



# 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> March 2025
<b>Reporting Period</b>	February 2025

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

- APAL's State Committee in West Bengal actively participated in the World Leprosy Day celebrations organized by Milan Sangh in West Bengal
- World Leprosy Day was commemorated with great compassion and service at Gandhi Leprosy Seva Sangh, APAL's State Committee in Gujarat in collaboration with Gateway of Engineering College.
- The APAL team, along with WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Dr. Takahiro Nanri, Director of the Sasakawa Health Foundation (SHF), and his team, visited Jaatna Leprosy Colony and Jagannath Leprosy Colony in Odisha.
- On the special occasion of Montfort's birthday, ST in collaboration with APAL's State Committee in Telangana organized a noble service program to support 100 leprosy-affected individuals across various colonies. As part of this initiative, each beneficiary received 10 kg of rice, ₹500 in cash, and a wholesome lunch.
- In collaboration with Share the Vision, APAL's State Committee in Telangana successfully distributed food grains to 40 families of persons affected by leprosy at Vadrikal Leprosy Colony in Kamareddy District, Telangana.
- On the occasion of World Leprosy Day, the Association of People Affected by Leprosy, alongside Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, organized a significant awareness program aimed at educating the community about leprosy at Saksh College of Nursing in Miraj.
- On the occasion of World Leprosy Day, the Association of People Affected by Leprosy, alongside Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, organized a significant awareness program aimed at educating the community about leprosy at the College of Physiotherapy in Miraj.
- In collaboration with Reliable Trust (Khammam), played a pivotal role in organizing a humanitarian relief initiative within the Devapalli Leprosy Colony, located in the Ditchpally area of Nizamabad district.
- The State Committee of APAL, in collaboration with local organizations, conducted an impactful initiative at the Shantinagar Leprosy Colony in Peddamberpet.
- State Committee in Madhya Pradesh, in collaboration with the Samarpan Foundation Trust, Red Cross Society, and the District Health Department, organized a free health camp on February 15, 2025, at the Sant Dnyaneshwar Leprosy Service Committee.

- APAL's State Committee in Maharashtra, in collaboration with Maharashtra Kusht Pedit Sanghatana, took a significant step in advocating for the land rights of the residents of the Indiranagar Leprosy Colony in Miraj.
- APAL State Committee in Jharkhand submitted a formal application to the Deputy Commissioner (DC) and Sub-Divisional Officer (SDM) concerning eviction notices issued to residents of both the Domgarh and BMP Leprosy Colonies.

***APAL's State Committee in West Bengal actively participated in the World Leprosy Day celebrations organized by Milan Sangh in West Bengal.***

On 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025, APAL's State Committee in West Bengal actively participated in the World Leprosy Day celebrations organized by Milan Sangh in West Bengal. This significant event brought together various stakeholders, including persons affected by leprosy, healthcare professionals, and social workers, to raise awareness about leprosy and advocate for the rights and dignity of those impacted by the disease. The participation of APAL's State Committee underscored their commitment to supporting initiatives that promote inclusion, rehabilitation, and empowerment of affected individuals.

During the event, APAL representatives engaged in discussions shared insights on challenges faced by persons affected by leprosy, and emphasized the need for continued efforts in early detection, treatment, and social reintegration. The program included awareness campaigns, cultural performances, and interactive sessions aimed at breaking stigma and fostering a supportive community. Milan Sangh's initiative, in collaboration with APAL, highlighted the importance of collective action in addressing the concerns of those affected by leprosy and ensuring their rightful place in society.



***World Leprosy Day was commemorated with great compassion and service at Gandhi Leprosy Seva Sangh, APAL's State Committee in Gujarat in collaboration with Gateway of Engineering College.***

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025, World Leprosy Day was commemorated with great compassion and service at Gandhi Leprosy Seva Sangh, APAL's State Committee in Gujarat in collaboration with Gateway of Engineering College. This significant occasion aimed to spread awareness about leprosy and extend support to those affected by the disease. Volunteers, dignitaries, and well-wishers gathered to honour the resilience of leprosy-affected individuals and emphasize



***affected individuals across various colonies. As part of this initiative, each beneficiary received 10 kg of rice, ₹500 in cash, and a wholesome lunch.***

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025, On the special occasion of Montfort's birthday, ST in collaboration with APAL's State Committee in Telangana organized a noble service program to support 100 leprosy-affected individuals across various colonies. As part of this initiative, each beneficiary received 10 kg of rice, ₹500 in cash, and a wholesome lunch.

The program was conducted in the following colonies:

Shanthi Nagar Colony

Shanthi Nagar Colony

Rajeev Gandhi Nagar, IDPL

Sanjay Gandhi Nagar, Moulali

Mother Teresa Colony, Balaji Nagar

This humanitarian effort aimed to bring relief and joy to those in need, reflecting the spirit of compassion and social responsibility. ST's dedication to serving the less fortunate has been truly inspiring, and this event was a testament to the belief that "Service to humanity is service to God."



***In collaboration with Share the Vision, APAL's State Committee in Telangana successfully distributed food grains to 40 families of persons affected by leprosy at Vadrikal Leprosy Colony in Kamareddy District, Telangana.***

On 6th February 2025, In collaboration with Share the Vision, APAL's State Committee in Telangana successfully distributed food grains to 40 families of persons affected by leprosy at Vadrikal Leprosy Colony in Kamareddy District, Telangana. This initiative aimed to provide essential support to some of the most vulnerable individuals, ensuring they have access to basic necessities. The event was conducted in the presence of key community leaders and volunteers who played a significant role in making the distribution seamless and effective.

APAL extends its heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Narayana, Director of the Trust, for his invaluable services in supporting the neediest individuals affected by leprosy and their families. His unwavering commitment to humanitarian efforts continues to bring hope and relief to marginalized communities. Special thanks are also extended to Mr. Maniyada Ramesh, APAL's State Coordinator in Telangana, along with Mr. Uppalayya and Mr. Narsaiah, the colony leaders, for their crucial contributions in organising and facilitating the distribution. Their dedication and collective efforts ensured that the aid reached the families most in need, reinforcing the spirit of compassion and community support.



**On the occasion of World Leprosy Day, the Association of People Affected by Leprosy, alongside Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, organized a significant awareness program aimed at educating the community about leprosy at Saksh College of Nursing in Miraj.**

10th February 2025, on the occasion of World Leprosy Day, the Association of People Affected by Leprosy, alongside Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, organized a significant awareness program aimed at educating the community about leprosy at Saksh College of Nursing in Miraj. This event sought to address the stigma associated with leprosy and to foster a comprehensive understanding of the disease, including its causes, symptoms, and available treatments. The program engaged nursing students, faculty members, and community participants, promoting a collective effort to enhance knowledge and sensitivity regarding this important health issue.

The initiative emphasized the critical nature of early diagnosis and the necessity of providing support to individuals affected by leprosy. Through informative presentations and interactive discussions, participants were encouraged to challenge and dispel prevalent myths and misconceptions surrounding the disease. Various educational materials, including posters and formal presentations, were utilized to effectively convey essential messages. The event underscored the pivotal role of healthcare professionals, particularly nursing students, in advocating for the inclusion and rehabilitation of individuals affected by leprosy.



**On the occasion of World Leprosy Day, the Association of People Affected by Leprosy, alongside Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, organized a significant awareness program aimed at educating the community about leprosy at the College of Physiotherapy in Miraj.**

On 11th February 2025, on the occasion of World Leprosy Day, the Association of People Affected by Leprosy, alongside Maya Ranavare, President of APAL, organized a significant awareness program aimed at educating the community about leprosy at the College of Physiotherapy in Miraj. This event sought to address the stigma associated with leprosy and to foster a comprehensive understanding of the disease, including its causes, symptoms, and available treatments. The program engaged students, faculty members, and community participants, promoting a collective effort to enhance knowledge and sensitivity regarding this important health issue.

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***In collaboration with Reliable Trust (Khammam), played a pivotal role in organizing a humanitarian relief initiative within the Devapalli Leprosy Colony, located in the Ditchpally area of Nizamabad district.***

On 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025, APAL, in collaboration with Reliable Trust (Khammam), played a pivotal role in organizing a humanitarian relief initiative within the Devapalli Leprosy Colony, located in the Ditchpally area of Nizamabad district. This initiative aimed to provide essential support to 150 families by distributing ration supplies, blankets, and sarees to assist them in managing daily challenges.

The distribution program was further enhanced by the participation of Maniyada Ramesh, APAL's State Coordinator in Telangana, who underscored the importance of ongoing support and advocacy for individuals affected by leprosy. The collaborative efforts of APAL, its Telangana State Committee, and Reliable Trust exemplified the effectiveness of unity in addressing social issues and uplifting marginalized communities. The residents of the Devapalli Leprosy Colony expressed profound gratitude, acknowledging the generosity and compassion demonstrated towards them. This initiative serves as a reminder that, through sustained support and collaborative endeavours, significant positive transformations can be

achieved in the lives of individuals affected by leprosy, thereby promoting their dignity, well-being, and social inclusion.



***The State Committee of APAL, in collaboration with local organizations, conducted an impactful initiative at the Shantinagar Leprosy Colony in Peddamberpet.***

On Friday, February 14, 2025, the State Committee of APAL, in collaboration with local organizations, conducted an impactful initiative at the Shantinagar Leprosy Colony in Peddamberpet. During this event, Dr. Papa Rao, the District Leprosy Officer, facilitated the distribution of footwear to individuals affected by leprosy.

The initiative received significant support from Sulochana Madam, Project Officer of the Leprosy Society, The event also featured the participation of Dr. Rudramadevi, the District Public Health Officer, and Kameshwar Rao Baburao, Project Officer of the Shanthiraju Leprosy Society.

APAL is thankful to all supporters and special thanks to Maniyada Ramesh APAL's State Coordinator in Telangana for his active contribution to the distribution.



***State Committee in Madhya Pradesh, in collaboration with the Samarpan Foundation Trust, Red Cross Society, and the District Health Department, organized a free health camp on February 15, 2025, at the Sant Dnyaneshwar Leprosy Service Committee.***

The APAL (Association of People Affected by Leprosy) State Committee in Madhya Pradesh, in collaboration with the Samarpan Foundation Trust, Red Cross Society, and the District Health Department, organized a free health camp on February 15, 2025, at the Sant Dnyaneshwar

Leprosy Service Committee. This initiative aimed to provide essential medical check-ups and healthcare support to individuals affected by leprosy and the local community. The event was a significant step towards ensuring better health and well-being for those in need, reinforcing APAL's commitment to empowering and uplifting people impacted by leprosy.

The health camp witnessed the participation of APAL's Secretary, Mr. Sarang, Mr. Gopal Shinde, Ms. Sarita Dhundhle, and Pawan Bavne from the State Committee. Additionally, all the ashram residents were actively involved in the camp. A total of 230 individuals benefited from free medical consultations, check-ups, and necessary treatments.



***Sanghatana, took a significant step in advocating for the land rights of the residents of the Indiranagar Leprosy Colony in Miraj.***

On 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025, APAL's State Committee in Maharashtra, in collaboration with Maharashtra Kusht Pidit Sanghatana, took a significant step in advocating for the land rights of the residents of the Indiranagar Leprosy Colony in Miraj. On 20th February 2024, members of both organizations and residents of the colony staged a protest in front of the Sangli, Miraj, and Kupwad Municipal Corporation offices, demanding immediate action for the rehabilitation of leprosy-affected families who had been displaced due to the ongoing demolition of their homes. The protest aimed to bring attention to the long-standing issue of land rights and the urgent need for permanent housing for the affected families, who have been struggling without a place to stay.

During the protest, Mr. Jitendra Chavan State coordinator in Maharashtra presented a formal letter outlining the key demands of the displaced residents. The protestors emphasized that the 28 affected families had been living in Indiranagar for years, and despite multiple appeals, their rehabilitation had not been prioritized. They insisted on an expedited process to provide them with alternative housing under government schemes. The demonstration attracted widespread attention, drawing support from various community members and human rights activists advocating for the dignity and well-being of leprosy-affected individuals.

In response to the protest, the Sangli, Miraj, and Kupwad Municipal Corporation administrations acknowledged the demands and assured the protestors of a positive approach to resolving the issue. Officials confirmed that under the Swachh Miraj Station Road Scheme and the Babasaheb Ambedkar Housing Scheme, the displaced families had already been relocated. They committed to demolishing the remaining western part of the affected area and ensuring the rehabilitation of all affected residents within the next two to three



months. The administration urged the protestors to call off the demonstration, assuring them that the process was already in motion and that the authorities were committed to securing permanent housing for the leprosy-affected families.

While the intervention and protest marked a crucial step in amplifying the voices of Indiranagar's leprosy-affected community, APAL's State Committee in Maharashtra and Maharashtra Kusht Pidit Sanghatana pledged to closely monitor the implementation of the promised rehabilitation. They vowed to continue their advocacy until all displaced families receive their rightful homes and are fully integrated into mainstream society with dignity and security.



On 21 February 2025, the APAL State Committee in Jharkhand submitted a formal application to the Deputy Commissioner (DC) and Sub-Divisional Officer (SDM) concerning eviction notices issued to residents of both the Domgarh and BMP Leprosy Colonies. Additionally, a visit to the Dhanbad Municipal Corporation was conducted to assess applications under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

The Food Corporation of India (FCI) issued an eviction notice to the Domgarh Leprosy Colony, which necessitated an appeal for intervention. Similarly, the Railway Department notified the BMP Leprosy Colony, prompting discussions with administrative officials regarding potential rehabilitation solutions. A meeting was convened with the Additional District Magistrate (ADM), during which representatives urged the authorities to acknowledge the residents' rights and to refrain from executing forced evictions in the absence of alternative housing options.

Officials at the Dhanbad Municipal Corporation reviewed the status of housing applications, discussing the requisite measures to secure benefits for the affected families. The efforts were led by APAL representatives, including Vice President Jawahar Ram Paswan and Jharkhand Leader Madhusudan Tiwari.

Authorities have been urged to undertake appropriate actions, and follow-up meetings are planned to ensure rehabilitation support and long-term housing security for displaced residents.



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