



# SASAKAWA HEALTH FOUNDATION

## Monthly Report

To

**Executive Director of Sasakawa Health Foundation**

<b>Title of the Report</b>	Monthly Progress Report
<b>Name</b>	Mrs. Maya Ranavare
<b>Date of Submission</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
<b>Reporting Period</b>	September 2023

### 1. Report on activities of APAL State-Level Bodies and APAL Leaders

- APAL's state committee in Gujarat and Mother Teresa Orphan Charitable Trust paid a visit to Gandhi Seva Sangh
- As per the request of APAL's state committee in Andhra Pradesh and the leaders of Jyothi Leprosy Colony
- The Government of Andhra Pradesh has recently sanctioned and distributed disability pensions to 20 individuals affected by leprosy
- During their visit to Sanjay Nagar Leprosy Colony in Borivali, Mumbai, the president of APAL (Association of People Affected by Leprosy) and the state committee in Maharashtra meticulously observed the healthcare and ulcer care services
- a significant event unfolded during a district-level review meeting orchestrated by the Government of Maharashtra
- APAL's state committee in Telangana, in collaboration with Share the Vision Swa Chanda Seva Sansthan, distributed essential commodities
- a heartwarming collaboration between the Mother Teresa Missionary and APAL's state committee in Gujarat brought essential relief
- Mrs. Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, recently met with Mr. Rajesh Aggarwal (IAS), the Secretary of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.
- APAL and APAL's state committee in Bihar (SAMUTHAN) had the opportunity to meet with the ADS of East Champaran District
- , APAL and APAL's state committee in Telangana met with Dr. D John Babu sir, Joint Director (NLEP), and Additional Director Mr. Ravindra Nayak
- Mrs. Maya Ranavare, the esteemed President of APAL, embarked on a significant journey to the ILEP Conference held in Tarangire, South Africa.
- APAL's President Mrs. Maya Ranavare had the chance to visit the leprosy colonies in Tarangire, Tanzania, South Africa
- Mrs. Maya Ranavare recently attended the ILEP Conference in Tarangire, South Africa where she presented her insights on the Impact, Benefits, and Challenges of the Association of People Affected by Leprosy

- APAL's state committee in Madhya Pradesh participated in Hotel Kesar in Khandwa was the venue for a one-day state-level election seminar program organized under the auspices of Madhya Pradesh Viklang Manch (
- The APAL's state committee in Delhi and some young people met with Mrs. Shaili Oberai, the MCD Mayor
- APAL and the APAL's state committee in Andhra Pradesh have submitted a memorandum regarding the construction of houses
- In collaboration with the Reliable Charity Organization, APAL's state committee in Telangana recently provided essential commodities
- APAL's state committee in Chhattisgarh recently conducted a POD (Prevention of Disability) Program in Champa, Chhattisgarh
- APAL's Joint-Secretary Mr. Ramvarai Sah visited a colony named Banmankhi in the Purnea district
- In collaboration with LEPRA and Shodhana organizations, APAL's state committee in Telangana distributed MCR footwear

### APAL's state committee in Gujarat and Mother Teresa Orphan Charitable Trust paid a visit to Gandhi Seva Sangh

On 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023, APAL's state committee in Gujarat and Mother Teresa Orphan Charitable Trust paid a visit to Gandhi Seva Sangh in Ahmedabad. During their visit, they engaged with all the residents of the colony and discussed the current issues faced by individuals affected by leprosy. The Mother Teresa Orphan Charitable Trust reassured them that the problems would be resolved soon.

The visit was attended by Mr. Narsimhlu State Coordinator, Mr. Gangaram Vice President of the State Committee, and Mr. Vijay Kumar Secretary of the State Committee. They explained the current situation of those affected by leprosy and their families.



### As per the request of APAL's state committee in Andhra Pradesh and the leaders of Jyothi Leprosy Colony

On 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023, As per the request of APAL's state committee in Andhra Pradesh and the leaders of Jyothi Leprosy Colony, the Government of Andhra Pradesh sanctioned, constructed and inaugurated an Urban Primary Health Center at Jyothi Leprosy Colony in Bhimavaram, AP, The UPH Centre was inaugurated by RESPECTED Mr Grandhi Srinivas, MLA of West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh.

APAL would like to express deep gratitude to the Government of Andhra Pradesh and Mr. Grandhi Srinivas for his unwavering support. Special thanks are also due to Mr. Prakash Done, Working President of the State Committee, Mr. Veeraju, Secretary of the State Committee, and Mr. TSM Raju, Volunteer Youth Committee of APAL, for their invaluable contributions to the leprosy community.



***The Government of Andhra Pradesh has recently sanctioned and distributed disability pensions to 20 individuals affected by leprosy***

On 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023, The Government of Andhra Pradesh has recently sanctioned and distributed disability pensions to 20 individuals affected by leprosy and persons with disabilities at Jyothi Nagar Leprosy Colony in Bhimavaram, Andhra Pradesh. This initiative was made possible through the efforts of APAL's state committee in Andhra Pradesh.

APAL is grateful to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for their invaluable services to individuals affected by leprosy, and would like to extend a special thanks to Mr. Prakash Done, Working President of the state committee in Andhra Pradesh, and Mr. TSM Raju, Volunteer Youth of APAL, for their contributions in the distributions and the leprosy fields.



***During their visit to Sanjay Nagar Leprosy Colony in Borivali, Mumbai, the president of APAL (Association of People Affected by Leprosy) and the state committee in Maharashtra meticulously observed the healthcare and ulcer care services***

On 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023, During their visit to Sanjay Nagar Leprosy Colony in Borivali, Mumbai, the president of APAL (Association of People Affected by Leprosy) and the state committee in Maharashtra meticulously observed the healthcare and ulcer care services offered by the Dressing Unit situated within the colony. Impressed by the dedication and efficacy of the services, they extended their commendation towards the active involvement of Colony leader Mr. Shapi Sheikh and the skilled dresser in advancing the field of leprosy care.



Their appreciation underscored the crucial role played by individuals like Mr. Sheikh and the dresser in alleviating the plight of those affected by leprosy, fostering hope and health within the community.



***A significant event unfolded during a district-level review meeting orchestrated by the Government of Maharashtra***

On September 7th, 2023, a significant event unfolded during a district-level review meeting orchestrated by the Government of Maharashtra. Amidst the deliberations, Mr. Rasul Mullah, the State Coordinator for APAL in Maharashtra, took the floor to unveil the APAL's Annual Book. With precision and eloquence, Mr. Mullah presented the comprehensive report to the esteemed attendees, including Mrs. Darsha Sha, the Health Head Officer of Mumbai District, and Mr. Manish Range, the Assistant Officer of Mumbai.

The presentation marked a pivotal moment in bridging vital information between APAL and key governmental health authorities, fostering collaboration and informed decision-making for the betterment of public health initiatives in Maharashtra.



***APAL's state committee in Telangana, in collaboration with Share the Vision Swa Chanda Seva Sansthan, distributed essential commodities***

APAL's state committee in Telangana, in collaboration with Share the Vision Swa Chanda Seva Sansthan, distributed essential commodities to the people affected by leprosy at Shantinagar Colony in Hyderabad. The program aimed to help people affected by leprosy, with Share the

Vision charitable organization (Khammam) distributing essential commodities to 100 families.

The event was graced by Municipal Commissioner Mr. S. Ravinder Reddy and Mrs. Vidyavati Vijender Reddy (4th Ward Councilor) as chief guests who expressed their desire to continue organizing such programs in collaboration with Share the Vision Swa Chhanda Seva organization.

Share the Vision President Narayana, Treasurer Pal Sadguna Rao, and Sudhir Babu expressed their gratitude to M. Ramesh, State Coordinator of APAL, for supporting the event.

APAL is grateful to Share the Vision Swa Chanda Seva Sansthan for their commendable services to people affected by leprosy and their families, and a special thanks to Mr. Ramesh State Coordinator of APAL for his contribution.



***A heartwarming collaboration between the Mother Teresa Missionary and APAL's state committee in Gujarat brought essential relief***

On September 12th, 2023, a heartwarming collaboration between the Mother Teresa Missionary and APAL's state committee in Gujarat brought essential relief to those most in need. At Gandhi Seva Sangh in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, 50 individuals affected by leprosy and persons with disabilities were the recipients of this benevolent gesture. In a display of compassion and solidarity, essential commodities were distributed, offering vital support to those facing challenging circumstances.

The partnership between APAL and the Mother Teresa Missionary embodies the spirit of empathy and collective action, demonstrating the power of collaboration in addressing societal needs. This initiative not only provided tangible assistance but also served as a beacon of hope for marginalized communities, reminding them that they are not forgotten.

Amidst the distribution, APAL extends heartfelt gratitude to the Missionaries of Mother Teresa for their invaluable support. Special recognition is also deserved by Mr. Narisimhlu, the State Coordinator, and Mr. Vijay Kumar, whose dedication and efforts played a pivotal role in orchestrating the distributions and reaching out to the leprosy-affected populations. Their commitment reflects a commitment to service and underscores the importance of individuals coming together to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.





***Mrs. Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, recently met with Mr. Rajesh Aggarwal (IAS), the Secretary of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.***

On 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023, Mrs. Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, recently met with Mr. Rajesh Aggarwal (IAS), the Secretary of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. During the meeting, she emphasized the need to abolish laws that allow discrimination based on leprosy disease. The secretary assured her that he would take necessary steps with concerned authorities to initiate steps towards abolishing or repealing discriminatory laws.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the Leprosy Mission India, VIDHI Centre of Legal Policy, National Centre for Employment for Disabled People Sasakawa Health Foundation, and WHO. The secretary supported organizing an event around World Leprosy Day, 30 January, Martyrdom Day of Mahatma Gandhi Ji to bring all stakeholders together to sensitize the issue of stigma against leprosy and steps to be taken to eliminate discrimination. Mrs. Maya Ranavare handed over a copy of the annual report to the Secretary, of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.



***APAL and APAL's state committee in Bihar (SAMUTHAN) had the opportunity to meet with the ADS of East Champaran District***

On 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023, APAL and APAL's state committee in Bihar (SAMUTHAN) had the opportunity to meet with the ADS of East Champaran District alongside persons affected by leprosy from Bihar and state committee leaders. We had the chance to voice our concerns and were grateful to have our problems solved. It was a productive and positive meeting.

APAL want to express my gratitude to ADS of East Champaran District for their invaluable support. Their positive response was truly appreciated and we would also like to extend a

special thanks to Mr. Somewswara Dubey State Coordinator of APAL, Mr. Ramavarai Sah Joint Secretary of APAL, and our other leaders for their interventions and contributions to the leprosy community. Their efforts are truly commendable and have made a significant impact.



***, APAL and APAL's state committee in Telangana met with Dr. D John Babu sir, Joint Director (NLEP), and Additional Director Mr. Ravindra Nayak***

On 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023, APAL and APAL's state committee in Telangana met with Dr. D John Babu sir, Joint Director (NLEP), and Additional Director Mr. Ravindra Nayak to discuss the problems we have been facing. We explained everything in detail, including the need for 2 MCR pairs of footwear to be provided per year.

We also discussed the importance of supplying bandages with supporting medicine in each colony. It was encouraging to hear that 9 people from Dichpally came to continue their work in the leprosy ward, despite the fact that general wards will now be done in Nizamabad government hospital. They even met with higher officials and spoke positively about the situation.

APAL is grateful to the Government authorities for their support and we want to give a special shoutout to Mr. Ramesh State Coordinator of APAL for his amazing contributions to the leprosy community in Telangana. We appreciate all that he has done to make a positive impact in the lives of fellow people affected by leprosy.



***Mrs. Maya Ranavare, the esteemed President of APAL, embarked on a significant journey to the ILEP Conference held in Tarangire, South Africa.***

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Mrs. Maya Ranavare, the esteemed President of APAL, embarked on a significant journey to the ILEP Conference held in Tarangire, South Africa. Her attendance at this global forum underscored APAL's commitment to advocating for the rights and well-being



of individuals affected by leprosy. Mrs. Ranavare's presence not only represented APAL but also served as a voice for the countless individuals in India facing the challenges of leprosy.

During her participation in the conference, Mrs. Ranavare delivered a compelling address, drawing attention to the harsh realities of living conditions endured by those affected by leprosy and their families in India. Her poignant insights, drawn from personal experiences, offered a firsthand perspective on the struggles and obstacles faced by this marginalized community. Through her impassioned speech, Mrs. Ranavare highlighted the urgent need for concerted efforts to address the socio-economic disparities and stigma surrounding leprosy.

Moreover, Mrs. Ranavare took the opportunity to showcase APAL's unwavering dedication to combating these issues. She shared the organization's notable achievements and ongoing initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality of life for individuals impacted by leprosy. From community outreach programs to advocacy campaigns, APAL's multifaceted approach underscores its commitment to effecting positive change and fostering inclusivity. Mrs. Ranavare's presence and advocacy at the ILEP Conference epitomized APAL's mission to empower and uplift those affected by leprosy, resonating with stakeholders worldwide and catalyzing momentum towards a more equitable future.



***APAL's President Mrs. Maya Ranavare had the chance to visit the leprosy colonies in Tarangire, Tanzania, South Africa***

On 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023, APAL's President Mrs. Maya Ranavare had the chance to visit the leprosy colonies in Tarangire, Tanzania, South Africa. During her visit, she had the opportunity to interact with the inmates of the colony and observe firsthand the living conditions and infrastructure.

She also noted the people's personal hygiene, availability of health care, social protection services, education support, employment, self-employment, social entitlements, and mental well-being of those affected by leprosy who reside in the leprosy colonies. Evidently, the government services provided to those in need were extremely important in ensuring they received the care and support they required.

She attended a meeting between ILEP Panel Members and the African Alliance against MTN at Chelsea Center Hotel Dar-es-Salam in Tanzania.





***Mrs. Maya Ranavare recently attended the ILEP Conference in Tarangire, South Africa where she presented her insights on the Impact, Benefits, and Challenges of the Association of People Affected by Leprosy***

On 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023, Mrs. Maya Ranavare recently attended the ILEP Conference in Tarangire, South Africa where she presented her insights on the Impact, Benefits, and Challenges of the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) as a People Organization. Her presentation was well-received and provided valuable information on the important work that APAL does. It was clear that Mrs. Ranavare is passionate about her work and dedicated to making a difference in the lives of those affected by leprosy. Overall, her presentation highlighted the significant impact that APAL has had on the lives of many people and the challenges that remain in ensuring that everyone has access to the care and support they need.

She concluded "We must always strive for empowerment, especially in the face of historical and systemic dehumanization. By taking an active role in our lives and reflecting critically on our situation, we can begin to challenge the structures that keep us subordinated. This means having access to important resources and decision-making power and being able to control our own lives. Empowerment is crucial in the ongoing struggle for equality and justice"



***APAL's state committee in Madhya Pradesh participated in Hotel Kesar in Khandwa was the venue for a one-day state-level election seminar program organized under the auspices of Madhya Pradesh Viklang Manch (***

On 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023, APAL's state committee in Madhya Pradesh participated in Hotel Kesar in Khandwa was the venue for a one-day state-level election seminar program organized under the auspices of Madhya Pradesh Viklang Manch (M.P.) sister organization

and National Center for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP). The program was aimed at discussing the issues of the manifesto and the problems faced by disabled people, along with their basic life issues. A media conference was also held on the same subject. Among the notable participants were Arman Ali and members from APAL and NCPEDP.

Other attendees included Secretary Sarang Gaydhane and Sahayog Krish Nivaran Sangh from Indore, Raju Rathod, Gopal Shinde, Sarita Dhundhale, Congress representative Dr. Munish Mishra, City President Awadhesh Ji Sisodia, In-charge Harda Kundan Malviya, State Secretary Raees Abbasi, Congress Block President, and President of Disabled Forum, Madhya Pradesh Anand Malakar ji, as well as the presidents of the Disabled Forum of all the districts. The event was fruitful and informative, and we hope it will lead to meaningful action in support of the disabled community.



***The APAL's state committee in Delhi and some young people met with Mrs. Shaili Oberai, the MCD Mayor***

On 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023, The APAL's state committee in Delhi and some young people met with Mrs. Shaili Oberai, the MCD Mayor. They submitted a memorandum requesting that at least 4% of cleaning staff employment opportunities be made available to people affected by leprosy and their family members. This would help to improve living conditions for those who have been impacted by this disease.

APAL wants to thank Mrs. Shaili Oberai for her prompt and positive response in providing cleaning staff and comfortable hospitality for our organization; APAL want to extend a special thank you to Mr. Giridhari Lal, State Coordinator of APAL, Mr. Vijay Kumar, Secretary of the state committee, and Mr. Arjun, Joint-Secretary of the state committee for their valuable contributions to advocacy and working with relevant authorities on behalf of our cause. Their efforts have been greatly appreciated





***APAL and the APAL's state committee in Andhra Pradesh have submitted a memorandum regarding the construction of houses***

On 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023, APAL and the APAL's state committee in Andhra Pradesh have submitted a memorandum regarding the construction of houses that were damaged and built a long time ago. The Chairman of the Legislative Council, Mr. Koye Moshenu Raju, requested the State Housing Minister, Mr. Jogi Ramesh, to take necessary measures to build new houses for the leprosy patients in Bhimavaram Leprosy Colony as the current houses are in a dilapidated condition.

In response to this, the Minister assured that he would take immediate action to grant new houses to the people in the Leprosy Colony.

APAL want to express our gratitude to the Government authorities for their invaluable services to the persons affected by leprosy; would also like to give a special thanks to Mr. Prakash Done, Working President of the state committee in Andhra Pradesh, and Mr. Veerraju, colony leader, for their contribution to the welfare of the leprosy community. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed, and they have truly made a difference in the lives of those affected by this disease.



***In collaboration with the Reliable Charity Organization, APAL's state committee in Telangana recently provided essential commodities***

On 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023, In collaboration with the Reliable Charity Organization, APAL's state committee in Telangana recently provided essential commodities to 90 families affected by leprosy in Parvath Nagar (Borabanda). It was an honour to have Allapur Corporator Smt. as our esteemed chief guest. Sabiha Gausuddin and Parvat Nagar President Mr. D. Jahed Sharif (Baba) expressed their appreciation for Ravi, the president of the organization, for his numerous charitable initiatives and encouraged him to continue his good work.

APAL also extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mr Ramesh APAL state coordinator, and Mr Parushuram Ms. Maniyamma, for their invaluable contributions to this program, which were recognized by the Reliable Charity Organization. The residents of Parvat Nagar Colony were deeply grateful for the support and assistance provided by the Reliable Charity organization.





***APAL's state committee in Chhattisgarh recently conducted a POD (Prevention of Disability) Program in Champa, Chhattisgarh***

On 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023, APAL's state committee in Chhattisgarh recently conducted a POD (Prevention of Disability) Program in Champa, Chhattisgarh. The program aimed to provide ulcer care services and teach self-care to persons affected by leprosy.

One of the major concerns for those affected by leprosy is the development of ulcer wounds on their hands and feet due to loss of sensation. Daily dressing of the ulcers is crucial in preventing bone infections and amputation of legs and fingers.

APAL is grateful to Ms. Syambhai, the State Coordinator of APAL, for his invaluable contribution to the leprosy community.



***APAL's Joint-Secretary Mr. Ramvarai Sah visited a colony named Banmankhi in the Purnea district***

On 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023, APAL's Joint-Secretary Mr. Ramvarai Sah visited a colony named Banmankhi in the Purnea district. There are 35 families residing there, but unfortunately, the



land is privately owned. The landowner wishes to create a way through the land. Last month, he met with the Land Minister of Bihar, Mr. Alok Mehta, and presented him with an application and a list of 19 colonies from 11 districts.

The minister referred the list to the Purnea DM, and he scheduled to meet with him tomorrow. He hopes we can come to a fair and reasonable solution for the landowner and the families living in the colony.



***In collaboration with LEPRA and Shodhana organizations, APAL's state committee in Telangana distributed MCR footwear***

In collaboration with LEPRA and Shodhana organizations, APAL's state committee in Telangana distributed MCR footwear to persons affected by leprosy at Shanthi Nagar Colony in Hyderabad.

The event was graced by some distinguished guests, including Dr. John Babu, Dr. Aruna DLO, DM&HO Leprosy& AIDS, Mr. Arun Kumar Head of Program LEPRA, Ms. Sulochana PMO, Mrs. Srinivas Reddy DPMO, Mr. Kameswara Rao PO LEPRA, Mr. Babu Rao Physiotherapist LEPRA, Mr. Ramesh State Coordinator of APAL and Mr. Samuel Colony Leader.

Witnessing such a great example of community spirit and collaboration was heartwarming. The participants' invaluable contribution to the leprosy community has been noticed, and APAL is incredibly grateful for their efforts. we see the best in people, and it is a true testament to the kindness and generosity of humanity. Thank you to everyone who helped make a difference and showed that we can achieve great things together.



**Mrs. Maya Ranavare**  
**President, APAL**