



SASAKAWA HEALTH FOUNDATION

Monthly Report

To
Executive Director of Sasakawa Health Foundation

Title of the Report	Monthly Progress Report
Name	Mrs. Maya Ranavare
Date of Submission	4 th March 2026
Reporting Period	February 2026

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

- On the occasion of Anti-Leprosy Day, APAL, along with APAL's State Committee in Telangana, organized an awareness rally at Peddambarpet, Hyderabad
- APAL's State Committee in Telangana, on the occasion of the Anti-Leprosy Fortnight, conducted an awareness programme in Nalgonda
- Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) conducted its Annual General Body Meeting at The Palatial Hotel in Lucknow
- Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) has an important meeting with representatives from the Sasakawa Health Foundation
- APAL State Committee of Telangana successfully organized a Government Mini Medical Camp and Dressing Camp
- APAL's State Committee in Karnataka conducted an awareness program on leprosy, its related consequences, and available treatment
- APAL and APAL's State Committee Telangana, in collaboration with the local Primary Health Centre (PHC), organized a community meeting
- APAL conducted its Executive Committee (EC) Meeting at the APAL Office in Hyderabad
- The President of APAL, Jawahar Paswan, along with Treasurer Kerolin Bhengra, visited Shanti Nagar Colony
- APAL State Committee in Uttar Pradesh actively represented the concerns and rights of persons affected by leprosy and their families by organizing a peaceful gathering and submitting a memorandum to the District Administration.
- APAL's State Committee in Madhya Pradesh, in collaboration with Deenbandhu Charitable Trust

On the occasion of Anti-Leprosy Day, APAL, along with APAL's State Committee in Telangana, organized an awareness rally at Peddambarpet, Hyderabad

On 1st February 2026, On the occasion of Anti-Leprosy Day, APAL, along with APAL's State Committee in Telangana, organized an awareness rally at Peddambarpet, Hyderabad, with active participation from government officials, ASHA workers, medical representatives, local PHC staff, and APAL members.

The rally included paying tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's statue and spreading awareness among the public that leprosy is not highly contagious and is completely curable, while appealing to society to work collectively to reduce stigma and discrimination and to promote dignity, inclusion, and equal rights for persons affected by leprosy.



APAL's State Committee in Telangana, on the occasion of the Anti-Leprosy Fortnight, conducted an awareness programme in Nalgonda

On 2nd February 2026, APAL's State Committee in Telangana, on the occasion of the Anti-Leprosy Fortnight, conducted an awareness programme in Nalgonda in collaboration with the Government Medical Department.

During the campaign, awareness was created among the public about the importance of early detection as a key step in the prevention of disability. The team also emphasized that leprosy is completely curable and encouraged people to seek timely medical care without fear or stigma.



Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) conducted its Annual General Body Meeting at The Palatial Hotel in Lucknow

On 14th February 2026, the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) conducted its Annual General Body Meeting at The Palatial Hotel in Lucknow. All 18 State Coordinators and State Committee Members participated in the meeting and successfully elected the new Board of Directors/Management.

The newly elected management presented its policy direction for the coming term, reaffirming the Society's commitment to ensuring dignity, equality, and full inclusion of persons affected by leprosy across 18 states in India.

Policy Directions Announced

APAL shall:

1. Develop and maintain an accurate, up-to-date population database to guide evidence-based interventions.
2. Ensure access to social entitlements, healthcare, education, livelihood opportunities, and legal rights.
3. Address challenges affecting living conditions through community-led initiatives.
4. Advocate against discrimination and promote mainstream inclusion.
5. Strengthen organizational capacity through digitalization, leadership development, proposal writing, and communication skills.
6. Build stable and sustainable funding sources to expand and sustain new activities.

APAL reaffirms its commitment to empowering persons affected by leprosy to live with dignity, confidence, and equal rights in society.

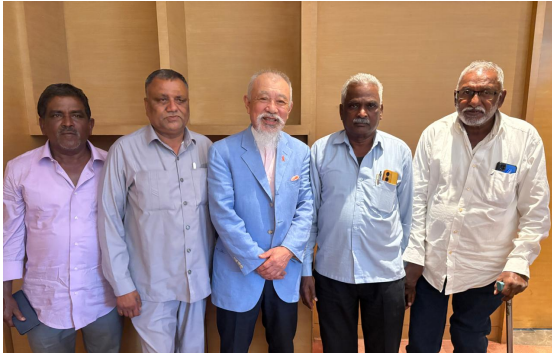


Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) has an important meeting with representatives from the Sasakawa Health Foundation

On 15th February 2026, the Association of People Affected by Leprosy (APAL) has an important meeting with representatives from the Sasakawa Health Foundation. The meeting was graced by Yohei Sasakawa, WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, along with Takahiro Nanri and their team.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on APAL's key activities, major achievements, and ongoing challenges faced by persons affected by leprosy and their families. The dialogue also focused on practical solutions, including livelihood support, education for children, access to healthcare, land issues, elimination of stigma and discrimination, and strengthening community-based interventions.

The interaction was constructive and encouraging, reaffirming a shared commitment to dignity, inclusion, and sustainable support for persons affected by leprosy.



APAL State Committee of Telangana successfully organized a Government Mini Medical Camp and Dressing Camp

On 16th February 2026, APAL State Committee of Telangana successfully organized a Government Mini Medical Camp and Dressing Camp in coordination with Abdullapurmet PHC at Shanthinagar and Santhoshnagar Leprosy Colonies.

The camp was conducted in the presence of APAL EC Member, Maniyada Ramesh, along with colony leaders M. Samuel and V. Dominic.

During the camp, medical check-ups, ulcer dressing, and necessary health services were provided to persons affected by leprosy. The initiative aimed to improve healthcare access and promote better health and hygiene practices among the colony residents.

APAL continues its commitment to ensuring dignity, care, and support for persons affected by leprosy and their families.



APAL's State Committee in Karnataka conducted an awareness program on leprosy, its related consequences, and available treatment

APAL's State Committee in Karnataka conducted an awareness program on leprosy, its related consequences, and available treatment at Mahatma Gandhi Leprosy Colony on 19 February 2026. The students of R.K.M. Ayurveda College participated.

The program focused on spreading correct information about early detection, prevention of disability, and the importance of timely treatment. Community members and students actively participated, helping to strengthen awareness and reduce stigma associated with leprosy.

APAL continues its committed efforts to ensure dignity, inclusion, and access to healthcare for persons affected by leprosy and their families.



APAL and APAL's State Committee Telangana, in collaboration with the local Primary Health Centre (PHC), organized a community meeting

On 20th February 2026, APAL and APAL's State Committee Telangana, in collaboration with the local Primary Health Centre (PHC), organized a community meeting at Shanthinagar Leprosy Colony, Peddamberpet, on February 18 in the presence of M. Ramesh EC member of APAL.

During the program, APAL representatives, along with health department officials, including the District Leprosy Officer and other authorities, interacted with persons affected by leprosy. The team carefully listened to their concerns regarding pensions, housing, healthcare services, and social welfare schemes.

Special attention was given to issues already raised before the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) concerning the rights, dignity, and social protection of persons affected by leprosy. APAL discussed the status of the NHRC matter with the community members and assured them that continuous follow-up would be done with the concerned authorities to ensure proper implementation of recommendations and protection of their human rights.

APAL assured that all the issues discussed during the meeting would be documented and submitted to higher authorities for necessary action. The program aimed to strengthen coordination between the community and government departments while promoting dignity, inclusion, and equal rights for persons affected by leprosy.



APAL conducted its Executive Committee (EC) Meeting at the APAL Office in Hyderabad

On 23rd February 2026, APAL conducted its Executive Committee (EC) Meeting at the APAL Office in Hyderabad. The meeting was attended by EC members and key representatives, who actively participated in reviewing the organization's ongoing work and planning future initiatives. The committee discussed the current situation of persons affected by leprosy and emphasized the need to strengthen APAL's efforts to address their social and economic challenges. Members shared their views, experiences, and suggestions to improve the effectiveness and reach of APAL's programs.

The EC Committee mainly focused on planning future activities aimed at the socio-economic empowerment and welfare of persons affected by leprosy and their families. Discussions included livelihood support programs, access to government welfare schemes, education support for children, healthcare services, and capacity-building initiatives. The committee reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring dignity, equality, and sustainable development for the affected persons and resolved to take proactive steps to implement these activities in a coordinated and effective manner across the states.



The President of APAL, Jawahar Paswan, along with Treasurer Kerolin Bhengra, visited Shanti Nagar Colony

On 24th February 2026, The President of APAL, Jawahar Paswan, along with Treasurer Kerolin Bhengra, visited Shanti Nagar Colony to understand the situation of persons affected by leprosy and their families. During the visit, they inspected the POD (Prevention of Disability) Centre and reviewed the services being provided there. They also interacted with the residents of the colony and persons affected by leprosy, listened to their concerns, and became aware of their living conditions and current needs.

On this occasion, APAL Board Member, M. Ramesh, warmly welcomed them by presenting shawls as a mark of honor and respect. He expressed his gratitude for their visit and continued support for the welfare of the colony residents. The visit helped strengthen the bond between APAL leadership and the community and reaffirmed APAL's commitment to the wellbeing and dignity of persons affected by leprosy.

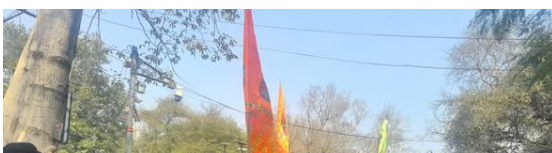


APAL State Committee in Uttar Pradesh actively represented the concerns and rights of persons affected by leprosy and their families by organizing a peaceful gathering and submitting a memorandum to the District Administration.

To advocate for the protection of Ashram land and ensure the rights, dignity, and welfare of persons affected by leprosy through the submission of a memorandum to the District Administration.

On 26th February 2026, APAL State Committee in Uttar Pradesh actively represented the concerns and rights of persons affected by leprosy and their families by organizing a peaceful gathering and submitting a memorandum to the District Administration. The committee members, along with community representatives, highlighted key issues related to the protection of the Leprosy Ashram land, housing security, and the safeguarding of the dignity and livelihoods of residents living in the Leprosy Colonies.

During the programme, APAL leaders emphasized the urgent need for government intervention to prevent any unlawful occupation and to ensure the welfare and rehabilitation of persons affected by leprosy. The State Committee reaffirmed its commitment to social justice, human rights, and inclusive development, and assured the community that APAL will continue to protect their rights and strengthen their future through collective action and dialogue with authorities.



APAL's State Committee in Madhya Pradesh, in collaboration with Deenbandhu Charitable Trust

To ensure access to clean and safe drinking water for ashram residents, including persons affected by leprosy, by facilitating the construction of a borewell and improving their health and living conditions.

On 27th February 2026, APAL's State Committee in Madhya Pradesh, in collaboration with Deenbandhu Charitable Trust, successfully facilitated the construction of a borewell (drinking water facility) at Nirmal Dham Kusht Ashram. This initiative was carried out through the dedicated efforts of APAL's State Committee with the generous support of Deenbandhu Charitable Trust. The newly constructed borewell will ensure access to clean and safe drinking water for the families residing in the ashram, including persons affected by leprosy, thereby directly improving their daily living conditions.

On this occasion, the President of the Ashram, Mr. Multaj Khan, along with all the ashram residents, was present. Mr. Lakhan represented Sahyog Kushtha Nivaran Sangh during the program. All the attendees expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Deenbandhu Charitable Trust and APAL's State Committee for their valuable support and commitment. This initiative marks a significant step towards enhancing the welfare, dignity, and quality of life of the ashram residents.



President APAL