

# livelihoods

*today and tomorrow*

July 2014



0.1% Budget for Planning up! - 7

Happy Ramzan!

Monsoon is catching up, may not be up to the mark!

Budget has been presented to Parliament.

Budget presents the intentions of the Government towards its people in general and various categories of poor in particular. It is also an expression of translating the manifestos into plans/schemes for implementation. It sums of allocation of its limited resources for various socio-economic purposes, within the broad global benchmarks and infusion of capital that boosts growth, inclusive growth and distributes the incomes to the needy at least at the minimal level. It offers security and concessions to the vulnerable. It provides planned allocations for various social and vulnerable groups. It hints at decentralization up to the village panchayat. It presents government's plans to achieving global commitments. In this context, 'livelihoods' has explored 'Budget 2014-15'.

Do not miss reading Harper Lee's classic - 'To Kill a Mocking Bird'. Read about Sikkim in 'Kshetram' and Kharias in 'Sukshetram'.

'Legend' introduces 'Haimendorf'. 'How to' supplement discusses 'How to start a Community Newsletter?' Usual e-links introduce a video (When Community Clean-up Generates Livelihoods for Women), book (Tribes of India), LEAP (Durgiperi Village), and value-chain/subsector (Tej Patta/Tomato).

Daily notes for the month are presented as part of the e-livelihoods learning course. This month, it is capsule 7: Livelihoods Landscape.

With the faith and hope that you find the issue a useful read, we remain.

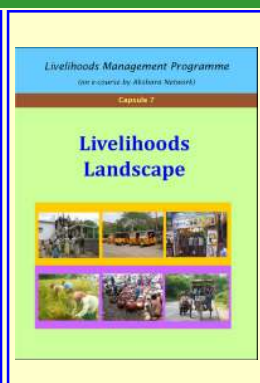
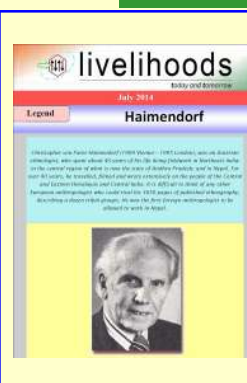
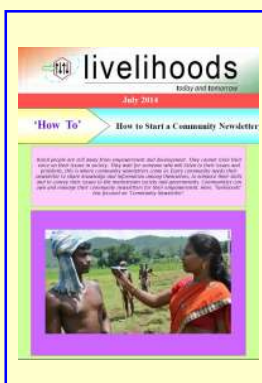
the 'livelihoods' team

About two-thirds of the world's forcibly uprooted people are displaced within their own country. They are known as Internally Displaced People (IDP). According to the latest figures released by the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), the global number of IDPs has steadily increased from a total of around 17 million in 1997. (Source: <http://www.unhcr.org>)



Too much delay in report writing may not get quality report.

Latest  
'livelihoods'  
Supplements  
e-course



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**Focus: Budget (2014-15)** **10**
**Venkepally Village** **17**

Every Month.....

News & Response **4**

On Ground **5**

Kshetram Sikkim **6**

Sukshetram Kharias **6**

Perspectives 0.1% Budget for Planning up! **7**

Interviews Common Persons and Vulnerable Persons Interviews **8**

Enterprises Individual, Collective, Social and Public **18**

Changing Context Rangarajan Committee Recommendations **19**

Development In Action Community Based Organization, Support Organization & Training Organizations List **20**

New Livelihoods & Leader, Community Worker Rexine Work **21**

Story, Books & Resources A Foot Has no Nose, To Kill a Mockingbird & Seasonality, Rural Livelihoods and Development **22**

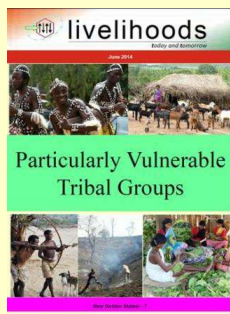
'Yoga'kshemam **23**

<b>e-links</b>	LEAP	Durgiperi
	VCA	Tejpatta
	Sub-sector	Tomato
	E-book	Tribes of India
	V-book	When Community Clean-up Generates Livelihoods For Women

**e- course** Capsule: 7 Livelihoods Landscape

**Supplement; How to do** How to Start a Community Newsletter

**Supplement: Legend** Haimendorf



This time after a long gap, it is a Tribal Issue, I was waiting for it.

I appreciate this issue, Thanks to livelihood team for this special issue.

Many Regards from,  
Santosh Kumar Singh, AZM,  
NSTFDC, Guwahati



Received 'livelihoods' June 2014. Thank you for sharing magazine.

Ramana Badam

Hyderabad.

Received 'livelihoods' June 2014. Thank you for sharing magazine.

VENKATESH Rapelly, Secretary,  
SHARE RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY-SRDS

*Can the Budget 2014-15  
fulfill common person's  
needs?*

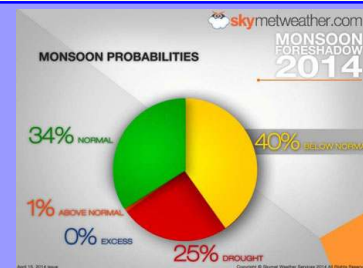
## News

**Telangana panel on loan waiver gets down to work:** Telangana: The officials' committee constituted by the State Government to formulate guidelines for the implementation of agriculture loan waiver scheme has asked the State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) to prepare village-wise lists of farmers who borrowed loans to finalise the number of beneficiaries and the total extent of loan waiver. However, any beneficiary would be given only up to Rs. 1 lakh even if his/her total borrowing in the form of crop loan, agriculture term loan and gold loan is more than that.

**Naidu to offer Rs. 3,000 cr. worth iPads to households:** Andhra Pradesh: State government was thinking of distributing 'iPad' to all households in the State at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,000 crore. Speaking on the second day of his two-day tour of the Anantapur district, CM said the State government was in talks with telecom service providers such as Reliance, Airtel and BSNL to offer 4G services to those iPads so that the best of the technological advances could be known by the people, egging them on to further development. ❖

**UNDP Report: Schemes Move in Right Direction:** India may have little to feel proud about in the findings of UNDP's Human Development Report for 2014, but the good news is that with ongoing rural employment and school education programmes and some serious discussions on universal healthcare over the last couple of years, it is moving in the right direction. The report gives a six-point prescription for bettering HDI, and India, it estimates, would need to spend just four per cent of its GDP to achieve the most important of those recommendations

**Weak Monsoon May Result In 10% Lower Kharif Output:** If monsoon remains weak in key States in the next week, then kharif production is likely to be lower by an estimated 10 per cent, a top official of the Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI) has said. While rice output may not be affected due to better rain in Northeast and irrigation facilities in Punjab and Haryana, soybean, cotton and groundnut harvest may be hit in crucial growing States such as Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. Till July 14, monsoon was said to be lower by 41 per cent with 53 per cent departure from normal in northwest India and 55 per cent lower in central India. ❖



**'Better Farming Could Feed 3 Billion More:** 'The world's existing cropland could feed at least 3 billion extra people if it were used more efficiently, a new study has found, showing that the large increases in population expected in the next three decades need not result in widespread hunger. More than half of the fertiliser currently poured on to crops in many countries is wasted, according to the study.

**BRICS create development bank, 'mini-IMF':** The leaders of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa agreed to launch the institutions to finance infrastructure projects and head off future economic crises. The New Development Bank will mirror the Washington-based World Bank while the reserve is seen as a "mini-IMF." ❖



## Lalitha Gramaikya Sangam

Lalitha Gramaikya Sangam is located in Gudur village, Mustabad Mandal, Karimnagar District. This village organization was established on 5 January 2014. This VO has 27 SHGs. The total members of the VO are 282.

VO office-bearers: President: Krishnaveni, Vice-president: Andalu, Secretary: Shyamala, Treasurer: Gauri priya, Village book-keeper: Padma.

The VO meetings conduct on the 7th and 20th of every month at the Grama Panchayat office. SHG Presidents, Secretaries, book-keepers, Aanganwadi members, ANM, Aasha workers attend the meeting. They discuss various issues like savings, internal lending, bank linkage, women issues, village issues etc. VO president or secretaries attend in MS meeting on 8 and 25 of every month.

Earlier, every member had to save Rs.30 per month, but now it has been raised to Rs.100. CIF amount is Rs.1,26,000, Interest amount is Rs.16,000, Bank linkage amount is Rs.70 Lakh. All the SHGs are taking loans of about Rs. 4-5 Lakh. They give these amounts through bank linkage from Grameena bank with an interest of 12%. The

### Scheme

SHG members utilize this money for various purposes like dairy activities, agricultural

inputs, children's education, debt repayment, marriage etc. Bank loan interest rate is 12%, along with bank interest VO interest rate is 12% , they give loan to SHGs 24%.

VO maintains respective committees like Bank linkage committee:

Health and sanitation committee: It discusses about the pregnant and lactating women's nutritional food items, provided under the Central Government scheme.

Gender committee: it discusses about the village level women's problems in SHGs like not properly maintain the SHG activities. Paying, repaying the loans, interest etc.

Capacity building committee: It discusses about the Formation of SHGs in the village level.

Non pesticide management committee: It promotes the use of organic fertilizers in agriculture.

Each committee has 3-4 active members, who do their role by the coordination of the respective groups members.

Abhaya Hastam Pension scheme is provided to women who are 60 years above. They get a pension of Rs.500 every month. Total beneficiaries are 35 members. ❖

### Facility

## Mid-Day Meal

The Mid-Day Meal Scheme is being successfully implementing in Gudur village (Mustabad mandal, Karimnagar District), at the Mandal Parishat Primary School. This scheme was introduced in this village in 2003. The Mid-day meal scheme is a boon to all the poor communities like SCs, STs, BCs and Minorities etc.,

This school was established in 1961. The total strength of the school is 35 children: Boys-15 and Girls-20. The classes range from to 1-5th standard. The school starts from 9:00a.m – 3.30p.m.

Food provided in the scheme: Monday: Sambar & egg, Tuesday: Vegetable curry, Wednesday: Daal & leaflets curry, Thursday: Sambar & egg, Friday: Vegetable curry, Saturday: Daal & leaflet curry.

The food is prepared by the members of the local SHGs. The work is provided to one of the SHGs by rotation, every year. This provides employment to the local SHG members and also helps in maintaining the quality of the food. The scheme is supervised by the teachers at the school level. The raw materials for the preparation of food items are provided by the Mandal Headquarters or sometimes by public distribution system. The activity is supervised by the Mandal Education Officers, MRO, and MPDO. If required, local teachers intimate necessary information to the Mandal Resource person officers. ❖

## Gudur Gram Panchayat

The Gudur village is located in Mustabad Mandal from Karimnagar District. This village is 5 k.m from Mustabad Mandal Headquarters. The village has a population of 1251 people from 330 households. The Panchayat in this village was formed in 1981. The present Sarpanch is Mr.Ramesh. The Panchayat staff consists of Secretary, Bill collector, Revenue officer, Revenue Assistant, Electrician, Safaiwalas etc.

The village Gram Panchayat played an important role in the development of the village and constructing roads, purified-water plants, individual lavatories, pucca houses of IAY, street lights etc; Installing street lights, over-head tanks etc; Improving sanitation facilities, drainage system, public tap water system, toilet system etc. Implementing watershed programme for the ground water. The village Panchayat's elected body conducts a Gram Sabha twice a year. People discuss their common problems.

Under e-panchayat, registration and issuance of birth and death certificates; payment of water bill, house taxes etc., and other such works have been computerized for transparency.

Gram panchayat formed four committees such as sanitation committee, Drinking water committee, Wild life sanctuary committee, Anti-Gutka and Liquor committee. In 2008, the village Gram Panchayat was given the "NIRMAL GRAM PURASKAR" by President of India and "SHUBRAM" award the Chief Minister. ❖

## Sikkim

In 1956, Sikkim state became the 22 state in India by abolishing its "Indian protectorate" status. It is a landlocked Indian state located in the Himalayan Mountains. The state's borders are Nepal to the West, China's Tibet Autonomous Region to the North, Bhutan to the East and West Bengal to the South. It has four districts – East Sikkim, West Sikkim, North Sikkim and South Sikkim. Sikkim's capital and largest city is Gangtok. Sikkim is the least populous state in India with 610,577.



Sikkim is diverse geographically due to its location in the Himalayas. The major rivers of Sikkim are Teesta River and its tributary, the Rangeet. About a third of Sikkim is heavily forested. It has: 28 mountain peaks, more than 80 glaciers, 227 high-altitude lakes, 5 major hot springs and more than 100 rivers and streams.

The average annual temperature of Sikkim is about 18 °C. During the monsoon, heavy rains increase the risk of landslides. The predominant religions are Hinduism (60.9) and Buddhism (28.1).

The state's economy largely depends on agriculture as well as tourism, horticulture, floriculture, mining, aquaculture and livestock. They practice the terraced farming of rice and the cultivation of crops such as maize, millet, wheat, barley. Tea and cardamom or elaichi, coffee, ginger, turmeric are the principle crops; while mandarin orange, guava, mango, banana and so on are the principle fruits; fodder, fuel wood and broom grass are also grown from the horticulture. Tea is exported to USSR & Germany. Gladioli, anthuriums, lilliums, primulas, rhododendrons, orchids as well as many other floral species thrive here. Adequate number of livestock like cattle, buffaloes, pigs, sheep, goats, yaks and few other are reared in Sikkim. Sikkim's nominal state Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was estimated at a billion in 2012. The per capita income in Sikkim stood at INR 81,159.

Because of its hilly terrain, poor transport & infrastructure, Sikkim lacks a large-scale industrial base. Brewing, distilling, tanning and watch-making are the main industries. In addition, a small mining industry exists in Sikkim, extracting minerals such as copper, dolomite, talc, graphite, quartzite, coal, zinc, graphite, lime stone, silliminite, mineral water, thermal springs, building stone and materials for porcelain lead. In recent years, the government of Sikkim has extensively promoted tourism. As a result, state revenue has increased 14 times since the mid-1990s. Sikkim is a popular tourist destination, due to its culture, scenery and biodiversity.

Power supply remains a problematic area for the government of Sikkim. Sikkim is the first state in India to achieve 100 per cent sanitation coverage. Despite the state's minimal industrial infrastructure, lack of Air & Train Transportation, minimal power supply etc., Sikkim's economy has been among the fastest-growing in India since 2000; the state's GDP expanded by over 13 per cent in 2007 alone. Sikkim plans to become the first state in India to make its agriculture entirely organic by 2015. ❖

## Kharias

Kharias are one of the adivasi tribes, living on the rugged slopes and forests in India. They are found in Jharkhand (Ranchi, Gumla, Singhbhum and Simdega District), Orissa (Birmittapur, Sundargarh, Puri, Jhunmur, Mayurbhanj), West Bengal (Mednipur) and Assam states. But the majority of the Kharia tribes are concentrated in Jharkhand.



The population of the Kharias is around 3,00,000. The Kharia tribes speak the Kharia language and can also speak Sadani and Hindi. The origin of Kharia language is based upon the nature. For them, nature is the mother of their language and literature.

Kharias by nature, don't like to stay with other tribes. They like to stay in their own areas or places. The houses of the Kharias are built with Mud, Wood, Bamboo, Straw, Khar-Grass and Rope; The dowry system is not practiced in the Kharia society but Bride-Price (sukhmund) is paid to the girls' father in cash or kind.

They are religious people and worship a number of deities. Their religion is a blend of the beliefs and rituals of Hinduism, Tribalism and Christianity. The Kharias call their religious head Pahan. When the Kharia tribes carry the ventures of hunting and also pray for rainfall, the mountain spirits are invoked. These spirits are popularly known by the names of the hill in which they are thought to live in. Kharia tribes celebrate festivals like Karma, Sohrai, Sarhul, Nawakhani etc.

The Kharia women wear different ornaments made with Seed, Shell, Bronze, Thread, Brass, Nickel, Silver, Gold etc. Music and dance play a vital role in their culture.

Usually, Kharias take two meals in a day. Rice is their staple-food, while Wheat, Maize, Barley, Gram, Urid, Masur, Beans, Peas; various kind of Vegetables, Fruits, Edible leaves; other items like Fish, Egg, Meat etc., are consumed. They drink Water, Rice-beer, Liquor made out of Mahua, Tea etc.

Traditional occupations are mainly agriculture, hunting, fishing and collecting of forest produces. The economy of Kharia revolves around agriculture. Due to forest regulations, the primitive type of shifting cultivation is no longer openly practiced. They follow agriculture calendar very strictly. Therefore *Kharias* are agriculturalists as well as hard laborers.

There are two main crops namely *Kharif* and *Rabi* grown by the Kharias. *Kharif* crops include Paddy, Maize, Maruwa and Jatngi, whereas *Rabi* crops include Wheat, Arhat and different kind of Grams and Vegetables, Beans etc.,. Some people in Kharias (especially Hill-Kharias) are dependent on forest products like Roots, Seeds, Flowers, Leaves, Fruits, Wax and Honey etc.,. Fishing, Hunting, Animal husbandry etc. are supplementary occupations.

The mainstream society must appreciate and learn from Kharia tribes about protection of Nature, Women and Children. The major concern of the Kharia population is the decrease in their population due to the changes in their tribal identity and political pressure. ❖

# 0.1% Budget for Planning up!

Eid Mubaarak!

Arun Jaitley presents his maiden budget.

Economic Survey suggests –

- ♦ GDP growth of 5.4-5.9% during 2014-15, as against 4.7% in 2013-14;
- ♦ Poor Monsoon would come in the way of the growth;
- ♦ Taxes need to be raised;
- ♦ Inflation at 8-9% starts showing signs of moderation
- ♦ Movement towards simple tax regime, with fewer exceptions
- ♦ Goods and Service Tax (GST) soon
- ♦ Industrial growth expected to revive gradually
- ♦ Banking sector impacted by global slow down
- ♦ APMC laws come in the way of modernization of economy
- ♦ Food grains production touches 265 MT
- ♦ There is a need to review nutrient-based fertilizer subsidy
- ♦ Plan to add 90,000 MW Power capacity in next 5 years
- ♦ Private companies to be allowed to mine coal
- ♦ Drop in Gold and Silver Imports by 40%
- ♦ Increase in India's share in world services exports (3.3%)
- ♦ Services growth is at 6.8% vis-à-vis GDP overall growth rate of 4.7%
- ♦ **Poverty ratio declined from 37.2 pc in 2004/05 to 21.9 pc in 2011/12. Is it TRUE?**

Railway Budget presented by Sadananda Gowda indicates that Indian Railways run 12617 trains to carry 23 million passengers/day and it is on the verge of becoming the largest freight carrier in the world. Its track length is 1.16 lakh km. Its employee strength is 13.1 lakh. Increase in train fares has been proposed with increased facilities for passengers like Wi-fi.

Main Union Budget proposed –

- ♦ Size of the Budget – Rs.18 lakh Crore
- ♦ increase in income tax exemption limit to Rs.2.5 lakh, along with increases in exemption limit to Rs.1.5 lakh;
- ♦ minimum pension at Rs.1,000 per month;
- ♦ Opening 5 IIMs, 5 IITs, 4 AIIMs
- ♦ 'Digital India' for broadband connectivity everywhere
- ♦ Kisan TV and Arun Prabha TV (NE)
- ♦ National Internet and IT Mission
- ♦ Jal Marg Vikas on Ganga

- ♦ Neeranchal watershed development programme
- ♦ Free Drug and Diagnosis Services towards Health for All
- ♦ 2 National Institutes for Ageing
- ♦ 600 community radio stations
- ♦ Swachh Bharat Abhiyan – sanitation facility to all by 2019
- ♦ Namami Gange (Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission)
- ♦ 100 Smart Cities
- ♦ Capitalization of Banks
- ♦ Rehabilitation of displaced Kashmiri migrants
- ♦ Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana
- ♦ SC Plan and TSP

## Perspectives

G Muralidhar

- ♦ Credit for affordable housing
- ♦ MGNREGA linked with agriculture and allied activities
- ♦ Fiscal Deficit to be reduced to 4.1% of GDP
- ♦ Expenditure Management Commission
- ♦ E-Visa on arrival for tourists
- ♦ Kisan Vikas Patras
- ♦ Skill India, a national multi-skill programme
- ♦ Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission, through PPP
- ♦ Direct Interest subvention to women SHGs through banks in 250 districts
- ♦ Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme for rural youth
- ♦ Producers' Development and Upliftment Corpus
- ♦ However, allocations to handlooms/handicrafts sector have remained small

People's Budget and Bottom-up Budget is still a long way away?

Transfer of Consolidated Funds to States – is it going to increase? How are the states going to receive technical assistance for improved planning and implementation?

Is a similar consolidated funds transfer not required for the local bodies?

Don't we need to work with the villages/cities to assess their situation in a participatory manner and evolve their plans? For this, do not we need to identify, induct, place and nurture competent committed young men and women in these villages/cities? May be twenty five thousand individuals in the entire country? An annual participatory exercise, that lasts 5-10 days in a village? May mean Rs.2000 Crore a year? Mere 0.1% of the budget of the Government of India? Can't we commit this much? ❖

## Good Education to Kids..

## To be a Responsible Servant..

**What is your name and how old are you?**

My name is Balla Damayanti. I am 38 years old.

**What is your native place?**

My native place is Indiramma Peta in Sompeta town, Srikakulam District.

**Tell us about your family.**

I live with my husband and two daughters. My husband is working as a Kalasa (Market Labor), and my two children are studying 10<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> class respectively, in a government school.

**What is your occupation? How much do you earn?**

I am a painter. If I find work in town, I earn Rs. 250/- per day. If the work is in villages, I earn Rs. 300/- per day.

**What problems are you facing in your daily life?**

I have been working as painter for the past eight years. For painting, most of the work I do is in the standing position. Since I stand for long periods of time, I feel very tired by the evening. My eyes also feel strained by the end of the day. On a daily basis, I get up early in the morning, cook food, and prepare lunch boxes for my children. I have to be on time at work around 9:30 AM, regardless of whether it's in a town or a village. Even as I work, my mind is concentrated on my daughters and their safety because of the lack of security for girls in the society. Also, my health takes a toll from time to time due to the long working hours.

**Do you receive any benefits from the government?**

No, so far I did not receive any benefits from the government.

**What are your plans for the future?**

I wish to have my kids educated to as high of a level as possible, so that they can live comfortably in society. Also, I want to save enough money to fund my kids' marriages. ❖



**Can you tell us about yourself?**

My Name is Gunta Devendra Rao. I am 29 years old and unmarried.

**What is your educational qualification?**

I completed my diploma in Veterinary at Palamaneer in Chitturu District.

**What is your native place?**

My native place is Makhara Jola Village in Mandasa Mandal, Srikakulam District.

**Can you tell us about your family?**

I have an older brother and three elder sisters who are all married and well-settled. I currently live with my parents. My father used to work as a VAO, and he retired six years ago.

**What is your occupation and how much do you earn?**

I work as a Livestock Assistant at the Veterinary Dispensary in Haripuram, Srikakulam District. I earn Rs. 10,900/- per month.

**How did you get this job?**

After graduating with my diploma, I saw an advertisement for the job posting in DPIIP Velugu – Srikakulam. I attended the interview and got selected as the Veterinary Resource Person. I worked with DPIIP for two years, after which I shifted to the Veterinary Department on a contract basis as the Veterinary Assistant. My job has become permanent since October 2008. Recently, I was promoted from Veterinary Assistant to Livestock Assistant.

**What is the nature of your work?**

As the Livestock Assistant, I need to work in the field, as well as at the dispensary. Every day, I attend to five or six cases. I do general treatment at the dispensary, and take up artificial insemination, castration, vaccination, and veterinary camps' participation at the field level etc.

**What are some of the daily problems that you face due to your job?**

It is very dangerous to treat dogs because they may carry rabies. I must be careful when treating animals during abnormal abortions because the associated virus is harmful to humans. I also receive calls to attend to cases at odd times. As and when I get a call, I am required to attend to them to save the livestock.

**What additional support would you like from your department?**

If my department provides an option to work and study (such as through departmental tests), I would be interested to do my B.Sc. in Veterinary.

**What is your plan for the future?**

I want to be a responsible government servant and provide service as a Veterinary Doctor. ❖





**Satisfied With My Work....****Can you tell us about yourself?**

My name is Karunya Adivamma. I am 70 years and old single woman.

**What is your native place?**

My native place is Nagarampally Village in Vajrapu Kotturu Mandal, Srikakulam District.

**Tell us about your family.**

My husband passed away about 35 years ago. I have three daughters, who are all married and settled down.

**What is your Occupation?**

I work as a Dasuralu (Main devotee) of Kula Devatha (Community Goddess) named "Rajamma". I got this work from my husband. I have about seven hundred devotees from thirty villages around my village. I visit these thirty villages, three times per year. My devotees give me seasonal agriculture products and give as much money as they want to, as a gift (Dakshina). During the ritual of a baby's first haircut, devotees offer some money with their hair. We arrange a festival of Kula Devata once every three years. During the festival, devotees donate money, fruits, etc. As most of the produce cannot be consumed during those respective events, I rely and survive on the leftovers.

**What problems do you face as a single woman?**

When my children were engaged, my husband expired. Since, I no longer had any man's support in the family, I faced many problems. I managed to arrange marriages for my three children and they are now settled. When I was healthy, I was able to deal with all duties required for Kula Devatha. But, I've been suffering from diabetes for the past four years, and I am also suffering from knee and joint pains. Therefore, I am not able make visits to villages, as frequently as before, and I am not able to serve the Kula Devatha daily as before.

**Do you get any support from your daughters?**

Yes, my younger daughter helps me when I fall sick and cannot perform my duties.

**Did you receive any benefits from the government?**

Yes, I receive Rs. 500 per month from the government under widow pension and I have a ration card. I also got a house under the government's colony scheme.

**What is your plan for the future?**

I have been satisfied with my work until now. As I get old and immobile, I am slowly introducing my family members to my devotees. My plan is to transfer my duties to my younger daughter and her husband. I hope they would fulfill their duties like me. ❖

**My Son Will Remain Healthy...****Tell us about yourself?**

My name is Tamada Bala Krishana. I am 40 years old and uneducated. I suffer from polio.

**What is your native place?**

My native place is Palavalasa Village in Sompeta Mandal, Srikakulam District.

**Tell us about your family.**

I am married. My wife and son live with me. My wife is a daily-wage labor and my son is studying 6<sup>th</sup> class in UP School.

**How did you suffer with polio? When did you contract this ailment?**

I was first diagnosed with polio when I was ten years old. It attacked all of my body parts. I received medical treatment, but was not cured.

**How did you get married?**

Our marriage is love marriage. My marriage was arranged by village elders in a temple, since my in-laws were opposed to the wedding.

**How did you survive with this condition?**

I have no lands or assets in my village. Currently, my wife has been going for daily-wage labor work. I go out to beg on the NH5 road. I beg every morning from 6AM to 9AM and in the evening from 4PM to 7PM. I sit on the side of the road and try to get money from lorry drivers and passengers.

**Do you face any problems while begging?**

I have to travel long distances from my village on a tricycle for begging on NH5. I risk falling victim to an accident since I sit on the highway. When I am late, my wife and son get worried about me.

**Did you receive any benefits from the government?**

Yes, I receive a disability pension of Rs. 500/- from the government, in addition to a free tricycle to use for my daily transportation needs.

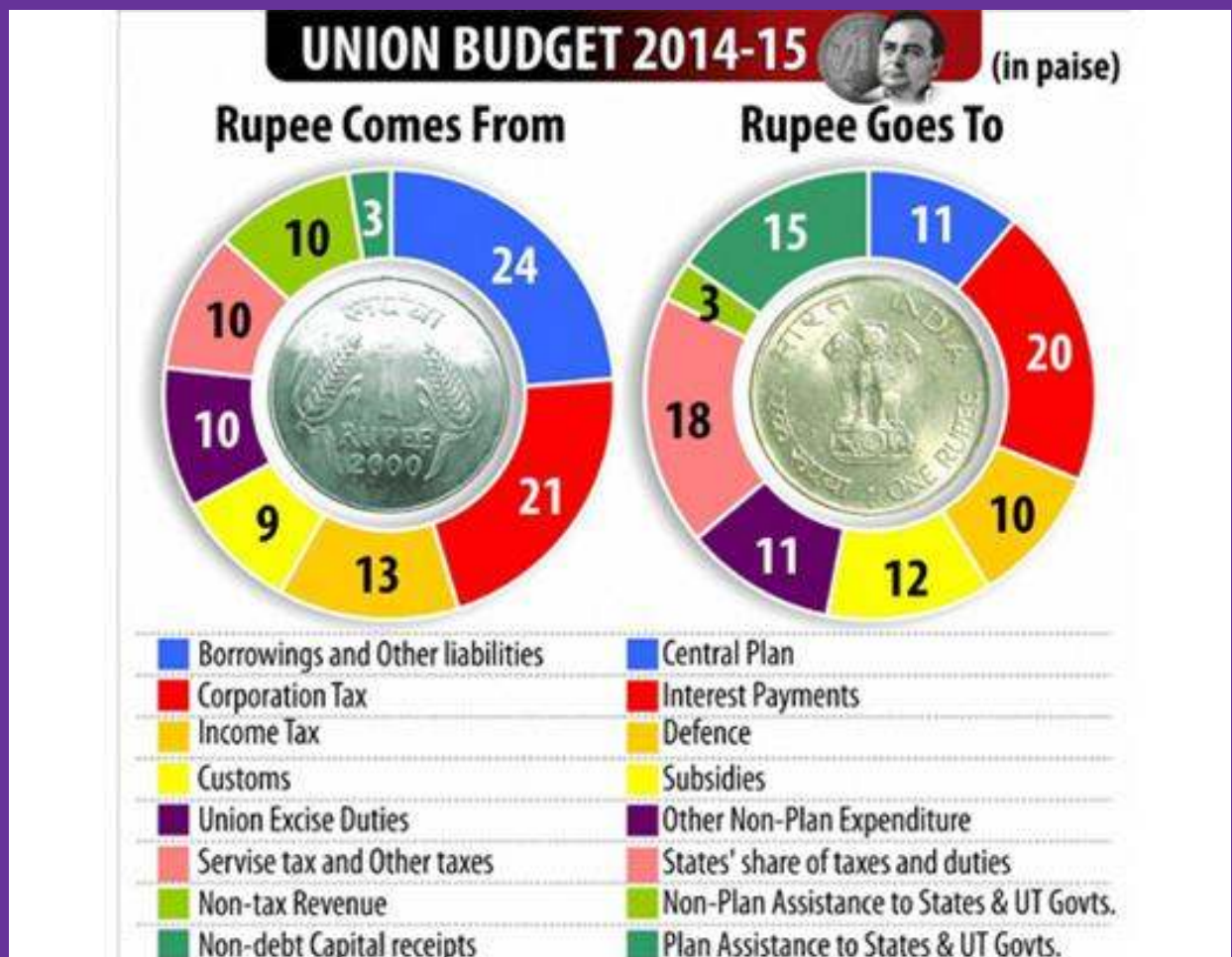
**What is your plan for the future?**

I have no plans for my future. I am scared that polio will also affect my son, since it passes down from generation to generation. I hope my son will remain healthy throughout his life, unlike me. ❖



## Budget (2014-15)

Central Government introduced Union Budget 2014-15 on the 10th of July. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley introduced a 17.93 lakh crore Budget in the Parliament. The Budget focused on fiscal deficit reduction, job creation, price reduction, infrastructure development and economic growth. It put special focus on promoting household savings by increasing the Income Tax limit to the small and marginal tax payers. This month 'livelihoods' has focused on the Budget.



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The Budget is mainly a statement on accounts and it is a policy statement. It describes the funds inflows and

outflows of the Government in a financial year. It consists of actual figures of previous year and budgetary estimation for current year. Budget is presented by Finance Minister in Parliament, on a day decided by the Parliament. Generally, Budget presentation happens on the last working day of February month. The presentation of Budget is necessary and compulsory. Under Article 112 of the Constitution, receipts and payments should be presented in the Parliament for every financial year.

Rising prices, un-employment, corruption and stagnation in growth are creating a lot of problems to the people. Along with these problems, this year the weak monsoon and global growth stagnation also added additional problems to the people. Continuous inflation has been decreasing the purchasing power of the people. So, the manufacturing sector is unable to achieve promised growth. It is the key sector to provide employment to the people. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), un-employment rate is 3.8% this year. As per government survey, basic needs such as drinking water, electricity and sanitation facilities are not available to 82% of the rural people in the country and a recent United Nations (UN) study also says that out of every three extreme poor people two are Indians. People aspire to come out from the clutches of poverty and want job-creation and price-reduction. Many people are facing food insecurity with the lack of a universal food security program across the country and continuously increasing inflation.

Agriculture, which provides employment to the largest population in the country, is not promising desirable progress.

In this context, people are waiting for the Budget hoping to get some 'Good Days' for them. Tax payers are waiting for concession in tax payment, price-reduction and employment-creation. The industrialists and business people have some expectations such as subsidies-reduction, disinvestment and simplification of Goods and Service Tax (GST). The biggest political party in NDA, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in its Manifesto has promised to develop the manufacturing sector to provide employment and establish price-stabilization.

The salient features of the Budget are as follows.....





For individuals

\* Tax slab on personal income remains unchanged

\* Income tax exemption limit raised by Rs 50,000 to Rs 2.5 lakh and for senior citizens to Rs three lakh

\* Exemption limit for investment in financial instruments under Sec.80C raised to Rs 1.5 lakh from Rs one lakh.

\* Investment limit in Public Provident Fund (PPF) raised to Rs 1.5 lakh from Rs one lakh

\* Deduction limit on interest on loan for self-occupied house raised to Rs two lakh from Rs 1.5 lakh.

\* Kisan Vikas Patra to be reintroduced, National Savings Certificate with insurance cover to be launched

\* Long term capital gain tax for mutual funds doubled to 20 pc; lock-in period increased to 3 years

\* Mandatory wage ceiling of subscription to EPS (Employee Pension Scheme) raised from Rs 6,500 to Rs 15,000

\* Minimum pension increased to Rs 1,000 per month

\* LCD, LED TV become cheaper

\* Cigarettes, pan masala, tobacco, aerated drinks become costlier

New projects

\* Five IIMs to be opened in HP, Punjab, Bihar, Odisha and Rajasthan

\* Five more IITs in Jammu, Chattisgarh, Goa, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala.

\* Five more AIIMS like institutions to come up in Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Vidarbha in Maharashtra and Poorvanchal in Uttar Pradesh

\* Government proposes to launch 'Digital India' programme to ensure broad band connectivity at village level

\* Kisan TV for farmers, Arun Prabha TV for northeast.

\* National Rural Internet and Technology Mission for services in villages and schools, training in IT skills proposed

<b>UNION BUDGET 2014-15</b>		<b>At a Glance</b>		
		<b>(in Rs crore)</b>		
	<b>2012-13 Actuals (Prov.)</b>	<b>2013-14 Budget Estimates</b>	<b>2013-14 Revised Estimates</b>	<b>2014-15 Budget Estimates</b>
<b>Revenue Receipts</b>	<b>879232</b>	<b>1056331</b>	<b>1029252</b>	<b>1189763</b>
<b>Capital Receipts</b>	<b>531140</b>	<b>608967</b>	<b>561182</b>	<b>605129</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>1410372</b>	<b>1665297</b>	<b>1590434</b>	<b>1794892</b>
<b>Non-plan Exp.</b>	<b>996747</b>	<b>1109975</b>	<b>1114902</b>	<b>1219892</b>
<b>Plan Expenditure</b>	<b>413625</b>	<b>555322</b>	<b>475532</b>	<b>575000</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1410372</b>	<b>1665297</b>	<b>1590434</b>	<b>1794892</b>
<b>Revenue Deficit</b>	<b>364282</b>	<b>379838</b>	<b>370288</b>	<b>378348</b>
<b>Fiscal Deficit</b>	<b>490190</b>	<b>542499</b>	<b>524539</b>	<b>531177</b>
<b>Primary Deficit</b>	<b>177020</b>	<b>171814</b>	<b>144473</b>	<b>104166</b>



\* Govt proposes Ultra Modern Super Critical Coal Based Thermal Power Technology

\* A project on the river Ganga called 'Jal Marg Vikas' for inland waterways between Allahabad and Haldia; Rs 4,200 crore set aside for the purpose.

\* EPFO to launch the "Uniform Account Number" Service for contributing members.

\* New programme "Neeranchal" to give impetus to watershed development in the country with an initial outlay of Rs. 2142 crores.

\* Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Yojana to generate awareness and help in improving the efficiency of delivery of welfare services meant for women.

\* Free Drug Service and Free Diagnosis Service to achieve "Health For All"

\* Two National Institutes of Aging to be set up at AIIMS, New Delhi and Madras Medical College, Chennai.

#### Allocations

\* Rs 100 crore to support about 600 new and existing Community Radio Stations

\* Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to cover every household with sanitation facility by the year 2019

\* Rs 100 crore for metro projects in Lucknow and Ahmedabad

\* Rs 2,037 crore set aside for Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission called 'Namami Gange'

\* Rs 150 crore allocated for increasing safety of women in large cities

\* Rs. 7,060 crore for the project of developing 100 Smart Cities.

\* Set aside Rs 11,200 crore for PSU banks capitalisation

\* Govt provides Rs 500 crore for rehabilitation of displaced Kashmiri migrants

\* 1000 crore provided for "Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna" for assured irrigation.

\* Rs. 50,548 crore under the SC Plan and Rs. 32,387 crore under TSP (Tribal Sub-Plan)

#### Economic initiatives



\* Composite cap of foreign investment to be raised to 49 per cent in Defence and Insurance sectors.

\* Requirement of the built up area and capital conditions for FDI reduced to 20,000 square metres and USD 5 million respectively for development of smart cities.

\* Manufacturing can sell its products through retail including E-commerce platforms.

\* Requirement to infuse Rs.2,40,000 crore as equity by 2018 in our banks to be in line with Basel-III norms PSUs will invest through capital investment a total sum of Rs. 2,47,941 crores.

\* Rs 4,000 cr set aside to increase flow of cheaper credit for affordable housing to the urban poor/EWS/LIG segment.

\* Govt in favour of consolidation of PSU banks

\* Govt considering giving greater autonomy to PSU banks while making them accountable

#### The numbers

\* Government expects Rs 9.77 lakh crore revenue from taxes

\* Plan expenditure pegged at Rs 5.75 lakh crore and non-plan at Rs 12.19 lakh crore.

\* Fiscal deficit target retained at 4.1 pc of GDP for current fiscal and 3.6 pc in FY 16

- \* Disinvestment target fixed at Rs 58,425 crore
- \* Gross borrowings pegged at Rs 6 lakh crore
- \* Contours of GST to be finalised this fiscal; Govt to look into DTC proposal.

#### Administrative reforms

- \* Committee to look into all fresh tax demands for indirect transfer of assets in wake of retrospective tax amendments of 2012
- \* Expenditure management commission to be setup; will look into food and fertilizer subsidies
- \* Legislative and administrative changes to sort out pending tax demands of more than Rs. 4 lakh crore under dispute and litigation.
- \* New Urea Policy would be formulated.
- \* More productive, asset creating and with linkages to agriculture and allied activities wage employment would to be provided under MGNREGA.
- \* A committee to examine and recommend how unclaimed amounts with PPF, Post Office, saving schemes etc. can be used to protect and further financial interests of the senior citizens
- \* Slum development to be included in the list of Corporate Social Responsibility
- \* Committee to examine the financial architecture for MSME Sector, remove bottlenecks and create new rules and structures to be set up and give concrete suggestions in three months.
- \* An institution to provide support to main-streaming PPPs (Public Private People Partnership) called 4PIndia to be set up with a corpus of Rs. 500 crores.

Overall, the Budget was designed as a continuation of the previous government' Budget, with little changes. It mainly fulfilled the long waiting demand of middle class, by enhancing the Income Tax exemption limit from Rs. 50000 to Rs. 2.5 lakh and for senior citizens Rs. 3 lakh and increased the limit on investment and personal housing loan. It reintroduced Kisan Vikas Patra, reduced prices of LCD and LED TVs, increased prices of cigarettes and pan masala, fixed minimum pension as Rs.1000, promised to establish five Indian Institute of Management (IIMs), five Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and four Association of Indian Management Schools (AIMS) across the country, digital India, Kisan TV, 100 smart cities, metro projects in Lucknow,

Ahmedabad and allotted Rs. 50,548 crore under the Scheduled Caste (SC) Sub-plan and Rs. 32,387 crore under Tribal Sub-plan and Rs. 34000 crore (It is same amount as the amount allotted in the previous Budget) for Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and Rs. 37800 crore for construction of National Highways.

Establishment of Kisan TV for farmers and Arun Prabha for Northeast people is a good initiative. Farmers need a lot of information in agriculture- from inputs to agriculture products, fertilizer application methods to cultivation methods, various schemes for agriculture development and water preservation methods. Our agriculture extension services' accessibility is very poor. They do not know about different programs like horticulture, floriculture etc. Farmers are unable to access agricultural extension services and depend on colleague farmers or self knowledge. Livestock rearing people, artisans and small and marginal entrepreneurs are also unable to access suitable and timely information regarding their livelihoods. In this context, there is need to establish more Kisan TVs and other common people related TVs which provide proper information on livelihoods to them. These channels should be designed according to the needs and requirements of the common people in their livelihoods arena and reflect various aspects of the lives of common people.

In the Budget, government mainly depended on taxes and disinvestment for income generation. These sources may not be sufficient to attract more funds. So government has chosen Public, Private, People Partnership (PPPP) model to get investors in many sectors including defence, insurance, and railways, banks etc. 3 Ps model may not attract aspired results, because the entrepreneurs will invest only after ensuring suitable environment and profits.

Rural development should be the key area in the Budget. According to 2011 Census, 69% of the people are living in rural areas. Basic facilities like roads, electricity, telecom, drinking water, sanitation, health and education facilities are mostly or partly lacking in the rural areas. The Budget introduced Swachh Bharat Abiyan to provide sanitation facility to every household in the coming five years. But there is no sufficient fund allocation and clear road map to achieve total sanitation goal in five years. MGNREGS is one of the major

flagship programs which is providing employment to the labourers in rural areas. But there is no increase in fund allocation for MGNREGS. Instead, if we count the last year payments dues of Rs. 5000 crore and present prices estimation, the allotted amount may be Rs 10000 crore less compared to the previous Budget. Actually, there is lot of need to enhance funds for MGNREGS and redesign the scheme for more productivity.

Agriculture is an important livelihood in rural areas. Almost 60% of the population is depending on agriculture in rural areas. It has been facing a crisis situation for the last three decades. Along with erratic rains, rise in input prices, un-availability of quality, sufficient and timely inputs, lack of storages, lack of financial assistance and fluctuations of prices for agriculture products etc., are pushing the farmers to losses. BJP also stated in its manifesto that it will establish storage and transport facilities, market linkages and ensure minimum support prices to agriculture products. But there are no sufficient funds to support agriculture.

Infrastructure plays a vital role in development. According to 12th Plan, Rs. 56 lakh crore are required for total infrastructure for five years. It means 11 lakh crore per year. Present Budget allotted only 34% funds for infrastructure development in this year. These funds are not sufficient, so government is inviting the Capitalists to invest in infrastructure establishment in Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.

Poverty eradication requires much focused efforts. There is a need to set up machinery like skill-development mission at all levels to coordinate all types of poverty eradication programs in tribal, rural and urban areas. Government has to establish tribal, rural and urban poverty eradication missions. It reduces the human resources cost, prevents doubling in works and ensures better coordination in various poverty eradication programs at all levels.

Budget allotted Rs. 82,935 crore to the development of SC and ST people under SCSP and TSP. It is designed with special focus to SC and ST people. It has been implementing these for three decades. Most of these funds

are diverted to general expenses such as building jails, constructing roads and bridges, fly-overs and organizing Commonwealth Games instead of spending on the welfare of the SCs and STs. In many states, total expenditure never reaches up to 50% in total allotted funds. These communities are in a vulnerable condition suffering with malnutrition, illiteracy, unemployment and lack of drinking water and sanitation facilities. If these funds can be properly spent, lakhs of children can be saved from malnutrition and mortality and women can be saved from degrading and risky works, entrepreneurs can establish and provide livelihoods to the unemployed youth and enhanced small-scale irrigation ensures food security to the people. So the government should make clear guidelines for the utilization of funds for the welfare of SCs and STs.

Old people above 65 years of age, who belong to below poverty line are getting Rs. 200 per month under National Old Age Pension Scheme. There are approximately 8.84 million eligible old age people. But over half of the eligible old age people are not getting pension. This amount is very less and is not sufficient to meet the needs of old age persons. There is an urgent need to increase the pension up to Rs.2000 per month and provide pensions to all old age persons of the poorest and poor category.

Health and education are one of the most important sectors. According to the United Nations Development Report 2013, India is 134th in global ranking and is backward in health and education indicators compared to other developed and developing countries. Any democratic government should provide quality health





and education facilities to all persons in the country. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) one doctor per 1500 population is required and government should spend a minimum of 5% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on health care. But in our Country, there is one doctor per 15000 population and currently Government is spending 1.1% of GDP on health care. Government should allot 5% GDP on health care. It should ensure to provide health care to all, train community health workers at village level and appoint doctors and nurses.



Regarding education, total literacy rate is 74.04% (Male 82.14% & Female 65.46%) in the Country. Only 90% of the children are enrolling in the schools and a third of them drop out before they reach 10th standard and another third drop out in 10th class. Only 10% of them are able to study till graduation. Though, there is a 9.2% increase in literacy rate compared to the 2001 census, the quality of the education is disturbing. In most of the government schools, there are no basic facilities like drinking water, toilets, sufficient teachers and class rooms with equipment. Government is spending only 3.4% of it's GDP on education. At least 10% of GDP should be spent on education to provide quality universal education to all children in the country. Every year, an average of 10 million young people are entering the job market. Employment should be provided to these people. Government wants to develop manufacturing sector to provide more employment.

According to the Asian Development Bank report, India is spending 1.7% of it's GDP on social protection, while Asia's lower middle countries are spending 3.4% of their GDP on social protection. Government should increase the spending on welfare of vulnerable sections. In the present Budget, social security expenditure decreased instead of increasing.

Government should invest in making 3 to 4 change agents per village. Nearly 20 to 30 lakh change agents or multipurpose activists are required for 6.40 lakh villages in the country. All poor should be organized in to groups and government should nurture local leaders

from the poorest and poor people.

Government is thinking of reducing subsidies on food, fertilizers, employment and fuel by filtering non-targeted households. Government stated that reducing prices is one of its important goals, but at same time wants to increase the fuel charges every month. The increasing fuel charges lead to increase in transport cost and ultimately leads to increase in prices. The increased prices reduce the purchasing power of the people and it leads to growth decline.

Government's core slogan has been 'minimum government and maximum administration'. This means government's involvement in day – to – day running of the economy will be reduced. It may confine itself to the role of removing obstacles for the smooth running of the economy.

Government is expecting growth in manufacturing sector. It wants to make India as an export hub of the world. It plans to attract more investments in this sector. The manufacturing sector provides more employment and income to the country. But this growth depends on how it deals with the issues of environment and land acquisition. Government needs to design comprehensive legislative framework to deal with environment and land acquisition issues. The Budget also stated that India is an integral part of world economy and the changes in world economy influence the growth of the country. ❖



## Venkepally Village

Venkepally hamlet is located in Kudabakshapally Gram Panchayat in Marriguda Mandal from Nalgonda District. Earlier, this village was called Ellapalli, but over time it was changed to Venkepally. The village has a population of 650 people from 82 families. The caste percentage of the population is: Gouds 40.5%, Mudiraj 21.5%, O.C 6%, Yadavs 0.5%, Stone breakers 0.5%, Iron smith 2%, Dobi 2.5%, S.C 25% and Muslims 1.5%. The village is well connected to three main roads. It has one C.C road, two over-head tanks (OHT), one Aanganwadi centre, and a primary school.

The people are dependent upon different types of livelihoods such as agriculture & allied sectors, artisan works etc. The major crops are paddy and rain-fed crops.

Venkepally majorly depends on rain-fed agriculture. The rainwater canals are improving the ground water resources. Most of the villagers use bore wells for agriculture.

The main crops are paddy, cotton, red grams, castor and various vegetables. The types of soil in the village are Black and Red soil. These lands give more productivity to crops like paddy, cotton, vegetables etc... The produce is sold in nearby markets like Maal town. Mostly the brokers take advantage of farmers and buy produce cheaply.

The Dairy activity is a secondary income source for a few families. From the last few years, they are facing a gross shortage of milk in summer. The milk is sold near the hotels of Maal town.

The villagers get most agri-labour works in agricultural season. During the season, daily wages are high. There is no gender discrimination in the wages. The wages are Rs.200 per day. In the agriculture season, the labour get work in and outside the village. The daily wages are Rs. 200 per head.

In MGNREGS total job card beneficiaries are 198 holders. These works are majorly held in the summer time. This scheme gives very good employment opportunity to the local villagers. Apart from providing employment these works help in the development of the village -trenches are being dug near hill areas for the development of the ground water resources and jungle-cutting works are being taken up. Due to this scheme, there is reduction in the migration of these villagers. There are 12 Srama Shakthi Sangam groups. Each group has 10 members. The rates of wages are Rs.90 - Rs.130.

There are 8 villagers doing this activity. The shepherds migrate to nearby villages in summer, in search of green pastures for animal grazing. They sell the sheep in Maal town.

There are Toddy toppers, Dhobi, iron smith etc. in this village. They are doing the artisan works and agriculture activities also. The dhobi worker depends upon washing and pressing (ironing) the clothes.

These villagers are dependent upon the rain-fed agriculture activities. The village youth are migrating to Hyderabad in search of work. Every year, one or two families are

migrating to Hyderabad.

The village vegetable products are sold at the nearby town of Maal. Remaining crops are purchased by the brokers.

There are 11 SHGs and one VO in this village. The SHG members are able to do savings and bank-linkage activities. Women are taking loans from banks. The loan amount can be utilized for farming and non-farming activities like small shops etc...And they are following the inter-lending process within the group members.

The entire village is covered with forests. So the villagers depend on forest products like fire woods and open land for grass for livestock-rearing.

The ground water is dependent upon the rain water. If there are sufficient rains in village, then the canals get filled, which in turn enhance the ground water level. Recently, three check dams and trenches were built for water storage, due to which the ground water levels are improving. The watershed committee chairmen is Indra Reddy.

The village's primary school was established in 1972. Large number of the students studied in this school. Earlier, this school had more than 60 children but now only 30 children are studying in this school, as nearby English medium schools in the town of Maal have affected the strength of this school. This primary school is run with two teachers.

Mid-Day Meal scheme is being successfully run in this village. It is under the supervision of educational committee. This committee is take caring of children's health. For further studies, Children are moving to Kudabakshapally or Hyderabad. Every year, the literacy percentage is increasing.

In this aanganwadi centre, they have 30 children- 15 children in the age-group of 6 months to three years old and 15 children of 3-5 years old age. They get pre-school education and nutritional food of MTF. The school is run by an aanganwadi teacher and an aaya. Amrutha Hastham scheme is being accessed by nine pregnant women.

In this village, people are facing Orthopaedic problems due to Fluorosis. They go to private hospitals in nearby towns. ANM worker visits on the 6th of every month. On the 20th of every month, 104 services come and provide the proper treatment. Most of the villagers, access the Government primary health centre facility in Mandal centre and RMP doctor services are utilized in the village.

The Krishna water facility and water filter plant is being utilized by the local villagers due to the threat of Fluorosis. One well-wisher of the villager, a Mr. Yadagiri Reddy donated the water plant. To get the filtered water, one must pay Rs. 60 per month.

The entire village has 194 PDS cards, 48 pension cards, 30 Indira Awaas Yojana households, four members are Bangaruthalli beneficiaries, two Bio-gas plants, 198 MGNREGS job holders. ❖

G. Ramesh Goud, Osmania University

## Individual Enterprise



**Dosa Making**

## Collective Enterprise



**Bags Making by SHG Members**

## Social Enterprise



**Meals Distribution by Uady Foundation**

## Public Enterprise



**Vegetable Market**

# Rangarajan Committee Recommendations

The Rangarajan committee was formed in 2011 and it reflects the need for measuring poverty in India to change the perception of minimally accepted standard of living in the country and to estimate the poverty at national and state level & separately at rural and urban level. This is captured in the measurement of poverty ratio, through which the number of poor to the total population is expressed as a percentage. The estimate of poverty line is based on estimated expenditure on food basket and non-food expenditure. The quantity and value of consumption is estimated as per NSSO 68th round sample surveys on the base year of 2004 -2005.

## The salient recommendations by committee:

i. The Report recommends the method of using separate rural and urban poverty basket lines, as in Tendulkar committee for arriving at the all-India rural and urban poverty lines. The poverty line should be based on certain normative levels of Food and non-food expenses.

ii. The Rangarajan committee computed the average requirements of calories, proteins and fats based on ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research) norms differentiated by age, gender and activity for all-India rural and urban regions, to derive the normative levels of nourishment. Accordingly, the energy requirement works out to 2,155 kcal per person per day in rural areas and 2,090 kcal per person per day in urban areas.

iii. The protein and fat requirements have been estimated on the same lines as for energy. These requirements are 48 gms and 28 gms per capita per day, respectively, in rural areas; and 50 gms and 26 gms per capita per day in urban areas.

iv. The average monthly per capita consumption expenditure on food in these classes is Rs.554 in rural areas and Rs.656 in urban areas.

v. The median values (45-50%) of clothing expenses, rent, conveyance and education expenses are treated as the normative requirements of the basic non-food expenses of clothing, housing, mobility and education of a poverty line basket. This works out to Rs.141 per capita per month in rural areas and Rs.407 in urban areas. The observed expenses of all other non-food expenses of the fragile classes that meet the nutrition requirements are considered as part of the poverty line basket. This works out to Rs.277 per capita per month in rural areas and Rs.344 in urban areas.

vi. The Rangarajan committee raised the daily per capita expenditure to Rs 32 from Rs 27 for the rural poor and to Rs 47 from Rs 33 for the urban poor, thus raising the poverty line based on the average monthly per capita expenditure to Rs 972 in rural India and Rs 1,407 in urban India. For a family of five, this translates into a monthly consumption expenditure of Rs.4,860 in rural areas and Rs.7,035 in urban areas.

vii. The Rangarajan committee used the Modified Mixed Recall Period (MMRP) consumption expenditure data of the NSSO, as these are considered to be more precise compared to the Mixed Recall Period (MRP), which was used by the Tendulkar committee, in earlier estimations. 67% of the increase in the rural poverty line and 28% of the increase in the urban poverty line, is because of the shift from MRP to MMRP.

viii. The committee estimates that the 30.9% of the rural population and 26.4% of the urban population was below the poverty line in 2011-12. The all-India ratio was 29.5%. In rural India, 260.5 million individuals were below poverty line and in urban India 102.5 million were under poverty line. Totally, 363 million were below poverty line in 2011-12.

ix. The poverty ratio has declined from 39.6% in 2009-10 to 30.9% in 2011-12 in rural India and from 35.1% to 26.4% in urban India. The decline was thus a uniform 8.7 % over the two years. The all-India poverty ratio fell from 38.2% to 29.5%. Totally, 91.6 million individuals were lifted out of poverty during this period.

x. Educational expenditure was reported by about 66% of rural and 76% of urban households. Per capita educational expenditure was, however, as much as 3.6 times higher in the urban sector than in the rural. And monthly per capita consumption expenditure on clothing Rs.81 in rural and Rs.133 in urban India.

The Rangarajan committee, which analysed the consumption expenditure as the basis for determining poverty, has pegged the total number of poor in the country at 363 million or 29.6 per cent of the population, against 269.8 million (21.9 per cent) figure put by the Suresh Tendulkar committee.

The Rangarajan committee was formed in 2011, after all-round criticism that the poverty line had been pegged much lower than it should have been by the Tendulkar committee. This report suggested consumption amount much lower than what World Bank Human Development Index suggests.

The Rangarajan committee's suggested figure is higher than the Tendulkar committee in various per capita expenditures in rural and urban areas, due to the increase in cost of living in present scenario.

Experts said the difference could be explained by variations in assumptions, such as increased expenditure on health and education or following the system of developed countries, where the poverty line is defined as a fraction of the average expenditure level or purely going by normative expenditure, thus ignoring actual expenditure on health and education.

Lowering the poverty line could cut out those who need assistance. But reducing the number of the poor means, governments can claim success for their welfare programmes. ❖



## Vanitha Mythri Public Welfare Society

Vanitha Mythri Public Welfare Society (VMPWS) is a Community Based Organization (CBO) registered in the year 2010. VMPWS's interventions are aimed at improving the quality of life of the High Risk Group (HRG) by creating awareness on HIV prevention, providing care and support for those affected by HIV and protecting their human rights and dignity in Karimnagar district. VMPWS also leads a Targeted Intervention (TI), supported by Andhra Pradesh State Aids Control Society (APSACS). It has a seven member governing body. VMPWS has been working in 6 sites/mandals namely Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Sircilla, Jammikunta, Huzurabad, and Husnabad towns. It has been covering a total FSW population of 1022. The members of the CBO are home, street, and brothel based. Currently, it is being supported by Alliance India and APSACS.

VMPWS has formed the Community Based Groups (CBGs) in its operation areas and initiated community savings across the CBGs. It promoted 43 CBGs, covering 645 members out of the total 1022 members in the operational area. Out of the total 43 Groups, 36 groups are active in savings; Total savings from the active groups are Rs. 10,700/-, as on March 2014. Apart from regular clinical services to the HRGs, the CBO undertook a lot of activities for Organizational Development and Community Mobilization such as Children of HIV positive people who were out of school, were enrolled and mainstreamed, advocacy and linkages to Govt. schemes helped women get social entitlements such as Ration Cards, Aadhar Cards, Land Pattas, Indiramma Avasa Yojana etc. as part of awareness program, activities were conducted at high visiting places like Vemulawada on HIV/AIDS education through Kalajathas, initiated income generation activities, provided trainings on making jute bags, phenyl etc to the members and every year it observes World AIDS Day on Dec 1st and the CBO conducts rallies on the streets of Karimnagar with banners on HIV prevention and slogans on importance of blood donation, against discrimination, stigma and support to fight against HIV/AIDS. VMPWS started a campaign on fund-raising for its sustainability. Recently, it has developed its website and a brochure with various options for donations. ❖

### Support Organization

## Sarada Valley Development Samithi

Sarada Vally Development Samithi (SVDS) was started in 1985 at Thummapala, Anakapalle Mandal, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh. It works for the welfare of Farmers, Women, Children, Youth, Commercial Sex Workers, Fishermen, Dalits, Scheduled tribes, Rickshaw Pullers, Masons, Quarry workers etc., in the area of Kasimkota, Madugula, Paderu, Bheemili, Narsipatnam, Rolugunta, Ravikamatam, Cheedikada, Hukumpeta, S.Rayavaram, Bhuchiyyapeta and Anakapalle Urban (Part of Greater Visakha).

SVDS Promoted Self-sustained Women's Bank (The Share MACTS Ltd.) which has a turnover of 10 Crore and about 19,000 women involved in this programme. It has promoted nine self-sustained Vana Samraksana Samithis (VSS) with World bank funds; About, 1,000 tribal families are getting a regular income from this forest land development and protection work. It has developed a seed bank in one village with the collaboration of Centre for Sustainable Agriculture (CSA), Hyderabad. It has constructed 3 rain water harvesting structures. It has undertaken Universal Birth Registration Programme and is associated with 15 NGOs for creating awareness on Birth Registration Certificates with the support of Plan-India funds, through Arthik Samata Mandal in Visakhapatnam District. It had been selected for implementing district level programmes on STI for CSW and MSM by HLFPT in Visakha District. It has promoted a self-sustained CBO with masons (120 members), which has its own office under the Sarada Gruha Nirmana Karmika Sankshema Sangham. It promoted a Rickshaw pullers union with 45 members called Sarada Rikshaw Pullers Union. It trained 2000 farmers and 10 NGOs on sustainable agriculture.

SVDS has won the best NGO award given by the District Collector in HIV implementation Programme in Visakha district on December 1st 2010. SVDS has gone through various ups and downs during the past three decades. Now, it has a well-established infrastructure with six offices, four training centers with Hostel facility and 50 acres of land for demo purposes of Sustainable agriculture programmes. ❖

### Training Institutions

#### 1. Development Support Center (DSC)

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

#### 2. ETASHA Society

<http://etashasociety.org/>

#### 3. Smile Foundation

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

#### 4. Gram Vikas

<http://gramvikas.org/>

#### 5. Don Bosco Technical Institute

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



## Rexine Work

Rexine is a cloth fabric, which is manufactured using a cloth that is surfaced with a mixture of cellulose nitrate and camphor oil. It gives a leather-like stylish look, making it a cheaper alternative for the much costlier leather. It is used in making a variety of products for both home, office and other uses.

There are various reasons for the preferred use of rexine over other cloths as it is very affordable, flexible, durable, easily transportable, water-proof, comfortable, attractive, smooth etc. It is emerging as a good livelihood opportunity as it is replacing other cloths in manufacture of various articles.

Furniture, bags, vehicle interior furniture, luggage bags, women's hand bags, pouches, wallets, belts, dairies, gift key chains, bike seats covers, side bags of bikes, cycle seats, heavy vehicle seats, home appliance etc., are made with rexine.

Material required for Stitching: Sewing machine, Gauze threads, Buttons, Nails, Needles, Adhesive gum, Foam or cushion, Coconut coir, Zips, Candle, Cotton, Plastic tags, Accelerate motor. It can be used for various products in the Apparel industries, automobile industries (such as bus-interior and car-interior etc), garments, furniture, home appliance industries and many other industries. This activity provides employment to lakhs of people. Most of the carpenters, tailors, artisans and associated people can do this as a supplementary livelihood. Also, it can give indirect employment in industry and retail level. In retail section, people can earn Rs.500-1000 daily, by making bags, covers, executives etc..

Price-range:

The price of the products range from a few hundreds to lakhs of Rupees. The rates differ according to the model, shape, cloth and size. The cost of material depends upon the gauze and the design of material. ❖



### Leader



### SHG Leaders

### Community Worker



### Health Worker

# A Foot Has no Nose

Of the many interactions I had with my mother those many years ago, one stands out with clarity. I remember the occasion when mother sent me to the main road, about twenty yards away from the homestead, to invite a passing group of seasonal work-seekers home for a meal. She instructed me to take a container along and collect dry cow dung for making a fire. I was then to prepare the meal for the group of work-seekers.

The thought of making an open fire outside at midday, cooking in a large three-legged pot in that intense heat, was sufficient to upset even an angel. I did not manage to conceal my feelings from my mother and, after serving the group, she called me to the veranda where she usually sat to attend to her sewing and knitting.

Looking straight into my eyes, she said "Tsholofelo, why did you sulk when I requested you to prepare a meal for those poor destitute people?" Despite my attempt to deny her allegation, and using the heat of the fire and the sun as an excuse for my alleged behaviour, mother, giving me a firm look, said "'Lonao ga lo na nko" - "A foot has no nose". It means: you cannot detect what trouble may lie ahead of you.

Had I denied this group of people a meal, it may have happened that, in my travels some time in the future, I found myself at the mercy of those very individuals. As if that was not enough to shame me, mother continued: "Motho ke motho ka motho yo mongwe". The literal meaning: "A person is a person because of another person". ❖

## Resources

Book Name : To Kill a Mockingbird  
Author: Harper Lee

### Classic Book

In the book Harper Lee writes wonderfully, in the voice of a Southern child. The story is easy to read and the action is entertaining. While all these characteristics would qualify the book as a good read, they do not necessarily indicate a classic. What moves it to a classic status is its morality and ability to draw sympathy out of the reader. Though, it deals with heavy issues such as racism, oppression, injustice, it is able to handle these deep and sensitive areas without being depressing or preachy. Lee's writing makes it is easy to enter the world of the depression era Alabama. If you have not yet read this book, you will not regret picking it up. ❖



Book Name: Seasonality, Rural Livelihoods and Development

### Latest Book

Editors: Stephen Devereux, Rachel Sabates-Wheeler & Richard Longhurst  
This book, thematic chapters explore recent shifts with profound implications for seasonality, including climate change, HIV/AIDS, and social protection. Case-studies explore seasonal dimensions of livelihoods in Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi), Asia (Bangladesh, China, India), and Latin America (Peru). The book also includes innovative tools for monitoring seasonality. A systematic study of seasonality for over 20 years, this book aims to revive academic interest and policy awareness of this crucial but neglected issue. ❖



LEAP: [http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc\\_download/343-leap-durgiperi](http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/343-leap-durgiperi)

### e-links

VCA: [http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc\\_download/344-tejpatta-vca](http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/344-tejpatta-vca)

Subsector: [http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc\\_download/345-sub-sector-tomato-](http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/345-sub-sector-tomato-)

e-book: [http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/rarebooks/downloads/Haimendorf\\_Tribes\\_of\\_India.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/rarebooks/downloads/Haimendorf_Tribes_of_India.pdf)

v-book: <http://www.livelihoods.net.in/e-class-room/when-community-clean-generates-livelihoods-women?t=10s>

### Supplements

Supplement 1: [http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc\\_download/348-supplementhaw-to-start-a-newsletter-](http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/348-supplementhaw-to-start-a-newsletter-)

Supplement 2: [http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc\\_download/347-legend-haimendorf-](http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/347-legend-haimendorf-)

e-course; Capsule No - 7: Livelihoods Landscape:

### e-course

[http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc\\_download/346-e-course-capsule-7-july-2014](http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/346-e-course-capsule-7-july-2014)

*Happy Doctors’ Day!*

*Eid Mubaarak, Happy Ramzan!*

*Let us learn to give and forgive!*

*Let us appreciate to work on stabilizing population in the world we live. Let us make space for tigers to increase in the world.*

The month has endorsed that it is possible to live meaningful life with less, provided we are purpose-driven. The most important aspects in life then would boil down to health, relationships, passion, freedom and contribution. It would mean getting rid of the internal mental and emotional clutter and material clutter that does not add value. It would then offer control on our focus, time and resources, so as to find and align our life with our values and beliefs.

The month has also confirmed that we can pursue happiness. Happiness seems to be a result of our genes, values and events in our lives. *48% of happiness is attributable to genes. 40% of happiness, although short-lived, is linked to isolated events. The remaining portion of happiness is in our control and emanates from the pursuit of faith, family, community (read: friendships) and work that creates value in our lives and others’ lives. To share happiness, we need to work towards ensuring that freedom to pursue happiness through meaningful work is accessible to all.*

For enduring happiness, loving people is the way forward rather than loving pleasures. Unhappiness increases the activity in the right side of the brain and the happiness increases the activity on the left side of the brain. It is possible that we are happy quite often and unhappy equally. Pursuit of intrinsic goals such as relationships provides happier moments and pursuit of extrinsic goals such as reputation, money etc., provides more unhappy moments. Thus, as we love things rather than

people and pursue things accordingly we attract more unhappy moments; and as we love people rather than things and pursue relationships, we attract more happy moments. We have to bold to love people – family, friends, associates, acquaintances, strangers, enemies, self and God. If you are in the ‘development’ world, it is possible. It would be liberating. It would be augmenting joy in life. It would require to be away from ‘materialism’. It would require a lens to screen our basic desires too.

Daniel Kahneman distinguishes experiencing happiness versus remembering experiencing happiness. While we need to be pursuing the first, we end up focusing on the latter quite often. After a certain level, it is confirmed that the money does not buy experiential happiness while lack of money certainly buys misery.

## G Muralidhar

Pattabhiram tells us to devote 1% of our time for stress free happiness – 15 minutes a day – laughing looking at the mirror as soon as we get up, being seated in vajraasan for five minutes, taking a sky walk for a minute, doing a crossword/puzzle/sudoku, give time to exchange mutual trust with family and friends by being, talking, embracing, touching and teaching them, and meditate.

As we move on to transformation from transition, towards universal happiness, we reach viswantaraalam. That is the bliss. Now is the time.

Can we be there? **Yes, if we pursue Atma Yoga.** If we pursue happiness! If we pursue meaningful contribution to the universe, the way it desires! If we pursue people! If we remain focused! If we keep our focus on contributing and ‘within’ together! Krsna confirms – universe takes the contributor in eternally. Join us in the world of yoga – for contributing to the demands of the universe – towards antaraalamaanasayogasiddhi. You will not regret it. ❖

