

Adivasimitra welfare society

Annual report

2020-2021

ITDA Quarters, Room, No. C – 24, Paderu – 531024, (Post), Visakhapatnam
(Dist.), A.P. Phone: 08935 251275, Cell No. 9441824532, Email.
adivasimitra@gmail.com

Legal Status

Registered under Societies registration act on 18th December'1996, Registration No : 1465/96

Vision

Accessibility of infrastructure facilities, education, health, forestry rights (Act'2006), Panchayat Raj Act (PESA), MGNREGS, Food security, Income generation and safe drinking water to all the tribal communities living in isolation.

Mission

Adivasi Mitra renders its services through all means to work for the sustainable empowerment of the tribe community through people's participatory role.

Goal

Self-sustainability amongst the tribal communities.

Thrust Areas

Right to Education, Right to information Act, Child Rights, Health, HIV/AIDS, Forestry Rights (Act'2006), Panchayat Raj Act (PESA), Tourism, MGNREGS Program, Food security, Income generation and safe drinking water to all the tribal communities living in isolation.

Core values

Adivasi Mitra has been formed as a non-profit welfare society and all of its enterprises shall serve entirely for the social, economic, legal, cultural and educational and health improvements of the tribal people in Visakhapatnam district.

Objective

Work for the preservation and promotion of Adivasi culture customs, languages and traditions. Take up activities for the overall development and leadership building of Adivasi youth and children; Build awareness through writing, publishing, disseminating information and organizing cultural programmes for the preservation, lobby and protection of tribal rights and heritage.

Promote traditional sustainable forest protection and regeneration practices of the Adivasi's for conservation of the forest and natural resources and striving for Adivasi control over them for protection of environment and ecology of the hills of the Eastern Ghats.

Coverage

Barsing, Guttulaput, G.Munchingput, D.Gonduru, Vantlamamidi, Modapalli, and Salugu panchayats in Paderu Mandal. Theegalavalasa, Sobhakota, Mattam and Guda Panchayats in Hukumpeta Mandal. Borra and valasi Panchayats in Ananthagiri Mandal.

Activities under taken during 2019-2020

- Promotion of Community Based organizations Adivasi Mahasabha and Manyam Adivasi Cooperative Society – for better voice for tribal, access to rights and entitlements, creating self-help, cooperation for enhanced marketing opportunities, financial assistance, livelihood opportunities among tribal farming community
- Awareness on 1/70 Act and PESA Act, Right Education Act, RTI Act, MGNREGS.
- Awareness on the roles and responsibilities of the PRI members
- Identification and facilitation to address individual, village grievances
- Formation of FPGs. Trainings on Book keeping, marketing, business development
- Awareness and new claims for FCRA
- Youth Skill training & employment
- Education – schools, reduction of drop outs
- Culture – Conservation and promotion of tribal culture through documentation, preparation of educational material and utilizing as learning material for school children
- Covid-19 Awareness

Adivasimahasabha

Adivasimitra mobilised 5839 memberships (Men-3180, Women-2345) for Adivasi Mahasabha during 2020-21. There are 1754 Gramamitras representing 877 villages of Paderu, Hukumpeta and Pedabayalu mandals. They organize monthly village meetings facilitate identifying gaps in access to basic services to individuals and community, monitor implementation of government programs and schemes in their village. Adivasimitra provided trainings and awareness programs on PESA, 1/70 Act and, Right Education, RTI, MGNREGS, RoFR acts, Rythu Bharosa, Cheyutha, Amma odi, Jala siri schemes to Adivasi Mahasabha Members and community leaders. They are aware of various welfare programs that the community members are eligible. They are identifying issues related to Ration Cards, Pensions, MGNREGS Job Cards, Housing, Drinking water, RoFR Titles, Prohibition of alcohol, Anganwadi building, Road, Electricity, Drainage, Toilets, SHG Loans, Crop loans and Irrigation facilities in villages. Adivasi Mahasabha members are able to approach appropriate authorities to resolve the household, village level problems. Consultation meetings with line departments enhanced coordination, communication and understanding between concerned officers and community and ease of resolving grievances. Gramamitra's network has become as bridge between project staff and community in creating awareness on Corona virus Pandemic for providing necessary assistance, communication during this crisis, lockdown

During the year Adivasi Mahasabha has identified 166 grievances and appealed to concerned authority. 26 grievances were resolved. AMS submitted memorandum to ST legislative chairman on grievances. Submitted memorandum to sub collector regarding LTR Act violations by non tribes in Bandaveedhi village. Assisted casualties of drinking water pollution in Donkinavalasa, Hukumpeta mandal in availing better medical service.

Grievance	Submitted	Sanctioned
Housing	18	4
FRA Land Titles	3079	309
Anganwadi ICDS	9	0
Road & Related Infra	72	16
Irrigation Facility	7	0
Drinking Water	36	5
Village Infrastructure	1	0
Pension	16	0
Agri processing & Infra	1	0
Drainage, Sanitization	2	0
Electrification	1	0
PDS Cards	3	1
Total	3245	335

During this year 3079 claims for 8915 acres of land were submitted. 779 titles for 1406 acres of land were sanctioned.

State Level Round Table Conference on Tribal Issues - was organised on problems faced by Tribal in claiming process of title deeds for their lands. 40 representative tribal communities, NGOs, Social activists, print and electronic media have participated in the conference. members from Visakhapatnam. 13 NGOs working on RoFR, tribal issues, forest and environment have represented issues faced by tribal in claiming titles for their land.

Problems raised in the conference were mainly...

- 1.Lack of proof of ownership by land owners
- 2.Un explained delay in processing claims
- 3.No information and communication to claimant after submitting claim application
- 4.Errors in survey, titles
- 5.non recognition of community rights and habitat rights
- 6.Clash between Forest, and Revenue departments and VSS in claim process
7. Titles are not issued to total land under procession though there is provision for claiming upto 4 hectares of processed land as per the act. Commonly no claims made for balance of land they own.

8. No titles sanctioned in R&R, Mining areas
9. Rights to Cultural diversity and biodiversity were not recognised.

Below are the resolutions taken by the participants in the conference

- 1.To advocate the discussed issues at district level.
- 2.Organise district level alliances with common groups that work on RofR
- 3.Demand district level cells for solving RofR claims related grievances
- 4.Obtain community rights for VSS
- 5.Organise campaign, create awareness in community
- 6.Utilise social media and other digital platforms to campaign on the issue to represent and state level.

Mutually Aided Cooperative Society (MACS):

At the end of the year there are 1567 farmers (Men-898, Women-670) in Manyam Adivasi Cooperative society. Created 60 farmer producer groups.

One day farmers festival was organized with 150 farmers and FPO members. 18 FPGs from Paderu, Killoguda/Araku, GK Veedhi have exhibited 123 varieties seeds of agricultural and forest products. Officials from ITDA, GCC, Agriculture & Horticulture departments have represented in the program. MLA, former tribal minister, tribal leaders, college students, NGOs have participated in the festival. The joyous festival represented the local culture and reminded the visitors traditional produces used for daily consumption, medicinal and other purposes. Kavurupalle FPG of Pedabayalu mandal with highest exhibits of 89 seed varieties has won first prize. Cheedigudda FPG of Padeu mandal with 73 exhibited seed varieties collected second prize. Sangodi FPG of Paderu has exclusively exhibited herbs and traditional medicinal products and won special prize.

Youth Employment

Orientation workshops were organised with 102 selected youth that are interested in local employment generation programs. Characteristics of entrepreneur, qualities of successful entrepreneur, favourable conditions to entrepreneurs, management concepts, entrepreneurship in agriculture, entrepreneurship in women, challenges for women entrepreneurs and essential communication skill were dealt in the workshop. Group activities were conducted to develop and demonstrate business models by the attended members. Turmeric Soap making, coffee roasting and powder making, oil extraction, Phanera Vahlili products, marketing for MACS were some of the models presented by the participants. Three training Programs on Entrepreneurship skills and access ITDA Schemes were organised with 150 participants (Male-125, Female-25) from three mandals of Paderu, Hukumpeta and Pedabayalu. The topics covered in the trainings are, Pre-Matriculation and post matriculation Scholarships offered Schemes for Sports,

Music, coaching for job oriented competitive exams, schemes for promoting Horticulture and agriculture activities, Subplan schemes and PVTG and CCDF funds.

Covid – 19 Awareness

Initially it was thought Corona was a fast infecting deadly disease. People in villages voluntarily locked themselves, cut huge trees and created barricades at the entrances of their villages. All gatherings ranging from casual meet-ups to Marriages and Festivals were voluntarily evaded. In the initial stage the role of electronic media, mobile technology was prized for spreading awareness but the overdoing created more confusion, fear than awareness necessary at right level. Besides the infection of disease, lathi charge (beating) and other physical punishments by police created more fear among the people. So they restricted themselves to home. All economic activities, market places, offices, schools, restaurants were closed indefinitely. All types of mobility were restricted. These strict rules, restrictions augmented many wrong assumptions about the seriousness, ill effects of the disease.

Project staff teamed to obtain authentic information and gain proper understanding about the condition. They helped each other by sharing genuine information from internet, news papers, and self acquired knowledge. Finally everyone gained good awareness about the Virus, disease, medium of infection, precautions, and its cure which opened doors on making some important decisions at individual, organizational and project activity levels.

As the team understood the reality resumed its activities in the villages. Travelling to nearby villages during the intervals where individual private transport was allowed staff interacted with communities. The team created messages with authentic, genuine information and spread in the villages. Following the lockdown regulations created awareness among the community and reduced their burden of fear and confusion. They helped worried families contacting the migrant relatives, finding their wellbeing. Helped students stuck at different borders of districts while return to their home

The sudden, unprepared imposition of lock down severely affected the agency. The remote hamlets usually rely on nearest market place generally Mandal head quarter for purchasing grocery. Unlike the plain areas the tribal villages don't have retail stores in their villages. Either weekly markets or store at the mandal are the only sources to purchase food items. But due to lock down mobility was strictly restricted. Adivasimitra came across vulnerable groups such as independent, single women, landless daily wage laborers, People who have no access to public distribution system. They were even struggling for daily meal.

An information broacher was prepared with the general awareness on Covid Virus, precautions, safety measures and cure. Whatsapp, text message services were utilized to spread information the broacher. The existing grassroots network of facilitators and village members was activated through sharing the information via phone calls messages. Informative presentations, videos were shared to villagers through this network of staff, facilitators.

Vulnerable individuals, families were identified. A kit of basic grocery items, rice was prepared and distributed to the selected beneficiary.

The food kit comprise of 5 Kgs Rice, Packet of Pulses, Cooking oil, Salt, Chilli powder, other minor spices. Soap, mask and information broacher were also handed to the beneficiary. Total 1275 families benefitted with this activity.

Beneficiaries

S.No	Beneficiary type	Number of Beneficiaries
1	Widows	195
2	Single/ Independent Women	119
3	Daily wage Labors	268
4	Not Benefitted from Public Distribution System	51
5	Landless	661
	Total	1275

Area covered

No of Villages	Panchayats	Mandals
164	45	3

Education