



SASAKAWA HEALTH FOUNDATION

Monthly Report

To

Executive Director of Sasakawa Health Foundation

Title of the Report	Monthly Progress Report
Name	Mrs. Maya Ranavare
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1. Report on activities of APAL State-Level Bodies and APAL Leaders

- APAL's State Committee under the auspices of the Leprosy Society focused on the welfare of leprosy patients. Essential ulcer kits for treating and caring for leprosy ulcers were distributed to 50 individuals in need
- Maya Ranavare, the esteemed President of the Association of People Affected by Leprosy, alongside key members of the Maharashtra Kush Pidit Sanghatana, convened a crucial meeting with Hon. Kailas Laxmanrao Shinde, Gat Leader of Group No. 6 and the Karyalaya Chief of Mahanagarpalika
- APAL's state Committee in Jharkhand had the privilege of meeting Shri Dhulu Mahato, the Lok Sabha Member of Parliament representing Dhanbad
- APAL President Maya Ranavare, accompanied by representatives from the Maharashtra Kusht Pidit Sanghatana, held a significant meeting with the Forest Officer of the Kalyan Taluka Department at the Forest Range Office in Kalyan (West)
- The President of APAL, Maya Ranavare, accompanied by the APAL State Committee of Maharashtra, conducted a visit to Ambernath Colony in Maharashtra today
- The President of APAL Mrs. Maya Ranavare, led a visit to Ulhasnagar Colony in Mumbai, Maharashtra, accompanied by the state committee members
- In collaboration with the Hope Foundation from England, APAL's State Committee in Delhi (RWA) has successfully negotiated support for the construction of a community Hall
- A delegation from TATA Steel's education department, accompanied by members of APAL's State Committee in Jharkhand, visited Navjeevan Ashram in Jamshedpur as part of an extensive program
- The President of APAL, Maya Ranavare, and Gaurab Sen, the CEO of S-ILF, along with their respective teams, conducted a significant visit to the Kuthori Leprosy Colony in Assam
- Jawahar Nagar Municipal Corporation's 28th Division, specifically Mother Theresa Colony, witnessed a significant act of compassion and support. The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), in collaboration with the Leprosy Society, undertook a commendable initiative to distribute medical kits to 50 leprosy victims

- a notable event brought hope and relief to these communities. Representatives from NTPC, under the guidance of APAL's Coordinator M. Ramesh, along with officials from the Lepra Society, organized the distribution of medical kits and tubs
- In collaboration with NTPC and the Lepra Society, APAL's State Committee in Telangana successfully distributed ulcer care kits to 120 individuals
- A successful disability assessment took place at the Shantivan premises. The event benefitted from the participation of an orthopaedic specialist surgeon, a psychiatric specialist, the district leprosy disability in-charge, and the district social welfare officer
- APAL President Maya Ranavare, along with the Executive Committee and State Coordinators from 18 states, participated in a one-day All India Convention for Leprosy
- APAL's President, Maya Ranavare, alongside the State Committee in Rajasthan, embarked on a significant visit to various locations in Jaipur, including Gandhi Ashram, Garibdas Ashram, Jhotwara, and six leprosy colonies
- APAL's President Maya Ranavare participated in a significant meeting convened by the Collaborative organization Maharashtra Kusht Sanghatana in Pune.
- In partnership with the NTPC and Lepra Society, the APAL State Committee in Telangana orchestrated a distribution event to deliver essential aid
- a significant event unfolded as the Griha Pravesh ceremony was conducted to commemorate the establishment of new homes for 256 families residing in three leprosy colonies in Ranchi
- a collaborative endeavor was undertaken in Telangana, involving NTPC, ADP, the Lepra Society, APAL, and the State Committee. The event's primary objective was to distribute essential self-care kits, tubs, and MCR footwear
- Sasakawa India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF) and the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) held a collaborative meeting in Hyderabad, Telangana, with support from S-ILF.
- Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) held a significant general body meeting of the State Committee in Telangana with the support of S-ILF.
- In partnership with the Sasakawa India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF), the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) and its State Committee in Andhra Pradesh, known as the Society of Leprosy Affected Persons (SLAP-AP), convened a significant collaborative meeting at Bethany Leprosy Colony in Bapatla, Andhra Pradesh
- APAL conducted a General Body meeting of APAL's State Committee of Andhra Pradesh(Society of Leprosy Affected persons(SLAP-AP) with the support of Brighter Future Development Trust (BFDT) and Lepra Society
- APAL's state Committee in Jharkhand, comprising APAL Vice President Jawahar Ram Paswan, Jharkhand State Coordinator Mohammad Zainuddin, and APAL Jharkhand Leader Shri Madhusudan Tiwari, participated in the LCDC meeting

APAL's State Committee under the auspices of the Leprosy Society focused on the welfare of leprosy patients. Essential ulcer kits for treating and caring for leprosy ulcers were distributed to 50 individuals in need.

On 5th July 2024, In Telangana, at the community of Maulali Sanjay Gandhinagar, a significant event organized by APAL's State Committee under the auspices of the Leprosy Society focused on the welfare of leprosy patients. Essential ulcer kits for treating and caring for leprosy ulcers were distributed to 50 individuals in need. This initiative was a collaborative effort with representatives from NTPC, specifically MR Panigrahi, and the Priyanka Leprosy Society. Project Officer Kameswara Rao played a pivotal role in organizing the event.

Dr. Indraja, a dedicated medical professional, offered her expertise and support to the beneficiaries. The event also saw the active participation of key figures from the Society of Leprosy Affected Persons (SLAP-TS), including the State Coordinator Mr. Ramesh, and B. Venkataiah. Their involvement underscored the importance of community solidarity and the collective effort required to support those affected by leprosy.

The event went beyond the distribution of ulcer kits, providing an opportunity for the colony's residents to express their gratitude to NTPC representatives. The felicitation ceremony, led by Ramesh recognized the contributions of NTPC in supporting the leprosy-affected community. This gesture of appreciation highlighted the positive impact of collaborative efforts between corporate entities and social organizations in addressing public health challenges and improving the lives of vulnerable populations.



Maya Ranavare, the esteemed President of the Association of People Affected by Leprosy, alongside key members of the Maharashtra Kush Pidit Sanghatana, convened a crucial meeting with Hon. Kailas Laxmanrao Shinde, Gat Leader of Group No. 6 and the Karyalaya Chief of Mahanagarpalika

On 6th July 2024, Maya Ranavare, the esteemed President of the Association of People Affected by Leprosy, alongside key members of the Maharashtra Kush Pidit Sanghatana, convened a crucial meeting with Hon. Kailas Laxmanrao Shinde, Gat Leader of Group No. 6 and the Karyalaya Chief of Mahanagarpalika. The primary agenda of this meeting was to address the ongoing accommodation issues faced by leprosy patients in Maharashtra. Despite the Maharashtra Government's resolution to allocate housing to 38 leprosy patients, several challenges have impeded the effective implementation of this mandate.

This meeting underscored the urgent need for a concerted effort to resolve the accommodation crisis faced by leprosy patients in Maharashtra. Maya Ranavare's leadership and advocacy were pivotal in highlighting the plight of these patients and pushing for substantial reforms in the existing support schemes. The collaborative effort with the Maharashtra Kush Pidit Sanghatana aims to bring immediate and long-lasting relief to the affected individuals, ensuring they receive the dignity and care they rightfully deserve. The delegation requested expedited allocation of plots for residential projects, an increase in assistance under the Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana, and the allocation of land under the Prime Minister's Housing Scheme, emphasizing the need for prompt action from the state government.



APAL's state Committee in Jharkhand had the privilege of meeting Shri Dhulu Mahato, the Lok Sabha Member of Parliament representing Dhanbad

Today, July 7, 2024, the APAL's state Committee in Jharkhand had the privilege of meeting Shri Dhulu Mahato, the Lok Sabha Member of Parliament representing Dhanbad. During a courteous discussion, we apprised him of the significant issues faced by the 25 leprosy colonies within the Dhanbad Lok Sabha constituency. These communities are encountering various challenges, and it was imperative to bring their predicament to the attention of our esteemed MP.

We respectfully requested Shri Mahato to visit these leprosy colonies to gain a firsthand understanding of their living conditions and the specific problems they encounter. His presence and support would be invaluable in addressing the critical needs of these marginalized communities. We are pleased to share that Shri Dhulu Mahato has assured his commitment to the cause. He affirmed that he would indeed work diligently for the welfare of the residents of these colonies, providing them with the necessary support and attention they deserve.



APAL President Maya Ranavare, accompanied by representatives from the Maharashtra Kusht Pidit Sanghatana, held a significant meeting with the Forest Officer of the Kalyan Taluka Department at the Forest Range Office in Kalyan (West)

On 8th July 2024, APAL President Maya Ranavare, accompanied by representatives from the Maharashtra Kusht Pidit Sanghatana, held a significant meeting with the Forest Officer of the Kalyan Taluka Department at the Forest Range Office in Kalyan (West). The delegation presented a memorandum addressing the critical issue of the non-renewal of the lease for the forest land adjacent to the Sainath Leprosy Center. This forest land is not only a primary habitat for the residents of the centre but also a vital resource for their daily living and sustenance.

In the memorandum submitted to the Forest Officer, Maya Ranavare and the representatives detailed the severe difficulties faced by the residents due to the lease's non-renewal. On August 25, 2023, the Forest Department announced that they could not continue the lease on forest area no. 124/1. This decision has caused considerable distress among the residents, many of whom are leprosy patients with limited means. The memorandum highlighted the immediate need to renew the lease to prevent further inconveniences and ensure the well-being of these vulnerable individuals.

Maya Ranavare emphasized the gravity of the situation, underscoring that the forest land serves as the primary habitat for the residents of the Sainath Leprosy Center. The residents depend on this land for their shelter and basic needs, making its renewal critical for their survival. The memorandum was a heartfelt plea for urgent intervention by the Forest Officer to alleviate the suffering of the affected individuals and to provide them with the necessary habitat.

The meeting and the submission of the memorandum showcased the commitment of APAL and the Maharashtra Kusht Pidit Sanghatana to the welfare and rights of leprosy-affected individuals. By advocating for the renewal of the lease, Maya Ranavare and her team demonstrated their dedication to ensuring that the residents of the Sainath Leprosy Center continue to have a safe and secure place to live, thereby upholding their dignity and quality of life.



The President of APAL, Maya Ranavare, accompanied by the APAL State Committee of Maharashtra, conducted a visit to Ambernath Colony in Maharashtra today

On 9th July 2024, The President of APAL, Maya Ranavare, accompanied by the APAL State Committee of Maharashtra, conducted a visit to Ambernath Colony in Maharashtra today. This visit constituted part of their persistent endeavours to comprehend and address the challenges encountered by individuals affected by leprosy and their families. The committee's primary aim was to directly engage with the residents and local leaders to gain firsthand insight into the daily difficulties faced by these communities.

During the visit, Maya Ranavare and the committee members engaged in discussions with numerous residents and community leaders. They deliberated on pressing issues such as insufficient healthcare services, social stigma, and substandard living conditions. The conversations were open and underscored the residents' urgent requirements for improved hygiene facilities, access to medical care, and educational opportunities for their children.

The committee put forth several propositions to ameliorate the living conditions in Ambernath Colony. They underscored the necessity for regular health examinations, the establishment of enhanced sanitation facilities, and the provision of clean water. Maya Ranavare also emphasized the significance of community awareness programs to mitigate the stigma associated with leprosy and to foster a more inclusive and supportive environment. The visit culminated in a commitment from APAL to sustain close collaboration with the community for the implementation of these propositions and to advocate for their rights at higher echelons of government and society.



The President of APAL Mrs. Maya Ranavare, led a visit to Ulhasnagar Colony in Mumbai, Maharashtra, accompanied by the state committee members

On 10th July 2024, The President of APAL Mrs. Maya Ranavare, led a visit to Ulhasnagar Colony in Mumbai, Maharashtra, accompanied by the state committee members. During this visit, the committee engaged deeply with the colony leaders and residents, focusing particularly on the women of the community. The discussions centred around several crucial issues, including health concerns, the need for medical support, education for children, livelihood opportunities, self-employment, skill development methods, and the hygiene of the colony areas.

The women of Ulhasnagar Colony played a significant role in these discussions, openly addressing the problems they currently face. They shared their experiences and highlighted the urgent need for sustainable solutions. The dialogue aimed to identify and implement long-term strategies to improve the living conditions and overall well-being of the residents. The visit by APAL's President and the state committee underscored the organization's commitment to addressing the community's needs and empowering women to take an active role in finding and executing these solutions.



In collaboration with the Hope Foundation from England, APAL's State Committee in Delhi (RWA) has successfully negotiated support for the construction of a community Hall

On 10th July 2024, In collaboration with the Hope Foundation from England, APAL's State Committee in Delhi (RWA) has successfully negotiated support for the construction of a community Hall in Shanti Kusht Samithi in Delhi. This achievement marks a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to improve living conditions and foster a sense of community within the colony. The successful negotiations highlight the invaluable support and active participation of the leaders, who have shown remarkable dedication to the betterment of their living environment.

APAL extends its sincere gratitude to the funding agency for their generous grant, which has made this project possible. The APAL State Committee has played a crucial role in this endeavour, with particular recognition going to the state coordinator, Mr. Giridhar Lal, and Mr. Vijay Kumar. Their active contributions, initiatives, and interventions have been instrumental in bringing this project to fruition. Their commitment and hard work have set a commendable example of leadership and community service, ensuring that the residents of Shanti Kusht Samithi will benefit from improved facilities and a stronger, more connected community.



A delegation from TATA Steel's education department, accompanied by members of APAL's State Committee in Jharkhand, visited Navjeevan Ashram in Jamshedpur as part of an extensive program

On the 11th of July 2024, a delegation from TATA Steel's education department, accompanied by members of APAL's State Committee in Jharkhand, visited Navjeevan Ashram in Jamshedpur as part of an extensive program aimed at evaluating and enhancing the living conditions and educational prospects for leprosy-affected residents in the colonies. During the visit, officials engaged directly with the colony residents, conducting comprehensive inquiries to comprehend the daily challenges they face and the educational requirements of their children.

The visit facilitated a meaningful interaction between the officials and the community, offering a platform for the voices of those affected by leprosy to be heard and acknowledged. The

Jharkhand State Committee, along with the colony leaders, extended sincere appreciation to the TATA Steel team, Mr. Zainuddin, the State Coordinator of APAL, and his dedicated team. Their steadfast dedication and contributions to the welfare of leprosy-affected individuals and their families were duly recognized and deeply appreciated. This acknowledgement underscores the impactful collaborative efforts of APAL and local leaders in improving the quality of life and education within these communities.



The President of APAL, Maya Ranavare, and Gaurab Sen, the CEO of S-ILF, along with their respective teams, conducted a significant visit to the Kuthori Leprosy Colony in Assam

On 12th July 2024, The President of APAL, Maya Ranavare, and Gaurab Sen, the CEO of S-ILF, along with their respective teams, conducted a significant visit to the Kuthori Leprosy Colony in Assam. The primary objective of this visit was to gain a firsthand understanding of the living conditions experienced by the residents affected by leprosy. Their presence emphasized a dedication to promoting a collaborative approach to address the distinct challenges faced by these individuals.

Throughout their visit to the colony, Gaurab Sen and Maya Ranavare deeply engaged with the residents, attentively listening to their experiences and concerns. These conversations provided valuable insights into the daily lives of the residents, characterized by struggles related to social stigma, inadequate healthcare, and insufficient housing facilities. Many residents shared compelling accounts of their experiences with leprosy, highlighting the critical necessity for more comprehensive support systems to enhance their quality of life.



Jawahar Nagar Municipal Corporation's 28th Division, specifically Mother Theresa Colony, witnessed a significant act of compassion and support. The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), in collaboration with the Leprosy Society, undertook a commendable initiative to distribute medical kits to 50 leprosy victims

On 12th July 2024, Jawahar Nagar Municipal Corporation's 28th Division, specifically Mother Theresa Colony, witnessed a significant act of compassion and support. The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), in collaboration with the Leprosy Society, undertook a commendable initiative to distribute medical kits to 50 leprosy victims suffering from ulcers. This effort was aimed at providing much-needed medical supplies to those afflicted by this challenging condition, thereby improving their quality of life and aiding in their treatment and recovery.

The distribution event was graced by the presence of notable figures, including APAL's State Coordinator Mr. Ramesh, and the Colony President, Mr. Venkatesh. Together, they handed over the medical kits to the beneficiaries. Their involvement underscored the importance of community support and the collaborative spirit necessary to tackle health issues that impact the most vulnerable populations.

The efforts of NTPC and the Leprosy Society were met with heartfelt gratitude from the community. K. Anasuya and M. Manjula, representing the recipients, expressed their deep appreciation for the support extended to the leprosy victims. This initiative not only provided immediate relief through medical kits but also highlighted the critical role that corporate and social organizations play in addressing public health challenges. The representatives from NTPC and the Lepra Society were acknowledged for their dedication and commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of those affected by leprosy.



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On 12th July 2024, a notable event brought hope and relief to these communities.

Representatives from NTPC, under the guidance of APAL's Coordinator M. Ramesh, along with officials from the Lepra Society, organized the distribution of medical kits and tubs specifically designed to aid those suffering from ulcers, a common complication of leprosy. The event was a testament to the power of collaboration and compassion in addressing the needs of marginalized groups.

A total of 105 medical kits and tubs were distributed to the residents, an effort led by the 4th ward councillor, Vidyapati Vijayender Reddy. During the distribution, Councilor Reddy emphasized the importance of using the kits and tubs carefully, ensuring that the patients could benefit fully from these resources. He expressed heartfelt gratitude to the NTPC representatives and Lepra Society officials for their invaluable support and services, which have significantly impacted the well-being of the leprosy-affected individuals in these colonies.

Colony President Samel Domnik also extended his gratitude, particularly thanking M. Ramesh for his role in facilitating this generous initiative. The provision of these medical kits and tubs represents a significant step towards improving the quality of life for the residents, enabling them to manage their conditions more effectively and with greater comfort. This collaborative effort underscores the importance of continued support and resources for vulnerable communities, highlighting the positive outcomes that can arise from dedicated social responsibility and community engagement.



In collaboration with NTPC and the Lepra Society, APAL's State Committee in Telangana successfully distributed ulcer care kits to 120 individuals

On 14th July 2024, In collaboration with NTPC and the Lepra Society, APAL's State Committee in Telangana successfully distributed ulcer care kits to 120 individuals affected by leprosy in the areas of Parvat Nagar Borabanda and Rajiv Gandhi Nagar IDPL. This initiative is a testament to the power of collaborative efforts in addressing the healthcare needs of marginalized communities. The distribution of these kits, which are essential for the management and treatment of leprosy-related ulcers, highlights the commitment of these organizations to improving the quality of life for those affected by this condition.

Special thanks are due to the representatives of Lepra and NTPC for their unwavering dedication to serving the most vulnerable members of society. Their support has been instrumental in ensuring that the necessary resources reach those in need. Additionally, the efforts of Mr. Ramesh Maniyada, State Coordinator of APAL, and Mariyamma, who have both played crucial roles in this initiative, deserve particular recognition. Their tireless work and useful interventions have made a significant impact on the leprosy community, providing much-needed care and support. This initiative not only alleviates the physical suffering of individuals but also fosters a sense of hope and solidarity within the community.



A successful disability assessment took place at the Shantivan premises. The event benefitted from the participation of an orthopaedic specialist surgeon, a psychiatric specialist, the district leprosy disability in-charge, and the district social welfare officer

On the 16th of July 2024, a successful disability assessment took place at the Shantivan premises. The event benefitted from the participation of an orthopaedic specialist surgeon, a psychiatric specialist, the district leprosy disability in-charge, and the district social welfare officer. The presence of the APAL's State Committee in Meghalaya and residents of Mother Teresa Leprosy Home from Nongpoh provided significant support and compassion to the initiative. Despite a brief period of heavy rainfall, the program proceeded smoothly, commencing at 10:20 AM and concluding by 2:15 PM.

During the assessment, a total of 64 individuals affected by leprosy were evaluated. Among them, 13 were new cases, and 48 fell under other categories. The session aimed to ensure comprehensive care and support for those with disabilities related to leprosy. Attendees needing permanent disability documentation were advised to visit the office during official hours with all necessary documents and contact information to link their ADHAAR cards for further assistance and benefits.



APAL President Maya Ranavare, along with the Executive Committee and State Coordinators from 18 states, participated in a one-day All India Convention for Leprosy

APAL President Maya Ranavare, along with the Executive Committee and State Coordinators from 18 states, participated in a one-day All India Convention for Leprosy Affected on July 18 at the Rajasthan International Centre, Jaipur. Organized by Sarthak Manav Kushtashram and Leben Ohne Lepra, Germany, the event was graced by chief guest Kalraj Mishra, Governor of

Rajasthan, and chairman Ram Naik, former Governor of Uttar Pradesh. The convention aimed to address the current conditions and rehabilitation efforts for those affected by leprosy.

Prominent attendees included D R Mehta, Dr. K L Jain, I.C. Srivastava, and representatives from various leprosy organizations. Mr. Mishra emphasized the importance of treatment and rehabilitation, noting the high prevalence of leprosy in India and calling for increased public participation and education for affected children.

Ram Naik shared his long-standing advocacy for leprosy victims, highlighting efforts in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra for housing and allowances. The convention concluded with discussions on social and economic challenges faced by those affected by leprosy, with experts and civil society leaders sharing insights and solutions.

APAL extends heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Suresh Kaul for his invaluable role in the success of the All India Convention for Leprosy Affected. His dedicated efforts have significantly improved the lives of individuals affected by leprosy and their families. Through his leadership and commitment, the convention provided a platform for meaningful discussions on enhancing living conditions and promoting dignity for those impacted. Mr. Kaul's work with Sarthak Manav Kushtashram exemplifies the positive change possible through collaboration and compassion. APAL is deeply appreciative of his unwavering support and vision.



APAL's President, Maya Ranavare, alongside the State Committee in Rajasthan, embarked on a significant visit to various locations in Jaipur, including Gandhi Ashram, Garibdas Ashram, Jhotwara, and six leprosy colonies

On 19th July 2024, APAL's President, Maya Ranavare, alongside the State Committee in Rajasthan, embarked on a significant visit to various locations in Jaipur, including Gandhi Ashram, Garibdas Ashram, Jhotwara, and six leprosy colonies. Accompanied by other state coordinators and members, the team aimed to understand better the living conditions of those affected by leprosy. During their interactions with the residents and their families, they were confronted with the harsh realities faced by these communities. The poor living conditions underscored the urgent need for improved housing and social support systems.

The visit highlighted a critical gap in social entitlements, with many residents lacking access to essential benefits such as the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) and disability pensions. These entitlements could significantly enhance their quality of life, providing them with stable housing and financial support. Maya Ranavare and the APAL team are committed to advocating for these necessary changes, aiming to ensure that the affected individuals receive

the support and recognition they deserve from the government. Their visit not only shed light on the current challenges but also paved the way for future initiatives to uplift the leprosy-affected communities in Jaipur.



APAL's President Maya Ranavare participated in a significant meeting convened by the Collaborative organization Maharashtra Kusht Sanghatana in Pune.

On July 21, 2024, APAL's President Maya Ranavare participated in a significant meeting convened by the Collaborative organization Maharashtra Kusht Sanghatana in Pune. The primary agenda of the meeting was to elect the new management committee tasked with enhancing services for individuals affected by leprosy. Following a democratic process, Mr. Jitendra Chauhan, Mr. Ambika Kamble, Mr. Santosh Gadekar, Mr. Ashok Ambedkar, and Mr. Shakti Shaikh were duly elected to lead this vital initiative.

APAL extends heartfelt congratulations to the newly appointed committee members. Their dedication and commitment to improving the lives of those affected by leprosy are commendable, and APAL wishes them the utmost success in their endeavours ahead.



In partnership with the NTPC and Lepra Society, the APAL State Committee in Telangana orchestrated a distribution event to deliver essential aid

In partnership with the NTPC and Lepra Society, the APAL State Committee in Telangana orchestrated a distribution event to deliver essential aid to individuals impacted by leprosy in Kaunapuram Colony, Hanmakonda. The committee distributed dressing tool kits and tubs to individuals coping with leprosy wounds or ulcers to enhance their quality of life and facilitate improved wound care. This endeavour embodies a dedication to addressing the critical health needs of this community, emphasizing the significance of collaboration in driving meaningful change.

APAL expresses profound gratitude to the NTPC and Lepra Society for their invaluable assistance to those in need, as their support has been pivotal in ensuring the success of this initiative. Special recognition is also extended to Mr. Ramesh Maniyada for his active involvement in the leprosy community, as his commitment and endeavours have significantly enriched the lives of the individuals in Kaunapuram Colony by providing them with essential care and attention. This collaboration stands as a testament to the potency of cooperative endeavours in effecting positive change in marginalized communities.



A significant event unfolded as the Griha Pravesh ceremony was conducted to commemorate the establishment of new homes for 256 families residing in three leprosy colonies in Ranchi

On the 23rd of July in 2024, a significant event unfolded as the Griha Pravesh ceremony was conducted to commemorate the establishment of new homes for 256 families residing in three leprosy colonies in Ranchi: Indira Nagar, Nirmala, and Tapovan. The ceremony was honored by the esteemed presence of the Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Shri Hemant Soren, who personally inaugurated the new homes, symbolizing hope and new beginnings for these families. This initiative marked a remarkable milestone in providing secure and dignified living conditions for individuals and families affected by leprosy.

The culmination of this event was the result of unwavering efforts by APAL's State Committee in Jharkhand, which submitted a proposal to the Chief Minister advocating for the inclusion of these families in the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Their dedication ensured that the voices of the underserved were heard and addressed. This successful initiative underscores the importance of advocacy and collaboration between governmental entities and social organizations.

This accomplishment not only brings stability and joy to the families involved but also establishes a precedent for future endeavours aimed at enhancing the lives of marginalized communities. The collaboration between APAL and the Jharkhand government is a testament to a shared commitment to social justice and empowerment, paving the way for sustained progress and support for those in need.



A collaborative endeavor was undertaken in Telangana, involving NTPC, ADP, the Lepra Society, APAL, and the State Committee. The event's primary objective was to distribute essential self-care kits, tubs, and MCR footwear

On July 25th, 2024, a collaborative endeavor was undertaken in Telangana, involving NTPC, ADP, the Lepra Society, APAL, and the State Committee. The event's primary objective was to distribute essential self-care kits, tubs, and MCR footwear to 45 individuals afflicted by leprosy in Nursing Hyderabad, Telangana. The self-care kits and tubs were generously sponsored by NTPC, while ADP provided the MCR footwear.

APAL expresses profound gratitude to these organizations for their invaluable support to individuals grappling with leprosy-related wounds and ulcers. Special acknowledgement is extended to Mr. Ramesh Maniyada for his active distribution participation and compassionate support for the leprosy community. This event signifies a noteworthy stride towards enhancing the quality of life for people affected by leprosy, underscoring the potency of collaborative efforts and compassion.



Sasakawa India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF) and the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) held a collaborative meeting in Hyderabad, Telangana, with support from S-ILF.

On 28th July 2024, the Sasakawa India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF) and the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) held a collaborative meeting in Hyderabad, Telangana, with support from S-ILF. The event brought together representatives and participants from 21 leprosy colonies across Telangana, focusing on addressing the current issues faced by these communities and exploring potential solutions.

Key figures at the meeting included Mr. Gaurab Sen, CEO of S-ILF, Mrs. Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, Mr. Prakash Done, Treasurer of APAL, Ms. Chandra Kiran, Program Head of

S-ILF, and Mr. Ramautar from S-ILF, along with their respective teams. The gathering also included 38 individuals directly affected by leprosy, ensuring that the discussions were grounded in real experiences and needs.

During the meeting, the authorities engaged in meaningful dialogues with participants, emphasizing the importance of understanding the unique challenges within each colony. Topics ranged from healthcare access and infrastructure improvements to social stigma and economic empowerment. The collaborative atmosphere encouraged the sharing of ideas and fostered a sense of solidarity among attendees.

The session concluded with a commitment to implementing actionable strategies that address the immediate needs of the leprosy-affected communities. By strengthening their partnership, S-ILF and APAL aim to create a supportive network that not only addresses current challenges but also paves the way for sustainable development and inclusivity in the future.



Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) held a significant general body meeting of the State Committee in Telangana with the support of S-ILF.

On 28th July 2024, the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) held a significant general body meeting of the State Committee in Telangana with the support of S-ILF. This gathering marked a crucial moment for the organization as new Executive Members were elected to lead and serve the community. The event was filled with a sense of renewal and commitment as the newly appointed leaders promised to dedicate their efforts to the socio-economic empowerment of individuals and families affected by leprosy.

The elected management emphasized their dedication to improving the quality of life for their community. They outlined plans to enhance support systems and develop initiatives aimed at fostering greater economic opportunities and social integration. This change in leadership signals a hopeful future for APAL as they continue to advocate for and uplift those affected by leprosy, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are met with compassion and efficiency.



In partnership with the Sasakawa India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF), the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) and its State Committee in Andhra Pradesh, known as the Society of Leprosy Affected Persons (SLAP-AP), convened a significant collaborative meeting at Bethany Leprosy Colony in Bapatla, Andhra Pradesh

30th July 2024, In partnership with the Sasakawa India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF), the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) and its State Committee in Andhra Pradesh, known as the Society of Leprosy Affected Persons (SLAP-AP), convened a significant collaborative meeting at Bethany Leprosy Colony in Bapatla, Andhra Pradesh. Chaired by Ms. Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, with the support of S-ILF, the event brought together key figures from both APAL and S-ILF, facilitating in-depth interactions with 76 individuals affected by leprosy from 49 leprosy colonies. The primary focus was to share the vision and ongoing activities of both organizations, while also addressing the immediate concerns of the community.

Throughout the meeting, leaders and representatives from APAL and S-ILF delineated their strategic objectives and current initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life for those affected by leprosy. Ms. Maya Ranavare underscored the pivotal role of unity and collaborative efforts in addressing the challenges faced by the leprosy-affected community. Key figures from S-ILF, including Ms. Chandra Kiran, the Program Head, provided insights into successful projects and programs that have had a positive impact in other regions, with the aim of replicating these successes in Andhra Pradesh.

Attendees, including individuals affected by leprosy, had the opportunity to voice their concerns and share the pressing issues they currently face, such as challenges related to healthcare access, social stigma, and economic opportunities. This open dialogue fostered a comprehensive understanding of the community's needs, enabling APAL and S-ILF to tailor their strategies and interventions more effectively to address these concerns.

A notable aspect of the event was the unveiling of the annual report book of APAL. This publication not only chronicled the achievements and activities of the past year but also served as a testament to the ongoing efforts and commitment of the organization to improve the lives of leprosy-affected individuals. The collaborative meeting at Bethany Leprosy Colony exemplified the dedication of both APAL and S-ILF to closely engage with the community, ensuring that their voices are heard and their needs are met. By fostering a spirit of cooperation and shared purpose, the event underscored the potential for transformative change through collective action. Both organizations pledged to continue their partnership, focusing on advocacy, resource mobilization, and program implementation to create a more inclusive and supportive environment for those impacted by leprosy in Andhra Pradesh.



APAL conducted a General Body meeting of APAL's State Committee of Andhra Pradesh(Society of Leprosy Affected persons(SLAP-AP) with the support of Brighter Future Development Trust (BFDT) and Lepra Society

On 30th July 2024, APAL conducted a General Body meeting of APAL's State Committee of Andhra Pradesh(Society of Leprosy Affected persons(SLAP-AP) with the support of Brighter Future Development Trust (BFDT) and Lepra Society. The meeting was chaired by Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, and took place at the Bapatla Leprosy Colony in Guntur. This collaborative effort aimed to address the needs and concerns of people affected by leprosy, fostering a sense of community and shared purpose among attendees.

During the meeting, discussions proceeded smoothly, covering a range of topics crucial to the socio-economic empowerment of individuals affected by leprosy. Participants actively engaged in dialogues, sharing their experiences and insights, which contributed to a productive and positive atmosphere. One of the key outcomes of the meeting was the election of new state committee management members. This new committee is poised to bring fresh energy and dedication to their roles.

The newly elected members expressed their commitment to serving the community with unwavering dedication. They promised to work tirelessly to improve the lives of those affected by leprosy, focusing on initiatives that promote their social and economic well-being. This meeting marked a significant step forward in APAL's ongoing efforts to empower and uplift the leprosy-affected community in Andhra Pradesh.



APAL's state Committee in Jharkhand, comprising APAL Vice President Jawahar Ram Paswan, Jharkhand State Coordinator Mohammad Zainuddin, and APAL Jharkhand Leader Shri Madhusudan Tiwari, participated in the LCDC meeting

30th July 2024, The APAL's state Committee in Jharkhand, comprising APAL Vice President Jawahar Ram Paswan, Jharkhand State Coordinator Mohammad Zainuddin, and APAL Jharkhand Leader Shri Madhusudan Tiwari, participated in the LCDC meeting convened at Nepal House in Ranchi.

The meeting was attended by several high-ranking officials, including the Principal Secretary of the Department of Women Child Development and Social Security, Government of Jharkhand; the Secretary of the School Education and Literacy Department, Government of Jharkhand; the Secretary of the Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Jharkhand; the Senior Regional Director of Patna Bihar; the Director-in-Chief of Health Services, Jharkhand, Ranchi; representatives from the Indian Medical Association, Jharkhand, Ranchi; the State Leprosy Prevention Officer, Jharkhand,

Ranchi; the State Program Manager of the National Health Mission, Jharkhand, Namkum, Ranchi; the State Nodal Officer of State Sahia Koshang; Dr. Siddharth Bishwal, NLEP Coordinator, NLR; Dr. Abhishek Paul, State Coordinator, WHO, Jharkhand, Ranchi; Dr. Gautam, State Coordinator, DFIT; and the Nodal Officer of the IEC Cell. The APAL Organization Jharkhand, Ranchi, also took part in the meeting.

The meeting involved a comprehensive discussion on effectively conducting the program by the Government of India's guidelines for the implementation of the initial phase of the Leprosy Detection Campaign (LCDC) 2024, sanctioned for the fiscal year 2024-25. The APAL leaders actively engaged in the discussion, emphasizing the urgent needs of their community. One noteworthy demand made by the APAL leader was the provision of dressing kits in the leprosy colonies of the state, where such provisions were currently lacking. This demand was earnestly considered and endorsed by the authorities, representing a positive stride towards enhancing healthcare facilities for individuals affected by leprosy in Jharkhand.



Mrs. Maya Ranavare
President, APAL