

SASAKAWA HEALTH FOUNDATION

Monthly Report

To

Executive Director of Sasakawa Health Foundation

Title of the Report	Monthly Progress Report
Name	Mr. Jawahar Paswan
Date of Submission	4 th July 2026
Reporting Period	June 2026

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

- In the presence of APAL's Treasurer, Ms. Kerolin Bhengra, persons affected by leprosy from Gogranala Leprosy Colony, Janjgir-Champa District, Chhattisgarh
- APAL's State Committee in Meghalaya reported a significant advocacy achievement in securing social security benefits for persons affected by leprosy. Through the sustained efforts and continuous follow-up of the State Committee, led by Mr. Kat, State Coordinator of APAL, eligible beneficiaries were successfully linked to the government pension scheme, ensuring their access to much-needed social protection
- **APAL President Shri Jawahar Ram Paswan** visited **Bram Vihar Leprosy Colony, Bilaspur**, where he met and interacted with persons affected by leprosy
- **APAL President Jawahar Ram Paswan**, accompanied by **Ghashi Ram Bhoi**, visited the **CVTC Vocational Training Centre, Champa**
- **APAL President Shri Jawahar Ram Paswan** visited **Ghogra Nala, Kosam Para, Ward No. 13**, where he met persons affected by leprosy and visited their homes to understand their living conditions and challenges
- APAL's Secretary Mr. Prakash Done along with Mr. Ramesh Maniyada, Executive Committee Member of APAL, and APAL Secretariat staff, met with The Leprosy Mission (TLM) Advocacy and Communication Team members Ms. Nikita Sarah and Mr. Subjit in Hyderabad.
- Mr. Prakash Done, Secretary of APAL along with Mr. Ramesh Maniyada, Executive Committee Member of APAL, and APAL Secretariat staff, met Hon'ble Minister of Home and Affairs Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar sir at his residence in Karimnagar, Telangana.
- APAL President **Jawahar Ram Paswan** participated in the **25th Anniversary Celebration of Stepping Stone Charitable Society** held in **Borivali, Mumbai, Maharashtra**.

In the presence of APAL's Treasurer, Ms. Kerolin Bhengra, persons affected by leprosy from Gogranala Leprosy Colony, Janjgir-Champa District, Chhattisgarh

On 1st June 2026, In the presence of APAL's Treasurer, Ms. Kerolin Bhengra, persons affected by leprosy from Gogranala Leprosy Colony, Janjgir-Champa District, Chhattisgarh, submitted a memorandum to the Chief Medical and Health Officer regarding the difficulties they are facing in biometric verification while accessing government welfare schemes. Due to deformities caused by leprosy, many residents are unable to complete fingerprint authentication, resulting in problems in receiving ration, pensions, and other government benefits.

Ms. Kerolin Bhengra strongly advocated for the rights and dignity of persons affected by leprosy and explained the hardships faced by the community members. She requested the authorities to provide alternative arrangements for biometric verification and ensure that eligible beneficiaries are not excluded from government schemes because of physical disabilities caused by leprosy.

The district authorities responded positively to the concerns raised by APAL and the affected community members. After listening carefully to the issues, the officials assured their support and recommended the matter to the concerned departments for necessary action. The authorities also acknowledged the genuine difficulties faced by persons affected by leprosy and appreciated APAL's efforts in bringing the issue forward for humanitarian consideration.

During the interaction, several residents shared their experiences and appealed for immediate support. APAL emphasized the importance of inclusion, equal rights, and social protection for persons affected by leprosy. The organization continues to work towards ensuring dignity, accessibility, and social justice for all persons affected by leprosy and their families.



APAL's State Committee in Meghalaya reported a significant advocacy achievement in securing social security benefits for persons affected by leprosy. Through the sustained efforts and continuous follow-up of the State Committee, led by Mr. Kat, State Coordinator of APAL, eligible beneficiaries were successfully linked to the government pension scheme, ensuring their access to much-needed social protection

On 8th June 2026, APAL's State Committee in Meghalaya reported a significant advocacy achievement in securing social security benefits for persons affected by leprosy. Through the sustained efforts and continuous follow-up of the State Committee, led by Mr. Kat, State Coordinator of APAL, eligible beneficiaries were successfully linked to the government pension scheme, ensuring their access to much-needed social protection.

As a result of these persistent advocacy efforts, Mr. Samson Ingti, Ms. Juliana Langshiang, and Ms. Nirmala Marak of Umshangling Village, Nongpoh Leprosy Colony, Meghalaya, received confirmation that their pension benefits had been credited to their personal bank accounts on 5th May 2026. The beneficiaries had originally submitted their pension applications on 3rd June 2025, and APAL's continued engagement with the concerned authorities played a crucial role in facilitating the approval and disbursement process.

This accomplishment highlights APAL's ongoing commitment to safeguarding the rights and entitlements of persons affected by leprosy, while promoting their dignity, social inclusion, and access to government welfare schemes in Meghalaya.



APAL President Shri Jawahar Ram Paswan visited Bram Vihar Leprosy Colony, Bilaspur, where he met and interacted with persons affected by leprosy

On 10 June 2026, APAL President Shri Jawahar Ram Paswan visited **Bram Vihar Leprosy Colony, Bilaspur**, where he met and interacted with persons affected by leprosy, including **Shri Bhudhram Netam** and other colony members. During the visit, Shri Paswan shared detailed information about the initiatives and activities of **APAL** and **S-ILF**,

encouraging community members to actively participate in programs that promote dignity, inclusion, and the rights of persons affected by leprosy. He also enquired about the work being carried out by **Keroline** and **Shyambai** in the colony. The residents collectively expressed that both of them have been working well and providing satisfactory support to the community.

During the interaction, Shri Paswan also discussed the recent letter and sought clarification from the concerned community members. **Ms. Pooja Devi** stated that she had signed the letter in anger without fully considering the situation. **Mr. Mahesh Yadav** clarified that he was not personally present and that the signature had been made through one of his friends. The residents further informed Shri Paswan that **Shri Dhar** was not present in the colony at the time. Community members emphasized that the issue primarily arose due to a misunderstanding between two individuals, and that others had taken advantage of the situation. They unanimously stated that both Keroline and Shyambai have been carrying out their responsibilities effectively, and they expressed hope that the misunderstanding would be resolved amicably so that the welfare activities for persons affected by leprosy could continue without disruption.



APAL President Jawahar Ram Paswan, accompanied by Ghashi Ram Bhoi, visited the CVTC Vocational Training Centre, Champa

On **10 June 2026**, **APAL President Jawahar Ram Paswan**, accompanied by **Ghashi Ram Bhoi**, visited the **CVTC Vocational Training Centre, Champa**, to understand the vocational rehabilitation and healthcare services being provided to persons affected by leprosy and other vulnerable communities. During the visit, they met **Principal Mahendra Rao** and **Vice Principal Anamika Sahu**, who warmly welcomed both visitors with a handshake and briefed them about the institution's objectives, vocational training programmes, and ongoing activities. The visit provided an excellent opportunity to exchange information and explore how skill development initiatives can contribute to improving the livelihoods and self-reliance of persons affected by leprosy.

During the meeting, **Mahendra Rao** and **Anamika Sahu** also shared detailed information about the **TLM Hospital** and the healthcare services available to the community. They explained that the hospital offers treatment at **half the regular consultation cost every**

Thursday, making quality healthcare more affordable and accessible for patients. Following the discussion, the APAL delegation was taken on a guided tour of the vocational training centre, where they observed the training facilities and interacted with the staff to better understand the practical skill development programmes being implemented. **Jawahar Ram Paswan** appreciated the institution's commitment to vocational empowerment and affordable healthcare and expressed APAL's interest in strengthening collaboration for the benefit of persons affected by leprosy.



APAL President Shri Jawahar Ram Paswan visited Ghogra Nala, Kosam Para, Ward No. 13, where he met persons affected by leprosy and visited their homes to understand their living conditions and challenges

On 11 June 2026, APAL President Shri Jawahar Ram Paswan visited **Ghogra Nala, Kosam Para, Ward No. 13**, where he met persons affected by leprosy and visited their homes to understand their living conditions and challenges. During the visit, Shri Paswan interacted closely with the residents and held a meeting at the home of one of the persons affected by leprosy. He also met **Mr. Kishor from Saharanpur**, and a detailed discussion was held regarding the situation in Saharanpur, including the role of the colony leadership and the State Leader in supporting persons affected by leprosy.

During the interaction, Shri Paswan shared information about the activities and collaborative efforts of **APAL** and **S-ILF**, highlighting their commitment to protecting the rights, dignity, and well-being of persons affected by leprosy. The community members appreciated the support being provided and stated that both **APAL** and **S-ILF** have been carrying out their responsibilities effectively. They expressed satisfaction with the work of both organizations and acknowledged that their continued efforts have positively contributed to the welfare, empowerment, and inclusion of persons affected by leprosy in the community.



APAL's Secretary Mr. Prakash Done along with Mr. Ramesh Maniyada, Executive Committee Member of APAL, and APAL Secretariat staff, met with The Leprosy Mission (TLM) Advocacy and Communication Team members Ms. Nikita Sarah and Mr. Subjit in Hyderabad.

On 19th June 2026, APAL's Secretary Mr. Prakash Done along with Mr. Ramesh Maniyada, Executive Committee Member of APAL, and APAL Secretariat staff, met with The Leprosy Mission (TLM) Advocacy and Communication Team members Ms. Nikita Sarah and Mr. Subjit in Hyderabad. The meeting provided an opportunity for meaningful discussions on strengthening future collaboration between APAL and TLM to support persons affected by leprosy and their families.

During the meeting, both organizations discussed potential joint activities in the areas of awareness generation, advocacy, capacity building, and community development. Special emphasis was given to organizing training programmes, increasing participation opportunities for persons affected by leprosy, and improving access to education and employment. The discussion also focused on identifying appropriate sources of training and job opportunities, promoting rights-based approaches, and working together to improve the living conditions, dignity, and social inclusion of persons affected by leprosy and their families.



Mr. Prakash Done, Secretary of APAL along with Mr. Ramesh Maniyada, Executive Committee Member of APAL, and APAL Secretariat staff, met Hon'ble Minister of Home and Affairs Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar sir at his residence in Karimnagar, Telangana.

On 20th June 2026, Mr. Prakash Done, Secretary of APAL along with Mr. Ramesh Maniyada, Executive Committee Member of APAL, and APAL Secretariat staff, met Hon'ble Minister of Home and Affairs Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar sir at his residence in Karimnagar, Telangana.

During the meeting, the APAL's team submitted a representation highlighting the need for strengthened leprosy-related interventions and inclusive development initiatives for persons affected by leprosy and their families. The delegation emphasized the importance of expanding rehabilitation services, livelihood opportunities, education support, healthcare access, disability benefits, and social protection measures to ensure that affected individuals can live with dignity, self-respect, and equal opportunities in society.

The delegation also discussed the challenges faced by persons affected by leprosy in accessing their rights and social entitlements, including disability certificates, pensions, housing schemes, healthcare services, and livelihood support. APAL requested the Hon'ble Minister's support in promoting policies and programmes that improve living conditions, reduce stigma and discrimination, and strengthen community-based empowerment initiatives across India.

APAL expresses its sincere gratitude to Hon'ble Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar Ji for his positive response, valuable guidance, and encouraging support towards the welfare of persons affected by leprosy. The delegation deeply appreciated his warm hospitality, patient hearing of the issues presented, and the time he dedicated to understanding the concerns of the community. APAL looks forward to continued cooperation and support in advancing the rights, dignity, and social inclusion of persons affected by leprosy and their families.



APAL President Jawahar Ram Paswan participated in the 25th Anniversary Celebration of Stepping Stone Charitable Society held in Borivali, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

On **26 June 2026**, APAL President **Jawahar Ram Paswan** participated in the **25th Anniversary Celebration of Stepping Stone Charitable Society** held in **Borivali, Mumbai, Maharashtra**. The organization has been implementing the **Karuna Project** for the past 25 years, working tirelessly for the welfare, rehabilitation, and empowerment of persons affected by leprosy. In recognition of APAL's continuous efforts towards the rights and dignity of persons affected by leprosy, the organization invited Mr. Jawahar Ram Paswan as a special guest for the celebration. During the event, the representatives of

Stepping Stone Charitable Society appreciated APAL's national-level advocacy and expressed their interest in strengthening future collaboration by working together for the betterment of persons affected by leprosy across India.

During his Maharashtra visit, Mr. Jawahar Ram Paswan also visited **Dattanagar Trombay Leprosy Colony**, where he met with former APAL Maharashtra State Leader **Mr. Rasool Mulla**, the colony leader, and members of the colony committee. He interacted with the committee members to understand the progress and challenges of the colony. Mr. Paswan appreciated the dedication and collective efforts of the committee, noting that the members are working with a clear vision and strong commitment towards the overall development and welfare of their colony. He encouraged them to continue their community-led initiatives and assured APAL's continued support for strengthening their efforts.

Throughout the Maharashtra visit, **Mr. Jitendra Chauhan**, APAL Maharashtra State Leader, accompanied and supported the APAL President from **25 June 2026** onwards, ensuring the successful coordination of all meetings and visits. APAL expresses its sincere gratitude to Mr. Jitendra Chauhan for his wholehearted support, dedication, and excellent coordination during the visit, which contributed significantly to the success of the programme.



Jawahar Ram Paswan
President APAL