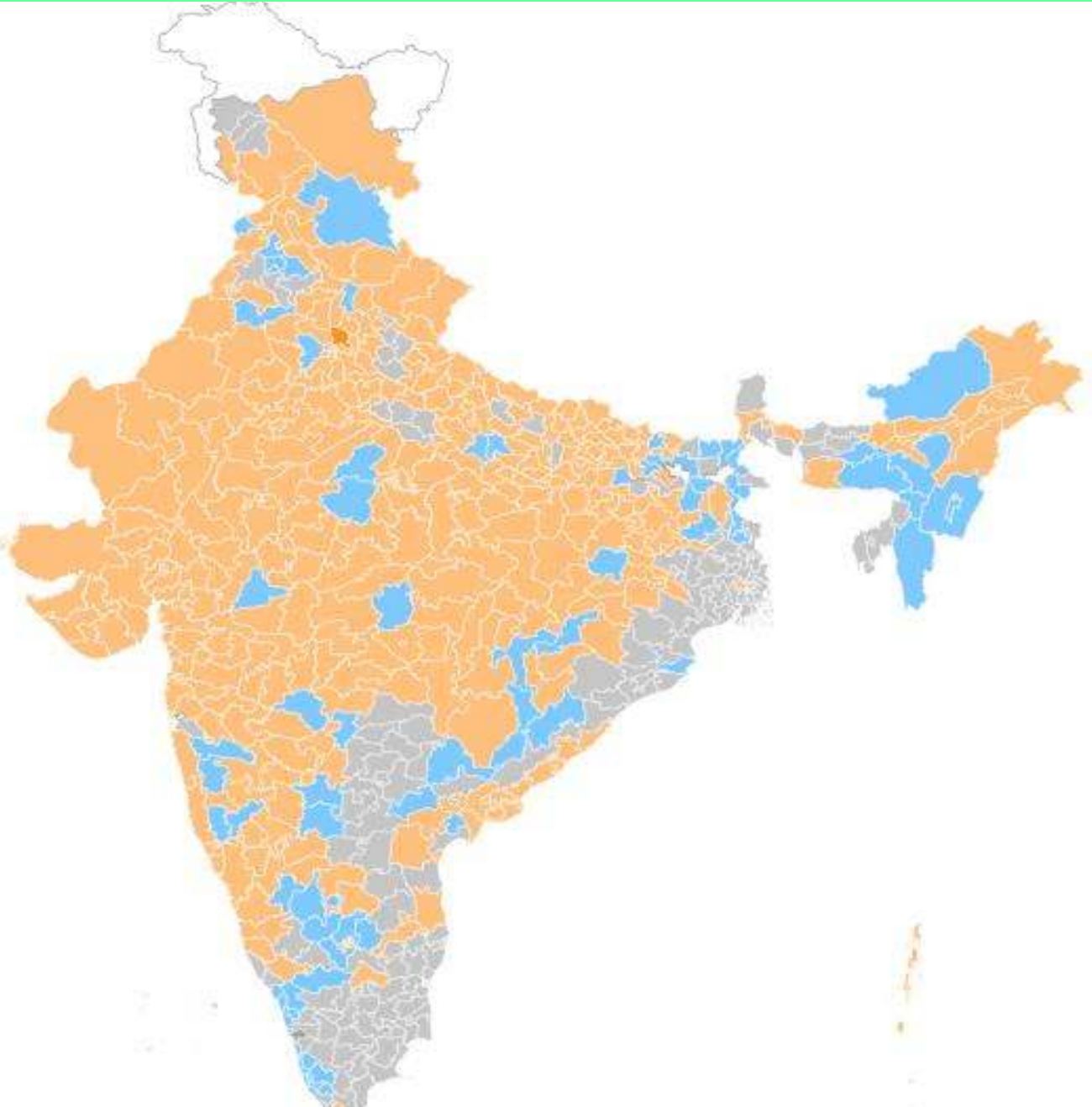


livelihoods

today and tomorrow

May 2014

New Government



Happy May Day!

Happy Budha Purnima!

AP is bifurcated into Telangana and Andhra Pradesh!

9-phase General Elections are over. NDA Cabinet led by Narendra Modi has been sworn in.

Elections are over. Democracy danced with increased voter turnout. Voters gave NDA, BJP and Narendra Modi absolute majority. Cabinet has been sworn in. 10 priority areas have been announced. 100-day action plan(s) are being developed. It is expected that NDA pools up the promises in their partner party manifestos and develop a common minimum programme. The budget would be presented shortly. In this context, 'livelihoods' has explored 'New Government'.

Do not miss reading Karl Marx's classic - 'The Capital'. Read about Kongunadu in 'Kshetram' and Onge Tribe in 'Sukshetram'.

'Legend' introduces 'Sunderlal Bahuguna'. 'How to' supplement discusses 'How to write SHG's Books?' Usual e-links introduce a video (Livelihoods Interventions and Promotion), book (Les Miserables), LEAP (Shyamsundar Village), and value-chain/subsector (Amla/Coconut).

Daily notes for the month are presented as part of the e-livelihoods learning course. This month, it is capsule 5: Enterprises.

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

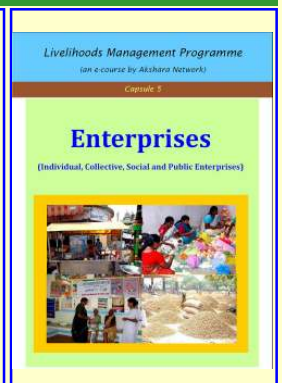
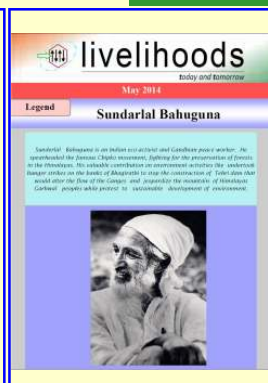
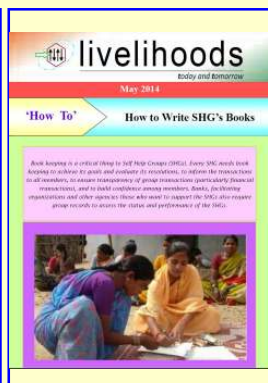
the 'livelihoods' team

The world population of goats is 674 millions, of which 94% are found in the developing countries. Africa and Asia account for about 81% of the total population in the developing countries. The largest populations are found in Asia, notably in India, Pakistan and China. (Source: <http://www.ilri.org/InfoServ/Webpub/fulldocs/Outlk2840/Goats.htm>)



In research study preparing proper tools are vital to get appropriate information from the field.

Latest
'livelihoods'
Supplements
e-course



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VCA Amla

Sub-sector Coconut

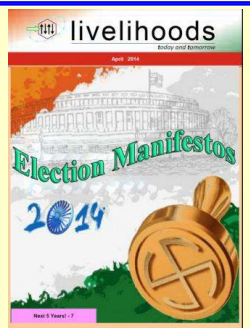
e-book Les Miserables

v-book Livelihoods Intervention and Promotion

e- course Capsule: 5 Enterprises

Supplement; How to do How to Write SHG's Books

Supplement: Legend Sundarlal Bahuguna



'livelihoods' April 2014 received. It's very informative and good.

Shivalkar Reddy, UNICEF India.

'livelihoods' April 2014 received. The information you are providing is invaluable. Really you are contributing well to the cause.

Satish, MEPMA Hyderabad.



Can government provides justice to the displaced tribal people?

News

AP Governor Approves Fund to meet 4-Month Expenditure:

Andhra Pradesh Governor ESL Narasimhan on 18 May approved ₹61,111 crore to meet the four-month expenditure of Telangana and Seemandhra or residual Andhra Pradesh. The approved budget will be applicable till 1 October 2014. The Governor also approved a policy to continue with the existing common admission procedure in education for the next 10 years. As per the approved fund, Seemandhra or residual Andhra Pradesh has been allotted ₹34,595 crore, which includes ₹28,626 crore of revenue budget and ₹3,882 crore of capital budgets.

Krishi Parivartan Yatra: Agro-Tech and Business Opportunity for Farmers:

The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) kick started Krishi Parivartan Yatra, hosting the first of five agro-tech and business opportunities expos scheduled to take place in five cities in India. Krishi Parivartan Yatra or a journey of agricultural transformation takes 50 farmers and entrepreneurs, who are beneficiaries of the World Bank-funded National Agriculture Innovation Project (NAIP) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). ❖

'Agriculture Ministry to Launch Two Schemes':

Union Agriculture Minister said his ministry would propose two national schemes. He said that Pradhan Mantri Gram Sinchai Yojana would be introduced so that more agricultural land is irrigated. Talking about the plight of small and marginal farmers he said that most of them were leaving the agricultural practice because of the uncertainty over the produce and returns. "We shall try to introduce Krishi Amdani Beema Yojana so that the farmers don't bear any financial burden if their produce gets destroyed due to unexpected weather or for any other reason .

20.5 million in state will live in slums by 2017: HDI report:

The increasing urbanisation of poverty, that is a decrease in the number of rural poor accompanied by an increase in number of urban poor, would lead to 20.5 million people living in slums in Maharashtra by 2017. The recently released 2011 Maharashtra Human Development Index (HDI) report points out that the slum population of the state would account for a fifth of the country's total projected slum population. ❖



Fishing in Somalia Supports Livelihoods, Not Sustainability:

Somalia's fish market — which offers many of the 400 species of the country's fish — is growing rapidly, a CCTV Africa report said. Individual and groups of fishermen have taken on the task of contributing to what fish vendors provide by taking on greater risks. With nearly 50 percent of the nation unemployed, many are using resources they have to make fishing the foundation of their livelihoods.

IHT Receives Japanese Grant To Help Rebuild Livelihoods Of Artisans:

The World Bank (WB), as administrator of grants provided by the Japanese government under the Japan Social Development Fund, has signed a grant agreement of \$2.8 million with the Indus Heritage Trust (IHT). ❖

Pragathi Mahila Podupu Sangam

There are two Mahila Podupu Sangams in Thimmareddypally village, Kondapaka Mandal, Medak District, formed under Samatha Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies, which has been registered in the MACS Act, 1998. The two Sangams are namely Kranti and Pragathi Mahila Podupu Sangamulu. A Non-Governmental organization called ASSMA is maintaining these groups.

Pragathi Mahila Podipu Sangam: It was formed in 2001. It has 302 members, of them:

182 members save Rs.30; 90 members save Rs.50;

30 members save Rs.100, per month.

All members belong to the OC and BC communities. It has a corpus fund of Rs.5,00,000. All members pay their installment amounts on the 7th of every month to the MACS supervisors. Nagalaxmi is the leader.

MACS provide an interest of Rs.1, on their savings amount. Members can take a loan of up to Rs.40,000 for an interest of Rs.1.50.

These groups conduct meeting on the 22nd of every month, at a different venue each time. If a member wants a loan of Rs.5000, the groups provide loan during a meeting.

But if a member wants more than Rs.5000, then they have to apply for the loan to

SAMATA MACS on the 22nd of every month. A decision whether to sanction the loan, is decided in the MACS board meeting. Board members meet every month and provide loans to needy members, priority wise. They observe the payments, defaults, attendance in meetings etc, of members before giving the loan.

Members take loans for agricultural investment, shops, hotel maintenance, dairy maintenance, construction of house, education, marriages etc. MACS will provide a second loan, in a gap of one month, if a member has repaid the previous loan amount.

Members elect leaders for two years. The person who gets a majority of member's support, will be elected as the group leader.

In this village, members of MACS also take membership in SHGs. They take loans from both MACS and SHGs. Every month, new members join these groups.

Other activities by the organization:

These groups members participate in ASSMA activities in this village -Orientation on health, education, sanitation, nutrition, NPM methods, organic farming and water projects. Members benefit by these projects and also get financial help from these groups. ❖

Scheme

Facility

Amma Hastham

Anganwadi Centers

The Andhra Pradesh government launched the "Amma Hastham" scheme in April 2013, to supply a basket of nine essential commodities to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in the state. Under this scheme, every BPL family will be supplied with one packet for every month, containing: 1 kg - Red gram; 1kg -Palmolein oil; 1 kg -Wheat; 1 kg -Wheat powder; 1 packet -Iodized salt; 500gr -Sugar; 500gr -Tamarind; 250gr -Chilli powder; 100gr -Turmeric powder. The packet is sold for Rs.185. This Scheme is implemented through the PDS centres.

This scheme was started in Thimmareddypally, Kondapaka Mandal, Medak District, Telangana. There are 428 white cards, 54 anthyodaya cards and two annapurna cards.

Initially, when the scheme was launched, most card holders in Thimmareddypally village, most of the people bought the "Amma Hastham" packets, but now only 50% of the people are preferring them, due to the low quality of the commodities.

Venkatavva has been maintaining the PDS centre for 15 years. The PDS centre provides items in the first week of every month. If people do not come and collect provisions within that week, then there wouldn't be any stock available, as the Shop owners have to give a Demand Draft (DD) to the MRO on the 16th of every month. After 16th they have to give the DD to RDO to get ration. ❖

There are two Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) in Thimmareddypally village. The first centre has been working since the starting of the programme onwards, while the second centre was established in 2008. The first centre runs in a rented building and the second centre is run in the school building. A teacher and an aaya work in each centre. AWCs are open from 9am to 4pm normally and from 9am to 12:30pm in summer season.

Daily, about 39 children (22 boys and 17 girls) attend the Anganwadi centres. 27 pregnant women, 13 lactating women and 88 adolescent girls are benefitting from these centres. AWC provides different type of nutritious food and supplements to children, pregnant and lactating women- Pregnant and lactating women are given 3kg rice, 1kg dal, 5litres oil and 16 eggs, per month. Children between the age of 7months to three years are provided with 8 eggs and 2.5kg balamrutham packets, every month. Children between 3 to 6years of age (free school children) are given eggs twice a week, rice, curry, dal, and snacks. Earlier, they even provided khichdi to children. Adolescent girls are provided with iron folic tablets. Immunization is conducted on the first Wednesday of every month, in the first centre and the third Wednesday in the second centre.

AWCs conduct mothers' committee meetings, twice a month, to discuss with mothers, on issues like child health, children's learning, malnutrition, colostrums feeding etc. ❖

Kongunadu

Kongunadu is in the western part of Tamilnadu. It is known as the "**Home of Tamilians**". The history of Kongunadu dates back to the 8th century A.D. The official language of Kongunadu is Tamil.



The name Kongunadu originated from the term "**Kongu**", meaning nectar or honey. Kongu came to be called as Kongunadu with the growth of civilization.

Its geographical boundaries are Karnataka on the North, and Kerala on the south. The ancient Kongunadu had 10 districts and was spread across 377sq.km. Which are currently known as Palani, Dharapuram, Karur, Nammakkal, Thiruchengodu, Erode, Salem, Dharmapuri, Satyamangalam, Nilgiris, Avinashi, Coimbatore, Pollachi and Udumalpet.

Kongunadu was blessed with enormous wealth, a pleasant climate and distinct features. It has a literacy rate of 62% and 65% of industrial and allied livelihoods. Also, tourism and allied sectors are highly developed in Udakamandalam. Coimbatore is one of the major gold jewellery manufacturing hubs in India, renowned for making cast-jewellery and machine-made jewellery. It is also a major diamond cutting centre in South India. Agriculture and Textiles contribute majorly to the economy. Kongunadu is one of the major producers of Apparel textiles, milk, poultry, paper, auto parts, sugarcane, rice, turmeric, white silk, coconut, plantation, water pumps, wet grinders, aluminum and steel. The major industry of textile, provides employment opportunities to lakhs of people.

The main trade centre of Kongunadu is in Coimbatore. It is called as the "**Manchester of South India**", and the "**Queen**" of hill stations. Gems (jewel) industry and agriculture and allied sectors are highly developed here. It gives employment and entrepreneurship opportunities to lakhs of people.

The major rivers are Bhavani, Noyyal, Amaravathi, Sarabhanga. All of which are tributaries of Kaveri. It flows south-east, across the central plateau. The river banks like Coimbatore, Selam, Dharmapuri etc, are highly developed.

The rich and fertile black alluvial soil, deciduous forest system, cyclonic rain fall and tropical climate are excellent conditions for the growth of millet, paddy, cotton, tea, oil seeds and tobacco. There is a high female employment rate in the tea industry.

This region is 3000 feet above sea level. Hence, it has many famous hill stations like Udakamandalam (Ooty), Nilagiris, etc. Tourism and allied sectors give employment to local people. There have been numerous claims that Kongunadu region has often been ignored by successive governments, in spite of being the largest contributor to the state's economy. ❖

Onge Tribes

The Onge are a nomadic tribe, living in groups or bands in several parts of Little Andaman Island in Andaman Island, since 1976. They may be considered as only one of their kind in the



present world of Negritos, in terms of their body appearance and are designated as schedule tribes in India. They call themselves "Eniregale" which means 'absolute man'. There are only 96 members of the Onge tribe, who live in two reserve camps on Little Andaman - Dugong Creek and South Bay. The byres (Onge huts) were constructed both near the coast and in the interior of the Island. The main livelihoods of Onges are - hunting and fishing.

The Onges are not aware on Agriculture. They have picked up the art of livelihoods by extracting forest resources like hunting and gathering, extraction of honey, digging of roots and tubers, cane and resin collection and gathering fruits. They mostly eat natural foods, in which the Island is abundant. They are very fond of jackfruit, yam, pandanus etc. They catch pilchards, mollusks, crustaceans, lobsters, crayfish and crabs, some kind of hermit crab, cicada etc. It is noteworthy that in the indigenous diet of the Onge menu - birds, crocodiles, lizards, jungle cats, bats, rats and snakes are not included, as they believe that they harbor the spirit of dead.

They speak the Onge language. It is one of the two known Ongan languages (South Andamanese languages). Since the middle of the 19 century, because of the massive inflow of Indian settlers from the mainland, the number of Onge speakers has steadily declined. Currently, there are only 94 native speakers of Onge.

The making of canoe is an important event in an Onge life, so they put a lot of effort and attention to make it. They used to make a trip with their canoes for their fishing and hunting. When the canoe first goes out to the sea, the Onges pray to the benevolent spirits, to save their canoes from any storm or mishap.

Onges give a lot of importance to rituals, which are performed on occasions like - pregnancy, birth, tanagiru, girl's puberty and marriage. In the Onge marriage ritual, being able to hunt wild boars is essential, men cannot marry until they have killed a wild boar.

Onges population has been declining for decades. At present, they totally number 96. A major cause of the decline in Onge population is the change in their food habits, brought about by their contact with the outside world. Their traditional beliefs are also one of the reasons for the low birth rate of the Onge.

Onges seemed contented, as they were now living in huts, entirely made by them, which were similar to the traditional old huts, they once lived in. ❖

100-days of Hope!

Happy May Day! Happy Budha Purnima! Let us remember Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore and his Gitanjali, Rabindra Sangeet and Santiniketan/Viswabharathi!

Bifurcation (Telangana and AP) is almost there. Appointed Day – 2 June 2014 – is approaching fast. The CMs in waiting (KCR and Chandrababu) are getting ready to get sworn in.

Nine-phase General Elections end. BJP-led National Democratic Alliance gets absolute majority and more partners to follow suit to work with them. Narendra Modi and his cabinet takes charge, with a tag line 'minimum government and maximum governance' with articulated commitment to the poor, youth and women. 10 priority areas have been set. We have to wait for their budget in July to understand their stance in actuality.

Meanwhile, 100-day action plans are emerging. From the Poor and Livelihoods lens, the elements in this 100-day action plans should include:

- ◆ Commission mid-term review of 12th Plan and planning the 13th Plan
- ◆ Re-organize the Ministries for higher organic integration, particularly in development, poverty reduction, employment and enterprise areas
- ◆ Commission State Reorganization for more smaller states, districts, blocks, panchayats
- ◆ **Present Pro-poor Budget**
- ◆ Confirm Decentralization – Funds to States and Villages as Consolidated Funds
- ◆ Seek Village, Block and District Plans for financial assistance
- ◆ **Position Poverty Reduction Agents/Fellows in each village, block, district and state**
- ◆ **Set up Mechanisms to build and announce Vision 2024 for India, States, Districts, Blocks and Villages in a year**
- ◆ Establish Ministry for Integrated Skills for Jobs and Enterprises and National Skills Mission
- ◆ Establish Coordination Mechanism for Tribal-Rural-Urban Development Continuum
- ◆ Establish Joint Management of NRLM and NULM

◆ Establish a Mechanism for Convergence between Employment Guarantee and Livelihoods Mission at various levels

Bring Self-help Act

◆ **Announce Special Packages for NE and Hill States, Targeted Extremely Vulnerable Communities and Remote Areas**

Start People's Channel(s)

◆ Create an integrated Ministry for Natural Resource Management, Conservation and Augmentation

◆ Announce Minimum Support Prices for all natural produce and traditional/artisanal produce/services

◆ Commit 3% of GDP on Human Development

◆ Announce National Proactive Disclosure Protocols for all public agencies and services

◆ Announce Ashram Residential Schools in each Block for Boys and Girls for merit students

◆ Announce Universal Social Security – Rs.2000 pension to all elders, disabled and

widows

◆ Announce Vocational Education in all Schools

◆ Announce e-connectivity and Broadband in all villages

◆ Announce Indian Development Services Cadre

◆ Announce IIT, NIT, IIM, IRMA, AIIMS etc., in each state

◆ Announce Income Tax Reform - No income tax up to Rs.1 Million or Expenditure Tax

◆ Announce Proactive Issue of Identity Cards to Citizens including PAN, EPIC, Passport, Ration card etc.

◆ Commit Annual/Half-yearly Progress Reports to Public at various levels

The states from the bifurcated Andhra Pradesh need leadership, vision, strategic planning and dedicated high end teams at various levels. The governments would articulate the vision and five year plan shortly and they may also announce their 100-day action plans. These would include recognizing and helping martyrs of struggles.

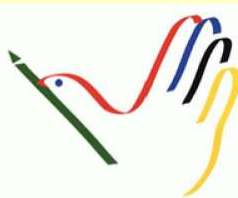
Hope 100-days of hope lays the foundation for Prosperous Inclusive India, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh! ❖

Perspectives

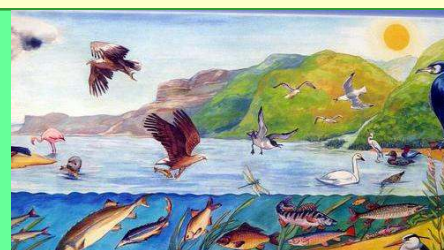
G Muralidhar



May-1: International Workers Day



World Press Freedom Day



May-22: International Day for Biological Diversity

Education is Important

To Serve The Poor

What is your name and how old are you?

My name is Balaguduvula Peddi Raju. I am 45 years old.

What are your educational qualifications?

I never had any interest to go to school in my childhood. Now, I realize that education is very important for living in society.

What is your native place?

My native place is Balepalli Village near Bheemavaram in East Godavari District. But for the past fifteen years, we have been staying at New Nallakunta In Hyderabad.

Why you move to Hyderabad?

I belong to the washer man community, so I washed cloths for a living at my village. My earnings were not sufficient to manage my family with two children's expenditure. Hence, I had to migrate to Hyderabad.

What is your family background?

I have a son and a daughter. Both of them are married. Currently, my wife and I are staying in Hyderabad. My parents continue to live in my home village.

Where do you work? How much do you earn?

I currently work as a watchman in the four-floor apartment at New Nallakunta. My responsibilities include watching visitors and helping households based on their needs. I also have an ironing table near the building. My day starts early in the morning and ends around midnight when the last tenant enter the building. On many days, my hours of duty are erratic. The building owner has a dog for security, and I take care of it as well. I earn Rs. 3000 per month doing this job.

Are you doing any part-time work?

Yes, near the building, I iron clothes with my wife's support. I earn 150/- to 200/- per day from this job.

What problems do you face in daily life?

Due to lack of sleep, I suffer from frequent headaches and indigestion problems.

Do you receive benefits from government schemes?

Yes, I receive benefits from my ration card, from which I get a monthly ration from the government fair shop. I also have a gas connection under the Deepam Scheme.

What are your plans for the future?

I hope to build a house for my daughter some day. I also wish to own an iron shop in my own house and pass my time there for the remainder of my life. ❖



What is your name and how old are you?

My name is Kalyani. I am 25 years old. I completed M.Sc. in Nutritional Science from Osmania University.

Tell us about your family.

My village's name is Gurrampodu, and it is near Nagarjuna Sagar in Nalgonda District. My family consists of three members: my husband, (a civil engineer), three-year old daughter, and me.

What is your current occupation?

I work as a Food Nutrition Counselor & Diabetician in District Government Hospital in Nalgonda. I have been working in the government hospital since July 2012. This program has been implementing under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for 9 years.

Can you tell us a little more about the program?

This program's aim is reduce the child mortality rate. Apart from that, the Government of India operates the **Akshaya Nutritional Rehabilitation Centre** for children. Children who suffer from mal-nutritional deficiency and sickness are supervised and treated by experienced doctors. The program follows WHO's norms of children's ideal height and weight. We also provide nutritional food, certain medicines, and immunization shots under the program. This program covers only those between the ages of two months and five years.

Can you describe elaborate on your aforementioned food products?

Yes, I was talking about various food formulas when I mentioned F75 and F100. Each food item covers milk powder, groundnuts, coconut oil, and a certain amount of sugar. These ingredients are added in different proportions in each product line, which is why they are called food formula items.

How long does the program last?

The program lasts for 60 days. During the first 15 days, we take care of malnutrition patients between the ages of two months and five years at the hospital. During this time, we provide compensation for respected relatives of the mother a daily wage of Rs. 150. Within 15 days, we provide food formulas throughout the day from 8AM to 8PM. We cover this program in a diet chart. We record the height and weight every day after for 15 days, and discharge the child if he/she is in a healthy condition. We repeat this step up to four times, covering a span of 60 days.

What problems do you face?

I don't have any problems in this job. I feel humbled to serve poor people in need. Eradication of nutritional problems in children is a high priority for me. My only real issue is that I aspire to move up the ladder and earn a higher salary than what I currently get. I am a proponent of bringing these kinds of programs to the village level and utilize this scheme to the best possible extent. ❖

Lack of Education Lost Opportunities

Never Happened in My Life

Can you tell us about yourself?

My name is M. Mahesh. I am 26 years old. My native village is Revana Pally in Pocham Pally Mandal, Nalgonda District. I completed my Intermediate studies.



What is your family background?

There are four people in my nuclear family my wife, son, daughter, and me. My wife is primarily a housewife who sometimes performs agricultural activities to increase family income, since my vulnerability limits my ability to earn.

What is your current occupation?

I maintain a kirana shop, which offers goods and services such as mobile recharging and fuel (both diesel and petrol). I earn Rs 5000 per month. I want to further develop of my business, but I'm unable to do due to my physical limitations. Since my left leg is affected by polio, I have been unable to optimize my business operations. I have been maintaining this shop for the past eight years.

Does anyone else in your family suffer from such an ailment?

No, only I have this kind of problem and I have been suffering with it since I was born. This disease was not passed down to my children.

How do you manage to sustain yourself financially?

I have two acres of land under the tank water in Pochampally, from which I earn income through agricultural activities. I generally earn Rs. 20000 per a crop on paddy in any given year. Unfortunately, most of my crops this year were infected by block spot disease that spread rapidly throughout the field. I recently took the suggestion of a private pesticide shop owner to apply pesticides using a certain technique. I am waiting to assess the efficacy of this solution soon. Apart from that, my parents and brother also support my livelihood and provide financial support.

Are you entitled to any government schemes?

Yes, I receive benefits from government. I get ration and receive a disabled person's pension of Rs. 500 every month. I am also the President of Disabled Self Help Group.

What do you want from the government?

I would like the government to provide organized and stable livelihoods for disabled people such as me. Also, to cope with rapidly increasing prices, I would like the disabled person's pension to increase to Rs. 1000.

What are your plans for the future?

I want to develop my business and provide good education to my children. I lost many opportunities in my life due to lack of education. While my friends settled down with good jobs in Hyderabad, I haven't been able to reach my highest potential. Hence, I would like to have my children lead a better life than me. ❖

Can you tell us about yourself?

My name is Kuchi Satyavathi. I am 55 years old. I have studied up to 7th class. I am currently live at New Nallakunta in Hyderabad. I am single. I live with my brother.



Share us your life?

I have been suffering from paralyses since my birth. The right side of my body (including my right leg, right hand, and right eye) does not function normally. During my twenties, I lost my teeth as well, so my voice is not very clear. I fall down suddenly and frequently because of nerves' weakness. There have been several instances of me losing my motor skills outside my home. When I struggle to survive in this condition, who would marry me? When I was in my twenties, my mother tried to arrange a marriage for me. However it never succeeded due to my health condition.

Tell us about your job?

I have been working for a local business office for the past three years as an office assistant. It's located close to my house. My work in the office includes answering calls, noting down names and phone numbers of customers, keeping records of visitors, and passing on the messages to my boss, and helping his wife from time to time in the kitchen. I earn Rs.1000 per month doing this job. My current office timings are 8:30AM to 6.00PM. Before joining this job, I worked at a day care center near my home.

What are the problems you face ?

I am regularly discriminated both by my family members as well as my society (colleagues, neighbors, etc). My family members, such as my sister-in-laws, do not like to stay with me. Therefore, I've been distanced from my brothers. I am living with one of my brothers who also did not get married. Furthermore, due to my physical appearance, my colleagues and others mock me and laugh at me. I like family relations and children, but I am unlucky to have never experienced them.

Do your brother take care of you?

My brother (with whom I am leaving) works at a private company. He is very patient with me, and he helps me when I am not well. I also occasionally visit my other brothers' homes. I accept whatever they offer, but do not demand anything.

Are you benefitted from any government schemes?

Yes, I have been taking a pension of Rs.500 per month from the government.

What are your plans for the future?

I have no plans at all. I'm being forced to rely on my individuality, so I'll always strive to find work and keep myself busy throughout my life. ❖

New Government

In the 16th Lok Sabha elections, people of India have given a full majority to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). These elections saw 66.38% of people voting; which is the highest voting percentage in the country after independence. People especially elected Narendra Damodaradas Modi (Narendra Modi), with the hope for a better tomorrow. For the first time in three decades, BJP has emerged as the single largest ruling party in India. In this context, 'livelihoods' analyzed election results and the new Government plans.



In the 16th Lok Sabha elections, people of India have given a full majority to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). These elections saw 66.38% of people voting; which is the highest voting percentage in the country after independence. People especially elected Narendra Modi, with the hope for a better tomorrow. For the first time in three decades, BJP has emerged as the single largest ruling party, won 282 Member of Parliament (MP) seats. If we include National Democratic Alliance (NDA) parties seats it comes to 336 MPs which is led by BJP. People's verdict reflects against increasing prices, corruption, unemployment and growth stagnation. They desire for a more effective and better governance. People have said a clear 'No' to coalition governments, by giving a clear majority to a single party, aspiring to see development in their livelihoods and lives.

In the elections, a total of 1687 political parties and 8251 candidates, including independent candidates contested for 543 MP constituencies. 54.1 crore voters cast their votes out of the total 81.45 crore eligible voters. This time around, voting percentage has increased across the



country including rural and urban areas. Women voters' percentage also increased from 55% to 65% and in 16 states and UTs the percentage of women voters is higher than men. In the 2009 Lok Sabha elections, the voter turnout was 58.19%. About 10 crore new voters participated in the 2014 elections.

The 16th Lok Sabha election results proved most of the agencies' election predictions. These elections became the costliest elections so far, with an expenditure of Rs.3426 crore, which is incurred by the central

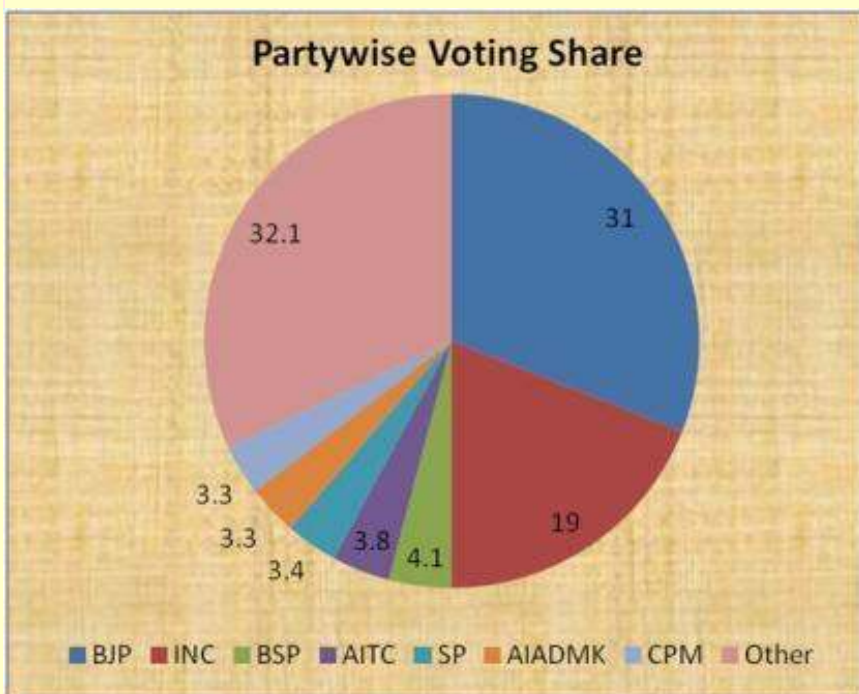
Phase	Date	States (With voting turnout percentage)
1	7 April	Assam (75%) and Tripura (84%),
2	9 & 11 April	Nagaland (82.5%), Arunachal Pradesh (71%), Meghalaya (66%), Manipur (70%) and Mizoram (60%)
3	10 April	Kerala (76%), Delhi (64%), Madhya Pradesh (55.98%), Maharashtra (54.13%), Uttar Pradesh (65%) and Jammu (66.29%),
4	12 April	Goa (75%), Assam (75%), Tripura (81.8%) and Sikkim (80.97%),
5	17 April	Uttar Pradesh (62%), West Bengal (80%), Odisha (70%), Jammu & Kashmir (69%), Madhya Pradesh (54%), Jharkhand (62%), Manipur(74%),Maharashtra (61.7%),Karnataka (65%),Chhattisgarh (63.44%), Rajasthan and (63.25%),Bihar (56%)
6	24 April	Tamil Nadu (73%),West Bengal (82%),Maharashtra (60%), Madhya Pradesh (64%), Uttar Pradesh (60%),Chhattisgarh (66%), Assam(70%),Bihar(60%),Jharkhand (63.4%),Rajasthan(60%), Pundhucherry (82%), Jammu & Kashmir (28%),
7	30 April	Punjab (72%), Gujarat (62%), West Bengal (81%), Uttar Pradesh (57%), Bihar (60%), Jammu & Kashmir (26%) and Telangana - New state (72%),
8	7 May	Andhra Pradesh (76%), West Bengal (81%), Himachal Pradesh (66%),Uttarakhand (62%) Jammu & Kashmir (49.9%), Bihar (58%) and Uttar Pradesh (55.5%)
9	12 May	Bihar (58%), Uttar Pradesh (55.3%), West Bengal (80%),

Achieved MP Seats Details							
Party	Seats	Party	Seats	Party	Seats	Party	Seats
BJP	282	CPM	9	AIUDF	3	CPI	1
INC	44	YSRCP	9	RLSP	3	PMK	1
ADMK	37	NCP	6	JD(U)	2	RSP	1
AITC	34	LJP	6	JD(S)	2	SWP	1
BJD	20	SP	5	INLD	2	NPF	1
SHS	18	AAP	4	JMM	2	AINRC	1
TDP	16	RJD	4	IUML	2	IND	3
TRS	11	SAD	4	AD	2	Others	7
Total Number of MP Seats: 543							

government. Expenditure on the account of Law and order was incurred by the state governments and nearly Rs. 50000 crore by the political parties and contested candidates.

The elections were conducted in nine phases from 7th April to 12th May 2014. It is the longest election period in the country's history. In almost all the states and Union Territories (UTs), voting percentages increased by perceptible numbers. Tripura had the highest voting percentage (84%), while the lowest voting percentage was in Jammu & Kashmir (26%).

In the elections, political parties released their manifestoes, but it was not discussed much in the election propogandas. Major parties designed precise slogans which played a significant role in the elections. Narendra Modi focused on development, stability, good governance, employment opportunities and corruption free society. Rahul Gandhi tried to project the performance of his government and promised more development and peoples' participation in governance, which was not enough to convince the people to vote for Congress. During the election campaigns, some important issues such as rising prices, corruption, unemployment, economy, security, infrastructure, stagnant policy making and inefficient bureaucracy played key roles.



The Media, particularly social media played an important role in the elections. Reportedly, one of the major parties who contested, spent Rs.5000 crore on advertisements in the media. Contested parties made propaganda through all national and regional level newspapers and electronic media. Particularly, the parties focused more on social media (such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Orkut, websites, blogs etc for election propoganda) as it provided a platform for people to interact with the political

parties by getting updates and giving feedback. Every third person in India has a mobile connection, so it became a big advertisement source for the contested parties. The parties used Short Message Service (SMS) and voice message as a tool for election propaganda. Narendra Modi's election campaign is the biggest election campaign in the Indian electoral history. He travelled three lakh Km and participated in 437 public meetings in 25 states and involved 1350 innovative 3D rallies.

The 16th Lok Sabha election is the world's largest election event. The Election Commission of India started preparatory works 18 months before the election schedule. Nearly, 9.3 lakh polling stations and 10.4 lakh electronic voting machines were setup for 543 MP constituencies and 6.80 lakh personnel involved in election works. Nearly eight lakh para military personnel were deployed across the country and 570 special trains and 50 helicopters were allotted for election work. About

Rs.313 crore cash and liquor worth Rs. 1000 crore was seized during the elections. For the first time, the Election Commission took a lot of initiatives like voter registration, encouraged voters for increased voting percentage and organized elections successfully.

In the elections, BJP got 39% of votes and Congress got 19% of the votes. Both parties achieved only half of the votes and remaining parties got 50% of the votes. The regional parties like Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), All India Trinamool Congress (AITC), Samajwadi Party (SP), All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), Communist Party of India (Marxist) and other parties scored recognizable votes in their states.

The voting share among the parties has not much difference. But there is a big difference in the number of MP seats achieved by the parties. BJP got nearly double percentage of votes than Congress, but in terms of seats it got 6 times more seats.

Important Ministries in Narendra Modi Cabinet:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi - Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Department of Atomic Energy Department of Space

Rajnath Singh - Home Affairs

Sushma Swaraj - External Affairs and Overseas Indian Affairs

Arun Jaitley - Finance, Defence and Corporate Affairs Ministry

Nitin Gadkari - Transport Ministry, Highways and Shipping

Smriti Irani - Human Resource Development

Venkaiah Naidu - Urban Development, Poverty Alleviation, Parliamentary Affairs

Maneka Gandhi - Ministry of Women and Child Welfare

DV Sadananda Gowda - Railways

Uma Bharti - Water Resources River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation

Najma A Heptullah - Minority Affairs

Gopinathrao Munde - Rural Development, Panchayati Raj Drinking Water and Sanitation Ramvilas Paswan - Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

Kalraj Mishra - Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Ananth Kumar - Chemicals and Fertilizers

Ravi Shankar Prasad - Communications and Information Technology, Law and Justice

Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati - Civil Aviation

Anant Geete - Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises

Harsimrat Kaur Badal - Food Processing Industries Narendra Singh Tomar - Mines, Steel, Labour and Employment

Jual Oram - Tribal Affairs

Radha Mohan Singh - Agriculture

Thaawar Chand Gehlot - Social Justice and Empowerment



In these elections, Non Of The Above (NOTA) option was introduced for the first time. Nearly 60 lakh voters utilized NOTA in the elections i.e about 1.1% in total votes. NOTA was utilized the most by the voters of Puducherry.

In the 16th Lok Sabha, 61 women MPs were elected, which is the highest number of woman MPs elected. But it is only 11% in total number of elected MPs in the country, even though Women's Reservation Bill assures 33% seats to women in all legislative bodies, it appears a distant dream for now. Also, on one side the number of young voters has been increasing for decades, but surprisingly the number of young elected MPs has been declining.

In the elections, 82% of the elected MPs have assets above one crore. The 16th Lok Sabha is the richest Parliament so far, compared to the 15th Lok Sabha or earlier ones. Current MPs have assets ranging from Rs. five lakh to Rs. 683 crore.

The new government has to combat various issues such as unavailability of universal quality health and

educational services, unemployment, price rise, corruption, lack of world-class infrastructure facilities, low growth rate (4.9%), high fiscal deficit and biases policy making in favor of some individuals. The biggest challenges for the government are to reduce commodity prices, providing job opportunities to 1 crore people per year, provide friendly environment to the investors, setup stable policy environment based on transparency and timely decision making and achieve economic growth.

In the 16th Lok Sabha election campaign, BJP a leading party of National Democratic Alliance (NDA), stated important election promises such as establishing Price Stabilization Fund (PSF), National Agriculture Market (NAM) to check price rise, e-Governance, policy-driven governance, simplification in tax regime and preventing corruption, encouragement to labour intensive manufacturing, development of agriculture, upgrading infrastructure, providing houses, providing self-employment opportunities and creation of jobs, developing satellite technology, setting up National Optical-Fibre Network up to the village level and high

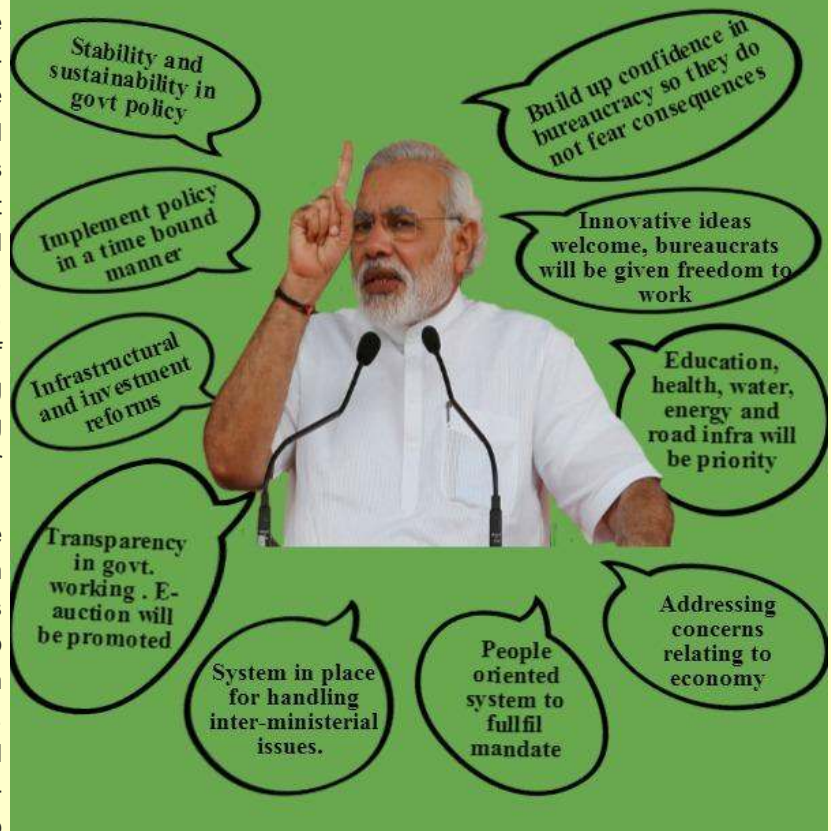
speed train network.

Inflation is a major problem of the people. BJP's Price Stabilization Fund may play a crucial role in controlling inflation. It is essential to control rising prices in informal sector to reduce inflation. It rightly designed some proposals such as forming a committee headed by the Prime Minister, banning future trading of essential commodities and setting-up the Price Stabilization Fund. But these measures may not be enough to control inflation. It requires some more measures such as reforming Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC), gathering and disseminating knowledge about production, stock and pricing of agriculture commodities, improvement in yield and productivity of vegetables, fruits and animals and reducing wastage by providing storage and processing facilities of agriculture products etc., for controlling inflation.

Infrastructure development is the one of the major promises of the BJP. Modi is keen on development of national highways, railways and tourism. His emphasis is on setting-up high speed bullet trains like the ones in Japan and China, which requires a lot of investment. In infrastructure development, BJP would implement Public Private Partnership (PPP-3Ps) and People Public Private Partnership (PPPP-4Ps) model. In urban development, it would follow a new approach by building twin cities and satellite towns. Up to a 100 of these type of cities would be setup all across the country.

Narendra Modi became the 15th Prime Minister of India. The swearing-in ceremony was organized in a big way. Nearly, 4000 participants including South Asian countries' heads, opposition parties' leaders, coalition parties' leaders and industrialists. Narendra Modi formed a small team, with just 24 Cabinet Ministers and 21 Ministers of State, based on his strategy of 'Minimum Government and Maximum Governance'. He is going to bring related Ministries under one Cabinet Minister. His aim is to build a smart government by reducing top layers of the government and expanding at grassroots level. He wants to bring the change in work culture and style of governance. He said that "Let us together dream of a strong, developed and inclusive India that actively

Modi's 10 point agenda for governance



engages with the global community to strengthen the cause of world peace and development."

The Corporate Affairs department has been brought under the Finance Ministry. In infrastructure, Road Transport and Highways and Shipping combined under one Cabinet Minister. In infrastructure, another important combination is bringing Power, Coal and New and Renewable Energy Ministries under one Ministry. Urban Development, Housing and Poverty Alleviation Ministries brought under one Ministry. In the same-way Rural Development, Panchayat Raj and Drinking Water and Sanitation Ministries combined under one Ministry.

The Finance Minister Arun Jaitley after taking charge has said that he is aware about the challenges before him regarding restoration of earlier pace of growth, controlling inflation and fiscal consolidation. He also intends to send signals to domestic and foreign investors by clearing policy barriers and tax notice obstacles. He

promised to control to price rise, restore confidence of investors in the market, promote the growth and control the fiscal deficit. The new government is reluctant in inviting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in retail sector. This policy is beneficial for the retail sector which provides livelihood to four crore people (3.3% of the population) and accounts 14%-15% in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the country.

In the new governance, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) will become crucial and play three important roles such as implementation, catalyzing and facilitating inter-ministerial issues and addressing concerns of the economy. Prime Minister guarantees stability in tenure for four to five years for competent officials. He also gave tremendous freedom to the officials to innovate and deliver and take personal ownership in all decisions. Immediately after taking charge, he focused on modern technology and developed systems and processes for effective monitoring and resolution of the issues on fast

track basis. He emphasized the need for resolving the people's grievances without delay. He cancelled all Groups of Ministers (GOMs) and Empowered Groups of Ministers on projects to prevent delay in taking decisions for implementation. He focused on efficient governance to plan and implement the schemes and programmes of the Government. He setup a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to bring back black money. Modi opinion is that decentralization and transparency should go together and are crucial for good governance.

The Prime Minister asked all Cabinet Ministers concerned to identify priority areas and fix the deadlines to meet the targets and insists to have plans in place for the next 100 days.

The new government has begun on a positive note on governance, relations with states and also with other countries to achieve development. A country full of hopeful people is waiting for the 'Achhe din' to dawn and is wishing the new government all the best. ❖

Where The Mind is...

Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high

Where knowledge is free

Where the world has not been broken up into fragments

By narrow domestic walls

Where words come out from the depth of truth

Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards
perfection

Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way

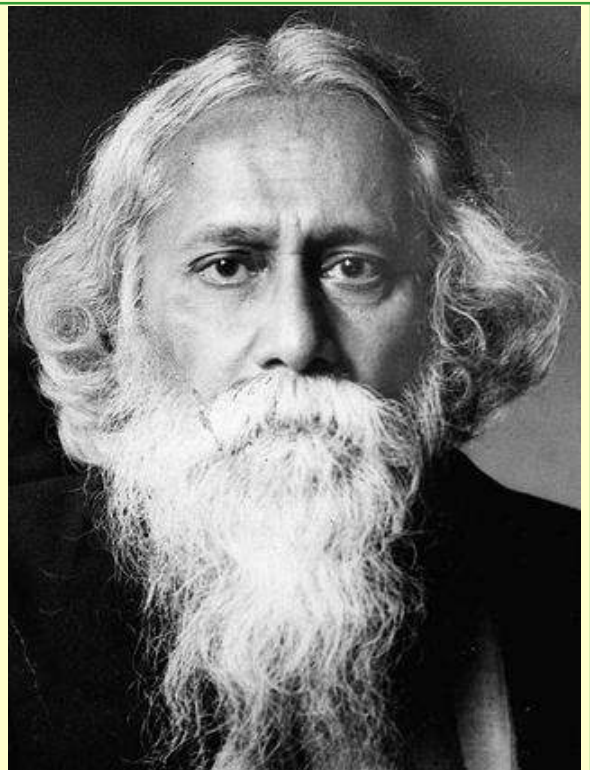
Into the dreary desert sand of dead habit

Where the mind is led forward by thee

Into ever-widening thought and action

Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country
awake

-Rabindranath Tagore



'Gurudev' **Rabindranath Tagore's (7 May 1861 – 7 August 1941) 153rd birth anniversary**

Community Led Paddy Seed Production in Odisha

Healthy seed is the mother of a healthy plant. It is one of the major components to predict the yield of the crop. In India, where the major cereal crop is paddy, availability of quality seed to the farmers in time is always a challenge and most of the time farmers end up by utilizing previous year's seed for cultivation. It was observed that the seed replacement rate (SRR) in case of Odisha is very low (14 %) and farmers are using old seed year by year, resulting in gradual decrease in yield and eventually income per unit of land.

To ensure the timely availability of quality seed to small and marginal farmers, Odisha Livelihoods Mission (OLM) has taken an initiative of community led seed production of paddy. At present, this programme is running in 6 blocks of three coastal districts of Odisha namely Puri, Jagatsinghpur and Kendrapada.

What is Community led Seed Production?

Selected farmers, especially small and marginal, tenant and sharecroppers from the same village, form an institution called Producers Group (PG). All the farmers with land adjacent to each other come together and form group for common activity i.e. seed production. PG members identify patches of land (minimum 10 acre of land in a patch) suitable for seed production. Selected farmers are provided technical training on seed production by expert agencies including agriculture department of government of Odisha. The entire training programme is facilitated by OLM. PG, in their meeting takes decision on selection of variety of seed suitable to their area and its economic viability. Starting from the selection of seed to all the activities involved in seed production like land preparation, nursery raising, transplanting, roughing (removal of unwanted crop from main crop), intercropping operations, harvesting, thrashing, processing and community marketing are decided by the PG members.

Benefits of community led seed production:

Quality seed is always a challenge for the farmers. There are direct and indirect benefits of the seed production to the farmers in this area. Some of them are as follows:

- ♦ As community is directly involved in seed production, they are ensuring quality of the seed to get maximum yield during next cultivation.
- ♦ Seed produced by the community is highly suitable to their climatic conditions, as they are producing varieties already proven viable to that area.
- ♦ After production seed is locally processed and packaged which costs relatively lower than the market prices.
- ♦ All the seeds processed and packaged are again

distributed among the villagers and nearby villages which reduce marketing cost also.

Role of Odisha Livelihood Mission:

OLM acts as a facilitator to the community members in seed production, by ensuring technical support and marketing link. OLM, with the help of its field functionaries, identify farmers interested in seed production and form their group. OLM provides training to the farmers on institutional strengthening, while it facilitates technical training on seed production by engaging technical agencies. OLM has a tie-up with various government agencies like Seed Corporation of India and Agriculture department at state level, for getting required inputs for seed production, seed certification and tagging and marketing of seed.

OLM ensures timely supply of foundation seed to the farmers. Agriculture department officials visit the farms and certify the seed production as per the Seed Certification Act.

Economic analysis:

Average yield of paddy, in this part of Odisha is 16-18 quintal per acre. Based on the sample collected, it was observed that the seeds produced by the farmers, yields 22-24 quintal per acre, which means direct benefit of Rs.5000-7000 per acre. PG members involved in seed production are getting a margin of Rs.6-7 per kg of seed processed, which leads to increase their income by Rs.15000-20000 per acre.

Impact of community seed production:

Although community seed production in paddy is just three years old in Odisha, its impact is quite visible. Seeds produced by the farmers, are giving more yield than the seed available in the market. If we go by the farmer's word, then they say this seed is more trustworthy than the govt. seed or the seed available in market.

Producers Group members, who are involved in the seed production from last two years, are now ready to take up the seed production of other crops also.

Coverage till now:

In the first year of seed production, OLM selected some 100 farmers and 100 acres of land, on pilot basis. In the second year, number of farmers reached 1000, while land covered is 650 acres. Now, in their third year of seed production, OLM is covering 2500 farmers and 1500 acres of land, across six blocks of 3 coastal districts.

Ultimately, community led seed production is not only ensuring quality and timely supply of seed to farmers, but also empowering rural poor by improving their yield and income from the same pieces of land. ❖ (Krishna Muraree)

Individual Enterprise



Selling Sugarcane Juice

Collective Enterprise



Milk Collection Center

Social Enterprise



Food Donation by Akshayapatra

Public Enterprise



Chilli Market

The Protection of Women Against Sexual Harassment at Work Places Bill, 2013

This Bill (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal), seeks to provide protection of women against sexual harassment at work place, in unorganized and organised sector. It was passed on 26th February 2013, in Rajya Sabha

The Bill provides for the constitution of an Internal Complaints Committee at the work place and a Local Complaints Committee, at the district and block levels. A District Officer (District Collector or Deputy Collector) is responsible for facilitating and monitoring the activities, under the Act.

The Bill makes it mandatory that all offices, hospitals, institutions and other workplaces should have an internal redress mechanism for complaints related to sexual harassment.

Salient features:

- ♦ The Bill defines sexual harassment at the work place and creates a mechanism for redressal of complaints. It also provides protection against false or malicious charges.
- ♦ Every employer is required to constitute an Internal Complaints Committee at each office or branch, with 10 or more employees. The district officer is required to constitute a Local Complaints Committee at each district and if required at the block level.
- ♦ The Complaints Committees have the powers of a civil court, for gathering evidence.
- ♦ The Complaints Committees are required to provide for conditions before initiating an inquiry, if requested by the complainant.
- ♦ Penalties have been prescribed for employer/employers.

Non-compliance with the provisions of the Act, shall be punishable with a fine of up to Rs 50,000. Repeated violations may lead to higher penalties and cancellation of license or registration to conduct business.

Structure for redressal of complaints:

Every employer is required to constitute an Internal Complaints Committee, at all offices and branches with strength of ten or more employees. Members of the committee shall include a senior women employee, two or more employees and one member from a Non Government Organization (NGO) committed to the cause of women. A member of this committee may not engage in any paid employment outside the duties of the office.

A Local Complaints Committee is required to be constituted in every district. An additional Local Complaints Committee shall also be constituted at the block level to address complaints in situations where the complainant does not have recourse to an Internal Complaints Committee or where the complaint is against the employer himself.

The Local Complaints Committee to be constituted by the district office, shall include an eminent woman as the chairperson, a women working in the area, two members from an NGO committed to the cause of women, and a Protection Officer appointed under the protection of women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005.

At least 50 percent of the nominated members in any Internal or Local Committee must be women.

Procedure for filing complaints and initiating inquiry:

An aggrieved woman may complain to the Internal Committee.

In the absence of such a committee, she may file a complaint with the Local Committee.

All complaints must be in writing. The committee shall provide for conciliation if requested by the complainant. Otherwise, the committee shall initiate an inquiry.

Duties of the employer:

The Bill assigns certain duties to each employer. These include: Providing a safe working environment. Constituting an Internal Complaints Committee and conspicuously displaying the order constituting the committee. Undertaking workshops and training programmes at regular intervals for sensitizing employers. Providing assistance during an enquiry. Initiating action against the perpetrator.

Penalties and appeal:

If the allegation is proved, the committee shall recommend penalties for sexual harassment, as per service rules applicable or the Rules under the act.

If the allegation is proved to be false or malicious, the committee may recommend action against the complainant. However, action may not be taken against a complainant merely on the inability to substantiate a complaint or provide adequate proof.

Appeals against the recommendations of either committee shall lie with the courts.

Penalties have also been prescribed for employers who fail to comply with the provisions of the Act. Non-compliance shall be punishable with a fine of up to Rs 50,000. Repeated violations may lead to higher penalties and cancellation of license or registration required for carrying on the business.

Key Issues:

There could be a feasibility issue in establishing an Internal Complaints Committee at every branch or an office with 10 or more employees.

The Internal Complaints Committee has been given the powers of a civil court. However, it does not require members with a legal background nor are there any provisions for legal training.

The Bill provides for action against the complainant in case of a false or malicious complaint. This could deter victims from filing complaints.

Two different bodies are called Local Complaints Committee. The Bill does not clearly demarcate the jurisdiction composition and functions of these committees.

Cases of sexual harassment of domestic workers have been specifically excluded from the purview of the Bill.

To effectively prevent Sexual Harassment at the work place, we need both a top-down initiative by the state and employers, civil society initiatives from citizens' groups, women's organisations and trade unions etc. ❖

Liberty to Individual Fundamental Efforts (LIFE)

Liberty to Individual Fundamental Efforts (LIFE) is a Community Based Organization (CBO), registered in 2008. Its interventions are aimed at improving the quality of life of the high risk population, i.e. MSM by creating awareness on HIV prevention, providing care and support for those infected by HIV and protecting their human rights and dignity in Nalgonda district in Telangana. The total population of female sex workers are 4060 (FSWs) and men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgenders (MSM-T) are 889, mapped in the urban and rural areas of Nalgonda District. It has a membership of 540 members. The members pay a membership fee of Rs.10/- every year, which is treated as the Corpus Fund. The total corpus fund of the LIFE is Rs. 14,500/- as on date. LIFE has a governing body and meets every quarter in a year for reviewing and planning, giving directions and taking all major decisions.

LIFE is working with FSWs and MSMs for their rights and has organized many activities. It has been organizing awareness meetings on HIV/AIDS and Community. It has been providing medical support to poor PLHIVs (people living with HIV), participated (physically & financially) in the funerals of Orphan PLHIVs and giving support (travel) towards referral centers to PLHIVs. It has also been fighting against Jogini system (which has been still alive in many parts of Andhra Pradesh) and identified 50 such vulnerable women in Nalgonda.

The primary livelihood of the people in LIFE is Sex work. Also, most of the members are doing daily wage work like Agriculture work, some are working as room boys in Lodges, some are doing dance programs and stage shows to raise funds for CBO, some of them are taking training classes on dance etc.,

LIFE is also organizing income generating activities like Making of Detergents, Surf and Phenyl with community members and has earned Rs. 5,000/- during last year. LIFE conducts Dance Shows with community members and earns about Rs.10,000/- per show. ❖

Support Organization

Pallesiri

Pallesiri is a grassroot level NGO, working with rural and urban communities in East Godavari District. It has been working in the Tribal, Coastal, Island and dry-land areas in East Godavari District in Andhra Pradesh. It has been working for marginalized communities like SC, ST, BC, Destitute Women, Children, Unemployed Youth, Physically challenged, farmers, farm labourers, fishermen, artisans and Senior Citizens. Pallesiri aims are to uplift people through constructive activities, helping them improve their quality of living and sustainable Development through Participation and Gender Equality.

Pallesiri Constructed 360 Pucca Houses for Cyclone victims in Jayprakash Nagar, Tallarevu, Muvvalapalem and Nelapalli of Tallarevu Mandal, under Relief & Rehabilitation of VJNNS – CARE 1996 Cyclone project. It Promoted, formed and strengthened about 300 Self Help Groups in Tallarevu, Kajuluru, Karapa Mandals of EG District. It has been Working for children's rights, especially for the promotion of Civil Birth Registration in EG District, with the support of Plan India through ASM, Vijayawada. From 2006 onwards, under this programme 12,000 births were registered by conducting Birth Registration camps and also 8,000 Birth Certificates were issued.

Pallesiri has constructed 220 low cost latrines in Tallarevu Mandal It promoted and strengthened the Total Sanitation Programme in Mathukumilli Panchayat of Kazuluru Mandal and assisted in the construction of 184 Toilets in 2007. The Mathukumilli Gram Panchayat has won the Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP) award from the President of India.

It has been implementing Village Development Plan at Mathukumilli Village, with the support of NABARD, since 2007. It also facilitated self employment of youth and women, through trainings conducted by Andhra Bank Institute of Rural Development, Davaleswaram, East Godavari district. It has been collecting old books and donations in the form of lab instruments, microscope, hand mike etc for school libraries. One library has established. It conducted essay writing competitions among the children on current issues. ❖

Training Institutions

National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)

<http://nipccd.nic.in/>

The Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs)

<http://iimu.ac.in/>

Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS)

<http://www.tiss.edu/>

VISWA YUVA KENDRA (VYK)

<http://viswayuvakendra.org/>

ALC India

<http://alcindia.org/>

Mobile Phone Recharge

India has the 2nd largest telecommunication network, based on the total number of telephone users and has the world's 3rd largest Internet user-base. Indian tele-density is more than 929 million. The mobile market was continuing to expand at an annual rate of over 40%.



The Mobile talk-time recharge, has provided the Indian market with a livelihood opportunity. About 20 crore people are earning extra income by selling coupons and easy-recharges, vastly covering the open market. In the Indian market, 98% of the mobile connections are prepaid. As per the data, about 15-20 million people recharge their phones everyday, mostly through offline channels like coupons, where the retailer gets a profit of 2% from each coupon.

Each coupon has a unique number which should be sent, through a call or an SMS, to the respective Network's number, to recharge our balance. Mainly, the Tele Network coupons in India are from Airtel, Idea, Vodafone, Reliance, TATA, Uninor, Aircel, MTS, Virgin, BSNL, MTNL etc. Small shops like - Pan shops, Medical shops, Kirana shops, General Stores, Retail Stores etc, can sell these coupons or easy-recharge cards, for an extra income of Rs. 150-200, per month. Even physically handicapped persons and others vulnerable people can maintain this business.

The advent of smart phones has increased the penetration of Internet in our country, with 2G, 3G and 4G connectivity. About 16% of the population use Internet, which amounts to nearly 10 times the population of Australia. While Indians primarily use the internet for communication, largely in the form of email, social media is also an important driver of internet use in India. This facet of the IMAI report can be corroborated with data from other sources such as Face book, according to which, India had 82 million monthly active users by June 30, 2013, the second largest geographical region for Face book after the US. Also, 5% of people use internet banking, for transactional purposes.

Mobile Phone recharge coupons and cards generate new livelihood opportunities in industrial sectors like - coupon's unique code creation, operating, security, transport, printing, manufacturing and customer care for the respective Tele Communication Networks. Lakhs of livelihoods depend on the Telecommunication sector. ❖

Leader

Community Worker



Federation Leaders

Anganwadi Workers

Rafting

By good fortune, I was able to raft down the Motu River in New Zealand twice during the last year. The magnificent four-day journey traverses one of the last wilderness areas in the North Island. The first expedition was led by "Buzz", an American guide with a great deal of rafting experience and many stories to tell of mighty rivers such as the Colorado. With a leader like Buzz, there was no reason to fear any of the great rapids on the Motu. The first half day, in the gentle upper reaches, was spent developing teamwork and co-ordination. Strokes had to be mastered, and the discipline of following commands without question was essential. In the boiling fury of a rapid, there would be no room for any mistake. When Buzz bellowed above the roar of the water, an instant reaction was essential. We mastered the Motu. In every rapid we fought against the river and we overcame it. The screamed commands of Buzz were matched only by the fury of our paddles, as we took the raft exactly where Buzz wanted it to go. At the end of the journey, there was a great feeling of triumph. We had won. We proved that we were superior. We knew that we could do it. We felt powerful and good. The mystery and majesty of the Motu had been overcome.

The second time I went down the Motu, the experience I had gained should have been invaluable, but the guide on this journey was a very softly spoken Kiwi. It seemed that it would not even be possible to hear his voice above the noise of the rapids. As we approached the first rapid, he never even raised his voice. He did not attempt to take command of us or the river. Gently and quietly he felt the mood of the river and watched every little whirlpool. There was no drama and no shouting. There was no contest to be won. He loved the river. We sped through each rapid with grace and beauty and, after a day, the river had become our friend, not our enemy. The quiet Kiwi was not our leader, but only the person whose sensitivity was more developed than our own. Laughter replaced the tension of achievement.

Soon the quiet Kiwi was able to lean back and let all of us take turns as leader. A quiet nod was enough to draw attention to the things our lack of experience prevented us from seeing. If we made a mistake, then we laughed and it was the next person's turn. We began to penetrate the mystery of the Motu. Now, like the quiet Kiwi, we listened to the river and we looked carefully for all those things we had not even noticed the first time. At the end of the journey, we had overcome nothing except ourselves. We did not want to leave behind our friend, the river. There was no contest, and so nothing had been won. Rather we had become one with the river.

It remains difficult to believe that the external circumstances of the two journeys were similar. The difference was in an attitude and a frame of mind. At the end of the journey, it seemed that there could be no other way. Given the opportunity to choose a leader, everyone would have chosen someone like Buzz. At the end of the second journey, we had glimpsed a very different vision and we felt humble - and intensely happy. ❖

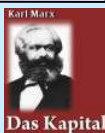
Resources

Name of the Book: The Capital

Author: Karl Marx

The book 'The Capital' by Karl Marx, has been influencing crores of people across the globe for centuries. In this book, he intelligently analyzes the nature, development and future of Capitalism. He touches upon various aspects like wages, commodities, relations between workers and capitalists and surplus value. He explains how the capitalists exploit the workers and how they try to increase their profit in production process. He states that Capitalism facilitates evolution of socialism by its internal and unavoidable contradictions. The book gave birth to modern sociology, and influenced economic thought, philosophy, literature, arts etc. Those who want to understand Capitalism should read this book. ❖

Classic Book



Name of the Book: Women Reclaiming Sustainable Livelihoods

Editor: Wendy Harcourt

The book is a collection of contributions from international research scholars. It aims to challenge the inequalities in gender relations and livelihoods in present economic development policies, agriculture and community practices. It focuses on new knowledge and debates on the issues of development, environment, economy and technology. It talks about the struggles of women to access and control the economy across the globe, through cooperatives. It discusses the emerging issues related to gender and livelihoods. This is a good book to understand gender and livelihoods. ❖

Latest Book



e-links

- LEAP: Shyamsundar Village, West Bengal : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/321-shyamsundhar-village-leap
 VCA: Amla : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/323-aml-a-value-chain
 Sub-sector: Coconut : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/322-coconut-subsector-docx
 e-book: Les Miserables : <http://www.planetebook.com/ebooks/Les-Miserables.pdf>
 v-link: Livelihood Intervention and Promotion : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJzWkifEzk0>

Supplements

- Supplement 1: How to Write SHG's Books : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/324-suppelementhow-to-write-shgs-books-
 Supplement 2: Sundarlal Bahuguna : http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/325-legendsundarlal-bahuguna-

e-course

- e-course; Capsule No-5:Enterprises: http://www.aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/326-e-course-capsule-5-may-2014

‘Yoga’kshemam

Happy May Day! Let the workers of the world unite!

Let us remember Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore!

Election ends. Results are out. Narendra Modi wins.

It is confirmed 2014 is a transition year. I gathered that we have to start -

- ♦ Spending time with the right people
- ♦ Facing the problems head on
- ♦ Being honest with self about everything
- ♦ Making our own happiness a priority
- ♦ Being self, genuinely and proudly
- ♦ Noticing and living in the present
- ♦ Valuing the lessons from mistakes
- ♦ Being more polite
- ♦ Enjoying the things what we already have
- ♦ Creating our own happiness
- ♦ Giving our ideas and dreams a chance
- ♦ Believing that we are ready for the next step
- ♦ Entering new relationships for the right reasons
- ♦ Giving new people we meet a chance
- ♦ Competing against an earlier version of self
- ♦ Cheering for other people’s victories
- ♦ Looking for the silver lining in tough situations
- ♦ Forgiving ourselves and others
- ♦ Helping those around us
- ♦ Listening to our own inner voices
- ♦ Being attentive to our stress level and take short breaks
- ♦ Noticing the beauty of small moments
- ♦ Accepting things when they are less than perfect
- ♦ Working toward our goals every single day
- ♦ Being more open about how we feel
- ♦ Taking full accountability for our own lives
- ♦ Actively nurturing our most important relationships
- ♦ Concentrating on the things we can control

- ♦ Focusing on the possibility of positive outcomes
- ♦ Noticing how wealthy we are right now

These ‘starts’ begin the transition and transformation through knowledge, people and action. These ‘starts’ take us to realizing glorious potential within us and usefulness to the universe. Let us establish the transition now - see the world around us in its various hues and colours, meet the people and communities around us in their various moods and ways, meet the institutions and people working for/with the people in their own ways and forms, and take the walk around with co-travelers in transition and transformation.

As our co-travelers walk around, see the world together, listen to the people and communities, and interact with the people who are making a difference, the teams of symphony of action for the universe evolve and emerge. This is natural and simple evolution of transition to transformation. These teams anchor platforms for information, channels for relevance, and coalitions for networking. A team for teams would emerge to anchor a portfolio of practices for spreading on a universal scale.

G Muralidhar

This is the transition led transformation. Now is the time. The inner self is in-charge now. As ‘within’ commands ‘transition’, universe takes charge, mentors and guides eternal natural evolution and integration within.

Keep acting in response to the command of the ‘within’ is the bliss! This is prakritimaanasaam.

Can we be there? **Yes, if we pursue Atma Yoga.** If we respond to the universe! If we catch its calls and signals! If we listen to the signals of the ‘within’! If we see the oneness of the ‘within’ and the ‘universe’! If we remain glued to the ways of prakriti! If we set our values for playing along with the natural evolution and integration ways of the universe! Of the inner nature! If we live within these set values! If we can allow ‘within’ to take charge fully! This is natural. This lets us lost ‘within’ and therefore in the universe! Krisna confirms – if we go with the inner universe and the universal universe pursues ‘us’. It takes us in it.

Join us in the world of yoga – for going with ‘within’ – towards viswamaanasa-yogasiddhi. You will not regret it. ❖



livelihoods

Policy and Programme