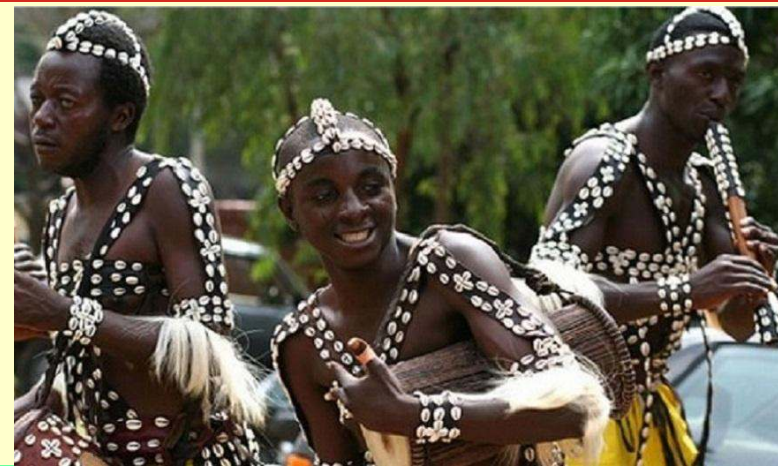


livelihoods

today and tomorrow

June 2014



Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups



Happy Environment!

Schools have opened. Monsoon is still to 'come'.

Narendra Modi has settled down.

Business as usual in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh!

It is believed widely that the main land belonged to tribal communities in general and the particularly vulnerable tribal communities in particular. However, they have gone deep inside the forest and moved into the margins of mainstream. Their ways of life have made them more vulnerable. Their numbers are receding. Their forests and commons have been taken over. They suffer from absence of food, nutrition, health and livelihoods security. Their culture is in conflict with the mainstream needs. Their children would like to go away from their janmabhoomi for 'greener' pastures. The areas they live are referred as conflict zones. They live on huge natural wealth. Yet the benefits do not accrue to them. They would like to improve their situation and are getting organized into their self-help institutions. Governments are helping in this pursuit. In this context, 'livelihoods' has explored 'Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups'.

Do not miss reading Kautilya's classic - 'Arthashastra'. Read about Kukiland in 'Kshetram' and Soura Tribe in 'Sukshetram'.

'Legend' introduces 'Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay'. 'How to' supplement discusses 'How to form Village Organization?' Usual e-links introduce a video (Annapoorna Sustainable Crop Model), book (Capital), LEAP (Nachaneri Village), and value-chain/subsector (Tendu Leaves/Sugarcane).

Daily notes for the month are presented as part of the e-livelihoods learning course. This month, it is capsule 6: Livelihoods Contexts and Continuums.

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

the 'livelihoods' team

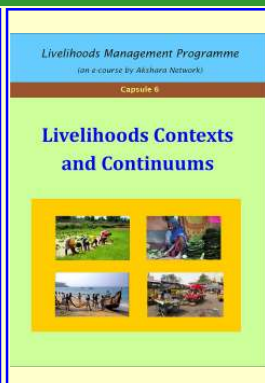
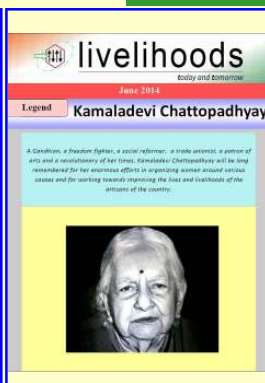
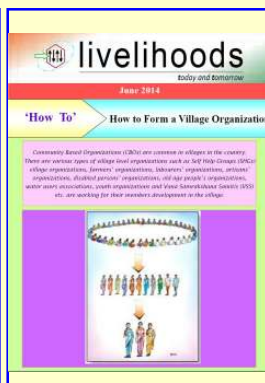
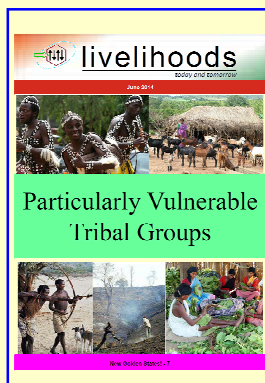
Many of the world's remaining forests are under increasing threat because of human activities and climate change. Although the pace of deforestation has slowed in some regions, the world still loses about 14.5 million hectares of forests each year. In parts of the Amazon rainforest, rising temperatures and changing rainfall patterns are connected with the increased risk of catastrophic dieback with dangerous local, regional and global consequences.

(Source: <http://www.worldbank.org>)



Assigning responsibilities is the key aspect in nurturing.

Latest 'livelihoods' Supplements e-course



'livelihoods' team

Editor-in-Chief	G Muralidhar
Working Editors	B Ramya
Edit Associates	T Venkateswarlu
	V. Aravind
	K Krishna Chaithanya
	S Laxman
	K Ramesh
	M Siddhardha

walked/ walking with us

T Aparna Gayathri	P Mahesh
V Aravind Kumar	Mansi Koushik
K Bharathi	V Muralidhar
G Bhargava	D Narasimha Reddy
Bhima Shankar	Naval Shaini
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G Madhu Vamsi	K Visweswar Rao

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For enquiries contact:

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

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

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e- course

Capsule: 6 Livelihoods Contexts and Continuums

Supplement; How to do

How to Form Village Organization

Supplement: Legend

Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay



Thank you for sending the livelihood magazine. It is of use to our field activities- communities around the protected areas

P.C.Bhattacharjee

Rtd Professor, Gauhati University,



Received your 'livelihoods' June 2014. Thank you for sending. It is very informative.

K Buggeswar

Narayanpet

Can crop loan waiver only suffice to the farmers?

News

Telangana: TRS GOVT to Launch Special Scheme for Dalits on I-Day:

Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao announced that a special Scheduled Caste development programme would be launched on August 15 in Karimnagar district. This will be part of a pilot project in Karimnagar district to wage a war against poverty among Dalits. KCR, who held a brainstorming session with District Collectors, said notable changes in the lifestyle of Dalits should be seen in next five years. He directed the officials to release funds for Scheduled Caste welfare on the basis of percentage of population.

Andhra Pradesh: Government Plans to Raise Unit Cost Under Housing Scheme:

The State government is contemplating increasing the unit cost under the housing programme from the present Rs. 70,000 to Rs.1.15 lakhs and for SC/STs from Rs.1 lakh/1.2 lakh respectively to Rs. 1.5lakhs, said Minister for Housing and Rural Development Kimidi Mrunalini. ❖

Mobile phones, increased incentives for health workers from next month

Karnataka State will also give them an honorarium of Rs. 1,000. Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) in the State have a reason to cheer. The government is all set to implement its proposal to provide mobile phones and increased incentive to the 33,000 health workers from next month. Health and Family Welfare Minister said. This apart, the government would also pay a fixed honorarium of Rs. 1,000 to the workers who are getting a similar amount from the Union government. **Assam Relaxes Land Transfer Norms, Allows Other Activities in Agricultural Land**

GUWAHATI: Changing stand after the Lok Sabha poll debacle, congress ruled Assam has relaxed the norms allowing transfer and non agricultural activity in agricultural land where no farming activity is taking place. New industrial projects in Assam are facing land crunch. Non availability of land for industrial activity has locked in projects worth Rs 4000 Crore in Assam. ❖



Climb Mount Everest
Malavat Purna & Anand Kumar

Improving Livelihoods: Afghan Refugees Receive Skill Training

Certificates: Eighteen-year-old Anna Ahmadzai is one of 1,700 young Afghans residing in Pakistan who have completed skill development courses to become a reliable source of income for their families. The Skills Training and Income Generation Project for Urban Afghan Refugees is a project of the Hashoo Foundation (HF), a non-profit organisation, which trains young Afghans living as refugees to provide them with necessary skills to make a living. The event celebrated efforts of high achievers and acknowledged the foundation's role in uplifting living standards of marginalised Afghan refugees with the financial support of the US government. ❖

Narasimhulagudem Gramaikya Sangam

Narasimhulagudem Gramaikya Sangam is in Narasimhulagudem Grama Panchayath, Kusumanchi Mandal, Khamam District. The women members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) of the entire village form the Gramaikya sangam. This VO was formed in 2004. It covers 210 SHG members from 21 Self Help Groups, each group has 10 members who are actively participating in the village organization. This organization is registered under the MACS Act.

VO office Bearers: President: Jangamma, Secretary: Alivelu, Treasurer: Bagya,

VO conducts meetings on the 10th of every month and discuss about the savings, paying, repaying, loans, interest etc. Every month, each SHG saves Rs. 100. CIF amount is Rs. 3,80,000, internal interest rate is Rs.2. VO lends this amount to SHGs on Rs. 1 per Rs.100, and internal lending amount is limited up to Rs. 10,000. The amount can be repaid within a time of 20 months. Internal lending process is actively running amongst the group members. It depends upon the needs of the group members. Mostly the members

Scheme

Indiramma Housing Scheme

In Narasimulugudem Indiramma Housing Scheme has been implementing. In this scheme houseless family shall be provided with a pucca house. The people should fill an application and submit it to the Mandal revenue officer and Mandal Development Officer in Grama sabha meeting. They should enclose the related documents like Ration cards, Voter card, Aadhar card copies

After higher officials investigate, they announce the list of beneficiaries as per category, in the presence of sarpanch and community leaders, for transparency. In the field level, respected beneficiary is allotted money for the construction of house, in their respective land or Government prescribed land. This is supervised by the Panchayath officer. The sanctioned amount differs according to community.

Total beneficiaries -126: SC-14 ST-2 BC-110

This amount is credited to the beneficiaries' bank accounts in 3 stages -Foundation, wall and slab completion time. Cements, steel, windows, doors and toilet items. But the beneficiaries are not satisfied with the amount given, due to increase in the cost of construction. So they demand the Government to increase the amount.

After completion of the house, the beneficiaries are checked by the Housing Board inspector. They take a photograph of the beneficiaries for future reference and select the individual for sanitation programme for building a toilet. The photo copies are sent to the district office. The beneficiaries also get tap water, roads, and electricity facilities. ❖

take financial assistance for buying agricultural inputs, marriages, birthday functions, health, education, purchasing of livestock, house construction etc.

Some members do not repay their loans in time for various reasons such as crop submergence due to the Paler reservoir etc. In such a situation, the VO president and SHG group leaders interfere to solve the problems.

The VO is affiliated to the Kusumanchi Mandal Samakya.

The respective VO's Representatives like President and vice Secretaries, book keepers,

In the meeting, a Resolution is passed to convey the proceedings to the ground level staff and members for the sustainable and healthy running of VOs.

Committees: There are three Sub-committees -Bank linkage committee, MGNREGS committee, Food Security Committee (Aanganwadi). Each has their own leader, who looks after the affairs of the committee.

Under the Abhaya Hastham scheme, 15 members who are above 60 years of age, get a pension of Rs. 500/- every month. ❖

Facility

Anganwadi Centre

The Narasimulagudem aanganwadi centre is under the Narasimulagudem Grama panchayath. There are 3 Aanganadi centres in this village. S.C colony -1 centre, 120 families - 18 children access the services from this centre. B.C colonies - 2 centres, 300 families - 23 children access the services from this centre.

Aanganwadi centres open from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. The Aanganwadi centres are maintained by a teacher and an aaya. These centres cover a population of 1600 in the village.

There are 41 children, all in the age group of 0-6 years, 8 pregnant women and 13 lactating women. Supplements and nutritional foods are provided to the children to curb malnutrition. They provide folic and iron tablets to pregnant and adolescent women. They are making efforts to decrease child marriages in the thanda area.

A door to door visit is done, every 2 months, for registering new born babies and pregnant women and followed up for further nursing activities. And the data sent to the higher official. Food items provided for children- Rice, daal, khichdi, upma, sambar, fruits and 2 boiled eggs on Monday and Saturday. For pregnant and lactating women- Rice - 3kg, daal - 1 kg, oil - 0.5 kg and boiled eggs - 4 per week.

Aanganwaadi authorities conduct medical check-ups on every Wednesday. They also conduct immunization and vaccination programmes. ❖

Kukiland

'Kukiland' is an isolated hilly region in the North-Eastern part of Manipur, India. Due to the beautiful hills of 'Kukiland', Manipur is well known as the Switzerland of India. Manipur, with a population of over 2.7 million, is home to three major groups: Kuki, Naga, and Meitei. While Meiteis, want territorial integrity of the State to be maintained. Out of the total nine districts in Manipur, five districts - Senapati, Tamenglong, Churachandpur, Chandel and Ukhrul are in the hills covering 20,089 sq.kms and the other three districts - Imphal, Bishenpur and Thoubal are in the valleys, occupying 2,238 sq. km. The tribal population in the state is 6,32,173 people, distributed over the hills and valleys.



The hills have 33 tribes, recognized by the Government of India. People are predominantly Mongoloid, and speak Tibeto-Burman languages like Kukish, Naga and Manipuri. The literacy rate in the State is 59.89%. In this area, peoples' life revolves around three dimensions, namely: protecting their livelihood, defending their identity, and propounding a sub-nationalism specific to their culture and ethnic group.

About 70 % of the population depends upon agriculture, it covers almost 11% of the total geographical area of Manipur, while the rest is covered by forest. Teak, Pine, Oak, Uningthou, Leihao, Bamboo, Cane, etc. are important forest resources growing in plenty. In addition, rubber, tea, coffee, orange, cardamom, etc. are also, grown in hill areas. Horticultural trees and plants like pineapple, banana, lemon, pears, peach, mushrooms etc. Medicinal plants like Smilax Macrofolia, Kuth root, Katha, Dalchini, and Jhabar Agar etc are grown in all hilly tracts and procured throughout the year. The Loktak lake; the largest fresh water lake in India, provides livelihood to 36% of fishermen in Manipur.

Handloom weaving is the largest and most important cottage industry in the state. Sericulture and hand loom weaving provide 21% of employment to people. Other major livelihoods are animal rearing, handicraft making, NTFP collection etc. Manipur is a sensitive place ecologically and due to the population explosion and agriculture. The place is slowly getting degraded as forests are being cut down at a startling rate, which is leading to soil erosion. With a view to stopping further soil erosion, works for planting trees on 1,500 hectares of terrain and denuded hillocks are being taken up.

Mineral deposits of copper, salt, chromite, lignite, limestone, nickel and asbestos have been found in Churachandpur, Ukhrul and Chandel. ❖

Soura Tribes

The Souras are one of the most popular tribes in India and they are numbering about 4.92 lakhs. They are mainly found in thirteen districts in Southern Odisha and three districts in North Coastal Andhra Pradesh and also found in the hills of Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Tripura, Bihar, Maharashtra and the plains of Assam. The Soura villages consist of houses with mud walls and sedge grass roofs, usually situated in foothills called guda or gorian. Many of the Soura settlements in the block are located at an elevation of 1500 to 3000 ft.



Souras speak the Munda language. They are a patriarchal society. They are polytheist and believe in large number of deities (Sandhidemudu and Jakaradevatha) and ancestral spirits. Dance and music constitute a major part of their rich artistic life and they also know painting.

The main livelihoods of the people are Shifting cultivation on hill slopes, Collection of forest produce, Permanent settled cultivation, Plantations on hill slopes, livestock rearing and poultry. They practice both shifting cultivation and terraced cultivation with varieties of cereals and pulses. They store part of produce for their consumption and some for seeds for the next crops. They use bamboo buckets for storage of produces such as food grains. They collect forest products like Tamarind, Honey, Soap nuts, Usiri, Nedi, Seethaphalam, Ramaphalam, Mango, Danimma, Dabba, Nimma, Mushrooms etc., besides these Firewood, Adda leaves (used for making leaf plates), Ippa flower, Seeds of kagu, Broom sticks straw used for thatching, and rope out of the bark of certain trees.

Though hunting, trapping and gathering do not make up a major income source to the Soura, However, they generally hunt Forest Cock, for selling in the shandy (weekly market). The Soura supplement their income by rearing Cattle, Goat, Sheep and Poultry. Some people are going for daily wage works like construction or. agricultural work (such as land development, transplantation, weeding) in neighbouring areas. Majority of the tribal areas still follow the "barter system".

The sellers from the plains are bringing food items such as Snacks, Chips, etc which are new to them and Tobacco, Gutka, etc for the exchange of forest products like Tamarind, Soap Nuts, Cashew, etc. Weekly markets, called shandies, are an important part of the Soura society, economy and in cultural exchanges with other tribes and the rest of the people. Due to improvement of communication facilities, increase in contact with non-tribes, constant interference of Governmental Extension agencies such as Tribal Development Agencies and Corporations, exposure to mass media etc., many changes seem to have taken place in the Soura economy. ❖

New Golden States!

New Golden States!

Happy Environment!

Narendra Modi is in charge of India. He is getting act together. Budget is on its way. Honeymoon period is getting over. Still some key Ministries are to be filled. Grouping of Ministries is incomplete. Planning Commission may get wound-up. Bureaucracy is still to be shuffled around fully. 100-day results are yet to materialize.

New States (Telangana and Andhra Pradesh) have come. Post-bifurcation processes are going on. Staff are being positioned. Departments are being split. New agencies are being created. Ministries are being merged. But, for the common man in the street, it is business as usual to a large extent. Governments need to go beyond the immediate, beyond placing ministers and bureaucrats and beyond day-to-day government issues.

Apart from no cost/low-cost regular/decent 24-hour electricity, drinking water, food security and shelter for all, some elements of this agenda include:

- ◆ Commission Vision for Golden State (say in 10 years), to be evolved and developed in 3-4 months, on a priority basis and develop a road map to realize the same.
- ◆ Commission mechanisms for evolving similar 'vision' at village, mandal and district level as soon as possible.
- ◆ Commission mechanisms for emergence of Village, Mandal and District Plans and supporting them
- ◆ Position Poverty Reduction Agents/Fellows in each village, panchayat, mandal and district.
- ◆ Position Young, Professional, Change Agents/Fellows at the state level in key areas to service the government and governance at state level
- ◆ Develop a Special Cadre of Development Services and make them take charge of poverty reduction, social development and livelihoods functions at sub-district, district and state levels.
- ◆ Reorganize the state with more smaller districts immediately and commission reorganizing mandals, panchayats and 'villages' for effective decentralization and offer consolidated funds in the hands of the local government(s)
- ◆ Restructure the Ministries organically so that integration and convergence is near automatic. This should include Ministry for Integrated Skills for Jobs and Enterprises. This should also include an integrated Ministry for Natural Resource Management, Conservation and Augmentation that include agriculture, horticulture, livestock, fisheries, forestry etc.
- ◆ Establish Coordination Mechanism for Tribal-Rural-Urban Development Continuum, rather than looking at them as separate
- ◆ Establish Unitary Management of missions/organizations for tribal, rural and urban poverty reduction and livelihoods of the poor. This should include unitary management for SERP and MEPMA. This should also include a clear Mechanism for Convergence between Employment Guarantee and Poverty Reduction/Livelihoods Mission at

various levels.

- ◆ Bring Self-help Act for Self-help Groups and their federations at various levels. Also, Mutually-aided cooperative society act needs to support autonomous collectives of the poor.
- ◆ Design, announce and implement Special Packages for Tribal Areas, Remote Areas, Nomadic Tribes, Traditional Artisans and Other Extremely Vulnerable Communities
- ◆ Present Pro-poor Budget(s) with adequate funding for social sectors including Poverty Reduction, Livelihoods of the Poor, Education, Health and Social Security. This should include Universal Social Security – Rs.2000 pension to all elders, disabled and widows
- ◆ Encourage/support starting high-end People's Channel(s), solely dedicated to the information-knowledge-skill needs of the poor without reducing the quality. It should compete with the best news and entertainment channels.
- ◆ Work with Civil Society on various issues and tap CSR Funding. If required a mechanism/Foundation for coordinating the same may need to be in place.
- ◆ Make the State 3G/4G high bandwidth wi-fi enabled for all everywhere with no or insignificant cost. All habitations should have decent road connectivity and e-connectivity.
- ◆ Announce and ensure Minimum Support Prices for all natural produce and traditional/artisanal produce/services
- ◆ Announce and ensure Ashram/Gurukulam Residential Schools in each Mandal for Boys and Girls for merit students. This should include institutes of excellence at district and state level with extraordinary merit.
- ◆ Announce and ensure post-school hour study centres and libraries in all villages for students to sit, study, do homework and seek tuition at no/nominal cost. This should include special classes in Mathematics, English etc., and weekly tests for mental ability.
- ◆ Review the performance of the schools, school-teacher status and take up teacher recruitment and training so that the students are more self-learning and employable. It should include ensuring Vocational Education in all Schools.
- ◆ Support/strengthen community managed health systems universally, while restructuring the entire medicare system
- ◆ Build at least one premier institute of various categories viz., IIT, NIT, IIM, IRMA, AIIMS etc.
- ◆ Issue all citizen cards proactively, without citizens asking for them – ration cards, election identity cards, driving licenses, vehicle registrations, date of birth certificates, arogya shree cards etc. On similar lines, there should be early morning/late evening mobile collection teams with card readers to collect various amounts from citizens, in addition to mee-seva centres.
- ◆ Announce and ensure implementation of State Proactive Disclosure Protocols for all public agencies and services
- ◆ Commit and submit Annual/Half-yearly Progress Reports to Public at various levels

Perspectives

G Muralidhar

Let the foundation be laid for Prosperous Inclusive Golden Telangana and Andhra Pradesh! ❖

I Didn't Receive Any Benefits..

Should Support Old People..

What is your name and how old are you?

My name is S.Basha. I am 30 years old.

What is your educational qualification?

I studied 8th class at my native place. I was very interesting in education. I was a class first student in seventh class. Due to my family financial problems, I had to quit my studies.

Tell us about your family.

I have a daughter and a son who are studying 2nd and 3rd grades respectively. They attend a private school near my house. My wife is a housewife.

What is your native place?

My native place is Sangala Village, C.Belagala Mandal in Kurnool, district. Currently, I live in L.B.Nagar, Hyderabad with my family.

What was your livelihood in your village and why did you move to Hyderabad?

I ran a petty business in my village before moving to Hyderabad. Because of a flood, I lost my shop and business. Due to my financial problems, I migrated to Hyderabad four years ago.

What is your occupation and how much do you earn?

I am a street vendor. I sell leafy vegetables and some vegetables such as drumsticks, brinjal, and tomato. I earning about Rs. 300/- per day.

Where do you purchase your goods and how many hours do you work?

I go to NTR Market in Kottapeta early in the morning. Directly from the market, I travel to New Nallakunta area to sell the vegetables. Every day, I work from 6 AM to 2 PM. If the items do not sell out in the streets, I sell the remaining material to the hotels for a low price.

What problems do you face on a daily basis?

I face stiff competition in this business. There are many vendors coming and selling leaf vegetables. Earlier, people were not educated about the demand for leaf vegetables. Due to higher demand, more vendors are selling now. I also face the issue of investment. As the rates are increasing day by day, I do not have enough money to invest and buy material in the market.

Do you benefit from any government schemes?

Except Aadar Card, I did not receive any benefits from the government.

What is your plan for the future?

I will continue doing this business. Due to financial problems, I had to stop my studies. So I am planning to provide proper education to my children. They should not suffer like me in future. ❖



Tell me about yourself.

My name is B. AnjaiahGoud. I am 61 years old.

What is your native village? What is your educational qualification?

My native village is Pochampally in Nalgonda District. I am illiterate.

Tell me about your family.

There are five people in my family: my wife, son, daughter-in-law, granddaughter, and me. I got my daughter married last year. My son moved out of the houses 11 months ago.

What is your occupation? How much do you earn per month?

I sell tea, biscuits, chocolates, cigarettes, and other products in front of the high school gate compound wall. I have been maintaining this shop for the last 2 years. I also work as the school guard at night as construction goes on. I earn Rs. 4000per month.

What is your occupational duty and why are you doing this activity?

I belong to the toddy topper community. I used to collect the sap from toddy trees. Three years ago, I fell down from a toddy tree. The incident damaged my backbone. My caste association provided the financial assistance to give me treatment for my serious injury. I took bed rest for six months. After using medicines, I became fit enough to walk on my own feet. Afterwards, I decided to change my livelihood. Now I am running this teashop.

How do you sustain yourself economically?

I survive primarily on my teashop business. It gave me a sustainable livelihood after I quit my traditional occupation. I earn Rs. 4000 per month from this job, and my wife also supports me in this field.

Are you entitled to any of the schemes being implemented by the government? If so, what are they?

Yes, I receive benefits from the white ration card and an old age pension of Rs. 200 per month.

What other services would you like the government to provide for you?

I want the government to provide a livelihood for old people and increase old age pension up to Rs. 1000.

What is your plan for the future?

I want development my business. ❖

Survive on Domestic Work..**I Have No Other Choice ..****Tell us about yourself.**

My Name is B. Radha. I am 41 years old. I have studied 10th class. My native village is Kandukuri in Prakasham District, Andhra Pradesh. Currently, live in Batakamma Kunta in Amberpet, Hyderabad.

**Why did you come to Hyderabad?**

When I was studying 10th class, I left my home after a small argument with my family and came to Hyderabad. My parents, two sisters, and two brothers used to live in our home. My father was working as an attendar at the MRO office.

How did you settle down in Hyderabad?

When I reached Hyderabad, as I don't know anyone here, I was waiting in the railway station. The Railway Station Master observed me sitting there and enquired about me. After listening to me, he made me to join as a domestic worker in someone's home at Vidyanagar. I stayed with their house.

Tell us about your family.

We have two daughters and a son. My husband and my younger daughter are handicapped due to polio by birth. Even though my husband is handicapped, he can manage to walk and work as a painter. My younger daughter is not even able to stand or walk.

What are the income sources of your family?

My elder daughter and I are domestic workers and receive 7,000/- per month. My husband is a painter and he earns 3,000/- per month. My son and younger daughter are studying.

What problems do you face as a housewife?

Our family is poor and we survive on domestic works. We arranged two surgeries for my daughter but both of them were not successful. Our elder daughter is now 25years old. We need together married. My husband is not eligible to work in all occupations, and there is no support from my family.

Do you benefit from any government schemes?

Recently, I got a gas connection under Deepam Scheme, and my husband and daughter receive Rs. 1000/- per month under the handicapped pension scheme. I have a ration card, Aadhar card, and I used to benefit from a government-provided house in Batakamma Kunta in 2001.

What are your plans for the future?

My aim is to arrange a marriage for my elder daughter. My younger daughter's leg operation needs to be done so that she can walk and stand on her own. Due to the past two operations, she is now able to stand on her foot partially. ❖

Can you tell us about yourself?

My name is YerraYellamma. I am 51years old. I am an uneducated woman living in Golnaka, Hyderabad with my family.

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

My husband passed away 25 years ago due to a deadly disease. We have a daughter and a son. My daughter got married and is a housewife. My son is a painter who earns about Rs. 4,000 per month. However, he has been suffering from jaundice for the past three months and hasn't been able to work.

What is your occupation? How much you earn?

I've been working as a domestic worker for the past 35 years. Currently, I earn Rs. 2,800 per month.

What problems did you face after you lost your husband?

When my husband passed away, our two children were seven and five years old respectively. I continued to work as a domestic worker since I did not have the skill set to pursue another job. I was working for nearly ten households, but it was still very difficult to earn Rs. 1000/- in those days. The owners of the households gave me food and old clothes to help me sustain myself. With this menial income, I managed to survive and raise my children without any other support.

Did you send your children to school?

I never sent my daughter to school because she used to look after my son when I went to work. After she grew up, I took her with me to work. On the other hand, I enrolled my son in a private school and he studied up to seventh class. He subsequently dropped out because he was unable to sustain interest in academics.

How did you arrange your daughter's marriage?

I arranged my daughter's marriage with my brother's son who works as a painter and lives close to my house. They have two children now.

Do you receive widow's pension from the government?

No, but I have a ration card, voter ID card, Aadhar card, and gas connection under the Deepam scheme. I would like the government to provide us subsidized housing in response to increased costs of living and higher rents.

What are your for the future?

I want to arrange my son's marriage so that he will settle down in life like my daughter. After that, I have no other choice but to work until die. ❖

Primitive Vulnerable Tribal Groups

Tribal communities are often identified by some specific signs such as primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness to contact with the community at large and backwardness. Along with these, some tribal groups have some specific features such as dependency on hunting, gathering for food, having pre-agriculture level of technology, zero or negative growth of population and extremely low level of literacy. These groups are called Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). 'livelihoods' focused on the situation of the PVTGs.



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The characteristics of PVTGs:

In 1973, the Debra Commission created Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category, who are less developed among the tribal groups. In 2006, the Government of India renamed the PTGs as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). PVTGs have some basic characteristics -they are mostly homogenous, with a small population, relatively physically isolated, social institutes cast in a simple mould, absence of written language, relatively simple technology and a slower rate

State / UT Name	PVTGs Name
Andhra Pradesh	1. Bodo Gadaba 2. Bondo Poroja 3. Chenchu 4. Dongria Khond 5. Gutob Gadaba 6. Khond Poroja 7. Kolam 8. Kondareddis 9. Konda Savaras 10. Kutia Khond 11. Parengi Poroja 12. Thoti
Bihar	13. Asurs 14. Birhor 15. Birjia 16. Hill Kharia 17. Korwas 18. Mal Paharia 19. Parhaiyas 20. Sauria Paharia 21. Savar
Jharkhand	Same as above
Gujarat	22. Kathodi 23. Kotwalia 24. Padhar 25. Siddi 26. Kolgha
Karnataka	27. Jenu Kuruba 28. Koraga
Kerala	29. Cholanaikayan (a section of Kattunaickans) 30. Kadar 31. Kattunayakan 32. Kurumbas 33. Koraga
Madhya Pradesh	34. Abujh Marias 35. Baigas 36. Bharias 37. Hill Korbas 38. Kamars 39. Saharias 40. Birhor
Chhattisgarh	Same as above
Maharashtra	41. Katkaria (Kathodia) 42. Kolam 43. Maria Gond
Manipur	44. Marram Nagas
Odisha	45. Birhor 46. Bondo 47. Didayi 48. Dongria-Khond 49. Juangs 50. Kharias 51. Kutia Kondh 52. Lanjia Sauras 53. Lodhas 54. Mankidias 55. Paudi Bhuyans 56. Soura 57. Chuktia Bhunjia
Rajasthan	58. Seharias
Tamil Nadu	59. Kattu Nayakans 60. Kotas 61. Kurumbas 62. Irulas 63. Paniyans 64. Todas
Tripura	65. Reangs
Uttar Pradesh	66. Buxas 67. Rajis
Uttarakhand-	Same as above
West Bengal	68. Birhor 69. Lodhas 70. Totos
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	71. Great Andamanese 72. Jarawas 73. Onges 74. Sentinelese 75. Shom Pens

of change etc.

The need for identification:

PVTGs are more vulnerable among the tribal groups. Due to this factor, more developed and assertive tribal groups take a major chunk of the tribal development funds, because of which PVTGs need more funds directed for their development. In this context, in 1975, the Government of India initiated to identify the most vulnerable tribal groups as a separate category called PVTGs and declared 52 such groups, while in 1993 an additional 23 groups were added to the category, making it a total of 75 PVTGs out of 705 Scheduled Tribes, spread over 17 states and one Union Territory (UT), in the country (2011 census).

How they are identified:

Government of India designed a procedure to identify PVTGs. According to the procedure, the state governments or UT governments submit proposals to the Central Ministry of Tribal Welfare for identification of PVTGs. The Central Ministry then examines the proposals in consultation with the Planning Commission. After ensuring the criteria is fulfilled, the Central Ministry selects those groups as PVTGs.

Population:

About 4% of the global population comprises of the tribal people. Across the world, most of the poorest of the poor people belong to this group. In India, tribal population makes up for 8.6% of the total population. Tribal people live in about 15% of the geographical area of the country. The places they live vary from plains, forests, hills, inaccessible areas etc. PVTGs are scattered in different geographical areas of the country.

According to the 2001 census, the PVTGs population is approximately. 27,68,322. There are 12 PVTGs having



a population above 50,000 and the remaining groups have a population of 1000 or less. The PVTG of Sahariyas has the highest population of 4,50,217, while the PVTGs of Sentinelets and Andamanese has a very small population of 39 and 43, respectively.

Social conditions and declining population:

The cultural practices, systems, self governance and livelihood practices of PVTGs have a lot of variations, depending on the group and locality. These tribal groups are widely different culturally. The level of inequalities in social and economical conditions is very high amongst PVTGs. Their problems are also very different from group to group.

The growth of PVTGs' population is either stagnating or declining, compared to the general population growth, particularly in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands where the declining rate is very high. There are five PVTGs in the Andaman islands such as Great Andamanese, Jarawas, Onges, Sentineles and Shom Pens. In 1858, the Great Andamanese were estimated at nearly 3500, in 1901 their number declined to 625. According to the 2001 Census, the Great Andamanese stood at just 43, Jarawas are 241, Onges are 96, Sentineles are 39 and Shom Pens are 398.

Livelihoods:

PVTGs depend on various livelihoods such as food-gathering, Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP), hunting, livestock rearing, shifting cultivation and artisan works. Most of their livelihoods depend on the forest. The forest is their life and livelihood. They collect various NTFP items such as honey, gum, amla, bamboo, shrubs, fuel-wood, dry leaves, nuts, sprouts, wax, medical plants, roots and tubes. Most of the NTFP items they gather are for consumption and they sell the remaining to middle





men. But due to the shrinking forests, environmental changes and new forest conservation policies, their NTFP collection is getting hampered. Because of the lack of awareness about the value of NTFP produce, PVTGs have been exploited by the middle men.

Agriculture:

PVTGs depend on forests for shifting cultivation or pudu or penda or jhum cultivation. Under this cultivation, they select a piece of land and cut the trees and bushes, partially or fully. After cutting the bushes and trees they leave it to dry and then burn them. In those lands they plant the seeds without using ploughs into holes. Depending on the altitude, they grow maize, millets, pulses, rice, potatoes, vegetables, chillies, beans, sweet potatoes, mustard, sugar cane, sesame, pineapples, citrus, bananas and jackfruits. After some years, when they find that the crop yield is decreasing, they leave that land and move to another land. After 5

to 20 years, they restart cultivation in their previous lands. This cultivation is practiced by PVTGs in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha states. But the government declared their shifting lands as reserved forest areas and forced the PVTGs to prepare new lands for shifting cultivation.

PVTGs rear different types of livestock such as goats, sheep, cows, bullocks, buffaloes, pigs and poultry. Forest is their only source for raising livestock. But due to lack of access to land for grazing, their livestock rearing livelihood has been declining for decades. Livestock is a major source of milk and meat to the PVTGs. They used to get nutritious food and income from livestock. They hunt for various types of animals in the forest for food. They hunt for different animals like fowls, rabbits, deer, hogs, monkeys and peacocks etc. The Forest Conservation, Act, 1980 and Wildlife Protection, Act, 1972 and other Policies are not letting them rear livestock and are also restricting them from



Scheme for PVTGs, 2008

The Scheme for Development of Primitive Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), came into effect from April 1, 2008. The Scheme defines PVTGs as the most vulnerable among the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheme therefore seeks to prioritise their protection and development. It identifies 75 PVTGs. The Scheme seeks to adopt a holistic approach to the socio-economic development of PVTGs and gives state governments flexibility in planning initiatives that are geared towards the specific socio-cultural imperatives of the specific groups at hand. Activities may thus include housing, land distribution, land development, agricultural development, cattle development, construction of link roads, installation of nonconventional sources of energy, social security, etc. Funds are available only for activities essential for the survival, protection and development of PVTGs and not already funded by any other Scheme of the central/state governments. Each state and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands' administration, is required to prepare a long term Conservation-cum-Development (CCD) plan, valid for a period of five years for each PVTG within its territory, outlining the initiatives it will undertake, financial planning for the same and the agencies charged with the responsibility of undertaking the same. The CCD Plan has to be approved by an Expert Committee, appointed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The Scheme is funded entirely by the Central government. (Source: <http://tribal.gov.in>, the section on schemes contains scheme for development of primitive tribal groups)



doing shifting cultivation and from hunting. They also catch fishes in streams, tanks, ponds, seashore, lagoons and rivers for consumption.

Odisha has the largest PVTGs population in the country, with 13 PVTGs. Along with shifting cultivation, livestock rearing, hunting and NTFP collection, PVTGs in Odisha make different articles for their livelihoods. They have various artisan skills such as basket and rope making with siali fibre, sabi grass and jute weaving, bead necklace making, carpet weaving, bamboo stick making, vegetable cultivation, broom stick making, embroidery, wall painting, comb making and mat making etc. The PVTGs' innocence and lack of collective purchasing centers set up by the Government, makes them vulnerable to middle men, who buy their products for a pittance.

Exploitation of PVTGs:

In the name of industrialization, governments are exploiting natural resources and constructing various projects, dams and infrastructure facilities. These



interventions force the PVTGs to displace them from their dwelling places. They are forced to move to remote and hilly areas. For PVTGs, displacement is not changing a place. It directly impacts their livelihoods, as forests are their only source for all their livelihoods and moving out from it makes them lose their livelihoods. Governments failed to protect the PVTGs' traditional rights on forests.

The social and economical conditions of PVTGs are vulnerable. There are many causes for this situation such as anthropological and genetic factors, remoteness of their habitat, limited resources, lack of accessibility to services, food habits, unavoidable traditional practices and displacement by external interventions such as mining projects and infrastructural development projects etc. Earlier, they used to depend on forest for shifting cultivation, NTFP collection and animal hunting. These livelihoods sources have been taken away by industrialization interventions, forest conservation policies and wildlife protection Acts. Now, they are being displaced from their habitats and



are prevented by the forest officials to practice shifting cultivation, NTFP collection and animal hunting. Their previous livelihoods have become unviable to survive. PVTGs are suffering from starvation, death due to starvation and sometimes due to starvation they are forced to eat poisonous nuts. Malnutrition is also very high in PVTGs.

Health conditions:

Health is a prerequisite for human development and it is an essential component in well-being of humankind. Health problems of any community are influenced by different factors such as social, economical and political factors. The health status of PVTGs is in an awful condition because of multiple factors like poverty, illiteracy, lack of safe drinking water, bad sanitary conditions, difficult terrain, malnutrition, poor maternal and child health services, unavailability of health and



rights of the PVTGs. These organizations Marshal Cooperative, Ama Sangathan, AVMS, Center for Cooperative Development (CCD), Gram Swaraj, VARASA, Madhyam Foundation, VASUNDHARA, RCDC, Banabasi Chetan Mandal (BCM), PRADAN, ORMAS, Jaunga Development Agency, Choktia-Bhahunjia Development Agency (CBDA),

In 2006, Ministry of Tribal Affairs prepared a National Policy to address the developmental issues of tribals and particularly issues of PVTGs. To tackle the problems of PVTGs, the Policy designed proposals as follows...

nutritional services, superstition and deforestation. The diseases like anemia, upper respiratory problem, malaria; gastro-intestinal disorders like acute diarrhea, Intestinal protozoan; micronutrient deficiency and skin infection diseases are common among PVTGs. Many of these diseases can be prevented by providing nutrition food, timely medical facilities and health awareness. The condition of education is also very poor, with an average literacy rate of 10% to 44% in PVTGs.

The situation of PVTGs women:

The condition of women in PVTGs is more vulnerable even though by and large they have a better standing in their family and society compared with non-tribal communities. At the same time they take a lot of workload by participating both in making a livelihood and household chores. Their health and educational status is very poor compared to their men. They face a high rate of sexual harassment.

There are many Non Government Organizations (NGOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) are working for the entitlements, employment, NTFP livelihoods, agriculture, livestock, health, education and

- ♦ Efforts should be made to bring them on par with other tribal groups, in a definite time frame
- ♦ Developmental efforts should be tribe-specific and suited to local environment
- ♦ Effective preventive and curative health systems should be introduced
- ♦ PVTGs traditional healthcare practices must be examined and validated
- ♦ To combat the low level of literacy among PVTGs, educational interventions should be designed in a area specific and need based way, including skills up-gradation
- ♦ Formal schooling should be strengthened by utilizing 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' educational program and by placing trained tribal youth as teachers
- ♦ Teaching should be in the tribals' mother tongue or dialect
- ♦ Considering PVTGs extreme poverty, their school going children should be provided incentives



- ◆ Emphasis should be on vocational education and training
- ◆ Ensure that PVTGs have the right to land. Any form of land alienation should be prevented and land should be distributed to landless PVTGs
- ◆ Public Distribution System (PDS) should be introduced to ensure food supply and they should establish 'Grain Banks' to provide food during crisis time

Facilitate PVTGs' participation in forest management and ensure that forest management should meet their economical needs and fulfill their emotional attachment to forest



The inefficient implementation of schemes:

Their livelihoods and lives are on threat. Governments are not providing proper administrative, health, education and livelihoods support services. Government of India started development programs at the time Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-79). But the state governments did not do any surveys on PVTGs to get adequate information about their demographic, health, education and economical aspects. This work has been pending for decades. This is a pre-condition to prepare a comprehensive development plan for PVTGs. They are being alienated from their habitats because of various developmental projects. Governments should protect PVTGs' from exploitation by the middle men, the forest department and the police.

From 1993 onwards, no new tribal group has been added to the PVTGs category. There are some tribal groups which meet the criteria to be a PVTG; These groups are practicing pre-agriculture technologies and the group's population is stagnant or declining. But governments are reluctant to recommend these groups

to the PVTGs category.

Central government sponsored funds and state schemes are not reaching most of the PVTGs. The development programs are only being partially implemented. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has been introduced in most of the states where PVTGs live. But it does not provide employment for the full working days. Public Distribution System (PDS) has been implemented, but it is not protecting the PVTGs from hunger and malnourishment. The PVTGs' development should be considered as topmost priority. There is a need to allocate sufficient funds, especially for the comprehensive development of PVTGs.

The Planning Commission of India stated that "A decline in their (PVTGs) sustenance base and resultant food insecurity, malnutrition and ill-health force them to live in the most fragile conditions and some of them are even under the threat of getting extinct." This statement describes the vulnerable situation of the PVTGs.

The state governments and central government should implement the schemes on providing rights on land through Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs) or Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs), Tribal Research Institutions (TRIs), Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED), National Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC), Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) for PVTGs development. PVTGs development should be an important item in the government programs. ❖



Watershed Brings Greenery

Thimmareddypally village is located in Kondapaka mandal, Medak district, Telangana. It is about 120km from Hyderabad. There are around 400 households in the village, consisting of OCs, BCs, SCs, STs and minorities. About, 46 families do not have any agricultural land. Most families depend on agriculture and its allied livelihoods like agri-labourers, wage labourers etc. Farmers cultivate rain-fed crops, because it is a semi-arid region, with an average rainfall of 635mm. In summer, people migrate to other places to search for work.

In the village total Watershed area is 1210 hectares including forest land, revenue land, cultivated and uncultivated land. Perennial irrigated land is 56ha, where farmers are cultivating paddy crop and seasonal rainfed land is 520ha. Farmers cultivate mixed crop like maize and red gram in 288ha and cotton in 156ha.

During agricultural season, men earn Rs.150 and women earn Rs.70 and in off-season men earn Rs.120 and women earn Rs.60. During festival seasons 80-100 people migrate to Hyderabad and Siddipet for work.

Kondapaka Watershed Development Project was started in 2009 in Thimmareddypally. The project is being implemented by ASSMA for poverty reduction in the village. The financial support is being given by NABARD and resource support by Poverty Learning Foundation (PLF).

Watershed Development Programme (WDP) is one of the most popular development programmes, implemented across the country. It is widely admitted that WDP is seen as the panacea. This programme has been directed towards the promotion of overall economic development and improvement of the socio-economic conditions of the resource poor sections of people, inhabiting the programme areas, through natural resource enhancement.

ASSMA formed a Watershed Development Committee (WDC) to support and implement this project. It maintains all the project activities with the support of WDC in the village. NABARD provides financial support of Rs.65,000, in the form of works. Almost 1210 hectares of land, covering two villages, comes under the project in Thimmareddypally and Kondapaka villages.

WDC was registered under Mutually Aided Cooperation Society (MACS) in 2012. It has nine office bearers - Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and four executive members. Current chairman of WDC is Rajaiah. It has two staff -Para-worker and supervisor. It maintains three bank accounts -Works account, Livelihoods account and Maintenance account.

Earlier, NABARD had agreed to provide financial resources to the project, on one condition -that the village has to give their share of Rs.65,000 in the form of work. ASSMA met village elders and discussed with villagers about the uses of the project. ASSMA has been working in the village for

the last 15 years, so they did not face problems in implementing the project. Thus, the villagers worked to the worth of Rs.65,000. Every household in the village had to participate in the work, which included -cutting jungle; cleaning land; removing stone; etc, and Watershed activities like contour bunding; pebble bunding; trenching; nala bunding; gully plugging; plantations; etc. Basically, Watershed Development is expected to improve the conditions of farmers and the poor sections, through greater availability of water.

The villagers are utilizing benefits of the project. WDC utilizes money for works under Works account; it gives loans to villagers under Livelihoods account; it does maintenance under Maintenance account.

So far, WDC has given loans to more than 120 members for livelihood purposes, with an interest of Rs.1. WDC does a background check on people who have applied for loans, before sanctioning them loans for different purposes.

Every month, the Para worker collects instalment amount from those who took loans. WDC gives loans to new people who want loans. It gives a second loan to existing members, after the full repayment of the first loan, only after submitting a Rs.25 bond paper to WDC for security.

ASSMA is successfully implementing this project. It has used a participatory approach method in the planning and development of the Watershed Management Programme, so that it becomes a people's programme, with the government participating in it as a facilitator only. People help in planning, developing and executing the Watershed activities. Active and voluntary participation of all stakeholders, guarantees the successful implementation of the Watershed program.

The villagers help during social audit for transparent and it is conducted jointly by government and the people. It audits planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Impact of Watershed in the village:

Increase ground water level in Watershed areas. (Land development activities such as contour bunding, land levelling and cultivation practices also contribute towards accumulation of ground water.)

Increase surface water in Watershed areas. (According to the beneficiaries this has been possible because of the contour bunding or field bunding)

Checking runoff of rainwater resulting in soil moisture retention. Increase in residual moisture content due to contour bunding, helping in crop growth and yield.

Loosening the hard strata, increases infiltration of water and easy penetration of roots. (Which is due to land development activities like leveling and tillage.) WDC also supports non-farm sector activities like dairy, poultry, petty shops, hotels etc. ❖

Individual Enterprise



Cool Drink Shop

Collective Enterprise



Murukulu Making

Social Enterprise



Jaipur Foot Wear Centre

Public Enterprise



Vegetable Market

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Bill, 2006

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) contribute nearly 8% to the country's GDP, 45% of the manufacturing output and 40% of the exports. They provide the largest share of employment after agriculture.

The Small and Medium Enterprises Development Bill, 2005 was introduced on May 12th, 2005 and passed on May 22nd, 2006 in Rajya Sabha and was renamed Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Act, 2006. It became operational on October 2nd, 2006.

It is an Act that facilitates the promotion, development and enhancement of the competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises and for matters connected to it. It seeks to classify enterprises as micro, small or medium enterprises, empower the central and state governments to take steps to promote these enterprises, streamline inspection procedures and improve procedures to address the problem of delayed payments.

Enterprises engaged in the manufacture/production of goods pertaining to any industry. Manufacturing enterprises have been defined in terms of investment in plant and machinery (excluding land and buildings). Micro Enterprise, where the investment does not exceed Rs.25 lakh

Small enterprise, where the investment is more than Rs.25 lakh and does not exceed Rs.5 crore Medium enterprise, where the investment is more than Rs.5 crore and does not exceed Rs.10 crore

The service enterprises have been defined in terms of their investment in equipment (excluding land and building). Micro enterprise, where the investment does not exceed Rs.10 lakh

Small enterprise, where the investment is more than Rs.10 lakh and does not exceed Rs.2 crore. Medium enterprise, where the investment is more than Rs.2 crore and does not exceed Rs.5 crore

Salient features:

- The act defines medium enterprises to facilitate achievement of economies of scale.
- It provides statutory basis to purchase Preference Policy for goods and services provided by micro and small enterprises.
- It also strengthens the legal provisions to check delayed payments to micro and small enterprises.
- The Act provides statutory basis to the National Board for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises. The cumbersome two-stage registration process of SSI has been substituted with an optional filing of memorandum by Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises.
- Central Government-appointed advisory committee shall

make recommendations on classification of enterprises. The central government can vary the criterion of investment and also consider other criteria such as employment and turnover while classifying enterprises.

- Every person who has established a medium enterprise shall file a memorandum as specified by the central government. A person who has established a small enterprise may at his discretion file a memorandum as specified by the state government.

- The National Small and Medium Enterprises Board shall be established to make recommendations to the central government on policies and programmes for development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME).

- The Board shall consist of ministers and secretaries of specified central and state ministries, chairpersons of specified entities as ex officio members, an RBI officer, ten members from associations of small enterprises and one person each from the field of economics and industry appointed by the central government.

- Measures to promote, develop and enhance competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises:

The central government may facilitate promotion, development and enhancement of the competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises, particularly micro and small enterprises by way of development of skill to employees, management and entrepreneurs.

Provisioning for technological upgradation, marketing assistance or infrastructure facilities and cluster development of such enterprises, with view to strengthening backward and forward linkages.

The policies and practices in respect of credit to the micro, small and medium enterprises shall be progressive and such as may be specified in the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank. Notwithstanding provisions relating to inspection in any other Act, inspection of MSME shall be carried out with a view to promote self-regulation and self-certification of SME and as prescribed by the central government.

If buyer fails to make payment, he shall be liable to pay interest at 9% plus the Bank Rate. Dispute relating to recovery of amount from the buyer shall be referred to the Industry Facilitation Councils, established by the state governments.

Appeals shall be entertained only if 75% of the due amount has been deposited with the court/ authority. The buyer is required to give details of unpaid amount and the interest in his annual accounts. The interest payable shall not be allowed as deduction while computing income under the Income Tax Act. ❖

Rani Rudrama Devi Mahila Macs Limited (RMML)

Rani Rudrama Devi Mahila Macs Limited (RMML) was formed, by a group of 50 entrepreneurs of Peddaramcherla Village, Jangaon Mandal, Warangal District in 1995 and Registered in 1998, under the APMACS Act, 1995. RMML is actively working in 150 villages, with 10 branches in seven mandals like Jangaon, Raghunathpally, Narmetta, Linghala Ghanpur, Devuruppala Mandals Warangal and Aler and Gundala mandal in Nalgonda.

The MACs has 22000 women members, 1271 Groups, 3813 Small Group Leaders, 612 village Committee Members, 162 Delegates and 17 Board of Directors. It has 41 female and 10 male staff members. RMML promotes socio-economic development societies and women development programmes like SHGs and Sanghams, women cooperatives, encourages credit management, is engaged in Thrift and Credit related activities among members, to achieve the organizational objectives of women empowerment. To join the society, a member has to open a savings account with an amount of Rs.30/-. After joining, she should deposit at least Rs. 30/- per month in the account. The savings amount is refunded to the member at the time of her resignation, with an interest of 12% per annum. The loan facility is decided depending on the member's saving amount. The society gives loans to the members. Recently, the organization took a loan of Rs.13 crore from the Grameena bank. And it has Rs.13 crore of savings and credit.

The members who require a loan amount of up to Rs.2000/- will be given the amount in the village. Emergency loans will be considered separately. If loan amount is more than Rs.2000/- it is disbursed at office premises. Loan Insurance Scheme was Introduced in 2002, Provides coverage to members who are taking a loan of more than Rs.10000/-. The amount of deposit is 5% of loan amount (Refundable deposit). The risk is covered for any type of death. The risk amount is to the extent of loan amount outstanding, after adjusting the member's saving and DRAS amount -if claim is available. MACS achieved best Self Help Group in Warangal' Certificate from Warangal District Collector, on 21-01-2001. ❖

Support Organization

Development of Welfare Association of Blind (DWAB)

Development of Welfare Association of Blind (DWAB) organization was started with a view to cater the needs of blind community across the state without any discrimination of caste, community, sex and age. This organization was established at Deen Dayal Nagar in Nalgonda town in 1996. The organization aims at the all-around development of each and every blind individual to make him/her a self supporting and contributing member of the society.

Apart from organization project started a hostel for the blind with about ten children a small rented house. Later it was converted into a residential school providing free boarding, lodging and education With the moral and financial supporter of several well wishers and philanthropists organization could construct a three storied building of our own named as Surdas Bhavan. The building is spacious enough to accommodate 250 to 300 children with all amenities. It is a school for the blind children. The organization provide hostel facility also. They provide proper accommodation with beds and they also provide the food. They have few computers which are equipped with the required software to assist the blind students.

Today there are about 160 blind students with separate facilities for boys and girls. It is a recognized school maintaining higher standards of education. The school has been fetching 100% results since its inception in 1996 and it stands as the only school for the blind run by an non government organization in the rural area of the entire region of Telangana. To expand our activity of established an administrative office at Hyderabad with a view to reach the unreached across the state. The propose to construct one 'Surdas Bhavan ' in each of 23 districts of Andhra Pradesh to run a home for aged and blind and to under take training programmers for the blind youth. The organization also wishes to establish one Braille academy in Hyderabad, the first of its kind in India. This academy will have computerized Braille Press to print out books in Braille for school children all over the state.

The organization makes a fervent appeal to all the well wishers and philanthropist to donate generously and support us to spear head. This stupendous task ahead in the interest of blind community who constitute the weakest segment of society economically socially and culturally. This organization is collected the funding by the donation. ❖

Training Institutions

1. Mahatma Gandhi institute of Rural Development:
www.mgsird.org

2. An all India organization for Integrated Participated Development:
www.sankalp.org

3. Women Organization in Rural Development:

www.word.org.in

4. Chinmaya Organization for Rural Development:
www.cord.org.in

5. Indian Institute of Bio Social Research and Development:
www.ibradindia.org

Concrete Bricks Manufacturing

The concrete brick manufacturing is providing a new livelihood for people. These bricks are a substitute for clay bricks. It is giving an entrepreneurship opportunity to lakhs of people surviving with basic infrastructure like house construction workers, labourers etc. Nowadays hollow, concrete bricks are being widely used in construction of residential buildings, factories and multi-storied buildings, compound walls etc., due to their low cost and lightweight. They are Precast i.e the bricks are formed and hardened before they are brought to the job site. Most concrete bricks have one or more hollow cavities and their sides may be cast smooth or with designs.



Required materials: Crushed stone dust, gravel powder, sand, cement, water, machine, current, wooden trays, etc... A composition 1:6 of cement and sand or stone dust and water for mixing the composition. The mixing of composition and the length of time are important. A few trial bricks have to be made to arrive at the correct consistency of the mix and the total volume of ready-mix to be charged into the mould box for tamping. After which the worker will from then on dump the same fixed volume, in the machine. 1 feet 6 inches length and 6 inches width of bricks fill the raw material and bricks are automatically tamped.

Plain or Hollow Bricks greater than 6" height -These bricks, because of their increased height, are partly hand-tamped with wooden rammer and finished off with the machine tamper lid. Fill the mould to half its depth and ram the mix well, especially at the four corners of the mould box and in-between the two cores forming the hollows. Avoid air pockets or spaces.

Shelter the bricks from sun and drying winds. After 24 hours, they should be watered. Once moulded, bricks are sufficiently hardened to permit removal of the supporting wooden pallet, the pallet is oiled and reused. Keep bricks in the water for several days. The longer the curing time the better is the strength. The bricks should thereafter be completely dried prior to placing in the wall. Solid bricks of up to 6 inches of height -600 bricks per day. Hollow bricks greater than 6 inches of height -400 bricks per day

There are many advantages of concrete bricks such as economy in design of sub-structure, due to reduction of load, lower usage of cement, compared to ordinary brick work, lower usage of cement during plasterwork, better insulation of walls, due to cavities, which conserves energy at all times, similarly hollowness results in sound insulation, laying of Bricks is much quicker as compared to brickwork, hence saving time and provides monthly Income: Rs 8500-15000. ❖

Leader

Community Worker



Mahila MACS Leader

Supervisor for Vasundhara MACS

The American Dream

An American businessman was standing at the pier of a small coastal Mexican village when a small boat with just one fisherman docked. Inside the small boat were several large yellow fin tuna. The American complimented the Mexican on the quality of his fish.



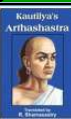

"How long did it take you to catch them?" the American asked. "Only a little while" the Mexican replied. "Why don't you stay out longer and catch more fish?" the American then asked. "I have enough to support my family's immediate needs" the Mexican said. "But" the American then asked, "What do you do with the rest of your time?" The Mexican fisherman said: "I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, take a siesta with my wife, Maria, stroll into the village each evening where I sip wine and play guitar with my amigos. I have a full and busy life, senor."

The American scoffed: "I am a Harvard MBA and could help you. You should spend more time fishing and with the proceeds you could buy a bigger boat and, with the proceeds from the bigger boat, you could buy several boats. Eventually you would have a fleet of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman, you would sell directly to the consumers, eventually opening your own can factory. You would control the product, processing and distribution. You would need to leave this small coastal fishing village and move to Mexico City, then LA and eventually NYC where you will run your expanding enterprise."

The Mexican fisherman asked: "But senor, how long will this all take?" To which the American replied: "15-20 years." "But what then, senor?" The American laughed and said: "That's the best part. When the time is right, you would announce an IPO - an Initial Public Offering - and sell your company stock to the public and become very rich. You would make millions."

"Millions, senor? Then what?" The American said slowly: "Then you would retire. Move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late, fish a little, play with your kids, take a siesta with your wife, stroll to the village in the evenings where you could sip wine and play your guitar with your amigos...". ❖

Resources

 <p>Book Name : Arthashastra Author: Kautilya</p> <p>Classic Book</p> <p>The Arthashastra is an ancient Indian treatise on statecraft, economic policy and military strategy. The Arthashastra describes political realism and the workings of the political world. It discusses the ethics of economics and the duties and obligations of a king. Also touching upon statecraft, the legal and bureaucratic framework for administering a kingdom, on issues of the collective ethics that hold a society together, maintenance of law and order and an efficient administrative machinery. Along with descriptive cultural details on topics such as mineralogy, mining and metals, agriculture, animal husbandry, medicine etc.. It is a good book for people who have a keen interest in history. ❖</p>	 <p>Book Name: Organic Agriculture for Sustainable Livelihoods Edited : Niels Halberg and Andrian Muller</p> <p>Latest Book</p> <p>The book gathers experiences from around the world, including case studies from Uganda, Brazil, Costa Rica and Sri Lanka. It gives a comparative analysis of the institutional frameworks of the world's major organic producers -Brazil and China, to support organic agriculture; an analysis of the potential for social movements in Latin America's agro-ecology movement to develop more sustainable farming systems; the research agenda for organic farming systems in sub-Saharan Africa. The volume targets readers in the research and development community, keen to explore these issues in depth. ❖</p>
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<p>LEAP: Nachaneri Village: http://aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/333-nachaneri-leap</p> <p>VCA: Tendu Leaves: http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/335-tendu-leaves-vca</p> <p>Subsector: Sugarcane: http://aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/331-subsectorsugar-cane</p> <p>E-book: Capital: http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/334-capital-volume-i</p> <p>V-book: Annapurna Crop Modal: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcSHpJ7To-k</p> <p>e-links</p>
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<p>Supplement 1: How to Form a Village Organization : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/338-supplementhow-to-form-a-village-organization-</p> <p>Supplement 2: Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/337-legend-kamaladevi</p> <p>Supplements</p>

<p>e-course; Capsule No - 6: Livelihoods Contexts and Continuums: http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/336-e-course-capsule-6-june-2014</p> <p>e-course</p>
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'Yoga'kshemam

Happy Environment Day!

Let the people cope with the changing climate!

Let people be more simple and natural!

Narendra Modi is now in charge of India.

Understanding Krishna's song from the lens of Krishna as a man is essential for taking steps towards transcending transition. These include -

- ♦ Tend to be a Stithapragna – sorrow does not fail his pulse and joy does not make his heart beat faster;
- ♦ Tend to move away from Desire, Fear and Anger in the mind
- ♦ Tend to be attached to things or persons – be attached to their qualities
- ♦ This is possible if we remain focused and meditate on the universe
- ♦ Realizing action is an essential part of existence, we need to get going without attachment to the results of these actions
- ♦ These actions should be intended for the benefit of the universe at large. Then the sin or the benefit would not bond us and we remain free.
- ♦ This universe has seen the time from ancient times to now and it would see the future for ages. Universe has taught us what is right and what is naturally right. Universe is there always, era after era, technology after technology, and it finds ways to purge elements that are not useful to the universe. The universe waits but acts surely.
- ♦ Ways to merge in Universe are many and all of them lead to the universe even if we do not realize. Universe is kind to accept all ways, always.
- ♦ Becoming free from all bondages except the impending merger in universe is the bliss. This state of mind takes us to remain one with the universe now itself rather than in the 'end'.
- ♦ Pleasures that arise from attachment are transitory and they are sources of pain. The way

out is to get out of these attachments with a beginning and an end.

- ♦ This would mean we continue to do what we are supposed to do, as dictated by the universe in its myriad ways.
- ♦ Therefore, renunciation is renunciation of desire for benefits for self. And whatever desire we have for the benefit for the universe, universe would guide us to realize it.
- ♦ Universe is everything. Every micro-cosm is a miniature replica of an element of the universe. All that is part of the universe is the universe itself.
- ♦ Universe is the creator, sustainer and destroyer. It is Omnipresent. Omniscient. All powerful. Universe never sleeps and never less alert.
- ♦ Therefore, love the universe. Love the life. Love the nature. Love the beauty. Love the elements of the universe. We will surely become one with the universe. The true bliss, eternal joy, is there for us.

G Muralidhar

As many co-travelers, particularly who are making a difference or on the verge of making a difference, to the universe, join in this journey of transition, the transition would take us around, to see the world together, listen to the people and communities, the symphony of action for the universe picks up momentum. We move from transition to transformation on a universal scale.

Now is the time. This is the bliss! This is munimaanasaviswam_

Can we be there? **Yes, if we pursue Atma Yoga.** If we flow with the transition! If we co-travel with the 'within'! If we go the ways of silent nature! Of the inner nature! If we can allow 'within' to take charge fully! This lets us lost 'within' and therefore in the universe! Krishna confirms – if we go the way of the universe and the universe takes us in.

Join us in the world of yoga – for going the way of the universe – towards amalasaahajamaanasayogasiddhi. You will not regret it. ❖



livelihoods
Risky and Resilient