

V O L I | A P R I L - J U N E | 2 0 1 5

the Village Voice

Village Reconstruction Organization – India



From Director's Desk

My dear Friends

Greetings from Peter Daniel,
Operational Director of VRO!

It is indeed a great pleasure to
revive VRO tri-monthly news
letter “**VILLAGE VOICE**”.

Fr Michael Windey SJ, the
founder director introduced ‘the
village voice’ in order to keep the
connection between the field of
work (villagers) and the people
who work behind the screen so
that there is a mutual inspiration
and collaboration. Hence I am
glad to bring back ‘village voice’
and welcome everyone to read and
enjoy so as to give your feed back
so that we continue to strive hard to
sail the boat of VRO towards its
goal “Better villages for a better
world”.

Thanking you,
Love and prayers
Peter Daniel SJ
Operational Director,
VRO-India.
14.07.2015

Community Participation

Empowering and enabling communities
to generate solutions

Community Worker

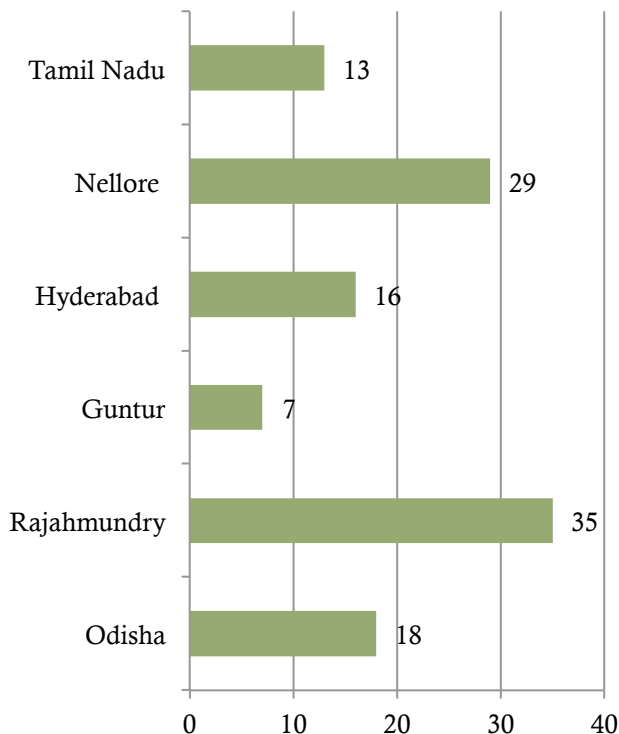
An individual recruited by the community, for the community and from the community to work for the satellite centers that are established in the village with consultation of village councils

Community Worker Orientation

We made a great move in terms of our working strategy with communities. We as an organization believing in the powers, strengths and initiatives of villagers made sure to incorporate those elements to generate solutions from and within the communities. We have succeeded in shifting our working strategy from center based to community based; we have established satellite centers that are located in the villages and are maintained by the village councils. Each satellite center is taken care by an individual from the community, appointed by the community and for the development of community. We call them – the community worker.

We are happy to announce that we have a total number of 118 community workers i.e. 15 in Gonasika Cluster, Odisha and 13 in Kothakota cluster, Andhra Pradesh looking at community mobilization and animation. While others are located in various regions looking after 26 tailoring centers and 64 evening study centers i.e. a total of 90 centers.

Orientation camps were conducted for all the community workers to orient them about the organization, vision, mission, objectives, core values, personnel, projects, roles and responsibilities. The Project Coordinator, Mr. Jean Paul and Cluster Coordinator, Kothakota, Mr. Showri visited all the regions and conducted orientation camps for the community workers. After the orientation at different regions we assure all our community workers are charged with the mission and vision of VRO.





Summer Camps

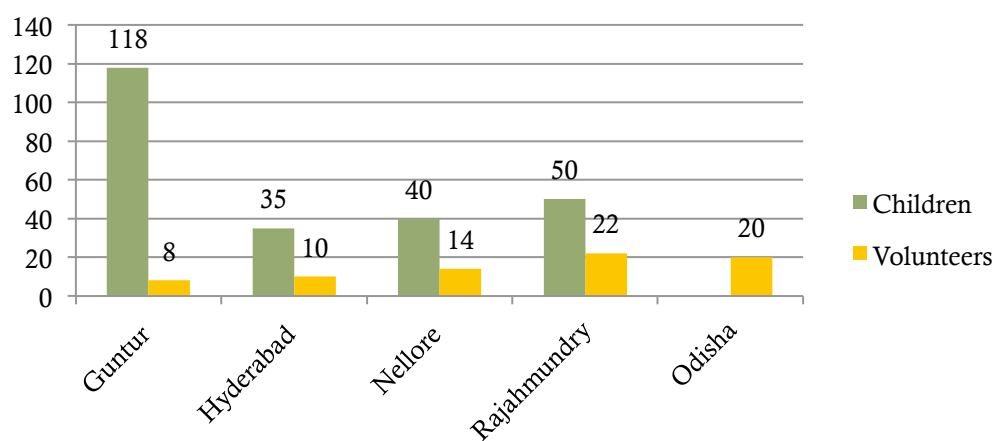
Spoken English and Government Entitlements

VRO has been making continuous efforts in enabling the volunteers to gain professionalism in all the works they are involved since 5 years. In the month of April 2015, with the support of Jesuit Brothers spoken English camps were conducted in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana for volunteers and children at our villages. In Odisha, with the support of local government officials, volunteers were given orientation about various government entitlements and way to procure the same.

A total number of 54 volunteers from 4 regions viz., Guntur, Rajahmundry, Nellore and Hyderabad and 243 children from 11 villages i.e.

5 in Guntur, 3 in Hyderabad, 2 in Rajahmundry and 1 in Nellore region participated in the camps.

In Odisha, 20 volunteers participated in summer camp. The camp was conducted in Ashapuri LLC Center, Gashipura Block. Government officials from the block office were the resource person for the camp.



Passing Out Ceremonies

Odisha

All the girl trainees i.e. 96 were trained at 6 Livelihood Learning Center (LLC) centers were awarded with certificates from Usha International Sewing School. The boys i.e. 17 were trained at 2 centers were awarded with completion certificate from VRO. Apart from the above, 6 girls and 4 boys cleared their 10th class board exams too.



Andhra Pradesh & Telangana

The trainees of LLC, Parthipadu (48km) i.e. 13 were trained on electrical and basic carpentry. They were awarded with completion certificate and work kits to practice the skills. A total of 81 trainees were passed out from 4 LLC centers of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

Inaugurations

Katrapalli - Model House

The village rebuilding program at katrapalli was started with 24 houses in its first phase. In the first week of June 2015, Mr. Warner Brix and Thomas who are part of the donor group supporting the project inaugurated one model house. They also made a short film about the village and work of VRO in Odisha



Podadihi – Bore-well

With the support of Kelkheim group, four bore-wells were installed in four colonies of Podadihi village. The inauguration of the bore-wells was done in the month of June 2015. Fr. Peter Daniel, OD inaugurated the new bore-well with prayer and people conducted local rituals. Mr. Warner Brix, Mr. Thomas from Eklub also graced the occasion.

Agro Forestry Program - Kothakota Cluster

An initiative towards rehabilitation of cyclone affected area



Kothakota

Cluster consecutively organized Training of Trainers (ToT) to our field staff and farmers on Marking and Pitting for plantation activity. The training was organized at two village i.e. Kadagedda village of Cheemalapadu Grama Panchayat, Ravikamatham mandal; and Kondaveedhi village of Zalampalli Panchayat, Madugula mandal. The Agriculture Consultant Mr. Nagaraju from Visakhapatnam was the resource person. According to farmers' interest the resource person facilitated selection of 10 species of fruit bearing plants to be planted at the start of monsoon. He also trained the farmers on marking and pitting. In one of the meetings, the farmers also came up with the idea to sow vegetables, millets and pulses as inter crop.

In the month of May 2015, the Cluster team were involved in following up the farmers in marking and pitting. The cluster team conducted survey for bore well points to provide water facility to the agro-forestry. Geologist Mr. Y R Reddy from Visakhapatnam surveyed and marked the points for bore well in three villages.

In the month of June 2015, 119 tribal farmers were identified through a survey. Later, our

team along with farmers visited Kadium, Rajamundry and purchased 10,000 plant saplings. We also purchased organic fertilizers like organic manure, neem cake from Anakapalli. The local stakeholders participated in unloading of materials which arrived from various places in different



trucks. On 26th July 2015, Mandal Development Officer (MDO), Ravikamatham, Mr. Jayaprakash; Sarpanch of Cheemalapadu Panchayat and Project Coordinator of VRO inaugurated the event by planting the plants. At the same time, Agriculture Consultant, Mr. Nagaraj trained the farmers and field staff on how to plant the plants and take care of them. He demonstrated the process of mixing organic manure, cow dung with the soil dug to form the pit.



Other Events

Windey Birth Anniversary

On April 28th 2015, in all the regions of VRO, Fr. Windey Birth Anniversary was celebrated. Volunteers shared their work experience with Fr. Windey and they sang songs on Fr. Windey during the meetings. It was a grace filled moment for all of us



George Visit

Mr. George Fehling, well-wisher of Feriburg group (Ronald), Germany visited Guntur region. He visited perecherla circle projects and interacted with stone crusher workers and stakeholders. He was moved by the hard work on which they live. Later, he visited our head office and interacted with the core team. We thank him for spending his valuable time with us

Support to Children (Dawn CLC)

The 12 girls of Children Learning Center – Dawn (132 Km), Hyderabad Region discontinued their education due to the case in that particular place. With the motivation of OD, children revived their studies in Little Flower School, Nalgonda. They were supported through supportive assistance. All the children were provided with pair of clothes, school bags, shoes and bed sheets.



Welcoming the new AD

Velangani Raju SJ, the new Associate Director of VRO – India started his services in the organization from June 4th 2015. We heartily welcome him to VRO family and wish him all the best.

Community Participation



Village Reconstruction Organization

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