and several capitalist countries subsequently had adopted them. China and India-n both continue to uses Five Year Plans, although China renamed its Eleventh Five Year Plan, from 2006 to 2010, a guideline (guihua), rather than a plan (jihua), to signify the central government's more hands-off approach to development.

After Independence, Indian government launched to First Five Year Plan in 1951, under socialist influence of first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. The process began with setting up of Planning Commission in March 1950, in pursuance of declared objectives of the Government to promote a rapid rise in standard of living of the people by efficient exploitation of resources of the country, increasing production and offering opportunities to all for employment in the services of the country. The Planning Commission was charged with responsibility of

making assessment of all the resources in the country, augmenting deficient resources, formulating plans for the most effective and balanced utilization of resources and determining priorities.

It was two subsequent five-year plans were formulated till 1965, when there was a break because of the Indo-Pakistan conflict. Two successive years of drought, devaluation of the currency, a general rise in prices and erosion of resources disrupted the planning process and after three Annual Plans between 1966 and 1969, the fourth Five-Year plan was started in 1969. But, Janata Party government rejected the Fifth Five-Year Plan and introduced a new Sixth Five Year plan (1978-83). Thought it was also again rejected by Indian National Congress govt. again made in 1980 to Sixth Plan. Seventh Plan was started in 1985-90. The Eighth Plan could not take off in 1990 due to the fast changing political situation at the Centre and the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 were treated as Annual Plans. The Eighth Plan was finally launched in 1992 after the initiation of Structural Adjustment Policies (SAP).

During, the first eight Plans, the emphasis was on growth of public sector with massive investments in basic and heavy industries, but since the launch of the Ninth Plan in 1997, the emphasis shifted on public sector becoming less pronounced and moving towards current thinking on planning in the country, in general, it should increasingly be of an indicative nature.

All Five Year Plans and objectives:

| Plan | Objectives and Features |
|---|---|
| <p>First Plan (1951-56)</p> <p>Target Growth 2.1%</p> <p>Actual Growth 3.6%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ It was based on Harrod-Domar Model ◆ Influx of refugees, severe food shortage & mounting inflation confronted the country at the onset of the first five year Plan. ◆ The total planned budget of Rs. 2378 crore was allocated in seven broad areas: Irrigation and energy (27.2%), Agriculture and Community development (17.4%), Transport and communications (24%), Industry (8.4%), Social services (16.64%), Land rehabilitation (4.1%) and for other sectors and services (2.5%). The most important feature of this phase was the active role the state had in all economic sectors. Such a role was justified at that time because, immediately after Independence, India was facing basic problems – deficiency of capital and low capacity to save ◆ It was a successful plan primarily because of good harvests in the last two years of the plan. Objectives of rehabilitation of refugees, food self sufficiency & control of prices were more or less achieved |
| <p>Second Plan (1956-61)</p> <p>Target Growth 4.5%</p> <p>Actual Growth 4.3%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Simple aggregative Harrod Domar Growth Model was again used for overall projections and the strategy of resource allocation to broad sectors such as agriculture & Industry was based on two & four sector model prepared by Prof. P C Mahalanobis (Plan is also Mahalanobis Plan) ◆ Second plan was conceived in an atmosphere of economic stability. It was felt agriculture could be accorded lower priority ◆ The plan focused on rapid industrialization – heavy & basic industries. Advocated huge imports through foreign loans ◆ The Industrial Policy 1956 was based on establishment of a socialistic pattern of society as the goal of economic policy |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Acute shortage of forex led to pruning of development targets, price rise was also seen (about 30%) vis a vis decline in the earlier Plan & the Second Five Year Plan was only moderately successful ♦ The total amount allocated under the Second Five-Year Plan in India was Rs. 48 billion. This amount was allocated among various sectors: Power and Irrigation, Social Services, Communications and transport and miscellaneous |
| <p>Third Plan (1966-69)</p> <p>Target Growth -</p> <p>Actual Growth -</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ In 1965-1966, India fought a War with Pakistan. There was also a severe drought in 1965. The war led to inflation and the priority was shifted to price stabilization. The construction of dams continued. Many Cement and Fertilizer plants were also built. Punjab began producing an abundance of wheat ♦ Many Primary Schools were started in rural areas. In an effort to bring democracy to the grass-root level, Panchayath elections were started and states were given more development responsibilities ♦ State electricity boards and state secondary education boards were formed. States were made responsible for secondary and higher education. State road transportation corporations were formed and local road building became a state responsibility ♦ Failure of Third Plan that of the devaluation of rupee (to boost exports) along with inflationary recession led to postponement of Fourth Five-Year Plan. Three annual plans were introduced instead. 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 seed, 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 ♦ It paved the path for the planned growth ahead |
| <p>Fourth Plan (1969-74)</p> <p>Target Growth -</p> <p>Actual Growth -</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Refusal of supply of essential equipments and raw materials from the allies during Indo –Pak war resulted in twin objectives of ‘growth with stability’ and ‘progressive achievement of self reliance’ for the Fourth Plan ♦ 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. Implementation of Family Planning Programmes was amongst major targets of the Plan ♦ Influx of Bangladeshi refugees before and after 1971 Indo-Pak war was an important issue along with price situation deteriorating to crisis proportions and the plan is considered as a big failure |
| <p>Fifth Plan (1974-79)</p> <p>Target Growth 4.4%</p> <p>Actual Growth 4.8%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The final Draft of Fifth Plan was prepared and launched by D.P. Dhar in the backdrop of economic crisis arising out of run-away inflation fuelled by hike in oil prices and failure of the Govt. takeover of the wholesale trade in wheat ♦ 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 ♦ Due to high inflation, cost calculations for the Plan proved to be completely wrong and the original public sector outlay had to be revised upwards. After promulgation of emergency in 1975, the emphasis shifted to the implementation of Prime Ministers 20 point programme. Five Year Plan was relegated to the background and when Janata Party came to power in 1978, the Plan was terminated ♦ The Electricity Supply Act was amended in 1975, which enabled the Central government to enter into power generation and transmission ♦ The Indian national highway system was introduced and many roads were widened to accommodate the increasing traffic. Tourism also expanded. It was followed from 1974-1979 |
| <p>Rolling Plan (1978-80)</p> <p>Target Growth -</p> <p>Actual Growth -</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ There were 2 Sixth Plans. Janata Govt. put forward a plan for 1978-1983 emphasizing on employment, in contrast to Nehru Model which the Govt. criticized for concentration of power, widening inequality & for mounting poverty. However, the government lasted for only 2 years. Congress government returned to power in 1980 and launched a different plan aimed at directly attacking on the problem of poverty by creating conditions of an expanding economy |

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| <p>Sixth Plan (1980-85)</p> <p>Target Growth 5.2%</p> <p>Actual Growth 5.7%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The Plan focused on Increase in national income, modernization of technology, ensuring continuous decrease in poverty and unemployment through schemes for transferring skills (Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment- TRYSEM) and Integrated Rural Development Programme – IRDP and providing slack season employment (National Rural Employment Programme – NREP) controlling population explosion etc. ♦ Broadly, the Sixth Plan could be taken as a success as most of the target were realized even though during last year (1984-85) many parts of the country faced severe famine conditions and agricultural output was less than the record output of previous year |
| <p>Seventh Plan (1985-90)</p> <p>Target Growth 5.0%</p> <p>Actual Growth 6.0%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The Plan aimed at accelerating food grain production, increasing employment opportunities & raising productivity with focus of 'food, work and productivity' ♦ The Seventh Plan had strived towards socialism and energy production at large. ♦ The thrust areas of the Seventh FYP were: social justice, removal of oppression of the weak, use of modern technology, agricultural development, anti-poverty programmes, full supply of food, clothing, and shelter, increasing productivity of small – and large-scale farmers, and making India an Independent economy ♦ Based on a 15 year period of striving towards steady growth, the Seventh Plan was focused on achieving the prerequisites of self-sustaining growth by the year 2000 ♦ The Plan was very successful as the economy recorded 6% growth rate against the targeted 5% with the decade of 80's struggling out of the 'Hindu Rate of Growth' |
| <p>Eighth Plan (1992-97)</p> <p>Target Growth 5.6%</p> <p>Actual Growth 6.8%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The eighth plan was postponed by two years because of political uncertainty at the Centre ♦ Worsening Balance of Payment position, rising debt burden, widening budget deficits, recession in industry and inflation were the key issues during the launch of the plan ♦ The Plan undertook drastic policy measures to combat the bad economic situation and to undertake an annual average growth of 5.6% through introduction of fiscal and economic reforms including liberalization under Prime Minister of Sri. P.V. Narasimha Rao. ♦ Some of the main economic outcomes during eight plan period were rapid economic growth (highest annual growth rate so far – 6.8%), high growth of agriculture and allied sector and manufacturing sector, growth in exports and imports, improvement in trade and current account deficit. High growth rate was achieved even though the share of public sector in total investment had declined considerably to about 34% |
| <p>Ninth Plan (1997-2002)</p> <p>Target Growth 7.1%</p> <p>Actual Growth 6.8%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The Plan prepared under United Front Government focused on 'Growth with Social Justice and Equality' ♦ Ninth Plan aimed to depend predominately on the private sector – Indian as well as foreign (FDI) and State was envisaged to increasingly play the role of facilitator and increasingly involve itself with social sector viz education, health etc and infrastructure where private sector participation was likely to be limited ♦ It assigned priority to agriculture and rural development with a review to generate adequate productive employment and eradicate poverty |
| <p>Tenth Plan (2002-2007)</p> <p>Target Growth 8.0%</p> <p>Actual Growth 7.6%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Recognizing that economic growth can't be the only objective of national plan ♦ Tenth Plan had set 'monitorable targets' for few key 11 indicators of development besides 8 % growth target. The targets included reduction in gender gaps in literacy and wage rate, reduction in infant & maternal mortality rates, raising literacy, access to potable drinking water, cleaning of major polluted rivers, etc ♦ Government was considered as a factor of development & agriculture was declared as the prime moving force of the economy ♦ State's role in planning was to be increased with greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions. State wise break up of targets for growth and social development sought to achieve balanced development of all states ♦ Out of the total plan outlay Rs.921,291 crore (57.9%) was for central government and Rs.691,009 crore (42.1%) was for states and union territories |
| <p>Eleventh Plan (2007-2012)</p> <p>Target Growth 9.0%</p> <p>Actual Growth 8.0%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This Plan was aimed 'Towards Faster & More Inclusive Growth' after UPA rode back to Power on the plank of helping Aam Aadmi (Common Man) ♦ India had emerged as one of the fastest growing economies by the end of the Tenth Plan. The savings and investment rates had increased, industrial sector had responded well to face competition in the global economy and foreign investors were keen to invest in India. But the growth was not perceived as sufficiently inclusive for many groups, especially SCs, STs and Minorities as borne out by data on several dimensions like poverty, malnutrition, mortality, current daily employment etc. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The broad vision for 11th Plan included several inter-related components like rapid growth, reducing poverty and creating employment opportunities, access to essential services in health, education -specially for the poor, extension of employment opportunities using NREGA program, environmental sustainability, reduction of gender inequality etc. The targets at the end of 11th Plan was providing power and all weather road connection to habitations with population of 1000 and above (500 in hilly areas) by 2009, connecting every village by telephone and providing broad band connectivity to all villages by 2012 ◆ To increase the growth rate in agriculture, industry and services to 4%, 10% and 9% respectively ◆ Reduce total fertility rate to 2.1 ◆ Provide clean drinking water for all by 2009 ◆ The issue of Price Stability remained in reasoning for more than half of the Plan period. Inability to pass on burden on costlier imported oil prices might have constrained the supply of investible funds in the government's hand causing the 11th Plan to perform at the levels below its target |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Twelfth Plan (2012-2017)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The Twelfth Five-Year Plan of the Government of India has decided for the growth rate at 8.2% but the National Development Council (NDC) on 27th Dec 2012 approved 8% growth rate for 12th five-year plan ◆ With the deteriorating global situation, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia has said that achieving an average growth rate of 9 percent in the next five years is not possible. The Final growth target has been set at 8% by the endorsement of plan at the National Development Council meeting held in New Delhi ◆ Areas of main thrust are: infrastructure, health and education. The growth rate has been lowered to 8.2% from the 9.0% projected earlier in view of adverse domestic and global situation ◆ During the 11th Plan period, the average annual growth was 7.9 percent ◆ A full Planning Commission chaired by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on September 15th endorsed the document which has fixed the total plan size at Rs.47.7 lakh crore ◆ The 12th Plan seeks to achieve 4 percent agriculture sector growth during the five-year period ◆ Agriculture in the current plan period grew at 3.3 percent, compared to 2.4 percent during the 10th plan period. The growth target for manufacturing sector has been pegged at 10 percent ◆ On poverty alleviation, the commission plans to bring down the poverty ratio by 10 percent. At present, the poverty is around 30 per cent of the population ◆ According to commission's Deputy Chairperson Montek Singh Ahluwalia, health and education sectors are major thrust areas and the outlays for these in the plan have been raised ◆ The outlay on health would include increased spending in related areas of drinking water and sanitation ◆ The commission had accepted Finance Minister P. Chidambaram's suggested that direct cash transfer of subsidies in food, fertilizers and petroleum be made by the end of the 12th Plan period ◆ After the cabinet clearance, the plan for its final approval would be placed before the National Development Council (NDC), which has all chief ministers and cabinet ministers as members and is headed by the Prime Minister. ◆ In the first year of its implementation, the Plan has faced some serious setbacks as far as GDP growth is concerned, spurned 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 |

Planning Commission changed as NITI aayog from 1st January 2015.

National Institute for Transformation of India (NITI aayog)

Planning Commission of India converted to NITI (National Institute for Transforming India). The 65 year old commission was formed by a Resolution of Government of India, (GOI) 1950 under the Chairmanship of Jawaharlal Nehru.

On 1st January, 2015, the government announced 'National Institute for Transformation of India' or NITI Aayog

to replace Planning Commission.

Composition of New Commission

The organizational framework of NITI Aayog will comprise of, in addition to Prime Minister as the Chairperson and,

- Vice-Chairperson: To be appointed by the Prime Minister
- Members: Full-time:- Chief Ministers of all the States and Lt. Governors of Union Territories
- Part-time members: Maximum of 2 from leading universities research organizations and other relevant institutions in an ex-officio capacity. Part time members

will be on a rotational basis.

- Ex Officio members: Maximum of 4 members of the Union Council of Ministers to be nominated by the Prime Minister.

- Chief Executive Officer: To be appointed by the Prime Minister for a fixed tenure, in the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.

- Secretariat as deemed necessary.

Objectives of the Aayog-

- The Aayog will strive to foster cooperative federalism. The states will be given more roles in planning and policy making. Move towards bottom- up approach, recommended by numerous committees and also by 73rd and 74th amendments.

- Also, it is being said that in addition to taking up socio-economic agenda, Aayog is expected to direct its functioning towards a coherent strategic policy aimed also at foreign affairs, security, governance and environmental issues. It is supposed to act as a think tank, which will provide well researched inputs to various ministries and states.

- Evaluation of Planning Commission-The contributions of planning commission to Indian economy can never be underestimated. First budget of India, in 1948, was merely of Rs 100 crores. In Fourth plan it grew rapidly to Rs 1000 crores and has been on increase since then. The above was mainly due to the capacity built by planning commission. At given time, the ideology both at the centre and states was almost common because of one party rule. But this all changed in coming times which caused resistance from states.

- Nehru stressed that states should be given a major role in policy making, but at the time of his successors, the centre-state relations got sour and the PC started showing centralizing tendencies.

- By 1980's, the planning commission started showing redundancy and it was very clear that the plans are not being delivered on the ground. Since then there have been many efforts to revive PC, but it refused to change.

- Its relevancy was questioned time and again in a liberalized and globalized era. Planning is something which is viewed to be associated with Socialism. But reality is that every MNC, every other organization has some long term objective and so do governments. Planning just breaks long term policy, into shorter achievable goals and roadmaps.

- The main failure of PC is attributed to its transformation in a big bureaucratic organization, which has little flexibility and little connection with ground realities. It ceased to represent and reflect the diversity of India, and continued to give one-size-fits-all plans.

PLAN-WISE GDP GROWTH RATES

| Year | Five-year Plan | Actual growth in % |
|----------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1951-56 | First | 3.6 |
| 1956-61 | Second | 4.2 |
| 1961-66 | Third | 2.8 |
| 1969-74 | Fourth | 3.3 |
| 1974-79 | Fifth | 4.7 |
| 1980-85 | Sixth | 5.7 |
| 1985-90 | Seventh | 5.8 |
| 1992-97 | Eight | 6.5 |
| 1997-02 | Ninth | 5.5 |
| 2002-07 | Tenth | 7.8 |
| 2007-12 | Eleventh | 7.9 |
| 2012-17* | Twelfth | 8.0 |

Note: From 1966-69, there was no Five-Year Plan but only annual plans. Similarly from 1979-80 and thereafter from 1990 to 1992 there were no Five-Year Plans. 1951 to 56 means April 1, 1951, to March 31, 1956, and likewise.
 * Projection by the Planning Commission Source: Planning Commission of India

- National Development Council (NDC) was another extra-legal-constitutional body which was supposed to serve as a platform for states to voice their demands. Plans were made by PC and then presented to NDC for approval.

- But over time NDC has been reduced to just token value, contributing almost nothing to planning.

- Notwithstanding all this, the last 10 years have been somewhat better for PC. Remarkable strides have been made in primary education sector and now health sector is at the center of its focus. This has started showing up positive results in relevant social indicators.

- It is beyond doubt that planning is uncompromisable and it has to be seen how center-state finances will be shared now, and whether there will be 5 year plans like before or there will be just vision documents, with ministries and states just setting their own plans and goals. Its relation with constitutional bodies, mainly Finance Commission and interstate council is yet to be seen.

Conclusion: 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 materialize and deliver the desired results.

Now, the Planning Commission is getting a makeover as the NITI Aayog. NITI Aayog should be focusing on Agriculture, livelihoods, youth, gender, industries. It should also work on bridging the economic, social and culture gap between the rich and the poor. Then, it will truly get the desired results. ❖

The Indian Institutes of Information Technology Bill, 2014

The Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs), are a group of institutes of higher education in India, focused on information technology. They are established, funded and managed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Indian Government is likely to approve the Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIIT) Bill that seeks to give IIITs administrative autonomy and uniformity and set up 20 more such schools on a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.

The technical education system in the country can be broadly classified into three categories – Central Government funded institutions, State Government/State-funded institutions & Self-financed institutions.

The Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIIT) Bill, 2014 was introduced by the Minister of Human Resource Development, Ms. Smriti Zubin Irani, in the Lok Sabha on August 12, 2014.

Why the need to establish IIITs:

To nurture a skilled workforce with specialization in information technology to meet the needs of a rapidly-growing technology sector.

Formulating the National Policy on Education and to ensure that it is implemented in letter and spirit.

Planned development, expanding access and improving quality of the educational institutions throughout the country, including in the regions where people do not have easy access to education.

Paying special attention to disadvantaged groups like the poor, females and the minorities.

Provide financial help in the form of scholarships, loan subsidy, etc to deserving students from deprived sections of the society.

Encouraging international cooperation in the field of education, including working closely with UNESCO and foreign governments as well as Universities, to enhance the educational opportunities in the country.

Today, the institutes offer a range of undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs in information technology, electronics & communications engineering, cyber law, information security and biomedical engineering. Admissions to undergraduate programs at IIITs are conducted through the All India Engineering Entrance Examination.

Objectives: According to the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the Bill seeks to provide the four existing IIITs with independent statutory status. It proposes to declare them as institutes of national importance, so as to enable them to grant degrees to their students.

Powers of the institutes:

The four IIITs are situated in, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and two in Madhya Pradesh. They will aim to:

(i) provide instruction in areas concerning information technology and allied fields of knowledge, (ii) conduct research and innovation in information technology, (iii) hold examinations and grant degrees, diplomas and other titles,

(iv) create and make appointments to various posts, (v) establish and maintain such infrastructure as may be necessary, etc.

Board of Governors: The Board shall be the principal executive body of each institute. It will be headed by a Chairperson, and consist of faculty members and persons from the fields of information technology. The Board will be responsible for the general superintendence, direction and control of the affairs of the institute. It shall have the power to frame, amend, modify and rescind the Statutes and Ordinances governing the institutes. Statues provide for matters such as the constitution, powers and duties of the authorities of the institute, conferment of honorary degrees, and fees to be charged for courses.

Senate: The Senate will be the principle academic body of each institute. It will be chaired by the Director of the institute and consist of senior faculty members and persons of eminence from the field of information technology. It shall have the power to enact, amend or modify Ordinances governing academic matters such as processes of admission, courses of study and conduction of examinations.

Council: A Council shall be established to coordinate the activity of all the institutes. It will consist of Ministers having administrative control over technical education, industry partners, Chairpersons and Directors of all institutes and persons of eminence in the field of information technology. Key functions include:

(i) advising on matters related to the duration of the courses and degrees; (ii) laying down policies regarding recruitment, levying of fees, etc; (iii) examining the development plans and annual budget estimates of each institute.

Research Council: Research Councils shall be instituted to organize and promote research in the institutes. They will provide an interface with research funding organisations and industry, and provide for the incubation of technology applications emerging from research.

Director: The Director will be the principle executive officer of every institute and exercise powers and discharge duties as assigned by the Act, or Statutes or Ordinances or by the Board or Senate.

Performance review: All institutes shall establish a Committee to review the performance of the institute within the first seven years of establishment and every fifth year thereafter.

Financing of the institutes: The institutes shall receive grants every financial year, from the central government, for meeting their expenditure. Every institute shall maintain proper accounts and records which are to be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.

Conclusion: Thus, the IIIT Bill is engaged in bringing world class opportunities of higher education and research to the country so that Indian students are not found lacking on an international platform, and to develop the quality of human resources in the country to be at par with the global standards in specialised subjects. ❖

Social Welfare Association for Men (SWAM)

Social Welfare Association for Men (SWAM) is a Community Based Organization (CBO), registered as a society on 26 May, 1999 with the registration number of 238/1999 at Chennai (Madras), Tamil Nadu. This CBO was established mainly to address the issues related to sexual minorities and protection of their rights and provide sustainable livelihood support.

The objectives are: (1) To Establish and administer self—sustained Community Clinics, Rehabilitation Centers, Training Centers, Health Centers, (2) To undertake various health and development projects including HIV/ AIDS, (3) To provide training on advocacy, crisis management, human resource development, economical support to people living with HIV/AIDS, (4) To form a network of SHGs and CBOs and provide necessary Technical, Financial, Marketing, Advisory support, (5) To run a 24 hour response system and provide support service including legal assistance.

EC members: The CBO is being managed by an Executive Committee / Board consisting of 7 members.

Trainings & awareness: Training programmes for Police Officers on awareness on HIV/ AIDS & positive living; Awareness programmes among Schools and Colleges on HIV and its Prevention; Awareness programmes among

village panchayats on HIV/AIDS; Advocacy programmes among Police to reduce harassment of the LGBT community and develop friendly relationships; Counseling & Training programmes for Sexual Minority; Behavioural Change communication for Sexual Minority.

Welfare activities: The CBO is the nodal organization for TN Sacs in developing Counselors especially on HIV/AIDS. It has formed 10 SHGs which are active and running successfully. It also encourages its members in establishing livelihood activities such as “Tiffin centres”, “Vegetable Shops” etc. A “Body Massage Centre” is also run by the CBO members. Due to the CBOs intervention and advocacy, 14 Transgender community members got Flats from the Tamil Nadu Housing Board.

Since the inception of the CBO, it has supported more than 10,000 people and empowered more than 10,00,000 people through its projects. It is currently funded by Tamil Nadu State AIDS Control Society (TNSACS), South India AIDS Action Programme (SIAAP), CAPAS, TNSACS, FHI & AIDS Prevention and Control (APAC). It is planning to do run more projects on human rights for gay community, capacity building and enhancing livelihood activities for the sustainability of the CBO. ❖

Support Organization

GRAM-UTTHAN

GRAM-UTTHAN (GU) was established in 1990 in Orissa. It is a NGO registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860. The society also registered under FCRA. Gram-Utthan is has also transformed as a separate legal structure for its Micro Finance Operations by creating “G U Financial Services Pvt Ltd “a NBFC registered under Reserve Bank of India.

The NGO is currently working in 11 districts, namely Kendrapara, Jajpur, Kuttak, Bhadrak, Dhenkanal, Balaswer, Khordha, Nuapada, Gangam, Puri & Angul in Orissa. As of October 2014, GU is working in 2492 villages in 702 Gram Panchayats with 281 staff members in various levels including field staff.

Focus areas: GU is working in the areas of Health, Education, Water & Sanitation, Housing, Environment, Women Development, Fisheries etc. GU is being funded by Water.org for WATSAN Activities; Terre des homes for housing; ECHO, TATA Trust; FINISH Society; Freedom From Hungers; USHA, CARE India; CAPART; NRHM, Government of Orissa.

Bank-linkages: GU gets loans / funds from Axis Bank, ABN Amro Bank, FWWBI, SIDBI, NABARD etc.

It has formed 7433 SHGs covering 76812 members under Micro Finance Activities with loan disbursement of Rs. 414 crores. The Current loan outstanding is Rs. 47 crores.

Under the education initiatives, GU is running 20 Non-formal education centers, 18 Schools for women, It also organized 38 education awareness campaigns. It admitted the Drop-out and non-goes students in formal school, 137 formal schools regularized and organized 29 School health programmes. GU is also running a computer education center by setting up well-equipped Class Rooms and 10 Personal Computers with internet facilities.

GU formed a Kalyani Farmers Knowledge Center on 16th October, 2012 with the objective of transmitting knowledge and appropriate technology to the farmers, demonstration of quality seed, feed & vaccines to rural farmers and Skill development for steady & regular supply of inputs.

GU facilitates Trainings and supports the PoP community to establish many micro enterprises under its livelihoods promotion with support for Its Micro Finance Operations and Donor Funding for specific activities. Some of them are Kalyani Packing Center to facilitate supply of hygienic and domestic food products and spices in rural areas with perfect quantity at affordable cost. (35 women rehabilitated out of which 7 women are Widows), “Dairy Development”, “Carpet Weaving”, “Integrated Pond Fishing”, “Dal Processing”, “Phenyl Making Units”, “Agarbatti Making Units”, “Book Binding & Screen Printing”, “Mushroom Cultivation”, “Turmeric Grinding Units etc”. ❖

Training Organizations

1. Centre for Organization Development

<http://www.codhyd.org/>

2. Indian Institute of Organization Development

<http://www.iiod.in/>

3. Central Poultry Development Organization, Chandigarh

<http://cpdonrhd.gov.in/>

4. Advanced Training Institute, Hyderabad

<http://atihyderabad.ap.nic.in/>

Satya Village Organization

The Satya Village Organization was established and registered in April, 2004 in Duddipudi Village, Vemsoor Mandal, Khamam District, Telangana. This village is 100 km from the district headquarters. This VO has 29 SHGs, each group having 10-15 members; making the total members of VO to 350. The SHG leaders are elected from and by the members for the sustainable running of the groups.

Office Bearers: President: Malothu Sharadha, Vice President: Marampudi.Naga Paarvathi, Secretary: Jaya Lakshmi, Assistant Secretary: Sujatha, Treasurer: Ananthoju.Raani, Village Book Keeper: Vara Lakshmi

Savings and Loans: CIF amount: Rs.185400, Loan amount: Rs.30 lakhs, Stree nidhi amount Rs.70000.

Every S.H.G member pays Rs.50 to the respective group as savings. This VO has a bank linkage with Andhra Bank, Kundukoor branch. They follow the bank Interest Rate of Rs.1/- and internal lending rate of Rs.2/- within the Groups members.

Mostly, these loans are utilized for the purchase of cattle for dairy business, agricultural inputs, for paying for the higher education of member's children, Kirana business etc.

Meetings: The VO conducts a meeting on the 11th of every month at the village Anganwadi centre in S.C colony. In the meeting they discuss

about paying and repaying of loans, bank linkage activities, general savings, streenidhi savings, loans, interest, pending issues and review the last month's minutes. Every resolution taken at the meeting is informed to all the leaders and members for its smooth implementation.

The Mandal Samakya conducts a meeting on the 17th of every month in Velugu office, which is attended by the Velugu cluster coordinator, Assistant Project Manager etc. The officials give guidelines to the VO leaders and recommend them to bank officers for bank linkage activities.

Sub Committees: Each committee is formed with 3 representative members. Those are:

Bank linkage committee: This committee supervises the payment and repayment of loans..

Capacity building committee: This committee looks to strengthen Self Help Groups for their sustainable running.

Insurance committee: This committee collects a premium of Rs.365/- for the Abhaya Hastam Scheme, which not only provides insurance to the members, but also gives scholarships for higher education to the members' children.

Thus, the Village Organization has empowered the women members, who in turn are providing stability to their families. ❖

Scheme

Abhayahastam

The Abhayahastam scheme is being successfully run in Duddipudi Village, Vemsoor Mandal, Khammam District.

The scheme provides—social security through pension in old age to women SHG members; gives scholarship for higher education (9th to intermediate) to their children; and provides life insurance to the members. The scheme is legally binding, so there is no need to take assistance from mediators or brokers. The women SHG members of this village are dependent upon rearing livestock, dairy activities, agriculture and allied works.

Eligibility: The criteria to apply for the scheme are as follows: One should be a women SHG member; Should be aged between of 18-59; Should be from the BPL group; Should have a White Ration card.

Premium: Each member should pay a premium of Rs.365 per annum or Rs.1 daily; The remaining amount is contributed by the government. The beneficiaries of this scheme are getting a pension from Rs.500-2200 per month (pension depends upon the number of years members have paid the premium) from 2009 onwards.

Beneficiaries: Currently, there are 26 women in this village who are getting the Abhayahastam pension every month; 50 children are getting scholarships.

Insurance: When any SHG member passes away, Rs.5000 for the procession expenditure is provided along with either an accidental death insurance cover of Rs.75000 or a natural death cover of Rs.30000 is given to the kin of the member.

Conclusion: Thus, the scheme is supporting SHG members and providing them social security in their old age. ❖

Facility

Duddipudi Anganwadi Centre

The Anganwadi centre in Duddipudi Village, Vemsoor Mandal, Khamam District was established on 2nd October, 1989. It provides pre-school education along with nutrition in the form of food to children in the age group 0-6 years; it provides advice and nutritious food along with supplements to pregnant and lactating women; it provides advice to adolescent girls on sanitation and hygiene along with iron & folic supplements.

This centre has 10 children, 5 pregnant and 6 lactating women. The timings are 9 AM to evening 4 PM. The center has a teacher and Aaya. Both of them are actively running the centre to build the psychological, physical and mental health of children and are also helping to curb malnutrition; decrease infant mortality rate, maternal mortality rate and the school dropout rate. These activities are supported by the Village Organization and it's committee members.

The centre provides vaccination to children against diseases on the 1st Tuesday and 3rd Saturday of every month at the Venkatapuram Sub Primary health centre. The 104 Mobile services are facilitated on every 2nd Friday, which provides free treatment and medication to the poor people. They refer patients to PHC, when required. Every 45 days, the ANM and the Anganwadi worker conduct a door to door survey to make a list of the new born babies in the area and send it to the Anganwadi supervisor, and take further action depending on the supervisor's suggestions. Awareness programme for mothers and orientation on breastfeeding. Rice, Red gram dal, Sambar, Vegetables, Leafy vegetables, Milk, Egg. Thus, the centre is successfully providing services to improve the health and nutritional status of children, adolescent girls and pregnant and lactating women. ❖

Construction Material Supply

The 'New Livelihood' of supplying construction materials, is providing livelihoods to crores of people in the country.

Why is this business growing?

There are various factors for the increasing demand of construction materials, some of which are:

- ◆ Increase in population and its need for shelter and basic infrastructure.
- ◆ The real estate boom.
- ◆ High rate of development in the country.
- ◆ Houses being built and given to the poor people by the Government under various Housing Schemes for social security.
- ◆ Construction of public infrastructure such as roads, irrigation canals, dams, buildings etc., by the Government.

Raw materials: Business men collect raw materials such as sand from riverbeds; red soil, clay, stones, bricks etc., from the production points such as from the outskirts of the sand reaches etc.

Livelihoods: With over 260 industries associated with this business. It provides livelihoods to labourers of different types such as sand reach labourers, dumping labourers, bricks making labourers, stone makers (Vaddera), clay diggers etc; mediators, entrepreneurs, sand reach owners etc; masons, carpenters, plumbers, electricians, mechanics etc; saw mills, cement, steel and plastic industries etc; tiles, marble, granite, asbestos industries etc; lorry transporters, Hitachi operator, tractors drivers, security guards, lorry, tractors, autos owners etc; stone crushers for making the kankara, stone dust etc.

Stocking place: The collected construction materials are sold together at an 'Adda' or stocking place for the convenience of the buyer.

When in need of construction



materials, one can directly go to the place, bargain and buy the required materials or go through a mason or a mediator, for which they get a commission from both the buyer and the seller.

Cost of the materials:

- ◆ Sand per ton Rs.1500/- (depending upon the sand type)
- ◆ Stone Rs.15/- per piece
- ◆ Clay Bricks Rs.5/- per brick; fine brick Rs.7/-; cement brick Rs.15-20/-
- ◆ Crushing stone per tractor Rs.3500-4000/-
- ◆ Red soil Rs 500/- tractor.

Prohibition: Recently, some local governments have strictly prohibited the collection of sand from rivers, as this has an adverse impact on the ecological system and environment of the places.

WALTA Act: The State Government, through the Water, Land and Trees (WALTA) ACT 2002, is controlling the natural resources. For taking the sand from the rivers, permission from the local government and payment of tax is required.

Thus, construction materials are in high demand due to the increase in the construction activity in the country. ❖

Individual Enterprise

Collective Enterprise



Ironing Shop



Apparel Centre

Tenali Ramalingam and the Two Thieves

It was the practice of King Sri Krishna Deva Rayalu to visit the jails once a while and review the living standards of the convicted. During one of his visits, two of the jail inmates pleaded for cutting down their punishment period.

They explained that theft was one of the 64 arts in the epics and Vedas and started defining the art of stealing. However, they argued that they would shed the lifestyle and shift for one or the other profession to eke out their living. Rayalu thought for a moment brushing his moustache royally.

Its alright thieves. First let me know about your expertise in the art and then decide. You both have to burgle at Ramalingas house and return. If you emerge successful, then you will be set free immediately Rayalu ordered them. Hey you both listen. You should not deliver any physical blows to the households, take care he added one condition.

The same night they were 'officially' let out for robbing Ramalinga's residence. Ramalinga was nurturing a beautiful backyard garden fondly. The thieves' duo crossed over the backyard compound wall and took shelter in the bean bushes to watch the surroundings first.

Ramalinga was not just another ordinary man in the crowd. He spotted the duo hiding in the bushes. He called his wife loudly, "My dear wife! Come here fast. The whole town is on fire with the news about some convicts jumping jail and are said to be at large well within the town. We should immediately protect all our jewellery and other valuables..." watching carefully around the bushes, increasing the pitch "...bring that bundle with all our gold and jewellery."

A minute later, Ramalinga and his wife with great effort brought a heavy bundle into the backyard and dropped it into the well. Dhhhhhabbb....sppppsh sounds of a heavy weight dropping into the water in the well echoed for few seconds. The thieves looked at each other with sparkles in their eyes.

They never thought it would be so easy to rob Ramalinga.

Meanwhile, the couple went inside the house and closed the door. After sometime, snores were heard from the bedroom of the house. Slowly the thieves drew themselves out of the bushes, taking care they do not make any noise and went close to the well. While one of them stood guard, the other one slipped into the well. In a minute, the thief came out of the well and discussed with the other that there is much water in the well. The jewellery bundle cannot be taken out as it is. It would be better if some water was drawn out to snatch away the bundle, they decided.

Immediately they started drawing water from the well one after the other bucket. Water started flowing continuously in the backyard spreading all the ways. In the shade of trees and darkness, Ramalinga covering his head with a shawl took one farm tool and started guiding the water to the plants and trees in the yard. As it was too dark and the thieves were concentrating on drawing the water alone, they did not notice Ramalinga doing this.

After drawing water from the well for three to four hours continuously, the thieves were tired. One of them again went into the well and came back, "You, come I need help to bring the bundle out, it is too heavy." Both of them slipped into the well together again. With great effort both of them brought the bundle out and fell on the ground like logs of woods after opening it.

To their dismay, it was not a bundle of jewellery but a bundle of small boulders and rocks. They never understood until then that Ramalinga hid his precious items somewhere in the house and dropped this into the well.

Ramalinga called them, "Hey dear thieves! Please draw few more buckets of water from the well. Only two of the plants are to be watered. Please hurry up it is close to dawn. Kindly help me quick and little more" like sprinkling chillies on the wounds of burglars.

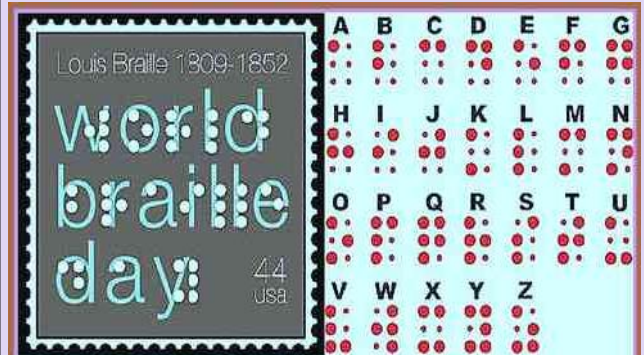
Both of them were stunned on hearing Ramalinga's voice. They told each other, "Run! It is Ramalinga!" and sped away crossing the wall with all the tired bodies. The so-called argument of the thieves about the art of stealing and their expertise did not work on Ramalinga at least. ❖

Social Enterprise

SELCO India is a social enterprise whose mission is to enhance the quality of life understand households and livelihoods through sustainable energy solutions and services

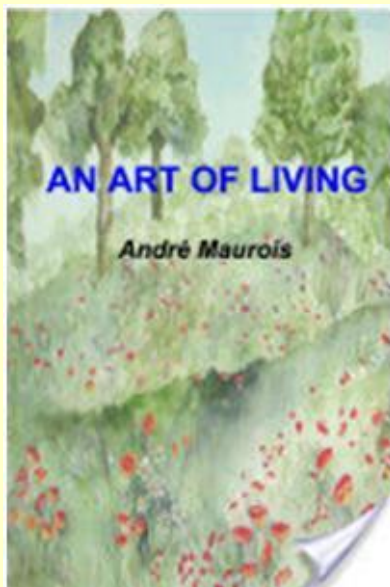


SELCO India (Sustainable Energy)



4 January, World Braille Day

An Art of Living



Author: Andre Maurois

This book was written by Andre Maurois, who was an erudite, an acclaimed scholar, a historian, and a deep observer of human nature and psyche with much insight. 'An Art of Living' is a very fine collection of five essays: The Art of Thinking, The Art of Loving, The Art of Working, The Art of Leadership, and The Art of Growing Old. Each section contains very profound, timeless, wisdom about the most important aspects we face in life.

Maurois dwells on the necessity of slow change in human customs and attitudes as a key to lasting changes; the inner virtues to cultivate in order to successfully overcome the adversities of life; the qualities to seek in order to maintain stable, loving, relationships etc.

This book caters to people interested in self-improvement and personal growth. ❖

Developing Markets for Agro-biodiversity

Author: Alessandra Giuliani, Bioversity International.

'Developing Markets for Agro-biodiversity' is based on a research in Syria by Bioversity International (formerly IPGRI). It presents practical proposals for establishing markets and securing livelihoods in difficult Dryland areas. The data and processes documented in the book show the potential of biodiversity in making a significant contribution to livelihood security in communities that inhabit difficult environments with unique resources.



Through this book, Alexandra Giuliani delivers a convincing account of how biodiversity products derived from neglected and underutilized plant species enter the markets in Syria. By highlighting the value of these plant products on the family income and health status of marginal farmer families in rural drylands and semi-arid areas, she brings the message home as to why it is so important to maintain biodiversity of the genetic resources through their judicious use. This is a good book for the researchers, scholars and students of the subject. ❖

Social Exclusion and Adverse Inclusion

Author: Devnathan & Virginius Xaxa.

This book is based on discussions on the significant Adivasi population inhabited in the states of Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Tripura. It focuses on themes of exclusion and inclusion in respect to Adivasis. It locates the issues of development and impediments to their growth within a larger regional, national, and even global, context. The book provides a guide for formulating policy in order to overcome deprivation faced by the Adivasis. It highlights three important issues: the need to eliminate exclusion in access to services; to accept land and property rights as granted to other citizens; and to ensure adequate representation and voice to the Adivasis in deciding policies related to their lives and welfare. It also analyses in-depth issues such as child mortality, hunger, poverty, livelihoods, gender etc. This book is of interest to students, scholars and policy-makers in India. ❖



e-links

VCA : http://aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/398-vcasal-leaves

Sub-sector : http://aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/397-subsector--buffalo-meat

e-book : <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/14564IIED.pdf>

v-book : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7UxTpf-6G20>

Supplements

Legendary Effort: Bhoodan Movement

http://aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/400-legendary-effort-bhoodan-movement

Flagship Program: National Health Mission

http://aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/399-livelihoodsjan-15flagship-program-nrhm

e-course; Capsule No - 1: Concepts

e-course

http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/285-e-course-capsule-1-january-2014

'Yoga'kshemam

Happy Sankranti / Pongal!

I remember Swami Vivekaananda! also remember Mahatma Gandhi!

One of the strongest influences on us is the schooling. For me, this has been from the state-run Residential School and Residential College, equivalent of Gurukulam in the modern times.

Thanks to the initiative by PV Narasimha Rao, the combined AP set up the first three Residential Schools at Sarvail, Tadikonda and Kodigenahalli. I was in Sarvail. Soon, Junior College came up at Nagarjuna Sagar. I was there. Their influence and the influence of the teachers and the co-students on us have been life-changing. It has made all the difference in our lives.

Traditional Gurukulams in new incarnation! Getting up in the Brahma Muhurat every day, reciting Gandhi's Ekadasa Vrata (Ahimsa et al), in the school assembly by 0700 hrs followed by classes, going beyond the text books, post-lunch supervised assignments, Then it was time for pursuit of special interests and tutorials, followed by games and sports, and evening roll-call where we recite 'yambrahma...' on gita. Self-study with teacher in the vicinity, after early dinner, would end the day, taking some time for individual and peers.

Gurukulams let us explore and understand our interests and potential. We were introduced to art, music, literature, etc. We learnt to use library and reference material. We read vignaanasarvasvam (encyclopedia). We did TulasiGanitam. We learnt cooperative competition. We had a balanced curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular portfolio of activities. We participated in district and state competitions, science exhibitions etc., to stand out clearly often. We tried and many of us won Olympiads, and talent search examinations. We were public persons 24X7, except for the sleeping time. We practiced 'management'. We led and we were led. We missed our families. But, this was compensated well with our ever-available Gurus, loco(local) parents. We became part of their families.

The early Principals (Sastri, Penchalaiah, Srinivasa Reddy, Suguna etc.) and early teachers (Rama Murthy, BLN, Ramanamurthy, Sridhar, Vidya, Vijayaraghavaacharyulu, Goli Venkatramaiah et al), initial batches of students and Venka Reddy at the helm made a huge difference to establishing

Gurukulam tradition, with 1:10 teacher: student ratio.

We did well in public examinations. There were state ranks in good numbers. We did well In various admission tests and joined the prestigious institutes. Finally, many of us are working in sought after careers in the public domain and in the professional domains. Our alumni are known for their dedicated service wherever they are. Amongst us, there are state, national and international public servants; there are social, business and political leaders; there are managers/executives in non-government, government and business organizations; there are successful professionals, entrepreneurs and social entrepreneurs; etc. There is no sector in which our alumni are not there – healthcare, engineering, IT, architects, chartered accountants, various civil services, arming, yoga, politics, outsourcing, contract services, infrastructure, roads and buildings, trade unions, education, various businesses, etc. There are distinguished stars in these sectors. And now, they started receiving awards at state and national levels.

As alumni we started 'pay back'.

G Muralidhar

These results led to increase in residential schools in each district/sub-district, for boys, and for girls. For all meritorious in general and other social categories. The two states together produce about 10,000/year alumni together. We also have abhyudaya schools (residential) for STs now. Importantly, the country set up a navodaya school in each district, producing some half a lakh alumni every year.

On this reflection, it appears essential that we take the Gurukulam to all in general, the poor and meritorious in particular. This should form part of the transition agenda now. I am sure, *clearly the sky, the water, the earth, the fire and the wind would come along.*

This is viswavidyayogam. Playing to the tune of the inner flute.

Can we be there? **Yes, if we pursue Atma Yoga.** If we let our thoughts, words and deeds be sync with the heart governed by the universe! If we truly let ourselves be the flute, the instrument, in the hands of the universe! Krishna confirms no ready instrument would be left out of the orchestra of the universe.

Join us in the world of yoga –for being one with universe–towards krsnasangamayogasiddhi. You will not regret it. ❖



livelihoods

Roby and Barrow