



ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24



Centre for People's Forestry
Rights | Livelihoods | Conservation

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Utnoor ITDA PO-Ms. Chahat Bajpai, IAS - addressing the farmers during the Interface meeting on Crop Diversification and Natural Farming at PMRC, KB Complex, Utnoor



Release of Annual Report 2022-23 by CPF Managing Trustee Dr. K. Kameswara Rao, Sri. MV Sastri, Convener-CWS and CPF Director Ms. B. Girija Devi

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ACRONYMS

- BRC -Bio- Resource Centre
- BRLF-Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation
- BftW-Bread for the World
- CCD- Center for Collective Development
- CFR - Community Forest Rights
- CFRR - Community Forest Resource Rights
- CONARE- Conservation of Nature Through Rural Awakening
- CSO- Civil Society Organizations
- CSV- Climate Smart Village
- CWS-Centre for World Solidarity
- IFR- Individual Forest Rights
- FES-Foundation for Ecological Security
- FFS-Farmer Field School
- FPO-Farmer Producer Organization
- FRA - Forest Rights Act
- FRCs-Forest Rights Committees
- GIS- Geographical Information System
- GPS-Global Positioning System
- GP - Gram Panchayat
- ITDA -Integrated Tribal Development Agency
- JFM-Joint Forest Management
- MFP - Minor Forest Produce
- MGNREGS - Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
- NABARD -National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- NGO- Non-Government Organization
- NIRD & PR- National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj
- NTFP- Non-Timber Forest Products
- NRM - Natural Resource Management
- PRA- Participatory Rural Appraisal
- PVTG- Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups
- RDT-Rural Development Trust
- SDLC -Sub-Divisional Level Committee
- SERP- Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty
- SHG -Self Help Group
- SMC - Soil Moisture Conservation
- SNRM-Sustainable Natural Resource Management
- ST-Scheduled Tribes
- TWD- Tribal Welfare Department
- ToT- Training of Trainers
- TFSC-Tribal Farmer Service Centre
- VCG -Village Coordination Groups
- WASSAN-Watershed Support Services and Activities Network
- WSD-Watershed Development



I. ABOUT CPF

In the backdrop of Forest Policy 1988, paving the way for communities participation in forest conservation and management, Centre for People's Forestry (CPF) was initiated in 2002 to work with forest communities to facilitate entitlements and better implementation of forest policies.

Vision

Marginalized group (Women, Tribal, and Dalits) from the forest and rural communities sustainably manage resources, conserving biodiversity and securing livelihoods

Mission

Building capacities, diversifying skills, and enhancing livelihoods for marginalized forest and rural communities.

Thematic Focus



Rights and Entitlements



Action Research and Policy Advocacy



Participatory SNRM and Livelihoods



Adaptation to Climate Change

Board of Trustees

Dr. K. Kameswara Rao, Managing Trustee, Retd. Professor, Environmental Science, Andhra University

Dr. Urmila Pingle, Medical Anthropologist

Dr. Sheela Prasad, Retd. Professor, Urban and Regional Geography, Hyderabad Central University (HCU)

Mr. Sanjay Upadhyay, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India

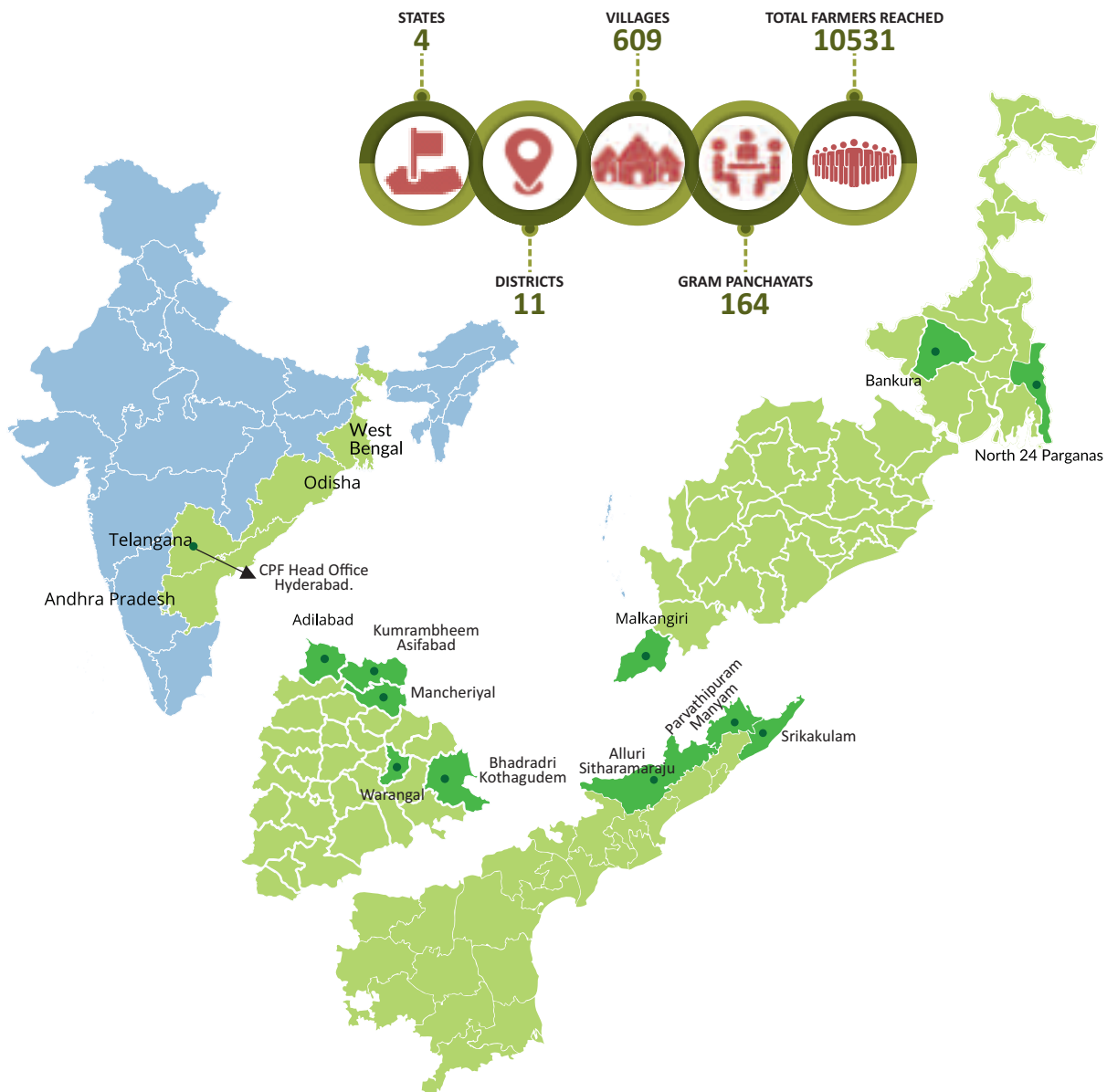
Dr. N.H. Ravindranath, Retd. Professor, Indian Institute of Science (IISC), Bangalore

Dr. Manmohan Yadav, Professor, Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal

Ms. A. Kalamani, Lead Consultant, APMAS & APPI

Ms. B. Girija Devi, Ex-Officio Secretary & Director, CPF

OPERATIONAL AREA



State	No. of Districts	Blocks	Gram Panchayat	No. of Villages
Telangana	Adilabad, Asifabad, Warangal, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Mancheriyal	24	156	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adilabad – 144 Asifabad – 175 Warangal – 35 Bhadrachalam – 7 Mancheriyal – 25 Total – 386 Villages
Andhra Pradesh	Alluri Sitharamaraju (ASR), Parvathipuram Manyam, Srikakulam	5	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASR – 55 Manyam – 25 Srikakulam – 55 Total – 135 Villages
West Bengal	Bankura and North 24 Parganas	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bankura – 25 North 24 Parganas – 12 Total – 37 Villages
Odisha	Malkangiri	2	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Malkangiri – 51
4 States	11 Districts	34	178	609 Villages

AT A GLANCE

2023 - 2024 IMPACT

492
Community Institutions
Strengthened

253 VCGs
239 TFSCs



934
Access to Individual Entitlements

107
Community Needs

179
PVTG Villages CFR claim
facilitation initiated

10,531
Farmers adapted
Agro-Ecological
Practices



50.44 lakh litres
of Additional Water
Storage
through 15 check Dams
2 Percolation
Tanks Desilting



II. FOREST COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

1. Rights and Entitlements

Recognizing tenure rights on forest land to the Adivasis and other forest dwellers not only secures their right to livelihoods but also effectively conserve forest resources. CPF has been working on securing the Community Forest Resource (CFR) Rights and Individual Forest Rights (IFR) since 2008.

Community Forest Resource Rights

CPF facilitated the submission of 42 Community Forest Resources (CFR)

claims in Tiryani Mandal previous year but no claims were realized. In this phase the Tribal Welfare Department expanded the project to all the 579 PVTG villages across Telangana and roped in other partners to implement the program. During the pilot phase, it was realized that awareness about the FRA and CFR claim process needed to be built among key line departments, including Rural/SERP, PRI, Forest, and Revenue. Consequently, the Tribal Welfare Department decided to involve these departments in implementing CFR claims.

The Project expansion agreement between BRLF and CPF was for 179 PVTG villages across 2 ITDAs Uttoor and Bhadradi Kothagudem covering 3 districts of Asifabad, Mancherial, and Bhadradi Kothagudem in Telangana for the period October 2023 to March 2025.

Interventions in CFR

- A State level Planning and Capacity building workshop was organised by BRLF and Tribal Welfare Department with all the PO ITDAs, line departments, implementing NGOs and facilitated by Knowledge Partner ATREE between 29th-30th September 2023.
- Two more workshops were conducted by PO - ITDAs at Uttoor on 16th October 2024 and on 18th October 2023 at Bhadradi Kothagudem
- To capacitate new partners CONARE and RDT, CPF and CCD facilitated a workshop in Achampet from 23 - 24th November 2023. To further provide handholding support to the team of RDT, CPF conducted a two-day workshop from 31st January to 1st February 2024.



- Three-day workshop was conducted from 10th-12th January 24 to develop Standard Operating Procedures and develop manuals on FRA implementation for all the stakeholders. CPF shared the resource material developed on CFR claim process in regional language with the BRLF team.

KB Asifabad District, Telangana

The team did a survey of villages and identified 179 villages having potential forest area out of 184 villages in 3 districts of Asifabad, Mancherial, and Bhadradi Kothagudem. Our project teams have re-established the relationship with Forest Department and some interventions have been initiated jointly.

Due to election code the project faced hurdles in implementation

- CPF facilitated 12 CFR claims preparation.
- 12 Forest Rights Committee formed
- Capacitated 150 FRC members and Patels on CFR.

Lobbying for CFR Claim Titles

In Asifabad and Adilabad project location the Sarmedis, Community and Traditional leaders have given representation on pending CFR claims to political representatives, Members of SC/ST Commission, Ministers, and also met the then CM Mr. Chandrasekhar



CSOs Working Group on Community Forest Rights in Telangana

In Telangana most of the Civil Society Organisations working for forest dependent communities felt the need to have a state level network to lobby for CFR claims.

In Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Odisha civil society organizations along with forest dependent communities were able to lobby and realize CFR claims in significant numbers.

- To lobby better with government and strengthen CSO's involvement in CFR, CPF took lead in initiating CSO's Working Group in Telangana. Dhaatri Trust, Makaam, WASSAN, Foundation for Ecological Security (FES), Centre for World Solidarity (CWS), ATREE are some of key NGOs who joined in these deliberations.
- Few meetings were held to understand the MOTA guidelines on CFR implementation and how in other states CFR claims and management plans are being operationalized.
- Proposal to map the potential CFR was submitted jointly by CSOs to Tribal Welfare Department, Telangana as per the MOTA directions.

Exposure Visit on Community Forest Rights to RCDC and Vasundhara in Odisha

- CPF team (25 members) visited Vasundhara and Regional Centre for Development Cooperation (RCDC) between 23rd-24th August 2023.
- The team has gained insights on the role of forest dependent communities and CSOs on prioritizing CFR by the Government of Odisha, after visiting of Jamubani, Mayurbhanj district & Gunduribadi, Nayagarh district and interacting with the teams. The State allocated a budget of Rs. 38.76 crores for its implementation on institutional mechanism and campaigns.
- The team also learnt how RCDC facilitated the conversion of forest village to revenue village and how communities received habitat rights in Jamubani village of Mayurbhanj. Vasundhara's role in advocacy campaigns for CFR rights and allocation of funds for CFR implementation in Odisha.

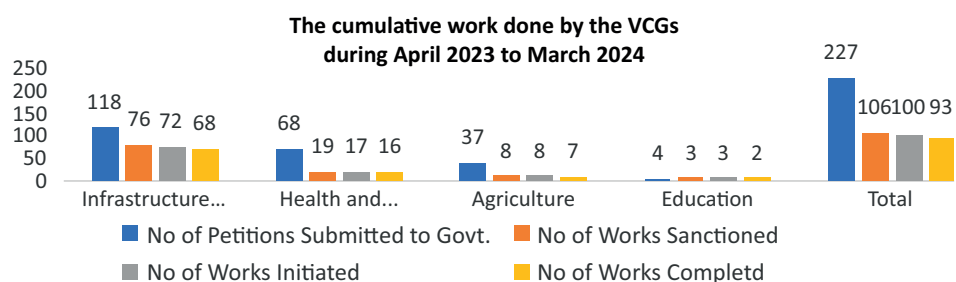
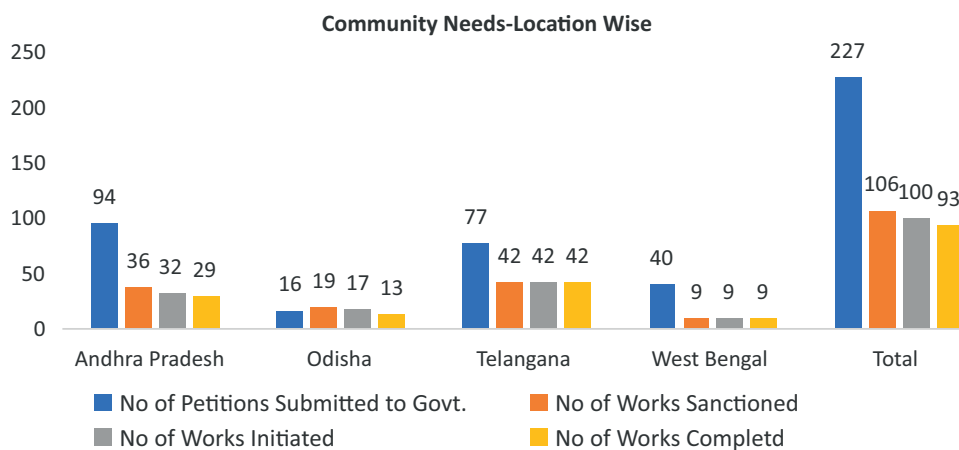
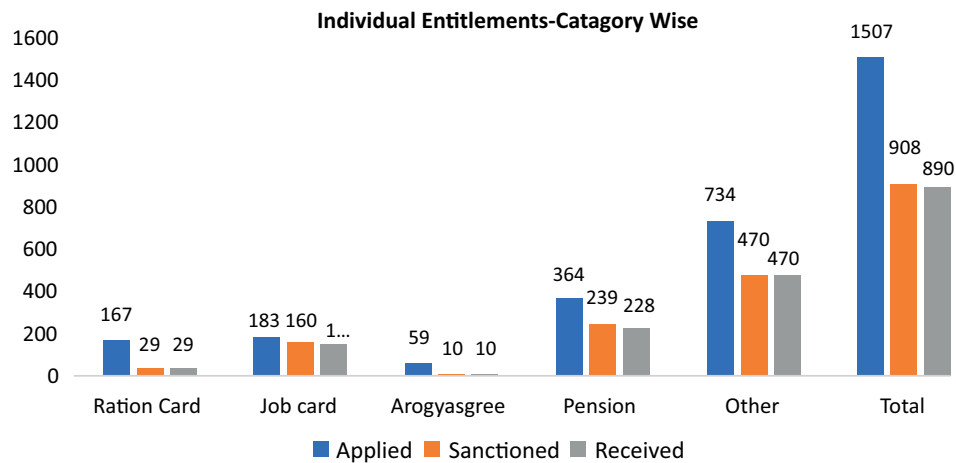


Access to Rights and Entitlements

Access to entitlements for communities are facilitated by the Village Coordination Groups (VCG)s. CPF works to capacitate the VCGs for accessing their rights.

This year was the closure of the BfTW and APPI project grant cycle which resulted in the culmination of efforts of VCGs bearing fruition, a large number of petitions got sanctioned.

- Out of 1525 Individual Entitlements applied, 934 were sanctioned. Out of sanctioned petitions the highest was for Pensions i.e. 239 (26%) followed by Job Cards 160 (17%)
- Out of the 230 Community needs petitions applied, 107 were sanctioned and the leveraged amount was Rs. 7.04 crores. Out of sanctioned petitions the highest was for Infrastructure Development 76 (33%) which mainly comprised of CC and BT roads.
- 934 farmers from 253 VCG were capacitated through 43 trainings and 28 new VCGs established in Adilabad in Project period
- 773 IFR / RoFR titles were sanctioned in all project areas (Adilabad-29, Tiryani-316,Utnoor-360, Pathapatnam & Paderu - 40, Malkangri - 28,)





CC Road constructed at Boyermari Gram Panchayat in Sandeshkhali I Mandal, 24 Parganas through VCG efforts



After CC Road constructed

Sprinkler of Joy

Teleraï village with 150 households is connected with spring water sources and a canal constructed under the Micro lift irrigation system which passes through the village. But few farmers /households on one side of canal are getting benefits and leaving 33 households without irrigation facilities. They can irrigate their lands if they can connect their fields with spring waters. They discussed about their problem with the Horticulture Department officials who were distributing Jowar and other millet seeds for promotion. They petitioned to the ITDA through VCG for the support in acquiring the sprinklers in December 2022.

Each set of sprinkler pipes cost around Rs. 12,000, a sum far beyond the reach of most farmers in the village. They applied for the Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) and under the Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) scheme, which focuses on enhancing water use efficiency through micro-irrigation systems like drip and sprinkler irrigation. The ITDA procured the necessary water sprinkler pipes from the Horticulture Department, covering the cost of Rs. 12,000 for each of the 33 farmers' share—a total of Rs. 396,000.

Upon approval, the Water Sprinkler Pipe kits—each including a 20 ft pipe, timer/controller, valve, and sprinkler head were distributed to 33 farmers. They received these units October 2023. They are able to irrigate 65 acres of land and able to grow a variety of food crops even during Rabi season

Se jala sprinkler pipe mane amara khetraku unnati karibaku sahajya karichi, pratyeka jala bindure ame asha dekhu." The Water Sprinkler pipes have helped our fields thrive, and we see hope in every drop of water."
—Singa Madkami



Kothabu village 's 70 years struggle for road connectivity ends with construction of Bituminous Road

Kothabu Village, in (Gabbangi Gram panchayat, Paderu Block) in Alluri Sitaramaraju District in Andhra Pradesh is home to 110 people from 35 families of the Kondadora community (PVTG).

In Kothabu village, lack of roads caused hardship for people residing in the village especially pregnant women and health emergency patients to reach hospital. The community has been demanding a road for decades, but government intervention has been delayed. In 2018, a Village Coordination Group was formed to address the issue, with guidance from the CPF team, and a new application was submitted.

In 2019, a temporary mud road was built which again got damaged during rains! The Bituminous Road application was also stalled due to change of government.

In 2022 again the VCG submitted a fresh application to the Gram Panchayat Secretary and to the District Collector. Since then, every month follow up was done by VCG and finally in February 2023 the officials from the Government department and engineers visited the site and after an audit inspection released the amount of Rs. 80 lakhs to Panchayat Raj Institution for construction of the road. On December 23 the construction was completed. The road is around 2 kms and it connects Gadivalasa main road to Via Kothabu, Kuridimetta.

The construction of BT road in a village provided relief to its residents and adjacent villages. It enabled farmers to transport locally produced goods efficiently, increasing income and providing easy access to healthcare and education services. This reduced travel time, reducing isolation and promoting community growth and inclusion.

The BT road was open to the public in the village and this construction of BT road not only brought relief to people of this village but adjacent 4 village people also reaped the benefit of this effort.



Restoring Wellness through Well repair and maintenance

Maluva village in (Maluva Gram panchayat, Saravkota Block in Srikakulam District in Andhra Pradesh) is home to Savara tribe (PVTG) for around 210 people from 36 families. The village was facing water scarcity due to a damaged well for the past two years.

Women faced more hardship as they not only had to spend more hours in treating the polluted water and their health got affected due to menstrual /gender specific needs. Despite their efforts government intervention was delayed.

The Village Coordination Group was formed in 2021. The members took up the issue with guidance from the CPF team and did continuous follow up with the officials at Sachivalayam, Panchayat Secretary, Sarpanch of the Gram Panchayat and officials from ITDA. In October 2023 Panchayat Secretary and Assistant Engineer from ITDA department visited the village and released the amount of Rs. 1.3 lakhs to the Village Secretary for the construction of well wall, finishing work and platform. By November 2023 the construction was completed.

The villagers are utilising the water from the well for their daily routines.

Sunnapuram Seethamma says " we are drinking safe water and my drudgery got reduced"



2. Action Research and Policy Advocacy

CPF undertakes Action Research to diagnose the problem and take appropriate action to address the same.

In West Bengal, a scoping study on Market Supply Chain in relation to few Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP) -Sal leaves (*Shorea robusta*) and Mahua (*Madhuca longifolia*) was undertaken in 25 project villages of Bankura District. On an average each family household earns Rs. 2,340 per month. The major markets in West Bengal are Bankura, Jhargram, Purulia and Mayurbhanj Odisha

The trade of Sal leaves marketing is unorganized and is controlled by the Middlemen. They collect the leaf plates from the tribal communities (Primary collectors) and sell them in the urban markets.

Most of the profits are taken by the middlemen with little earnings for the primary collectors and any attempt to break the nexus is resisted strongly.

As a strategy CPF is planning to build capacities of local communities in marketing by supporting them with 2 units of Sal Leaf Plate Making Machines.



3. Participatory SNRM and Livelihoods

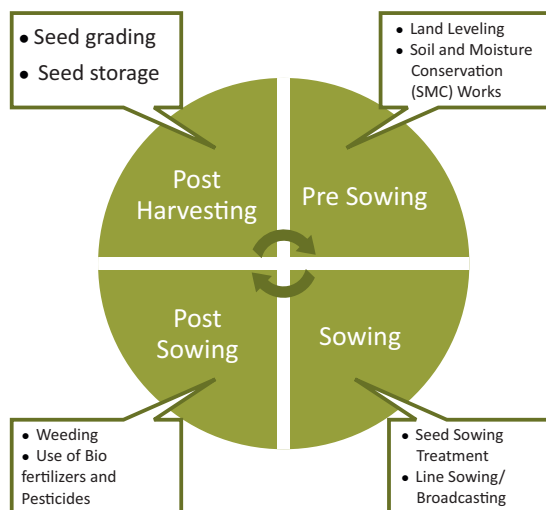
For regeneration of eco-system and livelihood security, the management of natural resources by communities living in around forests is crucial. CPF focuses on promoting Agro-ecological practices and crop diversification, water resources development to achieve this. Desiltation of tanks/ponds, repair and maintenance of soil moisture conservation structures are promoted with NREGS convergence, minimal project support and community contributions.

CPF promotes sustainable agriculture by encouraging the adoption of agro-ecological practices and diversified food crop cultivation on at least one acre of their revenue or IFR land.

Crop diversification involves the cultivation of at least three categories of food crops from pulses, cereals, millets, and vegetables which enhances food variety, soil health and resilience in farmers.

8 Stages of Agro-ecological Practices

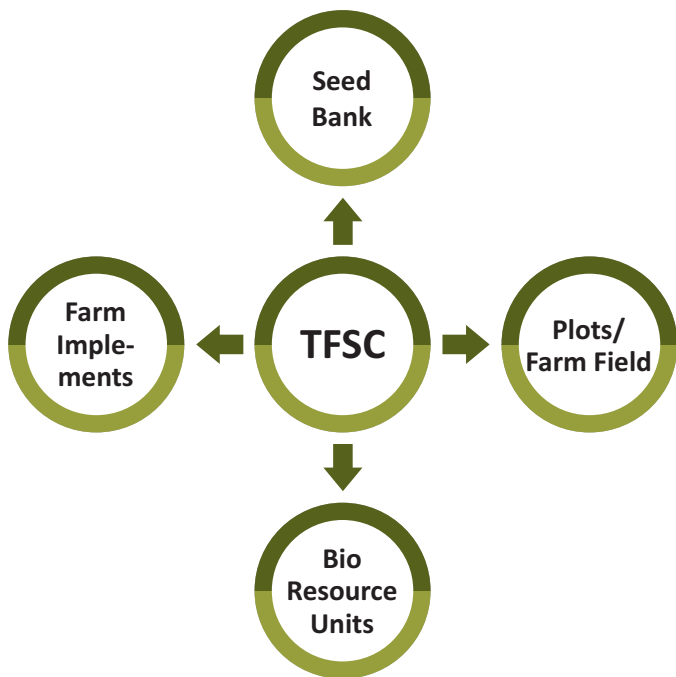
A farmer is considered to be following agro-ecological practices and crop diversification if the farmer cultivates 3 or more categories of food crops and any 6 of the agro-ecological practices.



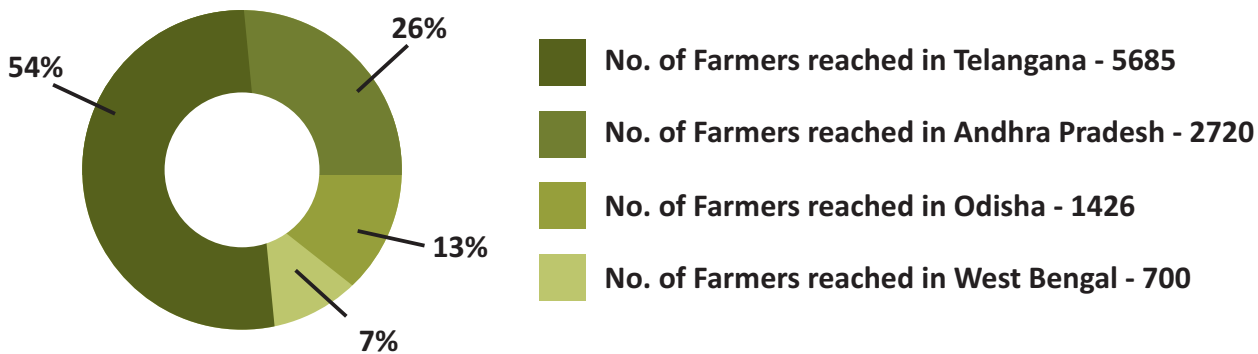
The agro-ecological practices are being promoted through Tribal Farmer Service Centre in which all the farmers in the village are members. With 10-12 farmers Tribal Farmer Service Centre Committee is formed and they manage farm implements, transfer the knowledge regarding the agro-ecological practices, restoration and revival of SMCs, farm field schools and seed bank establishment.



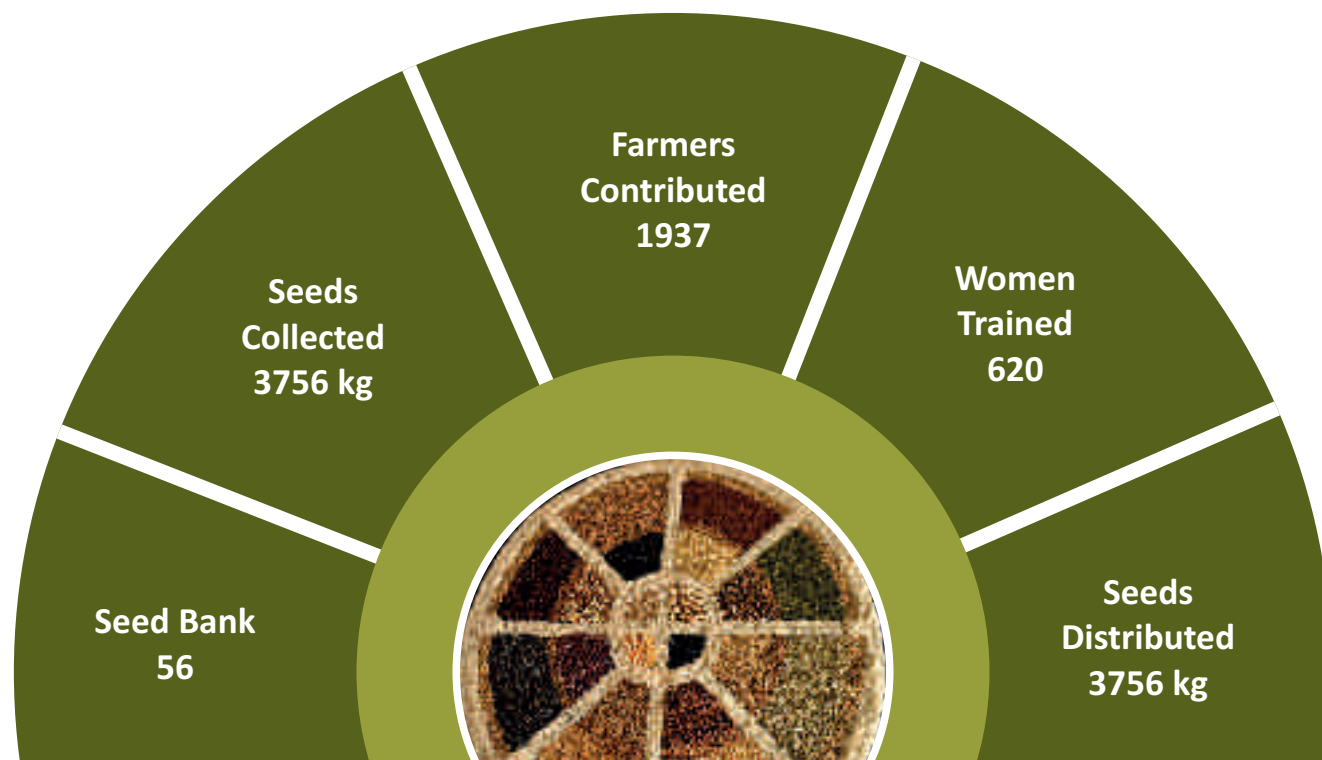
Tribal Farmers Service Centre (TFSC) Services



State Wise Distribution of Farmers



Indigenous Seed Promotion



SOIL AND MOISTURE CONSERVATION (SMC) WORKS REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

SMC repair and maintenance is pivotal in restoring condition of soil health and water. By spending minimal amount and through community contribution lot of these structures are repaired resulting in better irrigation for crops and improving soil's health.

- 50.44 lakhs litres of additional water storage and 151 acres of land brought under critical irrigation through 15 check dams, 2 Farm ponds, 2 Loosed Boulders and 2 Percolation tanks.
- 710 farmers were capacitated through 50 trainings in SMC



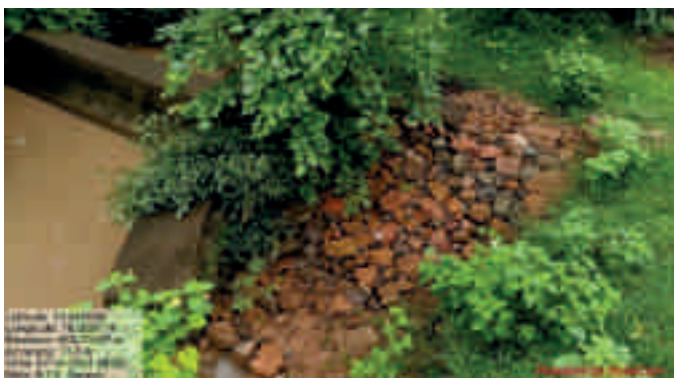
Timely Intervention with low cost restores Check Dam

The check dam below at Ghanpur Village in Utnoor mandal was constructed in 2008 under the DPAP program. Due to silt buildup and heavy rains, the left side wall and core wall of the dam were severely damaged, resulting in water run-off. Villagers relied on the dam for critical irrigation and drinking water for their animals. The CPF team visited the dam and planned for the repairs. Cement and concrete repair estimates were too expensive, costing around 60 to 70 thousand rupees. Instead, a low-cost estimate using 225 mm rough stones and 40 mm stones to fill the gaps was proposed, totaling only Rs.15,000 for material, labour and transportation costs. This rainy season the water level in the check dam is gradually increasing, the dam is expected to store approximately 1 lakh litres of water and prevent soil erosion. This will help 6-7 farmers or 10 acres of land for critical irrigation and drinking water for animals.

Before



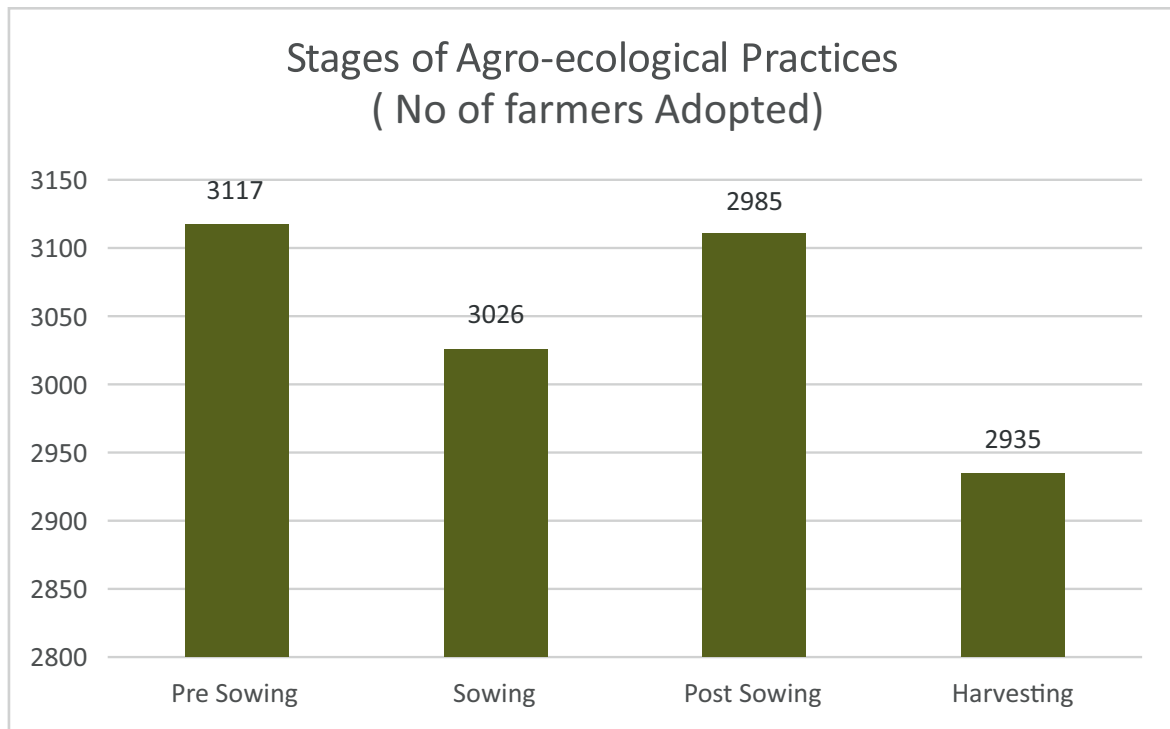
After



Agro-Ecological Practices

Monocropping limits the microflora of soil, makes crops vulnerable to the diseases and pests and it imposes economical risk to the farmer. Extensive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides affects the soil health.

CPF promotes crop diversification through traditional farming practices such as multi-cropping and inter-cropping and use of Bio-pesticides, Jeevaamrutum Bio-fertilizers, Ganajeevaamrutam, and farmyard manure.



3026 farmers have adapted crop diversification. The graph illustrates the number of farmers adopting different stages of agro-ecological practices: pre-sowing (3117), sowing (7,069), post sowing (2,985) and post-harvesting (2,935).

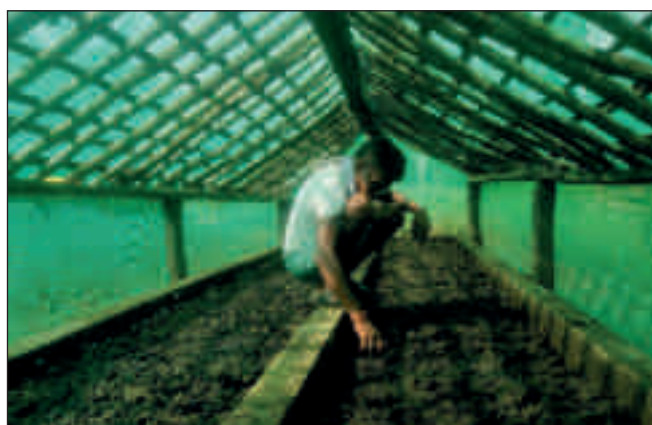


Tekam Lasma and Jamuna Bai, a Kolam family's journey towards Sustainable Agriculture

Tekam Laxman (50) and Jamuna Bai (38) are farmers from Kolamguda/GR-nagar village in Utnoor Mandal. They had 9.8 acres of RoFR lands which is partially red, black and loamy soil with small stones and boulders, not very conducive for agriculture. They were cultivating monocrop cotton in their land with high expenses and low income affecting their food security. But their risk-taking ability, hardworking nature, and progressive thinking had set them apart. It paved the way for better living and shift towards sustainable agriculture. Their continuous association with Centre for People's Forestry for more than a decade helped them in gaining knowledge and technical support required.

In 2012, when CPF initiated the Horticulture (Mango and Amla) plantation in that area, majority of the farmers were not showing interest to shift from cotton as they were not sure of the survival of mango plantation in that area (earlier experience of failed interventions from government and CSO's). Lasma and Jamuna bai were amongst the first farmers who initiated Mango plantation in their 3-acre RoFR lands. Lasma and Jamuna have three children, 2 daughters and one son. Elder daughter is married, Harika (20, studied up to 9th class) and Arjun (18, studying Intermediate) does agriculture work. All the family members are very hardworking and engage in the agricultural operations together and very rarely hire any outsiders/farmers even for the intensive seasonal works.

Lasma and his family have constructed 300 RMT stone bunding across the slope in their field. They gathered these stones from their field and nearby hills. They worked almost 1 month and it would have costed around Rs.3,60,000. He is skilled labour because of his engagement in NREGS work and constructed this bunding on his own. This has prevented soil erosion and part protection from wild boars.



From the third year onwards (2015) mango plants bore fruition and as on date they are able to earn between Rs. 1 lakh to Rs.1.2 lakh from their mango crops. In 2016 they joined CPF's focused intervention on crop diversification and use of bio fertilisers and pesticides. He prepares bio manure through vermi compost unit (which was supported by NABARD) and uses bio pesticides like Neemasthrum and Ghanajeevaamrutham to control the pests. They are growing cereals (wheat, rice, Jowar) pulses (Red gram, Black gram, Green gram) and vegetables (Tomato, brinjal, bhindi, carrots, ridge gourd, onions, methi, coriander, chillies, turmeric)

Their progressive thinking helped them in installing Bio gas unit. SKG company gave the unit costs freely (Rs.40,000) they did the labour work for installation and are using it regularly without any inhibitions. Lasma and Jamunabai, who originally grew cotton on 9.8 acres of RoFR land in 2012, are now cultivating cotton on just 3 acres and in rest 6 acres they are growing Mango and food crops paving way for resilient and sustainable agriculture.

Community Seed Bank in Parajaguda, Malkangiri, Odisha

Samara Sisa (65) belongs to Parajaguda village (Kalimela block, Malkangiri, Odisha), Paraja and Kuye are the predominant tribes with 27 households and total population of 130. Samara Sisa is a worried farmer. He has been facing challenges in procuring quality seeds and has experienced a gradual decline in agricultural produce. He had been exploring alternate ways of managing seeds and trying to find out how to increase produce.

CPF has initiated dialogue in the village about preserving seeds and promote them through seedbank. Trainings and exposure visits were organized on Seed Bank. The farmers were taken to the Agro-ecological Centre, Chittrakonda. Samara Sisa understood the importance of seed bank preservation, seed collection, storage, and documentation during the training. With the committed farmers like Samara Sisa the Seed bank came into existence in Parajaguda. They are maintaining 11 varieties of seeds in their bank. Techniques like drying, cleaning, and treatment of seeds were done to maintain their standards and quality.

Seed bank holds seeds of Millet like Ragi and Fox tail, Pulses like Black Gram and Green gram, Paddy like Kala Jeera, Kalabati, Kalamuni, and vegetables seeds like Brinjal, Tomato, Chilli, Beans, Cowpea, Pumpkin. Currently the seed bank houses 600 kg of seeds, and has benefitted 27 households from Parajaguda village and 23 households in Kuyengutta village. He is very happy to reconnect with traditional practices, recalling the experiences and knowledge his grandfather shared with him.



4. Adaptation to Climate Change

CPF has been promoting climate-resilient agricultural practices through promotion of agro-ecological practices and crop diversification.

During the reporting period CPF team and communities attended following trainings in Adaptation to climate change

- Two members attended a 4-day workshop of Climate Risk Assessment in Bangalore from 26th to 29th November 2023.
- Four members attended a 5-day workshop for team and communities on PACDR (Participatory Assessment of Climate Change and Disaster Risks) from 17th -22nd March 2024 which was facilitated by Mr. Deepak Sharma to understand the climate change on various crops and forests. The participants gained insights on utilizing village profile, resource maps and hazard matrix rankings to assess and prioritize major hazards and their impacts on livelihoods.
- Post training the team prepared village profile on Climate condition, the trained team is educating farmers in the PACDR methodology.



Building Resilience through Horticulture and Intercropping

The promotion of horticulture in Tiryani posed several challenges due to the difficult agro-climatic condition and poor communication facilities. After three years of plantation drives for the first time in 30 wadis mango trees borne fruit and farmers got motivated to protect plants.



- To boost productivity and resilience, intercropping and crop diversification with pulses, millets and vegetables were promoted. To manage pests, fungi, and borers, farmers were trained to use bio-pesticides like neem oil, neem cake and copper oxychloride (COC). These measures not only enhance crop yields but also contribute to sustainable agricultural practices in the face of climate change.
- Four open wells were constructed and connected with eight diesel engines. 13 watering pipes were distributed, benefiting 13 acres of land with critical irrigation.
- 24 milch animals were given to poor/landless / single women headed households. A veterinary camp was held in Ginnedhari, addressing crossbreeding and animal insurance.
- 70 women were trained on tailoring for a 45 days duration linking to potential livelihood.



Adivasi Education Project

The Adivasi Education Project strives to preserve, celebrate, and share the values of tribal culture and traditions, highlighting their deep connection with forests and natural resources. The initiative engages tribal elders, youth, women, and children through dialogues on how tribal culture shapes their values and worldview. Additionally, it promotes cultural practices that support the conservation of forests and natural resources, particularly in the face of climate change.

Theatre Workshop for Tribal Youth

A theater workshop on tribal culture and traditions, led by Théâtre activist, Mr. Shanta Rao trained 43 tribal youth (7 F & 36 M) on theatre skills.

Over 150 people from 5 villages joined in Traditional celebration in Iskali village.



Bolengamma Talli Adivasi Traditional Centre

Vanjangi hillock adjoining Vanjangi village in recent years has become a tourist hotspot for its beautiful landscape and white fluffy clouds touching the peaks of the hill. The tribals who live here have their sacred groves on the hillock and they worship them by climbing the hillock barefoot. Cashing on the influx of tourists, commercial tin sheds in vast areas have been constructed by the outsiders disregarding the environment concerns. The Center for People's Forestry, has been working for preservation of tribal culture through school children and youth in this area.

Anganaini Shanthakumari, a tribal woman from Vanjangi village said to the CPF team that, "I am disturbed with the tourists, throwing plastic bottles and other waste all over the place and showing disregard to our sacred space." This was echoed by other community members and CPF held several discussions with the community on how best to address this issue. The concept of Adivasi Cultural Knowledge Centre emerged from these consultations and discussions. It was agreed upon that there is a need to engage with the young tourists and college students who can be educated about the cultural practices and knowledge of tribals and their living.



This Centre has artifacts of Tribal musical instruments, agriculture implements and their crops, hunting equipment, traditional utensils, forest produce, and herbal plants is on display with community ownership. The centre was made with mud, bamboo, wood and grass as per the tribal traditions. The land was given by Anganaini Shanthakumari, 35 yrs a passionate tribal woman who wants to preserve their culture and tradition.



An eight-member Management Committee has been formed to oversee the construction and management of the centre from Vanjangi and neighboring V. Kothur village. While establishing the centre the traditional materials like grass (sabbagaffi, Koperu) bamboo, mud/lime, had to be procured from far away villages to maintain authenticity. The circular shaped mud structure was designed to ensure the overview of all the artifacts displayed. Getting these traditional mud house workers posed a challenge and finally it was found that Kodu from PVTG community settled in Vanjangi village (who migrated from other locations have these skills.



This centre is a symbol of collective identity. Intricate patterns into the walls, paintings on the inside and outside walls depicting tribal life which was collective effort from community members.

It is envisioned that this centre will become the heart of Vanjangi village where visitors and tourists will be hosted, knowledge transfer of community history and craft display with promotion of skills to the next generation will take place. Education programs like the visit of Gitam University students were facilitated to bring awareness about tribal culture amongst the youth and many more will be organized with local schools integrating cultural studies in curriculum. It will be sustained with income generation activities like promotion of tribal food/millet based food items to tourists.



Inauguration of Centre by Shri A.S. Dinesh Kumar, IAS, the District Collector of ASR District and release of two hand book "Adivasi Atavi Sampada and Adivasi Jeevana Paddathulu".

Other Activities undertaken as part of the Adivasi Education Project

- 18 project team members were capacitated on Tribal culture on 21st July 2023
- 217 tribal community members participated in six workshops on indigenous knowledge.
- 36 Adivasi Youth had an exposure visit to the Biodiversity Park in Visakhapatnam on 25th January 2024.
- 10 Adivasi youth groups received musical equipments.
- Seventeen herbal practitioners shared their knowledge on indigenous health practices from 4th-7th July 2023.
- Interacted with 36 Government teachers on inclusion of tribal culture into their curriculum on 12th September 2023.
- Interacted with 36 Government teachers on inclusion of tribal culture into their curriculum on 12th September 2023.



III. STATE REPORTS

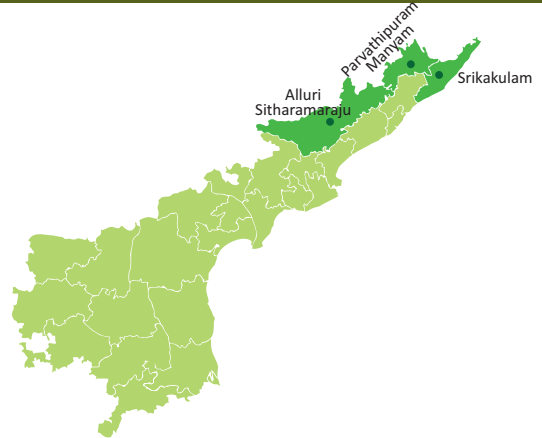
Andhra Pradesh

Districts: Srikakulam , Parvathipuram Manyam & Alluri Sitharamaraju

No. of Mandals: 4 (Paderu, Pathapatnam, Hiramandalam and Seetampetha)

No. of Villages: 77

Tribal Communities: Kodu (PVTG), Savara (PVTG), Bhagata, Valmiki, Konda Dora & Nooka Dora



Through Tribal Farmers Service Centers, CPF aims to revive natural farming practices among tribal communities by promoting agro-ecological practices and crop diversification. The Adivasi Livelihood Project focused on promoting the cultivation of millets, cereals, pulses, and vegetables using agro-ecological techniques. The individual and community needs are being resolved through the Village Coordination Groups (VCGs).

- 2720 Farmers adopted Agroecological practices and crop diversification
- 35 Community need petitions were sanctioned and the leveraged amount was Rs. 37 lakhs
- 161 Individual Entitlements got sanctioned
- 91 Farm Implements (Broom cutting machine, Diesel engine, Power sprayers, Millet pulverizer, Rice Flour mill) were given and utilized by farmers through TFSCs and collected rent was rupees 32,935.
- 7 Seed banks were established - 530 kg seed stored through contribution from 394 farmers.
- 1325 kg of food crop seeds given to 2532 farmers for promoting crop diversification.

Other Activities :

- 30 project farmers visited GITAM University and were trained on preparation of organic bio-pellets from food waste on 28th July 2023,
- Research team from Gitam University, Visakhapatnam and Coventry University, UK visited Paderu on 27th March 2024 to understand mainstreaming of Millets and Wild edible Species in Agri food ecosystem in Iskali Village, Paderu.
- Savara (PVTG) tribes Agham festival was celebrated in December
- A 4-day Gravity Irrigation Network workshop was attended by team in January 2024
- PACDR tools workshop was held in Paderu for 5 days facilitated by Mr. Deepak Sharma, where the team learnt to use tools for identifying climate change impact and affected livelihoods through baseline surveys and hazard matrix ranking.
- Inauguration of Bolengamma Talli Adivasi Traditional Centre at Vanjangi by Shri A.S. Dinesh Kumar, IAS, the District Collector of ASR District and release of two hand book "Adivasi Atavi Sampada and Adivasi Jeevana Paddathulu



Azolla Adoption in Maluva and Kommalaguda villages of Srikakulam District

In the villages of Maluva and Kommalaguda in Srikakulam District, Andhra Pradesh, the adoption of Azolla cultivation has brought change in farming practices and livelihoods. The farmers have shifted from synthetic chemicals to bio fertilizer. The villages are home to Malaya Savara tribe (PVTG) families with a total population of 232.

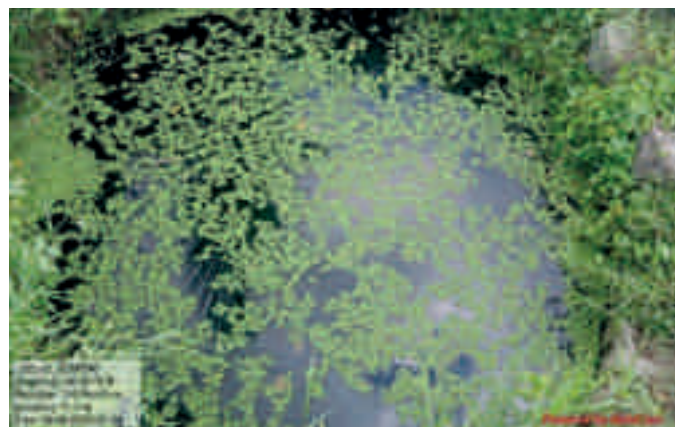
The livelihood of villagers is dependent on agriculture and paddy is the major crop. Due to high usage of synthetic chemicals in fields, soil was losing its fertility. The farmers were struggling with weeds in the paddy fields along with rising costs of labor and chemicals.

In June 2022, Kharif season farmers were trained on Azolla cultivation techniques. Azolla can be used in two ways: 1) as green manure incorporated before transplanting and 2) as an inter-crop incorporated after transplanting. About 500 kg (fresh weight) per hectare is introduced into standing water of paddy fields for both ways.

After Azolla incubation in the paddy fields, only a few farmers adopted the azolla cultivation practices. Few farmers succeeded in weed management with Azolla and the remaining farmers couldn't succeed due to less rainfall, Azolla thrives in stagnant water, otherwise its survival chances are zero. Despite challenges like irregular rainfall, 10 farmers continued with perseverance. They were able to inoculate the farm pond with azolla and it could be used for the next kharif season.

This kharif season (2023) farmers started showing interest to adopt the azolla cultivation "Seeing our neighbors' improved yields and saving in costs motivated us to adopt Azolla," remarked Savara Kamesh from Kommalaguda.

Over 25 farmers in these villages have integrated Azolla into their farming practices. They now harvest Azolla not only for its role in weed management but also as nutritious fodder for livestock and poultry. "We are thankful for helping us to solve our major agricultural challenges," expressed Savara Mahalaxmi.



Odisha

Districts: Malkangiri

No. of Mandals: 1 (Kalimela)

No. of Villages: 26

Tribal Communities: Koya and Paraja



CPF has been implementing Sustainable Livelihoods and Empowerment to Adivasi Communities in Odisha with objective of shifting farmers from paddy to pulses, millets and cereals, promoting sustainable practices and healthy farm outputs in 26 villages in Kalimela block of Malkangiri District in Odisha.

- 1426 farmers adopted Agroecological practices and crop diversification
- 9.9 lakhs liters of additional water storage through desilting of 1 Check Dam
- 16 Community need petitions were sanctioned and leveraged amount was Rs. 1.25 crores.
- 277 Individual Entitlements sanctioned (Ration card-10, Health cards-105, Pension-29 Others 133)
- 38 Farm Implements were utilized by farmers through TFSCs and collected rent was Rs. 26,965
- 5 Seed banks were established with 8 varieties of seeds being stored (2250 kg seed stored with contribution from 802 farmers)
- 1434 kg food crops seed were given to 2225 farmers for crop diversification.

Other Activities

- A mushroom unit was initiated.
- 70 quintals of Black paddy were sold to Jaivik Shri FPO benefitting 18 farmers.
- 2000 Native NTFP saplings (fruit bearing) were distributed in 7 villages
- Seedball broadcasting of Native NTFP plants was done on common and IFR lands in Saradaguda, Kodeguda, Nuaguda.



Desilting of check dam in Porjaguda village resulted in 156 acres of land getting irrigated benefitting 66 households in 2 villages

IFR (RoFR) titles in Tomguda

Tomguda, a hamlet of Telrai village in Malkangiri district inhabited by Paraja community with 33 households relying on agriculture and forest resources.

CPF facilitated the submission the IFR (RoFR) claim in 2018. The community was doing follow up but no action was taken. Again in 2021 the 32 IFR(RoFR) claims were re-submitted to the ITDA Malkangiri. The Government of Odisha had taken up a campaign Mo Jangal Mo Adhikari for better implementation of FRA in Odisha. Ex-MLA Mr. Manash Markani visited the village in 2023 because of the mounting pressure and ensure that the titles are issued. 28 families got title, 4 are pending as there is mismatch in land titles.

On an average each family received 4.5 acres of land. Out of 28 families 11 got joint pattas. They cultivate black gram, green gram, horse gram, ragi, paddy, sesame, maize. The families now been relieved.



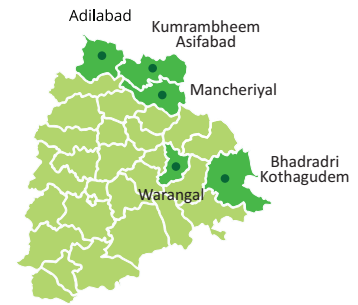
Telangana

Districts: Adilabad, Bhadrachalam, Mancherial, and KB Asifabad

No. of Mandals: 4 (Gadiguda, Bela, Utnoor and Tiryani)

No. of Villages: 163

Tribal Communities: Kolam (PVTG), Gond, Pradhan, Naikpod and Lambada



Tribal Farmers in Adilabad and Asifabad are in distress due to escalating costs of chemical cotton farming and its impact on the soil health. CPF through its project interventions is working to promote sustainable farming and crop diversification. These initiatives aim to facilitate transition of farmers from monocrop cotton to diversified crops, including pulses and cereals along with promotion of agro ecological practices to enhance their livelihoods. CPF through establishing and supporting Village Coordination Groups (VCGs) works to facilitate entitlements, social security schemes and community needs.

Impact At a Glance

- 5685 Farmers adopted Agro-ecological practices and crop diversification through 129 TFSCs.
- 40.54 Lakhs liters of water storage through desilting of 14 Check Dams
- 276 Individual entitlements got sanctioned
- 41 Communities need petitions were sanctioned leveraging Rs 1.25 crores.
- 62 Farm implements were utilized by farmers through TFSCs and collected rent was rupees 71,720/- (Flour mill, Battery sprayers, Water drums, Taiwan sprayers, Bullock daruva, Tarpaulin sheets, Mango branches cutters)
- 16 Seed banks established - 530 kg seed stored through contribution of 394 farmers.

Other Activities in Adilabad District

Interface Meeting on Crop Diversification and Natural Farming

Interface meeting with all the line departments and stakeholders was held in Utnoor, Adilabad on 18th August. PO ITDA, Horticulture officer, DDM NABARD, DD, Vijaya Diary, Principal Scientist, ARS joined the meeting and CPF shared its experience in shifting the cotton farmers to diversified crop through promotion of agro-ecological practices.

Exposure visit to DDS

30 women farmers from Utnoor, Tiryani, Bela and Gadiguda mandals went for an exposure visit to DDS Zaheerabad from 27th to 29th March 2024





Other Activities in Utnoor

- A solar dryer was established in collaboration with NABARD and LEDP (Livelihoods and Entrepreneurship Development Program) where 90 women capacitated for value addition for Amla, Tomato, and Mango
- Facilitated exposure visit of farmers from Ekalavya Foundation to CPF project villages on August 21, 2023 on Horticulture promotion and agro-ecological practices.
- Hosted 45 members from Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty Team's (SERP) including DPM and APMs of Nirmal district in July 23

Other Activities in Tiryani

Community Forest Rights claims facilitation in collaboration with the Tribal Welfare Department and BRLF was initiated in 176 PVTG villages from October 2023 in Mancherial, Asifabad and Bhadradi Districts. Some of the activities are:

- The project launch workshop with line departments like Rural Development/SERP, PRI, Revenue and Forest department was conducted in Utnoor and Bhadrachalam ITDA
- The team visited villages to identify forest coverage
- 12 FRC committee were formed and trainings were conducted
- CPF team conducted training to RDT and CWS teams on CFR claim process



Empowering Indigenous Communities through Forest Rights at Geesugonda village in KB Asifabad District

Geesugonda village is located adjacent to the Mangam Thadwa Forest, which spans 967 acres. The villagers primarily rely on Bamboo, Mahua and other non-timber forest produce (NTFPs) as additional source of income.

Athram Laxmi Bai resides with her family in Geesugonda village. She earns her livelihood by growing pulses and making baskets from bamboo. Although bamboo is abundant in the forest, the forest department restricts



large-scale collection. Villagers like Laxmi Bai are unaware of their rights, which could potentially allow them to harvest bamboo from the forest. Securing Community Forest Rights, particularly for bamboo collection, could significantly improve their lives.

CPF team has discussed the Community Forest Rights (CFR) claim process with the villagers. They informed the community that securing rights over their forest is essential, and conducted an orientation on these rights. CPF facilitated the formation of a Forest Rights Committee (FRC) during a Gram Sabha, ensuring that 50% of the members

are women. After the GPS mapping of the CFR area, the claims was submitted in May 2023.

Athram Laxmi Bai and other tribal traditional leaders like Sarmedis are advancing this agenda by engaging in dialogue with political leaders and government officials. The journey towards empowering tribal communities in Geesugonda and beyond through forest rights has begun. With significant female representation the FRC led by Athram Laxmi Bai and other tribal leaders, are actively working with stakeholders and political authorities to secure CFR claims for better living, management of forest and the conservation of their heritage.

Mixed Cropping in Natural Farming

Name: Shankar Kursange, Sonkhas

Activities:

- Silt Application
- Seed Treatment
- Crops selection: Cotton, Red gram, Black gram, Green gram, Sesame, Cowpea, Vegetables
Sowing : Cotton and Pulses are in 1:2 ratio with one row of Red gram
- Vermicompost Application
- Biopesticide spraying

Benefits of Mixed Crops

- Disease/Insect Reduction: Pulses acts as a protective shield for cotton, diminishing the incidence of diseases
- Increased Pollination: Honey presence in the field contributed to high pollination

Sr. No.	Crop Name	Yield in Kg	Income in Rs
1.	Black Gram	120	18000
2.	Green Gram	110	13200
3.	Cotton	164	12300
4.	Redgram	60	5580
5.	Vegetables	-	Self-Consumption
		TOTAL	49080

Expenditure	Income	Net Income
13800/-	49080/-	35821/-

Observation:

- The ratio for cotton to pulses shall be 2:1 so that farmers could get benefit from the cotton crop. Pulses cultivation with Jowar or Maize would be good.
- The cost of harvesting for pulses is higher.
- There is need of draught resistant varieties of pulses



West Bengal

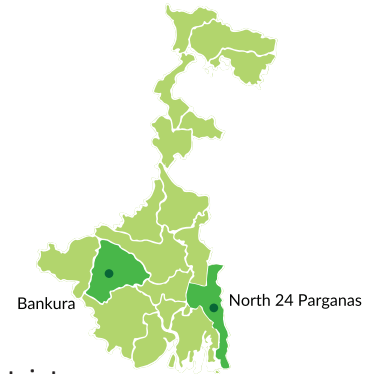
Districts: Bankura & North 24 Parganas

No. of Blocks: 2 (Ranibandh & Sandeshkhali 1)

No. of Villages: 37

Tribal Communities: Santhals

CPF has been implementing Sustainable Natural Resource Management and Enhancing Access to Entitlements program in 25 villages in Ranibandh block of Bankura district and 12 village in Sandeshkhali I and II of North 24 Parganas district



Impact At a Glance

- 700 farmers adopted Agroecological practices and crop diversification
- 520 bighas of land brought under irrigation through 3 SMC structures desilting (expenditure Rs. 4,85,850 and community contribution is Rs. 97,850)
- 8 Community needs petitions leveraging amount of Rs. 12,06,248
- 154 Individual Entitlements sanctioned (Ration card-11, Arogyashree-9, Pension-18, Others-116)
- 112 Farm implements (28 Paddle Paddy Thrasher, 28 Cono Weeder and 56 Battery weeder) through TFSCs
- 1706 kg seeds distributed to 764 farmer and 104 farmer received backyard poultry (chicks and ducks)
- 4 IFR /RFoR application petitions submitted
- Soil samples from 228 farmers tested at KVK revealed high acidity, low organic carbon, and low nitrogen. Recommendations include applying 3-3.5 quintals of lime and 3.5-4 quintals of vermicompost per bigha, along with 210 kg/ha of urea, 139 kg/ha of SSP, and 82 kg/ha of MOP.

Other Activities

- A study on the market supply chain for Sal leaves and Mahua was conducted in 25 villages of Bankura District.
- An exposure visits to KVK focusing on natural farming, soil sample tests, organic inputs like Azola and vermicompost was conducted.
- 3200 native species saplings were distributed in 25 villages given by Forest Department on the occasion of World Environment Day.

Relief provided after the Remal Cyclone

The Remal severe cyclone on May 26, 2024, caused widespread damage in Sandeshkhali I and II block, West Bengal, impacting 230 households across 8 project villages. CPF responded by distributing tarpaulin sheets to 102 households on the basis of extent of damage.



Saying No to chemical farming

Dhrubapada Sardar, an elderly Bhumji tribal farmer from Sindiran Village (Barikul Panchayat, Ranibandh Block, Bankura District, West Bengal) is a changed person and in the only farmer in the village who has shifted completely to chemical free farming in his village!

CPF started promoting agro-ecological farming in the village in 2023 and gave training to farmers on preparation of bio-pesticides. It all started with pre-kharif 2023 and most of the farmers grow pumpkins in their lands. This year farmers are in distress due to extreme heat waves and increased pest attacks. Sardar refused to use any chemical fertilizers and used only biopesticides like Jeevamrutham, Neemasthram under able guidance of the CPF team . He managed to save his crop in a better manner than other farmers who used chemical fertilizers. He strongly got convinced on chemical free farming!

In Kharif all the farmers grow Paddy in this area and use heavy chemical fertilizers. But Dhrubapada decided not to use any chemicals even for Paddy cultivation which surprised not only other farmers but also the CPF team. His yields were low but he is happy that he and his family of 6 are able to eat rice without chemicals. In this Ranibandh block farmers do not grow any lentils and purchase it from markets. CPF decided to promote lentils and other vegetable crops in the Rabi season. Dhrubapada became a progressive farmer and has decided to grow Bengal gram and Mustard and he has used bio-pesticides only for these crops too! The steely determination makes him a model farmer and CPF is quite positive that many other farmers from the village will shift to chemical free natural farming in this village!

Johar Johar Dhrubupada Sardar!!



Renovation of Beratung Purnapani Tribal Village Pond:

The watershed structure due to lack of maintenance has resulted in drying of the pond. The community came forward to repair the structure through Sharmandan and financial contribution

Total Expenses : Rs. 1,64, 350

Project Budget : Rs. 1,29, 500

Community Contribution : Rs. 34, 850

Impact:

- More than 25 families have benefited from these water bodies, covering about 200 bighas of land.
- Apart from agricultural purposes, they use the water for household chore, livestock and fishery.
- Also helps to recharge the aquifers as the water from the ponds slowly percolates into the ground.



IV. STAFF TRAININGS AND EXPOSURE VISITS

Trainings, Certificate Courses and Exposure visits by CPF team

- 25 members visited Vasundhara and Regional Centre for Development Cooperation (RCDC), Odisha on Community Forest Rights (23rd-24th August, 2023)
- Climate Risk Assessment workshop Bangalore, (26th to 29th November, 2023)
- Cone Pit Biochar Preparation, Nagpur (31st Aug-2nd September, 2023)
- Training on Watershed by WASSAN at Tiryani (5th-6th October, 2024)
- Training on Assessing Malnutrition by WASSAN at Pargi, Vikarabad District (1st-4th December, 2024)
- Training on Gravity Irrigation, at Paderu (8th-10th January, 2024)
- FRA documentation training (10-12th January, 2024)
- Visual Documentation for all team by Mr. Farhatullah Beig (7th February, 2024)
- Participatory Assessment of Climate change, Disaster and Risk Management (PACDR) Tools, attended by four members at Paderu (18-22 February, 2024)
- Envisioning and Repositioning the Rainfed Livestock Network meeting at Bangalore (29th February-1st March, 2024)
- High Density Plantation system of Cotton, at Goa (21st-23rd March, 2024)
- A three months Certificate Course on Quantitative Tools in research was completed by four CPF team at Azim Premji University, Bangalore.
- Six-day certification course on Organic Farm & Business Facilitator was attended by seven team members at Krishna Sudha Academy for Agroecology, Nuzividu, Vijayawada (22nd -27th May, 2024)
- Exposure visit to DDS Zaheerabad by 5 team members (26th -29th March, 2024)
- Documentation and Impact Assessment workshop was attended by 10 team members at IIFM Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal (28th-31st May, 2024)



CPF field visited by Government Officials, Donors and Civil Society Organizations

- Smt. Chinthala Sushila, CGM NABARD joined the valedictory of LEDP program and distributed the certificates to the trainees in Utnoor mandal, Adilabad District on 5th September 2023.
- UNDP/FAO officials visited CPF office and interacted with farmers at Pitlaguda, Utnoor. (27th - 28th February 2024)
- Research team from Gitam University, Visakhapatnam and Coventry University, UK visited Paderu on 27th March 2024 to understand mainstreaming of Millets and Wild edible Species in Agri food ecosystem in Iskali Village, Paderu.
- Smt. Chahath Bajpai IAS, PO, ITDA visited our field area and interacted with 20 farmers in Kolamguda, G R Nagar, Gondguda villages in Utnoor.
- Law Students and Professor from Damodara Sanjeevayya National Law University visited Kandringipadu village, Paderu.
- Additional Project Director of ITDA visited Cashew unit in Mamidijola village, Srikakulam District.
- Assistant Horticulture Officer visited Mushroom unit in Kondelguda village, Kalimela Block, Odisha.
- Block Program Manager from Odisha Livelihood Mission visited Kondelguda village, Kalimela Block, Odisha.
- Mr. Veerabhadru, DDM NABARD, KB Asifabad visited Tiryani project on 23/6/2023, 29/12/2024, 20/3/2024, 25/6/2024 and 6/7/2024.
- Mr. Salman Khan, RO NABARD, Head Office, visited Tiryani on 20/10/2023 and 20/3/2024.
- Ms. Jankee Koranga, Program Executive, BRLF visited Tiryani in KB Asifabad District in Telangana on 21/3/2024.
- Mr. Shantanu Gaikwad, Implementation Coordinator, BCI and other team from BCI did the Due Diligence visits between February -March 2024.
- Mr. Brajesh Dubey and Mr. Srihari from FES visited CPF from 16th -17th April 2024.
- Ms. Paromita Chowdhury from OAK Foundation visited Ranibandh block, Bankura District in West Bengal on 15th May 2024.
- Mr. A.V.O Anivarth, Law student from Damodara Sanjeevayya National Law University did his internship with CPF in December 2023.





Youth Eco-Feminist Community Action Course

Four Young Tribal women- Mesaram Suguna, Mesram Ratnamala, Naineni Laxmi, Pendoor. Deepalaxmi from Adilabad District completed the ten-month residential program on “Youth Eco-Feminist Community Action Course” organised by Dhaatri Trust. The course was designed to enable a space for youth, through a learning-cum-praxis experience. Themes covered were social structures of Caste, Gender, Indigeneity, Deconstructing Gender, Forests and Governance, Women’s role in Agrarian Economics, Women’s leadership, Community Action and Culture and Knowledge.

The team had visited Adivasi Ekta Parishad, Gujrat, Amhi Amchya Arogyasathi, Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, Sakhi, Vijayanagara, Karnataka, Keystone Foundation, Kotagiri, Tamil Nadu, Aranya and Deccan Development Society, Zaheerabad, Telangana, Palle Srujana, MV Foundation, Safe Foundation, Hyderabad, Telangana. The 4 women expressed that they gained invaluable exposure to various community action strategies and work on reducing gender disparity.



**“I didn’t know how the outside world was. Now that I have seen it, I want to educate myself and do something for my community” -
Mesram Suguna, Gond Community, Telangana**

V. ONGOING PROJECTS

Project Title	Resource Agency	Project Duration
Better Cotton Initiatives in Adilabad and Warangal districts of Telangana	Growth and Innovation Fund – Better Cotton	April 2024 to March 2027
Ecological and agricultural restoration for food security and climate adaptation amongst Adivasi (Indigenous) Communities in 4 districts across 3 states of India.”	Bread for the World	April 2024 to March 2027
Enhancing and sustaining returns from agriculture and enabling access to entitlements for tribal communities (Gond, Kolam (PVTG), Naikpod) in Telangana	Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives	September 2023 to August 2026
Support tribal and other vulnerable communities to improve their livelihoods and social security in West Bengal	Oak Foundation	April 2022 to March 2026
Strengthening CFR rights implementation in Telangana State in partnership with Commissioner, Tribal Welfare Department, Govt of Telangana	Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation	October 2023 to March 2025
Integrated Tribal Development Programme for Tiryani Mandal of Kumurambheem district in Telangana State	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development	March 2020 to February 2025

VI. Statutory and Legal Compliances

- 2002 : CPF registered under Indian Trust Act 1882 on 6th August, 2002
- 2003 : Registration under 12A (a) of the I.T. Act, 1961
- 2006 : Registration under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 1976
- 2021 : FCRA renewed up to December 2026
- 2021 - CPF has an sexual harassment policy and with ICC in place
- 2022 : 12A & 80G renewed upto March 2026

VII. RESOURCE AGENCIES

During the year, INR 50,000/- was raised (staff contribution INR 30,000/-, 4 Individual donors have donated INR 20,000/-). We have spent INR 30,000/- for drinking water, agriculture and health requirements in the Vanjangi village of ASR district, Andhra Pradesh.

We appeal to individuals/ Organizations to donate to the Centre for People's Forestry and receive a 50% tax exemption under section 80G of the Income Tax Act.

Make a difference today!

Centre for People's Forestry

VIII. FINANCE



SAMPATH & RAMESH

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

(Regd. No. [FRN] 0059475)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To
The Managing Trustee
CENTRE FOR PEOPLE'S FORESTRY
SECUNDERABAD.

Report on the Financial Statements:

We have audited accompanying **CONSOLIDATED** financial statements of **CENTRE FOR PEOPLE'S FORESTRY ("the Trust") H. No. 12-13-483/39, 1st Floor, Lane 6, Street No.14, Nagarjuna Nagar, Colony, Tarnaka, Secunderabad -500017 Telangana** which comprise **Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2024** and annexed **Income & Expenditure Account and Receipts & Payments Account** for the year ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements:

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements in accordance with the Trust Act and accounting principles generally accepted in India. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility:

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the *Standards on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India*. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Trust preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Akin's


10/CA, Seetha Hari Apartments, Besides DGR PSOs, Lower Tank Bund Road, Hyderabad - 500 060
 Landline: 9100515906, 040-27617319 Email: sampathandramesh@yahoo.com


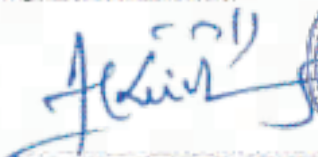
We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion:

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the financial statements give the information required by *the Trust Act* in the manner so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:

- (a) in the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the *Trust as at 31st March 2024*;
- (b) in the case of the Income & Expenditure Account of the *excess of income over expenditure for the year ended on that date*.
- (c) In the case of Receipts & Payments Account, of the cash Flows for the period ended on that date.

For SAMPATH & RAMESH
Chartered Accountants
(FRN 005947S)



(CA. KRISHNA REDDY. A.)
Partner M.No:204755
UDIN:

Place: Hyderabad.

Date: 30.07.2024

CENTRE FOR PEOPLE'S FORESTRY



H.No.12-12-493/39, Street No.14, Tamaka, Secunderabad - 500 027



CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.03.2024

PARTICULARS	Schedule	AS ON	AS ON
	No	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
		(₹)	(₹)
SOURCE OF FUNDS:			
Corpus Fund	1	4,000	4,000
Reserves & Surplus			
Specific Reserves	2	2,42,92,590	1,52,50,837
Core fund	3	23,00,000	23,00,000
		2,69,96,590	1,75,54,837
APPLICATION OF FUNDS			
Fixed Assets:	4		
Gross Block		20,16,322	23,70,103
Less: Depreciation		1,10,861	5,81,183
Write off			
Net Block		15,75,461	17,88,922
Current Assets, Loans & Advances			
Deposits and Advances		8,00,059	7,92,868
Cash and Bank Balances	6	2,61,84,515	1,64,33,377
		2,69,92,614	1,72,82,245
Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions			
Current Liabilities	7	19,71,177	15,16,330
Net Current Assets		2,50,21,137	1,57,65,915
		2,65,96,598	1,75,54,837

As per our report of even date attached
for **SAMPATH & RAMESH**
Chartered Accountants
FRNo.0059475



(A. KRISHNA REDDY)
Partner
M.No: 204755
PLACE : HYDERABAD
DATE : 30.07.2024

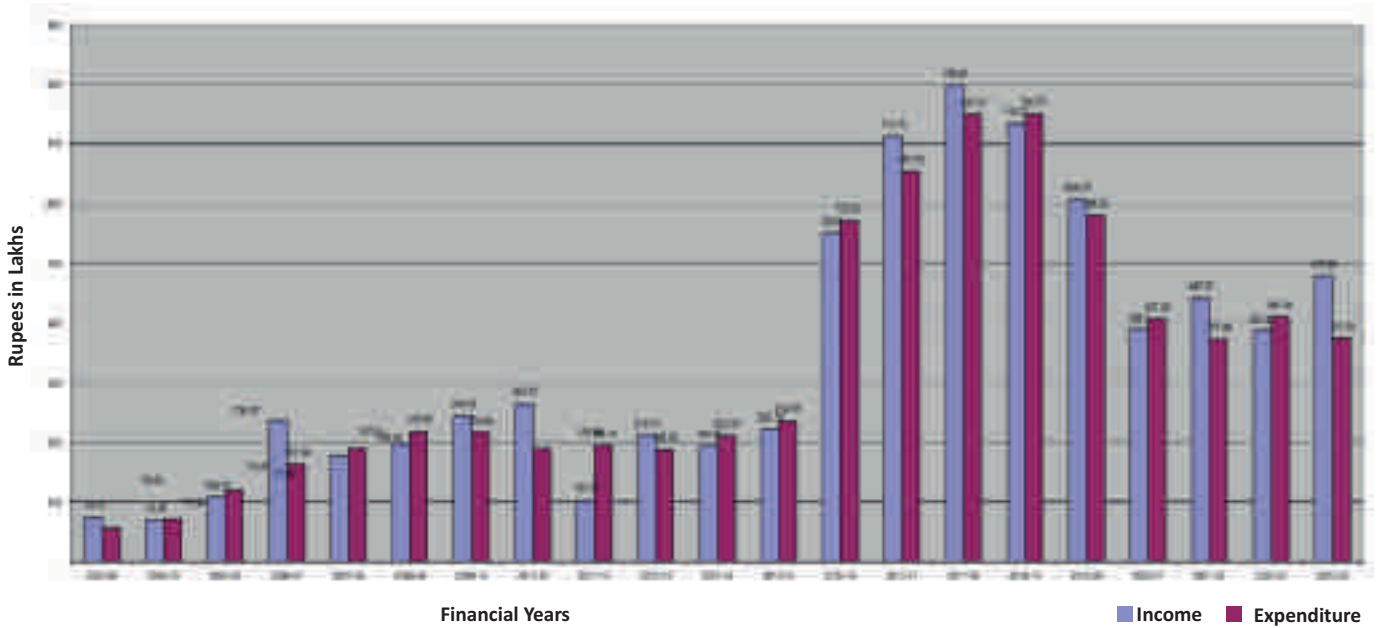
for CENTRE FOR PEOPLE'S FORESTRY



(D. GIRIJA DEVI) **(DR. KAMESWARA RAO)**
Director Managing Trustee

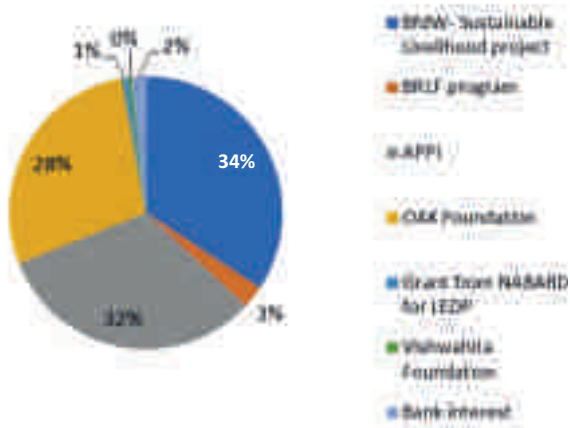


Income & Expenditure from the F.Y. 2003 - 04 to 2023 - 24

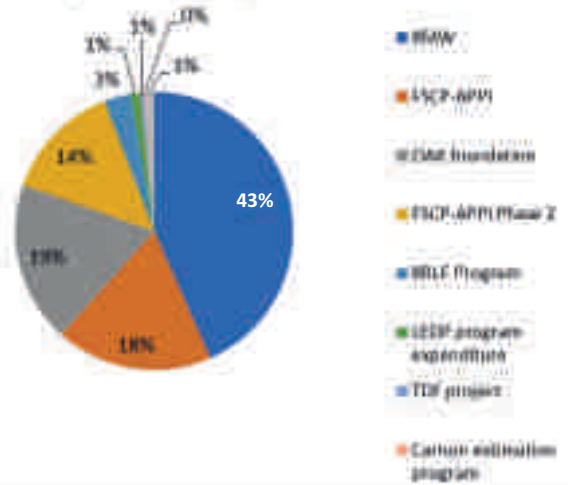


Note: In FY 2006-07 Fund received Rs. 54.50 lakh for flood relief activity. Hence in this year fund received Rs. 236.67 lakhs.
 Note: In FY 2017-18 fund received of Rs.992.78 lakh and spent of Rs.1065.75Lakh which is not reflected in the above graph

Receipts during April 2023 to March 2024



Payments during April 2023 to March 2024



EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS FOR APRIL 2023 TO MARCH 2024

Programme Expenditure Admin Cost



IX. CPF TEAM

Head Office - Hyderabad, Telangana

Ms. B. Girija Devi
 Mr. V. Balraj Gupta
 Mr. E. Poorna Chander
 Ms. M. Aparna
 Mr. K. Satyanarayana
 Ms. Aparna Ghose Adhikari
 Mr. D. Srinivasulu
 Mr. Michael Islary
 Mr. Dhavala Sai Santosh
 Mr. J. Bhaskar
 Ms. U. Rama

Field Office – Seethampeta, Parvathipuram Manyam District, Andhra Pradesh

Mr. N. Santosh
 Ms. G. Niharika
 Mr. A. Syamala Rao
 Mr. B. Sangamesh

Field Office – Dumriguda, Alluri Sitharamaraju District, Andhra Pradesh

Mr. B. Lokesh
 Ms. A. Nagamani
 Mr. H. Gasinaidu
 Mr. P. Vekataramana
 Mr. S. Bhaskara Rao
 Mr. K. Nagaraju
 Mr. T. Apparao

Field Office – Adilabad District, Telangana

Mr. Dileep Rathod	Mr. M. Vittal
Ms. G. Sakru Bai	Mr. C. Suresh
Mr. Md. Abdul Razzaq	Mr. A. Sachin
Mr. Sharukh Khan	Mr. B. Ravikanth
Ms. A. Aruna	Mr. J. Sriram
Ms. K. Anusuya	Mr. M. Bheemrao
Ms. S. Seematai	Mr. K. Ravinder
Ms. T. Shivani	Mr. W. Akshay Kumar
Mr. HK Jaggerao	Mr. G. Brahmanandam

Field Office – Utnoor, Adilabad district, Telangana

Ms. M. Aivelu Mangamma	Ms. M. Rathnamala
Mr. Sarang Bahadure	Ms. M. Suguna
Mr. J. Sudarshan	Ms. J. Nikhitha
Ms. B. Srinidhi	Ms. M. Archana
Mr. G. Ravikumar	Mr. K. Shankar
Mr. B. Chandraiah	Mr. C. Gangaram
Mr. G. Srikanth	Mr. P. Rajaram
Mr. T. Thirumalesh	Ms. A. Nikitha

Field Office – Tiryani, Kumrambheem Asifabad district, Telangana

Mr. J. Chandrakanth	Mr. K. Anil Kumar
Ms. D. Kaviha	Mr. C. Santosh
Mr. B. Mahender	

Field Office – Narsampet, Warangal District, Telangana

Ms. R. Aravindarao	Mr. B. Ramesh
Mr. P. Kumara Swamy	Mr. J. Eerya
Ms. B. Supriya	Mr. P. Raju
Ms. S. Soundarya	Ms. L. Supriya
Mr. K. Ganesh	Ms. J. Priyanka
Ms. D. Shruthi	Ms. B. Vinoda
Mr. K. Santhosh	Ms. M. Mahalakshmi
Mr. T. Sandeep	Ms. M. Swaroopa
Mr. G. Thirupathi	

Field Office – Korukonda, Malkangiri district, Odisha

Mr. Nitya Mallick
 Mr. Manoj Kumar Satapathy
 Mr. Sanjaya Kumar Parida
 Mr. Sukadev Jarel
 Ms. Heena Debnath

Field Office – Khatra, Bankura district, West Bengal

Mr. Sailen Paramanik	Mr. Biswajit Sen
Ms. Shreyasi Sengupta	Mr. Rahidul Islam Khan
Mr. Arun Maity	

Board of Trustees



Dr. Kameswara Rao (Managing Trustee since 2017) holds a Ph.D in Environmental Science and retired as Professor of Environmental Sciences in Andhra University. His professional experience is immense, and includes more than 40 years in teaching, research, and scientific consultations and 10 years in administration. He has more than 62 researches, three books, and 21 technical reports to his credit and has guided 38 scholars for their doctoral degrees. He has been a member of Board of Studies of various universities, and served as guest/visiting faculty at eight different universities. He has held many other honorary positions previously as a member of the Thematic Expert Group on Wildlife Research, MoEFCC, Kolleru Committee of MoEFCC, World Bank Supervision Mission on APCFM; AP State Pollution Control Board; AP State Wildlife Advisory Board, and currently serves the AP State Expert Appraisal Committee, MoEFCC.

Dr. Urmila Pingle (Trustee since 2005) has a dual degree in Medicine (Osmania Medical College, OU, Hyderabad) and a doctoral degree in Population Genetics/Statistics from Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta. She has had more than four decades of research experience involving a diversity of subjects ranging from Public health, nutrition, dietary practices, socio cultural and economic status of a number of tribal populations of Central India. She has published more than 25 papers and published two books on Anthropological aspects of these tribal groups. Her varied research experience led her to be involved in formulating natural resource development policies as well as Tribal development policies in the country. Her involvement with state and Central governments as well as her collaboration and networking with a wide variety of NGOs (Health, Community forestry, Tribal development and Education) helped support and assist them in more successful implementation of policies and programs. She has been consultant for many projects and studies of international and national organisations as well as for governments at state and national level. She has also documented the impact of successful programs that have incorporated a participatory approach that have truly empowered tribal women self her groups in Adilabad district, Telengana state. She was awarded the Indian Council of Medical Research Prize for contributions to “Bio-medical Research in under developed areas, 1989”.



Dr. Sheela Prasad (Trustee since 2002) retired as Professor at Centre for Regional Studies, University of Hyderabad. She holds a PhD in Geography from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her research interests include urban & regional geography, health, gender and environment issues. She has a number of research articles & three books to her credit. She has been part of various teaching/research assignments abroad, at University of Nottingham (UK), University of Pittsburgh (USA), Dartmouth College (USA) and National University of Singapore. She is a Member of Ethics Committee in CDFD, Hyderabad and IIT Hyderabad and a Member of the Women’s Complaint Committee of CCMB, Hyderabad. She is a member of the Executive Committee of Anveshi Research Centre for Women, Hyderabad and was on the Board of Mahila Abhirudhi Society & COVA, Hyderabad.

Dr. Manmohan Yadav (Trustee since 2005) is Professor of Marketing Management at Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal. He is Marketing Area Chair and Coordinator of the Centre for Sustainable Forest Management & Forest Certification at IIFM. Dr Yadav is a Ph.D. in International Marketing. He has worked in Dairy and Food Industry for ten years. He is in academics for last 24 years, first in a University and now at a National Institute. While working in the Industry, Dr Yadav contributed in development of traditional dairy products and long-life milk processing and packaging system. His academic contributions include publications of research articles in international and national peer reviewed journals, books, **Centre for People's Forestry**



teaching cases, conference papers; undertaking research and consulting assignments for international organizations, national and state governments; conducting conferences and capacity building training for professionals in the forestry sector; and teaching courses at PG ad Ph.D. level in the area of international business, sustainability, green marketing, sustainable natural resource management and forest certification.

Sanjay Upadhyay (Trustee since 2004), Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, is the founder and managing partner of the India's first environmental law firm, Enviro Legal Defence Firm. Sanjay has been practicing environment and development law since 1993. An India Visiting Fellow at the Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley (Fall 1996) and a legal intern to the Earth Justice Legal Defense Fund, San Francisco, a Global Fellow in Marine Policy at the Duke University, North Carolina, he started his professional career at the World Wide Fund for Nature– India at the Centre for Environmental Law. Sanjay has served as an environmental and development law expert to most well known International, Multilateral, national and state Institutions including the World Bank, ADB, IUCN, DFID, AFD, FAO, UNDP, IIED, ODI to name a few. He has been in the drafting Committees of several laws in India and abroad including Wildlife Act, Forest Rights Act, Nagaland Biodiversity Rules, Land Acquisition law of Afghanistan, Forest Sector Policy of Himachal Pradesh, Medicinal Plant Policies of Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand among others. Sanjay practices in the Supreme Court of India and particularly in the National Green Tribunal.



Dr. N.H. Ravindranath (Trustee since 2005), Professor (Retd.) – Centre for Sustainable Technologies, Indian Institute of Science Bangalore, India.

Areas of Research, Development and Policy Advocacy include: **Climate Change, Forests, Bioenergy and Ecosystem Services.**

Prof. Ravindranath has focused his research, advocacy and publications on various dimensions of Climate Change - Mitigation Assessment, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory in Land Use Sectors, Impact of Climate Change and Vulnerability Assessment in Forest and Agro-ecosystems, Adaptation and Climate Resilience, Forest Ecology, CDM and REDD+ Projects. He has also worked on Bioenergy, Biofuels and Biomass Production, Environmental / Ecosystem Services, and Citizen Science.

- He is an author for several IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Assessment Reports on Climate Change – WMO and UNEP focusing on mitigation in forest sector.
- He is an author for IPBES (Inter-Governmental Platform on Bio-diversity and Eco-system Services)-Reports.
- He is the Scientific Advisory Panel Member for Global Environmental Outlook (GEO 6)
- He was the Science Technology Advisory Panel (STAP) member of GEF (Glonvironmental Facility) for Climate Change Focal Area during 2008 – 2012.
- He is a UNFCCC expert for GHG (Greenhouse Gas) inventory reports submitted to UN.
- He has published 8 books (from Oxford and Cambridge Uni. Press, Kluwer, and Springer Publishers) out of which 4 are on Climate Change.
- He has published over 150 peer reviewed research papers out of which about 60 are on Climate Change.
- He has brought out special issues on Climate Change in Journals such as Current Science, Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies to Global Change.
- He has worked for or advised many State governments on “Assessment of Climate Change Projections, Impacts and Vulnerability”. He also has worked at national level on MGNREGA and climate change.
- He is an expert for several World Bank, UN and other bilateral projects related to climate change.

Ms A. Kalamani (Trustee since 2012), Post-graduated in Economics, she did her M.Phil in Micro Level Planning and stood as Topper of the Gandhigram University; Tamil Nadu in 1986. She began her career as an academican and worked in Madurai and Hyderabad colleges for seven years. Later she was attracted by the Development sector and provided her services as Socio-Economist to Netherlands Aided Projects and thereafter to an NGO called 'Action for Integrated Rural Development Society' (AIRDS), Hyderabad for nearly three years. And henceforth she had long association with another NGO called 'Center for World Solidarity' (CWS), headquartered in Hyderabad, for almost 14 years in different capacities from Projects Officer to Joint Executive Director. She then worked for nearly two & half years as Programme Officer–South Asia in 'Inter Church Cooperation' (ICCO) based in New Delhi. Lastly she took up the responsibility as Executive Director in APMAS for seven years. Since 2018, she has been consultant and providing professional services to APMAS, Care&Share Italia and National Rural Livelihood Mission.



She was involved in advancement of women's rights and supported especially women headed organisations and networks to play a vital role in promotion of gender equality and in mainstreaming gender concerns in development programmes. Further involved in governance, HIV and AIDS, democratization and conflict resolution, poverty eradication, children's education, livelihoods programmes specially focusing on women and small landholders, besides projects designing, monitoring and evaluation, and organizational development. She has undertaken many consulting assignments for the international and national NGOs and CSR Foundations. She has travelled extensively and gained exposure through visits to other countries on official capacities for workshops, seminars and meetings for creating linkages, and mutual learning. She has been on the Boards of AP Mahila Samatha Society, Hyderabad; SACI Waters (South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies), AP Permaculture Association of India and currently on the Board of APMAS.



Director and Ex-Officio Secretary since 2021

Ms. B. Girija Devi, a Gold Medalist in Master of Social Work, Girija has been a Gender and Development Professional for more than two and half decades in India. She promotes the cause of the gender justice and child rights passionately but constructively. She has conceptualized, designed and operationalized various gender justice programs with civil society organizations and governments. Institutionalizing support structures to women survivors of violence (Support Centers for Women in Police Stations) and (Sakhi One Stop Centers for Women) in collaboration with the Departments of Police and Women and Child Welfare, Government of Telangana is one of the concrete achievements in her long career.

Beginning, with the rights of street children and adolescent girls, her professional interests expanded into action research on various gender and developmental issues. She monitored and evaluated programs for national and international donor agencies; engaged with Print and Visual Media on the rights of women and children. An engaging gender trainer, she has been involved in training of thousands of personnel in the government and NGOs. As an external member of Internal Complaints Committees of various government departments and NGOs, she has enquired into several cases of sexual harassment of women and has provided expertize on its prevention at work places.

A course in Gender and Economic Policy Analysis from Institute of Social Studies, at Hague, Netherlands and a visit to the US as part of the prestigious International Visitor Leadership Program, as part of International Women's Network provided her global perspectives on Gender Justice and women's leadership in social development. She loves mentoring the young men and women to work against gender inequality, promoting women leadership and strengthening the place of civil society organizations.

Her partner, son and sisters not only provide her emotional support to her public and professional life, they are her hardest critiques too!

**Borewell for drinking water in Pangdi was inaugurated by
Sri. Venkatesh Dhotre, Collector Kumrambheem Asifabad district, Telangana**





Centre for People's Forestry

Rights | Livelihoods | Conservation

www.cpf.in

HEAD OFFICE :

Centre for People's Forestry

12-13-483/39, Lane 6, Street No.14,
Nagarjunanagar Colony, Tarnaka
Secunderabad- 5000 17. Telangana
040-27154484, www.cpf.in | info@cpf.in

FIELD OFFICES :

TELANGANA

Adilabad, Kumuram Bheem Asifabad and Warangal Districts

Adilabad District

H.No.14-339/1, Back side of Rajsthani Sweet House,
Main Road Old Utnoor, Adilabad district—504311
Telangana

Kumuram Bheem Asifabad District

H. No. 3 -23/1, Bheemaram Village, Tiryani Mandal,
Kumrambheem Asifabad district - 504297
Telangana

Warangal District

H.No: 18-266/5-4, Malki Sri Children hospital,
Nekkonda Road, Narsampet Town,
Warangal district - 506132, Telangana

ANDHRA PRADESH

Parvathipuram Manyam and Alluri Sitharamaraju Districts

Parvathipuram Manyam District

Opposite ITDA, Seethampeta,
Parvathipuram Manyam district -532443.
Andhrapradesh.

Alluri Sitharamaraju District

Beside Mahatma Gandhi Statue,
Hukumpeta Post & Mandal,
Alluri Sitharamaraju district - 531077, Andhra Pradesh.

ODISHA

Odisha - Malkangiri District

At / Post – Main Road, Korukonda, Near Bust Stand,
Opposite to LAMPCS (Mini Bank)
Malkangiri district - 764045, Odisha

WEST BENGAL

Bankura District

Khatra, Para-Joldobra, Near 9 Star Club,
Bankura district - 722140
West Bengal