



**bala vikasa**  
Helping Communities Help Themselves

## LEADING STRIDES-IMPACTING LIVES

A YEAR LONG JOURNEY OF BALA VIKASA



**annual  
report  
2015-16**

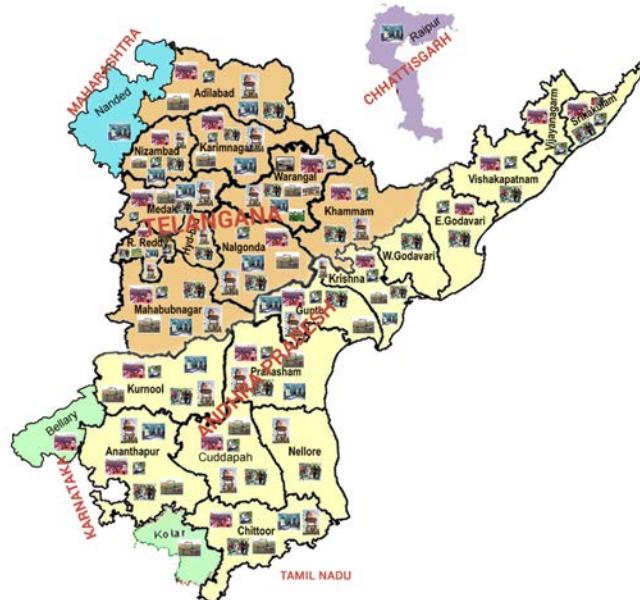


**Bala Vikasa strives for a just and peaceful society in which each individual and every community is empowered and self-reliant; where human dignity, equal rights and equal opportunities are enjoyed by all.**

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# Achievements of the Community Driven Development Program



INTERVENTION	2015-16	CUMULATIVE
<b>Water</b>		
Water Purification Plants installed	82 WPPs benefiting 54,547 families	750 WPPs benefiting 307,374 families
Bore wells dug	220 bore wells, benefiting 58,075 people	6,261 bore wells, benefiting 191,615 families
<b>Women's Empowerment</b>		
Women's SHGs facilitated	7,281 Groups, consisting of 74,170 women members	18,635 groups, consisting of 215,000 women members
Microenterprises set up	6,343	170,000
Skill training beneficiaries	80	1,289
Adult literacy beneficiaries	58	41,908
Widows Mentored	9,835	15,000
<b>Food Security &amp; Environment</b>		
Tanks de-silted	19	719
Farm land acres fertilized with natural silt	3,492 acres benefiting 1,711 farmers	106,459 acres benefiting 57,538 farmers
Organic farmers enrolled	133	513
Drip irrigation kits donated	30	297
Trees planted	45,819	5,45,819
<b>Education</b>		
Rural government schools improved	118 schools benefiting 18,164 students	393 schools benefiting 1,11,434 students
Orphans educated	994	1500
<b>Model Communities</b>		
Development Committees established	157 committees in 24 villages	652 committees in 103 villages
Volunteers elected	991	4,322
Solar streetlights installed	158 lights in 14 villages	244 lights/3 pumps in 25 villages
<b>Health and Sanitation</b>		
Health Camp beneficiaries	28,375	62,930
Family toilets built	304	21,241

## Reach of the People's Development Training Center

2015-16      Cumulative

Number of training programs	21	262
Number of national participants (NGOs & CBOs)	794	9,377
Number of international participants	205	932
Number of NGOs represented	285	2,078

Bala Vikasa has trained development professionals from 25 states in India and 57 countries across the globe.



# Word of the FOUNDERS

We, the Founders, are always amazed and deeply grateful for the support and the collaboration of so many people who, day after day, mobilize their efforts for the services of the destitute of our planet, specifically in India, taking upon themselves the mission that, almost forty years ago, we adopted.



Here, in Canada and in India, the staff, the board members of SOPAR and Bala Vikasa, thousands of volunteers and donors and millions of beneficiaries are part of a vigorous and dynamic family: the engine of a movement of solidarity for the building of a better world.

We remember the word of a SOPAR song:

"Scattered fieldstones that become temple  
Let's build a better world, a sharing society (SOciété de PARtage)."

With the celebration of Bala Vikasa silver jubilee in Hyderabad, last February, we had a glimpse of the magnitude of this "Human temple".

On that occasion, more than fifteen thousand Bala Vikasa participants from all over Telangana, Andhra and neighbouring states converged to one of the major stadiums of Hyderabad. During this event, the participants showed that they didn't look at themselves as beneficiaries but rather as dynamic agents of change in their communities. "We are Bala Vikasa!" It was the clear message that Chief Minister KC Rao and the dignitaries attending the celebration could hear from the participants.

The involvement of so many people in the organization is the key to success. These people are fuelling the warm fire of openness to others and compassion already there in the initial sparks many years ago. To all of you, our gratitude!

In this context, we, the Founders, have proposed the creation of an appreciation award: "The Founders' Award". Each year, during the Annual Assembly, a member of "SOPAR- Bala Vikasa family will be specifically recognized for his/her outstanding commitment and implication. Staff, Board members, volunteers, donors in Canada and in India will be eligible for this award.

The first "Founders' Award" was granted to Mr. André Bourassa during SOPAR General Assembly, on June 9th.

André is presently Vice-President in SOPAR Board. Previously, for several years he assumed "pro bono" the responsibilities of President and Executive Director of the organization. Under his able leadership, André contributed immensely in pursuing the mission of SOPAR – Bala Vikasa during the ups and downs of crucial periods. Thank you André!

Thank you all of you, members of SOPAR-Bala Vikasa family!

*Bala Thava Gingras & André*

Angel and André Gingras  
Founders

## President's Message

This has been a year of Achievement, Recognition and Celebration. For so many years, Bala Vikasa has been recognized as one of the best organization by India and other countries. This has been now emphatically endorsed by the Media and the state governments. Various awards like "Outstanding Woman of the year 2015" by Telangana government, prestigious TV channel Sakshi "Excellence Award 2015", "The personality of the week" award by Radio Canada and "Canada Velan Foundation Award", presented to our Founder, vouch for this. We are all honored by the recognition and awards given to our dear Founder for her 40 years of distinctive work in changing the lives of millions of poor people in India. We proudly share this honor with you on this day.



The other proud moment for our organization is the grand celebration of its silver jubilee. The gathering of 15000 members from different corners of the states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, their timely arrival and disciplined participation is unparallel to any other such huge gatherings in the city of Hyderabad. It is a rare honor to have so many dignitaries present on the occasion including the Chief Minister of Telangana. The summit of the appreciation came from the Honorable Chief Minister Sri. K. Chandrashekhar Rao, when he called our Founder "The jewel of Telangana". This shows the worth and credibility of Bala Vikasa. The sincere appreciation of Bala Vikasa by the honorable speakers has been reported widely in the Media. I sincerely appreciate the efforts of our dynamic Director Shoury Reddy who spent almost sleepless nights for three months and ensured the grand success of the Silver Jubilee event. He also inspired all the board members, staff, coordinators, Development Agents, SHA committee members and the community leaders to make this event a memorable one. My congratulations and sincere thanks to one and all.

Another significant event that took place this year is the foundation stone laid for International Center, a dream project of Mr. Andre. It is the profound duty of every one of us to make his dream a reality by completing the center and making it functional as early as possible. The progress of construction has been stalled due to unforeseen circumstances. Sincere efforts are being made to hasten the completion of the project by dedicated team of our Director, Secretary D. Show Reddy and Board members Indra Reddy and Prakash Reddy. I appreciate and thank them for their time and efforts. The immediate challenge is to mobilize sufficient fund for which the committee constituted by the board which has to plunge into action with renewed spirit.

We should pat our backs for being pioneers of innovative 'Sujal' scheme through which we are providing purified and chilled water for the commuters in the cities at the lowest possible cost of Re1 per 1 litre. This I hope will set a trend for the whole country to emulate, because the governments of other states and corporates are seeking our guidance in extending this project to other metropolitan cities.

I take this opportunity to thank our Founders, SOPAR and other Foreign and Corporate donors. Special thanks to the generous contributions from Aurobindo Pharma, Cholamandalam and Franklin Templeton and thanks also to all other individual donors.

Hope the coming year will also be as fruitful and challenging. Let's continue our efforts in building sustainable communities. Jai Ho Bala Vikasa...

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Basani Marreddy".

Basani Marreddy

## Executive Director's Message



Completing 25 years of successful journey in the field of community development and impacting millions of poor is definitely an exciting moment for all the members at Bala Vikasa family. The voluntary participation of 15,000 community leaders from across Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, and the recognition and appreciation by Chief Minister Mr. K.Chandra Shekar Rao and other VIPs from different states at the silver jubilee celebrations is a clear indication on the level of impact that Bala Vikasa created in the society. I am very fortunate to be part of Bala Vikasa since its inception and contribute my share in this successful journey. It's a great privilege not just to me but to all the members of Bala Vikasa family and thousands of volunteers and associates.

The reporting year has achieved new milestones in the journey of development innovations. The first of its kind in the country "Bala Vikasa Sujal ATW" which is providing safe drinking water to city commuters is greatly appreciated not just by the city commuters but media, corporate and government. Bala Vikasa International Center (BVIC) initiated the activity of incubating social entrepreneurs who are going to impact the community through different innovative social ventures. Bala Vikasa PDTC extended its overseas program to a new country, Myanmar. The number of countries participated in PDTC programs has now crossed 60 from across the globe. Bala Vikasa water purification program is now extended to Chhattisgarh state. The Chief Minister of Telangana recognizing Bala Vikasa promoted model village Gangadevipally as the best model for the state and launching a state wide program "Gram Jyothi" from Gangadevipally is another achievement for Bala Vikasa.

Bala Vikasa was able to achieve all its targets for the reporting year 2015-16. All the staff at each department has demonstrated high professionalism and commitment towards achieving the mission of the organization. BIG thanks to all the staff at office and field for their dedicated services. We also thank in a very special way all our Indian, foreign, corporate and individual donors for their contributions and encouragement to Bala Vikasa in carrying forward our mission. We thank all the volunteers, community leaders, media representatives, government representatives, bureaucrats and all the well wishers for their support, encouragement and cooperation which definitely contributed in a big way in helping our target communities.

Our special thanks to our Founders Mr. Andre Gingras and Mrs. Bala Theresa Gingeras who have continuously engaged in different activities, motivated and inspired all the family members of Bala Vikasa in different ways. Special thanks to our parent organization SOPAR-Canada for their continuous support. Thanks to the President and all the Board members of Bala Vikasa for their committed services and also for encouraging the BV teams in different ways.

Shoury Reddy Singareddy



# 360° COMMUNITY DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

IT TAKES TIME AND COMMITMENT – AND IT WORKS.

SOPAR has built this approach over 35 years of field experience – with concrete results helping entire communities reach their full potential and get out of extreme poverty.



**IT FOCUSES ON THE COMMUNITY**  
We strive to get an entire community involved. It may start with a small group, evolving, with time, into vibrant and dynamic community.



**IT'S COMMUNITY FULL CIRCLE**  
All activities of the community are covered: income generation, health, education, water, food security, environment, social justice. Our approach is integrated and sustainable.

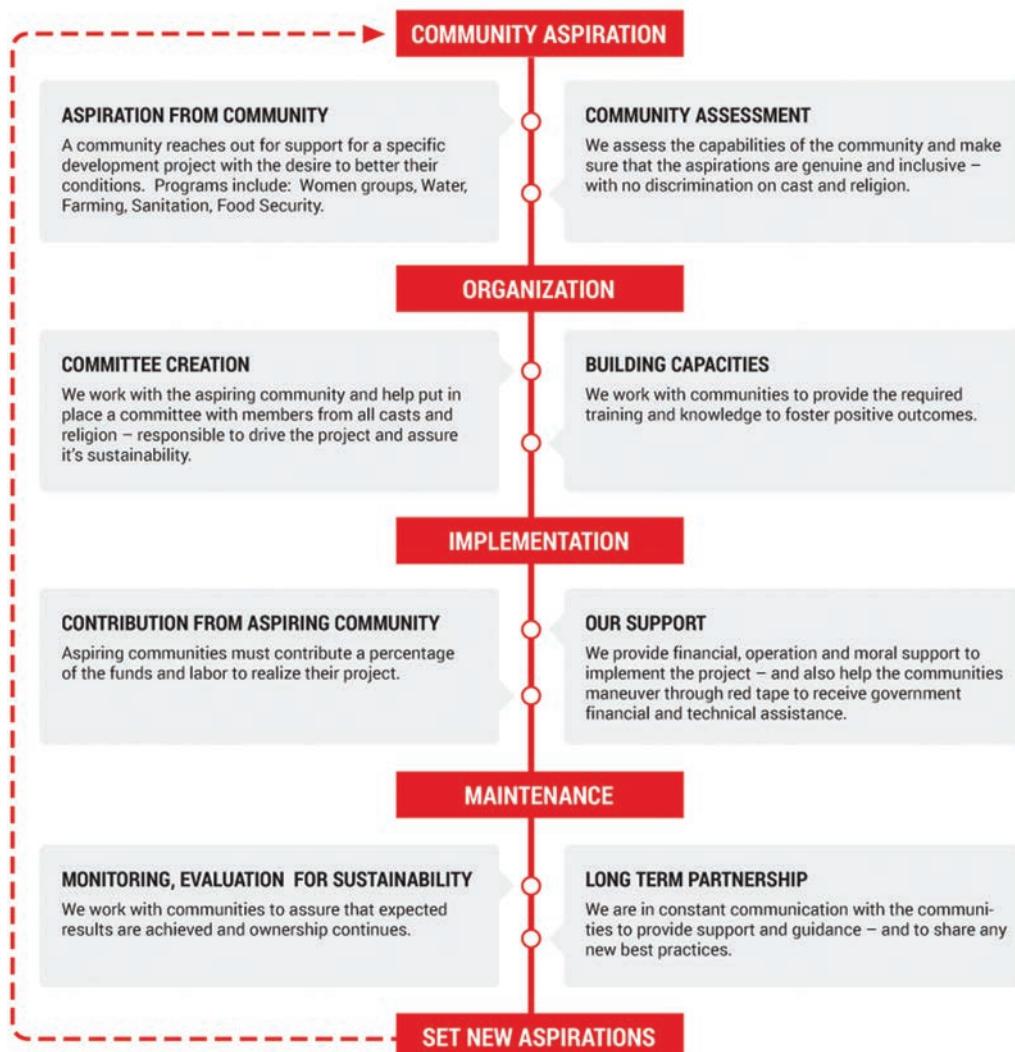


**IT'S DRIVEN BY THE COMMUNITY**  
All people in the community are the real actors. They build on their existing assets. They contribute their time, money and energy. We help, support and guide.



**IT'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPING THROUGH CAPACITY BUILDING**  
We share our professional expertise. With new knowledge, skills and a change of attitude, people become agents of change in their communities.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?



# WOMEN AT THE FOREFRONT

*United Nations Development Program (UNDP) ranks India 127 out of 152 countries in its Gender Inequality Index. For a third world country which is fast emerging as a global power, India is yet to achieve gender equality and ensure fair representation and empowerment of women in its socio-political economy.*

*There has been a significant increase in women's contribution to the economy in the recent times. They are making their mark across diverse fields from arts to sciences. However, only a few women are able to realize their full potential.*

*Socio-cultural challenges restrict the mobility of many Indian women keeping them out of key decision-making processes. High school-dropout rates, child marriages, restrictions on accessing higher education and choice of employment, unequal wages, overbearing gender roles, financial dependency and limited social mobility prevent equal participation of women thereby affecting the society at large. Their knowledge, perspectives and experiences are rarely taken into consideration while setting development goals.*



***Bala Vikasa's Women Integrated Development (WID) program stands as a unique model for women led development over two decades. Now, women are not just leading their families but also their communities.***

# Women Empowerment

USHERING THE WINDS OF CHANGE

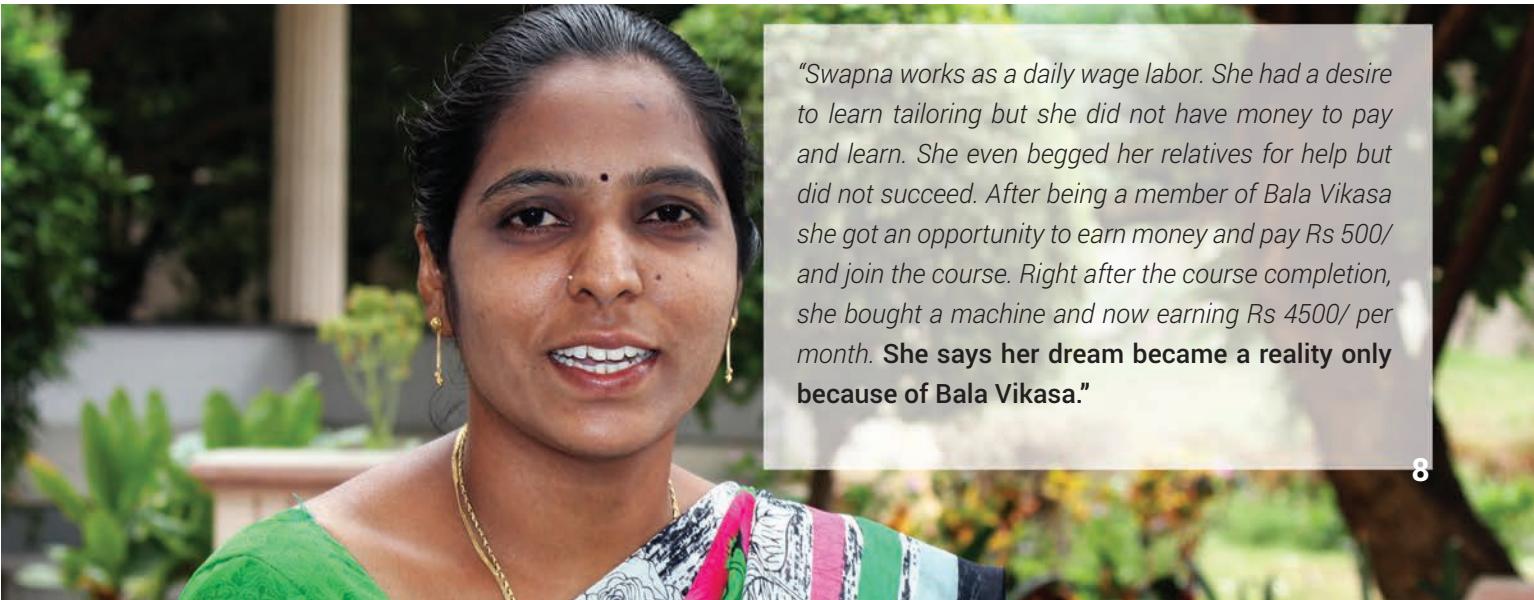
<b>74,170</b>	<b>7,281</b>
New Women Members joined	Increased number of Groups
<b>140,290</b>	<b>215,000</b>
Moved to autonomous Groups	Total Women Empowered

## WOMEN INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT (WID) PROGRAM

Women form an equal proportion of the population as men in India. However, participation of women in larger political, social and economic platforms is quite disproportionate. The existing systematic structures leave little scope for women to aspire, voice out or contribute their views in the rapidly growing society.

Bala Vikasa firmly believes that no genuine development is possible without the empowerment and participation of women. To achieve this, Bala Vikasa launched its Women Integrated Development (WID) program in 1994 aiming to empower women intellectually, socially, economically and politically. Much of this is being made possible through its diverse capacity building and training programs aimed at different target groups.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS		
HELD	ON	FOR
<b>6</b> Women Cooperative Committees Trainings	Leadership, planning, discussions and review	350-380 women cooperative committee members
<b>12</b> Monthly Vikasa Meetings	Leadership, health, hygiene, child labour, justice towards widows. skits, songs, games and energisers	Program coordinators and village women
<b>67</b> Group Leadership Trainings	Disadvantages of early child marriages, importance of plantations, building model communities, justice towards widows and yoga techniques	5493 group leaders
<b>12</b> Program Coordination Trainings	Building confidence, competence, punctuality, discipline, commitment towards program implementation, review and action plans	173 program coordinators
<b>1</b> Women Entrepreneurship Training	Oreintation on types of business, business techniques, accounts management, asset management, time management and discipline	287 women entrepreneurs



*"Swapna works as a daily wage labor. She had a desire to learn tailoring but she did not have money to pay and learn. She even begged her relatives for help but did not succeed. After being a member of Bala Vikasa she got an opportunity to earn money and pay Rs 500/ and join the course. Right after the course completion, she bought a machine and now earning Rs 4500/ per month. She says her dream became a reality only because of Bala Vikasa."*

# Women Lead

## U S H E R I N G T H E W I N D S O F C H A N G E

Over the past two decades, Bala Vikasa has achieved remarkable success in empowering women at multiple levels. Continued awareness and convincing discussions on women's role in civic engagement have ensured that thousands of women play a guiding role in developing their communities.

The capacity building trainings offered by Bala Vikasa have greatly influenced them and have brought in significant attitudinal changes. Women have been able to overcome deep-rooted socio-cultural biases and fears, and have evolved into confident, competent and eloquent agents of change both at home and at the community level.

Rural poor women who were on the side-lines for a long time are now leading discussions on ensuring compulsory education, eradicating child labour,

promoting health and hygiene and countering the ill-effects of global warming and climate change. Moreover, women's groups have assumed an active role in confronting social evils like domestic violence, dowry harassment and alcohol abuse and are actively involved in solving community disputes.

The formation of women's groups and Self Help Associations has brought in a refreshing sense of unity, strength and positive spirit to push forward the development process. Problems are identified and solutions are reached at a breakneck speed. Women are gaining emotional and intellectual maturity, financial stability and collaborative responsibility through their participation. From being a beneficiary, they have now progressed to being partners, owners and donors.

### BREAKING NEW GROUND

**Women empowered to sustain themselves-handed over to partner NGOs.**

Bala Vikasa has handed over two women program centers at Pamarru and Telaprolu in Kirishna District to two of its partner organizations after necessary discussions and capacity building trainings. The coordinators and the SHA committee leaders are able to manage the program by themselves. They will continue to attend the training programs regularly at PDTC to strengthen their management skills and follow the new initiatives of the organization.

2	Partner Organizations
20	Villages
146	Groups
1360	Members

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

On March 8th every year, the world celebrates the achievements of women, while demonstrating respect and appreciation for their continued struggle to achieve equality. Bala Vikasa, with its massive network of Women's Self Help Groups that consist of 73,000 women, made special efforts to commemorate this day across the program areas in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Rallies were conducted, songs on the justice of women were sung. Close to 300 distinguished guests from different categories have participated in these rallies and delivered talks on the theme of women's role as community builders and inspired the leaders. On this day, women pledged to fight against the injustice faced by widows. There was good coverage of media appreciating the events organized by Bala Vikasa Women groups.



# Life Changing Steps

U S H E R I N G T H E W I N D S O F C H A N G E

*Women Groups plan and initiate several development activities within thier communities with required support and encouragement from Bala Vikasa.*

## HEALING HANDS, SAVING LIVES

Lack of awareness on health issues especially in the pre and post natal period is commonly seen in the economically and socially backward communities. Understanding the gravity of the situation, women' group members conducted medical camps to address some of these concerns. Women leaders themselves approached the doctors and paramedical staff, identified the donors for medicines, raised the necessary financial support and procured all the medical supplies that are needed.

One-day awareness cum medical camps have been conducted in 149 villages for the pregnant women and mothers of infant children to educate them on Pre and Post Natal care.



59	Health awareness camps
4,649	Women attended
299	Doctors and nurses volunteered
2	GRD-Tins supplied to each mother

90	Village health camps
13,245	Patients benefitted
389	Doctors and nurses attended
480,000	Worth of medicines provided

## ENSURING SAFETY AND DIGNITY

Open Defecation is rampant among many of the rural villages. While ignorance of the health risks caused by it maintained the status quo for many years, it is poverty which is preventing the people to build a family toilet. Bala Vikasa has been making consistent efforts towards building family toilets to ensure dignity of life and health to the people. Over the last one decade more than 22,000 toilets were financed by Bala Vikasa. During the current year 204 families got new toilets with financial support from BV project. Bala Vikasa also encouraged the women to avail support from government schemes by establishing required network with concerned departments. This year the groups got over 2000 toilets sanctioned by government and already completed 628 by the end of March. The villagers are also actively participating in building magic soak pits in large numbers to keep the environment clean and contribute towards Swacha Bharat mission.



*"One day I had gone out into the woods with my daughter to relieve myself. While coming back, it started raining heavily and I had a fall and got serious injuries. I do not want to reimagine the difficulties I faced without a toilet. With the help of Bala Vikasa, I have been able to construct a toilet which has provided me with privacy, safety, dignity, health and hygiene," says Srilatha, a young widowed mother of two.*

### JALA DANAM

Women groups from 177 Villages voluntarily established purified water free distribution centers which benefitted thousands of travelers during hot summer. This initiative was much appreciated by everyone.

# Women Empowerment

USHERING THE WINDS OF CHANGE

## ENCOURAGING HIGHER LEARNING

Women group members including field coordinators and young widows have been provided with financial support to pursue Bachelor's and Masters Degree through distance education from Nagarjuna University. Academic guidance was additionally provided at PDTC. 57 Women are currently pursuing their higher education much to their satisfaction.

21 Women	Bachelor of Arts (BA)
36 Women	Master of Social Work (MSW)

## PROMOTING SAVINGS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Self Help Associations have been formed to promote the idea of savings and entrepreneurship among the women group members. Micro credit between Rs. 3000 – Rs. 20,000 is lended internally among the eligible members. Required trainings are provided to these women assisted with proper monitoring systems. Thus income generating micro enterprises make women members self reliant and productive.

6,343	Beneficiaries
57,500,000	Amount Received

## SUPPORTING SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Vocational training has been provided to rural young women in order to help them in securing employment. 80 women learnt tailoring from experienced teachers and are now in a position to earn their livelihoods.



## CARING FOR THE 1100 OLD AND THE DESTITUTE

Bala Vikasa's women groups have also taken collective responsibility for the old and the destitute in their communities. Out of their empathy, even the poorest of the rural women have resolved to contribute their share in reaching out to those that have no one to look after. Nearly 27,000 kgs of rice was contributed solely by the women's groups' members towards 1100 such elderly people last year.



# Sharing Solidarity with Disadvantaged Children

## THE WAY FORWARD

### EMBRACING THE 1500 ORPHAN CHILDREN

Bala Vikasa's women groups have stretched their helping hands to support the disadvantaged with the limited resources they have. All the women groups' contribute whatever they can to support the needs of orphans in their program areas.

Women empathize with their children (Orphans) and reach out with love, care and support so that none of the orphans feel left out or uncared for. Nearly 1500 orphans identified by the women's groups are being taken care of by the women themselves with the active support of Bala Vikasa.

Moreover, a unique community level intervention "Solidarity Day with the Orphan Children" is organised by Bala Vikasa every year. On this day, along with the program coordinators, group leaders, all the women gather to celebrate the common birthday of children. Women share their motherly love and concern. Even though being daily wage earners they contribute generously for the educational needs of the orphans.



"I lost my mother when I was 6 months old. I lost my father when I was 9 years old. I was filled with fear and my future appeared very bleak as an orphan. I noticed many children struggling to receive education without their parents. One day, Bala Vikasa women identified me and my sister and took us under their care. I have never felt the loss of my parents since then and have been able to finish my 10th Standard in English Medium with an aggregate of 9.2. **I want to become a doctor and give back to the society through my services,**" says Yamuna, an orphan being supported by the women's group for the past 9 years. Bala Vikasa will ensure that Yamuna will receive all resources, means and tools towards reaching her goal.

38,991	Women Attended
634	Children Attended
647	Guests Attended
4,246,655	Contributions received from Women and other Donors

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO POOR STUDENTS

2,364 students, belonging to the extremely poor families among women groups, who have scored aggregate of 60% marks were provided with bags, books and pens. This is an encouragement and token of appreciation to the children .



# REACHING OUT TO THE WIDOWS

The superstitions and cultural beliefs were negatively inclined towards isolating widows in the rural communities. **At a meeting organized for all the widows from the program centers, Ms. Bala Theresa came face to face with the exclusion and marginalization that widow's face and that became a stimulus for the widows program of Bala Vikasa.**

A survey conducted by Bala Vikasa in 2004 while working with the women's groups revealed that school dropout rates among the children of poor widows was very high and eventually they also ended up as child labourers. As single mothers, they couldn't support their children's education and moreover had to depend on them for an additional income to survive the day. While financial problems contributed to their distress, the stigma existing in the society towards them worsened the situation.



**Bala Vikasa's 'Care and Share with Widows' program was initiated to bring attitudinal change in the society, ensure social justice, provide dignity and opportunities, and prevent any suicides among the widows.**

# Widow Empowerment

ENSURING SOCIAL JUSTICE

Bala Vikasa's survey with 5000 widows in different districts of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh revealed startling facts.

**37%**

of widows between the age of 20-30 years

**96%**

Illiterates

**29%**

Attempted Suicide

## CARE AND SHARE WITH WIDOWS

In India, widows are socially secluded, economically oppressed, psychologically depressed and some of them are sexually exploited. They are also deprived of basic human rights like dignity, freedom, safety and security. Though legally they possess equal rights, society shows disparity, restricts their social behavior and does not accept remarriages.

They are discouraged from wearing good clothes, jewellery, kumkum (bindi) and flowers and participate in the community life. Community members consider seeing their face as unlucky and inauspicious. They are not allowed to attend any family ceremonies even of their own children. As per the existing tradition, they are expected to suffer inconsolable grief for the rest of their life. Though a change is taking place in the situation of the widows in some educated families it still remains as a far cry for majority.

Bala Vikasa has been organizing "Care and Share with Widows" meetings since 2006 to encourage the widows to live normal lives like other women and educate their children. These meetings have been a great source of relief and provided motivation to the widows to live in their communities with strength and resilience. 45 such sessions have been conducted in 45 WID areas with the participation of around 4809 widows.



Village level meetings are organised bringing all the women leaders, development committees, village elders, widows and children onto one platform to create awareness and sensitize on widows' rights and issues. Community members are encouraged to create a more empathetic environment. Nearly fifty thousand people have been reached through these meetings.



*"I belong to a family that strictly follows the customs and traditions. Before I joined Bala Vikasa, I was under impression that a widow is inauspicious element, hated them and did not even like to mingle with them. But after gaining awareness, I realized that a widow is as normal as any other women. Now I respect them, and motivated my family members to change their attitude. Recently when my daughter-in-law conceived I invited all the widows from my village and made them bless my daughter-in-law for a happy and safe delivery during 'Sreemantham' (baby shower) function." Tara, Village Zaferghad.*

# Overcoming Vulnerability

ENSURING SOCIAL JUSTICE

## BALA VIKASA WIDOW'S PROGRAM TAKES A LEAP FORWARD AS A SOCIAL MOVEMENT

Bala Vikasa while considering the plight of the women especially widows, felt the necessity of reforms to eradicate the socially evil system that has been afflicting the widows in our society. In the early 19th century, the social reformer Raja Ram Mohan Roy spearheaded the social movement to reform pernicious customs of Sati and child marriages and worked towards securing women their rightful place in the society. Ironically, even after two centuries have passed widows still remain marginalized and suffer social discrimination. After the death of her husband, widow experiences a sudden change in her social relationships. She is socially excluded, economically oppressed and cannot exercise her rights and opportunities with her confidence throttled and hope erased. Bala Vikasa organizes continuous counseling sessions for the widows to instill self-confidence and hope. Awareness and motivation meetings are held for the general public in its network villages involving gram panchayats to support the widows to restore their dignity. Bala Vikasa efforts towards changing the prevailing attitudes of people - young and old, towards the widows have been successful largely due to the consistent awareness building and training programs aimed at specific target groups



## CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS

HELD	ON	FOR
12 Village Level Meetings	Awareness on widows discrimination, women rights and issues, motivation for solidarity and fighting for social justice of widows	Women leaders, development committees, village elders, widows and children
12 Monthly Trainings	Psychological motivation to rebuild self-confidence, self-reliance and dignity among widows, pain relieving NLP techniques and yoga	520 young widows (Below the age of 30)
1 Trainings	Taking the widows movement forward	294 Care and Share committee members
1 Workshop	Forming a network to spearhead the widows movement under the banner "Vithanthu Vivakshatha Vimukthi Udyhyama Samakhya" (Movement for the eradication of discrimination against Widows)	68 NGOS, Social reformers, widows and women
1 Interstate Convention	Role of Youth in Widows Movement	3000 college going boys and girls

who form a link in the chain in ensuring social justice. Bala Vikasa initially started working with 15,000 widows through several of its programs. It started the program as an empowerment activity with community awareness focus. Subsequently there was lot of community acceptance observed. The program started spreading across. Now observing the severity of the program across communities, states and regions, Bala Vikasa planned to enhance its activities and spread the operations as a movement. Bala Vikasa has been holding awareness programs and multi-religious meetings to strengthen the social movement against the discrimination towards widows and mitigating their woes. Institutional network is formed to strengthen the widows' movement by involving NGOs, social activists and academic institutions.

## BREAKING NEW GROUND

### Movement to mitigate the Discrimination

With the awareness and attitudinal change brought in by the widow's empowerment program, several deep-seated customs discriminating against the widows are being reformed. Widows are now being able to participate in ceremonies, festivals and religious rituals like all other women. By inviting widows to the launch of its new initiatives and asking them to offer their blessings, Bala Vikasa has set a revolutionary precedent which is being followed by the communities. Reformed community members are now inviting widows to their family functions and are requesting their blessing which is quite refreshing.

# Walking Towards Light

ENSURING SOCIAL JUSTICE

Four demands made to the government

- Passing the widow atrocity act to safe guard their human rights, stop harassment and discrimination.
- The provision of special reservations for widow's children in schools and job opportunities.
- The formation of Widows Corporation for subsidies and economic empowerment of widows.
- The banning of manufacturing and sale of illicit liquor in the villages.

## INTERNATIONAL WIDOW'S DAY

Since 2011, Bala Vikasa has commemorated June 23rd as the International Widow's Day. Special focus is laid on the issues of widows on this day. This year, it began with a rally from Zilla Parishad Office to Thara gardens, the venue for the commemoration raising slogans, holding banners, placards with the beat of drums.

A total of 1,549 members who included widows, leaders, development committees, Bala Vikasa Board members and SC Corporation Chairperson and staff participated.

1451 widows from Bala Vikasa program areas also participated actively to mark the International Widow's Day in their own communities.



## WIDOW REMARRIAGE: BIG STEP TOWARDS SOCIAL CHANGE



Savitha (28) was married when she was 13 years old to Rampeesa Raju who was an alcoholic. She had to drop out of school after marriage and had a son immediately after. She was abused daily with drunken husband. Unable to tolerate the troublesome behavior of Raju, his parents asked the family to move out of their house. This triggered a fight between the father and son about sharing property. Due to Raju's history of alcohol addiction, his father refused to give him his share of property. Raju committed suicide on the same day.

Savitha went into depression and refused remarriage encouraged by elders in her family. However, she started attending the Bala Vikasa young widows training programs. After several sessions on rebuilding life, Savitha finally gathered courage and motivation to remarry. She is married to Srinu (33), a widower with one daughter. The couple is leading a happy life.

*"I am proud to say that I am a women's group member in Bala Vikasa. I was attending all the meetings where I learnt the leadership skills and became a women's representative in the state. Now I am part of a movement in bringing social justice to widow's. I wish every widow enjoy her rights like any other citizen in the country," says Lalitha Yadav, President of the Women's Wing of the ruling TRS party*



# BUILDING MODEL COMMUNITIES

## SETTING NEW STANDARDS

Out of a total population of 1.2 billion people, around 800 million Indians live in villages. That is more than the total population of the continent of Europe. Rural India is struggling with multiple issues – poverty, poor infrastructure, poor standards of health and sanitation, shortage of safe drinking water and prevalence of easily preventable communicable diseases.

There are multiple reasons for this state of affairs. The lack of funding and workforce to tackle these huge challenges is one of the main problems. The picture becomes even more complicated in a society where superstition, ignorance and gender inequality are prevalent.

This often gets worsened by the top-down bureaucratic approach.

Grassroots mobilization and participation is the key in solving these micro level problems which will affect the community at large. There is a need to integrate the indigenous knowledge systems and local resources into the process of rural transformation. A motivated, well-trained and dedicated community can spread the message of social, economic and environmental changes more effectively and ensure development at multiple levels from health, education to quality of life.

***Bala Vikasa's Model Communities program has been a great success in bringing about transformation among people in the way villages are driving their own 360 development.***



# Empowering Communities

SETTING NEW STANDARDS

The aim of the model communities' initiative is to create a holistic development in adopted villages in all aspects- human, personal, social , economic, and environmental development including good governance through proper utilisation and mobilisaiton of human resources.

Bala Vikasa believes and works on the methodology of ABCD. Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) as a strategy for sustainable community driven development. Beyond the mobilization of a particular community, ABCD is concerned with how to link micro-assets to the macro-environment. The appeal of ABCD lies in its premise that communities can drive the development process themselves by identifying and mobilizing existing, but often unrecognized assets, and thereby responding to and creating local economic opportunity.

Through ABCD process, Bala Vikasa works with communities through integrated networking. Communities lie at the heart of any successful initiative in the field of sustainable development. This has formed the core of Bala Vikasa's Community-Driven development approach towards building Model Communities. ABCD builds on the assets that are already found in the community and mobilizes individuals, associations and institutions to come together to build on their assets--rather than their needs. An extensive period of time is spent in identifying the assets among individuals and communities. They are mobilized to work together to build on the identified assets of all involved. Then the identified assets from an individual are matched with groups who have a need in that asset. The key is to begin to use what is already in the community.

Bala Vikasa has been a practioner of ABCD process since more than two decades. Bala Vikasa works through committees to strengthen the community activities. The Committees, made up of women, youth, farmers, and elected leaders have been the target of sustained capacity-building efforts. Bala Vikasa has been providing them the relevant knowledge and skills to formulate, undertake and assess sustainable developmental initiatives.

Under this particular initiative, Bala Vikasa has identified up to 116 villages for achievement of model community status, followed by the establishment of Village Development Committees and Sub-Committees to address multiple aspects of sustainable rural development.

Bala Vikasa organizes continuous training programs for building the capacities of the committees in program planning, implementation, monitoring methods and evaluation. Annual convention is organized for collective learning and knowledge sharing and put in place mechanisms to obtain inputs directly from motivated participants.



*We have been oriented and well-groomed by our various committees in taking up community development activities. With the support of our committees and their commitment, we have successfully imitated development activities by launching water purification program, developing government school and constructed magic pits in all our households. Mr. Rajamouli, Shanigram Village.*

# Community Education Builds Strength

SETTING NEW STANDARDS

The Bala Vikasa Model Community program is being implemented in the two districts of Karimnagar and Warangal. By March 2016, 107 villages have been covered and 7 different development committees formed to enable the best possible use of natural and human resources and associated government schemes. The program allowed development agents, village leaders and committee members to participate actively in community development. Monthly meetings were conducted by development agents in the targeted villages along with training sessions to impart knowledge, propagate development principles and develop motivational skills.

This training has been designed to improve the methods of planning, monitoring and implementation associated with rural development. Villagers are now not only participating in the development process but also sharing their experiences. Special emphasis has been laid on providing the rural youth with entrepreneurial skills. Bala Vikasa organized a specific training session on micro enterprises, marketing facilities, innovative ways of business selection and public relations. Separate training sessions were also conducted for members of the village development, environment, health and superstitions, sanitation and education committees to highlight different issues

CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS		
HELD	ON	FOR
12 Monthly Trainings	Leadership, planning, discussions and review	250-350 village leaders
1 Entrepreneur Training	Orientation on types of business, business techniques, accounts management, asset management, time management and discipline	146 youth entrepreneurs 122 boys, 24 girls
4 Committee Trainings	Environment issues, health and education, eradication of superstition beliefs, sanitation	923 development committee members from 15 villages
24 Grama Shabas	Awareness on village issues/problems, motivation, committee formation	10,835 people from 24 villages
2 Trainings	Public speaking, asset identification and management, report writing, account management, building social capital	440 committee members and sarpanches

and respective solutions. Grama Sabhas were organized to explain the importance of the ABCD approach.



# Communities Adopt Multiple Development Activities

## SETTING NEW STANDARDS

### HEALTH CAMPS

As many as 76 village health camps were organised to benefit 15,130 patients. A total of 458 professional doctors, nurses, health and Asha workers came together to raise awareness on the issues of hygiene, nutrition, reproductive problems, cancer etc. Development agents and health committee members collected medicines worth of Rs. 10,61,500 from the donors. 15 varieties of medicines were provided to the patients. The initiative received a good and excellent response with as many as 148 articles published in local print media

76	Village health camps organised
15,130	Patients were benefited
458	Professional doctors, nurses, health workers, and Asha workers involved and provided voluntary services
15	Types of medicines
10,61, 500	Rupees worth medicines collected from 138 donors

### PLANTATION DRIVE

Environmental protection has been a prime sustainable development goal which Bala Vikasa has promoted aggressively through plantation activities in 79 model communities. 3,850 road side plants of six different local species were planted. Committee Members obtained another 5,073 fruit and shade trees from local nurseries. Donors came forward with 5,073 plant guards to add to the 3,850 guards supplied by Bala Vikasa. Apart from Bala Vikasa supplied saplings each village got thousands of saplings supplied by government through Haritha Haram project.



# Communities - The Live Models

SETTING NEW STANDARDS

## JALA DANAM

Summer in India records high temperature and people dying of heat stroke and dehydration. Bala Vikasa brought together 89 model communities leaders and committee members to organize Jala Danam Centers (from April to June) to supply drinking water to thirsty people in the sweltering summer.



## SWACH GRAMAM

Bala Vikasa Development Agents (DAs) are motivating the communities to take up village cleanliness initiative aligning the national mission of Swatch Bharath (clean India). The residents of 71 villages have positively responded and coming forward voluntarily once a week on a fixed date to clean the roads, drains and public places. The villagers also donated funds to set up about 1000 public dustbins in model villages. The village clean and green committees are regularly encouraging the villagers and monitoring the activity.

## EXPOSURE VISIT

92 members from model communities were taken on an exposure visit to Ibrahimpur Village in Medak District in order to help them understand the technique of constructing magic pits. A similar exercise was undertaken in Warangal district. As many as 47 villages were introduced to the concept and 407 magic pits were completed with government funds and another 3000 are in progress.



## WALL WRITINGS

Bala Vikasa involved village committees and youth leaders across 88 villages to produce 3,669 educational and motivational slogans to write on the walls.

## BREAKING NEW GROUND

Telangana Cheif Minister-K.Chandra Shekar Rao launched state program "Grama Jyothi" at Gangadevipalli

Gangadevipalli, the first model village adapted and developed by Bala Vikasa has been the focus of rural development experts and organizations from all over the world for many years.

This year, the Chief Minister of Telangana, Mr. K Chandrasekhar Rao, visited Gangadevipalli to launch a popular program of the state government called " Grama Jyothi". On this occasion, the Chief Minister appreciated the efforts of the villagers in creating the model village and inspiring development agents globally. He said that the "Grama Jyoti" program is designed based on the experience of Gangadevipally model. As a token of appreciation to the committed efforts of the community, the Chief Minister announced 100 Million Rupee grant to the village in an exceptional manner and asked them to use for the purpose of creating model development projects in the village. Congratulations to Gangadevipally for achieving this special recognition and encouragement from government of Telangana.



# Divitipally an Emerged MODEL COMMUNITY

Committees played a crucial role in  
the Divitipally village

- Environment Committee
- Sanitation Committee
- Village Development Committee
- Water Committee
- Superstition Eradication Committee
- Health Committee
- Food Security Committee
- Care & Share Committee

## DIVITIPALLY VILLAGE EMERGES AS A MODEL COMMUNITY WITH SUPPORT OF BALA VIKASA

Divitipally village, is located in Wardhannapet mandal, Warangal district, Telangana, is a stellar example of the radical change that can be brought about by the kind of approach Bala Vikasa has advocated in rural India. A remote hamlet has 215 families and 880 residents, with almost 20% of them migrating every year in search of livelihood. Till recently, it was the typical Indian village with problems like polluted drinking water, littered roads, water shortages, alcoholism and open defecation, worsened by a total lack of awareness among community members. Bala Vikasa initiated a Women Integrated Development Program, creating 10 women groups with 105 participants. This was followed a Grama Sabha meeting to motivate the villagers and initiate Model Community Program. After discussing the problems the concept of model village was explained and different committees were formed to initiate development activities addressing the needs. The village Grama Panchayath body is involved with the entire exercise.

One of the biggest problems faced by the village was unsafe drinking water, that contained high levels of fluorides and impurities. Bala Vikasa mobilized the water committee to reach out to community members to raise funds and construct a 500 LPH capacity Water Purification Plant. The village also was provided with 2 hand pumps by Bala Vikasa and 2 mini water tanks by Rural Water Scheme Department. Committee members visited all the families to tackle water wastage and fit the taps for water connections. The scheme has been a tremendous success with more than 80% coverage. A similar outcome has witnessed in the case of Swacha Gramam Committee, with villagers keeping their roads clean and litter-free, setting up dust bins and dump yards for waste disposal, and planting shade trees along thoroughfares. Soak pits were made to ensure rain water harvesting and recharging of underground aquifers. Toilets were built by Bala Vikasa and committee members determined to turn the community into an open defecation-free village.

Divitipally Village is now a model village. This village had attained distinction for all-round development with the participation of the entire community. The village has managed to achieve 100% literacy among adults, total alcohol prohibition, total sanitation with toilets in every household, CC roads and plantation of trees. Another characteristic of this village is that there are no disputes among the villagers. The village has been able to achieve

all these milestones with the support of Bala Vikasa. It was observed that the Divitipally villagers were able to take an active part in the development of the village with the participation of the entire community.

### Achievements

Setting up 500 LPH water purification plant, 2 mini water plants and 2 hand pumps

95% families provided with purified water supply

Dust bins and dumping yard provided

Village internal avenue plantation with 97 shade plants with tree guards

150 soak pits constructed

71 toilets sanctioned and constructed

8 farm ponds constructed

Anti-alcohol drive to bring down alcohol-related deaths

Health Camp (60 patients treated with medicines worth 20,000 rupees)

Eye Camp with cataract operations, Dental Camp with free check-ups was organised.

150 trees planted in village primary school

Farmers mobilized to dig up a pond, adopt organic farming and utilize intercropping method

Donations were mobilized for village's orphan children and old & destitute

"Local liquor is a big problem in the village. superstitions .Eradication Committee motivated the community and liquor makers to stop its sale. We are undertaking the Swach Gramam activity regularly on Sundays with new dust bins from local contributions. We got "Swacha Gramam" (clean village) award from the government recently. We are planning to finish all toilets and get the "Nirmal Grama Puraskar" award. Bala Vikasa has given relentless support and motivation and we are extremely grateful to them" **A. Ahalyadevi, Sarpanch, Divitipally Village.**



# CLEAN AND SAFE

## DRINKING WATER TO ALL

Consumption of water with high fluoride content has been wide spread across the country where people depend primarily on ground water. Incidence of fluorosis is high and has adverse effects on not just health but also on every other aspect of life. About 66 million people in 21 states of India are at a risk of contracting fluorosis and around 6 million are already crippled by it.

A recent water sample study across the country commissioned by the Government has revealed that 9 out of 10 districts in Telangana have high fluoride content beyond the permissible levels of 0.5 ppm. 7 districts of Andhra Pradesh are endemic for Fluorosis. Besides, bacterial contamination of drinking water sources often leads to various diseases like typhoid, diarrhoea and gastroenteritis. Access to safe drinking water is a major health concern that needs to be addressed on priority to ensure public health and welfare.

**Bala Vikasa's Safe Water program has been extremely successful in providing purified drinking water to communities which are in high risk areas for the incidence of fluorosis.**



# Building Community

## Sources as Resources

<b>55</b>	<b>10</b>
Water purification plants installed this year	Districts from Telangana, A.P and Maharashtra
<b>1,05,240</b>	<b>414</b>
People benefitted	members are present in the committees

Bala Vikasa's Water Purification program (WPP) was primarily initiated to decrease the number of casualties caused due to Fluorosis, one of the most dreaded disease in the states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Besides, when monsoon hits the region, many of the water sources are contaminated as there is an intermixing of sewage and liquid wastes. The disposal of agricultural, chemical and human wastes into the nearby streams and tanks pollutes both surface and ground water. The WPPs(Water Purification Plants) set up by Bala Vikasa have been ensuring access to safe drinking water to over 1.6 million rural poor for the past 16 years.

Apart from the support received from the government of Canada, several Corporates have also sponsored WPPs through their Corporate Social Responsibility wings. Franklin Templeton—Hyderabad and Mumbai, Reliance Foundation, Aurobindo Pharma and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited have helped in setting up over 25 WPPs this year.

### COMMUNITY DRIVEN, SELF-SUSTAINED DEVELOPMENT

Bala Vikasa sets up the WPPs with some mandatory contribution from each family in the target community to ensure community ownership and project sustainability.

Communities are motivated to come together, mobilize resources, find suitable infrastructure and contribute their share towards this effort. Necessary trainings and motivation sessions are conducted regularly to the elected committee members and machine operators on project implementation, maintenance, machinery, record keeping, accounting and sustainability.

A negligible price of Rs. 3 per 20 Lts is fixed to pay towards the overhead costs of maintaining the plant. The profits left over are being used to initiate community development activities.

Water supply is monitored by an indigenous technological innovation that has been adopted for the purpose. Any Time Water (ATW) prepaid cards are issued to all the beneficiary families in the community who can use the card any time of the day/night at their convenience and collect the required water through automatic dispensing system.

### CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS

HELD	ON	FOR
<b>18</b> Training Programs	Project implementation, maintenance, machine assembling, record keeping and accounting	400 Water committee members and machine operators



"We are all very healthy and happy today because of Bala Vikasa Water Purification Plant in our village. All the villagers have access to safe drinking water as it is only Rs. 3 per 20 Lt. We can now feel drastic decrease in water born diseases among our community members. The committee is performing effectively and ensuring smooth functioning of the project."

**R. Eswaraiah, Papaiahpally village.**

# Activities in Support of

## CLEAN & SAFE WATER

### FEDERATION MANAGES STAFF AND PROVIDES TECHNICAL MAINTAINANCE

The Federation which was formed two years ago, involving the committees of water plants supported by Bala Vikasa, is now delivering services to its member villages. All the member villages are paying the annual maintenance charges to the federation to meet its operational expenditure. In order to provide effective services to the member villages, 11 technicians cum supervisors are hired. The federation staff is regularly visiting all the member villages and providing technical services to ensure smooth operation of the purification plants. Federation collects the water samples for regular testing and monthly statement of accounts from each village. Monthly meetings are organised for all the village level committees.

At the request of the federation members, the board of directors are taking initiatives to set up water plant spares store which will ensure access to quality spares and right price to the members. The board meets regularly to review the performance of the federation under the guidance of Bala Vikasa.

### 13,000 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN RALLIES ON THE OCCASION OF WORLD WATER DAY

Bala Vikasa observed world water day on the 23rd of March 2016 where the importance of water conservation was highlighted across different regions. Nearly 13,000 participants including school children, teachers, youth, women leaders and village leaders participated. Bala Vikasa staff organized similar rallies in 5 districts. Students from nearly 60 schools raised awareness on the importance of saving water for the future generations by holding placards, raising slogans and forming human chains.



### ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETINGS OF WATER PLANTS

Bala Vikasa staff and federation leaders jointly facilitated the previous year's water plant villages to organize Annual General Body meetings. During these meetings the committees have presented the statement of accounts, conducted elections, discussed on the issues, modified or made new rules and regulations for smooth operation of the plants. These meetings helped in creating transparency in project management by the committees and also recognition of the efforts of the voluntary committees.



# Ensuring Access to Water

## TO THE SMALL COMMUNITIES

### IMPROVING ACCESS TO WATER THROUGH MANUALLY OPERATED PUMPS

Bala Vikasa has been building overhead tanks; bore wells with hand pumps, ground level tanks and other necessary infrastructure in the areas suffering from lack of access to water sources. For over a decade, several thousands of bore wells and hundreds of overhead tanks have been built to ensure a continuous supply of potable water to over 1.2 million people. With the support of various donors, Bala Vikasa has been consistently working in enhancing community access to water. The school children in Canada also support these activities by raising funds by doing part time jobs. This is one of the unique projects of Bala Vikasa.

Providing adequate water supply through the construction of bore wells has been a priority for Bala Vikasa since its inception. Some villages that have a water source cannot access the water properly due to irregular power supply. A manually operated bore well can provide sufficient water for 30 – 50 families. Communities contribute 20% of the project cost. 6041 bore wells with manually operated hand pumps have been installed enabling regular water access for 1.2 million people in 3500 villages in 21 districts. Tube

wells are drilled to an average depth of 200 ft and casing pipes to an average of 40 ft. Durable and easy-to-handle hand pumps are fixed to enable manual pumping of water. 4-ft diameter concrete platforms are built around the bore well to channel waste water and keep the surroundings clean.

Bala Vikasa bore wells program is providing 20% additional access to water for households in 3500 targeted communities. Women and children are able to spend more time on other productive activities. There is a marked improvement in personal hygiene and sanitation in the villages because of bore wells. Community members are encouraged to cultivate kitchen gardens and rear cattle. Notably, availability of water engenders a peaceful atmosphere with less water-related disputes at common sources.



# Tribal Communities being supported with ACCESS TO SAFE WATER

## A NEW INITIATIVE OF BALA VIKASA FOR TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

Tribal communities in the remote areas are the worst affected in many aspects as they are often neglected for different reasons. Access to water still remains a big issue for many tribal habitations especially in the forest areas. These unreachd communities are often suffering either with contaminated water or lack of access to quality water sources. Bala Vikasa with the support of Frank Water projects, London, has been making efforts towards providing infrastructure for tribal communities to access clean drinking water since last two years with combinations of different components such as bore wells, pipelines, electric motors, Ground Level Tanks (GLTs) and bore well with manually operated hand pump.

Bala Vikasa identified most deserving communities and motivated them through series of awareness camps and encouraged their active participation in planning, implementing and monitoring of the project. The project team ensures that every family contributes towards 10% of the project cost to gain ownership. The program reached 41 tribal habitations covering the districts of Warangal and Khammam.

The following combination of various components was implemented as per the requirements of different communities:

<b>11 villages</b>	provided with 4 components such as bore well, electric motor, pipe line and a ground level Tank.
<b>9 villages</b>	were provided direct pumping through bore well, motor and pipe line components
<b>26 villages</b>	were provided with bore well and manually operated hand pumps

A total of 1500 families with a population of 6000 in 41 habitations are now having access to clean drinking water. Some of the communities are very excited having Bala Vikasa project since this is the only water source for the entire community. The project is saving lots of time and energy of the residents and also leading to improved health and production. Especially women are most benefitted having Bala Vikasa water projects in their villages.



# Bala Vikasa Sujal ATW

PURITY IN EVERY DROP...  
ACCESS TO EVERY PERSON...



## ANOTHER TREND SETTING INITIATIVE BY BALA VIKASA TO PROVIDE PURE AND CHILLED WATER TO CITY COMMUTERS AT RE.1 PER LITER

Bala Vikasa initiated another innovative project which is first of its kind in the country with an objective of providing pure and chilled water to city commuters by establishing series of water vending kiosks across the city main roads. Bala Vikasa has the credit of creating a good model for the community water purification sector and now hopes to make this new initiative another trend setting model. This project will be operated as a high impacting social enterprise of Bala Vikasa which is relevant to Metropolitan cities across the country.

The city commuters face lot of problems as they do not have access to clean drinking water when they are on the city road. The commercial water is sold at Rs. 20 per liter which is not accessible to 90% of the commuters. Hence they end up buying loose water bottles at Rs. 5 or cheap water in plastic pouches. Many people fall sick as they consume contaminated water while travelling. And also millions of plastic

bottles and pouches are dumped into garbage every day causing environmental issues. As an effective solution to these issues, Bala Vikasa initiated its Sujal ATW project.

The strategy of Bala Vikasa is to set up modern water vending kiosks across the city main roads so that the commuters can have easy access to water. Water will be purified at a central plant and then transported to kiosks located across the city. The modern kiosk will have ATW card and coin based vending facilities. The kiosk will be equipped with high quality equipment to ensure water quality and hygiene. As a pilot project Bala Vikasa initiated in Warangal city in collaboration with the Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation. The city will have 10 to 15 kiosks on a stretch of 15 Km main road. The Warangal commuters are so excited to have access to safe and chilled water at a cost of just Rs. 1 per 1 liter. Looking at the impact of this initiative, many others are already requesting Bala Vikasa to extend the same program to their cities.



# SECURING LIFE THROUGH FOOD AND WATER

Growing uncertainty and unpredictability of monsoons owing to climate change, receding surface and ground water tables, poor quality seeds, expensive chemical fertilizers and pesticides, high-interest credit rates and piling debts are the problems troubling the small farmers in India.

Inadvertent crop failures result in a severe loss of time, energy, money and life.

In addition, intensive chemical farming is posing serious health risks while the environment is suffering from pollution and decay. All this is leading towards a great danger to both the food grower as well as the consumer, ultimately affecting the food security of generations to come.



***Bala Vikasa's Food Security program has been addressing crucial concerns of food production through advocating innovative, sustainable and eco-friendly agricultural practices in drought-prone states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh which also record high farmer suicides.***

# Organic Farming

THE WAY FORWARD

**513**

Organic Farmers initiated into  
practicing Organic Farming

**558**

Acres of land under cultivation  
through sustainable organic  
practices

**13**

Varieties of crops grown  
using organic fertilizer

**11**

Demo Farms supported by  
Bala Vikasa

Organic farming, a rapidly growing global phenomenon, is being seen as the way to go in achieving food security without any environmental degradation. While organic farming produces food that is healthy and safe from chemicals, it also proves to be quite beneficial to the farmer in more than one way. There are lesser costs involved in production and more profits earned from the products. Bala Vikasa has taken this idea to the farmers in Telangana districts who are burdened by decreased crop yield and increased debt.

Bala Vikasa's organic farming initiative is gaining acceptance and momentum among farmers after continuous awareness building, training, monitoring and the enormous support given by Bala Vikasa in the last 4 years. New farmers continue to join while the area under organic cultivation has increased significantly.

## CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS

HELD	ON	FOR
2 Seasonal Trainings (Rabi and Kharif)	Organic farming procedures, manure preparations evaluating monsoon contingency plans Q and A Sessions	513 practising organic farmers
1 Annual Training	Organic farming Technology Program Implementation Leadership	35 Committees 311 Men 64 Women

## 4 Exposure Visits | 125 Farmers

### K N O W L E D G E   E X C H A N G E

#### Mulkanoor Society, Mulkanoor

To learn society  
management  
Seed Processing

#### Ankapur Model Village, Nizamabad

To learn and understand  
multiple crop production  
Marketing through  
Cooperative

#### ICRISAT, Patancheruvu

Growing rain fed crops

#### Ontimamidipally

To understand  
seed production

## DEMO FARMS: The Learning Labs and organic farm schools

This year, Bala Vikasa has established five demo farms of five acres each, 4 demo farms of two acres each and 2 one acre demo farms which are owned and managed by the farmers themselves. Bala Vikasa provided small incentives to encourage the owners of the demo farms. These demo farms have created a great learning platform to hundreds of farmers not only from the village but from the neighborhood too. The demo farm owners have cultivated variety of crops such as paddy, maize, ground nuts, different types of vegetables, green gram, onions, wheat etc. with 100% organic methods which inspired many new farmers to initiate the same.

"We have stopped using chemical pesticides and fertilizers completely. Bala Vikasa training programs made me learn to identify crop diseases and prepare organic pesticides and fertilizers using naturally and locally available ingredients like cow dung, urine, soil, curd, leaves, etc. Earlier we used to invest up to Rs. 10,000 per acre on chemical inputs. But now using the local resources brought down the investment to less than Rs. 2000". **Ankeswarapu**

**Veeraswamy a farmer practicing organic  
farming since 4 years.**

**29**



### FARMERS SUCCESSFULLY PRODUCE ORGANIC COTTON

Bala Vikasa has convinced and supported one farmer to grow 5 acres of organic cotton using only organic manures and bio extracts, a high risk attempt due to the heavy pest infestation rate surrounding it. This effort yielded excellent results and inspired many local farmers who are planning to experiment the same in next season.



### ORGANIC MANUAL – A BASIC LEARNING TOOL FOR THE ORGANIC FARMERS

Bala Vikasa prepared an easy to understand manual to aid the organic farmers on the precautionary measures, organic preparations that are required for different pests, diseases and also to improve soil fertility for different crops in different seasons. This manual details the process of preparation and application procedure of more than 25 varieties of organic inputs.



### ORGANIC FARMERS COOPERATIVE INITIATES SEED PRODUCTION

Ontimamidipally organic farmers cooperative initiated the seed production activity for the first time to make quality organic seeds available to the farmers in the region. They have procured RNR and Krishna breeder seed from Agriculture University, Hyderabad and cultivated in 62 acres. The same seed was processed, packed and sold to members and non members. This not only made the farmers to have access to quality organic seed but also helped the cooperative to generate profits to its members.

### CHALLENGE BOARDS HELP IN CONVINCING THE NEIGHBOURS

A list specifying the names of all farmers following organic methods is displayed in 23 organic farming villages. If anyone proves that any farmer with in the group is not following organic methods, he will be fined and removed from group. So far, amazingly all the farmers have been committed and faithful. The challenge boards also motivate and convince the local farmers by helping them monitor and learn from their neighbours.

### COMPARITIVE STUDY SHEETS HELP IN UNDERSTANDING COST EFFECTIVENESS OF ORGANIC FARMING

One well known organic farmer and one traditional farmer was selected in every program village to show case the difference of investment, production, types of pests and diseases attacked on similar crop in similar conditions. A big poster with this comparative data is fixed in a public place and updated every week as the crop progresses. These comparative sheets have played great role in motivating the non-organic farmers.

### FARM DIARIES (JOURNAL), HELPS IN TRACKING THE PRODUCTIVITY

The farm diaries/ Journals are maintained by each organic farmer recording the number and type of crops sown, preparation of manures and leaf extracts, frequency of applications and the crop harvested. This serves as a research tool as well as the proof of practice. The Bala Vikasa staff review journals and give advice during their weekly visits.

# Tank De-Siltation

A TIME - TESTED APPROACH

**19**

Tanks Desilted

**124,925**

Tractor loads of silt excavated and supplied to farmers

**1,711**

farmers benefitted with the slit applied

**3,492**

acres of land applied with Silt

The farm diaries/ Journals are maintained by each organic farmer recording the number and type of crops sown, preparation of manures and leaf extracts, frequency of applications and the crop harvested. This serves as a research tool as well as the proof of practice. The Bala Vikasa staff review it and extend support during their weekly visits.

Agriculture in India is primarily based on the onset of monsoons and adequate rainfall. With changing monsoon patterns and frequent droughts, farmers greatly depend on surface and ground water for their irrigation needs. Thus, old irrigation tanks in villages emerge as a crucial source of water.

However, the deposit of silt at the bottom of the tanks over the years significantly reduced the storage capacity of these tanks while preventing the recharge of ground water tables. Identifying this problem and

its impact on food production and environment, Bala Vikasa continues every year to de-silt the tanks with the cooperation and contribution of the communities surrounding them. Nearly 750 tanks have been restored by Bala Vikasa over the past 15 years and have inspired several NGOs and Governments to initiate similar measures.

The excavated silt, an organic nutrient-rich soil, known for its manure-like capability to optimize crop production, has been transported by thousands of farmers and has been utilised in a sizeable number of agricultural lands. This has been another strong way in which Bala Vikasa is reaffirming its commitment to preserve the environment and maintain ecological balance for the past two decades.

Bala Vikasa's De-siltation methods, approaches and program effectiveness were taken up as a study by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Gujarat. The study was to assess the first year of 'Mission Kakatiya' project, emerging problems and the impact on agriculture and food security in comparison to the Bala Vikasa's successful cases of de-siltation, lessons learnt and subsequently draw the best practices under the 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana'.

## CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS

**HELD**  
**4**  
Trainings

**ON**  
Program Planning, Implementation and Management aspects

**FOR**  
154 De-Siltation committee members

**1**  
Training

Drip irrigation techniques use of drip kits

30 drip farmers



# TANK DE-SILTATION

A TIME - TESTED APPROACH

## BREAKING NEW GROUND

**Bala Vikasa expands tank desiltation program to Karnataka**

At the request of farmers from Karnataka state, Bala Vikasa extended the program to Karnataka for the first time during the reporting year. As a pilot project, 3 tanks have been desilted benefitting hundreds of farmers. Bala Vikasa plans to assist more villages in the next season as the need is so high in the new state.



## DRIP-IRRIGATION

Besides Tank De-siltation, Bala Vikasa also promotes the usage of drip irrigation tools by small and marginal farmers as an effective means for economic utilization of water resources. Bala Vikasa conducted training sessions on drip irrigation kits installation and maintenance to the farmers. Around 30 farmers from 7 villages are provided with drip kits. .



# CHERULLAPALLI

TANK RESTORED, LAND REPLENISHED, LIFE RENEWED

Cherullapalli, is one among the many villages where farmers use chemical fertilizers for their agricultural practices. This village has a population of 950 families mostly small and marginal farmers. The village has a 160 year old reservoir spread in over 28 acres. But the reservoir was not of much use to the villagers, due to accumulation of silt in the tank. Hence the villagers approached Bala Vikasa in April 2015 for desiltation of this tank.

Bala Vikasa in coordination with the community people formed local committees and provided trainings on project process and their respective roles in achieving effective outcome of the project. The silt accumulation was very high with an average depth of 2 meters spread across 12 acres, which drastically reduced the tank storage capacity. De-siltation process was planned to enhance the water storage capacity of the tank. As the first step in the process of tank de-siltation program, the community was educated and motivated.

The silt excavation was carried out for 18 days and a total of 6,369 tractor loads (14,330 Cu. Mts.) of silt was excavated from the tank. The silt excavated from the tank was transported by 123 farmers at their own cost and was applied in 131 acres of farm land. This has improved the soil fertility, increased water level in the water bodies. As a result farmers have decreased the use of chemical fertilizer application by 40 – 50%. Subsequently the production increased thereby the income of the farmers. The impact of the de-siltation process has greatly benefited the village farmers. The excavated silt restored the tank's capacity to store 14,330,250 liters of water. Though rains were less, the Rabi season farmers received water supply for irrigation of sixty acres of land. As water levels increased due to de-siltation work, the farmers could successfully cultivate their lands.

The efforts of Bala Vikasa and the efficiency of the village committee have greatly helped the local villagers and farmers with greater farming productivity and water storage facilities. Cherullapalli village is now growing paddy, cotton and chillies which require adequate water.



<b>6369</b>	<b>Tractor loads of silt excavated</b>
<b>14,330,250</b>	<b>Litres of water storage – Restored tank capacity</b>
<b>123</b>	<b>Farmers benefitted</b>
<b>131</b>	<b>Acres have been applied with silt</b>
<b>40-50%</b>	<b>Decrease in the use of chemical fertilizer</b>
<b>20-25%</b>	<b>Increase in water levels in surrounding wells</b>

# RAISING THE STANDARDS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Education plays a crucial role in shaping the minds of tomorrow's visionaries. With initiatives like the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan and the Right to Education Act, most villages have been seeing increased enrolment of students in schools. While private schools are the first choice even in the most rural and backward areas, public schools offering free education have largely been relegated to the poorest of the poor.*

*It is in these schools that the child dropout rates are noticeably high. While socio-economic conditions at home are the main cause, the fact also remains that public schools with their limited infrastructure have not been able to attract and retain those who are enrolled. Though the schools have highly qualified Government recruited teachers, the comparison to private schools in terms of infrastructure, health, hygiene and management have put them on back footing. The latest policy interventions of ensuring compulsory primary education will bear fruit when the rural public schools, which are still the only affordable way of education for many, are provided with necessary infrastructural and educational aids.*



***Bala Vikasa's Vidhya Vikasa program has been intervening to provide a healthy environment and make learning a pleasant and constructive experience to children going to rural public schools.***

# Quality Education

SHAPING THE FUTURE

25

New Schools Adopted

4

Districts government schools covered

8,173

Students benefited

## IMPROVING PUBLIC EDUCATION

Most of the children attending the rural public schools come from poor and backward communities. Parents of the children are not well educated and are in no position to guide or mentor their children in academics. While many are totally unaware and ignorant of the role of education in social and economic upliftment, some of them have lost hope of any tangible development if children are enrolled in public schools.

Bala Vikasa has been trying to bring attitudinal changes in the minds of the students, teachers and parents towards accessing and improving the quality of public education. Towards this end, Bala Vikasa has been working with the District Education department in identifying public schools and equipping them with necessary teaching and learning aids since 2007.

Every year, 25 schools are identified after conducting

base line surveys on the needs of all the schools that seek Bala Vikasa's interventions. Motivation meetings are conducted to introduce the program concept to the school authorities and gain their commitment. Parents are taken into confidence based on their willingness and sincerity they have towards developing their local schools. Bala Vikasa then executes the program in the selected schools with the objective of developing model schools on multiple levels such as infrastructure, discipline, environment preservation, health and hygiene.

Tree plantation, building of compost pits are also taken up by the students as their contribution towards environmental preservation and sustainable development. Schools are provided with garbage disposal containers for maintaining a healthy and hygienic environment. Furniture and Library materials like reading tables, books are also provided to the schools that have shown significant improvement.

## HOLISTIC APPROACH AND INTEGRATED PLANNING, FIND BETTER SOLUTIONS

In order to make the program effective, the school management, parents and children are encouraged to take active part in program planning, implementation and monitoring. Eco Clubs and school development committees are formed along with parent membership to actively push forward the development agenda. Needs and problems are identified by these committees; action plans are devised to solve their problems after discussions.

Believing that information delivered through drama and folk method would have more impact on students who are at an impressionable age, Bala Vikasa held street plays on child safety, health and hygiene, cleanliness and environment in which a total of 6203 students attended (2743 girls and 3460 boys).

Training and Capacity Building programs are conducted regularly for teachers, students and parents to continuously keep them motivated and equipped towards achieving their goals.

### CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS

HELD	ON	FOR
2 Trainings	How to motivate children, mentoring, utilization and maintenance of resources, distribution of motivational material	94 Teachers 70 Parents
2 Trainings	Student Leadership, tree plantation, environment protection, health and hygiene, utilization of library resources	268 Eco clubs students



"Formal methods of teachings could not reach the students as effectively as the awareness meetings and dramas conducted, songs and motivational material supplied by Bala Vikasa on the topics of environment conservation, health and personal hygiene. They touched the hearts and minds of the students and made them get involved with high spirit."

**Ms. Nirmala eco in charge teacher**

# Quality Education

SHAPING THE FUTURE

25	300
Eco Clubs have been formed in the schools covered	members are enrolled on the clubs

25	125
School Development Committees have been formed	Parents as members in the committees

## SIRISEDU ZILLA PARISHAD HIGH SCHOOL: TOWARDS A BRIGHT FUTURE

The ZillaParishad High School in Sirisedu village has 228 students (125 girls and 103 boys). With a team of 16 teaching staff, the school is spread over in 4 acres. A baseline study of the school revealed that lack of cleanliness, poor maintenance , lack of greenery, wasteful usage of water, littering on the ground and classrooms, lack of awareness on health and hygiene and inadequate furniture were the problems that the school was grappling with.

Bala Vikasa intervened with the support of the teachers, parents and students and addressed some of their problems. Through motivation meetings, a collective responsibility towards their school was inculcated among the villagers. An Eco club and

parents committee were formed. They conducted many awareness camps on importance of education protection of trees, cleanliness etc.

Bala Vikasa worked closely with teachers and school administration, guiding them in efficient school management. Provided ideas regarding infrastructure improvement and involving school children in the development of their communities through a variety of non-academic activities. After ensuring that the school was made responsible in taking care of existing infrastructure, Bala Vikasa went ahead and provided them with class room furniture and library materials.



600	Garbage disposal utilities (50 Dust Pits, 25 Buckets, 25 Iron Tubs, 25 Garbage Trolleys, 250 iron dustbins)
5025	Saplings (4440 fruits and 585 shade varieties)
49	Classrooms with Furniture benefitting 1644 students
15	Libraries 7800 books, 50 Iron racks, 50 Reading Tables and 300 sitting chairs

## BREAKING NEW GROUND

Standardizing efforts through student clubs and parent committees

- The eco clubs and parents committees extended their hands beyond schools and took up village development. Initiatives towards clean and green environment, tree plantations, awareness on health care, adult education have not only gained the appreciation of the community members but also received recognition from the government. Five of the schools have received Mandal level awards from the government for their progress.

# Corporates and Bala Vikasa

Join to strengthen Quality of Education in Public schools

**3**

Corporates Support

**93**

Schools supported by Corporates through CSR

**9,991**

Students benefitted

## PROMOTING EDUCATION THROUGH CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Vidya Vikasa Program of Bala Vikasa has been receiving recognition and support from public and private entities alike for the work that is being done in reviving and improving the quality of education in the government run public schools. Bala Vikasa's model of adopting government schools, creating efficient and participatory organizational structures, providing material resources and creating a healthy and positive environment of learning has significantly helped the rural poor in accessing public education. This impact has drawn several corporates to look at improving education in public schools, as part of their corporate social responsibility through partnering with Bala Vikasa. The Community Driven Development model of Bala Vikasa has found many takers among the CSR wings with new partnerships emerging continuously.

This year, three corporate houses have come forward to extend their support to the school education program of Bala Vikasa by sponsoring infrastructure and development. A total of 91 Government schools have been supported this year by Symed Labs, Virchow and MSN.



### SYMED LABS

<b>42</b>	Rural public school supported in Nangunoor Mandal, Medak District
<b>3247</b>	Student beneficiaries (1638 girls and 1611 boys) were supported.
<b>200</b>	Garbage disposal utilities (30 Dust pits, 15 Buckets, 15 Iron Tubs, 15 Garbage Trolleys, 15 Doll Dust bins, 110 Iron Dust Bins) were distributed.
<b>1756</b>	Saplings planted (1466 Fruit and 290 Shade varieties)
<b>705</b>	Sets of Desk-Benches benefitting 2820 students
<b>15</b>	Libraries: 4464 Library Books (Dictionaries, Encyclopaedias), 45 Iron Racks, 30 Reading tables and 180 sitting chairs were provided to the schools
Capacity Building	4 Trainings were organised 2 for Teachers (52) and Parents (43); 2 for students (373–204 female and 169 male)

### VIRCHOW

<b>30</b>	Rural and Urban Public schools supported in Siddipet Mandal, Medak District
<b>3217</b>	Students benefitted (1920 girls and 1727 boys)
<b>580</b>	Sets of desk benches provided benefitting 2320 students
Capacity Building	Teachers (25), Parents (16) and students (380) 204 Girls, 176 Boys

### MSN LABS

<b>19</b>	Urban Public schools supported in Siddipet Mandal, Medak District
<b>3647</b>	Students benefitted (1920 girls and 1727 boys)
<b>560</b>	Sets of Desk Benches provided benefitting 2240 students
<b>15</b>	Libraries 4464 Library Books, 45 Iron Racks, 30 Reading tables and 180 sitting chairs

Capacity Building	Teachers (15), Parents (70) and students (123) 63 Girls, 60 Boys
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# People Development Training Center

## Acting Local - Inspiring Global

Development professionals, agencies, NGOs have emerged as significant contributors towards implementing development programs. They are assuming the role of key facilitators in bridging the structural gaps and motivating communities towards self-development and sustainability.

While many of the development organizations have been able to source the required financial capital to execute various development activities, there is a huge gap in the intellectual and organizational capital to achieve the desired results. There are little resources left to invest in the capacity building of their human resources. Development organizations with access to relevant subject, technical and management knowledge with a competent, skilled and high performing workforce have a higher success rate in reaching their goals.

Towards this effort, Bala Vikasa has established the People Development Training Centre (PDTC) to translate nearly 25 years of field experience into well-structured capacity building and training modules for assisting the development workers all across the world.



**Bala Vikasa's People Development Training Centre is bridging knowledge gaps and aiding the diverse stakeholders of development with necessary intellectual, technical and motivational stimulus to keep going forward.**

# Capacity Building

STRENGTHENING HUMAN RESOURCES

10	57
New Countries Represented	Countries Reached
13	11
NGOs Participated	Participants

## PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTER (PDTC)

Bala Vikasa has been giving equal importance to capacity building as much as designing and delivering community development programs. Community is people and without investing in building their self-efficacy, individual skills and organizational capacities, it is difficult to imagine a promising leadership or an effective community-led development.

Regular trainings are conducted at the People Development Training Centre (PDTC) on effective program implementation and maintenance, knowledge exchange and upgradation of technical and organizational skills required to be high-performing

agents of change.

Hundreds of development workers, activists, NGOs and government officials have attended the trainings on a wide range of subjects ranging from simple communications skills to emerging trends and strategies of development to larger public policy debates. Bala Vikasa has been a great mentor and guide to several individuals and organizations in the business of bringing about lasting changes in the society.

Regular capacity building also acts as the vehicle for ensuring that Bala Vikasa reaches operational, program and organizational maturity as it ventures into newer and more challenging development areas.

### CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS | NATIONAL

HELD	ON	FOR
9 Three Day Trainings	Effective Documentation & Report Writing Skills Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Mastering Communication Skills Result Based Management (RBM) Project Proposal Writing CSR & Sustainability Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP) Motivating Strategies towards Empowering Communities Effective Documentation & Report Writing Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 794 Participants (347 women, 447 men)</li> <li>• 233 organizations from 13 states and 2 countries of Bangladesh and Nepal</li> </ul>
4 Seminars	Empowerment of Widows CSR & Role of NGOs Promoting your NGO using Social Media Current trends in development sector & growth opportunities	



*"The good learning environment, systematic and effective teaching methodology, competent trainers, valuable cooperation of support staff and amazing co-participants have driven my desire to learn and enhance my knowledge and cultural Horizon."*

***Yadav Pushpendra-Care India, Bihar, Participant of Effective Documentation & Report Writing Skills Training , April 2015***

# Community Driven Development Program

Building Capacities of National and International Organisations

The PDTC brand of CDD is imparting new knowledge, enhancing skills and changing attitudes among hundreds of development professionals from India and across the globe. Different modules of Community Driven Development includes the sharing of the best practices and sustainable development strategies of 360 D community development programs of Bala Vikasa in a practical way.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS   INTERNATIONAL		
HELD	FOR	SPECIAL REPRESENTATION
3 3 Four Week Community Driven Development (CDD) training program	58 Participants (26 women, 32 men) from 32 organizations and 13 countries	Government officials from Ministry of Health, Municipal Council, Ministry of Social Empowerment and Welfare, Sri Lanka – Development Students from Canada
1 Two Week Community Driven Development (CDD) training program	23 Participants (12 women, 11 men) from 13 organizations and 7 countries	Development Students and practitioners



*"The Community Driven Development program at Bala Vikasa in India is very useful for the students who wish to acquire practical knowledge from a different perspective. The various concepts learned at Bala Vikasa are meaningful and transformational. Thanks to Bala Vikasa for such a meaningful program," says Mailys Le Prettre from France, a participant of our CDD training.*

## OVERSEAS PROGRAM

PDTC in order to extend its program benefits to NGOs in South Asian countries offers different modules of Community Driven Development training out of country every year. During the reporting year, the overseas program was organised in Myanmar in collaboration with Karuna Mission Social Solidarity (KMSS) at Yangon.



*"The most interesting part for me was the shift from the Needs/Problems based approach to the Assets based and Internal Focused approach. This shift in the mindsets among Myanmar NGOs is required for the development of the country."* says Alber Doi Aung a participant from the Community Agency for Rural Development in Myanmar.

## CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAININGS | MYANMAR

HELD	FOR	COLLABORATION WITH
One Week Community Driven Development Overseas Program	30 Myanmar NGO Participants	Karuna Mission Social Solidarity (KMSS) Yangon, Myanmar

# CUSTOMIZED PROGRAMS

## TAILORED TO THE NEED OF THE NGOS

BalaVikasa offers development consultancy services to the collaborators who are seeking to benefit from the experiences and resources of our successful interventions as a leading non-profit for over 25 years. We offer tailor made training programs to suit the needs of different institutions and organisations leading diverse development activities.

### ASIA REGIONAL PROGRAM WORKSHOP

Bala Vikasa PDTC conducted a Five day workshop for the implementing partner NGOs of Stromme Foundation, Sri Lanka on 'Promoting Value Based Development'. Participants were exposed to model communities and sustainable community water projects of Bala Vikasa besides being introduced to the concepts of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) and Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP).

**5**  
Days

**65 senior executives from  
6 Countries**

### ONE WEEK MODULE ON CDD TO NIRD PARTICIPANTS

In November 2015, Bala Vikasa facilitated a one-week module on Community Driven Development (CDD) as part of a six-week training program organized by National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) on 'Community Driven Rural Development'. 15 Government officials from Egypt, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, Palestine, Slovak Republic, Sudan, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe participated.

**7**  
Days

**15 government officials form 11  
countries**



*"The most interesting part for me was the shift from the Needs/Problems based approach to the Assets based and Internal Focused approach. I enjoyed the field trips a lot and was impressed by the impact of unity that was shown in the villages," says Soroj Peter a participant from Bangladesh.*

### ONE WEEK MODULE ON CDD – PHD, BANGLADESH

In the last week of February 2016, Bala Vikasa PDTC hosted 15 NGOS from Partners in Health and Development (PHD), Bangladesh and offered a customized training program in CDD to be adopted in the healthcare initiatives back home.

**5**  
Days

**15 PHD partners of  
Bangladesh**

### SEMINAR TO SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS

PDTC organized a seminar on 'Current Trends in Social Work and Opportunities' for students of the Masters in Social Work (MSW) program on 18th March, 2016. The seminar touched on current trends in social work sector and the gaps that are limiting the students to avail better job opportunities in NGO, CSR and government sectors. 395 Students from 12 colleges of 3 local Universities participated.

**1**  
Day

**395 MSW students from 12  
colleges of 3 universities**

# Multimedia Outreach

DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

## RESEARCH, RESOURCES AND PUBLICATIONS

Bala Vikasa's Multi-media Unit prepares documentation on all our development experiences and best practices, disseminates these with other NGOs, universities and development institutions in and outside India to inspire and aid like-minded individuals and organizations working in similar areas.

**Social Responsibility Series 3:** "Social Enterprise: The New Model for CSR". This publication describes the way Bala Vikasa International Center is positioning itself as a key player in the fusion of CSR and Social Entrepreneurship.

**Annual Report:** This report describes all the program activities with achieved results during the reporting year. The hard and e-copy of this report is distributed among the NGOs, trainees and stake holders.

**Tharangini:** This is a quarterly newsletter published in the months of May, September and January shares the updates of all Bala Vikasa's Community Driven Development programs. The e-copy of Tharangini is being circulated to all the NGOs. The printed copy of Tharangini in English and local language is distributed among all the stakeholders, partners and donors.

### Impact Study on Community Driven Development Training

**program:** An evaluation study was done on Community Driven Development training program to analyze the impact of the program on the trainees at their personal and professional level. This study was conducted by Center for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad.

**Sharing Series-12:** Capacity Building: Imparting Knowledge, Enhancing Skills and Changing activity: This is an effort to document and share the findings of the Impact study conducted by a Research institution 'Center for Economic and Social Studies' (CESS), Hyderabad on Community Driven Development Training program.

**Silver Jubilee Souvenir:** This magazine captures 25 historical years of Bala Vikasa. It's a story in a nutshell, on how the people and communities have been able to believe in themselves and continue to sustain their development efforts.

**Video on Kiosks:** A promotional video on Sujal ATW kiosks, the new initiative of Bala Vikasa, which provides 1 Liter of chilled water at Re. 1 to commuters in the town of Warangal.

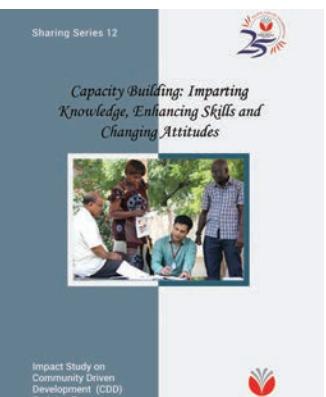
**Video on e-Sanitation:** This video is made on the impact of the Swachh Karimnagar project funded by Chola Mandalam for 221 toilets provided in three villages achieving 100% sanitation.

A total of 8,500 copies of different documents on Annual Report, Social Responsibility Series Tharangini newsletters, Souvenir and Sharing Series were printed and distributed among donors, like minded NGOs, PDTC participants, government bodies, policy makers and other development professionals.



GRAND CELEBRATION OF BALA VIKASA SILVER JUBILEE

Commemorating 25 Years of Successful Community Driven Development



bala vikasa international center

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE: THE NEW MODEL FOR CSR



# **Capacity Building**

STRENGTHENING HUMAN RESOURCES

## **INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION AND GLOBAL IMPACT**

The initiatives of Bala Vikasa have gained a global reputation with several national and international organizations approaching it for knowledge partnerships, technical support and consultancy services. The successful interventions, well documented learnings and findings, and the innovative techniques and tools employed by Bala Vikasa form a wealth of knowledge that organizations are looking to gain from. So far representatives from 57 countries have been benefitted by our programs. Bala Vikasa is constantly expanding and taking its learning across the borders.



# Bala Vikasa International Center

## for business that cares

*There has been an exponential increase in the number of large scale businesses that are operating in India over the past two decades. Industrialization, in multiple sectors from agriculture to food processing to manufacturing to mining to IT, has certainly contributed greatly to the country's development. However, the way in which corporates work in order to maximize their profits has come under constant criticism with regards to the indiscriminate use of natural resources, environmental risks, business ethics and human rights.*

*Business Responsibility has emerged strongly in the recent times as a model to ensure that businesses conduct their operations in a way that the economic, social and environmental benefits go to all the stakeholders leading to development that is sustainable. However, there is limited exposure and experience in sustainable models of development within the corporate Industry. There is a severe dearth of professional experts who would advise, design, develop and execute various CSR strategies and programs. There is an immediate need to reach out to the businesses with the message of Business Responsibility and its role in sustainable development.*



***Bala Vikasa has been advocating  
for Business responsibility  
and promoting Social  
Entrepreneurship in a big way  
for the past three years***

# Social Entrepreneurship

## AND BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY

### ENDORsing BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY

The state and development agencies with the support of NGOs have affected change in diverse areas and have succeeded in achieving many of the development goals in some of the most marginalized regions. However, there is still much to do. The combined financial and technical capital of both the state and the NGOs towards development is remaining largely inadequate. It is in such a context that the corporates have a significant role to play.

Over the past couple of years, Bala Vikasa has been able to create significant collaborations with corporates which serve as stellar examples as to how corporate potential can be tapped in leading community driven development efforts while bridging financial and technological gaps.

Building upon previous experiences and the success of partnering with corporates, Bala Vikasa has set up the Bala Vikasa International Center (BVIC) which specifically focuses on making businesses an

integrated part of its Community Driven Development program and the larger sustainable development paradigm.

First and foremost, BVIC has been strongly advocating for ethical business and greater social responsibility among the corporates. Through our programs we have been encouraging companies to be more aware of the impact of their business on the rest of society and the environment. We have been also advocating that the businesses should comply with legal, ethical and cultural values in the communities they work in.

Secondly, BVIC works towards partnering with corporates in order to further the cause of Corporate Social Responsibility by offering Capacity Building, Advisory and Consultancy services for social transformation and social impact projects/programs. Bala Vikasa has conducted several trainings and workshops where in many of the good practices, models and experiences of sustainable development have been shared with hundreds of corporate representatives. BVIC constantly collaborates with Industry networks such as CII, IICA so as to engage them as knowledge partners, building SME relationships and keep BVIC activities and experiences available at a much larger level.



"Consistent mentoring is very important part of social incubation process. Bala Vikasa has been of great help and support for us in our social startups"

**Monisha, Hyderabad**

# BVIC

## Activities

### BALA VIKASA SHARES ITS EXPERIENCES WITH IICA

Shoury Reddy, Executive Director of Bala Vikasa, has been invited to two workshops of the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) on Corporate Social Responsibility. He had shared the Bala Vikasa models of Community Driven Development and the experiences of successful collaborations with corporates and effective CSR strategies with over 100 corporate representatives of both public and private enterprises. Participants were highly appreciative of the efforts being made by Bala Vikasa and took home a lot of learnings from the knowledge exchange.

### BVIC BEGINS STRATEGIZING ITS SERVICES THROUGH A LANDMARK STUDY

In order that, BVIC could strategize its intervention with Small and Medium Enterprises in the area of Business Social Responsibility, BVIC has proposed a study across 9 diverse industry clusters from in and around Hyderabad. Towards this process, BVIC has built relationship with all the key stakeholders like IALAs, IDAs, Industry associations to effectively engage in developing SME-BSR strategy and approach. BVIC team has developed required tools and partnership with SSIM to undertake this specific study. Currently, the pilot study is in progress.

### SUSTAINED CSR PARTNERSHIPS FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

Bala Vikasa being a professional institution is involved in active social transformation support through the consulting activities and core program support, with an effective presence in the community driven development. As a part of institutional growth and working towards strengthening the CSR activities, Bala Vikasa rationalized the need to initiate an Advisory cum management consulting. The advisory and consulting division plans to provide multiple need based supportive services to the CSR clients on social transformation programs in various sectors such as women, water, education, food security, Tank desiltation, capacity building, livelihood support and social enterprises.

### BVIC NEW FACILITY TO BE READY BY 2017

Bala Vikasa International Center (BVIC) is in the process of building a 1 Lakh sq. ft facility in Rampalli, Ghatkesar which will house the training center, multiple conference halls, an auditorium, documentation center, multimedia center and office spaces complete with accommodation facility. The foundation stone for the proposed building has been laid this year by Honorable Minister Mr.T. Harish Rao. The facility will be ready and functional by the end of year 2017. This state-of-the-art facility is set to become a hub of operations that will benefit development workers and corporates nationally and internationally.



# Promoting Social Startups and Social Enterprises

## BVIC TAKES SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP TO B SCHOOLS

In order to promote the idea of social entrepreneurship among budding entrepreneurs, BVIC has conducted workshops in reputed B schools building awareness and basic conceptualization around Social Entrepreneurship and Business Responsibility.

BVIC also tied up with National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) – extension program, where NSIC covers BVIC – SE concepts in their outreach. BVIC have conducted 3 such workshops for senior level students, and a national seminar. 1,500 students have benefited from these trainings. A good number of enquires on Social Entrepreneurship incubation has been made and a considerable turnout applicants were obtained.

## PROMOTING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Social Entrepreneurship, the application of business principles and techniques to find solutions for social, cultural, or environmental issues, has been another focus area where Bala Vikasa is making great strides. BVIC has been running a one-of-its-kind Social Entrepreneurship (SE) Incubation program called the 'Socent Fellowship' in collaboration with UnLtd Hyderabad to produce some of the best social entrepreneurs and SE models.

Through the Socent Fellowship, BVIC is providing innovators the required grooming and technical expertise to convert their innovative ideas into successful business plans. Not just that, BVIC is also providing a financial grant as seed funding to help the social entrepreneurs in giving shape to their ideas. The Socent fellows are also connected to impact investors or venture capital providers or angel investors to scale their business and maximize the impact.

## BVIC SIGNS AN MOU WITH CSIE OF IIT, CHENNAI

BVIC has crossed another milestone by signing an MOU with the reputed Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CSIE) of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Chennai, to further streamline and legitimize the Social Entrepreneurship curriculum developed by BVIC.

The MoU signed this year entails that CSIE provides the necessary certification for the courses (online and offline) we offer as well as be a partner in the space of Social Entrepreneurship promotion.

The Socent Fellowship has screened over 150 applications and has selected 30 social entrepreneurs to attend the 'Theory of Change' workshop. This workshop focussed on guiding the social entrepreneurs to define the short and long-term goals of their ventures and map backwards to identify the necessary preconditions and actions to achieve their mission set forth.

Post the workshop, 20 social entrepreneurs were selected to attend the final panels, where each of them were given 15 minutes to pitch their idea and venture to a set of panellists comprising of the team members of BVIC, UnLtd Hyderabad, industry experts and the founder of Bala Vikasa, Mr Andre Gingras. The panellists evaluated the entrepreneur's enthusiasm, skills and capacity to implement their idea/venture with the support of 'Socent Fellowship'.

Based on the scores, 9 social entrepreneurs qualified and are now successfully being on board as part of the 'Socent Fellowship' first cohort, 2016. They are working in diverse sectors such as Education, Youth Empowerment, Healthcare, Energy, Women Empowerment and Livelihoods. The incubation support and financial assistance began in the month of March.

# CAPACITY BUILDING

## HAND HOLDING THE SOCIAL STARTUPS

### THE INCUBATING PROCESS

Incubation services were officially initiated in the month of March. The fellows were on-boarded on the agenda set forth as part of the Socent Fellowship. The incubation support includes activities such as workshops, expert panel sessions and peer learning sessions, field visits, leadership retreat along with a monthly coaching session held with each fellow to track the progress made and discuss and implement strategies that will help the fellow scale their ventures. The fellows attended a 'Productivity Hacks' workshop organised in March in which they discussed the need to be productive at work, the use of tools and techniques available online for being more productive; what makes them productive at work and what prevents them. The fellows strongly felt that the session had helped them reach out to new tools, along with a demo on how to use them.

The fellows also had the opportunity to attend a peer learning session in April. They got to discuss insights

within the social entrepreneurship space and also share their journey of running a venture. The fellows shared their progress with one another and also the challenges they are facing currently while scaling up their ventures. Sustainable solutions were discussed as a way forward.

In the month of May, Social Starters UK rendered incubation support in focussed areas where the fellows worked with them for six weeks. Towards the end of the program, the fellows were equipped with diverse techniques to further strengthen their venture operations and business development. Expert panel advice was provided to the fellows facing challenges in focussed verticals within their business venture.

BVIC team has made visits to three more social enterprise incubators to learn from their experiences. The BVIC team visit to Canada helped it to strategize, effective implementation and prioritisation guidelines as BVIC Internal Document #2. BVIC has accomplished SRS#3 documenting learnings on social enterprise and business conjunction.



# SUPPORTING SOCIAL START UPS

## ALLIKA - FROM WEED TO WEALTH

Abdul Mujeeb runs an institute to develop skills and education levels of young students. When searching for a science fair project for one of his students, he developed his liking for water hyacinths (a form of weed that grows on water bodies). He came to know that cardboard can be made from water hyacinth. On deriving further, he learnt how water hyacinth contaminates water bodies and how those 'weed extracts' could be utilized for making handicrafts and a range of many other products.

Thus, was born Allika – an organization that creates livelihood for rural men and women by training them on making handicrafts from water hyacinth found in local water bodies. As part of the Socent Fellowship support, Abdul is currently seeking support in Business Development, strategy, marketing and sales. Allika will use the incubation support and financial assistance to scale up and provide livelihood for 100 women and create at least 5 women entrepreneurs. He is currently training over 30 unemployed rural women and youth and needs funding and mentorship to validate his business and take it to next level.

**Trained 48 women**

**Employed 10 women on full-time basis and 10 women and 6 men on part-time basis**

**Created livelihoods and an increase in income levels for 20 families**



## VREMIND - REDUCING CHILD MORTALITY

One of the common challenges parents face in this fast-paced world is getting their infants vaccinated on time. Srinivas Alluri was one such worried parent, who struggled to keep track of the immunization schedule of his child and missed an appointment. He spoke to his colleagues about it and discovered that his was not an isolated instance. Many of his colleagues also had faced a similar predicament.

Srinivas paired with Nageswara Chukka, his colleague at Wells Fargo, Hyderabad and came up with the idea of an SMS reminder service to parents about their infants' immunization schedule and thus started vRemind. VRemind sends parents 2 reminders in 7 days and 1 day before the scheduled vaccination date.

Socent Fellowship has been helping them in identifying key partners and stakeholders, providing legal guidance and designing monitoring and evaluation plan including impact measurement metrics. VRemind will use the money raised to scale up and reach 2 lakh children in first 3 years. The team's valuable contributions will not only help save many infants lives, but help them grow into healthy and disease-free children.

**Reached out to more than 15,000 children and sent over 42000 SMS reminders till date**

**Expanded more channels for registration (web & bulk upload for hospitals)**

**Timely immunization rate increased by 69% since starting**



# CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF BEING A TORCH BEARER IN COMMUNITY DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT



9<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 is a historical day in the journey of Bala Vikasa as it celebrated the great event of silver jubilee at L.B. Stadium, in the heart of Hyderabad city. The gathering of 15,000 leaders from Bala Vikasa women, youth, farmers, water purification, model communities and organic farming projects made the event truly memorable. The event was splendid not just because of the number of people gathered on the occasion but due to the very spirit of the people who participated. The kind of discipline, response and the feeling of "our Bala Vikasa" demonstrated by the participants who came from Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra states, is truly praise worthy. The presence of VVIP's and VIP's from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana governments, political leaders, Bala Vikasa partner organization representatives, corporate partners, media and well-wishers from India and abroad made the event very special and brought good visibility to the Bala Vikasa family.

## Silver Jubilee: A People's Celebration (Prajala Panduga)

It was an event much awaited by people from thousands of villages in three states from the time it was announced in December, 2015. This was seen as an appropriate occasion to celebrate the success

of the organization which has won the hearts of millions of rural poor over the past 25 years. When Bala Vikasa announced to make the Silver Jubilee a people's celebration, thousands of people came forward voluntarily to contribute money to share the cost of the celebration. However, field teams had to restrict the number due to the limitation of facilities and management constraints at the venue. 15000 people paid Rs. 300 each towards the celebrations, and their timely arrival and enthusiastic participation is another indicator of what Bala Vikasa means to people in the villages.

## The Preparations for the Jubilee

Bala Vikasa Executive Body members and office staff have together formed different committees such as Stage Committee, Food Committee, Transport Committee, Invitation and Reception Committee, Parking Committee, Publicity Committee, Cultural Committee etc and shared the responsibilities. Bala Vikasa partner organizations and the field staff took the responsibility of announcing the event in the villages and mobilizing the people. It is very heartening to note that model village committees, water plant committees and women Self Help Associations, organic farmers committees etc have played an active role in pooling the participants and vehicles. Bala Vikasa teams once again proved their commitment and efficiency in organizing such a massive event in a successful manner. Qudos... to every member of Bala Vikasa family.



# SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

## A DAY OF FESTIVITIES, GRATITUDE AND UNITY

### The Silver Jubilee Event

With pleasant and cool weather in the morning of 9<sup>th</sup>February 2016, the LB stadium appeared glorious with the touch of warm sunshine and continuous arrival of people at the venue right from 6 am. The entire stadium was filled with 15,000 participants from across three states by 9.00 am which is 30 minutes before the schedule. Some people travelled for more than 10 hours to arrive at the venue. This discipline of Bala Vikasa members surprised the media, politicians, authorities and all the guests. The program began with universal prayer song, welcoming the VIP guests which was followed by welcome address by the Executive Director Mr. Shoury Reddy. He also presented a report on the history of Bala Vikasa and all its achievements which made every one present at the jubilee to realize how impactful Bala Vikasa is in sustainable community development sector.

### Words of Appreciation and Thanks from Founders



Mr. Andre Gingras gave his speech in a joyful tone, appreciating the rural communities for their involvement, participation and ownership of the development projects. When he posed a question to all the participants 'Who is Bala Vikasa?', and to everyone's surprise, the people answered loudly in one voice 'We are Bala Vikasa!'. The Founders expressed happiness to see this ownership and encouraged to continue as change agents for greater impact.

Mr. Andre said: "In these 25 years Bala Vikasa stands as a role model for many of the organizations and governments. As Founders of the organization we are proud of the achievements of Bala Vikasa. We take this opportunity to thank the millions of people who have believed in us and trusted us by empowering themselves and becoming change agents in their communities". In their speech they gave recognition to 3 prominent people in the growth of Bala Vikasa Fr. S. Bala Showry from Warangal Diocese, Mr. André Bourassa from SOPAR-Canada and Mr. Shoury Reddy, the current Executive Director of Bala Vikasa. He said that Mr. Shoury Reddy who has been with Bala Vikasa from

day one throughout the 25 years of its existence, is able to take the organization to higher levels with his dedicated and dynamic leadership. Founder Couple also thanked all national and international donor organizations and especially Bala Vikasa's parent organization SOPAR in Canada and Canadian Government for helping continuously. Special Appreciation was expressed to all the staff members and implementing partners of Bala Vikasa.

# Bala Vikasa Receives

RECOGNITION, APPRECIATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM TELANGANA GOVERNMENT

**"Mrs. Bala Theresa is a pride daughter of Telangana" Mr. Chandra Shekar Rao, Hon. Cheif Minister, Telangana**



Telangana Government and people of Telangana are really very proud of Bala Vikasa's achievements. Congratulations to the Founders, staff, board members, committee leaders, volunteers and all the members of Bala Vikasa for the completion of 25 impactful years. The vision and the commitment of Mrs. Bala Theresa Gingras and her husband Mr. Andre Gingras is highly commendable. History proved that great people are born in difficult times and Mrs. Bala Theresa is one such great person for India. Telugu People are fortunate to have Bala Vikasa. Mrs.

Bala Theresa is a proud daughter of Telangana. Tank de-siltation, water projects, women empowerment and all other initiatives of Bala Vikasa are definitely very effective, highly beneficial to the people and inspiring.

Money alone can't develop the poor. Unity and will power are big assets for the prosperity of the poor. Unfortunately we do not have such capacities to promote this unity, confidence and will power among people within the government. But Bala Vikasa is able to do this and bring change in a big way in our country. Bala Vikasa is putting efforts in resolving many social issues very effectively. I request Bala Vikasa to continue their good work and be like "brahmastram" ( Divine or ultimate Weapon) for the depressed and suppressed to overcome poverty. I pray to God to bless the founders and every one at Bala Vikasa and make the organization even more impactful in the future. The demands placed by Mr. Shoury Reddy on behalf of the widows, water plants and organic farmers are very justifiable. I assure that Government of Telangana will give importance to these demands and would discuss the same in the cabinet meeting. Government of Telangana would be happy to support Bala Vikasa in taking forward the mission of the organization.



# Felicitating

## Bala Vikasa Team

### Executive Director Mr. Shoury Reddy felicitated for his 25 years of service

The Founders and the Board members felicitated Mr. Singareddy Shoury Reddy, The Executive Director of Bala Vikasa in a very special way for his 25 years of dedicated services to society. He is the first person to join Bala Vikasa when it was founded in 1991 and has taken up different roles in the organization, before he took up full responsibility as Executive Director in 2009. His commitment and competent skills have immensely contributed to the development of the communities and the organization. He was presented a special memento to express a deep sense of appreciation for his dynamic leadership and 25 years of relentless service to the organisation.

All the Program Managers Mrs. D. Latha, Mrs. S. Sunitha, Mr. Vijay Bhaskar and the program officers Mr. Pathap, Mrs. Manjula, Mr. Thirupathi, Mrs. Kavitha, Mr. Shivaram and few others who have contributed more than 10 years in the organization were also felicitated on this occasion.



### High Lights of Silver Jubilee Celebrations

- 15000 leaders and members of various Bala Vikasa programs from the states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra arrived at the venue by 9.30 a.m, half an hour before the schedule.
- All the 15,000 participants contributed Rs.300 each in advance towards the cost of the Jubilee and made it peoples celebration (Prajala Panduga).
- Maharashtra participants wore specially made hats for jubilee holding their Marati language banners stood as special attraction in the crowd.
- As a tribute to Bala Vikasa no political guests spoke any politics or of government programs including CM, Speaker and Ministers. Most of them said 'Jai Bala Vikasa'. Thanks to their respectful gesture.
- 197 busses and more than 400 jeeps and cars drove the participants safely to the event and back home.
- Bala Vikasa arranged 100,000 square foot tent, 16,000 chairs and 4 big screens for the convenience of the people.
- All the Bala Vikasa staff and board members were found so active and dedicated to make the event successful. Staff using walky-talkies at the event was very impressive.
- Hundreds of policemen provided tight security in and around the stadium.
- The police officials expressed that they never have witnessed such a disciplined crowd and a well organized event.
- 15,000 participants enjoyed the Hyderabad's special biryani made from 3,000 kilos of chicken and 3,000 kilos of rice by 97 expert chefs.
- The stadium surroundings echoed with 'Jai Bala Vikasa, Jayaho Bala Vikasa, Zindabad Bala Vikasa' slogans by all the participants.
- 13 TV news channels and 10 new papers covered the event in a big way.

# MULTI-SECTORAL VISITORS

## FOR EXPOSURE GAINING RECOGNITION GLOBALLY

**Mr. Martin and Mrs. Gemma, Ambassadors of Frank Water, UK,** visited Bala Vikasa's Water Purification Plants, reject water management systems and Ground level Tanks (GLTs) during March. They highly appreciated Bala Vikasa's way of working with communities, building the capacities of people and handing them the ownership. The smiles on the faces of tribal people who had access to a continuous supply of water through the Ground Level Tanks (GLTs) touched their hearts and they expressed great satisfaction with the work of Bala Vikasa in reaching the marginalized. They appreciated the efforts and efficiency of the staff and the transparency and accountability maintained in the execution of the projects.

**Suneira, a graduate student from the reputed Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT),** working on a research piece for the World Bank on the role of corporates and sustainable businesses in providing sanitation services to the poor in India visited Bala Vikasa's program sites to know more about the Community-Driven Development (CDD) program spearheading the construction of family toilets for the rural poor. The strong CSR partnerships that have emerged over the past few years with Bala Vikasa, the successful collaboration in providing the right guidance

in channelling CSR funds to specific thrust areas and ways of bringing the corporates and the Panchayats together for the betterment of the society formed a crucial part of the research.

**Naseema Tasneem, Senior Executive, Omax Autos Ltd., Gurgaon,** visited Gangadevipelly model village to know more about the exemplary work being taken up by Bala Vikasa's Community-Driven Development program so as to initiate similar development in some villages around Gurgaon by Omax Autos Ltd.

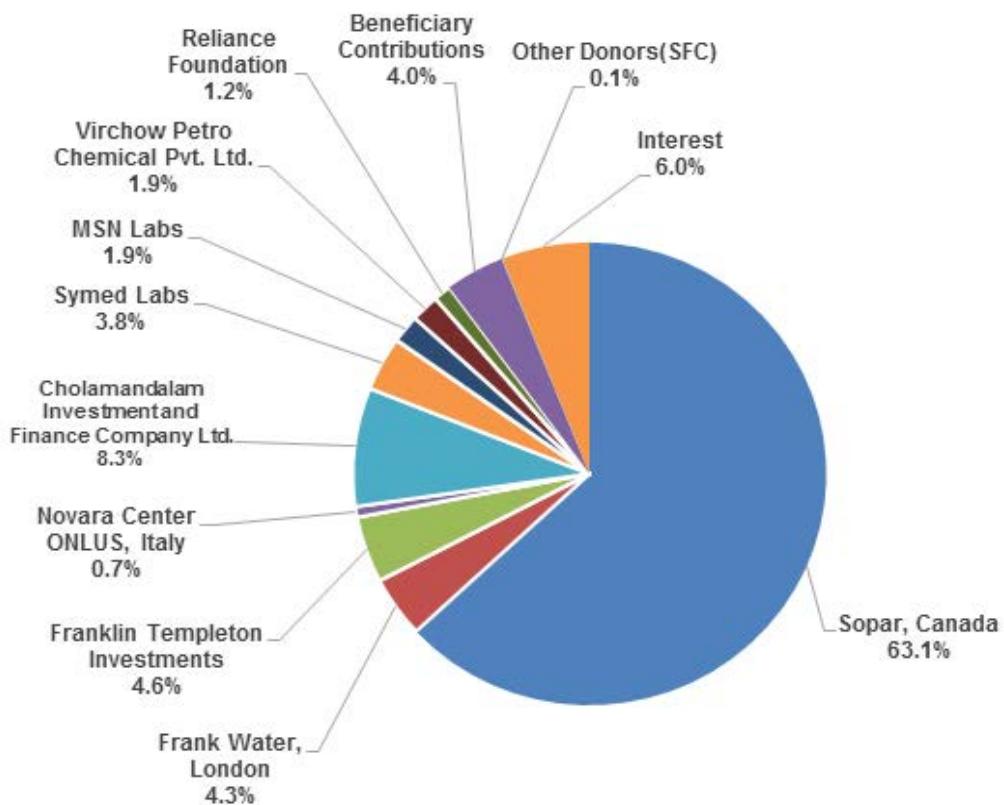
**8 farmers from World Vision** visited Bala Vikasa Organic Farming program in Ontimamidipalli and Laxmipuram. They studied the organic practices of the farmers and various ingredients that were used in preparing organic fertilizers and pesticides. They were amazed to see paddy, turmeric, maize, vegetables and even cotton being cultivated by organic farmers trained by Bala Vikasa.

**Sandra, a Masters' student from Switzerland** conducting a research on 'the right price of safe water' visited Bala Vikasa's WPP plants and held consultations with the BV staff to learn more about how we are able to provide purified drinking water at a cost 10 times less than that of commercial packaged drinking water.

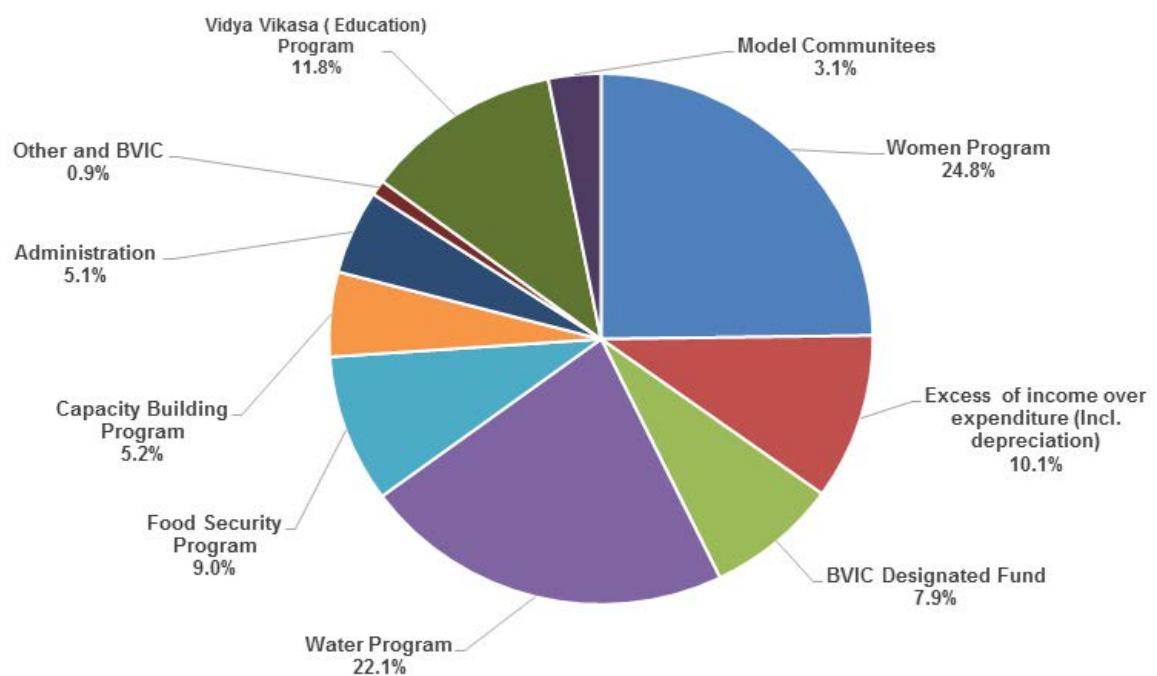


# Summary of Financial Statement 2015-16

**Income Rs. 105,198,614**



**Expenditure Rs. 109,767,820**



# Bala Vikasa 10 Development Rules

Bala Vikasa has derived these 10 Development Rules from our extensive field experience. They form the core of our development policies and the guiding principles of our development approaches.

1. Bala Vikasa's philosophy is that **people** are the cornerstone and the main assets of development. Development should be for the people, of the people and by the people.
2. **Women** are the heart of development. For development to be tangible, women must be given their rightful place in the community in which they are major assets.
3. Development is **change of attitude** and it starts in the mind. Self-esteem and self-confidence in one's own abilities are pre-requisites for self-development. For people to change their lives, they have to first reject the 'mendicant mentality' and build on their assets.
4. Development is **solidarity** within groups and within communities. In their search for wellbeing, people are supported by their group. In return they must invest in the group and in the community.
5. Development is **iterative**: at each step of the development process, the question should be asked 'Are we in pursuance of the goal?' When the goal is lost sight of, corrective action has to be taken immediately.
6. People must **participate** in all stages of their development; they have to identify their assets and their needs, and must themselves find the solutions to their problems. They must take ownership of each stage of the development process.
7. Development is **intra-cultural**. People's culture has to be understood and integrated into all facets of development as an important dimension of the community.
8. Development is **long-term**. It is unrealistic to think that development impact can be obtained after a few years of community activities. Change of attitudes takes time.
9. Development is **not free**. People's contribution in kind and in money to their own development warrants ownership and is an essential condition for sustainable development.
10. Development builds on **results and credibility**. Agents of change must show results if they want to be accepted by the people. For an NGO, there should be consistency between the rules and mission, professionalism and transparency at all levels.

## Our Donors



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