



Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation
Restoring Dignity



**Annual Report
2017-18**





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LEPROSY IN THE INDIAN CONTEXT

Venkaiah Naidu: Need More Awareness On Leprosy In Country

Preventing the International Gandhi Award 2017 to Dr M.D. Gupta and Dr Arun Shah, Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu on Sunday called for spreading more public awareness on leprosy in India



DNA

Budget 2017 | Govt committed to eliminating black fever, filariasis, leprosy, measles: Arun Jaitley



INDIAN EXPRESS

Leprosy stigma in Odisha refuses to die

None of the villagers of a 62-year-old destitute woman came forward to cremate her body which was left in her so-called house for the whole night.



CM

Leprosy patients to get pucca houses

MARKHAND, RANCHI November 5, 2017, by News Desk 0 Comments



THE HINDU

Leprosy rate in five districts higher than national average

EVERY LIFE COUNTS

India Has Largest Number Of New Leprosy Cases In The World, Says

India accounts for 60% of new leprosy cases in world'

PATHA: Dermatologists on Sunday stressed on the need to create awareness about leprosy and distinguish it from other public health programmes. In 2005, India had officially declared to have eliminated leprosy when new cases fell to less than one per 10,000 population. But so far 40-45% of new leprosy cases are reported globally.



Aadhaar linkage not a must for leprosy patients in Maharashtra: Minister

Maharashtra social justice minister Rajkumar Dadele said leprosy patients can't be left out of government subsidies just because they do not have the Aadhaar card.



India Eliminated Leprosy 12 Years Ago, 79,000 New Cases In 6 Months

Syngenta Vaidya, Mumbai

Govt reports India having the maximum cases of leprosy in the world at 60 percent

21st century India cannot shun leprosy patients, says Supreme Court

hindustan times

India sees 60% of new leprosy cases globally, Delhi reports increased prevalence



World Health Organization

WHY S-ILF EXISTS?

Instituted in November 2006, Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF) works to mainstream persons affected by leprosy and their families through social and economic empowerment. It fuels change in social attitudes by spreading awareness about leprosy — demonstrating that the disease is fully curable and those affected are just like anyone else. This increases their social acceptance. S-ILF envisages a society in which persons cured from leprosy have the right to embrace a range of livelihoods and lead their lives with dignity.

Goals:

- To create conditions that will enable them to have equal access to economic opportunities.
- To increase social acceptability of persons cured from leprosy and their families by disseminating correct information.



Vision

To work for the integration of leprosy cured persons and their families into society and put an end to discrimination.

Mission

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

Strategic Focus:



Providing opportunities for:

- Microfinance
- Vocational training
- Higher education



Enhancing capacities through:

- Capacity Building
- Livelihood training
- Self and wage employment



Empowering people by:

- Financial/technical support
- Mentorship
- Transparency & accountability.



Raising awareness about:

- Stigma
- Discrimination
- Ostracisation



Engaging in Advocacy with:

- Opinion makers
- Policy makers
- Persons affected by leprosy
- General public



Who do we work with?

We work with persons affected by leprosy living in self-settled colonies. There are more than 800 colonies that are scattered across India, with some areas having a 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 former leprosy hospitals, on river banks, near drains, in the vicinity of religious or tourist places.



REACHING OUT

Mr. Yohei Sasakawa Patron, S-ILF



It gives me immense pleasure to witness the growing achievements of Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF) under the able guidance of Chairman Mr. Tarun Das and other eminent Board members. I would also like to express my deep appreciation to the officers and the entire S-ILF team for their dedication and commitment towards the cause.

In December 2017, under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi, India set itself the ambitious and challenging goal of achieving zero leprosy by 2030.

In my conversations with Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi, he has emphasized the importance of ensuring that persons affected by leprosy can lead a life of dignity.

S-ILF, since its foundation, has focused on social and economic empowerment of leprosy affected persons and supporting them in leading a life of ensuring dignity.

I am pleased to see that S-ILF has continued to expand its reach over the years to intensify its work through an integrated and holistic approach that includes education, capacity building, livelihood creation as well as advocacy.

It is also very encouraging to see the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) and S-ILF working together to support those affected by leprosy and their families in leading a life of dignity by achieving economic well-being.

Realising a leprosy-free India is a goal shared by many working in cooperation. Let us now work towards sharing and deepening this commitment with those in the media, business, and other sectors so that all stakeholders will unite in making even further progress.

Mr. Yohei Sasakawa is the WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination and Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, Japan.

TAKING STOCK

Mr. Tarun Das Chairman, S-ILF



This is the second time I am writing a message for the S-ILF Annual Report. Last, year I had listed 7 issues: Advocacy, Awareness Building, Stigma and Discrimination, Elimination, Partnerships and, lastly, Laws and Policies – all these to be the focus of our work.

S-ILF continues to strive in all these areas but the progress is limited. We, clearly, have a long way to go to fulfil our tasks. We need to step up our efforts and bring a sharper focus so as to achieve the results we seek.

The S-ILF team is stronger and more capable with additions of experienced staff. 2018-19 has to see them perform to higher levels of achievement. The Executive Director has undertaken to set out the specific targets for 2018-19 and 2019-20.

Technology, as a tool, to build Awareness is a new exciting area being explored. The aim is to raise our effectiveness manifold. This is crucial because many people seem to be totally unaware of Leprosy as an ongoing challenge.

At the grass-roots level of Leprosy Colonies, S-ILF is concentrating on Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh (Indore) by locating staff on the ground and initiating new livelihood projects specially to mainstream persons and families who have been adversely affected. One key element of grassroots work is the structure of Self-Help groups of women, a powerful mechanism for empowerment.

Another new initiative, very successful, was a Youth Festival with participation from college students and youth from the colonies. This was an amazing success in terms of integration and dealing with stigma and discrimination. S-ILF plans to make this a regular activity around the country.

In the field of Leprosy, Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birthday is of special significance because of Gandhiji's special connect with persons affected by Leprosy. S-ILF plans multiple activities which will remind us all of Gandhiji's leadership and help to build awareness throughout the country.

The agenda for S-ILF is long and numerous. But, the responsibility given to S-ILF by Mr. Yohei Sasakawa is to be taken with full seriousness and sincerity so that S-ILF helps to make a real difference. Mr. Sasakawa's personal guidance and the support of The Nippon Foundation are crucial to all of S-ILF's work.

We pledge to more than double our efforts in the year ahead.

REVIEW

Dr. Vineeta Shanker Executive Director, S-ILF



The year 2017-18 has been an important one for S-ILF. It was a year of taking stock, of finalizing targets for the next five years and of strategizing to achieve this with guidance and direction from our patron Mr. Yohei Sasakawa and the Board of Trustees chaired by Mr. Tarun Das.

It is now 10 years since we rolled out our first livelihood project. From the beginning, S-ILF has not restricted its work to one geographical area. Instead it has responded to the needs of the colonies which come under APAL. Thus our work has been spread across colonies in 18 states. Although this meant spreading ourselves thin, we have been steadily fulfilling the promise made by Mr. Sasakawa to the leprosy

affected persons across the country, when he set up S-ILF.

Upon reviewing our work, it became clear that having established a 'buy in' among the community through a well-functioning model, we needed to step up our economic rehabilitation work in the colonies and increase our reach to cover a larger population. Having assisted their transition from begging into dignified livelihoods, the next step was expansion, consolidation and scaling up which clearly required a more intensive engagement at the colony level. This implied bringing majority of households in each of the colonies where we work within the ambit of change and economic well-being.

According to Mr. Sasakawa, S-ILF needed to develop some colonies as role models – to inspire others to follow. We therefore, focussed on a cluster of colonies in MP in 2018-19. Our special attention is on forming self-help groups (SHGs), which is a powerful and established tool for socio-economic empowerment. The SHG's will help the people to move from thrift to livelihood projects funded through formal financial institutions. We are also working to ensure greater community participation in common colony concerns, including areas such as sanitation, nutrition and health. Another new initiative is after-school learning centres which we have set up to bring down the school dropout rate and help the children attain higher goals in terms of both education and employment. For the first time we appointed local level staff and grass root animators to carry out this intensive engagement.

Raising awareness among school children has been one of our focus areas. This year we took it further by reaching out to more than 400 school children in different schools. We also brought in larger number of colleges within the ambit of our awareness initiative. This effort culminated in a very successful Youth Festival in which around 100 college students and youth from the colonies participated. We plan to take such youth festivals to states outside Delhi in the coming years.

We have stepped up our advocacy efforts to get persons affected by leprosy and their families included in the welfare network of the Government. We have also joined the appeal by NGO's working for leprosy to repeal the laws that discriminate based on leprosy and joined hands with the disability movement for more effective inclusion of leprosy affected within the disability framework.

In the coming year we look forward to working with the Government more closely as it steps up its effort to eliminate the disease in the near future.

OUR BOARD

Board Members



Mr. 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



Ms. Syeda Imam Bilgrami, Member
Former Executive Creative Director,
J. Walter Thompson (Central Asia) &
Member, National Commission for
Minorities, Govt. of India



Mr. Tatsuya Tanami, Member
Special Adviser, The Nippon Foundation
Managing Director, Center for Human
Rights Education and Training



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



Prof. Etsuko Kita, Member
Chairperson, Board of Sasakawa
Memorial Health Foundation
(Till Dec 4, 2017)

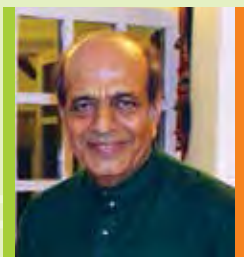


Prof. Takahiro Nanri, Member
Executive Director, Sasakawa
Memorial Health Foundation
(From Dec 4, 2017)



Dr. Derek Lobo, Member
Retired Regional Adviser for
Leprosy, WHO South-East
Asia Region

Advisory Members



Mr. Dinesh Trivedi
Member of Lok Sabha



Mr. Rajesh Srivastava
Chairman & Managing Director,
Rabo Equity Advisors Pvt. Ltd.



Mr. Ravi Singh
Secretary General & CEO,
WWF-India



Ms. Supriya Banerji
Regional Coordinator WMG,
University of Warwick & Former
Deputy Director General, CII



Dr. P. K. Gopal
President, Idea India
Advisor, APAL India

AN UNTOLD STORY



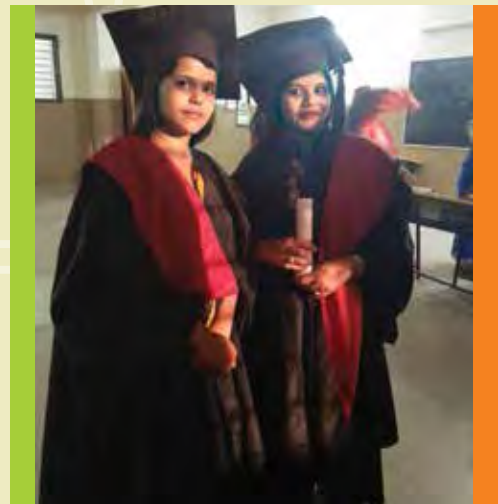
Shankari Mahto

Neither the smile on her face nor the cheer in her voice hints at the pain and suffering that Shankari has gone through in her life. Born to leprosy-affected parents, she was orphaned at the age of 7 and sent to a hostel for children of leprosy-affected persons. While at school, she went through the trauma of discovering that she too had leprosy. The disease left no physical signs as it was detected and treated in time. However, even as a child, Shankari was acutely aware of the social stigma and fearful of what life had in store for her. Fear, low self-esteem and lack of confidence, were the deeper non visible scars that were to remain with her for a long time to come.

Shankari met her husband Shankar in school and fell in love. Although his parents had leprosy, Shankar's outlook on life was strong and positive and helped Shankari lighten the burden on her psyche. A courtship of five years ended in marriage and soon they had three daughters – Riya, Puja, and Anita.

Shankar worked as a free-lance electrician while Shankari was able to get a job in the sales department of Baramasia Rehab & Training Centre (BRTC), Dhanbad, Jharkhand. Together they managed to send their daughters to school. "It was not a comfortable life, but we could manage somehow, without begging. We both have seen our parents going for begging in absence of a dignified income and we decided that we would give our children a life of dignity", said Shankari.

It was a matter of great pride to them that all the girls did well in school. As Riya was finishing school, her teacher suggested that she take up nursing. The second daughter



Riya and Puja at their convocation

too wanted to pursue nursing. With the help of the SDM of Dhanbad, Shankar and Shankari were able to get a loan of Rs. 4 lakhs for the education of both the daughters.

During this time, Shankar was also able to get a permanent job as an electrician in a school and started earning a much higher salary, which came as a big relief to the family. Their joy was however short-lived as within 6 months Shankar met with an accident and Shankari was widowed in 2014. With the love of her life gone, a hefty education loan to be returned and last daughter, Anita, aspiring to follow her sisters in the nursing profession, Shankari was left heartbroken, hopeless and helpless.



Anita with Shankari

It was at this time that she learned of S-ILF's scholarship for girls to pursue nursing. Anita applied for the same and was selected. As the S-ILF scholarship not only covers tuition and hostel charges but also gives a small monthly allowance, this was a big relief. "S-ILF came as a big help in my hard time. *I was worried for Anita. I had lost all hope and felt sorry for her, as she had been a bright student all her life. I thought that for poor people like us, there is hardly any help left in this world. But S-ILF not only provided her the fees and hostel charges but also a monthly pocket money to take care of her basic expenses*", said Shankari who has now started paying off the loan with help of her elder daughters who are sending her Rs. 10,000 every month.

"Recently, Anita passed her second year of B.Sc. Nursing with 75% marks. *"I want to support my mother because she has supported all us sisters and given us a life we are proud of. I want to stay with my mother always,"* When asked about her future plans, she says: *"I want to be a teacher of Nursing and want to do M.Sc. Nursing on my own. I know I will do that with my family and S-ILF on my side."* Anita Mahto is among 65 Nursing scholars that S-ILF is supporting since 2011.



HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR

Youth Against Leprosy

S-ILF organised 'Youth Against Leprosy' a Youth Festival dedicated to persons affected by leprosy and their family members. The purpose of the Youth festival was to bridge the distance by bringing together youth from leprosy and non-leprosy backgrounds.

The festival sought to provide an opportunity for the youth from different colleges to interact with the youth from leprosy-affected colonies by participating in common creative activities such as dance, drama and music. The common platform, we hoped, would enable the students make friends, understand each other and realise that the differences between them are merely those of opportunity. In the process, we aimed to transform all those from non-leprosy backgrounds into goodwill ambassador for fighting the stigma against leprosy. We at S-ILF believe that each person has the potential of becoming an agent of change for creating a more inclusive society.

There were 100 participants at this 2 day residential Youth festival; 50 students from S-ILF's education program and 50 students from 5 colleges of Delhi-NCR. The program was designed with a clear intention to "celebrate inclusiveness" in a fun-filled, learning atmosphere, where everyone interacted as equals. The students were grouped into the activity of their choice. Within each group mixed teams of students from the colleges and S-ILF's students were formed to compete with each other.



The Festival ended by showcasing three best entries in each of the categories viz. dance, theatre and music. The grand finale took place at India Islamic Cultural Centre, New Delhi on 29 January 2018 and was attended by almost 300 people.

Hon'ble Minister of Culture Dr. Mahesh Sharma and Mr. Yohei Sasakawa gave away the prizes to the winning

teams of the cultural activities. The chief guest Dr. Sharma emphasised on the need of organising more such events in the future, so that platforms like these could be utilised by youth to bridge the gap. The youth festival saw strong bonds developing and inclusiveness amongst the participants.

All the performances were appreciated by the audience and the dignitaries present. The participants too enjoyed the two day activities and were keen that this be continued every year.





Youth Festival



Testimonials



It was a good experience & I enjoyed a lot. I am very happy that I got the opportunity to meet people from different states and make some good friends. Our mentors were too good, just loved their nature. Thank you for this beautiful time and memories that

I will cherish my whole life.

- Sanya Thakur (Institute of Public Health & Hygiene)



My three-day experience of youth festival was really amazing. It was a good opportunity for me. I enjoyed each and everything here - lunch, dinner, activities, room that we shared with each other. Thanks to all respected Sir & Ma'am for giving me this opportunity. Thanks S-ILF.

- Chitra (S-ILF Scholar)



First of all, I want to thank the entire team of S-ILF for organising such a great youth festival which we will never forget in our life. We enjoyed a lot here with youth from other states. Important thing is we learned so many new things which will surely help us in future

life. Thanks to you guys, we will remember this journey lifelong.

- Megha Shinde (S-ILF Scholar)



In this youth festival I have learned a lot in terms of training methodology, communication patterns, skill development etc. It was a great experience for me to spend my time with people from different backgrounds and people from S-ILF. Thank you so much for

giving this opportunity.

-Suraqua Fahad (Gautam Buddha University)



I was part of a theatre group (Insta-Shaadi). It's not like that I have not been to stage before but I always had fear of being on stage, which I overcome here in the youth festival. I made many good friends and learned many new things.

-Vibhuti (Fairfield Institute of Management & Technology)



First of all, I want to thank S-ILF for organising this youth festival. Really these days were amazing for me. It was nice to meet new people with them I enjoyed a lot. It was an inspiring experience, thanks once again.

- Sukhdev Singh (S-ILF Scholar)



"When I came for this festival, I hardly knew any other participant. I was nervous and worried because I came from a different background. I was not sure how others will treat me. Everyone was a stranger, but as time passed, I made friends among them and

now it feels so good here that I do not want to go back home. I will miss them all."

- Shruti (S-ILF's Scholar)

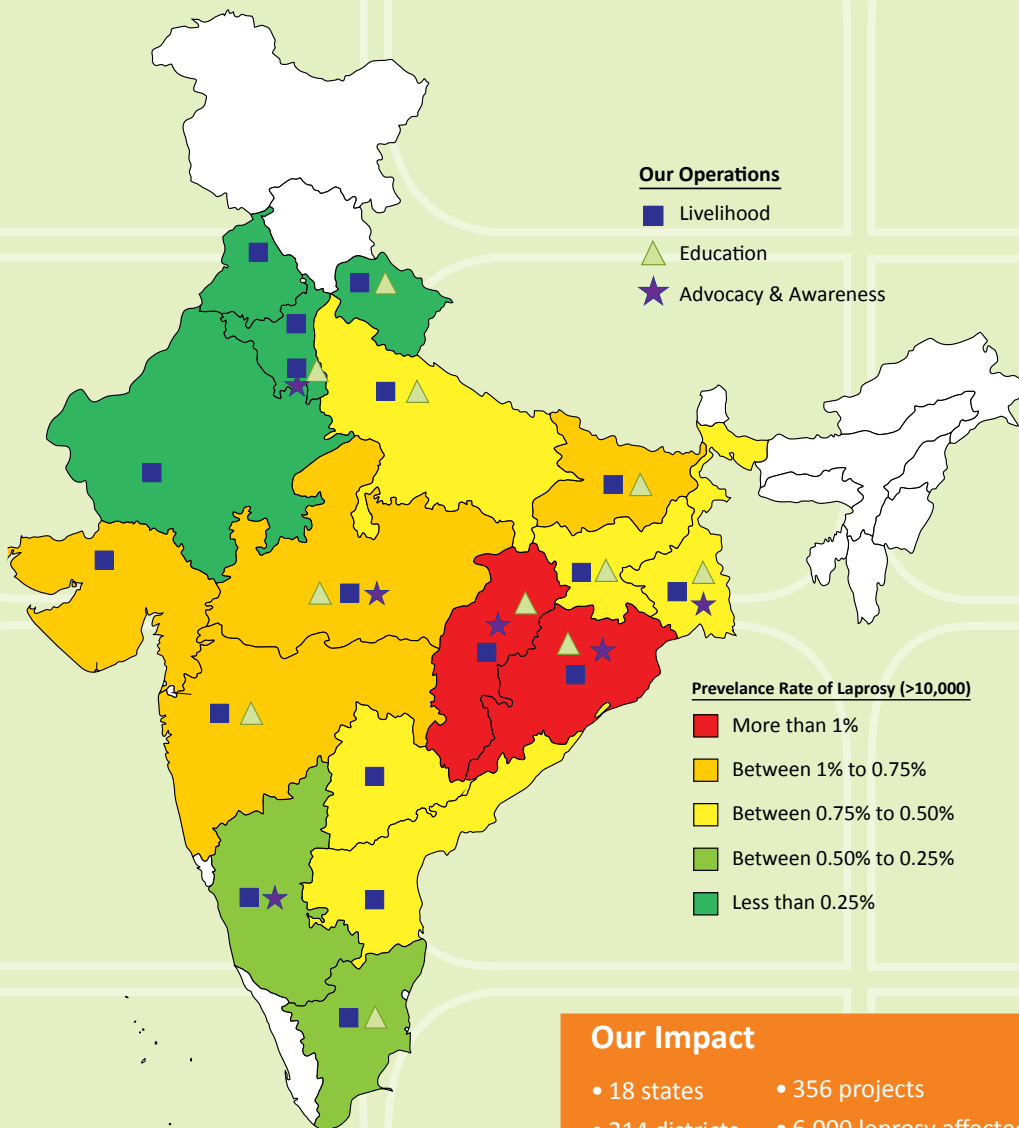


Honestly speaking, I had not expected this much fun and enjoyment from this festival. I really enjoyed a lot. It was a great experience meeting new people from different parts of the country. I am thankful to S-ILF team for giving us this over-whelming

opportunity. Thank You!

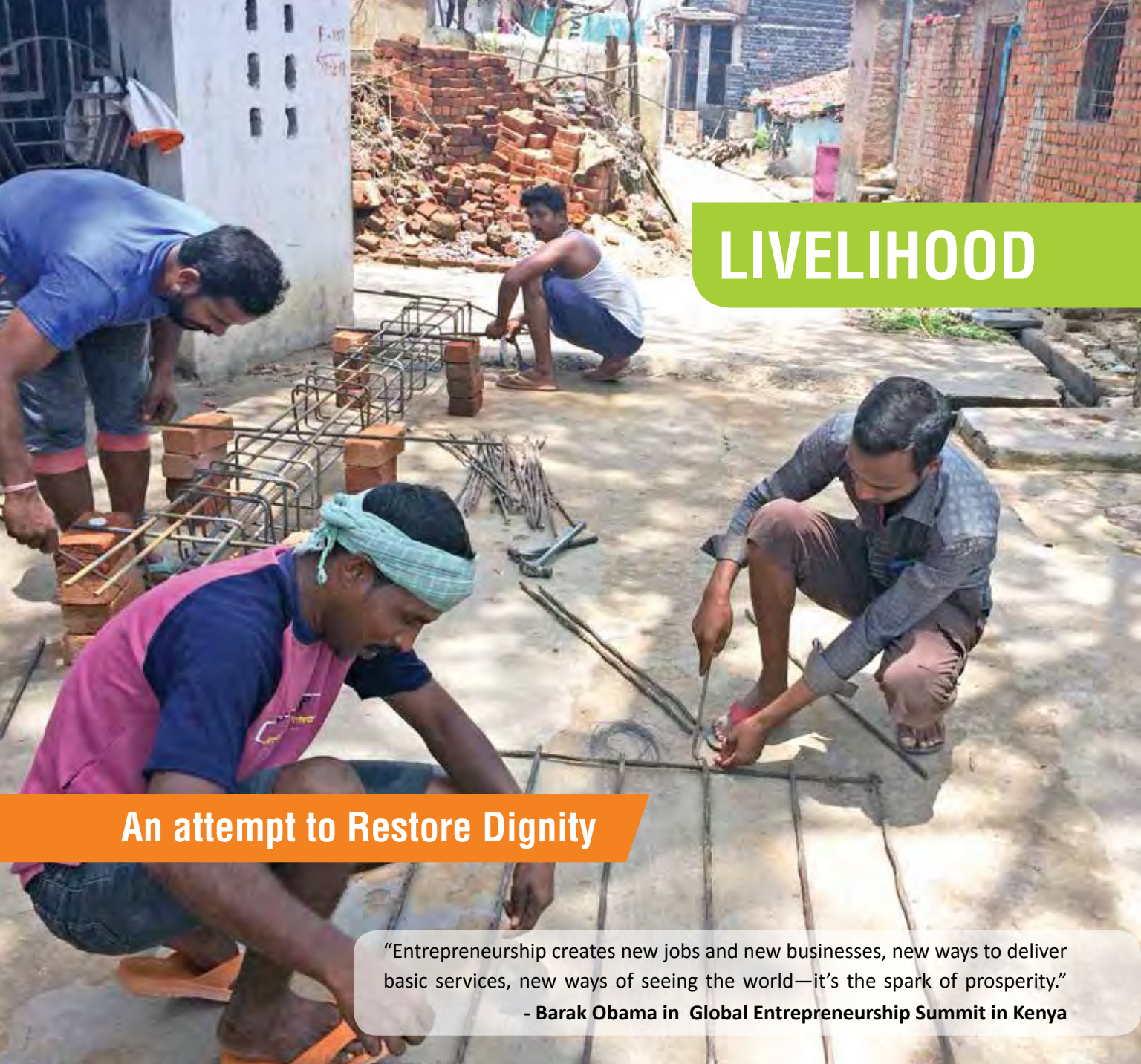
- Aesha Singh (Amity University)

OUR PROGRAMS- AT A GLANCE



Our Impact

- 18 states
- 214 districts
- 278 colonies
- 356 projects
- 6,000 leprosy affected persons directly
- 8,300 through awareness



LIVELIHOOD

An attempt to Restore Dignity

“Entrepreneurship creates new jobs and new businesses, new ways to deliver basic services, new ways of seeing the world—it’s the spark of prosperity.”
- Barak Obama in Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Kenya

Highlights of the Program

- This year, capacity building of beneficiaries through 3 Training for Socio-Economic Change (TSECs), 1 Stakeholder Orientation Workshops (SOWs) & 20 Training & Exposure (TAE) benefitting 245 beneficiaries.
- Cumulatively for FY 2008-18, Total 316 projects in groups were approved. 237 projects are either completed or running.
- Total 46 projects for individual enterprises were approved. 40 projects are either completed or running.

Leprosy affected families live in exclusion and largely depend 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.

Since the start of the livelihood program in response to demand from the colonies from all over the country, S-ILF had limited the number of group projects in a colony to only two, to be able to include a larger number of colonies in its program. S-ILF adopted a cluster approach to change the colony engagement to an intensive multi program initiative. The engagement with the colonies in this cluster would include livelihood, education particularly after school learning support as well as empowerment workshops.

Madhya Pradesh was selected as a focus state, a cluster of 21 of the 32 colonies in Madhya Pradesh was formed. A total of 33 livelihood projects, of which 20 group projects and 13 individual projects were selected for financial and technical support. While retail and services remained the mainstay activities of the projects, some new initiatives such as CCTV installation, flour mill, food stalls and beauty parlour were added.

S-ILF also conducted a bench marking study of livelihood projects in 30 colonies from North, East and West India. The learnings from this study are being incorporated in the new initiatives.

Youth Entrepreneurship Program

Often young people are reluctant to seek work outside the colonies. Afraid of social stigma and often having parents who need to be looked after, they look for opportunities near the colonies. The colonies being mostly remote and isolated and job opportunities being scarce, the youth often request assistance to start their own businesses. The generation gap also prevents them from joining the ongoing projects in colonies.

This year, 15 projects in 10 colonies were started, benefitting 15 families. The enterprises comprise service, retail, wholesale, livestock etc.



Ms. Hira Bhandari
(State Forum Member), Sai Ram Avtar, Kusth Ashram, Indore (MP)

“ I really like business planning. The fear I had earlier is no more. I learned to focus on little-little things during the training session and how to rectify my mistakes. ”

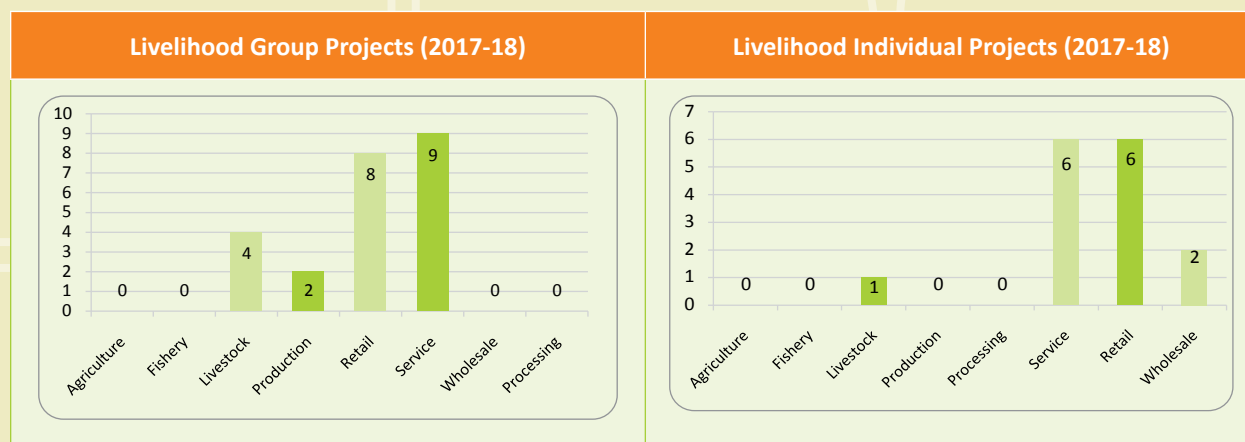
Capacity Building & Training

S-ILF organizes several workshops and training programs to expose the beneficiaries on various aspects of business development and management. Some of these are:

1. **Training for Socio-Economic Change (TSECs):** Micro enterprise development and training – gives an orientation about various aspects of developing a business proposal. This is followed by participants submitting their proposals for which they conducted market feasibility with the help of S-ILF’s local NGO partners (mentors).
2. **Stakeholder Orientation Workshops (SOWs):** Training selected beneficiaries on detailed business plan development, financial management, roles, responsibilities and marketing.
3. **Training & Exposure (TAE):** Micro enterprise specific training through exposure visits to successfully running enterprises so that members can attain hands-on experiences.

Trainings Conducted in FY 2017-18:

Training, Workshops & Meetings	No of Trainings		No of colonies/ projects		No of participants		Proposals developed	
	Group	Individual	Group	Individual	Group	Individual	Group	Individual
Training for Socio-Economic Change (TSECs)	1	2	13	5	40	21	20	15
Stakeholder Orientation Workshops (SOWs)	1		15 Colonies/ 35 projects		48	12		
Training & Exposure (TAE)	20		20 Colonies/ 20 projects		124	0		



Sector wise division of projects approved in the current year (16th PSCM) are as follows:



Mr. Raja Ram Malviya
(Grocery Project), Sadanand Magadev Kusth Ashram, Ujjain (MP)

“ In this training I learned about the projects run by S-ILF, met new people and learnt marketing skills and marketing research. ”



Ms. Purwa Solkani
(Garment Production), Maa Saraswati Kusth Ashram, Indore (MP)

“ The way everything was explained during the training, made it easy to understand the process and helped in our understanding the importance of everyone’s role in a group activity. ”



S-ILF’s new approach pilot program shows results

The need for upliftment of the people living in leprosy colonies was long felt by S-ILF as these colonies lack basic amenities like housing, water, electricity and ration.

S-ILF experimented with a new approach by piloting efforts in one location for a year. Indore region of Madhya Pradesh was identified for this purpose. S-ILF focused on the integrated thematic program interventions for the holistic development of the colonies.

S-ILF intensified the livelihood projects support with 35 projects (20 group and 15 individual) reaching out to 137 direct beneficiaries from seven districts.

The beneficiaries are not only involved in conventional micro-enterprises like grocery shop, dairy and poultry but also indulge in nurturing new enterprises like CCTV sales & installation, flour mill, housekeeping material, egg wholesale, online kiosk and boutiques etc. to sustain their life with dignity.

A young man with dark, wavy hair and a goatee is smiling broadly, wearing a white button-down shirt. He is positioned in the foreground, slightly to the left of the center. The background shows a large, multi-story building with many windows. A sign on the building reads "WATPURA SARK" and "UTE OF PHARMA". Several people in white uniforms are walking in the background, and a few scooters are parked near the building. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

EDUCATION

Bridging the Gap

“Education, vocational training and lifelong learning are central pillars of employability, employment of workers and sustainable enterprise development”

- **International Labour Organisation**

Highlights of the Program

- 654 youth were enrolled for entry-level jobs, 557 have completed their training, and 387 youth placed after training.
- Since 2011, S-ILF has provided scholarships to 65 girls from various leprosy colonies.
- 74 applications received for His Holiness Dalai Lama-Sasakawa Scholarships for higher studies.



Usually the children go to Government schools where teaching is poor and discrimination by teachers is rampant. Poor educational foundation and weak family support system further contribute to poor learning outcomes. Failure to complete high school further widens the existing social and economic inequalities.

Dropout rates are quite high and students give up on studies anywhere between 7th and 10th grade. Even among those who complete grade 12, few are inclined to go for higher studies. Few of those interested lack

the economic means to pursue further studies. To bridge this gap S-ILF started Skills to Employment Program.

Skills to Employment Program (STEP-UP)

Under this program, S-ILF provides scholarships for skills training and education that would make them employable and financially independent. Collaborating with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) other NGOs like Lepira Society and NLR Foundation, S-ILF has enrolled 654 youths for entry-level jobs, out of these 654 youths 557 youths have successfully completed their trainings. From total trained youth, 387 candidates have been placed. Some of the employers are Taj Gateway, Royal Orchid, Fortune Landmark, Knorr Brems, Portia Medical Institute, Vivanta by Taj, AEGIS Ltd etc.

The unique characteristics of this program are:

- i) The training is provided free of cost, and
- ii) 60-70% of the youth who successfully complete their training are guaranteed jobs. S-ILF signed a MOU for 100 new youths with Don Bosco which has better training and facilities along with large geographical outreach.

S-ILF focuses on a range of skill training needs like Bedside assistant, Hospitality, Housekeeping, Electricals, Automobile,



Rakesh Das

Manav Seva Samiti, New Delhi

“ 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. ”



Industrial sewing machine operator, Refrigeration & Air conditioning (RAC), Computer hardware and networking, Excavator Operator, Food and Beverage, Beautician, Cargo Management etc.

Nursing Scholarships

Starting with a batch of five girls, S-ILF has increased the number of scholarships to 10 per year. Since 2011, S-ILF has provided the scholarships to 65 girls. Of these, girls from the first two batches have graduated and all have found well-paying jobs. Fourteen of them are working with different hospitals in Bihar, Delhi, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand. One is placed as a Nurse Mentor at the Community Health Centre (CHC) in Shravasti, UP.

In 2017-18, S-ILF received 74 applications out of which 10 applicants were selected based on merit.

S-ILF also collaborated with Diwan Housing Finance Limited (DHFL) to support 60 scholars (Existing-20 & New 40) for a period of 7 years starting 2017-18. This partnership provides scholarships under R. K. Wadhawan Foundation & S-ILF banner.

His Holiness Dalai Lama - Sasakawa Scholarship Program (HDDLSS)

Since 2015, this scholarship has provided an opportunity to meritorious children to pursue higher studies and attain professional qualifications that will make them employable. The program aims at encouraging and motivating younger children to aspire for higher education. Till date, 49 students have benefitted under this program from eight states namely, Delhi, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.



Akash Kumar

HDDLSS scholar enrolled in Bachelors in Computer Application, Presidency College, Bangalore

“

I would like to express my gratitude for the scholarship assistance by S-ILF. I am excelling academically and maintaining a 9.2 Grade Point Average (GPA). This would not be possible without S-ILF's support. I feel that a degree in Bachelors in Computer Application will enable me to assist people in this marginalised community and make a difference in the lives of others technically.

”

In FY 2017-18, state level workshops were held to guide youth about the career choices and the right institutions to pursue these career choices. These workshops were held in coordination and support from APAL in 8 states -Delhi, Indore, Patna, Bhubaneswar, Lucknow, Ranchi, Asansol and Raipur. Established career counsellors addressed these workshops which were attended by 280 youth, their families, state & colony leaders.

This year (2017-18), S-ILF added scholars to this program for various courses that ranged from Pharmacy, Para-medical, to Engineering, Hospitality etc.

A selection committee which included representatives from APAL, The Nippon Foundation and Sasakawa - India Leprosy Foundation's Executive Director Dr Vineeta Shanker, selected 40 youth based on their merits and choice of courses. All 40 students were invited for a personal interview. Out of these 40 students, 20 students were selected for the scholarship.

In total S-ILF received 105 applications for His Holiness Dalai Lama-Sasakawa Scholarship program from states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha, Delhi, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh.

Two scholars from the earlier batches have been placed. One has completed her Diploma in aviation, hospitality and travel management from Frank Finn Institute of Air Hostess Training in Delhi and is placed with one of the leading airlines. The second scholar completed his MBA and is working for Vaya Finance Services, a finance company.



Sushmita Dash

Scholar enrolled for the Diploma in Optometry at L V Prasad Eye Institute, Bhubaneswar Odisha

“

After my father's death in 2002, we faced many difficulties financially. Growing up in the less privileged Jaganath Leprosy Colony with no medical facilities nearby, helped me realise the value of medical education. I am pursuing Diploma in Ophthalmic Technology (DOT) and plan to study Bachelors in Optometry. My academic pursuits would not have been possible without the generous support from S-ILF.

”

Monitoring and Preparatory work for next year

S-ILF closely monitors the training and placement of the youth under its skill development program. It takes monthly reports from training partners and submits a monthly MIS to NSDC. Monitoring of placed youth is being done by S-ILF on quarterly basis.

A baseline was initiated to map the impact of the scholarship program.



S-ILF's new Approach-After School learning Centre (ASLC)

In 2017-18, S-ILF started its After School Learning Centres (ASLC) to facilitate the children in leprosy colonies, improve their learnings, outcomes and academic performance. After School Learning Centres (ASLC) is a promising initiative to engage young students in a variety of academic, social and

recreational activities and aims at improving performance in school. This also helps in improving life skills and confidence of the children.



COMMUNICATIONS & ADVOCACY

Changing Mindsets

“Sometimes, reaching out and taking someone’s hand is the beginning of a journey.
At other times, it is allowing another to take yours.”
- Vera Nazarian, *The Perpetual Calendar of Inspiration*

Highlights of the Program

- Organised a Youth Festival with mixed groups of Scholars from leprosy colonies and Delhi Colleges.
- Health Show on Doordarshan.
- Training of Trainers of faculty members at Jamia Millia Islamia.
- Sensitisation Workshops in 5 Delhi Colleges and Universities.
- Empowerment Workshops in 8 leprosy colonies in Indore and Madhya Pradesh.

Continued lack of knowledge about leprosy results in a deep rooted and widespread stigma against the disease and those affected. This is true among both the uneducated and the educated. S-ILF focuses on awareness generation and advocacy to bring about a change societal mindsets.

Draft Bill on Leprosy

S-ILF initiated drafting a bill on Leprosy (Care & Prevention) Bill with the help of a law firm along the lines of the recent bills passed on HIV/AIDS and Mental Illness. The draft bill seeks to address the socio-economic rehabilitation and empowerment of leprosy affected persons and their family members.

Empowerment Workshops

Residents of leprosy colonies are unable to access several welfare measures offered by the Government due to lack of knowledge and awareness. Lack of basic amenities like housing, drinking water, sanitation, electricity and ration is common in these colonies. As a part of its advocacy activity, S-ILF sought to make the colony residents aware of the various government welfare schemes that are available. Through intensive workshops S-ILF empowers them to identify their needs, write petitions and approach relevant local authorities for access to welfare schemes.



Dr. Shalini Saxena (Mentor-PECSS)
At workshop opening

“ Success is not based on big achievements, but on small steps taken towards it. One should not be dependent on anyone for minor work and but be confident to do it on their own. The empowerment workshops will be beneficial to you (beneficiaries) in different aspects of your life. Your amazing capacity of hard work and the knowledge obtained from these workshops will change a lot in coming times. ”



Sarang Gaydhane
APAL State Leader, M.P.

“ People in leprosy colonies are living since long, but still one can easily identify a leprosy colony by a mere look at it. Many leprosy colonies are nothing more than a slum settlement. People are living in a very sorry state. Stigma has further made local authorities hesitant to visit these colonies. To break this chain of detachment, persons from colonies should come out and meet their officers. I'm happy that empowerment workshops have given such exposure to these people. ”

In 2017-18, S-ILF organised empowerment workshops in eight colonies from Indore, Madhya Pradesh. Following the workshops, representatives from these colonies met with local authorities and submitted applications for redressal of their colony problems such as street repair, electricity, water and sanitation. For most, this was the first



time that they were seeking integration into existing schemes on their own. In the process, the colony members learnt to be persistent in their approach while maintaining patience, they learnt to complete the documentation required, they also learnt that the results were better where there was participation from youth representatives.

By the end of second workshop, there was a high level of motivation and confidence in the community. They were more confident to handle their affairs. Youth came forward to take responsibility.

Till now, S-ILF has organised these workshops in the state of Odisha, Karnataka and West Bengal.

Women Empowerment Program

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



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 is to strengthen capacity for 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.

The WEP has created an immense buy-in among women. The results are evident in the confidence level of these women and in their stories of the changes in their life and work.

Awareness Program

Special and concerted efforts are needed to eradicate the stigma. S-ILF has consciously been working with different stakeholders like school and college students, medical institutions, lawyers and social activists, local government institutions as well as corporate and media houses to raise awareness.



Health Show in Doordarshan, July 15 2017

On July 15, 2017, a health show on Doordarshan was aired on leprosy. The Executive Director of S-ILF, Dr. Vineeta Shanker along with Deputy Director General of Leprosy, Dr. Anil Kumar talked about various aspect of leprosy and the impact of stigma on the lives of the leprosy affected.

They discussed the medical, socio-economic and psychological aspects of this disease. Persons affected by leprosy were part of the show and they shared their stories and the challenges they faced due to this disease. The program was in form of a panel discussion followed by question & answer round with the audience. Live calls from viewers and questions from the viewers were answered by the panelists. The channel has a gross viewership of 503 lakh.

Young Partners Program

As part of its Young Partners program, S-ILF reaches out to schools & colleges (both Government and Private) to spread the message against discrimination of leprosy affected persons. With the support of National Human Right Commission (NHRC) S-ILF has till now sensitized students of 30 government schools in Delhi.



S-ILF also has an outreach program in private schools in Delhi such as The Sri Ram School, Vasant Valley School and Pathways. As part of the MP Pilot project last year, S-ILF conducted sensitization program in four private schools with 260 students.

Mission 300 schools

In FY2017-18, S-ILF expanded its reach to school children through collaboration with partners like Empower Pragati (an NSDC partner organisation) which has a network of 875 schools under its school level skill development program. Through the good offices of Empower Pragati, S-ILF participated in the Training of Trainers program organised by Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) Chhattisgarh. S-ILF sensitized **603 school based vocational trainers from all 27 districts** in three different sessions. All the 603 trainers agreed to display posters in the schools to spread awareness. They also agreed to include a session on leprosy in the schools.

In addition, S-ILF conducted awareness sessions at three training centres of Empower Pragati for its 120 trainees in and around Delhi & NCR.

College Outreach Program

To ensure engagement of college youth, S-ILF conducted a 6-hour session for students in Delhi & NCR, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. The institutions were Jamia Millia Islamia, Gautam Buddha University, Fairfield Institute of Management & Technology (FIMT), Institute of Public Health & Hygiene (IPH&H), Amity Institute of Social Sciences (AISS), Amity University, Noida, MATS University, Raipur and Indore school of Social Work. Around 550 students participated in these sessions.

The day long sessions exposed the students to the different aspects of leprosy and sought to generate academic interest among students to study the stigma and its impact.



Fauzia, MSW student
Jamia Millia Islamia

“ Before attending this sensitization workshop, I used to think that the leprosy patients are isolated because the disease is highly infectious. To my surprise, this was a myth I was carrying till now. People do not discriminate with TB patients, however both diseases are caused by similar kind of bacteria. The reason is the visible disability which creates fear among people, though 99% of people are immune to leprosy. ”

Corporate sensitization program

A sensitization session was conducted for 35 shop-floor (factory employees) of JCB India. S-ILF also made a brief presentation on leprosy to the national convention of the Junior Chamber International India at Mangalore in December, 2017.



Yellow Ribbon Campaign



Yellow ribbon to end discrimination against people affected by Leprosy

Yellow Ribbon is a symbol of support to end discrimination against the people affected by Leprosy. Wearing a Yellow Ribbon is a pledge to become the brand ambassador for Leprosy, to treat persons affected with Leprosy as equals and with dignity and to spread information about leprosy.

S-ILF promoted its Yellow Ribbon campaign in all its events, workshops, talks and meetings.



S-ILF's new Approach- Training of Trainers (ToT) Workshop

S-ILF was invited by Jamia Millia Islamia to conduct Training of Trainers (ToT) for their 20 faculty members of Social Work Department as they were keen to include leprosy in their curriculum. S-ILF will be involving the faculty members to take sessions in future workshops as resource persons. Dr. Anil Kumar, DDG(L), NLEP shared the Government's intervention to eliminate leprosy while Mr. Rajive Raturi of HRLN spoke on the PwD Act.

“ Many myths regarding leprosy were broken during the workshop conducted by S-ILF. Now we can teach and train our students to work in any leprosy community with an open mind and discuss this issue. ”

- Dr. Rubina Nusrat, Faculty- Social Work
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Project Name : Dairy and Goat Rearing (Agricultural Development and Financing)

Location : Vandrikal Leprosy Colony, Kamareddy District, Telengana

No. of Beneficiaries : 10

Name of the Beneficiaries : Mr. B. Sayabanna, Ms. J. Laxmi, Ms. S. Yadayamma, Mr. B. Pochaish, Mr. E. Pochaiah, Mr. Vannala Uppalah, Mr. G. Nanasaiah, Mr. M. Rajaram, Mr. M D Esmile, Mr. D. Beemesh (died but his son is a member)

Mentor : Mr. Karnakar, NPDO

State Leader : M. Ramesh



The project is located in a small remote colony with 33 families. The project started in 2011, with 10 beneficiaries affected by Leprosy with varying degrees of disabilities. S-ILF provided financial support of Rs. 3,05,500/-. As the project flourished, the members not only returned the entire grant to the common community fund but also added to it substantially.

In 2012, each of the 10 members received about Rs. 30,000/- from which two bought buffaloes, two bought goats while others invested in agriculture. This helped them to diversify their livelihood portfolio, before that agriculture was their only livelihood activity. Training provided by S-ILF improved their knowledge of agriculture and related activities. All members reported a significant increase in their income and also in the number of working days.

With S-ILF's training, the group members gained financial management skills; they became thorough with documentation and financial dealings. They understand the market well and are able to get the best price for their products. Better management and accounting procedure have reduced their dependence on local moneylenders. Money from the common community fund is used to purchase seeds, fertilizers

etc. at harvest time. The loan from the common community fund is given at 1% interest, which adds to the community fund. They regularly meet to discuss and decide on various issues.

None of the family or community members are engaged in begging. The entire community works as a cohesive, co-operative unit with strong family bonds. They support each other beyond livelihood activities and celebrate various social and religious events together. The

incidences of any differences of opinion are handled effectively. The leader is respected by all and there is a strong mechanism of internal regulation, bond and trust. In near future, the group plans to take a fertilizer dealership and increase livestock within the community to further enhance their enterprise.



- Project Name** : **Upgrading Saree (Saree shop and tailoring unit)**
Location : Sri Sai Ramavtar K Colony, Indore, MP
No. of Beneficiaries : 05 (all female – 03 active and 02 inactive)
Name of Beneficiaries : Active members (Ms. Heera Bhandari, Ms. Rani Sakhare, Ms. Sarita Madan), Inactive (Ms. Anita Rajesh and Ms. Bismilla Sultan)
Mentor : Dr. Shalini Saxena, Priyadarshini Educational, Cultural and Social Society
State Leader : Shri Sarang Gaydane



A business venture initiated through S-ILF's financial assistance has helped women develop confidence and self-respect as they gained financial independence.

Started in 2010 with 10 members, the project was led by 40-year-old Heera Bhandari with support from the colony leaders. Heera had a broad understanding of the saree business as she operated a small business from her home.

In 2010-11 S-ILF provided training with the support of the mentor organisation Priyanshi Educational, Cultural and Social Society (PECSS) and helped a group of 10 women to take up the business. Each member received the initial support of about Rs. 21,000 (Rs. 1,89,000 in total).

Initially, the group members bought simple sarees, added some designing work, and sold them for a better price. They conducted door-to-door sales.

Soon, they realised that they could buy and sell well-designed sarees. They experimented with a few and it worked. The group was being able to return the entire grant into the community fund (Indore Premier Corporate Bank) by 2013 end.

By using their known network of relatives and friends, they started expanding their business while looking for new clients. They distributed pamphlets in the market to get customers. The women managed to form a committed clientele that keeps coming back to them.

The women, who are mostly home makers, did not had any previous knowledge of taking up such initiatives, they attended trainings conducted by S-ILF which developed confidence. In order to further expand their business, in 2014, the group took a second grant from S-ILF. Each of the five members -Hira Bhandari, Rani Sakhare, Sarita Madan, Anita Rajesh and Bismilla Sultan received about Rs. 30,000. In 2012 they rented a shop on the main road in Indore and named it Shree Ganesh Sai Saree Centre.



No longer confined to their homes or dependant on their husbands and male family members, the women go to buy the stock for their shop in different wholesale markets in Ratlam, Surat and Indore. For big purchases, the women say that they prefer to go to Surat.

Bound by strong trust, the women have been able to function smoothly. They also keep proper accounts maintaining records of all

sales and purchases. They take turns to be in the shop and ensure that at least two members are present at any given time. The women support each other beyond livelihood activities like taking care of each other's children, bringing food for other members, rotating duties among themselves.

The business continued till June 2017, afterwards they had to vacate the shop since the building was undergoing renovation. They have been promised a new shop in another three months. While they are eagerly waiting for the shop to start, they are in regular touch with their client base and few old clients visit their colony to buy from them.

Their individual stitching work continues as they bring the work home. One of the member has diversified business by keeping stock of kids wear and its sale. The women are also engaged in community events at the Saibaba temple and hall. The group members are an inspiration to other women members. The women feel respected, have freedom of movement and actively participate in decision-making in their family and community and business matters.

Project Name : Youth Entrepreneurship Program
Name : Ahmed Agwan
Location : Sant Devidas colony, Junagarh, Gujarat



Ahmed Agwan was born in a leprosy colony and has lived there ever since. His grandparents were affected by leprosy and moved to the colony when Ahmed's father was a child. The colony is located near a leprosy hospital, which is no longer functional. Most of the residents of the colony earn their living working as daily wage labourers.

Ahmed was able to do his MBA in marketing. He wanted to start his own enterprise but due to financial crisis, he took up a marketing job. He soon realised that this kind of job was not for him as he had epilepsy which made it difficult for him to do a field rigorous job. He joined his brother, a contractor for house painting where he was able to earn around Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 5,000 per month.

This was not the best option and Ahmed felt that his education could be put to better use by starting his own business. Luckily, Rafiq, the colony leader informed him of S-ILF's livelihood program. Soon thereafter, Ahmed got a chance to interact with a S-ILF team member and decided to attend training sessions organised by S-ILF. After these sessions he submitted a proposal for starting his own enterprise in house painting.

With mentoring and financial support of about Rs. 40,000/- from S-ILF he procured all the required material and utilised his connections to get regular work assignments. Within two years, he was able to expand the business and employ 3-4 youth from his own colony. Despite the seasonal nature of work,

Ahmed is earning much more than before. Ahmed is married and a father of a five-year-old son. He sees a bright future for his family.

Project Name : Skills to Employment Program
(STEP-UP)

Name : Dipali

Location : Nai Duniya Leprosy Colony,
Dhanbad, Jharkhand



Dipali was born to leprosy-affected parents, residing at Nai Duniya Leprosy Colony, Dhanbad in Jharkhand. Dipali's father was the only earning member in the family of seven. He worked as a salesman in a small shop. As girls in her community were not allowed to work, Dipali was sitting idle at home after completing her higher Secondary education.

During a mobilisation visit by S-ILF staff, Dipali was identified for her potential in skilling. She and her parents were convinced to attend S-ILF's career counselling workshop in Ranchi. During the workshop, Dipali's aptitude matched with hospitality sector and she was encouraged to take it as a career. Her parents agreed for this big step, Dipali enrolled for the residential training provided by Pratham through S-ILF.

In 2017, after completing her three months training at Pratham training Centre in Ranchi, Dipali was hired by Green Leaf Club, Rajkot for their hotel at an initial salary of Rs. 7,000 a month. Dipali was happy to take up this offer as it was higher than her expectations. This happiness could not last long as destiny took a crucial turn when she lost her father soon after getting the job. It was a mixed feeling for a girl who was totally dependent on her father to fully supporting the family financially and emotionally.

Shaken by the incident Dipali, once shy and diffident, has emerged as a confident young lady supporting her family. She plans to upgrade her skills and develop professionally. The training has groomed her as a professional. She has learnt to communicate in English. Confident in serving her clients, Dipali has also learnt financial management in keeping with the demands of her job and is hoping for a promotion soon. Her ambition is to work for a reputed hotel-chain.

Project : Nursing Scholarship

Name : Manisha

Location : Raxaul, Bihar

Manisha is a 25-year-old young girl from Raxaul, East Champaran, Bihar. Currently, she is teaching at Hirawati ANM nursing school, Hajipur. In 2012 she was selected for S-ILF's Nursing Scholarship but

she chose to enroll in B.Sc. (Nursing) which she completed in 2016. After completing her B.Sc. (Nursing) she decided to become a teacher in a nursing college. Since she had a good academic record, she was offered teaching job in the same nursing school at a salary of Rs. 20,000.

Things were not easy for Manisha. Born to leprosy-affected parents, Manisha completed her class 12th with support from Little Flower organisation after which she got a job with its accounts department. With support from S-ILF's Nursing Scholarship, she was able to fulfil her dream of studying Nursing.

She is not only doing well in her career but she is also taking care of her family members as she is only earning member in her family.

Manisha is the only hope for her family as her brother left home due to a family dispute and her father has had a paralytic stroke recently. She is taking care of her family's needs and her father's treatment. Despite a tough financial situation, she is saving for her further education as well. She plans to get enrolled in M.Sc. nursing in a reputed college to improve her career prospects and income.



Project : Skills to Employment Program
Name : Rahul
Location : Banganga colony, Madhya Pradesh



Rahul hails from Banganga colony and is the eldest of his eight siblings. His mother got affected by leprosy and developed visible deformities, they had to move to Banganga colony as they faced severe social stigma from the community where they lived.

Rahul's father used to work in a factory. Due to heart ailment, he had to quit his job. With help from S-ILF Rahul's father started a stationery shop. His mother, who was working in a shoe factory had to discontinue her job to take care of the family.

Rahul could not find a job after his graduation, he attended a mobilization workshop organised by S-ILF and Pratham in 2013-14. He learnt about PACE Training Centre and did a three-month Hospitality Course. After successful completion of his training, he was placed as a Steward at a salary of Rs. 8,500 per month. Over the last five years, he has worked hard and is presently employed as a supervisor in Hotel Pride. He is also training new recruits.

OUR ALLIES

Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL)



APAL is a national networking organization of persons 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 persons 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. 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. A few years ago, this important responsibility was handed over to Mr. V. Narasappa who hails from Hyderabad.

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.

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. In FY 2017-18, both organisations decided to strengthen the collaboration by increasing the frequency of their meetings.

APAL leaders have helped S-ILF immensely in flagging off real concerns/challenges during program implementation. Keeping this in view, S-ILF has started appointing few such Leaders as Mentors/Facilitators for implementing its livelihood projects.





Mr. V. Narasappa
President-APAL

“

People do not know us by our religion, caste or state. They only identify us as leprosy affected people. Since everyone recognises 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 to live a dignified life.

”

Donors

	<p>The Nippon Foundation (TNF)</p>
	<p>National Human Rights Commission (NHRC): has partially funded S-ILF's Young Partners Program (YPP), for sensitization of school children about leprosy.</p>
	<p>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.</p>
	<p>Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT): committed a grant for nursing scholarships for 25 girls. They agreed in principle to fund this program in the future.</p>
	<p>National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC): provided a grant for training 350 youth from leprosy-affected families residing in UP, Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh in entry level skills.</p>
	<p>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.</p>
	<p>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.</p>
	<p>Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited (DHFL): has agreed to support 60 Nursing scholarships (Existing-20 & New-40) for a period of 7 years starting 2017-18. DHFL supports this support under R K Wadhawan Foundation - S-ILF Scholarship.</p>

Mentors

SNo	NGO/ Mentors	Districts covered	Address
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, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Purnia, Saharsa, Bokaro, Dhanbad, Jamtara,	Jharkhand
5.	Mr. Vijay Kumar Masih	JanjgirChampa	Chhattisgarh
6.	Manav Adhikar Seva Samiti (MASS)	Bilaspur, JanjgirChampa, Raipur, Jharsuguda, Ganjam, Bhubaneswar	Odisha
7.	Shikshan Ane Samaj Kalyan Kendra (SASKK)	Junagarh, Bhavnagar	Gujarat
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	Telengana
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

Training Partners



S. No.	Training Partners	State
1.	Don Bosco Tech,	Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal
2.	Empower Pragati	Bihar, Delhi, Jharkhand
3.	Pratham Education Foundation	Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha
4.	GMR Foundation	Delhi
5.	VAG InfoTech	Delhi
6.	IIJT	Delhi
7.	B-able	Odisha
8.	Gram Tarang	Odisha
9.	Wockhardt	Uttar Pradesh
10.	Simtej 7 Academy	Maharashtra




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 Leprosy Relief Foundation (NLR Foundation)
	The Leprosy Mission Trust of India (TLMTI)
	Lepra Society

Supporters

	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW)
	National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

	Embassy of Japan
	Association for the International Exchange of Students in Economics and Commerce (AIESEC)
	Junior Chamber International India

Academic Institutions

	Delhi University Colleges-Gargi, Ramjas, Kalindi and Jesus & Mary
	The Sri Ram School, Mousari Avenue, Gurgaon
	Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi
	Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh
	Fairfield Institute of Mgmt. & Tech. (FIMT), affiliated with Indraprastha University, New Delhi
	Institute of Public Health & Hygiene (IPH&H), New Delhi
	Amity Institute of Social Sciences (AISS), Amity University, Noida
	MATS University, Raipur
	Indore School of Social Work, Indore,
	Rashtriya Madhyamik Sikshan Abhiyan (RMSA) Chhattisgarh
	Empower Pragati (NSDC training partner)

GLOBAL APPEAL

Global Appeal 2018
To End Stigma and Discrimination
Against Persons Affected by Leprosy

Disabled Peoples International (DPI) is an organization open to persons with disabilities of any kind.

Our goal is an inclusive society in which everyone has rights and can participate in society.

Both DPI and The Nippon Foundation are committed to this goal.

"Nothing about us without us" is the guiding principle of our activities to realize an inclusive society.

DPI pledges to work together with the leprosy community to raise awareness of the disease to encourage a proper understanding of leprosy and respect for the human rights of the individuals and families it affects.

We will work together with persons affected by leprosy to speak out and advocate for greater social participation.

In working towards our common goal of an inclusive society, we will share knowledge and experience with persons affected by leprosy.

Together with persons affected by leprosy, we call on society for the protection of our rights and for equal opportunity.

Javed Akhbar
 Global Chair
 Disabled Peoples International

Yohei Sasakawa
 Chairman
 The Nippon Foundation

Launched in Asia 1982, Global Appeal 2018 is a global initiative of the Disabled Peoples International (DPI) and The Nippon Foundation. For more information, please contact DPI Secretariat, 10000 17th Avenue, Suite 100, Denver, CO 80202, USA. Tel: +1 303 733 1111. Email: dpi@dpi.org. Website: www.dpi.org

Global Appeal 2018: To end Stigma and Discrimination Against persons Affected by Leprosy

Every year, on World Leprosy Day which falls 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 Persons Affected by Leprosy, leads a Global Appeal to end stigma and discrimination against persons 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 effects.

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 only one country left (Brazil), 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 persons affected by leprosy is still deeply rooted. Across the world, correct information pertaining to leprosy is not widely known, which leads to societal discrimination and delayed medical attention. 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 against the social stigma against leprosy. The first Global Appeal was held in 2006.

The Global Appeal 2018 was launched on January 30, 2018 in Delhi, India. This year the Global Appeal was endorsed by Disabled People's International (DPI) and through its Member National Assemblies (MNAs) by 90 countries spanning 7 regions of Africa, Arab, Asia-Pacific, CIS, Europe, Latin America and North America & Caribbean.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Financial Statements for Sasakawa India Leprosy Foundation

Sources of Funds				
As on 31-03-17		Particulars	As on 31-03-18	
₹ In Lakh	%		₹ In Lakh	%
5251	83	Trust Fund (Corpus)	5251	82
970	15	Reserves & other Funds	1010	16
102	2	Sundry Liabilities & Provisions	138	2
6324	100		6399	100
Application of Funds				
9	0	Fixed Assets	30	0
3556	56	Investments in scheduled Banks	3580	56
2290	36	Investments-Others	2241	35
469	7	other Assets	548	9
6324	100		6399	100

Income				
For the year Ended 31 st March'2017		Particulars	For the year Ended 31 st March'2018	
₹ In Lakh	%		₹ In Lakh	%
1	0	Domestic Grant	48	9
121	23	Foreign Grant	102	20
398	76	Interest on Investments & Saving	373	71
520	100		523	100
Expenditure				
Expenditure on Objects of the Trust (Including Grant Related expenses)				
157	26	Livelihood Program Support	125	21
90	15	Communication & Advocacy	53	9
104	17	Education	135	23
79	13	Event - Global Appeal - 2017	18	3
100	16	Administrative Expenses	151	26
79	13	Surplus/Deficit transferred to the Balance Sheet	99	17
609	100		580	100



OUR TEAM



HOW CAN YOU ENGAGE?

A small beginning each one of us can make: by simply becoming a brand ambassador to fight the discrimination against the leprosy-affected and their families. Making the difference will be

E.A.S.Y. as you can see:

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

Acknowledge leprosy affected persons 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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Join us on Social Media: Facebook | LinkedIn | Twitter | Instagram | YouTube