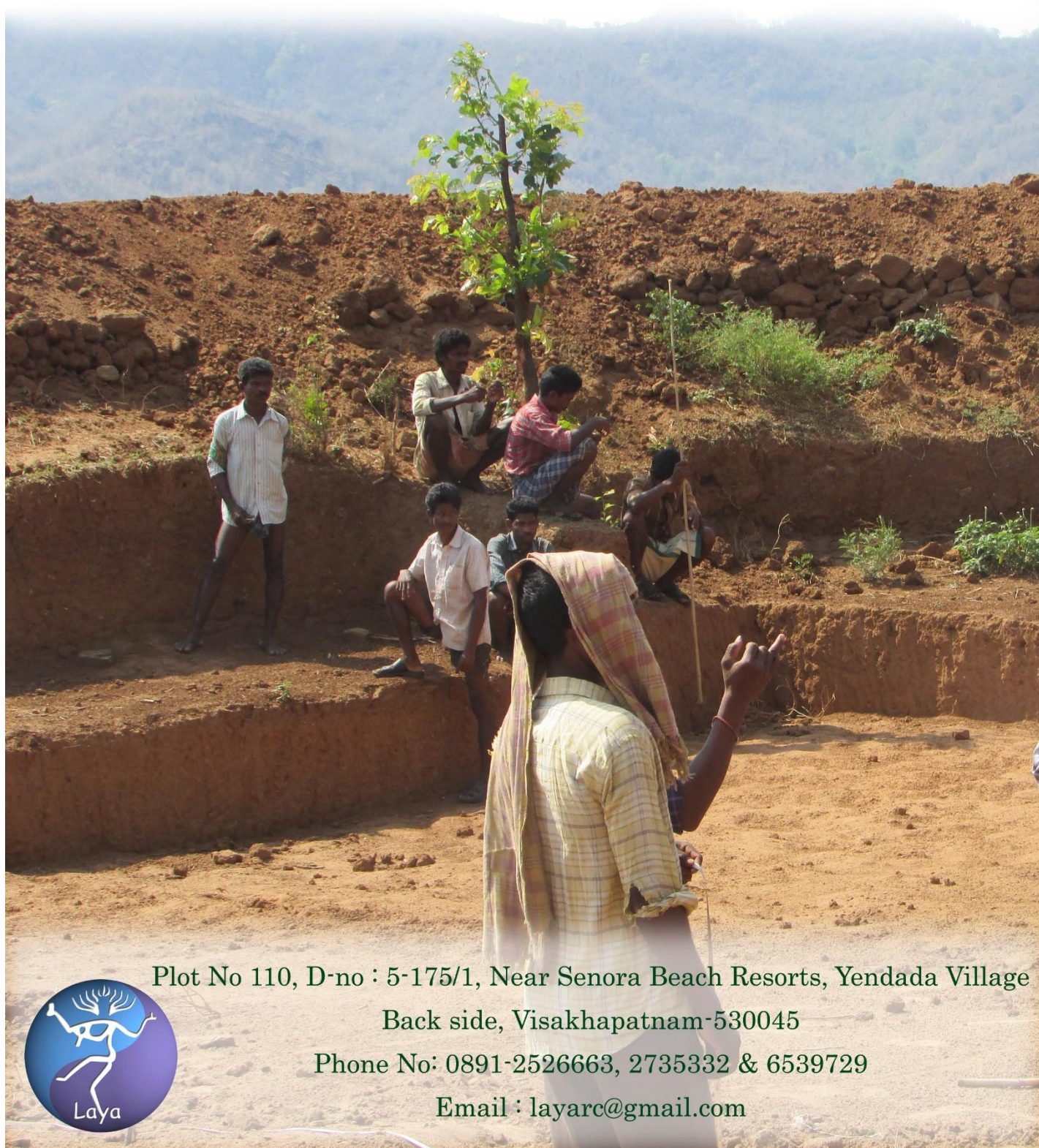


Annual Report

2015-2016



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Annual Report 2015– 2016

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We are glad to present our annual report for 2015 – 2016. The report highlights the key activities that were taken up last year and their achievements in the two dimensions of our overall engagement: safeguarding human rights especially land rights of adivasi communities and demonstrating sustainable development initiatives at the grassroots level.

On addressing human rights issues, one of the key units of Laya, the Resource for Legal Action facilitates access to justice through legal and other advocacy measures; empowers adivasi communities through awareness and legal education; generates data for advocacy and training on rights to natural resources and promotes paralegals to play a vigilance role in safeguarding rights to natural resources. Last year RLA took up 405 legal cases of which 103 were successful, covering an extent of 418.15 acres, which included land entitlements for 26 women. Special cases of pensions for widows and support for protest against illicit liquor consumption was facilitated. Various programmes were organized throughout the year to reach out to more than 5000 participants comprising community representatives, adivasi youth leaders including women, representatives from community based organisations, adivasi paralegal workers, advocates and students for legal awareness, education and training. Advocacy for socio-economic entitlements, social security measures and governance related issues were pursued.

On natural resource management the major challenge has been to respond to the livelihood security needs of communities particularly from the perspective of optimum use and regeneration of natural resources and being culturally coherent. Last year the unit outreached to 231 villages and 5030 households across four districts demonstrating sustainable agriculture initiatives in a comprehensive manner. The initiatives included demonstration and preparation of high humus based manure models and their applications, development of homesteads, promotion of System of Rice Intensification (SRI), mixed cropping, kitchen gardens, vegetable cultivation, horticulture, seed centres with rare seed varieties, land development, soil and moisture conservation, forest regeneration and non-timber forest produce (NTFP) and several water related activities such as maintenance of fisheries in water bodies. The thrust of farmer based initiatives and collaboration with community based organisations continued. Orientations, skill share workshops and training processes were facilitated. These initiatives were supported by science and technology interventions on organic agriculture and agro forestry. Last year we were also able to leverage schemes from adivasis from government departments such as Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Agriculture Departments and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of the Indian Council of Agriculture Research.

In relation to decentralized energy options, our work continued towards improving energy security for the vulnerable adivasi communities across the two districts of Visakhapatnam

and East Godavari districts in Andhra Pradesh. We have been able to increase our outreach with regards to community access to decentralized energy technologies. We have continued with our energy interventions from the perspective of improving energy security. Our specific interventions of note related to up-scaling the outreach of cook stoves. As of 2016 March approximately 5500 stoves have been constructed apart from the 4000 already being utilized. We have also been able develop a more robust stove using quarry ash and cement. The work on pilot projects related to adaptation saw through another agricultural season. In addition to make agriculture more resilient to climate change we have promoted adaptive mechanisms particularly drought resistant crops in a remote tribal pocket in Andhra Pradesh. Effective results were realized in conserving natural resources through watershed management in the attempt to identify, procure and propagate rare varieties of seed banks and encourage cultivation of local drought and flood tolerant varieties of crops.

As shared in our earlier reports our experience in community health care through herbal medicine in the past 16 years has demonstrated that it is affordable, reliable, efficient and accessible. We have learnt that herbal medicine can be potentially relevant and useful at least for basic illnesses in remote regions where allopathic systems of medicine find hard to reach. The herbal based health care unit provided treatment to approximately 12632 patients largely through community health centres, regular health camps at market places and special health camps. Popularisation of herbal medicine, capacity building of young adivasis men and women on herbal based health care and accompaniment of traditional health practitioners has been the cornerstone of our work. These efforts continued. The need of the hour is to upscale our efforts so that we are better able to reach out to regular health needs of the community.

Underlying all our interventions the empowerment process with young adivasi men and women is embedded in our overall strategy of building social capital in the form of human resource development. The specific objectives are to nurture adivasi young men and women for their self-development as well as on the development concerns of their communities. The overall perspective of the activities is to promote value based leadership potential among youth in this region. This year we intensively engaged in highlighting youth's role and participation in the MGNREGS and PESA; worked with youth leaders in promoting good governance and action plans of villages in the Panchayat Raj Institutions; and engaged with government departments on policy issues, especially related to MGNREGA, FRRA. We facilitated institutional building processes through our engagement with Community Based Groups (CBO), and Village Level Committees (VLC). Some of the specific initiatives included literacy for leadership and climate change education in schools and in villages.

Another cross sector engagement has been our documentation process which focuses on building an effective database on issues. We disseminated information to remote areas on one hand and attempted to sharpen the thrust of our intervention by influencing policy on the other. Documentation, field based studies and publications of relevant materials,

continued as a priority depending on the need and purpose of involvement. This unit provided different documentation services and support in organization of trainings, meetings, etc., to the other units as its contribution to the overall goals of the organization.

Our policy advocacy initiatives were led by the Resource for Legal Action (RLA) Unit at the local level and focused on representations made to local officials on various issues pertaining to housing loans, implementation of adivasi women's rights, claim for the proper release of NREGS Bill payments and access to community caste certificates for adivasi students. Special support was meted out to women's initiatives to stop running of liquor shops in two specific villages. With reference to the displaced communities arising out of the construction of the Polavaram project, advocacy for application of the relief and rehabilitation policy for youth above 18 years of age, land to land compensation and distribution of available wasteland for the oustees was pursued in the last year.

Laya's collaborative work and experiential sharing with other likeminded people and civil society organizations continued as well as collaboration with government at the grassroots level. Apart from the networking processes that were initiated at the unit levels, Laya Resource Centre continued to be intensively associated with, Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change (INECC), a national network, which has been engaging with the issue of Climate Change from a grassroots' perspective; and the Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE), a regional network that works towards promoting quality education for all comprising 4 sub-regions: South Asia, East Asia, South East Asia and the Pacific.

As indicated in the last annual report, in recent times there has been a concerted focus on organisational governance, particularly by strengthening the accountability systems within the organization. Last year the strategic meetings of Laya focused largely on monitoring mechanisms. As a general management strategy of the organization, a relatively small core of personnel manages a wide outreach through a network with CBOs and collaborative relationships with other NGOs. In the Board meetings several new initiatives were deliberated, such as the need for the establishment of a community college to outreach the learning needs of adivasi youth in courses that build on their strengths. Discussions were also organized on 'forms of organisations' in order to be prepared for the newer roles that an organization like LAYA is called upon to play in the changing external environment.

No doubt that the NGO sector is a part of change processes within the larger societal framework. The space for civil society voice is shrinking. Yet the need for engagement on the issues of the marginalized can hardly be understated in a country where the polarization phenomenon is rapidly increasing. The challenge to contribute consistently and meaningfully within the existing external constraints remain.

Nafisa Goga D'Souza
Executive Director

1 VISION AND MISSION

OUR VISION

We envisage a socially just and humanized society where the marginalized communities find space for survival with dignity.

OUR MISSION

Empower marginalized communities to assert their rights and to facilitate relevant alternatives at the grassroots level.

OBJECTIVES

- Empower communities to respond to human rights violations, mainly in the adivasi context;
- Facilitate sustainable development initiatives at various levels within the larger climate change perspective;
- Develop capacities of various target groups, especially youth and women;
- Build strategic alliances with other organizations/networks and educational institutions for social development;
- Develop an alternative database through research and documentation to educate, influence policy and support local initiatives.

KEY FACILITATING UNITS

- Human Rights and Entitlements
- Herbal based Health Care
- Natural Resource Management
- Science and Technology
- Empowerment of Youth and Women
- Decentralized Energy Options and Climate Change
- Alternative Data Generation and Documentation

2 CONTEXT AND EVOLUTION

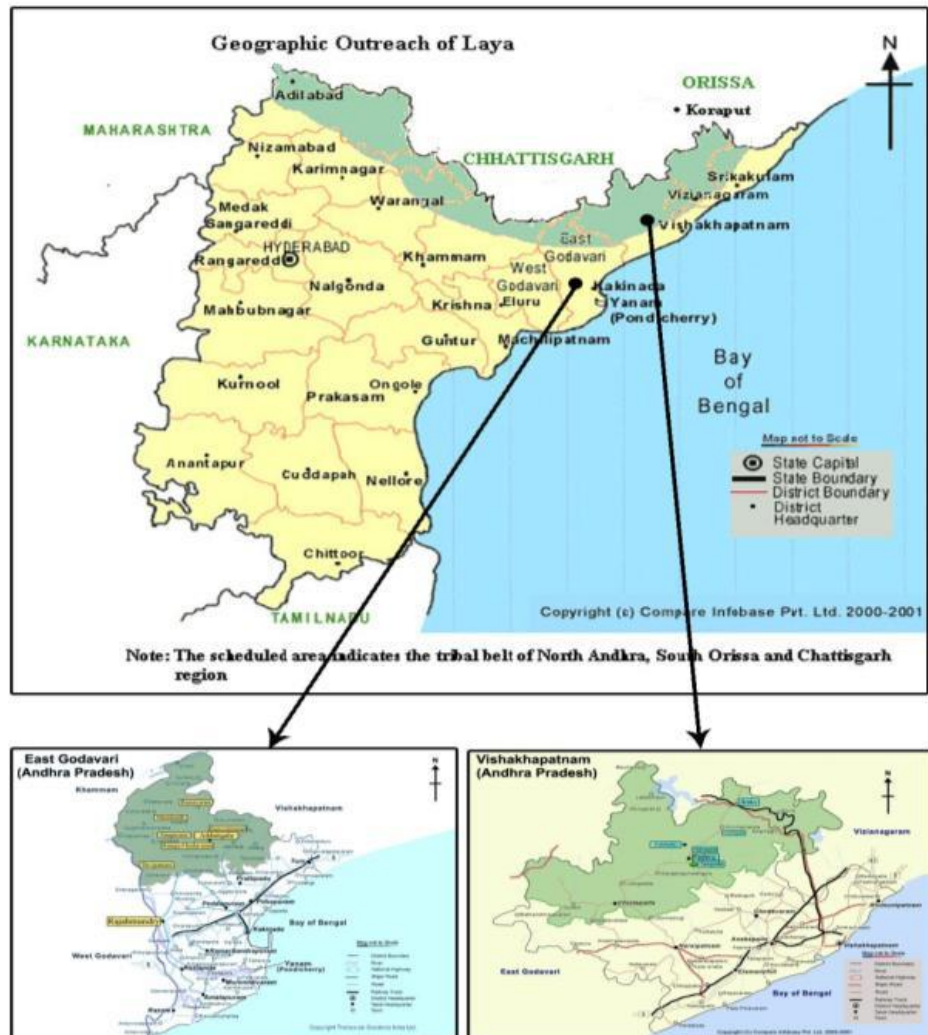
The adivasis of Andhra Pradesh are mainly located in 9 districts in the northern Andhra Pradesh region, which is part of a larger adivasi region comprising contiguous areas of South Orissa, South Chhattisgarh and Eastern Maharashtra. This entire region is rich in natural resources - water, forests and minerals. The major issue affecting the adivasis in this region is displacement and land alienation. The region's high natural resource base is under threat by indiscriminate multiple market demands from agri-business, mining, hydro-power, etc. The special protective laws in the Scheduled Areas do not prevent violation of the rights of the adivasis: lack of access and control over natural resources; threat to livelihood; inadequate basic infrastructure for survival; lack of access to basic health and education;

and threat to their identity. The nature of violations becomes more and more complex in an environment, which is more and more exposed to market forces.

3 GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

Laya's geographical spread for its interventions is the adivasi belt of North Andhra Pradesh with an outreach to the adivasi areas of South Orissa and Chhattisgarh. Our direct engagement is mainly confined to the adivasi pockets of two districts: Visakhapatnam and East Godavari. Laya's broader outreach is achieved through collaborating with adivasi leaders, networking with peoples' institutions and adivasi led community based organizations.

Geographical Location of Laya's work



4 THE DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE ACT, 2005

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is intended to ensure livelihood security for 100 days and for creating durable assets and thereby discouraging migration. Of the 25,14,520 household's employment generated, 2,18,612 are ST households who constitute 8.69 percent. Of the total wages paid in the State, the tribals could secure 9.57 percent of the wages. Analyzing the implementation of the MGNREG Act in Andhra Pradesh, the Government of India (Ministry of Rural Development) pointed out that there was a delay in payment of wages during the financial year 2015-2016. In specific, a total of Rs 453 crores (20 percent of the total transactions) were delayed for more than 15 days. The percentage of works completed was only 5.75, which is an indication of slow progress. In order to strengthen the livelihood resource base of rural poor, individual assets need to be created under the Act. However during the period 2015-2016 only 20 percent of the individual works were taken up spending 10 percent of the earmarked funds as per the analysis of the Government of India. 26 percent of the total works in relation to natural resource management works were completed and its corresponding expenditure was 44 percent. Thus the data shows that the creation of durable assets, which is an important provision under the legislation, is yet to be fulfilled in full scale.

ACCESS TO FORESTS

Forest Rights Act 2006 (FRA) established to undo historic injustice done to adivasis, is violated due to indifferent attitude of officials in both the Telangana and Andhra Pradesh States. Several orders issued from time to time by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) Government of India for effective implementation of the FRA are virtually ignored. The colonial forest bureaucracy is overstepping the functions of other departments and hampering the process of forest land justice to the adivasis. Several resolutions passed by the adjudicating bodies under the law rejecting the claims of adivasis are based on unfair, unjust and often fishy grounds.

Of the total 150345 claims in relation to 3.36 lakh acres, only 83874 claims were allowed recognizing adivasi rights on forest lands of 1.98 lakh acres (59 percent) of the total as of January 2016 in Andhra Pradesh. About 15547 claims covering forest land of 32850 acres were unjustly rejected showing that the claimed land is located in the Vana Samrakshana Samithi (VSS) areas. About 10963 claims were rejected covering an extent of 26758 acres alleging that the land was not classified as forest lands. Against the norms, forest land claims of adivasis over unreserved forests in Polavaram Project affected 23 villages in Polavaram

Mandal of Scheduled Area in West Godavari District over around 1200 acres of lands were denied recognition. Trampling the forest land rights of adivasis several claims were rejected on fishy grounds in the Scheduled Area of East Godavari District also. For instance 812 forest land claims covering an extent of 3165 acres in the erstwhile revenue division of Rampachodavaram in East Godavari District were rejected on the ground that there was no record of cultivation in the claimed land. Already the MoTA directed the Governments in 2013 to withdraw the titles granted to VSS on forest lands considering them as illegal. No steps were taken yet by the Governments to annul the titles granted to VSSs instead of community.

THREAT OF DISPLACEMENT BY POLAVARAM DAM

The Polavaram Project has become a boon to non-tribals to encash their clandestine land deeds in the Scheduled Areas of Godavari districts. Land Acquisition Officers (LAO) are playing spoilsport over land acquisitions, negating the land rights of adivasis under the tribal protective Land Transfer Regulations (LTR). They are not taking into consideration land orders issued against non-tribals and several cases pending against them under the LTR before various courts. The LAOs are paying huge compensation amounts to non-tribals, unmindful of similar orders passed by the LTR Courts in 1996, when the possession of adivasis was upheld. The LAOs also have been ignoring the 40 appeals filed by adivasis disputing the title of non-tribals over the lands covered by Polavaram Project before the Director of Survey and Settlement Court at Rampachodavaram since 2010. The adivasis are crying foul over the illegal land acquisitions for the Project also in the agency areas of West Godavari district. Their grievance is that non-tribals are cornering the monetary benefits by showing illegal land deeds and thereby affecting their rights. The project authorities are unwilling to recognize individual or community forest rights of adivasis in the submergence mandals, negating the very objective of Forest Rights Recognition Act 2006. Gram Sabha, Sub Divisional Committee and District Level Committee are the statutory adjudicating bodies under the Act. However, the project authorities are dispossessing adivasis without determination of their forest land claims in the proposed submergence area of Polavaram Project.

PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTIONS

The Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Area Act 1998 was brought into force but the Rules were formulated only in 2011. The notified Gram Sabhas under the Act are yet to be operationalized in the Scheduled Areas of Andhra Pradesh. The State Government is continuing its activities without taking in to consideration of the provisions of the PESA Act. The ITDAs are implementing the development activities without seeking an approval from the concerned Gram Sabha which is a mandatory provision under the PESA Act. The Land Acquisition Authorities and Rehabilitation Officers under Polavaram Project are going ahead

with the acquisitions in the Scheduled Areas without consulting the Gram Sabhas under the PESA Act. The High Court of Andhra Pradesh had to intervene and stay the Land Acquisition proceedings in Kondamodalu Gram Panchayat area in Devipatnam Mandal, East Godavari District. The High Court also stayed the proceedings of Gram Sabha, which were allegedly created by the officials for the purpose of Land Acquisitions under Polavaram Project. The High Court took up the matter at the instance of a petition filed by the Sarpanch of Kondamodalu Gram Panchayat. These incidents make one wonder how serious the State is in implementing the provisions of PESA Act.

BAUXITE MINING IN SCHEDULED AREAS

Notwithstanding the unequivocal strong opposition of the left and other political parties (including TDP when it was in opposition) and adivasi groups, the government issued a GO MS No. 97, permitting AP Mineral Development Corporation to mine bauxite in 1,212 hectares of Chinthapalli and Jarrela Scheduled Areas in Visakhapatnam district. The permission to bauxite mining is not in accordance with the law of Fifth Scheduled Areas of the State. The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India protects the interests of Scheduled Tribes and their livelihoods in the Scheduled Areas.

Further, it is mandatory to secure the ratification of the Tribal Advisory Council (TAC), a constitutional body under the Fifth Schedule, to proceed further in tribal affairs. However, perhaps not so surprisingly the State government has not yet constituted the TAC, paving the way for exploitation of bauxite mining in the Scheduled Areas without any hindrance. The proposed bauxite mining activity will also disturb the "fragile ecological system of the Eastern Ghats," where several rivulets originate and it would also pollute the river Godavari, which is a lifeline for agricultural production in the coastal districts.

There is no assurance that the mining policy of the present ruling government will be restricted to excavation of bauxite ore in Chinthapalli and Jarrela regions, thus making it likely to extend to similar deposits of bauxite ores estimated to be 570 million tonnes located in 25 pockets altogether in both Visakhapatnam and East Godavari districts. One can estimate the magnitude of destruction of both natural resources and lives of adivasis who depend on such resources.

TRIBAL SUB-PLAN

The Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) Act 2013 was intended to ensure, accelerated development of Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) with an emphasis on achieving equality on all fronts and promoting equity among the SCs and STs. The enactment, first of its kind in the country, guarantees legally that funds should be earmarked from the State total plan outlay in proportion to the population of SC

and ST in the State. The objective of the law is yet to be fulfilled due to neglect and malpractices in tribal development in Andhra Pradesh.

The Scheduled Tribe population in the Andhra Pradesh State is 5.33 per cent and the total Tribal Welfare Budget of the State should be spent only on tribal development without any specific allocations under the TSP. The other departments should earmark funds to bridge the gap in tribal development. An analysis of the TSP budgets allocated under the TSP Head Account 796 alone reveals the ingenious ways of injustice done to the tribals.

Expenditure under TSP was 70% against earmarked funds of Rs 1443.38 crore in 2015-16. The share of expenditure on Non Divisible Infrastructure Works was zero percent against the allotted amount of Rs 217.88 crore in 2015-16 in Andhra Pradesh. Thus there is a need to create a specific budgetary head to park unutilized TSP funds as non-lapsable pool.

The diversion of TSP budgets has continued unabated even after promulgation of the TSP law. TSP funds in Andhra Pradesh to the tune of Rs 2.69 crore were allocated to purchase 12 buses in 2015-16 for operating them in Scheduled Areas, where more than 50 per cent population is non-tribal. In fact, such expenditure on infrastructural schemes and other general development programmes can be met from the State Plan budget instead of the TSP budget because it is not benefiting exclusively tribals.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS AT THE GRASSROOTS LEVEL

India is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change and also the world's third biggest greenhouse gas emitter. India's population of 1.2 billion, about 363 million of whom live in poverty, is projected to grow to 1.5 billion by 2030. It is estimated that more than half of India of 2030 is yet to be built!

Given this situation ahead of the Paris Climate Summit in December 2015, India pledged to source 40% of its electricity from renewable and other low-carbon sources by 2030. Moreover India has committed to cut the 'emissions intensity' of its economy – a ratio of carbon emissions per unit of GDP – by up to 35% by 2030. India's submission to the UN, known as its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), focuses on clean energy, including solar power. It also promised to plant more forests by 2030 to absorb carbon emissions.

Hence, India has committed to increase its renewable energy production capacity to 175 GW by 2022. This is a very ambitious number and needs to be lauded. However the concern of most CSOs is whether the electricity generated will translate into increased access to electricity for the ones living in energy poverty. Moreover, the government has also been considering giving degraded forest to corporates for better management of the forests, a position that is being challenged by civil society in India.

Given this macro perspective we have been arguing for a decentralized approach to energy access where the electricity generated can be managed locally. Secondly there is a concern that giving off forest areas to corporates for management may end up in the promotion of huge monoculture plantations risking the key biodiversity function of forest areas.

At the local level our efforts at community resilience building continues even as we critique the government approach to responding to the climate issue.

5 HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

5.1 SAFEGUARDING HUMAN RIGHTS OF ADIVASI COMMUNITIES

The livelihood and survival of adivasi communities is closely interlinked to their ownership and the sustainable use of natural resources, and access to the social security entitlements. To address the threats to this intrinsic interrelationship, the Resource for Legal Action (RLA) Unit of Laya, has adopted a multi-pronged strategy across 6 districts: Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari of Andhra Pradesh and Khammam of Telangana.

The Resource for Legal Action Unit:

- Facilitates access to justice through legal and other advocacy measures;
- Empowers adivasi communities through awareness and legal education;
- Generates data for advocacy and training on rights to natural resources;
- Promotes paralegals to play a vigilance role in safeguarding rights to natural resources.

ACCESSING JUSTICE THROUGH THE LEGAL SYSTEM

RLA has largely been involved in facilitating access to the legal system to ensure repossession of lands to adivasi communities, and take up public interest litigations, writ petitions and bails in favour of adivasis. The adivasi women have been given special attention in its engagement.

Type	Description
Land cases	Took up 405 legal cases - 103 were successful, covering an extent of 418.15 acres, which include land entitlements for 26 women
Conversion of rights into productive assets	Right to Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP): Pullangi Panchayat Gram Sabha decided to sell one bamboo stick for not less than 60/- .
Cases related to women	Extended legal support to women in 9 cases related to matrimonial disputes under the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process.

EMPOWERING ADIVASI COMMUNITIES

Various programmes were organized throughout the year to reach out to various groups of adivasis for legal awareness, education and training.

Programme	Participation
32 legal education camps for adivasi youth on land rights, women's rights, human rights, Right to Information Act, Forest Rights Recognition Act, etc.	1037 adivasi youth attended: 554 women.
36 village level legal awareness camps on PESA Act & Gram Sabhas	
24 Legal orientation Camps to CBOs/Women Groups in 25 villages	688 CBO representatives participated: 582 women
85 Gram Sabhas facilitated for effective functioning of Gram Panchayats in East Godavari district.	3171 adivasis attended: 1335 women
International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8 at Buttaigudem mandal, West Godavari district	300 adivasi women leaders participated.
18 sessions on Human Rights Education were taken up in 6 Ashram Schools in the agency division of Rampachodavaram	305 students attended: 90 boys and 215 girls
7 Paralegal training programmes conducted	144 adivasi paralegals attended: 60 women
One 2-day training input for adivasi advocates, who practice at the ITDA level. They are selected for training inputs and accompaniment to take up cases relating to adivasi issues. Through this linkage these advocates pursue cases at higher level courts: District Court and High Court.	32 adivasi advocates

ADVOCACY FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENTITLEMENTS

LAND

- A survey done on Other than Reserved Forests (ORF) lands in 6 villages of East Godavari district: identified the rejected claims of 59 adivasi families under Forest Rights Recognition Act, covering land an extent of Ac. 235.35. Appeals were filed before the Sub Divisional Level Committee, East Godavari District for resolution of claims in favor of tribal forest land occupants under Forest Rights Recognition Act.
- Forest land claims were obtained in Maredumilli mandal Maredumilli Mandal, East Godavari for 70 adivasi families covering land to an extent of Ac. 383.00, which were filed in the year 2013-14.

- Community forest claims for Ac 700.00 filed in 14 villages of 5 gram panchayats of Maredumilli Mandal. Land Survey is yet to be conducted.
- Representation given to Special Collector, Land Acquisition, Polavaram regarding Displacement Compensation Package in Devipatnam Mandal for 50 adivasi households, who have completed 18 years till 2010: 26 female and 24 male.
- Representation given to Special Collector (LA) of Polavaram, seeking compensation for the extent of 115.35 Ac land by 38 Polavaram Project affected families in Nelakota village of Devipatnam Mandal.

HEALTH

- Conducted 43 meetings to bring awareness among ICDS/ Mothers' Committees' members of K. R. Puram mandal, West Godavari district and Kunavaram Mandal in East Godavari district on nutrition, health, etc.: 1001 women participated.
- 8 Health Camps conducted (4 in Kunavaram Mandal, East Godavari district and 4 in Buttaigudem Mandal, West Godavari District): 1693 adivasis attended (842 men and 851 women).

EDUCATION

- A survey carried out on school going children dropouts in 21 villages of Khammam, East and West Godavari districts: identified 76 drop outs (boys: 36 and girls: 40). Facilitated readmission of 63 drop outs (boys: 30 and girls: 33).
- Facilitated the sanction of scholarships of 1200/- each for 6 adivasi children in the agency area of West Godavari District through Indira Kranthi Padham with K.R. Puram bank linkage.

SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES/LOCAL GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- Identified 15 persons with physical disability from 10 villages of East and West Godavari districts: facilitated representations to seek identity cards to obtain government benefits - 10 sanctioned.
- Identified 139 households without ration cards in 37 villages of East and West Godavari districts: Facilitated applications for the issue of ration cards as part of food security - 100 sanctioned.
- Identified 2 households without job cards in one village of Kunavaram mandal facilitated applications for the issue of job cards under MGNREGA - 2 sanctioned.
- Identified 110 eligible persons for Old Age Pensions (OAP) from 30 villages of adivasi areas of East and West Godavari districts: facilitated applications to the concerned departments - 51 sanctioned
- Submitted 112 representations to concerned officials for various issues like safe drinking water, irrigation sources, power supply, completion of housing, clearing of pending MGNREGs bills, transfer of pattas, sanction of new ration cards, Aadhar cards, Tribe Certificates, Voter ID cards, plough



bullocks, irrigated water, bamboo issue, ryotwari pattas and sanction of pensions and other government schemes to the eligible persons, etc.

- Facilitated 10 representations to ITDA PO, Rampachodavaram for sanction of housing loans in East Godavari district.
- Facilitated sanctioning of Rs. 70,000/- for 10 adivasi households of 4 villages, Maredumilli Mandal affected by 2014 Hudhud cyclone.
- Facilitated sanctioning of social status (Scheduled Tribe) certificates to 80 adivasi students of High Schools and other Ashram schools, from 36 villages of Y. Ramavaram Mandal, East Godavari District.
- Facilitated applications for the Rehabilitation Package under the Polavaram Project submergence for 87 adivasi youth (38 males and 49 female) who have crossed 18 years of age from Nelakota village of Devipatnam Mandal, East Godavari District.



FOCUS ON ADIVASI WOMEN

- 77 adivasi widows facilitated to apply for widows' pension in 29 villages of East, West Godavari and Khammam districts: 52 'widow pensions' were sanctioned;
- Supported 25 adivasis (13 males and 17 female) in their rally against liquor at Pandrajupalli village of Kunavaram mandal, East Godavari District.
- Rally and dharna on Liquor with 60 adivasis (60 female) at Chinnarkur village of Kunavaram Mandal.

LINKAGES WITH GROUPS/NETWORKS TO ADVOCATE THE RIGHTS OF ADIVASIS



- Adivasi Samkshem Parishad; 2) Girijan Samkshem Parishad; 3) Tudumdebba; 4) Adivasi Students Union; 5) Adivasi Ikya Vedika; 6) Adivasi Joint Action; 7) East Godavari District Kondareddy Sangham; 8) Girijan Youth Association; and 9) Girijana Chaitanya Vedika.

5.2 NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The challenge in responding to the livelihood security needs of adivasi communities has two major dimensions:

- That of facilitating processes for optimum use and regeneration of natural resources for higher productivity and sustainability; and
- Being culturally coherent in the interventions, especially package of practices (POP) that we seek to introduce.

1. Key locations of NRMs involvement

District	Mandal	Panchayats	Villages	Households
Visakhapatnam	Peddabayalu	Peddakodapalli, Gamparayi, Galaganda, Sikari, Kimudupalli and Aradikota,	58	735
	Paderu	Vanugupalli, Kinchuru, Batrothuputtu and G. Muchingputtu	24	760
	Hukumpeta	Mottujoru, Valdo, Andibha and Boddaputtu	20	289
East Godavari	Addateegala	D.Ramavaram, Tungamadugula, Somannapalem and Dhanyampalem	42	1202
	Y. Ramavaram	Pathakota, Daragedda, Boddagandi, Gurthedu, Dalipadu, K.Erragonda, And Chamagedda.	76	1865
	Gangavaram	Marripalem and Yendapalli	5	135
Srikakulam	Sithampeta	Titukupayi	1	20
Vizianagaram	G. L .Puram	P.Amiti and Manda	5	24
4 Districts	8 Mandals	30 Grama Panchayats	231	5030

ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVES:

Soil testing in government soil testing lab and soil nutrient management:

- Soil testing was done in Paderu area of Visakhapatnam district by 56 out of 523 families in 2015 kharif season and 521 families practiced soil nutrient management covering 684.19 acres;
- Soil testing done in East Godavari District by 48 out of 338 families in 2015 kharif season and 326 families practiced soil nutrient management covering 950 acres.

Demonstration and Preparation of high humus based manure models and their applications:

- Based on previous years' experience 1500 households were motivated to take up high humus based manure models like NADEP, VERMI and use of bio-fertilizers in 119 villages from 8 mandals of 4 districts. 1149 households took up NADEP, FYM Pit Compost and Vermin Compost models in 119 villages and produced their own manure for application to the soil nutrient management
- Compost applied for 1284 acres, which was produced by the farmers at village level. This helped in 20% increased productivity of the crops in the 2015 kharif season as compared with normal practice;
- As a demonstration activity supplied 2 tons of vermin compost to 20 families in 5 villages and applied vermin compost for paddy and vegetable crops;
- As a demonstration activity supplied 20 vermin compost beds to 12 families in 4 villages of Pathakota Panchayat.

Development of Homesteads

The strategy of development of homesteads was introduced with the perspective of climate resilience, increasing biodiversity and economic security at the household level. In 2015-16, the outreach comprised 529.32 acres in 128 villages relating to 834 households, of which 135 were women-headed households: resulting in an increased cash income at the household level to an average of INR 6000 - 15000 from an extent 0.20 acres.



System of Rice Intensification (SRI)

Facilitated 115 farmers to cultivate SRI in 2014 Kharif season in 26 villages in an extent of 88.60 acres in 'Pallamu' (wet lands) from East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts. The harvested crop showed an increased yield of an average 40% from one acre compared with



the normal cultivated paddy. and facilitated to cultivate SRI in Rabhi season in Visakhapatnam district, 3 Mandals, 9 panchayats 32 villages 137 farmers covered 70.00 acres (jorelu and voota Lands), we have mobilized farmers to use seed material drought, pests and disease resistance seed varieties like MTU 1010, MTU 1001 and Thellahamsa and provided technical support to SRI Farmers, from Visakhapatnam districts; 137

families used organic manure for SRI and homesteads in Rabhi season the expected result of yield increase by 45% as compared to normal paddy cultivation.

501 farmers from East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts were facilitated to cultivate SRI in 2015 kharif season in 74 villages in 338.80 acres in 'Pallamu' (wetlands). The harvested crop showed an increased yield of an average 40% from one acre compared with the normal cultivated paddy. Facilitated 128 farmers in 128.22 acres (jorelu and voota lands) to cultivate SRI in the rabi season in 19 villages, 8 Panchayats in 3 Mandals, Visakhapatnam district. Farmers were mobilized to use disease and drought resistant seed material, like MTU 1010, MTU 1001 and Thellahamsa and provided technical support to SRI Farmers from 4 districts; 625 families used organic manure for SRI in the kharif and rabi seasons the expected result of yield increase by 45% as compared to normal paddy cultivation.

Mixed Cropping



Promoted mixed crops in 1687.59 acres in 'metta garuvulu' and 'garuvulu' (slope) lands belonging to 1181 households in 121 villages from 26 Panchayats of East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts. The farmers adopted methods of line sowing and decrease seed rate in maize, red gram, and

dry paddy. This enabled reduced drudgery from weeding; crop cutting was easier, and there was increased yield. Earlier the mixed crops were broadcasted, but now farmers are sowing in lines and in a particular order. Systematic harvesting is now possible, with lesser chances of the crop washing out in spite of heavy rainfall.

Kitchen Gardens

Kitchen gardens promoted in 132 villages of 11 Mandals across 2 districts with 2200 families: 12 panchayats in Visakhapatnam and 16 panchayats in East Godavari district. Mobilized seed material worth Rs 2,20,000/- from the State Horticulture Mission and supplied as 90% subsidy to the farmers with 10% being borne by the community and the transportation cost by Laya. This venture has cut down the cost of purchasing of vegetables from market up to INR 4800/- for a period of 6months. In some cases the adivasi families have sold vegetables in the weekly markets thereby earning some cash income: an average of INR 3000/-.



Kitchen gardens promoted in 22 villages, 18 Panchayats of 7 Mandals across 3 districts with 967 families: supplied 11 varieties of seeds by Laya. This venture has cut down the cost of

purchasing of vegetables from market up to INR 4800/- for a period of 6 months. In some cases the adivasi families have sold vegetables in the weekly markets thereby earning some cash income: an average of INR 3000/-

Vegetables cultivation

Facilitated vegetables cultivation in 119.5 acres with 128 households in 19 villages from 6 Panchayats of East Godavari district: seeds of brinjal, tomato, okra, 3 varieties of beans, gourds and leafy vegetables were distributed to farmers. An average income from each acre was INR 38500/-

Improved agriculture implements



Communities are maintaining agriculture tools and implements in 10 villages of Pathakota and Daragedda Panchayat villages: sprayers, tarpaulin and sickles provided to the improved tools centers. The adivasi farmers found the tools useful as they reduce drudgery in manual labour, particularly among women workers. Farmers

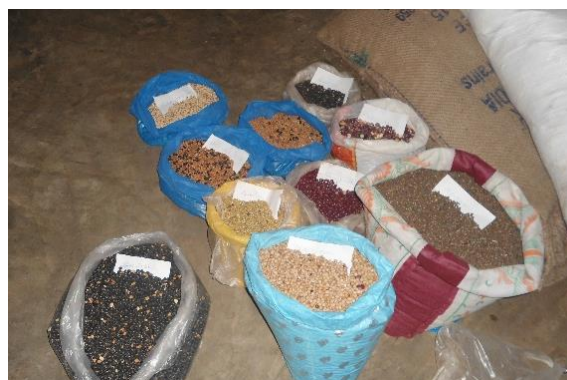
were mobilized to approach Agriculture Department of the Government to provide other useful tools to the farmers in this region. 3 farmers accessed water pumps from Department of Agriculture on 50% subsidy.

Horticulture

Applications to obtain horticulture plantation (mango, cashew and banana, etc.,) were facilitated for 334.94 acres from 58 villages of 18 Panchayats of 8 mandals, 4 Districts in collaboration with MGNREGS and SHM in 2015.

Seed centres with Rare Seed Varieties

Community maintained 5 seed centers in 5 focal villages (Pathakota, Pulimetla, Pulusumamdilanka, Koppulakota and Dumpavalasa) Daragedda and Pathakota Panchayats with 20 traditional varieties including millets, pulses and oil seeds. Laya has provided metal seed storage bins to prevent rats and pests. This year seeds were accessed from seed centers in 15 villages by 236 farmers, seed utilized in 243.5 acres.



Land Development and Soil and Moisture Conservation

Facilitated land development activity under MGNREGS as follows:

- **Visakhapatnam District:** 345 acres of 251 families from 25 villages from 11 Panchayat of 3 Mandals (Removal of stones in 109 acres, bunds formation in 124 acres, and land leveling in 112 acres).
- **East Godavari District:** 477 acres of 323 families from 23 villages from 7 Panchayat of 2 Mandals (only formation of bunds).



Districts	Mandals	Panchayats	Villages	Families	Acres
Visakhapatnam	3 (Peddabayalu, Hukumpeta and Paderu)	11	25	251	345
East Godavari	2 (Y. Ramavaram and Addateegala)	7	23	323	477
2	5	18	48	574	822

WATER RELATED INITIATIVES

Feasibility study of water bodies to provide irrigation and drinking water facility carried out in 5 sites in Paderu area:

1. Kothapoyapalli (Gravity water flow scheme); 2. Sariyapalli; 3. Kummariputtu; 4. Chappadi; and, 5. Koithaguda.

Maintenance of fisheries in water bodies:

This year we have followed up 35 water bodies out of 77 water bodies, and facilitated fisheries in additional 30 water bodies in Visakhapatnam and East Godavari district. 30 beneficiaries from 21 villages of Paderu and Addateegala area were supplied 91,000 fish seed purchased from the Fisheries Department. These fish seeds were growing well and at the end of the February 2016 the fish weight was an average 600 - 750 gm. We have monitored 35 families: they harvested fish during this 2015-16 season, consumed and also sold fish, earning of cash income per household was additionally from Rs.12000/- to 30000/-

FOREST REGENERATION AND NTFP INITIATIVES:

Forest Species Plantation:

Collected and dibbled 6 varieties of seeds from Addateegala region forest area: kanuga, nallamaddi, vegisa, tangedu, jafra and jeeluga and distributed to Paderu area (Hud Hud cyclone affected area) in hill slopes and coffee plantations in 5 Panchayats.

Broom grass plantation was done on agriculture field bunds and slope lands in 48.30 acres of 58 adivasi households from 22 villages 6 Panchayats of East Godavari and Visakhapatnam District. The plants have grown well. Hill broom cultivation was monitored of 32 families, who have harvested and earned cash income in the first year of the plantation: Rs.3500/-, and previous years plantation: up to Rs. 15000/-.



Adivasi field assistants were facilitated to organize 6 bimonthly meetings with Samaramma NTFP Federation's members In Pedakodapalli Panchayat, Paderu Mandal, Visakhapatnam district, and Dalipadu Panchayat, Y. Ramavaram Mandal, East Godavari district: 165 adivasi members attended (32 women) and discussed about renewal of memberships in the groups, sustainable harvesting methods of NTFP products, value addition of broom grass and adda leaf.

ACCOMPANIMENT OF CBOs AND PEOPLE'S INSTITUTIONS

Facilitated 9 CBOs to promote NRM activities in their areas of operation in East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam and Vizianagaram districts:

East Godavari district:

- Adivasi Girijana Samkshema Seva Sangam, Pulusumamidi;
- Adivasi Mahila Raithu Abhivrudhi Seva Sangam, Tungamadugula;
- Vananari Jagruthi (VANAJA), Addateegala.
- Gangamma NTFP Federation, Dalipadu

Visakhapatnam district:

- Samaramma NTFP Federation, Pedakodapalli ;
- Vikasini, Paderu.
- Single women livelihood group in Pedakodapalli panchayat.

Srikakulam district:

- GSS Manapuram

Vizianagaram district:

- Disari Janachaithanya Seva Sangam, Malluguda.

CAPACITY BUILDING (ORIENTATION AND TRAININGS)

- Two-day workshop was organized on 'Sustainable Agriculture' at Acharya N.G.Ranga Agriculture University Regional Research Station cum Krishi Vignana Kendram (KVK), Rastakuntubayi for 28 adivasi youth farmers from Vizianagaram District in May 2015;
- Organized 5-day first phase training programme on 'Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Resilient Agriculture' for 35 youth farmers (10 female and 25 male) from Srikakulam and Vizianagaram Districts at Laya Training Center Paderu in September 2015;
- Organized 5-day second phase training on 'Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Resilient Agriculture' at Manapuram GSS office in December 2015 for 35 youth farmers (10 female and 25 male) from Srikakulam and Vizianagaram Districts. Certificates of attendance were issued to the participants;
- Organized 8-day training for 32 adivasi youth in Paderu region in 2 phases on 'Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Resilient Agriculture': first phase at Laya Training Center, Paderu and the second phase at the Regional Agriculture Research Station (RARS), Chinthapalli. Certificates of attendance were issued to the participants;
- Organized 5-days training on Climate Resilient Agriculture at CRIDA-KVK, Hyderabad in November 2016 for staff and Adivasi Field Assistants: 35 participants (Female - 10; Male - 25);
- 80 adivasi youth farmers participated in 'Zero Budget Natural Farming' 8-day training programme at Kakinada organized by Department of Agriculture: resource persons were Suhas Palekar and team;
- Organized 98 village level meetings in 12 Panchayats of East Godavari District to create awareness on Natural Farming, Integrated Farming Systems, etc;
- Organized 72 village level meetings in 15 panchayats of Visakhapatnam district to create awareness orientation on Natural farming, Integrated Farming Systems, etc;
- Organized one-day training in collaboration of ATMA, East Godavari District on 'Millets Production System and Value Addition of Millets with 140 adivasi farmers from 4 Mandals in East Godavari District;
- Organized 12 monthly review meetings with field coordinators and tribal field assistants in 2 field areas: Addateegala and Paderu.



LEVERAGED SCHEMES FOR ADIVASI FARMERS FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

- Demonstrated cultivation of Minor Millets and Hill Brooms with 20 adivasi farmers (15 millets' and 5 hill broom plots) in collaboration with ATMA in 5 villages of

Daragedda and Pathakota Panchayats of Y. Ramavaram Mandal, East Godavari District;

- Demonstrated cultivation of Turmeric in 10 plots with 10 farmers from Ravulapadu village of Addateegala Mandal, East Godavari District in collaboration with KVK, Pandirimamidi'
- Facilitated access to 50% subsidy in Vegetable Seed supply in 5 Panchayats of Addateegala Mandal, East Godavari District;
- Facilitated the application and sanction of 2 tonnes of Rajma seed to adivasi farmers in Y. Ramavaram Mandal by the Joint Director of Agriculture and Project Officer, ITDA, East Godavari District to respond to the cyclone affected areas of Y. Ramavaram Mandal, East Godavari District;
- Facilitated Land Development activity under MGNREGS Scheme as follows:

Visakhapatnam District: 350 acres of 251 families from 25 villages of 11 Panchayat of 3 Mandals (removal of stones in 109 acres; bunds' formation in 124 acres, and land leveling in 112 acres);

East Godavari District: 477 acres of 323 families from 23 villages of 7 Panchayat of 2 Mandals (only formation of bunds in all the acres).

- Facilitated black gram and rajma seeds and organic fertilizers etc., as inputs from the government's Department of Agriculture.

LOW CARBON FARMING (LCF) INITIATIVES:

20 field trials were conducted in paddy crop in Paderu and Addateegala areas, and the results were recorded by the Fair Climate Network Facilitator.

5.3. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The action research in science and technology initiatives mainly focused on inculcating scientific temper in optimum use of common property resources.

OPTIMUM USE OF COMMON PROPERTY RESOURCES



Energy Efficient Stoves Adoption:

170 energy efficient portable iron stoves were supplied to demonstrate fuel wood saving in Pedanutala, Yerrametla and Kutakarai villages. The stoves help in 30% energy saving on their day to day domestic cooking methods. In the previous year nearly 90 stoves were supplied in Kintukuru and Koyyalagudem villages.

Nurseries and Crop Demonstrations:

As part of micro land development, satellite nurseries were developed in Pedanutala, Koyyalagudem and Yerrametla villages. Seedlings of gumkaraya, chilli and brinjal were raised

and supplied in the respective villages in demonstrative plots. Pineapple cultivation in doddi (homestead) lands and as intercrop in cashew garden was introduced in Kintukuru, Koyyalagudem and Kutakarai villages. Brinjal, chilli, turmeric, and paddy crop demonstrations were taken up in Koyyalagudem village. Seed production demonstration sites for paddy were taken up in Koyyalagudem village. There is a tangible impact on livelihoods of communities on adoption of pineapple, turmeric and brinjal and chilli crops.

Demonstration of Pickle Making:

Pickle making process was demonstrated in Koyyalagudem, Kutakarai, Yerrametla and Pedanutala villages. The recipe for each varieties of pickle making was explained. Nearly 200 kg pickle from amla, citrus fruits and mango was preparation was facilitated and supplied to the communities to demonstrate the use of their surrounding surplus resources of amla, citrus fruits, jackfruit, tamarind and wild mango for pickle making that helps for being consumed during the lean and food scarcity seasons.



Sustainable Harvesting of Non-Wood Forests Produce (NWFP):

Protocols were developed for some of the NWFP like amla, seekakai, palmyra fibre extraction, toddy extraction and harvesting of wild tubers. Communities were encouraged to follow protocols while harvesting NWFP from surrounding forests. 275 NWFP kits were given to five villages as part of demonstrating sustainable harvesting mechanisms in Papikonda National Park villages in East Godavari District. Each kit contains long bamboo stick, iron hooks, sickle, and fibre combing instrument.

Demonstration of Wild Tuber Domestication:

Communities are engaged in seasonal wild tuber harvest and its consumption during lean season. Over exploitation of wild tubers is a big threat for both wild animals and adivasi communities' food source. Communities were encouraged to domesticate important tuber species conservation and domestication in podu lands and doddi lands. Besides some of conservation plots were demonstrated in Yerrametla, Koyyalagudem, Pedanutala and Kutakarai villages. Besides wild tubers some of the semi domesticated tubers were also encouraged to be grown in their surrounding habitations.



Demonstration of Organic Manures:



Godavari District.

Various organic manure models are being demonstrated in Kutakarai, Yerrametla and Koyyagudem villages. Manure preparation with coconut pith, vermicomposting, natural leaf litter with animal application to turmeric crop was demonstrated. Mixed cropping models have been demonstrated with the combination of millets and pulses. Also an organic mela was conducted in East

5.4 DECENTRALIZED ENERGY OPTIONS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Our work continues towards improving energy security for the vulnerable *adivasi* communities across the two districts of Visakhapatnam and East Godavari in Andhra Pradesh. We have been able to increase our outreach with regards to community access to decentralized energy technologies. We have continued with our Energy interventions from the perspective of improving energy security. In addition to make agriculture more resilient to climate change we have promoted adaptive mechanisms in a remote tribal pocket in Andhra Pradesh with regards to promoting drought resistant crops.

EXPLORING COMMUNITY BASED CARBON PROJECTS

This initiative has provided us the opportunity to upscale viable energy technology solutions for access to tribal communities. Household solar technology, community based small hydro and fuel efficient cooking stoves and recently bio sand filters emerged as being potential options to meet basic energy requirement and clean drinking water of these communities. However, the potential for improved stoves, Bio sand filters were also found to be workable for a CDM/VER project.

LAYA PADERU MICRO SCALE GOLD STANDARD VER PROJECT



We continue to be involved in monitoring the use of 4000 energy efficient woodstoves with as many *adivasi* families in the region as a part of the “Laya Paderu Micro Scale Gold Standard VER Project”.

The computer based online monitoring Management Information System (MIS) interface

that was designed in house last year is available for viewing through the web link “ver.laya.org.in”. It has helped communicate the progress in monitoring the stoves.

The second monitoring report is due in November 2016.

LAYA SURAKSHANA GOLD STANDARD VER PROJECT

The LAYA Surakshana VER Gold Standard project preparation period was finally registered in December 2014. Simultaneously the Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA) was signed with Misereor to construct 6000 Energy Efficient Woodstoves by December 2015.



As of 2016 March approximately 5500 stoves have been constructed. We have also been able develop a more robust stove using quarry ash and cement. Approximately 50% of the stoves built in the Addateegala region are with Ash stoves. Repair, maintenance for these stoves is much less. In general, the feedback for these stoves has been more favourable as compared to the Sarala (mud) stove.

PILOTS ON ADAPTATION

The work on pilot projects related to adaptation saw through another agricultural season. Effective results were realized in conserving natural resources through watershed management in the attempt to identify, procure and propagate rare varieties of seed banks and encourage cultivation of local drought and flood tolerant varieties of crops. It was observed that out of many varieties of grains, pulses and tubers that was promoted 11 varieties stood out with the opportunity for sustained propagation. This was mainly due to the communities changing socio-cultural preferences.

Consequently, the next phase of this initiative continues with the addition of 2 more panchayats, Boddandi and Gurthedu, while the previous panchayats (Darragedda and Pathakota) are being monitored. In addition, we hope to also develop some data on carbon sequestration of some of the 11 varieties of grains, pulses and tubers.

These initiatives have helped us access a government project on millets rejuvenation. The situation analysis has given us credible base to propose 5 types of millets Ganti, Sama, Korra, Jonna and Chodi (local terms of millets) reaching out to 1000 families and 1400 acres. In the next reporting phase, we hope to report positively on the outcome of this project proposal.

All these types are drought resistant, pest resistant and can adapt to varied climatic conditions.

DECENTRALIZED ENERGY CLUSTERS

PATHAKOTA AND BONJANGI CLUSTERS

The Alternative Energy cluster at Pathakota, East Godavari District continues to function well. Now with a good road constructed all the way to the village access has become much easier for follow up. The community based Micro Hydro is working thanks to the community effort to maintain it. Recently the village also chose to give up on government supplied electricity in favour of the Hydro due to intermittent power cuts and rising charges of electricity. Once again the community was able to independently make repairs to the system without financial support from Laya.

MUNAGALAPUDI CLUSTER

The pico-hydro in Munagalapudi, Y. Ramavaram Mandal, East Godavari District, continues to function well.

Both these systems are being used as backup to the grid electricity. Recently the government has made electricity free of cost up to 50 units for Adivasi communities. In order to conserve wear and tear of the machines the communities in both clusters rely mainly on grid electricity. However, there are extended periods of time when electricity supply is cut. During those periods the hydros become the only source of electricity. This situation could easily change once the subsidies are lifted.

NEW INITIATIVES

We have been trying to find ways to improve newer, better, faster and cheaper ways to develop technologies so that they may be accessible at a large scale.

We have been trying to explore alternative materials to make the energy efficient woodstoves more robust. Mr. Solankhe, Aarti, Pune came to review the existing stoves built and train our team to use a combination of cement, mud and gravel to improve the stoves design and durability. This has been successfully achieved. In addition, we have made improvements in the chimney protection and improved chimney caps made from tin.



5.5. ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE

For hundreds of years the adivasi communities have used herbal based medicines. This form of medicine is closer to Ayurveda but different from the conventional allopathic medicine. The medicinal plants, which are the source of this medicine, are abundantly available in the forests of this region. Moreover, the use of herbal medicines has been an integral part of

adivasi culture. Herbal medicine can be potentially relevant and useful at least for basic illnesses. Our experience in community health care through herbal medicine in the past 16 years has demonstrated that it is affordable, reliable, efficient and accessible.

PROMOTION OF HERBAL GARDENS

MOTHER HERBAL GARDENS

Maintained and upgraded 2 Mother Herbal Gardens in Gummaripalem and in Addateegala: Gummaripalem Herbal Garden is equipped with 185 varieties of medicinal plants, and in Vanantharam (Addateegala) Herbal Garden is equipped with 230 varieties of medicinal plants: These Mother Herbal Gardens are being used for seed collection and demonstration.

MEDICINAL PLANT NURSERY

Raised medicinal plants' nursery in Vanantharam, with 40 varieties of medicinal plants, for each variety 200 to 1500 seedlings: total 22000 seedlings are raised. These plants are being accessed by interested Traditional Health Practitioners (THP), primary schools and other interested institutes and other Community Herbal Gardens, elsewhere;

COMMUNITY HERBAL GARDENS

Continued 87 Community Herbal Gardens in two districts (64 in East Godavari District and 23 in Visakhapatnam District. These are established in primary schools, Community Health Centres (CHC) and Traditional Healing Centres (THC).



PROMOTION OF HEALTH CARE AT LOCAL LEVEL

Provided Treatment for 12632 patients (male – 6995; female - 5637) through Community Health Centres (CHC), Regular Health Centres at the market places), Need-based (Special) Health Camps in collaboration with the AYUSH Department and in Vanantharam for referral cases.

Treatment Details from April 2015 to March 2016				
		Male	Female	Total
Community Health Centres (CHC)	46 CHCs and 20 THCs are providing health care in 220 villages in 4 districts: East Godavari-19, Visakhapatnam-26, Vizianagaram-17 and Srikakulam-4	5067	3904	8971

Treatment Details from April 2015 to March 2016					
			Male	Female	Total
Regular Health Camps (RHC)	Regularly organize health camps in weekly market days in 5 centres		882	720	1602
Special (Need based) Health Camps	Organized special health camps in 36 villages and 8 village health camps in collaboration with AYUSH Department		664	856	1520
Total			6995	5637	12632

Regularly (monthly) monitoring of health/diseases in 260 families in 2 districts to understand seasonality of diseases and health expenditure in each family.

Regularly monitoring 66 Community Health Centers in 2 districts to understand medicine preparation, herbal gardens and treatment details in each of the centers.

POPULARIZED HERBAL MEDICINE

To popularize and promote herbal based medicines health care 5 Herbal exhibitions were organized: **Boddamanuguda**: center inauguration; **Visakhapatnam**: Biodiversity Day; **Rampachodavaram**: Farmers Meeting; **Maredumilli**: Manyam Jathara; and in **Vanantharam, Addateegala**: Organic Mela), where 300 types of plants/barks/seeds and 50 varieties of prepared medicines were exhibited.



Inaugurated Traditional Health Center in Boddamanuguda village by MLA, Kurupam. This center is provided by ITDA, Parvathipuram: 45 THPs (all male) from Vizianagaram and Srikakulam Districts attended.

SKILL UP GRADATION TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH PRACTITIONERS (CHPs):

Conducted 2 skills up gradation trainings for Community Health Practitioners in East Godavari District. Each was a 3-day training programme, in which 23 CHPs (8 female). They learned preparation of 4 new formulas (medicines) for piles, arthritis, menstrual pain, balm for pains and identification and collection methods of medicinal plants.

SKILL UP GRADATION TRAINING FOR TRADITIONAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS (THPS):



Conducted two skills up gradation training for Traditional Health Practitioners (one in Addateegala and one in Paderu): 22 THPs (all male) attended. In these trainings the THPs are learned disease diagnosis, medicine preparation and preservation methods and sustainable herbs collection methods. At the end of the training medicine preparation instruments, outpatient registers and medical kits were given to the participants.

ACCOMPANYING TRADITIONAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS (THP) NETWORK

Facilitated THP Networks (Adivasi Sampradaya Vanamulika Vaidyula Sangham, Addateegala and Modakondamma Vanamulika Vaidyula Samkshem Sangham, Paderu) to conduct regular meetings: like mandal level meetings and Executive Body meetings in Visakhapatnam and East Godavari districts. In Mandal level meetings the main focus was on experience sharing among THPs, discussions on strengthening the Mandal networks and identifying eligible THPs for skill up gradation training. In the Executive Body Meetings, the main agenda was the provision of identity cards, conducting general body meetings and meeting the Project Officer, ITDA to provide separate space for THPs meetings.

Facilitated the Adivasi Sampradaya Vanamulika Vaidyula Sankshema Sangam, East Godavari District to conduct General Body Meeting in Addateegala with the attendance of 76 THPs (male - 70, female - 6).



Facilitated the Modakondamma Vanamulika Vaidyula Sankshema Sangam, Paderu to conduct General Body Meeting in Paderu with the attendance of 65 THPs (male - 57, female - 8).

Regularly monitored 114 Traditional Health Practitioners (THP) in 2 districts to understand medicine preparation, herbal gardens and treatment details in each of the centers.

RESPONDED TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS FOR WOMEN

Distributed 8 types of vegetable seeds for 285 households (East Godavari - 155 and Visakhapatnam - 130) to promote kitchen gardens; also distributed nutritious plants' saplings (amla, papaya, Pomegranate, guava and lime) to 190 households in East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts.

COLLABORATED WITH VANANTHARAM AYURVEDIC PHARMACY, ADDATEEGALA

Prepared 20 types of herbal medicines in collaboration with Vanantharam Ayurvedic Pharmacy for distribution in Regular Health Centres and Special Health Camps and to Community Health Practitioners.

5.6. EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH AND WOMEN

Also known as 'Parichay', this unit of Laya is involved in the process of engagement in leadership development of adivasi youth. Its outreach has been mainly 4 adivasi populated districts of Andhra Pradesh: East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, and Srikakulam. Its specific objectives are to nurture adivasi young men and women for their self-development as well as on the development concerns of their communities.

The overall perspective of the activities is to promote value based leadership potential among youth in this region. This year we intensively engaged in highlighting youth's role and participation in the MGNREGS and PESA; worked with youth leaders in promoting good governance and action plans of villages in the Panchayat Raj Institutions; and engaged with government departments on policy issues, especially related to MGNREGA, FRRA. We facilitated institutional building processes through our engagement with Community Based Groups (CBO), and Village Level Committees (VLC). Some of the specific initiatives included literacy for leadership and climate change education in schools and in villages.

KEY INTERVENTIONS:

HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

In order to strengthen youth engagement and action on different government schemes and policy issues, we facilitated 2 state level meetings and followed up action on the initiatives of (MGNREGS, RoFR, RTE, Social Security Schemes and PESA). The CBOs' representatives in these districts identified the issues and actively brought them to the notice of the ITDA authorities. As a result, 135 adivasi villages are enjoying better implementation and access to the government programmes.

18 district level CBO network meetings organized, in the 4 districts and micro-level plans were prepared.

WOMEN COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS (WCBO) PROMOTIONS AND NETWORK OF WCBO INITIATION:

Monitoring and accompaniment continued with the WCBOs in East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts focusing on nature of issues they are involved in and the strategic involvement of adivasi women in the process of development. Strategies were developed for the promotion of women leadership across the four districts. WCBO group members play watch dog role in the implementation of government schemes and actively mobilizing community focusing on women and girl child for a better sustainable leadership; raise women's voices in grama sabha and at the panchayat level; and actively participate in the PESA implementation process.

VILLAGE LEVEL COMMITTEES (VLC) NETWORK PROMOTION:

Facilitated the strengthening of 58 VLCs in 12 panchayats of 8 mandals in East Godavari and Visakhapatnam Districts. 58 village level meetings and 9 panchayat level meetings were organized to strengthen the VLCs' capacities on women's issues/gender issues and women's leadership. They were Involved in the issue of village level drinking water, bore well repairs, MGNREGS, follow up of Mother Committees, and SHGs and **School Monitoring Committees (SMC)**.



Facilitated VLCs' 'Regional Network' meeting at Vanantharam in East Godavari **District** to create space for a collective voice on adivasi women issues and MGNREGS; and to meet the needs of adivasi women's leadership to act on their own. Adivasi women are more actively involved in the process.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

INTENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMME



2 intensive training programmes were initiated for adivasi youth from Visakhapatnam and East Godavari Districts to develop youth cadre and strengthen the youth leadership to respond to Community issues and promote youth livelihood. 53 **adivasi** youth were selected for the training programme. The main focus of the inputs was on the social activist role at the village level; leadership qualities, personality development and communication skills.

Facilitated Tribal Rights (RoFR, PESA and MGNREGS): inputs focused on A.P Tribal

Geographical Area, 5th Scheduled Area, and group discussions on village level issues, PRA tools and field visits.

In Srikakulam and Vizianagaram Districts **organized 5 meetings on adivasi youth leadership** and understand of community issue: 144 adivasi youth participated (**male -129, female - 15**).

ISSUE BASED WORKSHOPS:

5 issue based workshops were organized: MGNREGS & RTI: 193 adivasi youth (male - 159, female - 34); Sustainable Agriculture: 30 adivasi youth (all male); RoFR: 118 adivasi youth (male - 93, female - 25); Land Issues: 51 adivasi youth: male - 37, female - 14 to continuously nurture the CBO representatives in 4 districts: Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, East Godavari, and Visakhapatnam. Through this initiative youth/youth groups (CBOs) are intensively involved in understanding their issues and collaboratively working with the community and government departments.



GOVERNANCE MEETINGS:

Conducted 5 PESA related 'governance' meetings in 4 districts: 139 PRI members attended. The focus was on the 'Rules' of PESA and roles and responsibilities of PRI members

ORIENTATION MEETINGS:

In the process of awareness building on issues we reached out to 17,454 youth in 4 districts through 284 village level meetings. Different issues are dealt: roles of PESA, health, agriculture, RTI, RoFR, RTE, SMC, Mothers Committees' roles, SHGs, Climate Change education, government schemes, etc.

EVENTS:



- International Women Day at Pachipenta in Vizianagaram District: 186 adivasi youth participated (male - 33 and female - 153) and at Kothuru in SKLM district: 81 adivasi youth participated (male - 21 and female - 60); East Godavari District at 3 different locations with the participation of 396 adivasi youth (Devaramadugula - 72, Mangampadu - 279 and Pathakota - 45); Visakhapatnam district: 112 adivasi women attended from 12 panchayats and 120 adivasi women at ITDA, Buttaigudem, West Godavari District.

- International Indigenous Day: Main focus on adivasi identity, adivasi rights and legislations. This event was celebrated in 4 districts: Pachipenta in Vizianagaram District: 176 adivasi participants (male - 118, female - 58); Pedduru in Srikakulam District: 108 adivasi participants (male - 42, female - 66); Mangampadu in East Godavari District: 68 adivasi participants (male - 54, female - 14), Paderu in Visakhapatnam District: 50 adivasi participants (male - 41, female - 9).
- Children's Day: was celebrated in 4 schools in East Godavari District: Dalipadu, Panasalapalem, D. Bhimavaram and Addateegala. 1256 children participated: (boys - 603, girls - 653). Games, sports, essay writing and drawing were conducted.

LITERACY FOR LEADERSHIP:

Conducted 4 programmes for 'neo-literates' in East Godavari and Visakhapatnam Districts: 59 neo-literates attended. Apart from refresher inputs on basic literacy and numeracy skills, also input sessions on women's health, fuel efficient wood stoves, MGNREGS were organized. In all followed up 89 neo literates through various processes.

FELLOWSHIPS

The fellowship programme has been an effort to reach out to individuals, who are involved in adivasi empowerment. 19 adivasi youth from community based youth groups were supported with fellowships.

NETWORKING AT LOCAL LEVEL

Networking in collaboration with other units of Laya continued with active involvement in implementation of MGNREGS, and relevant information generation through RTI. The unit collaborated with Andhra Pradesh Adivasi Sanghala Samakya in raising the voice of adivasi youth voice at the district and state levels on implementation of MGNREGS and RoFR.



Collaborated with APVVU, NATWAN, YANADI SAMAKYA and other local networks on ROFR. Participated as co-organizers of a state level meeting: 500 adivasi youth attended.

CAMPAIGNS

Facilitated CBOs Federation to conduct awareness meetings for MGNREGS in their working areas and reached out to 5704 adivasi youth from 239 villages and distributed 3500 pamphlets on MGNREGS in these villages.

5.7. ALTERNATIVE DATA GENERATION AND DOCUMENTATION

The documentation continued to focus on building an alternative database on issues and through programmes and activities. We disseminated information to remote areas on one hand and attempted to sharpen the thrust of our intervention by influencing policy on the other. Documentation, field based studies and publications of relevant documents continued as a priority depending on the need and purpose of involvement. Campaign activities addressed local issues as well as issues in the region. These activities are coordinated by at the Resource Centre level.

ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Documentation: Continued to focus on building alternative database mainly on adivasi issues and disseminating information for strategic involvement and campaign initiatives.

Maintaining library: Continued filing of relevant materials from 3 daily newsletters and about 20 magazines and bulletins for internal and external use on various aspects: sustainable agriculture, natural resource management, displacement, decentralized energy options, government policies and programs, environmental pollution, mining, climate change, health, gender issues, human rights, literacy and education, etc.

Material preparation: Reading and training material on ‘documentation process; personality development; communication skills and climate change’ was prepared for both internal and external use of trainings. This material was used in all the training programmes conducted in this period to students, field activists of Laya and other organizations.

- Prepared training material on the subject of “*Telugu Reporters*” for the internal purpose.
- Disseminated information through training, participation in seminars, etc., and other processes:

TRAINING PROGRAMMES AND MEETINGS

Participated as facilitator: “Waves Leadership Training School for Fisher women” a national level training program for the members of fisher women collectives from 5 coastal states, June - July, 2015 at Visakhapatnam.



Participated in:

- A ‘Development debate’ by Human Rights Forum (HRF) in July 2015, Visakhapatnam.
- A training program on “PESA’ Act for the mobilizers and vice-presidents of the Gram Sabhas by Parichay Unit in August

2015, Manapuram, Srikakulam District.

- A training program on “NREGA” for the CBOs by Parichay Unit in September 2015, Seethampeta, Srikakulam District.
- A training program on “PESA” for the members of CBOs by Parichay Unit in October 2015, Seethampeta, Srikakulam District.
- An awareness campaign on RoFR Act conducted by the PO, ITDA, Srikakulam in November 2015, Seethampeta, Srikakulam District.
- An ‘Intellectuals debate’ on Bauxite mining in Agency areas by ‘Peoples for India Forum’ in November 2015, Visakhapatnam.
- A state level convention on RoFR on the International Human Rights Day, 10th December 2015 by the Adivasi Organizations of the Andhra Pradesh, Rajahmundry.
- A Project Conclusion Meeting of Internally Displaced Tribal People (IDPs) by ASDS, in December 2015 at Rekhapalli, Khammam District.
- An awareness Campaign on MGNREGA in December 2015, conducted by Parichay Unit at Odiya camp, East Godavari District.
- An ‘Organic Mela’ conducted by Science & Technology Unit in March, 2016 at Vanantharam, Addateegala, East Godavari District.



PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTRES (CLC)

Followed up the Community Learning Centers (CLCs) in the three field areas of Laya, East Godavari (Addateegala and Rampachodavaram), Visakhapatnam (Paderu) and Srikakulam (Manapuram) Districts, which were started as a follow up strategy for the ‘10-day Adivasi Leadership Literacy Programme’, where the number of neo-literates is high. Promoting reading habit among the adivasis as part of lifelong learning process is also another objective. The CLCs are stocked with some relevant books/publications. Some CLCs are also being used as meeting places for CBOs and Women Village Level Committees. CLCs are maintained by that village community.

REGULAR PUBLICATIONS (NEWSLETTERS):

‘MANNEMLO’: 4 ISSUES

- April – June 2015: Special focus on eminent **Adivasi Leader and Freedom Fighter** Marri Kamayya. Other topics featured: study on adivasi agriculture, issues of land and actual cultivators, viable education for adivasis, adivasi evictions from forest, government and anti-poor policies, skill training for children, news on local issues, trainings for adivasi youth.
- July – September 2015: Special focus on **issues of implementation of Tribal Area Acts**. Other topics were Recognition of Forest Rights Act, unfulfilled promises of Telangana government, livelihood promotion in adivasi areas through mushroom

cultivation; Constitutional safeguards for adivasis, training programmes for adivasi youth on PESA, MGNREGA, events on World Indigenous Day.

- October - December 2015: Special focus on the late **eminent Retired I.A.S. officer, Dr. B.D. Sharma** who endeavored lifelong for the development of adivasis. Other topics featured were: Recognition of Forest Rights Act 2006, adivasi land issues; development debate, MGNREGS; training programmes for adivasi youth on Tribal Area Acts; welfare of unorganized labour.
- January - March 2016: Special focus on the **problems of implementation of RoFR** (Recognition of Forest Rights Act, 2006). Other topics were legal issues of assignment lands, adivasi land issues; eco-friendly agriculture, general issues of adivasis, MGNREGS, etc.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

- *A Discussion Paper on India's INDCs*: This report of a study is intended as a basis for key discussions in the area of Intended Nationally Determined contributions (INDCs). Scope of the INDCs for India, national priorities for transition to an equitable low carbon pathway, the planning, need for equity indicators etc., were covered.
- *Land Rights of Adivasis*: It is a compilation of more than 80 judgments dealing with the Land Transfer Regulations and Executive Directions given by the governments to the officials from time to time. The objective is to empower adivasi activists, students, civil society, etc.
- Strengthening Climate Resilience for the Poor: State Action Plans on Climate Change: A Policy Note.

FILMS:

A thought provoking animation short film (10 minutes) was produced on the issue of **Climate Change** for the internal training purpose; also uploaded in the YouTube for the wider dissemination of information. 'The Hindu', a national newspaper, published a news item on the film as "Green Message".

DISSEMINATION ROLE:

Disseminated the information on various development issues like Non-access of land and other natural resources for tribal, non-implementation of welfare schemes and Acts like NREGA, PESA, FRA, Constitutional Rights, Tribal health, Violation of Human Rights, Alternatives for Sustainable Development and Environmental and Climate change crises etc.

This unit provided different documentation services and support in organization of trainings, meetings, etc., to the other units as its contribution to the overall goals of the organization.

5.8. POLICY ADVOCACY

The Resource for Legal Action (RLA) Unit was mainly involved in specific policy issues and campaign activity:

- 13 representations to ITDA PO, Rampachodavaram for grant of housing loans for adivasi families.
- Memorandum submitted to Land Acquisition Officers under the Polavaram Project for implementation of the R&R Package for youth above 18 years of age.
- Advocacy for land to land compensation for 38 tribal families who are losing land of Ac115.35 in Nelakota village of Devipatnam under Polavaram project.
- Representations to concerned officials for implementation of adivasi women's rights in Lakshmidivipeta, Tustigumput and Ravvavarigudem outreaching 150 women.
- Mobilisation of 39 adivasi women for implementation of Gram Sabhas provisions at Paidigudem
- Supported 100 adivasis in their advocacy efforts before the Mandal Praja Parishad (MPP) office at Buttaigudem for distribution of waste land of 130 acres in Reddy Ganapavaram for the oustees under the Polavaram project.
- Facilitated 45 adivasis in putting forward their claim for the release of NREGS Bill payments before MPDO Kunavaram,
- Supported 115 women in their efforts to protest against running of liquor shops in the villages of Chinnarkur and Pandrajupalli villages of Kunavaram Mandal.
- Representations given to ITDA PO seeking for issue of community status certificates for 80 scheduled tribes students from 36 villages of Y.Ramavaram Mandal

5.9. NETWORKING

NETWORKING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Laya's collaborative work and experiential sharing with other likeminded people and other civil society organizations was continued: APVVU, ASDS, Andhra University, HRF, NAPM, different public and private Forums, NGO networks, Film societies, Government departments like DRDA, etc. There was also collaboration with government agencies related to agriculture: State Horticulture Mission, Integrated Adivasi Development Agency, and High Altitude Adivasi Zone, Regional Agriculture Research Station (RARS), Chintapalli, Visakhapatnam district.

NETWORKING AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Apart from the networking processes that are initiated at the unit level last year Laya was intensively associated with, **Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change (INECC)**, a national network, which has been engaging with the issue of Climate Change from a grassroots' perspective; and the **Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE)**, a regional network that works towards promoting quality education for all. It comprises 4 sub-regions: South Asia, East Asia, South East Asia and the Pacific.

INDIAN NETWORK ON ETHICS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (INECC)

Laya, which serves as the secretariat for the Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change (INECC), has been on the drivers' seat for pushing the network's agenda. Together with a few network partners, it has been exploring and developing a vision for 'community resilience building for Climate Change'. One concrete way forward in this direction has been the development of package of practices (PoP) for strengthening sustainable farming, e.g., SRI, mixed farming, soil water management, etc., and adoption of decentralized renewable



energy solutions (bio-sand filters, hydrams, briquetting, etc.). This model has been demonstrated by Laya in an adivasi pocket in the East Godavari district. Such models demonstrate an alternate paradigm by positing 'alternatives' models, which marry development with low carbon pathway. This pilot micro

level community resilience building effort has been discussed with the agriculture secretary, GoI, who has also recognized the value in promoting such interventions at scale, such that communities contribute to meeting the larger national climate targets while also building resilience.

Laya's thrust on "Education in a Climate Changing World" has had a vertical as well as horizontal growth at the level of the organization as well as the INECC level. Our concerns on Climate Justice and Sustainable Development of ecosystem communities and youth groups has helped us to reach out to diverse stakeholders, colleges, schools (including some ashram schools in adivasi areas), farmers' groups, print and electronic media persons, local governance officials like the sarpanchs and ward members. We have been able to demonstrate the immense value of a pragmatic field climate education process with the young sarpanchs, who manifest enormous potential to contribute to climate resilient village sustainable development plans as much as education on resilient crops and crop mixes.

However, we have faced enormous challenges in designing templates for imparting climate education to these diverse groups. After several trials we have now been able to develop and design 'several gimmicky tools' which have the potential to evoke vibrant discussions on Climate Change with these diverse groups. Our engagements point towards one key area, i.e., the need to educate teachers at different levels to find a value in 'climate literacy' across formal institutions and spaces.

The platform 'Yuva Drishti' created by Laya to engage youth and young activists on climate change from across the country has provided a meaningful platform for deliberations, reflections and action on the climate agenda. This space has served as a very vibrant opportunity to engage on contemporary issues, climate ethics, politics and meaningful action. The



adivasi pocket of Paderu division in Visakhapatnam district provided an appropriate backdrop for this year's Yuva Drishti convention centred on climate resilience. Yuva Drishti also reached out to groups in North East and Rajasthan, where a group of interested youth in Shillong decided to take leadership by scientifically studying the local waste management problem in collaboration with the local government and later came up with a local strategy to address the problem from a peoples' perspective. Yet in another instance, youth groups have taken up to building water consciousness by undertaking a water audit of the locality to contain water leakage and loss.

The interactions with the media from small towns like Anakapalle, Visakhapatnam district, have shaped our understanding on challenges of climate reporting across mainstream and alternate media. This has given us direction to empower local community reporters and community radio as relevant tools in delivering community based climate talks.

On the policy engagement front, Laya has called for revisiting the State Climate Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC). This SAPCC review process demanded recalibration of the Action Plans from a peoples' perspective. The value addition that Laya has made through the INECC network has been in relation to facilitating dialogues and getting attention of the civil society at the block, district and state level. The very significant initiative of bringing down the SAPCCs to the community level action plans has been an outcome of the SAPCC insights. As an outcome of this process a Policy Note titled: "Strengthening Climate Resilience for the Poor - SAPCC" was prepared and discussed with the Ministry of MoEFCC, MNRE and MCWD. Further, together with INECC as part of the preparation for the crucial CoP 22 at Paris, Laya prepared a document on the INDCs (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions) to inform the civil society's perspective on the INDCs.

ASIA SOUTH PACIFIC ASSOCIATION FOR BASIC AND ADULT EDUCATION (ASPBAE)

Laya is a member organization of ASPBAE. The Associate Director of Laya has been re-elected as a member of the Executive Council for another term: 2013-2016. He has been involved with ASPBAE and related organizations in the following events in 2015-2016:

- Participated as a presenter on the ‘Lifelong Learning Experiences on Laya’ in a panel discussion on ‘International Policy Forum on Lifelong Learning’ organized by the Mongolian Education Alliance and the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture on February 18, 2016 and thereafter ASPBAE Executive Council Meeting, February 19-22, 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Laya is kept informed on the latest developments, especially advocacy issues on education through the regular publications of ASPBAE: ‘The APSBAE Bulletin – Learning Beyond Boundaries’ and ‘ASPBAE Ed-lines – Quality Education for All’. (www.aspbae.org)

6 GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Laya is legally registered under the Societies’ Registration Act of 1860, now amended as the Andhra Pradesh Societies Registration Act, 2001, and under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) of 1976, now amended in 2010 and governed by the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 2011. The Society has a General Body of 15 members, governed by a Board of Management with 7 members, which advises the Secretariat through the Executive Director. A team of unit facilitators, constituting the Project Policy Team, assists the Executive Director.

As a strategy a unit approach has been adopted to facilitate quality and focused intervention in the programme promotion and implementation. These are based on the specific dimensions of the issues or problems addressed. The unit approach has helped to decentralize decision making for more effective functioning. Each unit has been encouraged to function autonomously with responsibility in planning, implementing, monitoring and reporting on activities, and collaborate through organic linkages with other units on the programme front.

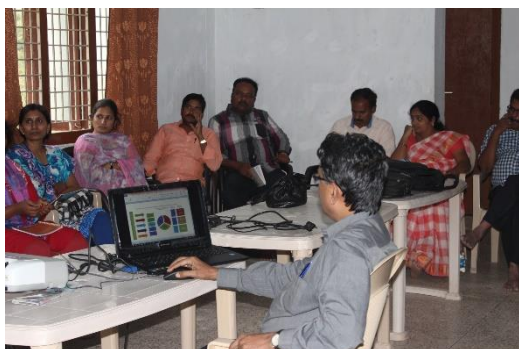
In the last several years there has been a concerted focus on governance, particularly by strengthening the accountability systems within the organization. As a general management strategy of the organization, a relatively small core of personnel manages a wide outreach through a network with CBOs and collaborative relationships with other NGOs. There have been several discussions within the Board of Management on the roles of the Board and the Executive within the organizational context. All the Board members are professionally qualified and have wide experience in the field of development.

MANAGEMENT – GOVERNANCE INTERFACE

STRATEGIC MEETINGS

THE STRATEGIC MEETINGS OF LAYA:

- The first one was held on April 17 & 18, 2015 focusing on ‘Exploring New Directions’: The aspects covered included campaign and advocacy, disaster risk reduction, plastic free Laya, skill development and migration. Other areas included experiences from the field areas on Climate Change Education and MIS systems



- The second meeting was held on January 22 & 23, 2016. The theme of the meeting was ‘Project Monitoring’ and included shared experience of the monitoring process; expected results to be achieved based on the indicators and project monitoring and reporting based on monitoring tools and means of verification.

- The meeting also focused on developing intelligence on all climate related risks and other

key disaster risks in the work areas; developing a comprehensive campaign for policy advocacy on key issues in the work areas; studying waste generation and disposal systems in all areas of Laya’s institutional locations; developing mandal and Panchayat Profile: These profiles will feed into proposed Panchayat Strategic Plans and Mandal Plan for 2030, which will give direction to our future involvement.

BOARD MEETINGS

FOUR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT WERE HELD LAST YEAR:

- 1 June 22 - 23, 2015: Workshop on “Community Colleges: Preparatory Phase and Organizational Management: Challenges for the Future” (June 22) and Board of Management Meeting (June 23);
- 2 September 21 - 22, 2015: Workshop on “Forms of Organizations, Reflections on Sustainable Housing for Visakhapatnam and Reflections on Youth and Lifelong learning” (September 21) and General Body and Board of Management Meetings (September 22);
- 3 December 1, 2015: Board of Management Meeting
- 4 February 22 - 23, 2016: Field visit to Paderu. Sharing context and Laya’s interventions including expected outcomes for 2016 by the Paderu team followed by presentations by Adivasi Stakeholders’ Panel (February 22) and Board of Management Meeting (February 23).



SUMMARY OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CONCISE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 01.04.2015 TO 31.03.2016

RECEIPTS	Amount (Rs. Rounded in Lakhs)		PAYMENTS	Amount (Rs. Rounded in Lakhs)	
Opening Balances:		181.33	Payments:		
TDS Receivable		0.30	Foreign Contributions	414.47	
			Indian Contributions	12.48	426.95
Receipts:			Maintenance, Upgradation & Development Fund		19.43
Foreign Contributions	326.34				
Indian Contributions	25.41	351.75	Closing Balances:		148.00
Maintenance, Upgradation & Development Fund		17.50	TDS Receivable		0.67
Bank Interest Received		22.09			
Advances to Projects		22.08			
Total Receipts		595.05	Total Payments		595.05

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31-03-2016

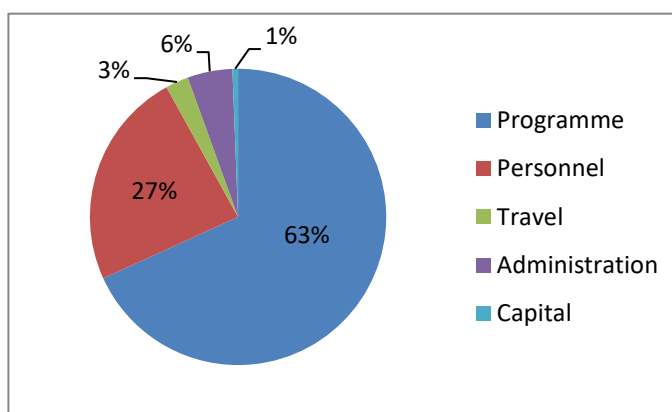
LIABILITIES	Amount (Rs. Rounded in Lakhs)		ASSETS	Amount (Rs. Rounded in Lakhs)	
<u>Excess of Income over Expenditure:</u>			<u>Fixed Assets</u>		206.32
Opening Balance	394.28				
<u>Less:</u> Excess of the Expenditure over Income for the year	65.10	329.18			
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			<u>Current Assets</u>		
Project Advances	23.04		Cash-in-hand	1.19	
Provision for Medical Reimbursement	2.74		Cash-at-Bank	118.80	
TDS Payable	0.01	25.79	Programme Advances	4.95	124.94
			Project Advances		23.04
			TDS Receivable		0.67
Total		354.97	Total		354.97

RECEIPTS FOR 2015 – 2016

Funding Agencies	Total (in Rs.)	%
EED, Germany	6443436.00	18.32
Katholische Zentralstelle fur Entwicklungshilfe e.V, Germany	23094439.00	65.66
MISEREOR, Germany	3096223.20	8.80
Department of Science & Technology, India	2540917.00	7.22
Total	35175015.20	100

EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2015 – 2016

Expenditure	Rs.	%
Programme	22819333	63
Personnel	10149144	27
Travel	1073628	3
Administration	2092693	6
Capital	261830	1
Total	36396628	100



UNIT/PROGRAMME-WISE EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2015-16

INTERVENTIONS	Total Expenditure	%
Natural Resource Management	1741525	5
Alternative Health Care	1923817	5
Micro Credit & Micro Enterprise	53495	0
Empowerment of Youth & Women	4706349	14
Resource for Legal Action	2753802	8
Alternative Data Base, Networking & Advocacy	515728	2
Science & Technology	1940757	6
Decentralised Energy Options/Climate Change	20406632	60
Total	34042105	100

ANNEXURES

GENERAL BODY

1. Dr. B. Devi Prasad, Professor, Centre for Equity for Women Children and Families, School of Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai;
2. Dr. Nafisa Goga D'Souza, Executive Director, Laya, Visakhapatnam;
3. Mr. Walter Mendoza, Development Consultant, Pune;
4. Dr. Lata Narayan, Professor, Centre for Lifelong Learning, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai;
5. Ms. Nandini Narula, Development Consultant, New Delhi;
6. Retd Prof. T. Sudhakar Reddy, Department of Fine Arts, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam;
7. Mr. Sanjay Khatua, Director, DHARA, Bhubaneswar;
8. Mr. Dominic D'Souza, Associate Director, Laya, Visakhapatnam;
9. Dr. D.V.R. Murthy, Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam;
10. Ms. Mani Mistry, Executive Director, Bharbhaya Orphanage for Hindu Girls, Mumbai;
11. Mr. Minar Pimple, Senior Director of Global Operations, Amnest International, London;
12. Ms. Maveen Soares Pereira, Head of South Asia Programmes, Traidcraft, United Kingdom;
13. Ms. Rama Nandanavanam, Independent Consultant in the HIV AIDS sector, with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh.
14. Ms Shabnam Patel, Architect, Visakhapatnam
15. Dr Ritesh P Kyunyakari, Associate Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Hyderabad

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

1. Prof. B. Devi Prasad, President;
2. Dr. Nafisa Goga D'Souza, Secretary;
3. Mr. Walter Mendoza, Treasurer;
4. Dr. Lata Narayan, Member;
5. Ms. Nandini Narula, Member;
6. Prof. T. Sudhakar Reddy, Member;
7. Mr. Sanjay Khatua, Member.

THE LAYA TEAM

S No	Names	Location	Designation
1	Dr. Nafisa Goga D'Souza	Visakhapatnam	Executive Director
2	Dominic D'Souza	Visakhapatnam	Associate Director
3	Dr. Venugopal Rayudu	Visakhapatnam	Specialist, Science and Technology
4	Ms Nagamani V.V.	Visakhapatnam	Coordinator, Finance
5	Mallikharjuna Rao. L.	Visakhapatnam	Coordinator, Documentation
6	Ms Manisha Banerjee	Visakhapatnam	Coordinator, Administration
7	Satyanarayana M.	Visakhapatnam	Coordinator, Information Technology
8	Kumar D.S.S.P.	Visakhapatnam	Office Assistant
9	Ms Bala Jyothi P.	Visakhapatnam	Accounts Assistant
10	Shankar Rao P.	Visakhapatnam	Driver
11	Ms Ramulamma. Ch.	Visakhapatnam	Office Assistant
12	Madhava Rao R.	Visakhapatnam	Driver cum Office Assistant
13	Jagadeesh K.	Visakhapatnam	Hardware Technical Assistant
14	Ms Lavanya K.	Visakhapatnam	Assistant Accountant
15	Sayana Sai Brahmani	Visakhapatnam	Technical Facilitator, Climate Change Desk
16	Kantha Rao T.	Seetampeta	Field Coordinator, Empowerment of Youth
17	Ms Ajita Tiwari Padhi	New Delhi	Facilitator, Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change (INECC)
18	Myron Mendes	Mumbai	Field Coordinator, CDM Project
19	Prasada Rao G.V.	Rampachodavaram	Field Coordinator, Science and Technology Unit
20	Bulliyya G.	Addateegala	Coordinator, Alternative Health Care
21	Koteswara Rao K.	Addateegala	Coordinator, Natural Resource Management
22	Satyanarayana G.V.V.	Addateegala	Accountant
23	Ms Padmavathi A.	Addateegala	Project Assistant, Empowerment of Women
24	Chakra Babu B.	Addateegala	Field Coordinator, Natural Resource Management
25	Satyanarayana D.	Addateegala	Driver cum Office Assistant
26	Veeraraghava K.	Addateegala	Field Coordinator, Herbal Based Health Care
27	Gowri Shankar E.	Addateegala	Field Coordinator, Empowerment of Youth & Women
28	Bhagavan Raju K.	Addateegala	Technical Assistant (Contract)
29	Kishore Kumar I.	Addateegala	Facilitator, Micro Enterprise Desk
30	Prasad R.	Jalampalli	Care taker of Training Centre
31	Ravindra V.	Paderu	Area Coordinator
32	Srinivas Rao N.	Paderu	Field Coordinator, Empowerment of Youth
33	Ms Annapoorna S.	Paderu	Finance and Administrative Assistant
34	Lova Raju D	Paderu	Field Coordinator, Decentralised Energy Options
35	Ms Lakshmi Sunitha V.	Paderu	Data Entry Operator, LCF Project
36	Somesh Kumar R.	Paderu	Field Coordinator, Natural Resource Management
37	Satyanarayana B.	Paderu	Field Coordinator, VER Project
38	Trinadh P.	Rajahmundry	Advocate, Resource for Legal Action
39	Ms Annapurna M.	Rajahmundry	Advocate, Resource for Legal Action
40	Ram Babu P.	Rajahmundry	Field Coordinator, Resource for Legal Action
41	Ram Babu M.	Rajahmundry	Office Assistant, Resource for Legal Action
42	Murali Vasu P.	Rajahmundry	Finance and Administrative Assistant, Resource for Legal Action

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES:

NAFISA GOGA D'SOUZA:

- ☞ Conference of Parties (COP) - 21: December 2 – 11, 2015, Paris
- ☞ Participated in the INECC network meeting, March 28 – 31, 2016 in Kathmandu, Nepal

DOMINIC D'SOUZA:

- ☞ Participated as co-course director in the ASPBAE's 'Basic Leadership Development Programme (BLDC)' from November 17-22, 2015 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
- ☞ Participated in the ASPBAE's 'Education for Sustainable Development Core Group Meeting' from December 7 – 8, 2015 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.
- ☞ Participated in the ASPBAE's 'Asia Pacific Education Coalitions' Consultation Meeting' from December 9 – 11, 2015 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.
- ☞ Participated in a panel discussion on 'International Policy Forum on Lifelong Learning' organized by the Mongolian Education Alliance and the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture on February 18, 2016 and thereafter ASPBAE Executive Council Meeting, February 19-22, 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- ☞ Participated in the INECC network meeting, March 28 – 31, 2016 in Kathmandu, Nepal

AJITA TIWARI:

- ☞ Participated in a SAARC Civil Society "Pre CoP discussion on INDCs and Role of Civil Society", November 26 – 27, 2015, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- ☞ Conference of Parties (COP) - 21: December 2 – 11, 2015, Paris
- ☞ Participated and facilitated a panel discussion during South Asian Conclave on Low Carbon Options in South Asia, January 9 – 10, 2016, Kathmandu, Nepal
- ☞ Participated in the INECC network meeting, March 28 – 31, 2016, Kathmandu, Nepal

MYRON MENDES, BULLIYYA G, KOTESWARA RAO K, NAGAMANI VV AND SAYANA SAI BRAHMANI:

- ☞ Participated in the INECC network meeting, March 28 – 31, 2016, Kathmandu, Nepal