

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE OF NAVA YOUTH ASSOCIATION



**Nava Youth Association (NYA)
#17-166, Puchakayalamada Road, Near Bus Depot,
Pathikonda Mandal,
Kurnool District
Andhra Pradesh – 518380**

INSTITUTIONAL DETAILS:

ORGANISATIONAL INFORMATION:

1	Name of the organisation	Nava Youth Association (NYA)
2	Address	# 17-166,Opp Bus Depot, Puchhakayalamada Road Pathikonda Mandal – 518380, Kurnool District,Andhra Pradesh.
3	Nature of the Organisation	Registered under the A. P. Societies Act of 1991 and bearing Registered Number 181/1991 as a Non profit, Secular, Non-Political social service organisation. Registered on 03-09-1991.
4	Name of the Chief Functionary & Designation	Mr. C. Bhaskar Reddy President.
5	Contact No. (Office & Residence)	9885425103 & 9100985723
6	email id	navayouth.sreedhar@gmail.com
7	Web Address	www.navayouth.com
8	FCRA Number	010270221
9	PAN Number	AAAAN4721E
10	TAN Number	HYDN08054E
11	Registration under 12 A with registration Number	DIT(E)/HYD/12A/36(04)/07-08
12	Registration under 80G with registration Number	DIT(E)/HYD/80G/36(04)/07-08
13	Registration under NGO Partnership system under NITI Aayog with unique ID Number	AP/2013/0068570
14	Contact Person Designation Address for Communication	Mr. T. Sridhar Reddy, Administrator, Nava Youth Association, Plot No—413 Silpa Nandanavanam, Ulchala Road, (near) Yelkur Estates, SAP Camp Post, Kurnool – 518002, Andhra Pradesh State.
15	Details of the Branch Offices of the Organisation in other Districts.	
a)	Anantapur District Office Address	Nava Youth Association, Gotkur (Post & Village), Kuderu Mandal, Anantapur District. PIN-515003
b)	Telangana State Office Address	Nava Youth Association, H.NO: 17/138,Indira Nagar Colony, Paragi Road, Shadnagar – 509216, Mahaboob Nagar District.

c)	Rajahmendry Office Address	#52-13-8,Ramalayam veedhi, Near Bhaskar Raj Hospital,Rajahmendry
1 6	Area of Operations	India

Executive Summary:

Nava Youth Association (NYA) was formed by a group of educated persons who wanted to do whatever was possible by them; to alleviate the poverty situation that was prevailing in Kurnool District. This area is perennially drought prone and whenever the monsoonal rains failed; the plight of the farmers and farm labourers used to become deplorable. Irrespective of their caste or creed the majority of the small and marginal farmers and the numerous labourers who were dependent on farm based occupations for their livelihood, had to resort to occupational migration and this totally disrupted and created numerous problems for the affected families. It was at this stage that Mr. Chilakuri Bhaskar Reddy a post graduate in sociology, from Kalagalla village in Kudair Mandal of Anantapur District; who was living in Pattikonda began to think of doing something for the development of agriculturalists. Bhaskar Reddy had established a school named “Yashodha Garden School” in Pattikonda and was doing his best for the poor and needy children, by subsidising the fee, in his school for children to enable them gain quality education in his institution. In addition to maintaining the school, he also was engaged in cultivation of his ancestral lands because that was his main source of income. Being the son of a farmer from a well known and well-to-do family, he did not experience the extreme poverty conditions that other small and marginal farmer experienced, but he had witnessed the poverty and suffering of families depending on agriculture for their sustenance. Beginning with the truant monsoons and its attendant drought conditions, the depleting groundwater table, the lack of financial investment, the non-availability of fertilisers and pesticides when required at crucial times, the lack transport facilities in rural settings, the poor storage and marketing facilities, the exploitation by middlemen and the absence of governmental support along with myriads of other problems were ruining the lives of the farmers and agricultural labourers. Farmers who for centuries have provided food for the nations, were now unable to even feed their own families. Many farmers were giving up agriculture, selling away their agricultural lands and migrating to cities while, the less affluent who were plagued by debts were committing suicide. At this juncture Mr. C. Bhaskar Reddy and a few of his likeminded friends and colleagues got together and after much discussion; decided that they would do something for the alleviation of poverty in Kurnool and Ananthapur Districts and they thought that this could be done best by registering a “Social Service Organisation” through which they proposed to address the issues of the affected rural agricultural community. The NGO

which was named as Nava Youth Association the word Nava meaning “Modern” came into being on 03-09-1991. The main office of this NGO was opened in Pattikonda town and they commenced to undertake whatever small developmental work that was possible; in the initial stages the activities were mostly related to awareness creation among the rural communities living in the nearby villages. Given below are the details of the members who were elected to the Executive Body as shown below:

No	Name of Office Bearer	Qualification	Designation
1	Mr. C. Bhaskar Reddy	M.A. Sociology	President
2	Ms. T. Prasanna Lakshmi	B.Com	Secretary
3	Mr. K. Venugopal Reddy	Electronics Diploma	Treasurer
4	Mr. H. Mallanna	Diploma in Civil Engineer	Executive Body Member
5	Ms. T. Anusha	B. Tech (EEE)	Executive Body Member
6	Ms. P.Mary Aruna	M A	Executive Body Member
7	Mr. B.Mothilal Naik	MSC IS/MSW/PGDPM	Executive Body Member
8	Mr. U.Narasimhulu	M A Sociology	Executive Body Member
9	Mr. J. Lingamurthy	SSC	Executive Body Member

Though Mr. Bhaskar Reddy had other preoccupations he continues to take active interest in the functioning and of the NGO and the personnel working with the NGO. He is supported by the Secretary of the organisation namely Ms. Prassana Lakshmi who is a graduate and attends to the office work and she looks after the day to day management of the affairs of the office. Day to day monitoring of the developmental activities of the organisation has been entrusted to the administrator Mr. T. Sreedhar Reddy who works for the organisation; free of any remuneration.

The Executive body of the NGO initially decided to address the rural problems namely the problems of the rural milieu namely poverty, illiteracy, ill health and lack of educational opportunities, lack of skills, debilitating vices and poor living conditions which affected the health and education of women and children. The NGO initially began taking up activities in Kurnool district. At that juncture obtaining funds to implement any projects was a major problem and to keep on doing work in the villages, the members of the Executive Body had to donate liberally from their personal funds. It was also decided to apply to the Ministry of Home Affairs for the “FCRA” permit through which foreign, central and state government funding could be obtained. In the mean time the

Cultural Action like Burra Katha and songs set to folk tunes to educate the community

NGO with a small group of workers began to undertake health awareness programmes, training related to agriculture and other small environmental awareness generational activities through cultural action in the outlying villages. Starting with creating awareness about the need for immunisation against polio and the need of bringing children to the Pulse Polio centres to prevent them from becoming physically affected, the NGO also undertook simple activities such as meetings, trainings and organising cultural activities that were effective in creating and spreading awareness about issues that the poor and marginalised sections faced in rural areas. Over a period of time with funds obtained from the government, the NGO has been working for the socio-economic development of the rural communities with special focus on the women, children, differently enabled and people belonging to economically weaker and excluded sections of society. Presently the major thrust of the NGO is related to addressing the problems of the farmers and fisher folk who are instrumental in feeding the country and are victims of the growing poverty due to exploitation, ignorance, illiteracy and lack of awareness.

Kurnool is known as the *Gateway to Rayalaseema*. Kurnool city is the District headquarters and is a municipal corporation. It was the capital of Andhra State from 1 October 1953 to 31 October 1956, until Andhra Pradesh was united with Telangana to extend the state of Andhra Pradesh with Hyderabad as the state's capital. At present Kurnool is the fifth-most populous city of Andhra Pradesh. The climate in Kurnool is referred to as a "Steppe Climate". A steppe is a dry, grassy plain that occur in temperate climates, which lie between the tropics and Polar Regions. Steppes are semi-arid, meaning that steppes may receive 25 to 50 centimetres (10-20 inches) of rain each year. In Kurnool, the average annual temperature is 28.0°C during the day and lowers at night. In a year, the average rainfall is at the most around 659 mm. The average temperature during the cooler months of December and January is 28°C, and in the summer months of May and June the temperature reaches 40°C. Most parts of the other parts of the District are hot and humid in summer. Pattikonda town is a Mandal headquarters town of Kurnool district and is located at 15.4000°N 77.5167°E. It has an average elevation of 465 meters (1528 feet).

As mentioned earlier the main occupation in rural areas of these Rayalaseema Districts being agriculture, the women of the rural communities had to bear the majority of the burden in that in addition to doing the work at home, they look after the children and then work along with the men-folk in the fields and despite having to do the major quantum of work, women were subjugated and had no voice in their homes and also in the village. Domestic violence was common in households where the men were addicted to drinking and other forms of

Village Women's meeting to educate them of the various development opportunities available to them

substance abuse. NYA decided to counter these deplorable situations and bring about a change in the outlook of the men and women of the target area. The NGO personnel began going to the surrounding villages and educating the community about gender equality and how they could opt for a better standard of living by taking up savings activities. They were educated about the importance of preventing diseases rather than spending their scanty resources on obtaining cures. These activities were basically aimed at building rapport with the communities and making them aware of the different government schemes that the villagers could apply for and the terms and conditions to avail the schemes.

It could be stated that thing began to really happen only in 2005 when the NGO was able to obtain get the FCRA permission and funding from the government to set up Bridge Schools. With funds provided by the Education Department the NGO undertook this project. One hundred Child Labourers who were actually school dropouts, were identified, freed from their bondage under the farmers, hoteliers and construction contractors, were released from their clutches, brought to the school, provided nutritious food and proper accommodation along with intensive educational coaching for a period of 3—6 months, so that they were able to get readmitted into schools and continue their formal education. Given herewith are the details of the donors who have supported the organisation.

LIST OF AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN SINCE 2005 :

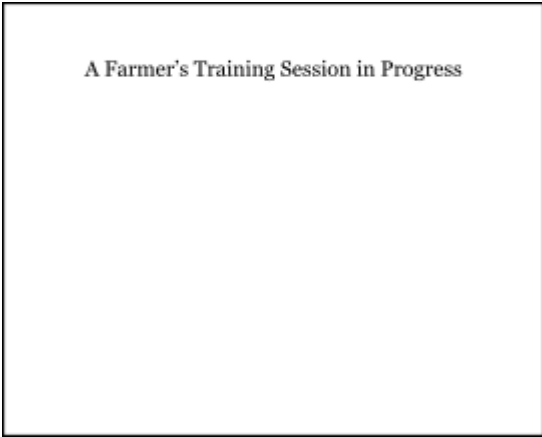
No.	NAME OFDONOR	ACTIVITY	DURATION	TARGET AREA
1	DPEP	Rural Bridge School	2005-2007	4 Mandals of Kurnool
2	Department of Health & Family Welfare	Mother & Child Emergency Transport Service	2005- 2007	Pattikonda,Tuggali, Maddikara, Devenakonda and Aspari
3	Dept. of Health & Family Welfare (NRHM)	Mobile Medical Unit (MMU)	2005-Ongoing	Pattikonda, Veldurthi, Tuggali,Maddikara, Krishnagiri
4	Minor Irrigation Department. (under World Bank)	Andhra Pradesh Community Based Tank Management Project	2007--2016	Velugodu, Rudravaram Mandals of Kurnool District.
5	District Water Management Authority	NREGS Internal Social Audit	--2008--	Pattikonda Devenakonda Goregadda ,
6	Ground Water Department	Ground Water Awareness Camps	--2009--	Pedha Kadubur Mandal
7	Bio-Tech Foundation	Agriculture Training	--2009--	Pattikonda
8	R&B Department (World Bank Sponsored)	Telangana Road Sector Project	2009-Ongoing	5 Mandals of Telangana Ranga Reddy, Shankarpalli Chevella, Chabalu and Furuknagar
9	NABARD APRO – Hyderabad	Sari-Rolling Training programme for Members of Senior SHGs'.	--2009--	Pattikonda Mandal
10	NABARD APRO Hyderabad	Beautician's Course under REDP	--2010--	Pattikonda Mandal
11	Rajiv Vidya Mission	Training of School Management Committees	--2012--	Allagadda

12	Water Resources Department. of AP (APCBTMP)	Training Water User Associations (WUAs)	--2016 --	Velugodu & Rudravaram
13	SUZLON Foundation, Pune CSR Funded Project	Suryodayam Project	2016-2020	Telangana State Chinna-Chinthaguntla Devarakadra ,Madananthapuram and Aaddkal
14	NABARD AP RO – Hyderabad	Formation of 35 Farmers Clubs	2016-2019	Pattikonda, Rudravaram Maddikara,Devanakonda,Sanjamala,Owk , Panyam, and Velugodu
15	NABARD AP RO Hyderabad	Financial Literacy Programme	--2016--	Pattikonda, Maddikaraand Thuggali
16	SUZLON Foundation, Pune, CSR Fund	Surya Project, Wanaparthly Telangana State	2017-2020	Telangana State Wanaparthly, Peddamandvi and Dodaguntapalli
17	NABARD AP RO, Hyderabad	Water Campaign Programme	--2017-	Pattikonda, Thuggali
18	R&B Department. (Sponsored by World Bank)	A.P Road sector Project	2018-Ongoing	West Godavari 5 Mandals Samarlakota, Peddapuram, Gandepalli, Rangapeta, and Rajanagaram
19	Animal Husbandry Department	Maintaining Capacity Building Centres	2018-2019	Dhone of Kurnool District.
20	Commissioner of Agriculture & IFAD	Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Project (APDMP)	2018-2020	Pattikonda, Maddikara, and Kolimigigundla
21	Animal Husbandry Department	Mobile Veterinary Clinics (MVC)	2019-Ongoing	5 Mandals of Kurnool
22	NABARD AP RO– Hyderabad	Promotion of Farmer Producer companies	2019-Ongoing	Velugodu, Rudravaram ,Pathikonda & Maddikera

Nava Youth Association (NYA) at present has the required infrastructure facilities such spacious premises with sufficient space to conduct trainings programmes, vehicles to ensure proper mobility, of the personnel, computers etc that are essential for communication and informational purposes and all the prerequisites of a well furnished office. Presently the NGO is employing 44 personnel comprising of 2 Doctors, 8 Engineers, 1 Postgraduate in Agricultural Science, 8 Post Graduates with Professional

Qualification, 11 Graduates of Science and Arts Subjects, 4 Nurse cum Multi Purpose Health Workers and 1 Lab Technician. There are also 5 Under Graduates working as Drivers and other such jobs. Most of these personnel have sufficient experience and are committed and hard-working and have been with NYA from 3 to 8 years. In addition to these full-time staff, NYA is also employing 49 part time personnel also in the villages. NYA has other professionals such as Doctors, Social Scientists, and experts in various fields of development on its faculty and all these persons are available whenever they are needed.

Nava Youth Association has been able to establish excellent rapport with Government officials and other NGO's of the area and is collaborating with them in various activities. NYA is presently



implementing programmes in the Districts of, Kurnool, Ananthapur, Godavari and also in Telangana. The activities are in the field of Soil and Moisture Conservation, Watershed Development and maintenance, Infrastructure Development, Gender Development, Women and Child Health, Education, Watershed Development and Natural Resource Management. NYA personnel are prepared to go the extra mile to support developmental activities aimed at poverty alleviation. Over a period of time the NGO has built up rapport with the local communities and also earned the appreciation of the government officials of the line departments working for poverty alleviation in rural areas. NYA has the capacity to analyse the problems of an area and develop area specific development projects based upon the needs of the community and has been able to successfully implement the proposed activity to the utmost satisfaction of all the stakeholders involved.

Vision:

Nava Youth Association envisages itself as an organisation that is capable of training, research and implementing development activities at the national level, and is working towards a gender equitable, just and harmonious society where, men and women belonging to the deprived and weaker sections of society can live in a sustainable manner with dignity and honour.

Mission:

To build up the capacities of the women and men of vulnerable sections of society and to thereby protect, enhance and improve the quality of their life, in a sustainable environment through cooperative action and through organised collective bargaining power; leading to increased control and management of financial resources and through the optimum use of natural resources.

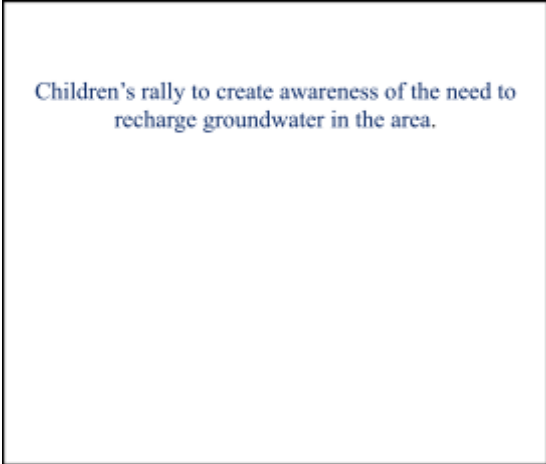
Methodology: -

- ❖ *Organising the community at micro and macro levels to effect sustainable appreciation of the power of collective bargaining especially among the agricultural and fisher-folk communities to minimise their dependence on exploitative forces through,*
- ❖ *Advocacy, campaigns to promote and safeguard the rights of weaker sections and especially the rights of women and children in society.*
- ❖ *Promoting environmental conservation and initiating development activities to create awareness regarding the need for protection and conservation of natural resources for a sustainable environment.*
- ❖ *Upgrading of skills of target communities to promote the capacities of the beneficiaries through the promotion of life skill education that is relevant to them and to help the community acquire new skills required to enhance their earning capacity.*
- ❖ *Health activities to ensure and promote awareness of health and sanitation among the target groups and to inculcate in them the Rights of women especially over their own bodies.*

- ❖ *Facilitate participatory planning and implementation of all developmental activities right from the village level.*

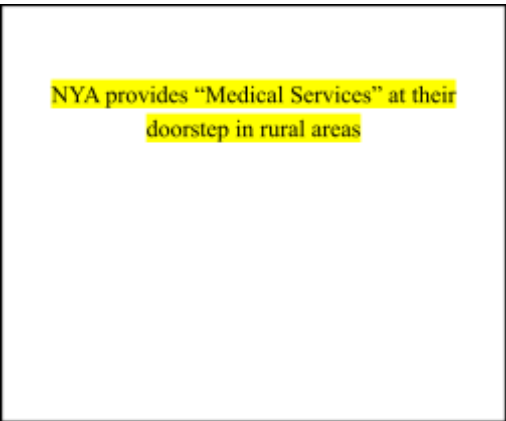
IMPORTANT MILESTONES IN THE PROGRESS OF NAVA YOUTH ASSOCIATION:

In the initial stages of the organisation the work began with the implementation of small activities such as Setting up Bridge Schools, implementing the Matha – Sishu Samrakshana (Mother & Child Welfare Project) that was sponsored by the Health Department of the government of Andhra Pradesh. Later on the NGO also conducted “Ground Water Awareness” Programmes that were designed to create awareness among farmers about the need for “Replenishing of Ground water” which becomes necessary, when in a given command area; the annual extraction of ground water; exceeds the ground



water recharge capacity, and to solve this problem, water harvesting activities and harvesting structures are required. Another activity the NGO initiated was setting up “Seed Banks” that were essentially designed to create awareness among the farming community on the need and importance of sowing good quality seed, which could produced in the villages by the farmers. Good quality seeds are essential for making farmers self reliant and able to reap better harvests and by obtaining better harvests they increased their income. Other important activities that were implemented by NYA are as shown below:

In 2005 the Government of Andhra Pradesh sanctioned a “Mobile Medical Unit” to Nava Youth Association so as to provide medical services to the rural communities at their doorstep. This project is still operational and serves 5 Mandals of Kurnool District.



In 2007 Nava Youth Association implemented the Andhra Pradesh Community Based Tank Management Project (APCBTMP) in the villages of Panyam, Owk, Kolimigundla, Kothapalli, Atmakur, Velugode, Midthur, Sanjamala and

Rudravaram of Kurnool District. The objective of this project being that the farmers cultivating their lands using the water from the tank form themselves into “Water User’s Association” and make optimum use of the available water to increase their agriculture productivity; through effective management systems The scope of the project would cover minor irrigation tanks with command

area greater than 40 ha. In regard to farmers and agricultural development, some of the activities promoted by NYA were Horticulture training and Orchard Plantation, Soil Conservation Projects, Water Harvesting and Watershed Development Projects, Agricultural Development Projects and Afforestation Project . These projects were implemented for the benefit of farmers and to educate them about the advances and new procedures in agricultural techniques. This project was implemented until 2016

In 2010 the NGO supported by NABARD conducted training programmes for capacity building of women members of SHGs'. The “Sari Rolling” technique was taught to the women so that, they could set up their own units and earn alternative income through this activity. Similarly women with the requisite aptitude were selected and provided “Beauticians Training” to enable them to set up Beauty Parlours in nearby towns and earn regular income from this activity. Some other successful interventions implemented for women’s financial empowerment were, training and setting up oil extraction units and tamarind cake extraction units as part of the income generation projects. Women members of SHGs' were also trained in garment making, toy making, detergent and phenol making and marketing so that they could have alternative sources of income during the agricultural lean seasons when no work was available to them. Women were provided training and market linkages so that they would be able to market the products that they made at home in a profitable manner. We at NYA believe that with the financial empowerment of women, the socio-economic status of the whole family improves drastically.

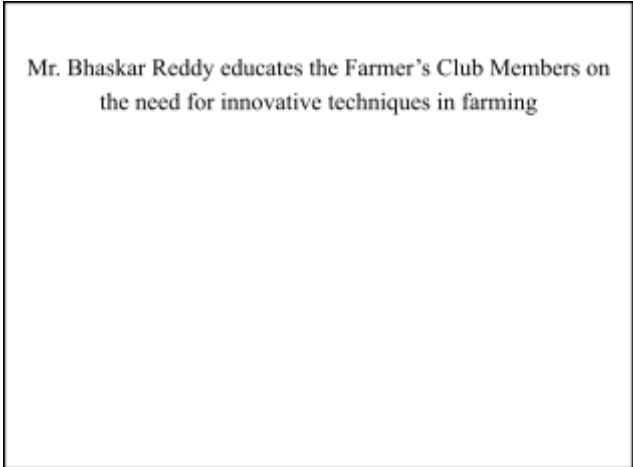
Sari Rolling skill development training for women's financial empowerment

Women learning the secrets of the beautician to earn their livelihood and live with dignity.

In the year 2016 SUZLON Foundation as part of its “Corporate Social Responsibility” effort supported Nava Youth Association to undertake a project named “Suryodayam Project” in Telangana State. The main objective of this project being the development of the villages namely Chinna Chinthaguntla and Addakal villages of Veltoor Mandal. NYA has undertaken activities that organised the community to form Village Development Committees and thereafter has undertaken economic developmental activities related to Women and Child Development, Kitchen Garden Promotion, Computer Education for Youth, Fodder Development for Cattle, Development of Non Conventional

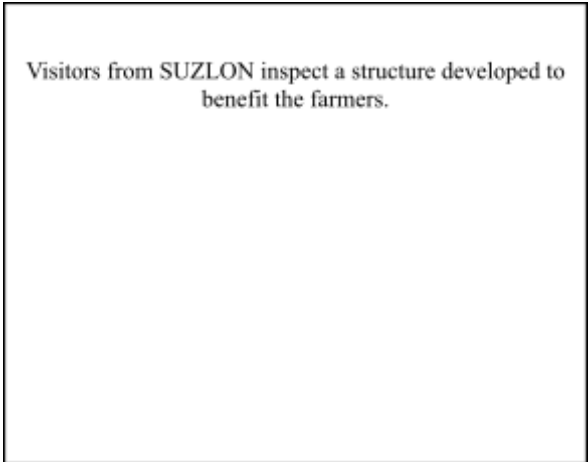
Energy Sources such as solar energy, Infrastructure Development and Exposure Visits for Farmers and Training of Farmers in Modern Agriculture Technology.

In the same year namely in 2016 NABARD sponsored a Project for “*Formation of Farmers Club*” with the intention of emphasising and increasing the income of the farmers by improving their productivity through the adoption of appropriate technology, good agricultural practices, proper use of credit and marketing skills. The organization identified progressive farmers with good track record of proper loan utilization, aptitude and capacity for team work and trained them. This project was sponsored by NABARD and is being successfully implemented even today and this led to NABARD sponsoring and entrusting bigger projects to be implemented by NYA.



In the same year NABARD sanctioned funds to Nava Youth Association to conduct “Financial Literacy Project for the farmers of the area. Members of our target areas were given extensive training on Saving for needs, investments, life insurance instruments for securing their family welfare, financial planning, and financial awareness, accessing financial products and services. They were also educated on how to use credit properly, manage financials and savings, minimizing financial risk and derive long term benefits of their savings. They were also made aware of saving, bank accounts, welfare schemes such as Jan-dhan, Pradhan Manthri Suraksha Bheema Yojana(PMSBY)and other such schemes.

In the year 2017 SUZLON sanctioned another project titled as “SURYA” to Nava Youth Association to be implemented in Mahabubnagar and Wanaparthi of Telangana. SUZLON’s policy is committed to keeping sustainability at the forefront as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility framework and believes that sustainable development can be ensured only by continually and responsibly enhancing the meagre resources of the rural community. Their CSR strategy is to create win-win situations for the communities, environment and other stakeholders and at the same time contribute to the achievement of Millennium Development Goals in a “Gender Equitable” manner. The objectives of this intervention by SUZLON focused on enabling local communities to develop their full potential with minimal impact on the natural environment and in an ethical



manner that is fair to all stakeholders and empowering them to be responsible members of civil society. The main components of the intervention are 1) *Environmental Initiatives*, 2) *Livelihoods initiatives*, 3) *Education initiatives*, 4) *Health initiatives* and 5) *Civic Amenities Initiatives*. This project covers 3 Mandals of Mahabubnagar and 2 Mandals of Wanaparthy in Telangana. NYA has undertaken activities that organised the community to form Village Development Committees and thereafter has undertaken economic developmental activities related to Women and Child Development, Kitchen Garden Promotion, Computer Education for Youth, Fodder Development for Cattle, Development of Non Conventional Energy Sources, Infrastructure Development and Exposure Visits for Farmers and Training of Farmers in Modern Agriculture Technology.

In 2018 was entrusted the World Bank sponsored “Roads and Buildings Department” Telangana Road Sector is the Social Management Project that covers 5 Mandals in the present Telangana State, to Nava Youth Association. At that time Andhra Pradesh was the fifth largest state in India both in terms of its geographic area (27.5 million hectares) and population (80 million). Andhra Pradesh Road Development Corporation (APRDC), which is part of the Road and Building Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh sanctioned the project to NYA . This project was initiated for improvement and up-grading of State Highways. The components of this project are, Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), Indigenous People Development Plan (IPDP), HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Plan and Road Safety Awareness Programme. The “Resettlement Action Plan” included compensating and assisting the project-affected families and the project-displaced families to regain their livelihood options in the area where they were re-settled. The Indigenous People Development Plan project envisaged the holistic development of indigenous people generally referred to as Tribal Communities as an important component of the project. The HIV/AIDS plan was intended to control and prevent the spread of the deadly disease on the road corridors proposed to be developed as part of this project, and last but not in the least the “Road Safety Awareness Programme proposed was designed to reduce the risk of accidents by raising awareness among local inhabitants and road users living on the periphery of the project corridors. This project is still ongoing since 2009.

Sri. Sudarshan Reddy, IAS, Joint Collector, Ranga Reddy District during a visit to the project, interacts with NYA personnel of the Resettlement and Rehabilitation of the Kandi – Shadnagar Road Project)

In 2019 the NGO obtained funds to start a Mobile Veterinary Clinic from the Department of Animal Husbandry and is implementing this project in 5 Mandals of Kurnool District. The cattle of the farmers are a very important asset of the farming community and in the past the farmers were hard pressed to bring the cattle to the veterinary hospitals that were situated in the Panchayath

village. often when they reached there they would find that the personnel had left the place or that the necessary medicines were exhausted. Now the farmers have the veterinary services of the full-fledged team coming to their doorstep and providing the required services free of cost. This team also educates them about insuring their cattle to ensure that the farmers do not suffer loss due to the untimely death of any of their valuable cattle. It has been observed that the farmers are more receptive to the NGO as they have understood that the NGO is working for their overall development and welfare. The rapport between the NGO and the community has grown due to this activity.

Another important project being implemented by NYA in Pattikonda, Maddikara, and Kolimigundla Mandals is the ***Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Project (APDMP)***. This is considered important in view of the ecological conditions that prevail in these localities. Due to the low rainfall pattern, the frequent failure of the monsoons and the over extraction of groundwater, the water table has become low and reached alarming proportions. Due to the lack of tree cover the wind

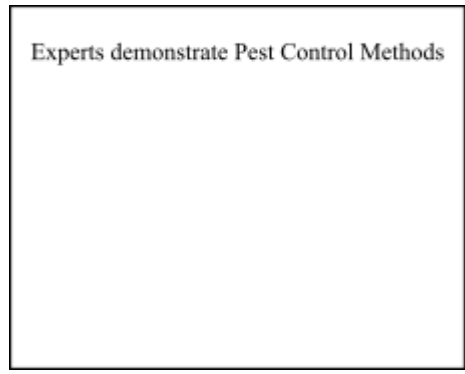


IFAD Visit at Jutur (V), Pathikonda (M), Kurnool Dt

and water erosion has denuded the soil and made it largely infertile. Due to the lack of sufficient water; the total quantum of agriculture in the District has come down drastically and due to the lack of employment or under-employment the farmers have very low income, and this impacts the status of women, who actually play the major role in bearing the family's burdens and coupled with the existing gender inequality; their lives have

become untenable. The lack of awareness in regard to advances in agriculture makes the farmers, persist with their outdated patterns of agriculture and in the course of time, they become indebted. The family's poor income causes the quality of food and nutrition of the family to suffer and the women and children fall ill frequently and have to spend whatever little financial resources they have; on treatment costs. The frustrated farmers resort to alcohol and other vices and often end up committing suicide. All the above conditions are part of a vicious cycle but are basically preventable and so the "Drought Mitigation" activities proposed by the government will play a major role in reversing the prevailing conditions and should improve the quality of life of the farmers. NYA has instituted Soil and Moisture Conserving activities, Watershed Development, Promotion of Horticulture and Fruit Tree Orchard

Plantations, Large scale Afforestation activities, and also has begun to educate the farmers on Modern Agriculture methods such as ZBNF Techniques that will enhance their income. In addition to this NYA has initiated Women and Gender Equitable Development activities designed to



Experts demonstrate Pest Control Methods

financially empower women. The NGO has also initiated Community Health Services that will reduce the drain on the family's financial resources and furthermore is promoting Non-Farm Based Income Generation activities that will provide alternate income to the families of the farmers. The situation is gradually changing and soon we expect to see the desired change taking place.

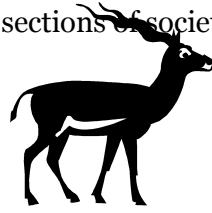
The NGO with the support of NABARD has initiated a Fishermen's FPO (Farmer Producer's Organisation) for the fisher-folk engaged in this traditional occupation in the Velugodu Reservoir. The fisher-folk are one of the most exploited people in the country. Their product has a very high chance of becoming spoiled and so they are often forced to sell away their produce for a pittance. They are forced to invest a large chunk of money on different types of nets and ropes in view of the different fish varieties and sizes and this gives the traders an opportunity to sell them the required paraphernalia at premium prices. During the end of the year harvesting of fish in a water body, the contractors who purchase fish in bulk quantity, manage to cheat them of the full value of the fish they purchase, using dubious and often under handed means. The fishermen who are largely illiterate often get cheated and their caste system and the dictates of the village headmen who are often in the grip of the traders, is very difficult to break out of, but NYA has decided to change the status quo that prevails in the fisheries sector and improve the lives of the fisher community. It is proposed that over a period of three years, the fishermen will be able to adopt better management

The major portion of the fishermen's income has to be invested on purchase of nets which, last for just a year or two. NYA supported by the State Project Director, World Bank's Expert supplied Community Nety nets and motor scooters to the fishermen to alleviate their poverty conditions.

Similarly the NGO aims to initiate a Farmers Producer's Organisation for the vegetable cultivating farmers of Pattikonda. These farmers have for decades been engaged in cultivating high quality vegetables but are unable to get remunerative prices for their product due to the prevailing trends in the market. Being unorganised they are unable to take their produce to other towns and cities where they would definitely earn more profits. NABARD has instituted this project designed to organise the farmers and enable them to get better returns for their product and thereby increase their income.

Nava Youth Association has implemented all these activities and has earned the gratitude and appreciation of the target communities as they have learned many important farming and management techniques from the NGO. This section of society that is mostly illiterate and ignorant, they have benefitted and are able to increase their knowledge to enhance their income levels using the simple techniques taught to them and have also been able to improve the quality of their lives. Government officials who have worked with the NGO are also pleased with the dedication and

commitment of the NGO. NYA aims to continue to work for the uplift and development of the farmers and the economically weaker sections of society .



C. Bhaskar Reddy
President