

Vimukti Trust: Annual Report: April 2008 – March 2009

Most of the activities of Vimukti Trust in the 20 taluks were carried out through the support of CCFD for most of the year. Action Aid started supporting the activities in the 5 taluks of HD Kote (Mysore district), Bangarapete (Kolar district), Bagepally (Chikkaballapura district), Pavagada (Tumkur district) Yadagiri (Gulbarga district) from February 2009. The other taluks were: Anekal (Bangalore Urban district), Hosakote (Bangalore Rural district), Channapatna, Magadi (Ramanagara district), Madduru (Mandya district), Kolar, Maluru, (Kolar district), Chikkaballapura, Gauribidanur, Gudibande, Shidlaghatta, Chintamani (Chikkaballapura district), Madhugiri (Tumkuru district), Bailahongala (Belagavi district), Sindhanur (Raichuru district).

The four residential bridge courses were carried out: one in Anekal for boys with the support of MZF, two in Malur, one boys and another for girls supposed to be with the support of Asha Foundation, SCLP and NCLP and one in Shidlaghatta with the support from Labour Commissioner, Bangalore. In September, Vimukti became an agency of the LIC to promote Jeevan Madhur scheme for the benefit of the members of the union. The first training for the purpose was given to the activists as part of the Jeevika Day celebration on 18 September. The state level dalit cultural festival was held on 13 December in Yadagiri.

Identifying, Releasing and rehabilitating bonded labourers: Various efforts were made to see that the officials give release certificates to the bonded labourers who had submitted their applications for their release and rehabilitation. In Hunsur sub-division comprising HD Taluk, a meeting of 22 officials was called by the AC on 27 November to discuss bonded labour. The DC of Mysore called a meeting of the Vigilance Committee on 19 February.

Strengthening the Union: There were 688 village union samitis in as many villages with a total membership of 12134. Among them, 2842 were bonded labourers and 8604 were agricultural workers. See Table I for details of the taluks. Weekly meetings to ascertain their problems, to reflect on their issues and regarding submitting of applications to secure various poverty alleviation schemes were carried out regularly. 237 trainings on social analysis and leadership were conducted during the year.

Self Help Groups: there were 290 SHGs in 281 villages with a membership of 5873 women. They had pooled together a total savings of Rs. 62,12,187. Of this amount, Rs. 34,57,385 were given to the members as loans. Out of these Rs. 3,91,650 have been recovered and the rest are in the process of being recovered. These groups received additional loans of Rs. 10,98,680 from various commercial banks. Rs. 2,50,000 were received by them as revolving funds. Totally 39 trainings were conducted to the leaders of the SHGs.

Benefits from Various Government Schemes: Totally Rs. 29,05,600 grants were secured to construct house sites, houses and facilities. Of these Rs. 15,88,500 were to construct houses for 46 persons. Various monthly pensions were procured for the widows, the elderly and the disabled totaling Rs. 14,93,000. Of these widow pensions were Rs. 76,000 per month for 189 widows. Various loans and other facilities totaling Rs. 55,16,500 were got from the various schemes. Of these, Rs. 30,48,500 were from different subsidy schemes under SGSY; Rs. 22,00,000 to buy sheep; Rs. 1,42,000 to buy cows; Rs. 25,000 to buy land; Rs. 51,000 worth of plants and Rs. 50,000 for some trainings.

Cultural programmes: Street theatre programmes were given in 34 villages. 3 playback theatre performances were conducted in HD Kote taluk. A state level dalit cultural festival was organised on 13 December in Yadagiri taluk of Gulbarga district. Nearly 3000 people gathered for the programme. A souvenir was printed for the occasion. The theme of the souvenir was Dalit Culture and folk Culture.

Land Issues: In HD Kote taluk, In Malar Colony people did not have a right of way. Jeevika made the tahsildar to give notices to non dalit Ramayya and Gopalayya; got the land surveyed on 30 May and land for right of way was set aside. In Kalltti village of the same taluk, Seetabai was given 4 acres of land under PTCL. In Anagatti village under survey no. 66, 298 acres, in KG Hally under survey no. 89, 74 acres of common lands have been identified and further actions to get them distributed to Dalits are being planned. In Ramgovindpura

of Hosakote taluk memoranda have been submitted to the tahsildar to give title deeds to cultivate lands on which applications have been filed in forms 50 and 53 by Dalits.

Specific programmes:

- 1) The three yearly gathering for elections and seminar of the Karnataka Jeetadalu mattu Krashikarmikara Okkura was held in Gauribidanur in June 2008. Nearly 1000 union members participated in the programme for two days and selected office bearers for the next three years.
- 2) Release of Tadia book, TADIA, the African diaspora in Asia was done on 24 October 2008 in shikshakara Bhavana, Bangalore with the cooperation of various Siddi organizations, The Tadia Society and Vimukti Trust. The Chief Minister and the Education Minister were the Chief Guests. Justice AJ Sadashiva, Chairman of the SC & ST Commission, Karnataka released the book. Prof. Jeevan Kumar, Director, Gandhi Bhavan, Bangalore University gave a critical review of the book. Around 500 Siddis participated in the programme.
- 3) Three books on bonded labour, a) “Understanding and Eradicating Bonded Labour in India” b) “Training Manual on Bonded Labour” (English), and c) “Training Manual on Bonded Labour” (Kannada), all written by Kiran Kamal Prasad, were released in Yavanika, Bangalore on 2 January 2009. Dr. Siddalingaih and Prof. Babu Mathew released the books. Dr. Niranjana Radhya gave a critical review of the books.
- 4) An anti liquor programme in Bailahongala was organised in Jamalur village in Bailahongala taluk.

Table I: Union of Bonded Labourers and Agricultural Workers in Karnataka

S.I	Taluks	Villages Samitis	Bonded labourers	Agricultural laborers	Total
1	Anekal	-	-	-	-
2	Hosakote	63	34	911	945
3	Magadi	36	28	420	448
4	Chennapatna	42	47	807	854
5	Madduru	-	-	-	-
6	Bangarpete	47	38	529	567
7	Chikkballapura	64	34	707	741
8	Gudibande	48	18	633	651
9	Gowribidanuru	50	863	38	901
10	Bagepalli	68	172	1251	1423
11	Chinthamani	55	78	1183	1261
12	Shidlaghatta	25	26	292	318
13	H.D.Kote	85	992	1025	2017
14	Madhugiri	30	132	108	240
15	Pavagada	45	350	400	750
16	Yadagiri	30	30	300	330
17	Bailahongal	15	37	208	245
18	Maluru				
19	Kolar				
20	Sindhanuru				
	Total	613	2879	8812	11691

TABLE – II: WOMEN SELF HELP GROUPS – 2006 – 07

Sl. No	Taluks	No. Of Villages	No. Of Groups	No. Of Members	Total Savings	Loans Given	Loans	Loans Outstanding	Bank Loans	Revolving Funds
1	Anekal									
2	Hosakote	35	35	133	129570				4900	50000
3	Magadi	40	45	294	627820	215500	13100	202400	637197	
5	Maddur	50	50	350	699421	928756	3500	925256	126289	
6	Bangarpete	59	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Chikkballapura	59	60	174	155230	144900	144900	0	2214	
8	Gudibande	53	53	186	76635	-	-	-	64425	
9	Gowribidanuru	49	49	165	174850	92100	17500	82750		
10	Bagepalli	47	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Chinthamani	81	81	275	107397 6	16300	7400	8900	100	
12	Shidlaghatta	43	43	375	842370	596631	9050	587581	150112	
13	H.D.Kote			-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Madhugiri	79	79	3472	140934 4	891300	153100	738200		20000
15	Pavagada	32	32	276	345903	201300		201300		
16	Yadagiri	72	89	61	22000					
17	Bailahongal	41	45	491	547068	290600	43100	247500	113443	
18	Maluru									
19	Kolar									
20	Sindhanuru									
	Total	30	30	173	130000	80000	-	80000	109868	250000
		287	290	5873	621218	345738	391650	3073887	109868	250000

Table III: Trainings, Programmes, Meetings March-2008- April-2009

SN	No. of Taluks	Trainings to union leaders	Trainings to SHG Leaders- Women + Health Trgs	Cultural Programmes	Playback Protests Performances
1	Anekal				
2	Hosakote	08	0	0	
3	Magadi	04	01	0	
4	Chennapatna	06	02	0	
5	Madduru	02	01	0	
6	Bangarpete	08	02	6	
7	Chikkballapura	10	2+1	6	
8	Gudibande	12	05	2	
9	Gowribidanuru	06	02	2	
10	Bagepalli	11	04	4	
11	Chinthamani	06	04	1	
12	Shidlaghatta	08	01	0	
13	H.D.Kote	24	10	10	3
14	Madhugiri	11	02	0	
15	Pavagada	09	02	2	
16	Yadagiri	06	01	1	
17	Bailahongal	08	00	0	
18	Maluru				
19	Kolara	03	00	0	
20	sindhanuru	00			
	Total	142	39+1	34	03

Table IV: Benefits From Various Government Schemes: April 2008 to March 09.

S.N	Taluku	I	II	III	IV	V
		House sites Houses & Housing facilities	Pensions, Educational & Medical facilities	Certificates	Facilities & Trainings for BLs, Aws, Small farmers & Artisans	Community facilities
1	Hosakote	B-1x40000=40000 B-1x30000=30000	A-22x400=8800 G-1x50000=50000	C=15 D=15	F-4-3x20000=60000 F-4-1x30000=30000 F-2-2x30000=60000 F-2-2x15000=30000 F-2-2x20000=40000 H-8-2x25000=50000 G-10x2000=20000 G-1x20000=20000	
2	Magadi	B-6x40,000=2,40,000 A-7x35,000=12,25,000 G-8x1200=9600 B-3x50000=1,50,000	A-32x400=12,800 B-3x25000=75000	C=10 D=10	G-15x10000=150000 D-2-2x25000=50000	
3	Channapatna			A=50 C-120 D-80	D=2, D-4=5, D=2x500=1000	
4	Madhur	B-2x40000=80000	C-2x400=800 D-2x400=800	C-5		
5	Bangarpete	B- 1x35000=35000			G-30000x28=1140000 F2-25000x2=50000	
6	Chikkaballapura	171=(jobs)	A-5x400=1600	C=39 D=39	G-4x10000=40000, D=13, E-6=6	
7	Gudibande		G-8x10000=80000 G-15x15000=225000	C=10 D=10	G-2x40000=80000, G-1x1500=1500, G-7x5000=35000	
8	Gowribidanoor	F-3x10000=30000 B-4x40000=120000	D-11x20000=220000 H-1x20000=20000	C=81 D=21	G-10000x2=20000, 24000x1=24000	
9	Bagepalli	B-2x50000=100000(men) B-1x20000=20000(female)	A-8x400=3200	C=6 D=6	F-2-6x7000=42000, G-2x25000=50000	
10	Chintamani		G-42=420000		G-15x1000=15000, G-10x10000=100000	
11	Shidalaghatta	B-2x40000=80000, D-1x100000=100000, B- 2x30000=60000 B-18 x30000=540000	A-41x400=16400 G=1x185000	C=17 D=21	G-1x25000=25000, G-30000x2=60000, G-50000x2=100000, G-40000x1=40000	
12	H.D.Kote		A-50x400=20000 E-3-5 (students)	C=137 D=137	G-2x60000=120000, G-2x40000=80000, G-1x100000=100000, G-1x235000=235000, G-7x30000=210000, G-4x50000=200000, G-1x35000=35000, G-1x80000=80000, G-1x70000=70000, D-7-4x8000=32000 D-5	
13	Madhugiri	I-3x2000=6000, B-1x50000=50000	A-9x400=3600	C=13 D=13	A-1x25000=25000	
14	Pavagada	B-2x30000=60000 F-10x2000=20000		A-20 C-30 D-25		
15	Yadagiri		A-13x400=5200 A-12x400=4800(female) G=120000	C=33 D-15		
16	Bailhongala		G-2x10000=20000	C=81 D=21	G-4x12000=48000	
17						
18						
	Totals	Rs.2905600-00 A-1225000(7), B-1588500(46) D-10000(1), F-50000(10), G- 9600(8), I-6000(1),	Rs.1493000-00 A-76400(189),B-75000(3), C-800(2) D-220800(13), E-5, H-20000(1), G-1100000(70),	A - 70 C - 597 D - 398	Rs.5516500-00 A-25000(1), D-51000(21), E-6, F2-142000(14), F4-2200000(5), G-3048500(63), H-50000(2),	

I. **House Facilities** (A) House Sites (B) Houses (C) Tiles (D) Walls , Roof (E) Electricity (F) Toilet

II. **Pensions & Educational** –Medical Facilities (A) Widow Pensions (B) Old age Pensions (C) Facilities for the handicapped

(D) Maternity Benefits (E) Educational Facilities (1) Books (2) Clothes (3) Hostel Admissions (4) Merit Scholarship (F) Eye- checkups

III. **Certificates** (A) Ration Cards (B) Land Records (C) Caste Certificates (D) Income Certificates (E) Birth Certificate

IV. **Materials, Facilities & Trainings** (A) Land Distributed (Amt. / acres) (B) Irrigation Bore Wells (C) Sheds for Sericulture

(D) Plants & Seeds (1) Coconut (2) Mango (3) Lemon (4) Teak wood (5) Ragi Seeds (E) Tools (1) Carpentry (2) Granite

Breaking (3) Masonry (4) Musical (5) Agri-Tools (F) Raw Materials & Cattle (1) Bamboos (2) Cows (3) She-Bufferaloes

(4) Sheep (G) Loans Rupees (1) Vehicles (2) Rupees (3) Cycle Shop (4) Stores (H) Trainings (1) Fishery (2) Tailoring

(3) Agarbathi (4) Basketry (5) Gem-cutting (6) Driving (7) Typing

V. **Community Facilities** (A) Street Lights (B) Drinking Water (1) Bore Wells (2) Tanks (3) Taps (C) T.V. (D) Toilets

(E) Village Roads (F) Village Gutters (G) Community Centre (H) Anganawadi Centre (I) School (J) Common Simple Marriage