

## Vimukti Trust: Annual Report: April 2011 – March 2012

Year 2011-12 was of special significance for Vimukti Trust in one important respect. Since its inception, VT and the movements it was supporting were advised not to resort to the courts as the first step in getting justice to bonded labourers; but exhaust first the administrative channels. That was also the mandate of the Bonded Labour Act. However, VT had approached the High Court at some appropriate times. When the government order in 1992 to rehabilitate 197 bonded labourers was forestalled by the Icoal MLA, Karnataka High Court was approached to get justice. Similarly, in Madhugiri taluk, the Madhugiri Assistant Commissioner in a meeting of the Vigilance Committee on Bonded Labour in 2006 had taken a decision that the nearly 2000 bonded labourers from the taluk who had filed applications for their release and rehabilitation to the Deputy Commissioner in 1994 were not entitled for protection under the Law because though they were bonded labourers at the time of their applications were not bonded labourers at the time of the investigation that took place after a lapse of over 10 years. However a Central Committee on Bonded Labour set up in 1993 had submitted to the government its recommendations in 1994. The Central Government had passed on these recommendations to all the state governments for appropriate consideration. The Karnataka State Government had sent a circular to all the DCs on 8 December 1994 saying that all the Recommendations, except for one or two mentioned specifically, were for necessary compliance. One of the recommendations was that if a person who had submitted an application to the DC for release and rehabilitation was bonded labourer at the time of her application but was not so at the time of the investigation by the officials, she was entitled for rehabilitation grants under the Act. Taking recourse to his recommendation and the circular, VT filed a PIL in the Karnataka High Court in 2007. After many hearings, the High Court passed a judgement on 23 August 2011, directing the Karnataka Government to consider the case of nearly 2000 bonded labourers in Madhugiri according to the definitions under the Act and the said Circular.

The external evaluation team carried out the evaluation in April and an interim report was given in May and the final report was handed over in June without taking into consideration very valid observations by VT. VT based its observations on what was contained in the interim report of the ET itself. Since they were not accepted by the ET, with the understanding of CCFD, it was decided not to use or circulate the final version of the evaluation report.

VT decided to withdraw from the project of Action Aid at the end of 2011 at the suggestion of the external auditor, though there was one year more for the project to close. This necessitated looking for alternate supporting agencies.

International Justice Mission approached VT in September 2011 whether it could be a partner in the Google supported project against bonded labour. Kiran made two important observations on the selection of leadership of the partnership and on the question of transparency between the partners on the funds under the project. Both of these observations were not acceptable to IJM and VT did not think of joining the partnership. But some well wishers advised VT to join the partnership and reconcile the issues from within. IJM personnel visited VT in January 2012 and explained various thrusts of the project. Because of immediate need for support, VT agreed to be part of the project. Two meetings were held in Delhi in January and March. The partnership was to be for three years from January 2011 till December 2014.

Katie Ford through her Katie Ford Foundation started mobilising some small support to support the activities of VT on bonded labour from January 2012.

With the additional support of KFF and IJM to that from CCFD, the 17 old taluks were organised in three groups – seven taluks each to be supported from CCFD and IJM and three taluks from KFF. The activities in the 18 new districts and 7 new sub divisions were continued for the second year from August 2011 with the second installment of the Freedom Award.

Kiran's term as an NGO Core Group Member in NHRC since 2006 was terminated in mid 2011. However, he was made a member of the NHRC Core Group on Bonded Labour in November 2011.

Karnataka Government put in place an important measure for the better implementation of the Act on Bonded Labour in Karnataka. The Secretary of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department nominated in December 2011 an exclusive state level officer of the rank of Deputy Director for effective monitoring bonded labour in the state. The Government had acted on one of the important suggestions from VT.

On 1 April 2011, Adhara Koduge was given to 13 former bonded labourers who were actively involved in building up the Union of Bonded Labourers and Agricultural labourers. Roger Plant who had donated to the Adhara Koduge from his Freedom Award in 2010 visited VT's areas of work in December 2011 and interacted with those and other bonded labourers.

The three yearly Union gathering was held in Yadgiri. The gathering was addressed by Shri Mallikarjuna Kharge, the Central Labour Minister. He was presented with a lengthy memorandum on various actions to be taken by the central government for the effective enforcement of the Act. Kiran had been approaching the minister through an MP from Chamarajnagar and a good friend of VT's activists during the year in Delhi to appraise him of the need to take up a number of steps by the central government in the interest of eradicating bonded labour in India.

Jeevika day on 16 September was celebrated in the Bangalore Town Hall. Sri Nidumamidi Swamiji was the Chief Guest. A few leaders from the dalit and progressive movements were other special invitees. The Vision Statement of the movement was unveiled by the Swamiji during the occasion.

The Dalit State Level Cultural Festival - Minchu was organised in Bangarpete. Important dalit cultural activists were the chief guests. A souvenir was also published on the occasion.

The regular activities were carried out according to plan. The village Union samitis and SHGs met fairly regularly every week. Various trainings were carried out.

There were 1148 village Union samitis with a total membership of 25,282 – 15,928 men and 9,354 women. Of them, 3,906 were former bonded labourers and 21,302 were agricultural workers (Table I).

There were 784 SHGs of women with a membership of 9,498 (see Table II).

**Benefits from various Government Schemes (see Table III):** Total amount of the various benefits from various government schemes totalled to Rs. **4,07,22,400** of these, Rs. 1,99,53,000 was for constructing houses and getting other benefits on the houses for 432 families; Rs. 42,75,500 was procured in terms of various pensions for 611 persons;

Rs. 1,49,28,900 for 513 persons were procured under various schemes of poverty alleviation; Rs. 15,65,000 were procured for various community facilities in 49 villages. 462 persons were helped to procure various certificates and entitlements like ration cards and caste certificates.

## Annexe 1

**Table I: Union of Bonded Labourers and Agricultural Workers in Karnataka - 2011-12**

Sl	Taluks	Village Samitis	Bonded labourers		Agricultural labourers		Total		Total
			M	F	M	F	M	F	
1	Hosakote	41	40	-	509	427	549	427	936
2	Magadi	58	55	-	722	698	777	698	1475
3	Chenpatna	61	30	-	175	179	205	179	384
4	Madduru	71	459	56	747	284	1206	340	1546
5	Bangarpete	84	61	02	1048	927	1109	929	2038
6	Chikballapur	59	121	02	771	551	892	553	1445
7	Gudibande	55	116	-	695	384	811	384	1195
8	Gowribidanur	60	355	-	450	560	805	560	1165
9	Bagepalli	113	245	-	1743	571	1988	571	2559
10	Chinthamani	66	393	02	1052	628	1445	630	2075
11	Shidlaghatta	53	183	03	710	303	893	306	1199
12	H.D.Kote	95	662	-	595	1045	1257	1045	2302
13	Madhugiri	64	225	-	470	534	695	534	1229
14	Pavagada	100	730	-	410	424	1140	424	1564
15	Yadagiri	69	33	-	1076	1065	1109	1065	2174
16	Bailahongal	56	198	-	598	529	796	529	1325
17	Maluru								
18	Kolara	16	30	-	175	179	205	179	384
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1148</b>	<b>3841</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>11994</b>	<b>9308</b>	<b>15,928</b>	<b>9,354</b>	<b>25,282</b>

**TABLE – II: WOMEN SELF HELP GROUPS – 2011-12**

Sl. No	Taluks	No. Of Villages	No. Of Groups	No. Of Members	Total Savings	Loans Given	Loans Recoverd	Bank Loans	Loans Outstanding	Revolving Funds
1	Anekal									
2	Hosakote		28	427						
3	Magadi		60	698						
4	Chanpatna		32	420						
5	Maddur		25	340						
6	Bangarpete		57	929						
7	Chikballapur		41	551						
8	Gudibande		36	472						
9	Gowribidanuru		37	560						
10	Bagepalli		42	571						
11	Chinthamani		42	628						
12	Shidlaghatta		24	305						
13	H.D.Kote		82	1045						
14	Madhugiri		42	534						
15	Pavagada		36	424						
16	Yadagiri		70	1065						
17	Bailahongal		38	529						
18	Maluru									
19	Kolara									
20	Sindhanuru									
	<b>Total</b>		<b>784</b>	<b>9498</b>						

**Table III: Benefits From various Government Schemes : From April 2011 to March 2012**

S.I no	Taluks	House sites Houses & Housing facilities I	Pensions, Educational & Medical facilities, rehabilitations II	Certificates III	Facilities & Trainings for BLs, Aws, Small farmers & Artisans IV	Community facilities V
1	Chikkaballapura	B-13845000,	F-12-13000, H-48-48000, L-2-20000	C-71, D-71	B-1-93000, D-10-10000, D4-9-91000 F-3-60000, F3-4-175000, G3-4-1225000, G2-3-155000, G4-23-83000, G5-1-50000,	K-12-120000
2	Madhugiri	A-2-260000, B-1-65000,	H-10-100000, A-10-4000	C-6, D-6	G-1-50000, G3-3-510000	K-1-10000
3	Gouribidanur	B-3-120000	G-24-2400000, C-10-16100, L-3-30000, H-3-9000, A-15-6000, D-2-800,	----	D-6-13000, D4-1-7000, C-3-30000, J-5-95000, F2-1-50000, G3-4-200000	G-2-100000
4	Gudibande	A-2-170000, B-4-592000	F-5-9000, H-85-85000, G-2-200000, C-3-2100	C-14, D-24	G1-1-80000, G2-1-64000, G3-22-3060000, G4-6-120000	K-6-60000
5	Chintamani	A-1-50000, B-60-3600000	A-7-2800, C-1-1000,	C-10, D-10	G1-1-40000, G3-2-500000, G2-10-260000, D-8-8000, F2-7-80000,	-----
6	Bagepalli	B-51-3315000, F-21-63000	D-6-2400, H-80-80000	C-156, D-156	G-10-100000, G1-1-100000, G3-1-250000, G2-10-120000, E8-16-19200, D4-2-4000	-----
7	Shidlagatta	B-13-845000, F-21-73500	D-11-1800, B-23-5000, A-58-23200, F-1-10000	C-127, D-127	B-2-200000, E8-9-20000, G2-8-105000, G3-60-360000, G4-67-299000	-----
8	Pavagada	B-41-2460000, F-4-12000	A-10-4000, B-5-5000, G-2-200000, H-1-3000	C-85, D-85	G-3-180000, F3-3-225000, D-25-100000,	
9	Channapattana	B-8-520000,	H-2-20000, F-5-2500, D-5-2000	C-12, D-12	G2-15-644700, G4-5-50000, G-5-90000, F2-5-125000, D-2-1200	B-1-200000,
10	Maddur	A-20-200000, B-2-100000, C-3-30000	H-2-6000, A-1-400, D-1-400, G-1-100000	C-20, D-20	D-1-1500, G-2-200000, E-1-200000, D4-2-60000	
11	Magadi	A-1-200000,	A-9-3800, D-5-2400, C-5-10400, L-1-10000	C-21, D-21	F3-3-75000, G3-1-250000, J-3-15000, D-7-3500, D4-3-110000	F-1-500000, G-1-200000, K-8-80000
12	H.D.Kote	B-2-130000, F-62-217000	H-10-50000, A-24-9600, C-34-34000, G-1-100000	C-107, D-107	G4-14-1220000, F2-28-440000 D-17-87000, E8-8-16000, E11-39600	K-35-350000, H-1-25000
13	Bailahongala	B-12-545000	D-2-800, G-1-25000, A-8-3200, C-4-8000	----	E7-1-25000, G3-2-425000, B-2-200000, G-3-300000	K-2-20000
14	Yadagiri	B-3-315000, A-14-610000	A-27-10800, D-6-2400	C-34, D-34	G-1-460000, G3-3-375000	K-10-100000
15	Kolar	A-15-450000,	B-6-6000, G-1-100000	----	G2-2-50000, F2-3-105000	----
16	Bangarpet	B-62-4030000, F-4-14000	G-1-100000	C-37, D-37	G3-3-375000, B-1-100000	K-5-50000
17	Hosakote	-----	G-3-300000, A-2-800, F-3-9000, C-2-2000	C-26, D-26	F2-5-92000, D-7-3200, G3-3-90000 E-4-200000,	D-1-200000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>A-55-19,40,000 B-274-1,76,77,000 C-3-30000, F-112-306000</b>	<b>A-171-68400, B-34-16000, C-59-73600 D-38-13000, F-26-43500, H-241-401000, L-6-60000, G-36-3600000</b>	<b>C-726 D-736</b>	<b>B-6-593000, C-3-30000, D-83-227400, D4-17-272000, E-1-200000, E-4-200000, E7-1-25000, E8-33-55200, E1-1-39600 F-3-60000, F2-49-750000, F3-4-175000 G-23-1280000, G1-5-730000, G3-108-7585000, G2-48-1598700 G4-115-1220000, G5-1-50000, J-8-110000</b>	<b>B-1-200000 D-1-200000 F-1-500000 G-1-200000 H-1-25000 K-44-440000</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>444-Rs: 1,99,53,000</b>	<b>611 Rs:42,75,500</b>	<b>1462</b>	<b>513 Rs:1,49,28,900</b>	<b>49-Rs: 15,65,000</b>

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

**II. Pensions & Grants:** (A) Old age (B) Disability (C) Maternity (1) Janani Suraksha Yojane (D) Widow (E) Educational Facilities: (1) Books (2) Clothes (3) Hostel Admissions (4) Merit Scholarship (5) Talent Prize (6) Computer. (F) Health (G) Bagyalakshmi Bond (to girl child) (H) Rehabilitation to bonded labour. (I) Rehabilitation for drought. (J) Rehabilitation to atrocity, (K) Rehabilitation to devadasi women. (L) Rastriya Badrati Yojane. (M) Minchu grant.

**III. Certificates:** (A) Ration Cards (B) Land Records (C) Caste Certificates (D) Income Certificates (E) Residential Proofs (F) Birth Certificates (G) Death Certificates

**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) Ragi Seeds (4) Fertilizers (5) Nilagiri (6) Sapota (7) Banana (E) Tools: (1) Carpentry (2) Granite Breaking (3) Masonry (4) Musical (5) Spray Pump (6) Plough (7) Tailoring (8) Tarpal (9) Car (F) Raw Materials & Cattle: (1) Bamboos (2) Cows (3) She-Bufferaloes (4) Sheep (G) Loans (1) NREGA (2) Udyogini (3) SJSY. (4) Crop loan (5) Linkage Loan (H) Trainings: (1) Fishery (2) Tailoring (3) Agarbathi (4) Basketry (5) Gem Cutting (6) Driving (7) Typing (8) Computer (I) Suvarna Boomi Yojane. (J) SCP

**V. Community Facilities:** (A) Street Lights (B) Drinking Water: (1) Bore Wells (2) Tanks (3) Taps (C) Community Centre (D) TV (E) Toilet (F) Village Roads (G) Drainage (H) Inter Caste Marriage (I) School (J) Suvarna Grama Yojane (K) SHG (Revolving Fund) (L) Milk Dairy

**Table IV: Audited Financial Statement**

**Receipts and Payments Accounts of Vimukti Trust for the Year ended 31 March 2012**

**(Consolidated)**

Receipts	Amount (Rs.)	Payments	Sch.	Amount (Rs.)
<b>To Opening Balances:</b>	52,30,399.65	<b>By Project Endowment Expenses:</b>		
<b><u>"Specific/Endowment Funds Recived From:</u></b>		1. Action Aid Bonded Labour	A	25,27,758.003
1. Action Aid – Bonded Labour	23,70,398.00	2. CCFD Parish	B	1,,23.555.00
2. FTS	17,51.600.00	3. Social Action Network Prog	C	89,380.00
3. FTS Exposure Programme	1,08,000.00	4. Free the slaves Programme	D	13,61,084
4. Internation Jistice Mission	10,04,2586.00	5. Katee Foundation	E	85,841.00
5. Kaitee Foundation	24,89,613.00	6. Internation Justice Mission	F	2,59,435.00
6. Social Action Network	<u>88,200.00</u>	7. FTS Partners Expossure Visit	G	1,08,000.00
	78,12.067.00	8. RPF Award Expenses	H	3,125.00
		<b><u>"Other Payments:</u></b>		
7 Sarva Shiksha Abhiyana(SSA) New Delhi	2,79,020.00	Jeevika tarabethi Kendra Expenses	I	3,96,683.00
		"Advance to staff		2,14,000
<b><u>"Other Receipts:</u></b>		<b><u>Closing Balances</u></b>		61,57,557.65
a) <b><u>General Contribution:</u></b>				
Fc Sction	8,204.00			
Local Sction	<u>5,10,000.00</u>			
	5,18,204.00			
b) <b><u>Bank interest on SB a/c</u></b>				
F.C	1,78,376.00			
Local	<u>20,690.00</u>			
	1,99,066.00			
c) LIC Commission	662.00			
Refund of advance staff	2,87,000.00			
<b>Total</b>	1,43,26,418.65			1,43,26,418.65

For Vimukti Trust  
Sd/  
Secretary

Place: Bangalore  
Date: 28.8.2006

Vide our report of evendate annexed  
For Vittal Rao Kaliswaran & Co.  
Chartered Accountants  
Sd/  
(L. Vittal Rao)  
Proprietor