

V O L I V | J A N – M A R | 2 0 1 6

# the Village Voice

Village Reconstruction Organization – India

## Joy, Celebration and Hope

Dear Friends

Greetings from VRO!

VRO to my before you once again with the “village voice”, the last one for this financial year. When I turn back and see the year 2015-16 and my heart is filled with gratitude and thanksgiving. First and foremost, I thank **God** for guiding us and our activities all through the year with His powerful providential hands.

I remember with grateful hearts the **village-people and the children** who believe in VRO and our faith in “a better village for a better world” and who allowed us to work among them in partnership. If I am permitted to borrow Fr Windey’s words, “Far away, in countless communities of other continents, there are all of these “partners” in our endeavours: “givers” with joy, of what they received and earned more generously,” runners” for the prize that God alone can give after our “earthly marathon,” refusing honours, sharing pains, witnessing for what they believed “often without seeing,” in true faith”. With folded hands I stand before all our beloved **donors** to thank them and appreciate them for their passion to do something to this particular humanity in the globe.

To ALL our **volunteers**, who toil hard in the field night and day without any comfort and solace, all I can say today is “thank you”. It is through you as my visible and invisible angels, that the Lord displayed his power as always; for the same reason, I like to say “I trust you” too: and that we may remain the loyal, enduring, daring companions for that world-newness that we believe must come through humility, simplicity, good-neighbourliness, friendship, honesty, creativity, and oneness with nature.

Finally, I thank our **Governing board members** and **general body members** for the timely encouragement, guidance and support.

Let us continue to march forward towards achieving our goal of building “better villages for better world”.

Love and prayers

Peter Daniel SJ, Operational Director



## Children Festival

An event organized to gather children of target area providing them space to expose their talents. Children displayed their art works and performed dance and play-let at the event.

### Nellore Region – Children Festival

On 31<sup>st</sup> Jan, children from 10 target village of Anthavaram celebrated children's festival. A total of 120 children participated in the event. The chief guest, Mr. Sukumar Reddy, Manager, BMR Aqua Industries congratulated the children and appreciated all the participants. We thank BMR aqua industries for their support to organize the event. A similar event was organized in Pallipalem and 58 children participated in the event. The villagers and children themselves organize the event. An amount of 16,000/- INR is generated from all the target villages for the event. Apart from villagers, children also contributed money form children fund towards gift articles.

### Guntur Region – Children Festival

Children from target village of Prganam celebrated children's festival on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016. Dr. Rober Wychera, donor partner, EKlub also participated in the event and thanked children for giving him a warm welcome. Mr. Haribabu, Mandal (Block) Education Officer and Mr. Seethapathi, Retired Head Master were chief guests of these event. They thanked the organization promote and requested to continue such events which encourage children's talents. Apart from pragnam, children from percherla also celebrated children's festival on 24<sup>th</sup> Mar; Fr. Peter Daniel SJ, Operational Director was the chief guest. He congratulated the winners and awarded them with various prizes

### Rajahmundry Region

Jaggampeta children's festival was one of the mega events organized for the year 2015 – 2016, 438 children and parents participated in the event and made it a grand success. Dr. Robert Wychera, donor partner from EKlub participated in the event and appreciated the operational director for making the shift from center focused to village focused reaching large number of children and communities. He added to our surprise that he too finds difficult to explain the shift to his friends back home. However he is impressed very much with new focus. He also appreciated all the children for their talents like dance, drawing, signing, debate, essay writing, etc. The trainees of Livelihood Learning Centre (LLC) Parthipadu, Rajahmundry region and Perecherla, Guntur region also participated in the event. They made arrangements for the event and conducted the competitions.







## Hyderabad Region – Children Festival

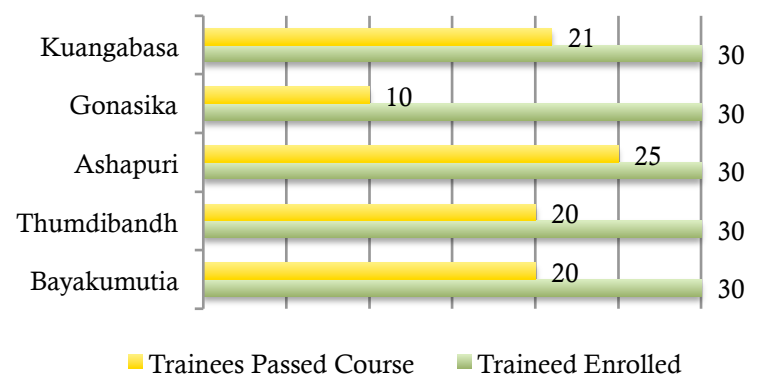
Children from target villages of sunset celebrated children's festival on 31<sup>st</sup> of Jan; Fr. Augustine, Fr. Francis, Fr. Stalin, from Devine Mercy School, Mr. K. PrabhakarRao, MEO of Pedavoor, Mr. Ravi, Sarpanch of Parvedula, Mr. Seetaram, Sarpanch of NeemaNaikThanda are chief guests of the event. They appreciated children who participated in the event and they expressed their happiness to see their children performing. They also thanked the organization in providing such a platform for children to expose their talents.

Children festival at krurumedu was organized on 26<sup>th</sup> of Feb Mr. Satyanarayana, Deputy EO, Mr. D. Murali, MEO, Chinthapalli, Prof. RafatRazia, GoB Member of VRO, Dr. N. J. KarunakarRao, GoB Member of VRO, Mr. Venugopala Reddy, General Manager Ultra Power Project, Thakkalapalli, Mr. Venkataiah, Sarpanch of Gollapalli are chief guests of the event. They have spent time with children and all the winners were awarded with prizes

## Pass Out Ceremony

### Odisha Region

It is end of the year and all the trainees doing their course at Livelihood Learning Centres attend final examination. All the trainees performed well in tailoring examination conducted by USHA International Sewing School. Apart from skill, the trainees also attended school examination. A total of 150 trainees i.e. 60 boys and 90 girls were enrolled in 5 centers. 96 trainees out of 150 passed the examination and were awarded certificates from USHA and VRO. A total of 16 trainees cleared their school examination i.e. 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> standard.





## Village Inaugurations

A total of 5 villages were inaugurated in the year 2015 – 2106. 4 villages viz., Buttlajallampalli, Pedapittagedda, Kamakotam and Madugula were constructed in kothakota cluster area and 1 village viz., Katrapalli was constructed in odisha, gonasika cluster area. A total of 157 houses were constructed in all five villages.

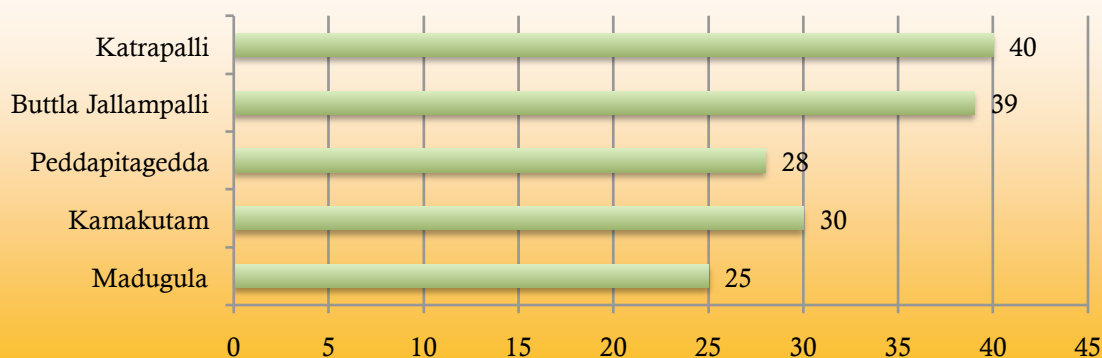
Katrapalli is constructed in two phases with first phase with 23 houses while second phase with 12 houses. The donor inaugurated the first phase in the month of December by Mr. Brix Werner. Most Rev. Fr. Mallavarapu Prakash inaugurated Madugula village in the month of September.

Dr. Robert Wychera, donor

partner, Eklub, Austria, inaugurated the remaining three houses that are supported by Eklub. Fr. Peter Daniel, Operational Director; Fr. Velangani, Associate Director were also present for the inauguration ceremonies on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016. Dr. Wychera in his speech appreciated villagers for their efforts to make their village ready within short period of time. He also added that the unity and hard works leads to better village. He appreciated in a special way of the quality of the construction.

No.	Name of the village	Families Benefited	Inaugurated Date	Inaugurated by
1	Madugula	25	05-09-2015	Rev. Fr. Mallavarapu Prakash
2	Kamakotam	30	25-02-2016	Dr. Robert Wychera
3	Buttlajalampalli	39	26-02-2016	Dr. Robert Wychera
4	Peddapittagadda	28	26-02-2016	Dr. Robert Wychera
5	Katrapalli-I	24	28-12-2015	Mr. Warner with his family
6	Katrapalli-II	16	31-03-2016	MDO, Banspal Block

### Village Rebuilding Program - Outreach 2016





# Women's Day Celebrations

## Guntur Region

On 8/3/2016, celebrated the Women's Day with the Udayapuri DWACRA (Development of Women And Children in Rural Area) women and the resource persons were Mr. G. Samba Siva Rao, Fromer SAI Trust, Ms. K. Saralla, Dwacra Animator, Ms. P. Sandhya Rani, Ms. P. Basvamma, Sarpanch of Unnava village. A total of 40 women were attended to the meeting.



## Hyderabad Region

On 8/3/2016, celebrated the women's Day with the VT Nagar Mall and Godakondla villages under WEP-Kurmedu, Hyderabad region, in the presence of Ms. P. Rama Devi, Ms. P. Laxmi and Ms. J. Mani team from VRO and a local ICDS staff and Village Revenue People of Mall and a total of 90 women attended the meeting. The women were provided with information on importance of women's day and women rights



## Gonsika Cluster

Gonasika Cluster observed International Women's Day on 8th March at Bayakumutia GLLC Campus. In the meeting Bayakumutia GP SHG's members, GLLC Trainees with volunteers, Supervised Study Centre teachers & Cluster volunteers were present. The Resource persons were the Banspal Block Government officials. Women organized a rally with slogans on women rights in bayakumutia village.



## Nellore Region

The women of Nellore target villages celebrated women's day on 8<sup>th</sup> March. 133 women participated in the event i.e. 98 women who are undergoing skill under government affiliated project and 35 women of target villages. The resource person was project officer of Rajiv Yuva Kiralnu Project who spoke about economical independence of women.



## Support to Farmers

### Pump Set distribution

On 21-01-2016 at Kothakota Cluster Area provided Diesel water engines to Chimalapadu Tribal area people. Cluster Co-Ordinator Mr.D. Showri Raju met Government Official Ms. Siva Komali and procured engines for farmer. She sanctioned 5 Greaves Company water engines on subsidy basis. The pump set were



### Lac Cultivation

On 14.01.2016 Capacity building on Lac cultivation held at Kadagedda village to field staff and farmers. Resource person District Project Manager, Velugu oriented about Lac cultivation and pruning practices at new school building of Kadagedda village, cheemalapadu panchayat, Ravikamatham block. The coordinator, animators, community workers and farmers participated in the Training. The number of participants were 19. The resource person is Mr. Shanmukharao, former DPM, Velugu from Visakhapatnam.

In the month of February, the team underwent full-fledged 5 day Training on Lac cultivation at IINRG (Indian Institute for Natural Resins and Gums), Ranchi, Jarkhand state, formally called as Lac Research Institute situated at Namkum, Hatia. 15 persons from Kothakota i.e. 5 animators, 9 farmers and 1 Coordinator, participated in it. We are taught Scientific Method of Lac cultivation on 4 plants such as *Schleichera oleosa* (*Boosi* in Telugu and in Hindi called as *kusum*), *Ziziphus mauritiana* (in English called as 'ber'), *Butea monosperma* (in Hindi called as *Phalas*) and *Flemingia semialata*.

### Drip bottle water management

In Kothakota Cluster Project Area awareness on drip bottle method for irrigation to agro forestry has been initiated and till date 1,290 disposed bottles were distributed. 67 farmers installed the bottles. This way of innovative work has been applauded by everybody in the village.



# Joy, Celebration and Hope

One more year passed,  
we shared **joy** with one another at all occasions  
and **celebrated** every moment of our journey helping the poor and needy  
**hoping** for a better day, better life and better village for a better world

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