



JANAKALYAN

Decadal Contribution of Janakalyan to the Society

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A Team Committed for People's Empowerment

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Decadal Contributions to the Society (1997-2007)

Unlike other organizations, Janakalyan took birth with project on hand on 2nd July 1997 with the collective efforts of Sri Shanti Ranjan Das and his friends backed up by Sri Prasen Raptan. Sustainable Agriculture through SHGs was its first initiative in 1997 with peasant communities to make agriculture profit making for economic reconstruction.

Sustainable Agriculture Program (SAP): Agriculture is the sole occupation for livelihood of refugee-communities residing here for last 3½ decades. Cotton, the major as well as cash crop of the region set in motion of wiping out while Janakalyan intervened at this juncture with sustainable agriculture approach to revive cultivation practices with the active participation of farmers. Replacing chemicals with organic approach was the trend introduced by Janakalyan adopting LEISA (Low External Inputs Sustainable Agriculture) concept with PTD (Participatory Technology Development) approach in cotton and then to other crops.

Impacts of Janakalyan interventions in cultivation practices

- Today, almost every farmer understands the consequences of chemical applications and many of them turned to organic practices.
- The farmers understand the importance of soil health management and all the FYM is now applied to their own farms, which they otherwise used to sale to the neighboring progressive farmers at throwaway price.
- To enrich the FYM, composting and vermicomposting techniques are widely adopted in the refugee-colonies. For farmwomen it is an enterprise to earn money.
- Cotton, to which the farmers were addicted to, is completely washed out from the area and many dry crops like Bengal gram, sorghum, etc. have made its way in to replace cotton and paddy.
- While almost every household had a sprayer and alternate household a power-sprayer for pesticides application, we now hardly find them with any farmer, which rightly indicates reduction in pesticides application

Sustainable Self-Help Group: SSHG was the other important tool of Janakalyan to empower rural women in socio-economic, educational and political aspects adopted right from the day-1. About 10-15 SSHGs covering almost 100-150 families in each village are brought under the umbrella of Self-Help. Youths and farmers have also come up with formation of SSHGs by bearing in mind the developments of these women.

Child Labor Eradication Program (CLEP): Engaging child in earning in the age of learning is

Impacts of education intervention

- Today, one can find no children out of schools in these colonies at the age of learning.
- More than 600 children mainstreamed in government schools and are learning well.
- More than Rs.7 lakhs of stipend distributed to these children who had completed the course
- No parents are willing to engage their children in earning at the age of learning.

Impacts of SSHG intervention

- Today, more than 75 SSHGs are functioning without the support of Janakalyan in these villages.
- Not less than Rs.65 lakhs is the saving of these SSHGs revolving among the members at an interest less than 2% per month.
- Interest rate has gone down to as low as 12-18% from 120% per annum by the moneylenders.
- Women possess minimum assets (milch animals) worth Rs.35 lakhs thereby increasing the fallback position in their families.
- Age at marriage of a girl has increased to 15-18 from 10-12 years.
- Girl-child started crossing the door of high schools & college in last 3-4 years.
- Many women have contested in panchayat election and won the battle.
- The federation of SSHG has caused reduction of violence against women.
- SSHG come forward and contribute for marriages of girls child, if found the parents are really incapable.

not only an offence but also national loss and social sin. The issue was an emerging trend in rehabilitation colonies and Janakalyan attacked it in budding stage by opening special schools for these children. For every 50 child found engaged in hazardous work, a special school to take care of needs of such children was the strategy with mid-day meal, stipend, vocational training and other incentives. After motivating the children as well as their parents and upgrading their skills at par with the regular students, they were mainstreamed into government schools.

Income Generation Program (IGP): Economic reconstruction of the Sindhanur Rehabilitation Project being the one-point agenda of Janakalyan, animal husbandry is promoted as a subsidiary source of income beside agriculture. Crossbred animals are introduced through SSHG for the first time in the history of Sindhanur Rehabilitation Project using bank finance. It is estimated that an average of Rs.45-55 lakhs is coming in these 5 colonies from outside at the cost of grass (grass is converted as milk).

Impacts of IGP intervention

- Women fallback position in the family has improved drastically.
- Women own an asset (animals) first time in their history.
- Purchasing power of a woman has increased and thus she has something to offer to her children, when asked for, may be for education of her (girl) children.
- She has a say in the family decision making proces as she earn for the family.

Dairy Development and Cattle Breed Improvement Program (DDCBIP): Milk selling by these refugees has never been seen in past due to unknown reason.

Impact of DDCBIP intervention

- A new source of income has been offered to the community
- Cooperative attitude has developed among the community bringing unity.
- Permanent marketing linkage has been established.

However, with constant effort of Janakalyan, today almost every alternate household has a milch animal and sales the milk to the milk cooperative societies promoted by Janakalyan in each of these villages. For any income generation activity backward and forward linkages are inevitable for which the DDCBIP promoted Milk

Cooperatives for marketing arrangement and recruited a veterinary doctor to provide medical service as well as artificial insemination facilities.

Poverty Alleviation Package for Refugees (PAPR): Each of the refugee families has 4-5 acres of irrigated land at the tail end of Tungabhadra Irrigation Project. Like all other irrigation projects in India, TBP also has a peculiar characteristic of two extremes of water availability. During rainy season, the upper reach farmers leaves the water and inundates the standing crops of these farmers at the tail end while in the peak season they receives hardly any water for irrigation thus dries up the standing crops. On the other hand, due to inadequate water for irrigation part of the available land remains fallow every year. It is in this context, Janakalyan introduced PAPR to excavate a farm-pond of 1-acre to store excess water during rainy season to provide life-saving irrigation during peak season with vegetables, fish, horticulture, animals, etc.

Impacts of PAPR intervention

- Farmers have got a wonderful financially viable need-based package to address their economic issues.
- Risk distribution- loss in one crop is compensated by profit in other crops during the year.
- Irrigation is no more an issue for them; land use is more than 100%.
- Food, fodder, fuel and financial securities are established over a period of time by the package.
- Farmers have realized the importance of soil health & fertility management.
- Never purchase vegetable from market but grow in farms
- Burning of agricultural wastes has reduced to zero
- Mixed cropping practices are seen commonly
- Fish, the staple food, available in farm.

Shashya Shyamal Drought Proofing Model for Tail-enders (SSDPMT): these refugees had experienced acute shortage of drinking water for almost 3 decades. Rationing of (untreated) water from a community pond during the summer months was a common practice in these colonies for years. To address this issue, Janakalyan introduced roof water harvesting program to store the roof-water for drinking and greening the house-yard. Besides solving the drinking water issue, it also helped to grow vegetables in the Bio-Intensive Gardening (BIG) thereby improving the nutritional intake for women and children. Further, various water born diseases could be avoided as the stagnation of rainwater nearby the house-yard was no more an issue.

Impact of SSDPMT intervention

- Women drudgery reduction
- Nutritious food intake increased (BIG)
- Many water born diseases reduced
- Drinking water issue resolved

Rural Entrepreneurship Development Program (REDP): Poverty and unemployment are the twin problem; the Indian economy is facing since Independence: more so in rural India. Several efforts by the planning commission and state government yielded marginal results. Janakalyan introduced a proven 30 days residential training module to turn the rural unemployed youths to entrepreneurs. More than 300 youths from Raichur & Koppal districts have gone through the process of inducing entrepreneurship believing in the fact that the entrepreneurs are not by birth but can be molded. Today, we can see the impact to a large extent on the economy and society.

Impacts of REDP Intervention

- More than 100 Self-employment ventures have come up with or without bank finance
- Many have diversified also
- Through skill-based REDP, the unskilled labors are now earning more than the skilled labor with or without wage employment
- Bankers are now coming forward to finance youths also; earlier the area was blacklisted
- The economic base is broadening from agriculture to enterprises thereby reducing load on the piece of land available at their disposal
- The role models are available to follow & adopt

Renewable Sources of Energy Harnessing (RSEH):

Firewood falls in the women domain in rural areas and with increased area under paddy cultivation, getting firewood is becoming extremely difficult. Further, the ill effects of using firewood for cooking has its own impacts on the health of these women, the major being respiratory-track infection and eye-sight. On the other hand, Raichur is blessed by Sun-god but there is hardly any effort to harness the solar energy. Janakalyan at this juncture introduced the improved smokeless chullah in the household level. Solar cooker and biogas plants were introduced in the second stage. Similarly solar dryers for drying crops were also introduced later in the package.

Impacts of RSEH Intervention

- Less burden on women and also comparatively less impact on health
- Solar cooker, solar dryer has not only helped them to have better health but also reduced the ecological burden on environment.

Reviving Cotton in Tail end of TBP: Cotton, the cash and major crop of the region, though declined its yield for last few years, farmers still have an inclination towards it. Janakalyan tried to revive it in the present context as an experiment with organic approach. Pests' immunization, degraded land and high cost of inputs made the attempt an utter failure. Today, the cotton is out of the area by virtue its least production and high cost of cultivation.

Impact of Cotton Reviving Intervention

- Cotton, the cash & major crops of the region has completely wiped out from the area and minds of the farmers

Intensified Integrated Farming System (IIFS): The per capita land availability is reducing day by day as the family growing by manifold while the productivity is declining making the family economically

unsecured. One should also note here that this piece of land is the only resource available for livelihood of the communities. Getting an employment outside agriculture is a daydream for them. Thus, it also has direct impact on the health, education and living standards of the people living here for last 4 decades without basic amenities. Janakalyan intervened to intensify the use of available resources adopting integrated farming system along with water harvesting, animal husbandry, fish rearing, vegetables cultivation with tree crops, etc. System of Rice Intensification (SRI) is introduced in paddy to reduce water usage drastically. Intervention along the production-consumption chain of a crop to maximize the profit through participatory marketing approach is another major concept of the program.

Impacts of IIFS Intervention

- Shifting from monoculture to many crops
- Risk distribution to many productive units to compensate the loss of one crop by other
- Trees are integrated part of the farm which attracts the farmers to the land during summer months also.
- Enough grains for the family thereby securing the food needs.
- Many sources of income viz. milk, fish, vegetables, crops etc.
- Farmers need not go for wage labourer.
- Family debt has gone down to any extent.
- More profit from paddy nursery.
- Animal husbandry is a common practice today

Karnataka Community Based Tank Management Project (KCBTMP): Karnataka has a wide number of traditional tanks which catered to the irrigation needs of the farmers from the ancient days. However, during the recent days, due to upcoming major and minor irrigation projects, such tanks got less care and thus degenerated over years. Of late, Government of Karnataka felt its necessity to revive and offer to the farmers and the task was assigned to Janakalyan to revive 40 such tanks in Deodurg and Sindhanur block of Raichur district with the support of World Bank through JSYS. The proposal of Janakalyan was ranked 1st in the selection process among more than 150 competitors. The first branch office of Janakalyan was opened in Deodurg block to implement this project in May 2004.

Impacts of KCBTMP Intervention

- Farmers institutions came up in the tank villages to strengthen the bond
- Many tanks got revived and thus area under cultivation in the tank command increased thereby improving the economic status of the farmers
- Janakalyan learnt that working with bureaucratic system is difficult

School Water And Sanitation Towards Health & Hygiene – Put Lessons in Use (SWASTHH PLUS): Service Delivery is the responsibility of the government especially for the mother and child. Due to several reasons, we find the delivery mechanism is unable to reach the needy groups in time which results into significant damages on their lives and livelihoods. Among all the services it is felt that health, education and ICDS bear hazardous impacts the mother and child if it does not reach in time. SWASTHH PLUS is an initiative which introduced a community monitoring mechanism to review and deliver the services to the deserved individual. The Neighborhood Leader (NHL) collects the information about the service deserving individual from her Neighborhood Group (NHG) and report to the service providing agency on monthly basis in an interface created at village, Gram Panchayat, PHC, Block and District levels through a system called 'Red Alert'. The delivery agencies are given 30 days time to respond and serve the person which is due to him/her.

Impacts of SWASTHH PLUS

- Forums for women at various levels is created where they can share and demand for their services due from the concerned departments.
- Kishories are empowered to identify, diagnose and report to the concerned departments for their deserved services.
- The Service Delivery agencies like AWW, ANM & Teachers are now became alert and taking proactive roles.
- The gap between the service delivery agencies and the villagers has reduced drastically.

Village Planning Process (VPP): Post Independence era in India saw many developmental interventions which are even considered as best projects in the world. But, despite such best interventions for more than

6 decades, the rural India remained underdeveloped in various aspects. Top-down approach adopted in planning and implementation of the projects might be the sole reason accepted later in the beginning of the 21st century. Janakalyan introduced a process called Village Planning to reverse the planning & implementation process adopting bottom-up approach. A team of 4 experts together with villagers & youths goes through a 5-days systematic process to identify, assess and analyze the village needs and introduce a concept called "Our Village – Our Responsibility" to address such issues. The experts stay in the village to have a first-hand feel of the issues which the villagers are facing on day-to-day basis where the villagers provide food and accommodation to these experts. About 4-6 volunteers (equal number of male & female) are identified during the process and then imparted 5-days residential training at the institutional level to induce volunteerism among these youths. Later, these volunteers steer the development journey in their respective villages through monthly review and responsibility shouldering.

Impacts of VPP intervention

- Village communities learnt to identify their own needs and prioritize them.
- They felt the needs are their needs and it is their responsibility to address the issues around them.
- Volunteerism among the youths was need of the hour and through this process we could induce it among them.
- The gap between the service delivery agencies and the villagers has reduced drastically.

Kugram Suvarna Gram Yojana (KSGY): Government of Karnataka introduced an interesting scheme in the eve of its 50th years of its unionism celebration. Converting the most backward village from a block into a Golden village by investing a special grant of Rs.20 lakhs and channelizing all other departmental schemes on priority basis to the same village is the motto of the scheme. Janakalyan was assigned to identify the needs of people in such a most backward village in Sindhanur block and prepare a plan of action to meet such needs under the scheme. A team of experts from Janakalyan stayed in the village viz. Yaddaldoddi for a week to identify the needs and prioritize them with the very dwellers of the village. Along with the villagers a plan was prepared and submitted to government for implementation.

Impacts of KSGY Intervention

- Yaddaldoddi villagers could address their practical needs by getting an opportunity to express it in the plan
- Village community could learn to prepare a plan for their village development

Total Sanitation Campaign: Total Sanitation Campaign, a national agenda today has been launched in our district in 2005 but has seen very less progress due to lack of awareness and thus less demand. To make the campaign successful a prestigious award viz. Nirmal Gram Purashkar is announced by the President of India. Janakalyan took up the challenge of educating the communities about the concept and conducted various training programs for school head masters, anganawadi techers, SHG members, etc.

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA): Since independence, the plans have been prepared by top level bureaucrats at higher levels. But the government has realized now and this requested us to prepare the plans based on ground realities. With a team of professionals and experts, Janakalyan prepared the five year perspective plans for 231 villages of 34 Gram Panchayat in Sindhanur block.

- People learnt what the needs of their villages are and how to prepare plan for their own village development
- They have also been made aware about the various provisions of the Act and how to get maximum benefits out of it.

Suvarna Gramodaya: In the eve of celebrating the 50th year of united Karnataka, government has introduced a unique scheme to create 1000 golden villages with an especial grant of Rs.1.0 crore per village. Being pleased with the proven track record of Janakalyan, government assigned all 13 villages of Sindhanur taluk and 4 villages of Manvi taluk to prepare a participatory village development plan with bottom-up approach. It was a real challenge for Janakalyan to

complete 17 plans in 2 months duration on request of Mr. N. Manjunath Prasad IAS, CEO of ZP Raichur. The villagers of Alabanur, Byagavat, Chagbhavi, Chikalparvi, Dhadesugur, Ginivara, Goudanabhai, Gunjalli, Haravi, Hosalli (EJ), Huda, Jalihal, Kunnatagi, Ramatnal, Sidramapur, Sultanpur and Umoloti expressed their sincere indebtedness for selecting their villages under the scheme.

Marketing Mela: For more than a decade, SHG has become a mode of development, especially for empowerment of women. In recent past, the agenda of income generation activities has been added to the SHG movement by government as well as developmental agencies. Banks are considering these SHGs as the most credible financial partners and thus bulk lending to these SHGs is a common phenomenon today. However, rarely anybody is putting efforts to provide market for the products of these rural entrepreneurs and thus almost all the IGAs started by SHGs with the bank credit sustain for few months and then disappear. To overcome this Janakalyan conducts Exhibition cum Marketing Mela every year on the occasion of International Women Day for 3 days. About 30-50 SHGs put up their stalls and not less than Rs.1.0 lakh is the turnover during this event. More than that the customers get an idea which products is available where and thus the market linkages established.

Hostels for girls collegiate education: While we are talking about empowerment of women, rural girls are still allowed to complete their education up to the level available in their vicinity, which is usually 10th standard in this part of the country. The poor parents, although wish their child get education, can hardly send them for collegiate education due to lack of safe and secured hostels outside their home place; more so for Bengali refugees of Sindhanur Rehabilitation Project. To overcome this issue, Janakalyan started a hostel in Sindhanur, the nearby town where colleges are available exclusively for these girls. About 13 girls could continue their PUC in different disciplines. This was just to create a trend and today parents are following the path created by these 13 girls.

Merit Stipend: There are many meritorious children in the rural areas who disappear from the education field despite having strong desire to continue their education due to lack of resources. Janakalyan inspires such children with small educational support.

Health Camps: Janakalyan operates in remote villages where people do not have access to the medical facilities due to lack of transportation and also other reasons. Janakalyan brings the doctors there to conduct health check up and medicine distribution camps, every year. Hundreds of poor people get the benefits out of it.

Eye Operation Camp: Janakalyan has also conducted an Eye Operation Camp, first of its kind, in a remote rural area. About 1000 old people were tested and more than 35 were operated. Spectacles and other medicines were also distributed to the needy people.

Veterinary Health camps: In Janakalyan operating areas, veterinary service is very poor and therefore Janakalyan appointed a veterinary doctor. It also conducts Veterinary camps every year to help the poor to get their animals vaccinated in time.