



**Sasakawa-India
Leprosy Foundation**

"10 Years of Restoring Dignity"

Annual Report 2016-17



Message from the Hon'ble Prime Minister

Mahatma Gandhi, Father of our great nation, had an enduring concern for people affected with leprosy. His vision was not to treat them but also to mainstream them in our society.

Our efforts to eliminate leprosy from this country, under the National Leprosy Eradication Program is just a tribute to his vision. This Program was launched back in 1955, the goal of leprosy elimination as a public health problem, that is, prevalence rate of less than 1 case per 10,000 population at national level was achieved in 2005.

Although, the case detection rate thereafter has marginally decreased, visible deformity at the time of diagnosis has increased. This suggests that cases are being detected late. As a country, we have to leave no stone unturned to not just reach the last mile, but also work together, to eliminate the social stigma attached with this disease. A three-pronged strategy for early detection of leprosy cases in the community was introduced in 2016, under the National Health Mission, especially in hard to reach areas.

A special leprosy case detection campaign was carried out in 2016, as a result of which more than 34,000 cases were confirmed and were put on treatment. In addition, persons who are in close contact with the patients were also given medicines to reduce the chances of leprosy occurrence among them.

Although, we have achieved our target at the national level, we have long arduous way to go to ensure that this treatable disease is eliminated from our country. We also have to work together for the socio-economic upliftment of the cured persons and their contribution in nation building. We have to strive hard to ensure that these citizens of our country lead a life of dignity that Mahatma Gandhi dreamed of. In this context, I am happy to note the work being done by The Nippon Foundation, which is organizing the launch of Global Appeal 2017 to end stigma and discrimination against people affected by leprosy.



Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

A transcript of the congratulatory message shared at the Global Appeal 2017

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Context of Our Operations

India declared itself as having eliminated leprosy as a public health concern in 2005, when it brought down the prevalence of leprosy to less than one new case per 10,000 population. This benchmark set by WHO, indicated a level of prevalence at which the disease ceases to be a public health concern. Compared to the prevalence rate of nearly 50 per 10,000 at the time of Independence, this was indeed a laudable achievement.

Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, who has been instrumental in bringing global attention to leprosy eradication, realised that his mission to eliminate leprosy would be incomplete without eradication of the social stigma associated with the disease.

Mr. Sasakawa compares the fight against leprosy to the two wheels of a motorcycle. The front wheel being the medical and the rear being the socio-economic development of leprosy-affected persons. After decades of active support to medical treatment and care, he initiated two visionary Programs to ensure the social and economic integration of leprosy affected people.

As a first step, he set up the ***National Forum of Leprosy Affected People (now renamed 'Association of Persons Affected by Leprosy')*** in 2005 – an association of leprosy-affected people living in colonies across the country. The purpose of this organization was to give voice to leprosy-affected people and to enable them to lead their struggle for inclusion and acceptance.

As a second step, he established ***Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF)*** in November 2006 to provide socio-economic empowerment opportunities to leprosy-affected people and their families, especially those living in leprosy colonies.



About S-ILF

Instituted in November 2006, Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF) works for mainstreaming persons affected by leprosy and their families through their social and economic empowerment as well for increasing their social acceptability. It promotes change in social attitudes and behaviours by spreading the facts about leprosy and demonstrating that the disease is fully curable and leprosy-affected people are just like anyone else. S-ILF envisages a society in which leprosy cured persons no longer need to have the demeaning dependence on alms or begging and can live their lives with dignity.

Goals:

- To create conditions that will enable them to have equal access to economic opportunities.
- To increase social acceptability of leprosy cured people and their families through dissemination of scientific information.

Strategic focus:

Provide opportunities

Providing microfinance opportunities and facilitating access to vocational training and higher education

Enhance capacities

Building capacity and training in livelihood activities for self and wage employment

Empower people

Providing financial and technical support; mentorship and guidance, by ensuring transparent processes and accountability.

Engage in Advocacy

Engaging with opinion and policy makers to speak for the rights and inclusion of leprosy-affected people.

Raise awareness

Raising awareness about leprosy among all sections of society to fight the stigma

VISION

To work for the integration of leprosy cured people and their families into society by ending the discrimination faced by them.

MISSION

To end the stigma against the disease and to ensure equal social, economic and cultural opportunities for those affected by leprosy.

Who do we work with?

We work with leprosy-affected people living in self-settled colonies who are members of the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL). There are approximately 800 colonies that are scattered across India, with some areas having larger number of colonies than others. While some colonies were set up by the government or by missionaries, most of them are settlements that came up spontaneously on public land. These colonies are usually found near erstwhile leprosy hospitals, on banks of rivers, near drains, in and near religious places or places of tourist attraction.

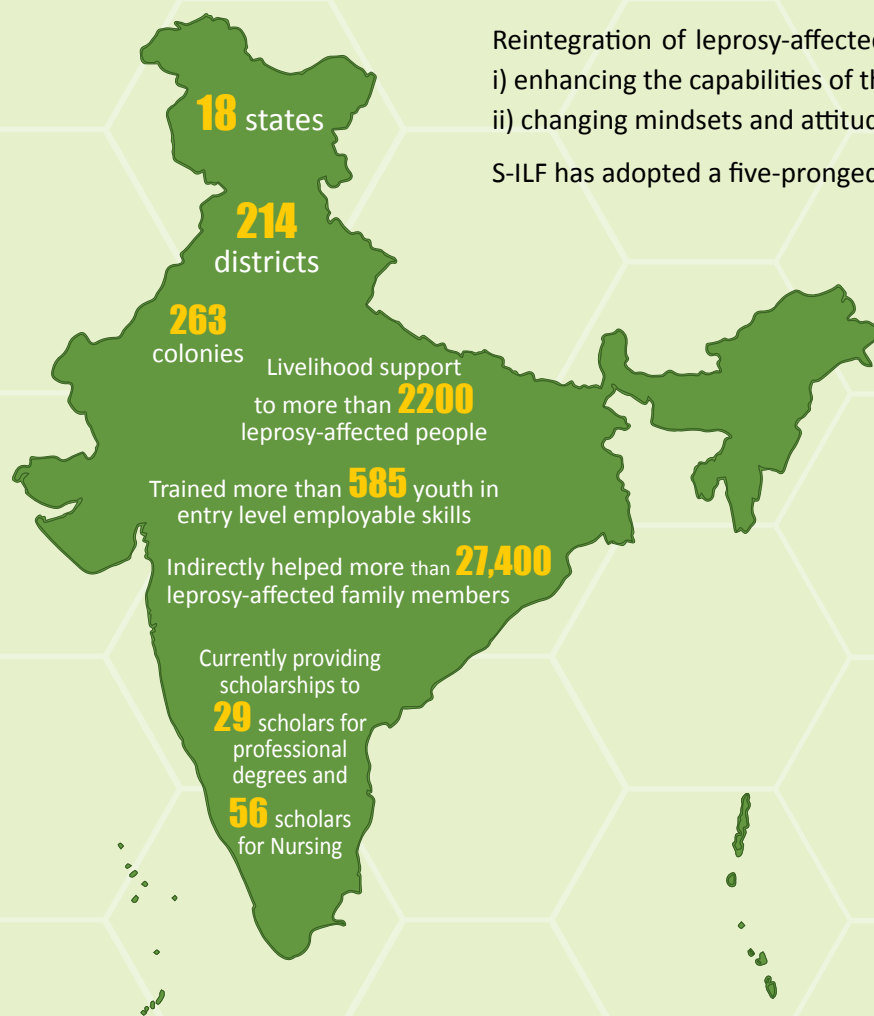
Our Program Goals

Reintegration of leprosy-affected people into mainstream society requires both i) enhancing the capabilities of those affected to access market opportunities and ii) changing mindsets and attitudes of the others.

S-ILF has adopted a five-pronged approach to achieve this:

- Enhancing employability of leprosy-affected people through education, skill training and livelihood generation in both formal and informal sectors
- Matching capacity building with market demand and employment opportunities
- Providing access to financial resources for self-employment and education
- Educating public about leprosy and reducing stigma.
- Forging partnerships amongst NGOs, self-help groups, business and media

S-ILF's programs, which place leprosy-affected people and their families at the core of development, reflect S-ILF's inclusive and integrated approach. S-ILF recognizes that poverty, education, financial independence and dignity are all inter-connected and are impacted by the underlying stigma associated with the disease.



Message from Our Patron



Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF) was established to help leprosy-affected people and their families participate more fully in society through social and economic assistance and support. Providing livelihood support and education as well as ensuring a life of dignity have been its major areas of work.

S-ILF now marks its 10th anniversary. I am proud that during these 10 years, under the leadership of Dr. Noordeen, founding trustee and Chairman (2006-2016), SILF has reached out to more than 5,400 households and helped them access resources to improve their employability and income.

S-ILF has experienced dramatic growth over the past decade and we have gained widespread support from both national and state governments, CII, Parliamentary Forum members.

In a recent message at the Global Appeal to End Stigma and Discrimination Against Persons Affected by Leprosy, launched by The Nippon Foundation, on January 30th 2017, Prime Minister Mr. Modi gave a strong message to end not only the disease but also the stigma and discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their families.

Dr. Noordeen from the outset has successfully steered the foundation such that its innovative programs now reach out to larger numbers of persons affected by leprosy.

I am happy that S-ILF has an ambitious plan to expand its reach and scale up to bring larger number of leprosy people and colonies within its programs in the coming years. Mr. Tarun Das, former head of CII, has recently taken over as Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

I am sure that under his dynamic leadership, S-ILF will make strides to achieve its mission to integrate leprosy-affected people and to make India leprosy free in the near future - free of the diseases and free of the stigma against the people affected by it.

Through the expansion of livelihood and skill training programs, I believe we will see further social and economic participation by person affected by leprosy and their children, enabling them to support themselves and live with dignity, free from fear of discrimination.

I wish S-ILF and the new board every success in the coming years. I envision a society where persons affected by leprosy will be able to have a sustainable livelihood instead of begging.

Mr Yohei Sasakawa

WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, Patron, Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation, Chairman, The Nippon Foundation (TNF)

Message from the Chairperson



This is my first message as the successor to the eminent Dr. Noordeen, who chaired S-ILF for the first ten years. Under Dr. Noordeen, S-ILF established a legacy of work. A strong foundation.

We plan to build further under the guidance of our Patron, Sasakawa-San. The role of S-ILF may need to go beyond and include support to his leadership globally.

Within S-ILF, Board members have taken new, specific responsibilities, adding more energy to S-ILF's work. The Secretariat is being strengthened to take on the new initiatives.

Let me list below some of the thoughts and ideas on which the Board is focused:

1. Expansion: In the core work of Livelihood, Skills and Education, to expand the S-ILF's reach across the States.
2. Advocacy: To deepen partnerships with Members of Parliament, Government of India, State Governments, Media and others. In particular, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

3. Awareness Building: To strengthen work, especially vis-à-vis the youth.
4. Stigma and Discrimination: To play a larger part in dealing with this very distressing dimension.

5. Elimination of Leprosy: To assist the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in its Leprosy Elimination Program

6. Partnerships: To build and deepen working with others because no single organization can deal with all aspects.
7. Laws and Policies: To work for updating these to enable mainstreaming of persons affected by Leprosy.

These are some areas of concern and work for S-ILF. As we go forward, other challenges will emerge.

S-ILF is honored to bear the name of Mr. Sasakawa and must take its responsibilities with deep seriousness and commitment.

S-ILF has to help realize his dream of a Leprosy free world.

Mr Tarun Das

Message from the Executive Director



It is now 10 years since S-ILF came into being. We at S-ILF are proud of our achievements but equally conscious of the huge amount of work that remains to be done. We have been able to get here with inspiration from Mr. Sasakawa, the vision, direction and support of an engaged Board and a dedicated and committed team.

S-ILF marked its 10th anniversary by launching a film, which shows the enormous transformation in the lives of those affected and their families when they get access to financial and educational resources. It is a film of hope and urges the viewers to join us in our work in whichever way they can.

The highlight of the year for us was a message from the Prime Minister at the launch of a Global Appeal to end Discrimination where he appealed for ending of stigma and discrimination and creating a leprosy free India. The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, giving away our Rising to Dignity awards, too spoke strongly of the need for inclusion and engagement.

Our program of empowerment workshops brought us some heart-warming results. These were developed as a platform for training leprosy-affected people to identify their needs and write petitions for inclusion in appropriate government welfare schemes. We also facilitated them to reach out to their MPs and MLAs. In West Bengal, a

colony was identified as an Adarsh Colony and government efforts are being directed to provide it the infrastructure and facilities commensurate with this ideal; in Karnataka, efforts of leprosy-affected people have resulted in land “pattas” being given to them, thereby removing the constant threat of eviction.

It was also an important year for us as we engaged and interacted among ourselves, our Board and other experts to develop a new five-year strategy for S-ILF. Under this new initiative, we plan to not only scale up our flagship programs but to also get more deeply engaged in policy advocacy. We are fortunate to be working with an informal Forum of Parliamentarians. Led by Mr. Dinesh Trivedi, this forum cuts across party lines and has members who are deeply committed to creating a Leprosy Free India.

This year also saw a change in the Board as Dr. Noordeen stepped down after leading the foundation for a decade. Mr. Das taken over as the new Chair of the Board of Trustees. Under his leadership and with support from our Board, we are aiming to do our bit to ensure that India becomes leprosy free in the near future. This will require a collective effort and we look forward to forging new partnerships and engagements with a wide range of stakeholders across the different sections of society in the coming years.

Dr. Vineeta Shanker

S-ILF's Governance and Advisory

Board Members



Tarun Das, Chairperson
Former Director General,
Confederation of Indian
Industry (CII)



Dr. S.K. Noordeen, Member
Chairman, Leprosy
Elimination Alliance (LEA)
and Former Director
(Leprosy) WHO, Geneva



S. Imam Bilgrami, Member
Consultant, Creative
Communications (Education,
Social Welfare, Communal
Harmony and Nation-building)



Rathi Vinay Jha, Member
Former member of Indian
Administrative Service,
Chairperson, Plan India



Tatsuya Tanami, Member
Executive Director, The
Nippon Foundation, Tokyo



Prof. Etsuko Kita, Member
Chairperson, Board of
Sasakawa Memorial Health
Foundation, Japan



Dr. Derek Lobo, Member
Consultant, Department
of Public Health, Manipal
University, Karnataka

Advisory Members



Mr. Dinesh Trivedi
Advisory Board Member
Member of Lok Sabha



Rajesh Srivastava
Advisory Board Member
Chairman & Managing Director,
Rabo Equity Advisors



Ravi Singh
Advisory Board Member
Secretary General & CEO
of WWF-India



Ms. Supriya Banerji
Advisory Board Member
Retired as Deputy Director General,
Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

Our Team



Dr. Vineeta Shanker
Executive Director



Teresa Khanna
Program Head
(Monitoring and
Evaluation)



Sanjeev Kumar
Program Manager
(Livelihood)



Payal Gadhiok
Consultant (Education)



Rama K.R. Gupta
Program Manager
(Communications, Advocacy
& Fundraising)

Livelihood



Atul Kumar
Program Officer



Khalid Sharfuddin
Program Officer



Rituparna Sarangi
Program Officer



Yogita Parkale
Program Associate

Communication & Advocacy



Aftab Pasha
Program Officer



Rachna Mantri
Consultant



Tanzeel Khan
Program Officer

Education & Skill Development

Finance & Administration



Ram Autar
Accounts & Administrative Officer



Rajni Sharma
Consultant



Vandana Nagpal
Consultant



Ganesh Prasad Dhuria
Office Attendant

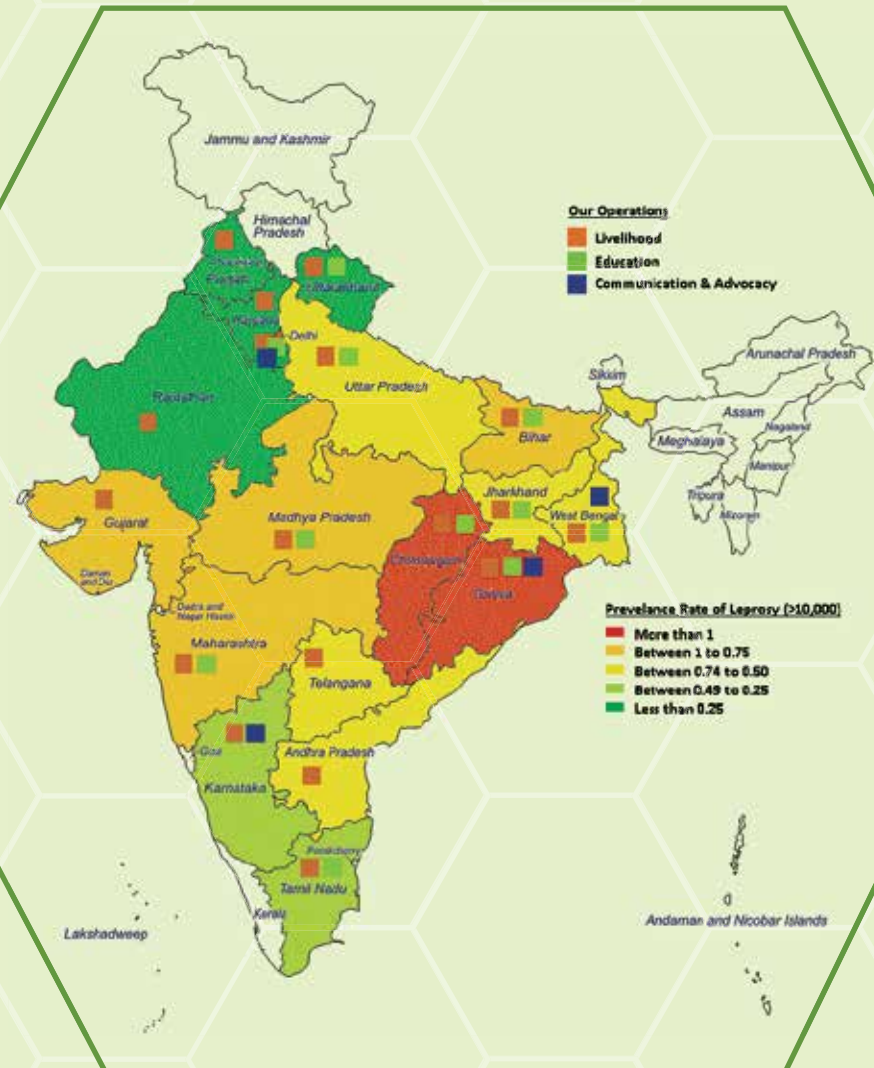


Raj Kumar Masih
Office Attendant & Driver

Our Programs

2016-17 at a Glance:

- States: 18
- Districts: 214
- Colonies: 263
- Projects: 320
 - ◆ Livelihood: 285 micro enterprises
 - ◆ Education: 3 scholarship programs
 - ◆ Communication & Advocacy programs: 5
- Persons Affected by Leprosy: 5,575 directly
 - ◆ Livelihood: 2,222
 - ◆ Education: 670
 - ◆ Communication & Advocacy
 - ◆ Empowerment: 2,683 households
 - ◆ Awareness: 6,400 people
- No. of family members: 27,875 approx. directly



Livelihood Program

Leprosy-affected families living in isolation are usually dependent on donations and begging for their survival. S-ILF provides them financial assistance in the form of small grants for setting up micro enterprises. To ensure sustainability of these initiatives, S-ILF encourages ownership by asking people to identify the enterprises themselves. It focuses on providing training in entrepreneurship and livelihoods, skills and capacity building.

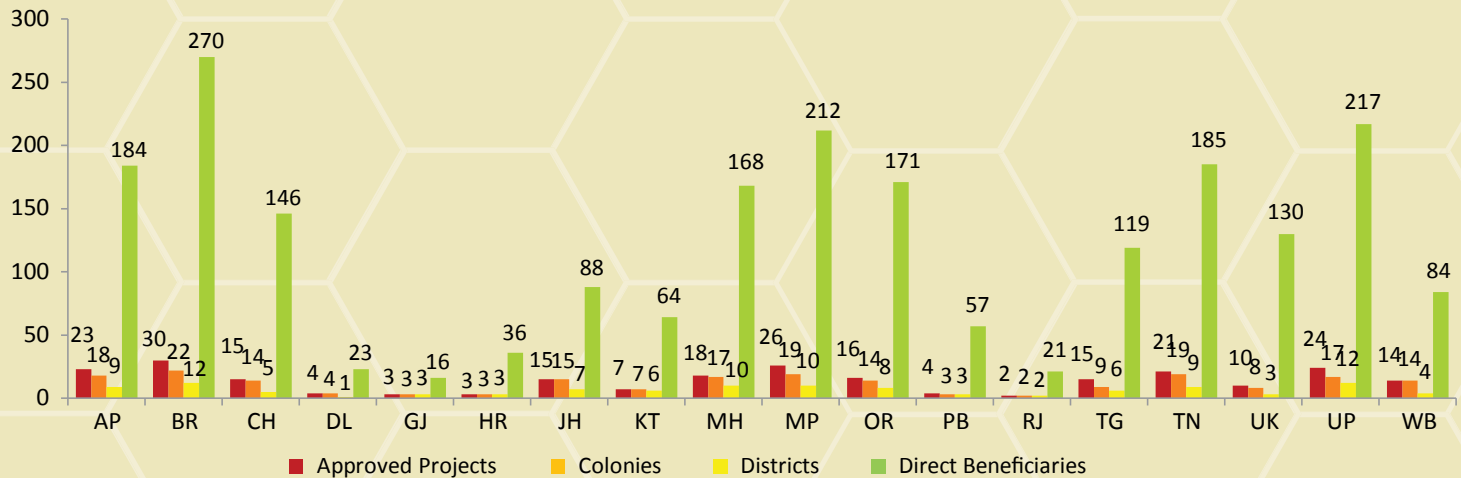
Process

S-ILF works in close coordination with the Association for People Affected by Leprosy (APAL). In addition to providing financial resources, S-ILF actively facilitates each grantee to take more informed decisions. It provides them support at all stages of project activities i.e., from its identification to implementation and monitoring. It also takes the help of local NGOs called 'Mentors', to assist the beneficiaries in implementing the projects and to provide them guidance from time to time to meet the challenges.

Capacity building through trainings, workshops and exposure visits is essential to ensure the long-term sustainability of the micro-enterprises. S-ILF's aim is to strengthen the technical expertise and morale of the grantees so that they can sustain their business enterprises on their own.



S-ILF's Outreach: 2191 direct beneficiaries, 208 Colonies in 113 districts from 18 States



S-ILF achieves this through micro-enterprise development training, business orientation workshops, enterprise formulation, book keeping, customized training, regular guidance through mentorship and close monitoring.

In its projects, financial assistance is transferred directly into bank accounts thereby cutting off all intermediaries and encouraging banking practices. Funding is staggered and disbursement is based on achievement of milestones. Together with active participation of mentors and the beneficiaries, S-ILF is deeply involved in inculcating a dignified sense of ownership and accountability among the beneficiaries.

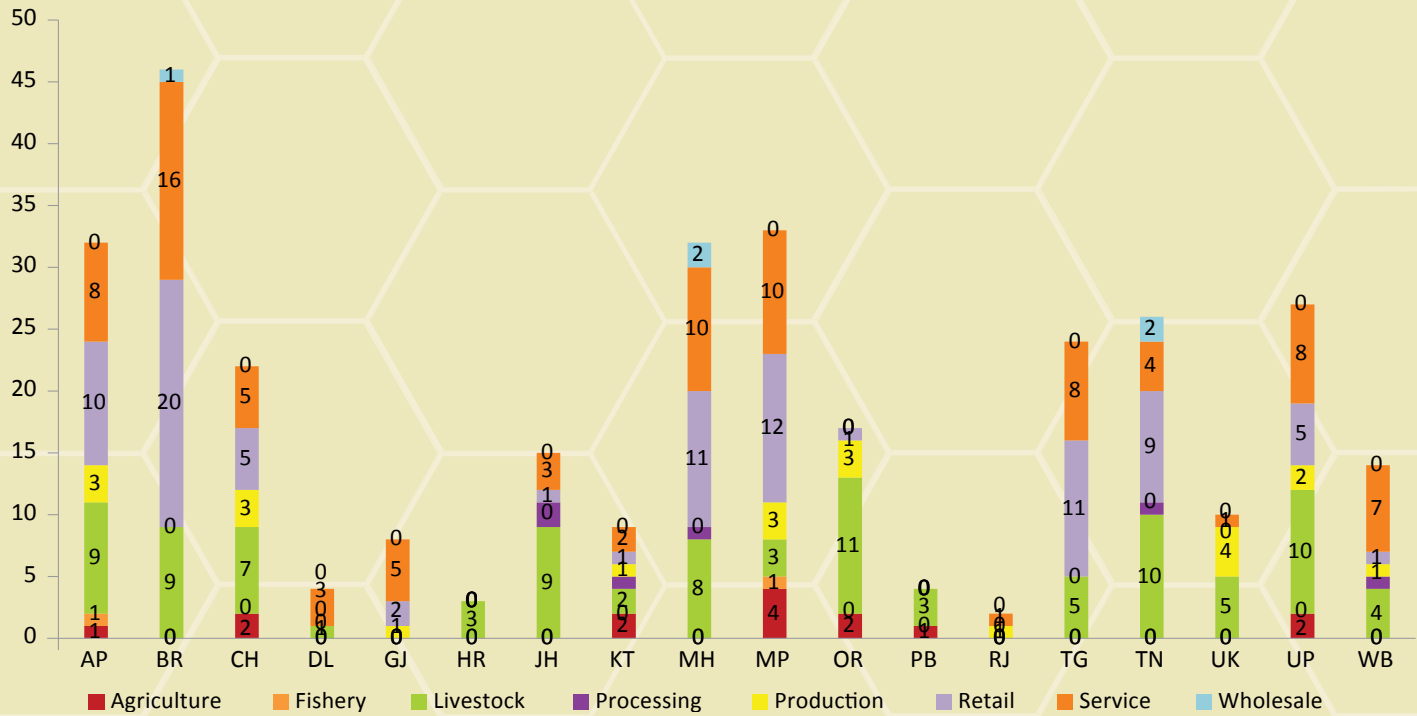
Training - FY 2016-17

Sl	Training	No of Training	No of colonies	No of participants	Proposals developed
1	17th & 18th Training for Socio-Economic Change (TSEC)	2	25	84	27
2	18th & 19th Stakeholder's Orientation Workshop (SOW)	2	19	79	25
3	Training & Exposure (TAE)	16	16	130 approx.	Not applicable

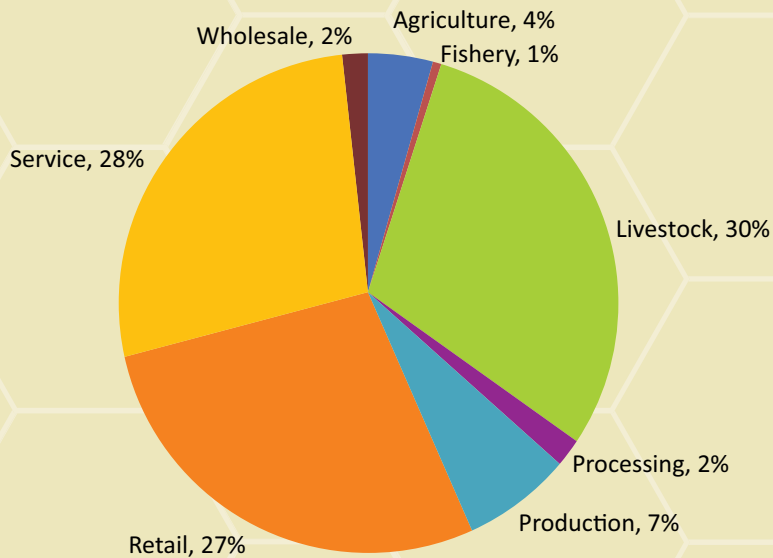
* States covered in TSEC & SOW: Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal

** States covered in TAE: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand

Livelihood Projects Statewise (2008-17)



Livelihood Projects Statewise (2008-17)



Youth Entrepreneurship Program

Very often young people, are afraid of social stigma. They do not want to leave their colonies to seek work outside. Instead, they are keen to start their own small enterprises and become self-reliant.

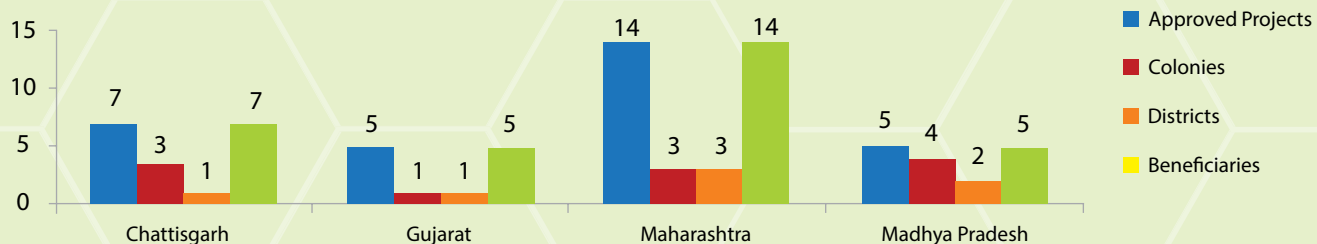
Earlier attempts to integrate them in S-ILF's livelihood projects failed largely because of differences in age and perceptions between the youth and older beneficiaries. In response, S-ILF has developed a Youth Entrepreneurship Program. Under this program, youth from colonies are trained to identify and manage small business for which funding is provided by S-ILF.

In 2016-17, 20 youth from 3 states Gujarat (Junagadh District), Madhya Pradesh (Indore & Ujjain District), Maharashtra (Amravati & Ahmednagar Districts) were invited to attend a five-day residential training on micro-enterprise proposal in Vadodara. Out of these, 18 youth submitted project proposals and 17 got selected for funding.



Training - FY 2016-17

S-ILF's outreach: 31 direct beneficiaries, 11 colonies in 7 districts from 4 states



“ We had worked as labour in construction sites. We had the work experience but lacked business techniques like market research, budget, planning for business etc. We learnt about these in the training provided by S-ILF. We will put our learning into practice in our business. ”

*Beneficiaries of Centering Project,
Champa, Chhattisgarh*

“ I participated in the training, which was an eye opener as we shared our strengths and weaknesses as part of the activities, learnt about not only one project but many more. I got the opportunity to talk to other colonies and get more ideas and suggestions. Learnt responsibilities of a leader and also how important is to report on a timely basis. ”

*Ms Anjana, State Leader,
Jharkhand*

“ It was our first experience to work with S-ILF. We received training and subsequently we developed a project on Mandap Decoration. In the beginning, we faced many challenges since none of us knew anything other than begging, but S-ILF always guided us to earn our living with dignity. We took financial support of Rs. 2,75,000 to start our activity and today we have created assets worth of Rs. 7 lakhs. People from outside our colony is also working in our project, thanks to S-ILF we have found a regular income source. ”

*Beneficiaries of Mandap Decoration project,
Junagadh-Gujarat*



“ In this three days training, I got to know the deep insight of market, market research, preparation of business plan by the beneficiaries, SWOT analysis and its use in making group decision, Identification of stakeholders and their roles, marketing skills, regular maintenance of day to days' activities. ”

*Mr Gurudev Pradhan,
MASS-Odisha*

“ Earlier we submitted a proposal for brick making, and it was approved but since we could not get license so we could not initiate our project. Then we assessed again and decided to start tent house (DJ, sound system & utensils etc.) project and submitted another proposal. Now 7 of us are working together and have distributed our work as per our aptitude. Over the last one year, we are getting a good response. We have reinvested our profit in building our assets so that we are able to cater to all the orders. Now we are in need of a laptop to maintain our records. None of us are engaged in begging since we started this activity. ”

*Mr Pratap Das, Tent house project,
Champa, Chhattisgarh.*

Education Program



Class in progress in a college, where S-ILF beneficiaries are enrolled

Unfortunately, children of leprosy-affected families also face discrimination and exclusion even though they themselves do not have leprosy. Although their parents see education as a necessary means for social and economic betterment, they are often too poor to send their children to good schools.

Usually the children go to Government schools where teaching is poor and discrimination by the teachers is rampant. Dropout rates are quite high and students give up after 7th or 10th grade. Even among those who complete grade 12, few are inclined to go for higher studies and tend to look for petty jobs. Others, who are interested in studies, do not have the economic means to pursue the courses.

Skills to Employment Program (STEP-UP)

There is a strong need for vocational training among youth. Recognizing this, S-ILF launched Skills to Employment Program (STEP UP). Under this program, S-ILF provides scholarships for skills training and education that would make them easily employable and financially independent. S-ILF has successfully collaborated with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to conduct a skill development program and has trained 585 youth for entry level jobs.

The unique characteristics of this program are i) that the training is provided free of cost, and ii) 60-70% of the youth who successfully complete their training are guaranteed jobs. S-ILF does this with the help of the training partners.

Nursing Scholarships

S-ILF's Nursing scholarship program was initiated to meet a strong desire expressed by girls from leprosy-affected colonies to become nurses. These girls felt that this would enable them to look after their family and community. Girls from leprosy colonies usually drop out after completing high school due to shortage of funds. S-ILF's Nursing Scholarship Program bridges the gap between their circumstances and their aspirations to become dignified, responsible and financially independent women.

Starting with a batch of 5 girls, now S-ILF has increased the number of scholarships to 10 in a year. Since 2011, S-ILF provided the scholarships to 55 girls. Of these, the first batch has graduated and all girls have found well-paying jobs. Four of them are working with hospitals in Maharashtra, Delhi, Dehradun and one is placed as a Nurse Mentor at the Community Health Centre (CHC) in Shravasti, UP.

S-ILF is running its sixth batch of nursing scholars.

His Holiness Dalai Lama - Sasakawa Scholarship Program

For most students from leprosy colonies who have completed their Class XII, professional higher education remains a distant dream. Professional courses are expensive and scholarships offered by government and private organizations are very few. Knowing this, children do not aspire to acquire professional degrees. Instead they opt for a general B.A. or B.Sc. degree. In the current Indian context, such a degree has hardly any value in securing well-paying employment.

HHDL - Sasakawa Scholarship provides an opportunity to meritorious children from leprosy colonies to pursue higher studies and attain professional qualifications that will make them employable.



A skill development class in Odisha

States	No of Workshop	No of participants	No. of Applicants	No. of Scholars
Bihar, Delhi, Jharkhand, MP, Odisha and UP	2	05	20	18

Set up as a long-term program, it aims at encouraging and motivating younger children to aspire for higher education and to work hard to qualify for admission in such courses.

In 2016-17, 15 students from Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Jharkhand and UP were granted the scholarship for pursuing professional courses from reputed institutions.



One of S-ILF beneficiary during her training in Aviation Hospitality

“ I feel very lucky that I got selected for HHDLSS to pursue B.Sc. in Nursing (II) from Teerthanker Mahaveer University. Through this scholarship I got a chance to pursue the course of my desire. Now I feel that I am capable enough to contribute financially to my family and can share their burden.”

*Sukhdev Singh, Nav Jeevan Colony,
Ghaziabad*

“ I got the scholarship from S-ILF to pursue my dream course in Chartered Accountancy (IPCC) from Mycom Institute due to which my life has totally changed. Now I can see myself as a successful individual. My goal is to support leprosy-affected children so that they can achieve their goal too.”

*Rakesh Das, Manav Seva Samiti,
New Delhi*

Communication & Advocacy

Advocacy & Awareness Program

An informal Forum of like-minded and proactive group of Parliamentarians under the Convenorship of Mr Dinesh Trivedi, Mr. Madhu Gaud Yaskhi and S-ILF's Executive Director met with Mr. Anurag Thakur, Ms Anupriya Patel, Mr. Sanjay Jaiswal, Mr. Ramesh Chandra Kaushik (Sonipat MP), Mr. Nishikant Pandey (Godda, JH) and Mr. Bhuvaneshwar Kalita (RS MP) in May 2016. This was to request their support to address the high prevalence of leprosy in the endemic districts in their respective states and to make government welfare schemes more accessible to the leprosy-affected.

In August 2016, the Forum members had a meeting to decide on the action plans for MPs to take forward "Eliminating Discrimination against Persons affected by Leprosy (EDPAL)" Bill 2015 in the then, ongoing monsoon session of the Parliament. The members present included Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal (LS-BJP), Mr. Kunwar Bhartendra Singh (LS-BJP), Mr. Baijayant Jai Panda (LS-BJD), Mr. Tarun Vijay (RS-BJP) and Mr. Trivedi.

In November 2016, Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, along with Dr. Vineeta Shanker went to meet Lok Sabha speaker, Mrs Sumitra Mahajan. Mr. Sasakawa briefed Mrs Mahajan about the situation of leprosy in India and around the world. Dr. Shanker apprised the Honourable Speaker about the Parliamentary Forum and the need to pass Elimination of Discrimination against Persons affected by Leprosy bill in India.



Mr. Sasakawa interacting with Hon'ble Lok Sabha Speaker, Mrs. Sumitra Mahajan

Empowerment Workshops

Residents of leprosy colonies are unable to access the several welfare measures offered by the governments due to lack of knowledge and awareness. S-ILF informs them of the different schemes available and helps them to identify the schemes under which they can seek support. It also trains them on writing petitions and seeking meetings with concerned officials. These workshops, conducted with help of local NGO partners, focus on building capacity of participants.

In 2016-17, S-ILF held two sets of workshops in the states of Karnataka and West Bengal. Following these workshops, representatives from seven leprosy colonies



Mobilisation meetings in Leprosy colonies

in West Bengal met with their MLAs as well as with local authorities and submitted their petitions to them. The local media covered these meetings. Residents of eight leprosy colonies of Karnataka also met local authorities to submit petitions about problems in their colonies. For most of the colonies, this was the first time that they were seeking integration into existing schemes on their own.



Action plans during empowerment workshops

Testimonials

“ I attended empowerment workshops at Asansol where I learnt a lot of things; like how to lodge a complaint, or how an application is written and submitted. I also learnt how to communicate properly or how to meet or talk to an officer. These workshops have definitely brought a lot of confidence in me. ”

*Anjali Paswan (Participant),
Lacchipur Colony, West Bengal.*



Submitting petitions to MLA/ MP/ Mayor

कुष्ठ रोगियों को दी जाएं बुनियादी सुविधाएं

जागरण संवाददाता, आसनसोल: कुष्ठ रोगियों के लिए सक्रिय संस्था सासा कवास व उज्जीवन द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से कुष्ठ रोगियों व कालोनियों को लेकर विभिन्न मुद्दों पर मंगलवार को मेयर जितेन्द्र तिवारी से मुलाकात की गयी। इस दौरान संस्था के प्रतिनिधियों ने मेयर से नगरनिगम के इलाके में स्थित कुष्ठ कालोनियों की दशा सुधारने के लिए अनुरोध किया।

मेयर ने कहा कि इन कालोनियों में जो

समस्याओं को दूर किया जायेगा। संस्था के लोगों ने कहा कि नगरनिगम के लच्छीपुर, बराकर, बर्नपुर, जामुड़िया आदि जगहों पर कुष्ठ कालोनी है।

जहाँ बड़ी संख्या में कुष्ठ रोगी व उनके परिवार रहते हैं। लेकिन देखा जा रहा है कि कई जगहों पर यह लोग मूलभूत सुविधाओं से वंचित हैं। वहीं इन्हें सरकारी योजनाओं का भी लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है। इसलिए उन लोगों ने मेयर से अनुरोध किया कि इन इलाकों में कम से कम

Coverage of these meetings in Press

“ We have started our journey with S-ILF & leprosy affected persons 4 years back. From our experience in field, we felt that leprosy colony members had little or no idea about government programs and social security schemes. Connecting them with these schemes would change their life. So when S-ILF approached us for conducting empowerment workshops, we were happy to get associated.

Before starting these workshops, we visited all the colonies to collect baseline information about the colonies, so that we can focus on their specific needs. After two phases of workshops, we won't say that these schemes will change their situation drastically, but surely will help them to improve not only their lives but also the future of their colonies. ”

*- Mr Ardhendu Banerjee
Mentor, UJJIBAN, West bengal*

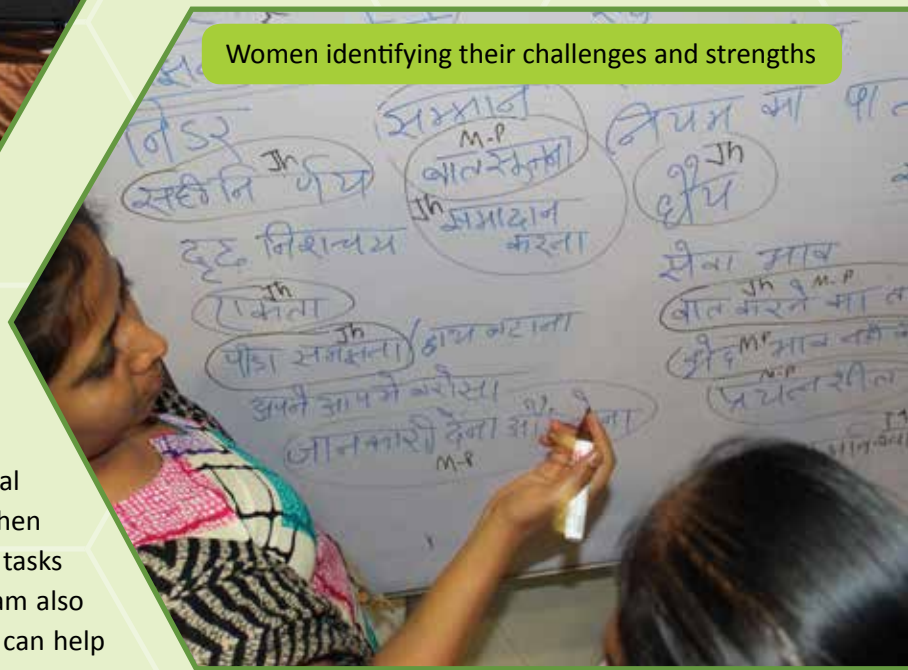
Women Empowerment Program

S-ILF's experience over the last several years has demonstrated that women led or women dominated projects tend to be more successful. Despite the social and gender bias, lack of exposure and experience, women show a greater commitment and sincerity in making a success of the economic ventures. However, while contributing to the projects, women struggle to combine their traditional roles as homemakers with their project activities. For better participation in their projects they need support and build capacities.

One of the sessions during Women Empowerment Workshops



Women identifying their challenges and strengths



S-ILF started the women empowerment workshops in 2015 to enable women to make informed choices in the different areas that affect their lives.

S-ILF's Women Empowerment Program (WEP), provides a platform to discuss and address a wide range of personal and social issues. The aim of this program is to strengthen their capacity so that they are able to handle the multiple tasks that they have to perform in their daily lives. The program also aims to develop them as Agents of Change so that they can help other women in their colonies and in the larger community.

In 2016-17, S-ILF conducted workshops for 28 women from 11 colonies of Bihar, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The focus of the training was effective household and relationship management, parenting, health, nutrition, water and sanitation and financial management.

The WEP has seeded the idea of the need for transformation in the colonies and created an immense buy-in among women. The results are evident in the confidence level of those women who participated and in their stories of the changes in the different aspects of their life and work.

Awareness Program

As part of the Awareness Program, S-ILF reaches out to schools and colleges, media, medical institutions, lawyers and social activists, local government institutions and employers as well as corporate houses.

Though easily treatable, leprosy still strikes fear in a country like India. Lack of knowledge about the disease has led to the perpetration of misinformation and misconceptions. This is true even among the educated. The negative perception of the disease manifests itself in discrimination against and exclusion of not only the leprosy-affected but also their families. Special and concerted efforts are needed to eradicate the stigma.

Young Partners Program

With the support of National Human Right Commission (NHRC) S-ILF, has sensitized around 3,000 children from 30 government schools in Delhi. The interactive sessions have included role play, Q&A sessions and poster making competitions.

Earlier, S-ILF began its outreach to private schools in Delhi, beginning with students of Class XI and Class XII at Vasant Valley School. To raise awareness about leprosy amongst students, The Sri Ram School formed a student council which has taken up sensitizing children from other schools as well. Pathways is one of the schools where the council held an awareness session. The student council school Program also raised funds for S-ILF's education program. A play on leprosy stigma, written and enacted by these students was showcased in other private schools.



Participants during women Empowerment workshops in New Delhi

Yellow Ribbon Campaign

Yellow Ribbon is a symbol of support to end discrimination against the people affected by Leprosy.

S-ILF promoted its Yellow Ribbon campaign in all its events, workshops, talks and meetings. Wearing a Yellow Ribbon indicates a pledge to become the brand ambassador for Leprosy; to treat people affected with Leprosy as an equals and with dignity; and to spread information about leprosy to as many people as one can.



The screenshot shows the website for the Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation. The header includes the organization's name and navigation links: "About Us", "What We Do", "Our Partners", and "Resources". Below the header, there is a yellow ribbon graphic with the text "20 Years of Restoring Dignity". The main content area features the heading "Yellow Ribbon: Working towards Leprosy Free Minds!" followed by a quote: "Did you know, worlds' 65% of leprosy affected people reside in India and every year 50% of new cases are reported from our country? The rise in number is due to mere ignorance and stigma attached to the disease." Below this is a paragraph explaining the significance of the yellow ribbon as a symbol of support and a pledge to become a brand ambassador. To the right, there is a form titled "I take a discrimination affected" with fields for "Name", "Email", and "Mobile (optional)".



Yellow ribbon to end discrimination against people affected by Leprosy

Stories from the Field

At your door step

Project Name	: Rice, Water & Oil selling Project (Group Project)
Location	: Bethel Nagar Colony, Bethel Nagar, P.O. Vallam, Village Alapakkam, Chengalpattu, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu
Name of the Beneficiaries	: Jesintha Mary, S Tamilselvi, N Indrani, M Sumathi, S Devakribai and K Amutha
Mentor	: Add India
State Leader	: Prakasam



Without any prior experience of running a business, a group of six women from Bethel Nagar Colony, Chengalpattu came together to do retail business with S-ILF's training and financial support. Their enterprise initially started with selling 10 varieties of rice bought from the wholesale market and repackaged according to customer demands, for which they rented a room for storing and packaging. Recently, they have diversified to supplying packaged drinking water, cooking oil and clothing items. They put the clothing items also on display on the day of common community meeting in the community hall.

The group initially used their own contacts (friends and relatives) to develop their business network, and later expanded it by advertising through printed leaflets. Currently they have a regular client base and specialize in timely supply of goods to their customers in and around the colony. One of the

woman beneficiaries rides a cycle and provides free home delivery. Most of the customers buy the products on credit, which sometimes becomes a hurdle. They overcome this by raising the price marginally while selling on credit. The group has learnt to keep accounts and is efficient in collecting pending payments.

The group is actively contributing to the community fund. They are aware of the competition in the market and the challenges of seasonality, which they are trying to combat by developing a risk mitigation plan with the help of S-ILF and the Project Mentor.

All group members have better facilities now and are of the opinion that added income has helped them in accelerating the construction work at home. The income from the activity is largely used for children's education. Close interactions and mutual support beyond the livelihood activities and a strong determination has made the women's group a strong social unit. S-ILF's support has built their confidence and motivation to lead a life of dignity.



Decorating lives

Project Name	: Mini Tent House Project (Group Project)
Location	: Bharathapuram Colony, Alan Salai, P. O. Vallam, Vill Alapakkam, Chengalpattu, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu
No. of Beneficiaries	: 03 (All Female)
Name of the Beneficiaries	: V. Dhanalaxmi, D. Mallika and R. Kala
Mentor	: Add India
State Leader	: Prakasam

A group of seven women from Barathapuram Colony started mini tent house business with S-ILF support. The idea of renting tent house items emerged from the fact that the tent house owners used to refuse sending items in the leprosy-affected colony or charged more due to stigma. The group started by providing these items on rent at various community events, family functions on rent. For poor, the items are free and for other colony residents, they are available at cheaper rates. Unfortunately for the group, four of the members had to opt out early on from the venture and the project faced



the possibility of closure. However, the remaining three decided to continue with the enterprise.

The group meets regularly and keeps records of their transactions. They have learned to negotiate with others to maintain their financial documents, going to banks and keeping accounts in an organized manner. They support each other in every aspect of life.

As the tent house business is seasonal, the group decided to diversify and invested their profits in selling clothing items, cosmetics and other women's accessories on credit basis; this is a business that runs throughout the

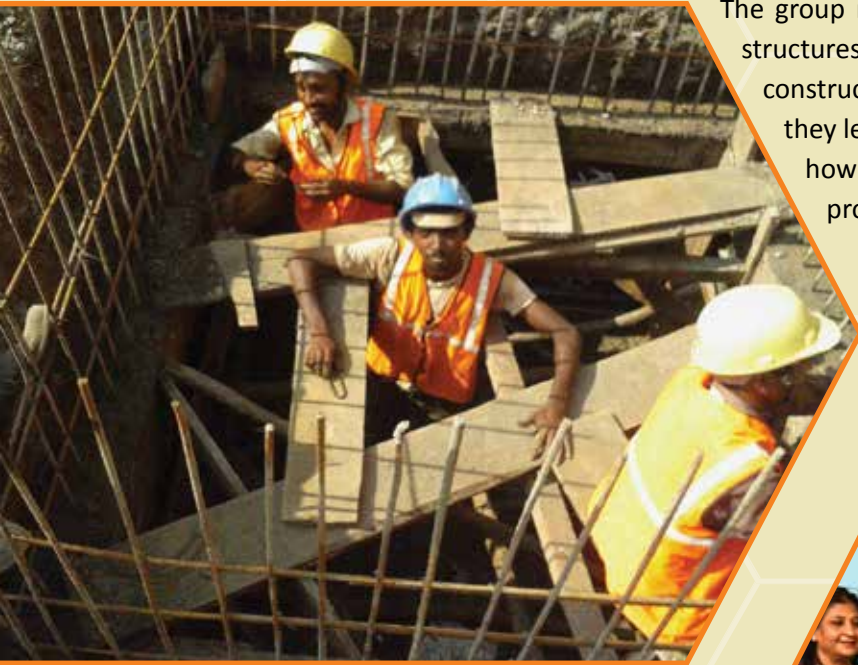
year and peaks in the festive season. They keep signed records of the clients (in case of credit) to maintain accountability and transparency. The livelihood venture is earning an income for the members. They have decided to use very little of their income for their personal expenses and are using their savings for expanding their business.

They go to a well-known wholesale cloth market for buying materials, which they sell house to house. They have a committed clientele for both the livelihood ventures. They recognize and are conscious that the livelihood ventures have given them opportunity to go out of their colony and interact with people outside the colony. None of the family members of the group members are engaged in begging.



Building Dreams!

Project Name : Centering Project (Group Project)
Location : Dattanagar Colony, Ratnagiri, Kolhapur Hig. Shivaji Nagar, Ratnagiri, Maharashtra
Name of the Beneficiaries : Yashwant Shantaram Sawant, Vilas Rajaram Kirlotkar, Sunil Gangaram Sankpal, Santosh Vishnu Mohite, Mangesh Ramchandra Jadhav and Shantaram Tukaram Dabolkar
Mentor & State Leader : Maya Ranavare



The group requested for support to start a centering project (support structures for construction site) as they were already engaged in construction work and had knowledge of the work. With S-ILF support, they learnt how to manage the finances and the accounts as well as how to use banking facilities. The group has shown remarkable progress in the two years since the start of this venture.

The group is highly motivated and members support each other in all spheres of life. The group members meet regularly to plan their business. The group members have explored and developed a good network with builders

and masonry contractors for new job contracts. The group has prepared a job list with pricing which is revised every year as per the prevailing market rates. Through this venture, all the group members have regular employment for 26-28 days a month and at times even need to hire outside labour to pitch in. Presently, each member earns about Rs.11,000-Rs.12,000 per month and gets a return on capital investment. Since centering work is risky, they take precautions such as using helmets and have insured themselves. In case of illness or injury, the group provides about 40% of the daily wage to that member.



The members have developed a strong ownership of the venture. The profit from the activity is reinvested and the group is looking for a storage space. The increased and regular income has helped them to increase their assets and invest in the education of their children. None of the family members of the group are engaged in begging.

Green Thumb

Project Name : Vegetable Cultivation Project (Individual Project)
Location : Premnagar Colony, Ghorghranala, Champa District, Chhattisgarh*
Name of the Beneficiary : Sanjay Kumar Sahu (21 years)

Sanjay's family lives in Premnagar Colony which is approximately 7 kms from the Champa railway station. This colony is large big with a population of 5000-7000 leprosy-affected people from UP, Bihar, Odisha, Chattisgarh, West Bengal. The stigma against the disease is very high in this area and the colony is located outside the city. Sanjay lives with his parents who are leprosy-affected and three elder brothers are married and stay separately. Both his parents depend on begging for a livelihood. After completing his 12th standard, Sanjay did a short Diploma course in ITI Electricals offered by The Leprosy Mission. He worked as a lineman and earned about Rs.2,500 to Rs.3,000 per month for a short period of time.

When he came for a training organised by S-ILF for youth, he was trying to find something related to his diploma which would help him to improve the household income. During one of the training sessions, when participants were asked to identify the resources in

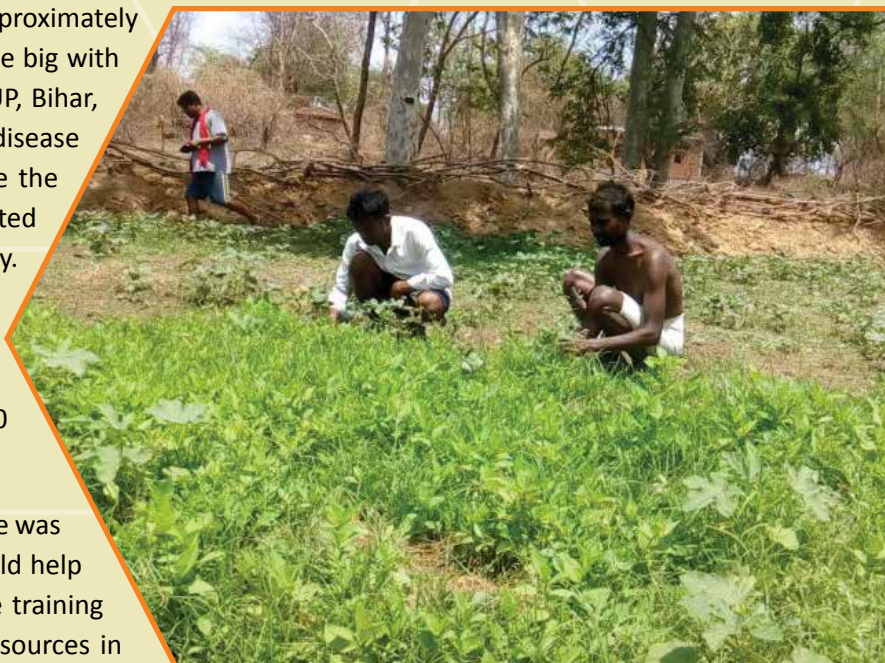
their locality

he realised that his family owns two-acre of land and access to additional acre which is lying unutilised. He realised there is ample supply of water and ready market for vegetables since vendors would come to sell vegetable to their colony.

After first crop of vegetables, he decided to cultivate rice instead. During this time he continued to buy vegetables from weekly bazaar and sell it in his colony. Later he decided to return to growing vegetables as he saw that as more profitable. He now

“ After the training I lost interest and did not want to submit my proposal as we had to do lot of work to prepare my business plan. But due to motivation from the trainers and my parents I submitted, now I realize it was the best decision I ever made.”

*Sanjay
Beneficiary*



grows green vegetables, tomatoes, onion and other local vegetables preferred by his customers. He also supplies to people outside his colony and sells in the weekly bazaar. Both his parents help him in the field; his father also helps him in selling the vegetables.

During summer month he has to get water from the nearby river. He also has done barbed wiring to fence in few sections of his land to ward off grazing by animals. He is using traditional methods to grow vegetables and is keen to undergo training provided Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) on learning advanced technology. Seeing his progress, he has become a role model for other youth in the colony.

Waiting in the wings!

Project : H.H. Dalai Lama-Sasakawa Scholarship
Location : Tahirpur Colony, Near Dilshad Garden, Delhi
Name of the Beneficiary : Namrata

Namrata's father contracted leprosy at the age of 20 when he developed few patches. His family advised him to get a check-up done and he was initially treated for skin disease. Later he was diagnosed with leprosy. He moved from places to place- Pune, Ahmedabad, Amravati, Jaipur for treatment with no respite. Finally, he shifted to Delhi and set up a tailoring business.

Namrata completed her schooling from the government schools in Dilshad Garden in 2015 and attended one of the briefing session on H.H. The Dalai Lama-Sasakawa Scholarship given by S-ILF. She applied for the scholarship. Based on her merit and her choice of course she was offered a scholarship. The scholarship helped her to pursue a career in aviation and she took her training for airline flight attendant from Frankfinn Institute of Airhostess, which is one of the premier institute. Namrata completed her graduation in Bachelor of Arts from Delhi University through correspondence.

Initially, Namrata could not get a job in the aviation sector, and worked in the hospitality sector for a while. In 2017, she got her dream break and was selected as a cabin crew with one of the leading airlines and would undergo training in the coming days. Her dreams have taken off a flight and soaring higher and higher.



Overcoming obstacles!

Project : STEP-UP
Location : Himatnagar Colony, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Name of the Beneficiary : Subhash

Subhash hails from Himatnagar, a small village which is 60 km away from Ahmedabad. Subhash's both parents were affected by leprosy and in order to get treatment they approached an organization called Sahyog Kushtha Yagan Trust that works with leprosy-affected people. Subhash's mother was severely affected and her limbs were deformed. As his father didn't have any deformity and was jobless, so Sahyog Kushtha Yagan Trust hired him as an electrician in their organization.

Subhash lived for about 15 years in the colony and he did his schooling from a government school in Himatnagar. Due to economic constraints, Subhash could not pursue his studies further and did odd jobs at different places. Later on the Sahyog Kushtha Yagan Trust offered him a job as an attendant in their hospital. There they provided him a short duration training.

In January 2016, Pratham Education Trust, one of S-ILF's STEP-UP project partner initiated their mobilization Program in Madhya Pradesh and reached out to youth living in leprosy colonies. Subhash's father got to know that they are providing skill development training in bedside assistance training in Indore and encouraged him to undergo the training.

After completing the training in May 2016, Subhash got a job at Chaitram hospital in November '16. Initially he was offered Rs.5,000 per month, but seeing his dedication and his performance the hospital administration increased his salary to Rs.7,000 per month within 3 months along with other staff benefits like Provident Fund, ESI and 10-15% increment every year. Prior to this training, Subhash had no idea of his future but now he is settled and doing well.



Realising a dream!

Project : Nursing Program
Location : Little Flower Leprosy Colony, Raxaul, Bihar
Name of the Beneficiary : Manisha Kumari

Manisha Kumari has completed her B.Sc. in Nursing with the scholarship support provided by S-ILF. She belongs to a poor leprosy family from Raxaul with five sisters and two brothers. She stayed for initial five years with her family and later in a charitable institute, Little Flower Leprosy Welfare Association (LFLWA).

She completed her 10th standard and could not continue her education, with a clear choice given by her family to either marry or work. She was not ready to get married and left her house to take up part time job in the accounts section with LFLWA while continuing her studies study.

She did not give in to her family's pressure to get married, and decided to take a loan to pursue higher education. She came across the opportunity provided under the scholarship and applied for the same.

Her application met with the selection criteria and S-ILF gave her financial support needed to enroll for course in a renowned nursing college in Karnataka. Initially she found it very difficult to adjust and felt homesick but adjusted soon and studied to stand first in her class by securing 74.5% in Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS), Bangalore.

She is now working as a Nursing instructor in Tripolia Social Service Hospital, Patna and is currently earning Rs.15,000/- pm.

Despite All Odds

Project : Empowerment Workshops

Location : Jeevan Jyoti Colony, Yadgir, Karnataka

Until a few days ago, residents of Jeevan Jyoti Leprosy Colony, Yadgir were unsure of their future in the colony which had been their home since 1980. The colony was situated on 10 acres of land, given by the forest department to a trust based in Bengaluru for leprosy related activities. The trust is no longer functional, since all its members have passed away. With no one to look after the leprosy-affected persons and the remote location of their habitat, the colony, once a home to around 50 families gradually reduced to 18 families.

There was no livelihood option within the colony and those who were capable of earning a livelihood, especially the youth, had moved to cities like Hyderabad. Only the old and disabled people stayed back and most of them depended on begging for their survival. Despite these challenging circumstances, the people formed a group and decided to quit begging by opting for agriculture work.

Most of the land, behind their colony was barren, filled with wild shrubs and rubble. The residents cleared some of this land to start cultivation despite deformities and meagre resources.

With training and financial assistance from S-ILF, they installed water submersible pump, agricultural tools and sowed their first crop. But much before cultivation, crops were destroyed by stray cattle as their field had no protective fencing. They did not let this deter them and decided to start again but repeated theft of tools and utilities thwarted all their plans.

They approached the District Collector with request for fencing but were informed that the land does not belong to them but to a Trust. This came as a blow and pushed them to find a permanent solution. S-ILF stepped in to help a delegation from this colony.

EARLIER

Residents migrated, leaving old behind



Residents with their house ownership deed



Residents were invited to participate in empowerment workshops organized by S-ILF across seven leprosy colonies of North Karnataka. There they learnt about different government schemes and how to avail them. This included writing applications, petitions and meeting government officials. After two workshops, they felt empowered to meet District Officials along with their state leader, Mr. Hanumantha Devnoor. This was followed by a meeting with the MLA.

EARLIER

Field prepared for agriculture with no fence



Upcoming new approach road to the colony



NOW

The Community members persisted until their efforts bore fruit. The District Authority finally allotted them more than one acre of land to be used for housing and cultivation. Recently, construction of a new road connecting their colony to the town has started. Solar power generated is lighting up the houses and soon their demand for fencing will be provided for their whole colony including the agricultural patch. Jeevan Jyoti Leprosy Colony, Yadgir is seeing reverse migration, proof of the fact that life is changing course and changing course for the better.

NOW

Our Partners

Association of People affected by Leprosy (APAL)

Association of People affected by Leprosy (APAL) is a national networking organization of people affected by leprosy. Founded in 2006 with active encouragement and help from the Nippon Foundation, Japan, it is an essential part of Mr. Sasakawa's vision of mainstreaming the affected population and their families thereby restoring their dignity.

APAL provides a platform where people affected by leprosy can discuss their issues and take up matters relating to their rights and entitlements at various levels of State and Central Government if required. For e.g. issues pertaining to their land rights, pensions, and specific schemes for disabled people, human rights issues, education & employment, housing, sanitation, etc.

The first President of APAL was Dr. P.K. Gopal. Few years ago, this important responsibility was handed over to Mr. Narasappa. Several years ago, APAL conducted a survey of colonies in India and identified around 800 self-settled colonies.

Currently APAL has their head office in Hyderabad and the leaders (both nominated & elected depending upon the need & situation) have their respective state forum to address the issues of their communities.



APAL Board Meeting in New Delhi



APAL MP State Level Meeting, Indore

S-ILF works with State/Regional Leaders of APAL to identify the potential colonies/beneficiaries in need of support for the livelihood projects as well as education & advocacy programs.

Over the years, S-ILF has worked in close collaboration with APAL to strengthen its program. This, has led to increased trust and rapport between the two institutions. There has been steady and positive progress in S-ILF's relationship with APAL as some leaders have helped immensely in flagging off real concerns/challenges during program implementation. Therefore, keeping this in view, S-ILF has started appointing few of such Leaders as Mentors/Facilitators for implementing the livelihood projects.

“People do not know us by our religion, caste or state. They only identify us as leprosy-affected people. Since everyone recognize us because of a disease, it is very crucial for all of the leprosy-affected people to unite and fight together. This stigma should end. This discrimination against us should stop. We have a long fight ahead and we won't stop until our difficulties are addressed and needs are fulfilled. I invite everybody to come forward and lend a hand to help leprosy-affected people, living a dignified life.”

– Narasappa, President-APAL

Our Donors (Past and Present)

- **The Nippon Foundation (TNF):** has provided S-ILF a corpus fund to run its activities. Since S-ILF's inception, TNF has been the main donor for S-ILF's activities.
- **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC):** has partially funded S-ILF's Young Partners Program (YPP), for sensitization of schoolchildren about leprosy.
- **State Bank of India (SBI):** one of our first donors, SBI provided a grant for sponsoring 10 girls to pursue a nursing degree. They also sponsored our Anti Leprosy Day – Rising to Dignity awards 2013.
- **Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT):** committed a grant for nursing scholarships for g 25 girls. They are agreed in principle to fund this program in the future.
- **Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT):** provided a grant for training 350 youth from leprosy-affected families residing in UP, Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh in entry level skills.
- **His Holiness the Dalai Lama Trust (HHDLT) and The Nippon Foundation (TNF):** provided funds for His Holiness The Dalai Lama - Sasakawa Scholarship for higher professional education for children from leprosy colonies in states of Delhi, UP, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Jharkhand, M.P and Odisha.
- **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI):** has given a one-time donation for Training on Socio-Economic Change in Bihar in 2013. Thirty-three residents from Bihar, Jharkhand & West Bengal participated in this five-day residential workshop.

Our Mentors

SI	NGO	Districts Covered	State
1.	Rural organization of Awareness Development Service (ROADS)	Anantpur, E Godawari, Guntur, Kadapa, Shrikakulam, Vizayanagram, Nalgonda, Warangal, Kothagudem, Khammam	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Rural India Self Development Trust (RISDT)	E Godawari	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Vanvasi Seva Kendra (VSK)	Patna, Nawada, Kaimure	Bihar
4.	Jago Foundation	Araria, Khagaryia, Kishanganj, Purnia, Saharsa, Bokaro, Dhanbad, Jamtara	Jharkhand
5.	Mr. Vijay Kumar Masih	Janjgir Champa	Chhattisgarh
6.	Manav Adhikar Seva Samiti (MASS)	Bilaspur, Janjgir Champa, Raipur, Jharsuguda, Ganjam, Bhubaneswar	Odisha
7.	Shikshan Ane Samaj Kalyan Kendra (SASKK)	Junagarh, Bhavnagar	Gujarat

Sl	NGO	Districts Covered	State
8.	Manav Kalyan Trust (MKT)	Sabarkantha	Gujarat
9.	Bharat Sewa Sansthan	Sonipat, Saharanpur	Uttar Pradesh
10.	Social & Healthy Action for Rural Empowerment (SHARE)	W Singhbhum E Singhbhum	Jharkhand
11.	Janakalyan	Hospet, Bellary, Raichur, Gadag	Karnataka
12.	People Organisation For Wasteland And Environment Regeneration (POWER)	Bidar, Bijapur, Yadgir, Gulbarga	Karnataka
13.	Mahatma Phule Samaj Seva Mandal(MPSSM)	Solapur, Latur, Sangli	Maharashtra
14.	Mr Mohan Kshirsagar	Amravati	
15.	Ms. Maya Ranavare	Ratnagiri	
16.	Priyanshi Educational, Cultural And Social Society (PECSS)	Indore, Bhopal, Mandsaur, Khandwa, Barwani	Madhya Pradesh
17.	Centre for Advanced Research & Development(CARD)	Dhar	Madhya Pradesh
18.	Mr Sarang Gaydhane	Indore, Ujjain	Madhya Pradesh
19.	GRAMIN VIKAS VIGYAN SAMITI(GRAVIS)	Jodhpur, Jaisalmer	Rajasthan
20.	Network of Persons with Disability Organisations(NPDO)	Nizamabad	Telangana
21.	ADD India Trust	Salem, Coimbatore, Karur, Dharmapuri, Kancheepuram	Tamil Nadu
22.	Nirman Sewa Sansthan(NSS)	Sambhal, Bulandshahar	Uttar Pradesh
23.	UJJIBAN 03	Burdwan, W Midnapore	West Bengal

Our Training Partners

S. No.	State	Training Partners
1	Uttar Pradesh	Don Bosco
		Wockhardt
		LYCOS
		Gras Academy
		Pratham

S. No.	State	Training Partners
2	Bihar	Don Bosco
		Empower Pragati
		Pratham
3	Maharashtra	Pratham
		Don Bosco
4	Delhi	IIJT
		Empower Pragati
		GMR Foundation
		VAG Infotech
5	Chhattisgarh	Don Bosco
		Pratham
6	Jharkhand	Don Bosco
		Empower Prgati
		Social Economic Educational Initiative Foundation,
7	Odisha	Gram Tarang
		Pratham
		B-able
8	Madhya Pradesh	Don Bosco
		Pratham
9	West Bengal	Don Bosco

Friends of S-ILF

S-ILF has also collaborated with some organizations working in the field of leprosy. These partnerships are a few examples of joint efforts by different organizations to eliminate stigma and discrimination against leprosy.

- Netherlands Relief Foundation (NLR Foundation)
- The Leprosy Mission (TLM)

Our Supporters (Past and Present)

S-ILF would not have achieved what it has today, without support from:

- Members of the Parliamentary Forum to Free India on Leprosy
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW)
- Ministry of Railways
- National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)
- Ministry of Education (NCT)
- Embassy of Japan
- School of Inspired Leadership (SOIL)
- National Institute of Design (NID)
- Dastakar, Nature Bazar
- Association for the International Exchange of Students in Economics and Commerce (AIESEC)
- Delhi University Colleges-Gargi, Ramjas, Kalindi and Jesus & Mary
- Vasant Valley School, New Delhi
- The Sri Ram School, Mousari Avenue, Gurgaon

Major Events

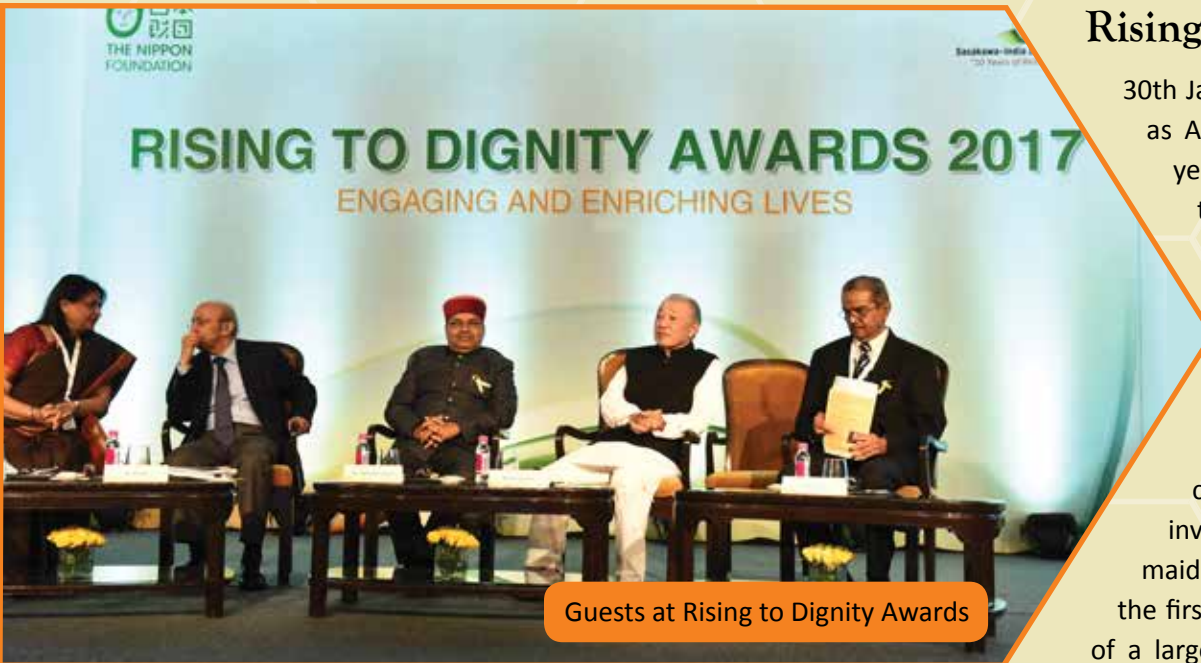
10-year celebration

S-ILF was registered as a charitable trust on 21st November 2006. With its presence in more than 200 leprosy colonies in 18 states of India, S-ILF takes pride in achieving a place in hearts of people affected by leprosy. With expert and able guidance of Mr. Sasakawa, S-ILF s completed 10 years. It seems like yesterday, when we started the first livelihood project in Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh. Since then, S-ILF has expanded its Programs to include Education.

S-ILF celebrated its 10th Anniversary in November 2016, by organizing a small gathering of friends, well-wishers and partners at India International Centre, New Delhi. The event was attended by 100 guests from different sections of society. Mr. Yohei Sasakawa-Chairman, The Nippon Foundation, was the Chief Guest. Other honored guests included Mr. Dinesh Trivedi-MP & Convener, Forum of Parliamentarians to free India of Leprosy. A film on leprosy, made by S-ILF was aired at the event. Guests also participated in taking an oath to end stigma against leprosy.



Mr Sasakawa, Mr Dinesh Trivedi & Mr Tarun Das, addressing guests



Guests at Rising to Dignity Awards

Rising to Dignity

30th January (Martyr’s Day) is marked as Anti Leprosy Day in India. Every year, S-ILF gives away its Rising to Dignity awards at a public event presided by a dignitary. These Awards are given to the three most successful S-ILF supported livelihood projects. Each award includes a citation, a trophy and a cash award. The winners are all invited to Delhi. For many it is their maiden trip outside their community, the first time to be recognized in front of a large gathering and to have space

to make a speech in front of so many people, is a matter of immense joy and pride. This year, the event was attended by leading dignitaries such as Mr. Thawar Chand Gehlot, Honorable Minister of Social Justice, Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Inter-Parliamentary Union President, Mr. Saber Chowdhury & other dignitaries of IPU, Mr. Baijayant Jay Panda, MP, Dr. P. K. Gopal, and Mr. Tarun Das, Chairman S-ILF.



Winners posing with Mr. Sasakawa

Global Appeal 2017

Global Appeal 2017: To end stigma and discrimination against people affected by leprosy

Every year, in conjunction with World Leprosy Day on the last Sunday in January, Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination and Japanese Government Goodwill Ambassador for the Human Rights of People Affected by Leprosy, leads a Global appeal to end stigma and discrimination against people affected by leprosy.

Due to severe visible deformities, leprosy was feared for many centuries as a contagious disease. However, in the 1980s, discovery of multidrug therapy ensured, that if the treatment was given in time, the disease could be cured without any visible physical side



Dignitaries reading out the Global Appeal

² The Inter-Parliamentary Union is the international organisation of Parliaments, established in 1889. The Union is the focal point for World-wide parliamentary dialogue and works for peace and cooperation among people and for the firm establishment of representative democracy. The IPU supports the efforts of and works in close cooperation with the United Nations, whose objectives it shares. The union also cooperates with regional inter-parliamentary organisations, as well as with international inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations which are motivated by the same.

Speaking about the 'Global Appeal' Summit, Dr. Vineeta Shankar, Executive Director of Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation said:

“As leprosy is completely curable, timely detection is imperative. Nonetheless, mass awareness is important to ensure age-old stigma and myths do not prevent leprosy-affected persons from learning employable skills. The Summit is part of the ongoing efforts to make the world a better place for such people.”

effects. Further, as leprosy has a very low rate of infection, 16 million people have recovered from this disease since multidrug therapy began.

Elimination of leprosy as a public health problem is defined by the WHO as a prevalence of less than 1 person affected per 10,000 of the population. India achieved the target in 2005. In 1985, 122 countries had not achieved elimination, whereas currently there is only one country left (Brazil), which is yet to meet the target.

From a medical aspect, leprosy issues are moving toward being resolved; however, from a social point of view, stigma and discrimination against people affected by leprosy is still deeply rooted in. Across the world, correct information pertaining to leprosy is not widely known, which leads to delayed medical attention and to societal discrimination. Due to this discrimination, individuals who have

recovered from leprosy and even their family members cannot obtain work, get married, or receive an education. They are forced to exist on the margins of society.

The Global Appeal is designed to raise awareness in society by providing correct information about leprosy, including that it is curable disease with free treatment available and that discrimination is unjustifiable. The first Global Appeal was held in 2006.

The Global Appeal 2017 was launched on January 30, 2017 in Delhi, India. As endorsed by its Executive Committee, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the world organization of national parliaments, strongly supported this Global Appeal.

Media Coverage

कुष्ठरोगियों के साथ भेदभाव मिटाना जरूरी

नई दिल्ली: विश्व कुष्ठ रोग दिवस के मौके पर प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने कहा कि विश्व के लोग को कुष्ठ रोग के प्रति सही जानकारी देना और भेदभाव को खत्म करना जरूरी है।

प्रधानमंत्री ने विश्व कुष्ठ रोग दिवस पर साक्षात्कार में उद्घाटन किया।

वेगवेग के देश कुष्ठ रोग उन्मूलन के लिए विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन के कुष्ठ रोग अभियान में सक्रिय भागीदार हैं। इस साल भारत में कुष्ठ रोग का उन्मूलन हो चुका है।

भारत में कुष्ठ रोग का उन्मूलन हो चुका है।



कुष्ठ रोगियों को दी जाएं बुनियादी सुविधाएं

अंतराष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य अभियंत्रक डॉ. टाइमोथी लोथी ने कहा कि कुष्ठ रोगियों को बुनियादी सुविधाएं दी जाएं।

कुष्ठ रोगियों को बुनियादी सुविधाएं दी जाएं।

दिव्यांगों के लिए बहुपयोगी होगा यूनिवर्सल कार्ड

नई दिल्ली (ब्यूरो)। केंद्रीय सामाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता मंत्री धनंजय महापात्र ने कहा कि एक नया बहुपयोगी कार्ड तैयार किया जा रहा है।

यूनिवर्सल कार्ड तैयार किया जा रहा है।



संक्षिप्त समाचार

कुष्ठ रोगियों से न करें भेदभाव: साक्षात्कार

नई दिल्ली। विश्व कुष्ठ रोग दिवस पर निप्पोन फाउंडेशन के अध्यक्ष योशी सासाकावा ने कहा कि कुष्ठ रोगियों से भेदभाव नहीं किया जाना चाहिए।

निप्पोन फाउंडेशन ने साक्षात्कार के सहयोग से 'ग्लोबल अपील 2017' का उद्घाटन

नई दिल्ली। निप्पोन फाउंडेशन के अध्यक्ष योशी सासाकावा ने कहा कि 'ग्लोबल अपील 2017' का उद्घाटन किया गया।

'ग्लोबल अपील 2017' का उद्घाटन

अमृत जगरिम संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली। विश्व कुष्ठ रोग दिवस के मौके पर निप्पोन फाउंडेशन के अध्यक्ष योशी सासाकावा ने कहा कि 'ग्लोबल अपील 2017' का उद्घाटन किया गया।

Shri Narendra Modi, PM India congratulates Nippon Foundation on the launch of Global Leprosy Appeal 2017

Mission to eradicate the disease and end discrimination against persons affected by leprosy

On the day of the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi, remembering his selfless efforts and care for the people affected by leprosy, congratulated the Nippon Foundation for their work and extended his support by sending a special video message at the launch of Global Appeal 2017.

कुष्ठ रोग के प्रति नजर बदलने की अपील

नई दिल्ली, वार्ता। कुष्ठ रोगियों के प्रति नजर बदलने की अपील।

श्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने निप्पोन फाउंडेशन के अध्यक्ष योशी सासाकावा को 'ग्लोबल अपील 2017' का उद्घाटन करने के लिए शुभकामनाएं भेजीं।

लैप्रोसी फाउंडेशन ने की अपील

नई दिल्ली। विश्व कुष्ठ रोग दिवस के मौके पर, लैप्रोसी फाउंडेशन ने अपील की।

विश्व कुष्ठ रोग दिवस पर 'ग्लोबल अपील 2017' का उद्घाटन

नई दिल्ली। विश्व कुष्ठ रोग दिवस पर 'ग्लोबल अपील 2017' का उद्घाटन किया गया।

Financial Highlights

Sources of Funds

As on 31-03-2016		Particulars	As on 31-03-2017	
In Lakhs	%		In Lakhs	%
5251	84	Trust Fund (Corpus)	5251	83
981	16	Reserves & Other Funds	970	15
28	0	Sundry Liabilities & Provisions	102	2
6260	100		6324	100

Application of Funds

As on 31-03-2016		Particulars	As on 31-03-2017	
In Lakhs	%		In Lakhs	%
7	0	Fixed Assets	9	0
5097	81	Investments in scheduled Banks	3556	56
474	8	Other Assets	469	8
6260	100		6324	100

Income

For the Year Ended 31st March'16			For the Year Ended 31st March'17	
In Lakhs	%	Particulars	In Lakhs	%
40	8	Domestic Grant	1	0
62	12	Foreign Grant	121	23
420	80	Interest on Investments & Saving Bank Account	398	77
522	100		520	100

Expenditure

Expenditure on Objects of the Trust (Including Grant Related expenses)

For the Year Ended 31st March'16			For the Year Ended 31st March'17	
In Lakhs	%	Particulars	In Lakhs	%
138	31	Livelihood Program Support	157	26
39	9	Communication & Advocacy	90	15
86	20	Education	104	17
0	0	Event - Global Appeal - 2017	79	13
96	22	Administrative Expenses	100	16
79	18	Surplus/Deficit transferred to the Balance Sheet	79	13
438	100		609	100



Standing (Left to Right): Mr. Rajesh Srivastava, Mr. Tatsuya Tanami, Mr. Raj Kumar Masih, Dr. Derek Lobo, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Mr. Ram Autar, Ms. Teresa Khanna, Mr. Tarun Das, Ms. Rajni Sharma, Mr. Ganesh Prasad Dhuria, Mr. Tanzeel Khan and Atul Kumar

Middle Row (Left to Right): Ms. Vandana Naggal, Prof. Etsuko Kita, Dr. Vineeta Shanker, Mr. Dinesh Trivedi, Ms. Syeda Imam Bilgrami, Ms. Supriya Banerji, Ms. Rama K.R. Gupta

Bottom Row (Left to Right): Ms. Yogita Parkale, Mr. Aftab Pasha and Ms. Rituparna Sarangi

How Can You Engage?

E.A.S.Y.

End discrimination by not using the word “Leper”. It is derogatory.

Acknowledge leprosy-affected as equal members of the society.

Spread the word, that leprosy is curable.

Yes, you can make a difference.

Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation

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