

Agricultural and Social Development Society (ASDS)
Annual Report of ASDS Activities in 2024-25

VISION:

Equity dignity and improved quality of life on a sustainable basis is the social reality for empowered tribal communities.

MISSION:

Community organization and social capital building of tribal communities to exercise their rights to fight against discrimination, dehumanizing poverty, oppressive class and caste system, violation of basic human rights.

Introduction of the Organization

On account of prevailing socio-political situation, the trade predominantly consists of Non timber Forest Produce was under the control of middlemen and the agriculture was under the dominion of non-tribals. Local tribals remained silent spectators being not aware of the welfare programmes and development initiatives designed for their benefit; on the other hand, all these benefits were misappropriated by influential local elite.

Educating and empowering the impoverished tribals remained a key concern. The endeavour blended with unequivocal passion has laid foundations for the organization. Indomitable spirit and unremitting efforts of the founder- Gandhibabu has taken a shape and registered as **“Vyavasayaka mariyu Sanghika Abhivrudhi Samastha”** (Agriculture and Social development society – ASDS).

Sector : ➤ Child Rights – Nutrition & Protection and Girl Child Education
➤ Community Health
➤ Water and Sanitation
➤ Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Farming
➤ Environment and Watershed Development (Natural Resource management)
➤ Women Empowerment (Naatwan Sangham)
➤ Livelihood Promotion and Vocational Skill Building
➤ Technology for Development – Solar Energy
➤ Pandemic / Disaster Preparedness
➤ Rights and Entitlements

Area of Operation : ➤ ASR district, East Godavari and West Godavari Districts of Andhra Pradesh.
➤ Bhadradi Kothagudem district of Telangana State

Beneficiaries : Children, Disabled, Elderly, Women, Youth, Tribal, Rural Poor, Refugees, Displaced Persons, Destitute Person

Areas of focus

Priority : Rights & Social Issues, Natural Farming, Civil Rights, Women's Rights, Displaced persons

Activities : Housing, Energy, Water, Forestry, Sustainable Agriculture, Sanitation & Waste Management, Education, Empowerment and Environment

Organization's Activities in 2024-25:

ASDS works in the tribal region of ASR district, Andhra Pradesh and Bhadradi Kothagudem district in Telangana states for empowerment of Adivasi (Both Koya and Konda Reddy PVTG) women through Natwan Sanghas, provision of Education, Nutrition and Health, and for the welfare and rights of Gothikoya Adivasis, who fled from violence in Chattisgarh, specific problem that the organization is trying to address. Primarily the welfare and empowerment of adivasis in the tribal region of ASR district, Andhra Pradesh and Bhadradi Kothagudem district in Telangana states. Issues addressed over the years include empowerment of women, health and nutrition of women and children, basic education services, especially for girl children, and ensuring provision of government services for Adivasis.

Project Title: Welfare + Small and Marginal Farmers

Implementation Period: 2023–2026

Reporting Year: 2024–2025

Funded By: Azim Premji Foundation

Geographic Focus: Vara Ramachandrapuram and Chintoor Mandals, Andhra Pradesh

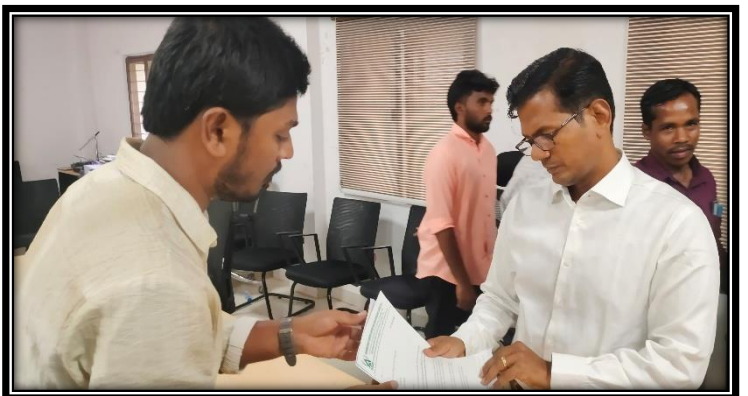
Villages Covered: 40

- ❖ The year 2024–2025 marked a transformational journey for small and marginal farmers in the tribal belts of Andhra Pradesh. Through strategic implementation of a holistic welfare and agricultural initiative, ASDS—with support from Azim Premji Foundation—focused on strengthening livelihoods, increasing awareness of entitlements, and cultivating sustainable agricultural practices. The initiative covered 40 villages across Vara Ramachandrapuram and Chintoor mandals, impacting hundreds of tribal households through capacity-building, community mobilization, and ecological farming interventions.
- **All eligible Adivasi households (60%) access welfare & development schemes from govt. (4093 households)**
 - Capacity building of all the tribal youth members in 40 villages of v.r puram & chinturu mandal total 80 members.

- Training Program to Newly Elected Pesa Members (Vice Presidents & Secretaries) on their Duties and Responsibilities.
- Training to Staff on Project Concept, Welfare Schemes, R&R Issues in Year 1 and Year 2.
- Training to PRI members and government officials.
- Mandal Interface meeting with mandal officials.

Entitlement: study on identification of exclusions in project villages:

During the Annual period, it was identified that a total of 8,185 individuals across 40 villages were excluded from various government welfare schemes. The breakdown of these exclusions is as follows: ROFR – 924 individuals, NREGA – 559, Pensions – 355, Aadhaar (corrections/new cards) – 615, Rice cards – 497, Rythu Bharosa – 138, Vidya Devena – 126, Late death certificates – 55, Thalliki vandanam – 350, Mutations – 87, E-Crop – 16, Suraksha Program – 126, Sadharam – 31, UDID Verification – 27, Bicycles for persons with disabilities – 15, Bus and Railway passes – 21, Cheyutha – 38, YSR Bharosa – 11, R&R-related issues – 263, Caste and Income certificates – 115, Joint and Postal accounts – 5, FMC – 75, PMJJBY & PMSBY – 26, Late birth certificates – 70, PAN cards – 3, Government job – 3, Web land corrections – 13, Medical camps – 3, 1-B Patta – 6, D-Patta – 6, NPCI-related issues – 1,764, APAAR – 1,840. Applications were submitted for all 8,183 excluded individuals. Of these, 6,111 issues have been successfully addressed and those individuals were brought into the inclusion framework. The remaining 2,074 issues are currently under process.



2 Days Training to 80 tribal youth from 40 villages (2 youth volunteers per village) on process of inclusions:

A total of 2 training with 80 active youth leaders has completed. During the Annual period, 2 trainings was conducted and for this reporting period, another 2 training with 80 active youth. As part of the selection process, two active members from each community were chosen during the village-level meeting. These selected individuals underwent specialized training to enhance their capabilities, equipping them with the necessary skills to address community challenges effectively. these trainings were assisted by PMU team and government staff with awareness on various government schemes, essential documents, and five types of online verification methods like

Aadhar, new job card enrollment, job card deletion, NPCI linking, Aepds and tracking application such as DOB certificate, death certificate, FMC.

The tribal youth who were previously trained are now efficiently addressing various issues and making the most of available resources, such as the online verification process. They have developed the capability to tackle challenges independently by submitting applications to the relevant departments. Additionally, they are actively participating in grama sabhas, contributing to discussions and ensuring effective community engagement.



Tribal Youth Training on Government Schemes and Training Program to Newly Elected Pesa Members (Vice Presidents & Secretaries) on their Duties and Responsibilities

During the Annual period training sessions were conducted to 40 villages across V. R. Puram and Chinturu mandals for youth leaders and newly elected PESA members, A total 57 members were participated in training. In this one-day training, Shri V. Gandhi Babu provided an introduction to the PESA Act, highlighting its main goals, key elements, significance, and challenges. Additionally, the Vice Presidents and Secretaries were briefed on their duties and responsibilities.



As a result of this training, the participants are now effectively addressing local issues in their villages and actively participating in Gram Sabhas, including those focused on PESA and Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R).



2 Days Training to 12 Staff on Welfare Schemes, R&R Issues in Annual Period

A total of 2 training has completed in During the Annual period on, training sessions were conducted for 12 staff members on Welfare Schemes, and R&R Issues.

Agriculture Officer Nageswarao Garu provided insights into the Annadata Sukhibhava scheme, emphasizing the necessity of farmer registration to avail benefits. He explained that farmers must register to purchase seeds or machinery under subsidy. Later, Srinivas Garu (DLMP) from RYSS introduced natural farming, discussing techniques to improve yield, the adoption of modern tools and machinery, and PMDS. Finally, Krishna Prasad Garu from PMU elaborated on exclusion criteria and essential documentation requirements.



One Day Mandal Level Orientation Program to PRI Members and Government Officials, Role of Gram Sabha, R&R Issues & FRA

A total 2 training has completed in During the Annual period, a training session was conducted for 30 PRI representatives, including PRI members and panchayat secretaries, A total 30 members were participated. The training focused on critical topics such as **R&R land destruction compensation, Jeevana Bruthi, estimated compensation, Grama Sabhas,** and tribal lands acquired under



the Forest Rights Act. A key issue raised during the session was the **R&R cutoff dates**, which have impacted many individuals turning 18. The cutoff was established in 2020, but since then, these youth have continued to reside in the same villages. However, they are now deemed ineligible for Jeevana Bruthi, despite their eligibility under normal circumstances. Additionally, challenges stemming from the Polavaram project construction were discussed, including stalled village development and the lack of essential infrastructure such as proper roads and basic facilities.

Mandal level interface meeting with government officials

During the Annual period, a **mandal-level interface meeting** was conducted, bringing together government officials and community members from 40 villages. A total of **131 participants** attended the meeting, where significant pending issues were formally presented to various government departments.

Key concerns submitted included:

- **ROFR claims:** 49 issues
- **Mutation requests:** 2 issues
- **Family member certificate (FMC) issues:** 1 issue
- **NREGA pending payments:** 1 issue
- **Caste & income certificates:** 2 issues
- **Roads (R&B) issues:** 10 issues
- **Drinking water shortages:** 6 issues
- **Resettlement&Rehabilitation (R&R) issues:** 14 issues
- **Revenue land concerns:** 2 issues



- **All interested Adivasi households (60%) in 10 villages will fully adopt natural farming practices (893 households).**
 - Two days exposure visit for 30 lead farmers and 5 staff members.
 - Cattel shed lining for cow urine collection.
 - Model demo plots for yield productivity enhancement (paddy, black gram, chilli, vegetables).
 - Promotion of kitchen gardens
 - Customer hiring center support to natural farming farmers
 - Training with RYSS ICRPs and staff members.

Natural Farming practices:

During the Annual period, a total of 114 village-level meetings were conducted across 10 villages in V.R. Puram and Chinturu mandals. The primary objective of these meetings was to promote awareness and implementation of natural farming practices within the communities. In this meeting were discussions on improving soil health, reducing dependency on chemical inputs, and increasing crop yield through natural farming. Additionally, these meetings served as a platform for addressing challenges faced by farmers and guiding them.

All staff members and lead farmers have gained comprehensive knowledge of natural farming practices, including the preparation of various bio-inputs and the identification of pests and diseases. These training sessions have made a significant impact on local agriculture by deepening the understanding of natural farming methods. Consequently, they are expected to contribute to higher crop yields, diminished reliance on chemical inputs, and greater environmental sustainability within the community.

- **All Adivasi households that adopt natural farming practices will increase productivity of crops (paddy, black gram, chilli, cashew and vegetables) by 15% - 20%.**
 - Before sowing were used the seed treatment to seeds with beejamrutham
 - Yield increases in crops like paddy line sowing, alley ways and using bio inputs for more yield increase.
 - Model demo plots.
 - Weed management using machineries.
 - IPM – strategies border or intercropping system.

A total of 154 PMDS kits were distributed to farmers in this year to enrich the soil.



During the Annual period, a total of 381 farmers practiced natural farming across 366 acres. This included 82.7 acres of paddy cultivation by 109 farmers using line sowing and alleyways, 209.5 acres of pulse cultivation (black gram, green gram, and sesame) by 226 farmers, and 72 acres of cashew cultivation by 46 farmers within the project area. These farmers diligently adhered to a structured regimen, incorporating seed treatment with Beejamrutham and the application of natural formulations such as both Ghana and Drava Jeevamrutham, along with Kashayas -essential practices for ensuring the success of natural farming.

Kitchen garden:

During the 2024-2025 year, 287 families were facilitated with vegetable kits, ensuring adequate space and water facilities to support **models**. The initiative aimed to enhance **economic stability** and improve **nutritional food availability** for these households.

- **Leafy vegetables:** Amaranthus, sorrel, coriander, and fenugreek
- **Vegetables:** Okra, brinjal, tomato, chili, and cluster bean
- **Climbers vegetables:** Bottle gourd, ridge gourd, and bitter gourd
- **Tubers crops:** Radish, Carrot



Two Days Exposure Visit To 30 Lead Farmers And 5 Project Staff on Cashew Cultural Practices in Natural Farming

During the annual period, a total of 30 lead farmers and 5 project staff were training on cashew crop cultural practices. Through the exposure visit, farmers effectively learned about cashew cultivation techniques and intercropping methods.



This experience enhanced their farming knowledge and skills, enabling them to adopt sustainable cultural practices in cashew farming. As a result, they gained confidence and became advocates for their fellow farmers, sharing their expertise and supporting.

Customer Hiring Centre (CHC)

S.NO	Gram Panchayth	CHC Location	No. of villages benefited
1	Mulakanapalli	Mulakanapalli	3
		Tellavarigudem	2
2	Chadalawada	Thulasipaka	3
		valumorugondhi	2
Total	2	4	10

Across our 10 natural farming villages, we have established 4 Customer Hiring Centres (CHCs), each equipped with a variety of essential agricultural machinery. These include weeders, sprayers, drums, a 9HP power tiller, a 7HP power tiller, foot sprayers, oil engines, grass cutters, bush cutters, drum seeders, and Cono weeders to support farmers in their cultivation efforts.

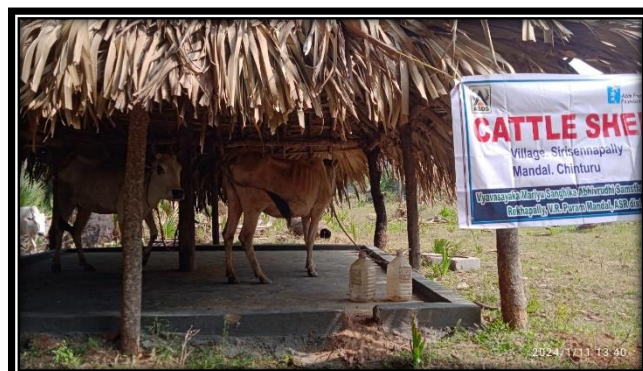


Cattle Shed Lining for Cow Urine Collection

S.NO	Gram Panchayth	No. of cattle shed lining
1	Mulakanapalli	5
2	Chadalawada	5
Total		10

A total of **14 farmers across 10 villages** (out of 40 project villages) have established **cattle shed linings** to facilitate the local preparation of bio-inputs. This initiative plays a vital role in enhancing soil fertility through natural means.

To promote shared ownership and accountability, the investment structure was designed with **20%** contributed by the farmers themselves and the remaining 80% provided by the organization.



The selected farmers were chosen based on their active participation and commitment, ensuring the long-term success of the initiative in enriching soil with essential nutrients through natural farming practices.

Additional Initiatives by ASDS

- Support for 24 girl children's education
- Community awareness programs focused on child rights and protection

Education: A Pathway to Empowerment

Education is the most powerful tool for fostering awareness and shaping future generations. Recognizing its role in dispelling superstitions and promoting rational thinking, ASDS has enabled tribal children to embrace learning as a foundation for a brighter, more informed future. Through education, they are empowered to build lives rooted in knowledge, opportunity, and lasting progress.

Base line survey of Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana

It supplements the efforts of State Governments for development and welfare of tribal people by extending Special Central Assistance as an additive to the State Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP).

It aims at mitigating gaps and providing basic infrastructure in villages with significant tribal population in convergence with funds available under different schemes in Central Scheduled Tribe Component.

The Scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme with 100% grant from government of India.

Objectives:

Preparing Village Development Plan based on the needs, potential, and aspirations. Maximizing the coverage of individual/family benefit schemes of the Central / State Governments.

Improving the infrastructure in vital sectors like health, education, connectivity and livelihood.

The scheme envisions to mitigate gaps in prominent 8 sectors of development:

- Road connectivity (Internal and Inter village /block)
- Telecom connectivity (Mobile /internet)
- School
- Anganwadi Centres
- Health Sub-Centre
- Drinking water facility
- Drainage
- Solid waste management



As part of this program, our staff members conducted a baseline survey across 81 villages.



Flood Relief Activities in V.R. Puram, Kunavaram & Chinturu Mandals

V.R. Puram and Kunavaram Mandals in Chinturu Revenue Sub-Division of Alluri Sitaramaraju District. Formerly East Godavari district is the confluence of both Godavari and Sabari rivers. V.R. Puram and Kunavaram mandals adjacent to these two rivers due to the floods of Godavari River in the upper and lower parts of the area for the couple of weeks living a sleepless life due to the floods of the two rivers here. They lost everything last year during unexpected both rivers flood, those the rivers will once again play havoc with their lives before they even measure up.

At that time, some villages affected by flood and the people of those villages temporarily setting up tents with tarpaulin on hill tops and non submerge area. Another unfortunate thing that the rains heavy even at night and with minimal gap.

In such temporary tents, old age people, pregnant women and children suffering indescribable. It will take at least 15 to 20 days for people to build or repair or clean houses after the flow of Godavari and Sabari rivers recedes and returns to normal. Agricultural labour is the main livelihood of most of the people here. Their livelihoods are lost when floods occur. As houses get submerged in floods and floods remain in houses for long days, cleaning of houses is very difficult and takes at least 5 to 7 days. Pregnant women are the most vulnerable during floods. They should be very careful, but they facing many problems to have meal in the rehabilitation centre or in tent house they have set up on their own.

Under the flood relief activity, a total of 1,568 food kits were distributed to flood-affected villages.



Swachh Andhra Swachh Diwas program

As part of the Swachh Andhra Swachh Diwas program, clean and green activities were conducted across four mandals: V.R. Puram, Kunavaram, Yetapaka, and Chinturu. These activities included cleaning of drainages, village surroundings, hand pump areas, and temple premises, as well as the construction of community halls. Following the program, 1,959 dry ration and clothing kits were distributed to participants who actively took part in the initiative.

