



Gopabandhu Seva Parisad- ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25



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MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

As we mark another year in GSP's journey, I am reminded of the profound passage of time and the resilience that has carried us through. This past year has been a testament to our adaptability and collective spirit, especially in the face of global challenges like the shift of donor preferences.

I sincerely thank our dedicated team, passionate volunteers, and generous supporters. Your unwavering commitment has been the cornerstone of our impact. Together, we have navigated uncertainties and emerged stronger, continuing our vital work in disaster response and community support.

At GSP, we remain steadfast in our commitment to placing nature at the heart of our efforts. We recognize the intricate links between poverty, disasters, and climate change, and we are dedicated to upholding the dignity of those we serve. Our work is an

ongoing process of support and conservation, ensuring we preserve what we have while striving for a better future.

Looking ahead, I urge each of you not to wait for the perfect moment to act. The world needs solutions in abundance, and so do we. Let us continue to inspire and be inspired, building a society that respects and values everyone's contributions.

Our vision is a future where we see life through the eyes of those we serve, recognizing them as the true nurturers of our collective well-being. Together, let us create a future where all individuals' efforts are cherished and respected.

Thank you for your unwavering support and partnership. Let us move forward with hope and determination, ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

With heartfelt appreciation and hope for the future,



Pradip Kumar Moharana

Chairman, Gopabandhu Seva Parisad
For the GSP Family

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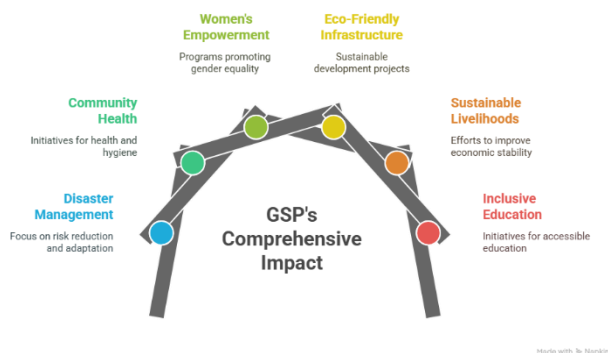


Who are we



Gopabandhu Seva Parisad (GSP), a pioneering NGO founded in 2000, is approaching 25 years of unwavering dedication to disaster management and awareness, community health management, and community empowerment. Since its inception, GSP has been at the forefront of groundbreaking initiatives in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), health, women's empowerment, and eco-friendly infrastructure. Over the past two decades, GSP has positively impacted the lives of more than 5 lakh individuals across 5 districts of Odisha, fostering sustainable livelihoods, improving access to clean water and sanitation, and promoting

inclusive education. As GSP embarks on its next chapter, its team remains resolute in creating a thriving, regenerative world for generations to come.



Our Mission:

Empowerment of excluded and marginalized communities, especially women, children & other vulnerable segments, through social security, sustainable growth, human rights protection, and model intervention

Our Vision:

A self-reliant society free from any forms of Violence, Injustice, Abuse, Annoyance, Social Stigma, and Discrimination

Our Presence this year:

Districts: Koraput, Puri, Malkangiri

Block: 7 Blocks 1 municipalities of Odisha (Malkangiri, Kalimela, Mathili, Boipariguda, Pipili, Delanga, Kanas, Puri Municipalities)

Gram Panchayat: 77 Gram Panchayats & 4 wards

Village: 150 villages

Beneficiaries: 20600



Problems in Project Location: With the support of Swasti, Bangalore

Health:

Health is a crucial factor for everyone, as it impacts not only our physical condition but also our mental well-being. Ultimately, health issues can affect our entire life and livelihood. Long-term health problems can significantly disrupt a person's life. Various factors can contribute to health issues, including poor diet and lifestyle, hereditary conditions, communicable diseases, environmental factors, use of harmful substances, climate change, mental distress due to modern lifestyles, and problems within households. These issues can diminish the quality of life and impose a financial burden on individuals. In coastal communities like Puri, various health issues are prevalent, including waterborne diseases, respiratory conditions, skin allergies, nutritional deficiencies, mental health challenges, and eye problems. according to the India Health System reform survey, residents in Odisha experience high financial risks, with out-of-pocket spending on medicines from the private sector contributing up to 69% of all expenses, even for people who seek care at public sector health facilities. Most health expenses and financial hardships were due to spending on drugs, especially for outpatient care, rather than on hospitalizations.



To address these concerns, GSP has taken several proactive measures. Our initiatives include organizing health camps in targeted areas with support from existing healthcare systems. We also run community education programs focusing on hygiene, disease prevention, and seasonal health issues, as well as the importance of using mosquito nets to combat vector-borne diseases. With support from **Swasti Bangalore**, we offer **digital health support** named **Call for Svasth** or **C4S** within the community, underscoring the importance of accessible health support, especially when language issue is the main concern.





Our activities include:

- Health Check-Up Camps: Conducted in 23 hamlet villages.
- Digital Consultations: Facilitated consultations with doctors for 2,000 HHs to address moderate health issues.
- Mental Health support: 350 beneficiaries are getting support for free consultation & counselling
- Social Protection support: 500 health-related beneficiaries linked with social protection schemes of the government, if needed. Our community is supported by dedicated volunteers who are experts in these health initiatives
- Free consultation to beneficiaries on climate change, heat wave, winter readiness, with the support of IEC

Education & Nutrition Program: with the support of JIV Daya Foundation, USA

Malnutrition is a pressing global health issue, affecting one in three people worldwide, exacerbated by factors like the COVID-19 pandemic, conflicts, climate change, and rising living costs. It manifests as undernutrition or overnutrition, particularly harming children's growth and development. Tribal communities are disproportionately affected, with children aged 0-6 years being the most vulnerable due to economic insecurity, limited access to nutritious food, and socio-demographic challenges. Malnutrition stems from poverty, poor sanitation, and illiteracy, leading to stunted growth, weakened immunity, and long-term cognitive and learning impairments. Addressing this requires ensuring access to adequate nutrition, especially for young children, to break the cycle of poverty and improve overall well-being.



Intervention of GSP

The program specifically targets children from marginalized communities, including tribal groups and Dalits, who often face severe socio-economic challenges. After an initial

assessment, five villages from the BOIPARIGUDA Block were selected for implementation. Height and weight data of children aged six months to five years were collected to establish a baseline for measuring the impact of the intervention.

Program Implementation:

- A room at the local Anganwadi Centre was dedicated to running the pre-education and nutrition program six days a week.
- Emphasis was placed on maintaining cleanliness and hygiene during milk preparation and distribution.
- Children were encouraged to adopt hygiene practices such as washing hands, taking baths, wearing clean clothes, and maintaining neat hair before consuming the provided nutrition.
- 176 Children were provided nutritional support in the form of biscuits and glasses of milk
- 150 beneficiaries received Rahat Support twice a year (1st time-50 Kg rice, 2nd time 26 Kg rice, and 4 kg lentils) in the form of a ration kit
- 30 beneficiaries received solar lights to utilize the renewable source of energy
- 75 IFA tablets were distributed both in Puri and Koraput District (35-Puri, 40 Koraput)
- 176 Number of Children provided winter garments
- The program actively involved the community to ensure a proper understanding of its objectives and benefits.

Forest Right & Land Patta Distribution: With the support of Global Green Grant Fund

The project focuses on 10 tribal-concentrated villages in Boipariguda Block, Koraput District, Odisha, India, covering approximately 5,000 people from Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest-dwelling communities. These villages are situated within or near forest areas, with 30-65% forest cover, and rely on shifting cultivation, Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP) collection, and small-plot agriculture for their livelihoods. Many families cultivate 0.5 to 3 acres of forest land, making them eligible for Individual Forest Rights (IFR) titles under the Forest Rights Act (FRA) 2006.

The Community Forest Resources (CFR) in these villages are significantly larger than the revenue of private land, ranging from 5 to 15 times the size. These resources are vital for providing food, NTFPs, and fodder. However, despite the provisions of the FRA, the implementation of IFR and CFR titles remains inadequate, with less than 40% of CFR titles distributed in Odisha. Key challenges include a lack of community awareness, unclear land demarcation post-claim, and technological mapping and data management limitations.

Women in these communities are particularly dependent on forest resources but face low returns due to insecure tenure and poor resource management. The project aims to address these challenges by promoting the recognition of IFR and CFR titles, implementing Community

Forest Resource Management Plans, and advocating for convergence plans that integrate land development and irrigation. By enhancing community participation and addressing these issues, the project seeks to economically empower forest-dwelling communities and ensure sustainable management of forest resources for their long-term benefit.

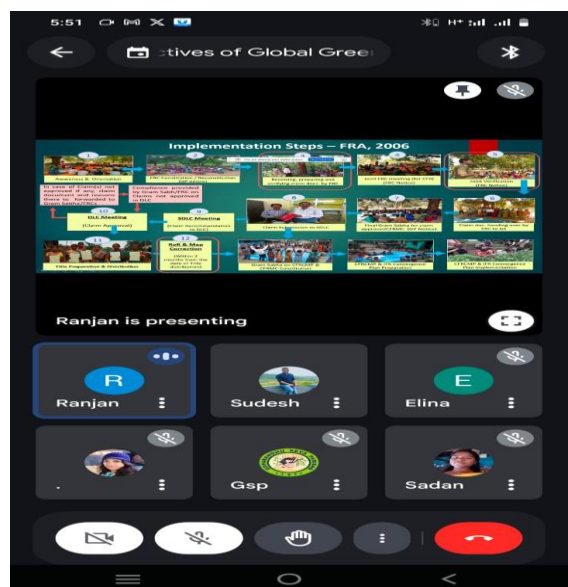
Activities done so far:

1. Staff Appointment and Induction Training:

- a. Two community Cadres, one field coordinator, and one part-time accountant are appointed for the proper execution of the program. One induction training was organized on the 6th of November 2024, and the project goal was discussed with the staff.



- b. On 23rd November 2024 a capacity building training was organized for the project team and managerial team of GSP on how to secure land rights and enhance the local livelihoods of the forest dwellers by accessing the Forest Rights Act (FRA 2006). The program was conducted by Mr. Ranjan Praharaj who elaborately explained the provision for the diversion of forest land for development work, implementation steps, how to prepare village development plans, the procedure to claim IFR & CFR with the support of the Village Development Committee, the rules of FRA, and the number of abbreviations used for better understanding of project staff.



2. Stakeholder Engagement:

- a. Two numbers of GP-level stakeholders training on FRA participants were organized at the Gram Panchayat office of Kathapada and Kollar G.P to create awareness among the stakeholders. PRI members, Forest Rights Committee members, Local media, and CSO representatives were present there.
- b. The main objective of this training program was to create awareness and work collectively for the same objective.

3. Village-Level Awareness Programs:

- a. Conducted in ten villages, engaging FRC members, youths, and women from SHGs to educate on FRA-2006 and community rights.



4. Sustainable Forest Management:

- a. Ten training sessions on protecting and regenerating community forest resources, emphasizing sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity conservation, were organized where the village people, women members of SHG Youths, FRC members, & forest protection Committee participated. They were trained on how to protect the boundary wall and create an embankment that will protect the village from wildfire.



5. Resilience Index Training:

- a. Training for the project team on the Resilience index was organized on the 28th and 29th of January 2025. Resource person Mr. Kallan Gouda from Swasti suggested a way or procedure to collect the data about Economic resilience. To him, there were three ways to measure the resilience index, that is, absorptive capacity, adaptive capacity, and transformative capacity, which can detect the condition of tribal households and the intervention required there. To achieve sustainability in the long run, he suggested bridging the gap between the community and the ecosystem.



6. Gram Sabha Facilitation:

a. Initiated Muduliguda and Sarandajodi village-level training to formalize IFR and CFR claims, ensuring secure land tenure. There is a discussion on the existing paradigm of prioritizing IFR over CFR has dissuaded the recognition and use of community rights. This approach may result in resource fragmentation as well as a lower incentive for communities to seek CFRs once IFRs are obtained.



b. Adopt a procedure in which CFRs are assigned equal or greater priority to IFRs from the outset. Therefore, resources at the local level are not divided, and both rights are identified at the same time.

c. FRCs need to be organized at the village level to cater to the respective interests of each community. Tribal' women's and forest dwellers' representation should be given priority, particularly in Schedule V districts, according to PESA norms.



d. The government must actively interact with communities to know their needs and help them file CFR claims. This involves training, awareness generation, and literature to empower Gram Sabhas to initiate the process.

e. Enhance oversight mechanisms so that DLCs and SDLCs give valid reasons for rejecting claims. Create a transparent appeals process so that communities can appeal arbitrary rejections.

7. Village-Level Programs:

a. Two village-level programs on the Development plan prepared in Purnapani of Kollar G.P. and Mantriamba of Kathapada G.P. With the support of Forest Right committee members, emphasis was given to the diverse resources within their territory.



b. The Gram Sabha, responsible for guarding the forest, has established rules for grazing animals, ensuring the preservation of the ecosystem through plantation. Notably, they discussed different livelihood opportunities (Non-Timber Forest Products) to explore and sell in the village markets collectively

through the Gram Sabha, generating funds that are reinvested in various community needs.



8. Provisions of the Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas- PESA Meetings

On the eve of Birsha Munda Jayanti on 24.12.2024, GSP, in coordination with the Govt departments, organized meetings in 10 villages of Kollar & Kathapada G.P., where PRIs Staff, volunteers & FRCs were present. Within this special Gram Sabha, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj's Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) will support capacity building for Gram Sabhas and officials working with the FRA, in alignment with the comprehensive framework for tribal empowerment and rural development. Similarly, GSP organized the GP-level sensitization program for FRC,



PRI & Community leaders on the FRA Act 2006. It also organized the Block Level convergence Program for the line departments to have a clear understanding of FRA.

9. Convergence Activities:

- Processed 253 beneficiary applications under the Vasundhara schemes for homestead land distribution.
- GSP has utilized its diversion fund to create awareness and to organize meetings where different line departments of the government. where they come together and collect people's applications for the social security & pension scheme. The data presented here is the scheme-wise summary for various programs of five locations.

Village Name	Muduliguda	Purunapani	Serendajodi	Mantriamba	Bhendia Jode
IFR Application submitted	70	25	23	24	20
Vasundhara Application	2	3	1	2	4
MGNREGA-Job Card	10	10	8	20	8
Pension (Old age & Widow pension)	20	3	5	3	2
Total	102	41	37	49	34

(IFR- Individual Forest rights, Vasundhara scheme- Vasundhara is a Government of Odisha scheme (launched in 2005-06) that set out to provide homesteads of up to 10 decimals of land to homeless families. MGNREGA- The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act guarantees a minimum of 100 days of unskilled manual work to rural citizens of India. Pensions from public funds to citizens in case of unemployment, old age, sickness, widowhood, an unmarried girl, or disability.)

- c. Engaged in village cleanliness programs and distributed family kits & Women hygiene kits supported by Goonj, enhancing community well-being. Along with that, with the support of Goonj, GSP organized awareness camps at schools on forest conservation & IFR & CFR, organized competitions among them, and distributed school kits to children.



10. **Village Baseline Survey:** Before intervention at the village level, GSP has conducted a baseline survey in ten villages to know the livelihood pattern, the agriculture Land Pattas they have, the enrolment rate of community people in the social security & pension scheme, so that implementation becomes easier for GSP.

ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಆರ್ಥಿಕತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಾಜ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ವರದಿ (2022-2023)

ಗ್ರಾಮ: _____ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು: _____ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ: _____

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ವಿವರ	ಮಾಹಿತಿ	ಮಾಹಿತಿ	ಮಾಹಿತಿ	ಮಾಹಿತಿ	ಮಾಹಿತಿ
1	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	1000	500	500	250	250
2	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಮನೆಗಳು	200	100	100	50	50
3	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳು	150	75	75	37	37
4	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	300	150	150	75	75
5	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	150	75	75	37	37
6	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪುರುಷ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	150	75	75	37	37
7	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶೇಕಡಾ	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
8	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪುರುಷ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶೇಕಡಾ	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
9	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶೇಕಡಾ	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%
10	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶೇಕಡಾ	15%	15%	15%	15%	15%
11	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪುರುಷ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶೇಕಡಾ	15%	15%	15%	15%	15%

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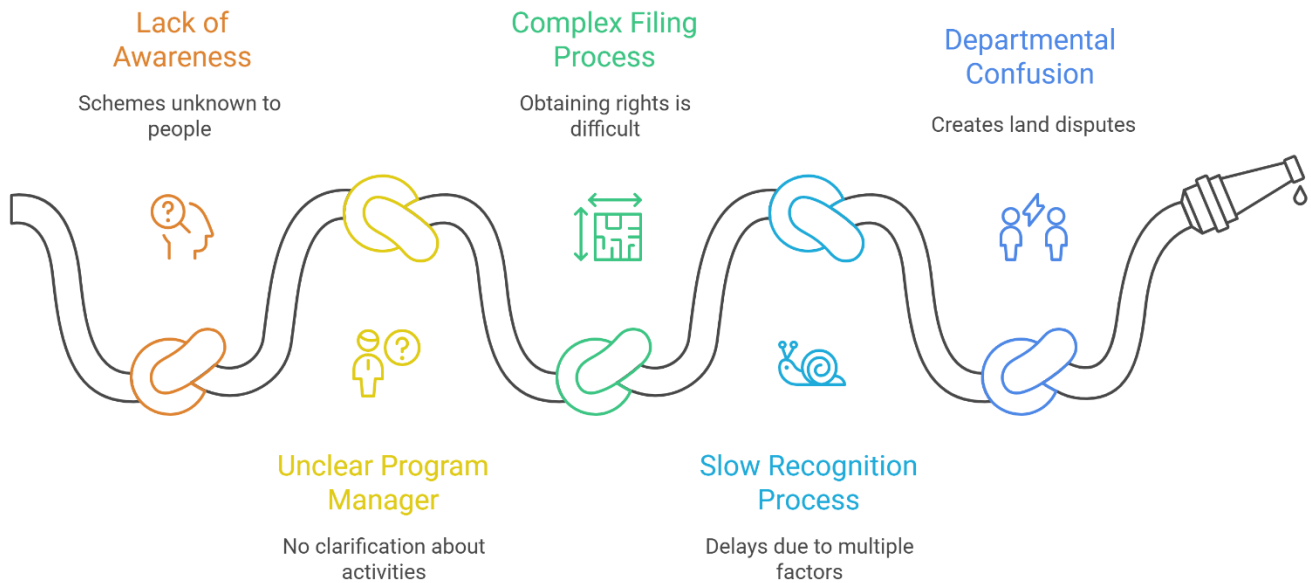
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Forest Rights Act Implementation Challenges



Made with Napkin

Learning

Achieving Effective FRA Implementation



Made with Napkin

The Village Development Plan for the Community Forest resource conservation & its management is prepared in two villages of Kollar & Kathapada Gram Panchayat, and the two villages Dhanibalsa & Muduliguda are in process. The two completed village development plans have been approved by the Gram Sabha.



parents are occupied in fishing activities every day. Additionally, these adolescent girls have limited awareness of their rights and available government schemes and services, making them largely excluded from social protection and welfare. Anaemia, along with mental health problems, further worsens their conditions. They lack essential life skills and entrepreneurial competencies, which deprive them of opportunities for personal growth and economic independence. Additionally, they continue to have limited awareness of their rights and available government care and services. Insufficient access to safe drinking water, a lack of reproductive and sexual healthcare education, the use of unscientific traditional clothing (instead of the use of napkins) during the menstruation period, and a lack of education on menstrual hygiene worsen their physical health and increase the risk of disease.

In light of these pressing challenges, the Adolescent Development project seeks to empower adolescent girls by addressing their menstrual, dietary practices, nutritional, educational, healthcare, reproductive, and psychosocial needs. By providing comprehensive support and creating a conducive ecosystem of a participatory approach, we aim to uplift these girls and create opportunities for a brighter future. In response to the program GSP, the second term of the Adolescents Development Program in the Penthakata project begins in February 2025. On the first day, two Kishori Saathis are enrolled in an orientation session to familiarize themselves with the project and its objectives.

Based on observations from the previous year, some adolescents have crossed the age of 18, necessitating a reformation of the group structure and the inclusion of new members. The Kishori Saathis conducted door-to-door visits to verify and identify new girls to be added to the collectives. They prepared a new list for 23 groups and informed parents about the upcoming training program and its benefits.



Key Activities are

1. Kishori Meetings on Module 1 of Advika, which is Nutritional Food and Balanced Diet

- ✓ A total of 23 Kishori meetings were organized across various hamlet villages.
- ✓ The sessions focused on Module 1 of the Advika program, emphasizing the importance of nutritional food, a balanced diet, and the six components of nutrition- Carbohydrates, Proteins, Fats, Vitamins, Minerals, and Water.
- ✓ The educational content covered the six categories of vitamins, their roles in the body, and their importance for adolescent health.
- ✓ The storytelling method was adopted for effective engagement and understanding, delivered via an online platform to ensure safety and accessibility.
- ✓ During these sessions, adolescents actively participated by answering questions about vitamins and their associated fruits and vegetables, which helped reinforce their understanding interactively.

2. Health Camp and Medical Outreach-60 Adolescents received free consultation from the doctor & medicines

- ✓ A comprehensive health camp was conducted on 20th March to provide adolescents with free health consultations.
- ✓ The camp included consultations with qualified doctors, who assessed the adolescents' health conditions, provided medical advice, and addressed any health concerns.
- ✓ During the camp, essential medicines were distributed, including Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) tablets and Albendazole for deworming.
- ✓ The health camp aimed to promote early detection and management of health issues, particularly anaemia and other nutritional deficiencies.

3. Observance of Anaemia Day – 21st March- 130 Adolescents

- ✓ On 21st March, Anaemia Day was observed to raise awareness about anaemia among adolescents.
- ✓ Educational sessions provided detailed information about
 - What is anaemia
 - Major causes of anaemia
 - Symptoms to watch for
 - Prevention and recovery strategies
- ✓ Emphasis was laid on dietary practices, including increased consumption of iron-rich foods and fruits, and vegetables associated with vitamins that prevent anaemia.

4. Staff Review Meeting

- ✓ A staff review meeting was held to evaluate the ongoing activities, review the progress of the Saathis' work, and discuss upcoming initiatives.
- ✓ The meeting focused on verifying the implementation status of planned activities, sharing challenges faced, and strategizing for future engagements.
- ✓ The review aimed to ensure the program's objectives are being met effectively and to enhance coordination among team members.



Vidya Program:

Koraput District is located in the state of Odisha, India. Known for its rich cultural heritage, diverse tribal populations, and scenic landscapes, Koraput is often referred to as the "Switzerland of Odisha" due to its picturesque mountains and valleys. The district is part of the Eastern Ghats and features a rugged terrain with hill ranges, forests, and water bodies. Agriculture, forestry, and mineral resources are significant to the local economy. The district is known for its bauxite, iron ore, and other mineral deposits. Koraput is home to numerous tribal communities, each with unique traditions, languages, and festivals. Attractions include Duduma Waterfalls, Jeypore, and the tribal museums showcasing the indigenous cultures.

As per the International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts (**IJCRT**) report, many factors such as **low economic status, lack of parental motivation, poor health condition, parentally illiterate, involvement in domestic and remunerative work, unsupportive school environment,** and **relevance of curriculum not with tribal life, and lack of tribal language** are shown as barriers for tribal education. The lowest **rural male literacy rate is recorded in the district of Koraput (54.1 %)**, whereas **the lowest rural female literacy rate recorded is in the district of Koraput (31.3 %)**. According to the Odisha Primary Education Programme Authority (OPEPA), the overall **dropout rate at the upper primary level is highest in the Koraput district (16.98%)**.

- **India's literacy rate is 77.70%. (Source: National Statistical Office India, 2021)**
- **99.09% of children in India between the age group of 6–14 years are enrolled in school. (Source: UNESCO)**
- **There are 18.12 crore non-literate Adults in India (13.13% of India's total population)**
- **India houses the highest number of adult non-literate people in the world**
- **India can become completely literate when its adult illiteracy is eradicated. i.e., becomes literate, and only then will the literacy rate rise beyond 90%.**

Many people residing in remote hilly villages of Boipariguda Block, District-Koraput, are deprived of their fundamental right to quality education due to a lack of nearby educational institutions. The geographic terrain, scattered HHs along with long distances—often 10 km or more from their homes to the nearest school—significantly hampers their access to pre-primary and primary education. Risk of accidents, injuries, or encounters with wildlife or unfriendly terrain during travel, & Girls, in particular, are kept at home due to safety concerns, affecting gender equality in education.

The absence of educational centres & nearby Anganwadis and qualified teachers near their villages results in dwindling interest in the education of children, perpetuating cycles of illiteracy and poverty. To cater to this, Gopabandhu Seva Parisad, with the support of the Indian Literacy Mission, started the Vidya program in 30 villages (22 villages of Koraput & 8 villages of Malkangiri) of Koraput & Malkangiri District, with the motto of Education for All- Adult Literacy Mission" & "Vidya-Each One Teach Many."

- ✓ This is a Centre-based model.

- ✓ Through this, a community-based Teacher or Akshar Sathi will identify non-literate adults in the community and run adult literacy classes at a common place.
- ✓ Each Akshar Sathi will teach 30 to a maximum of 40 Adult non-literate individuals in a community centre for a minimum of 60 sessions, considering each session to be a maximum of 1 hour duration.
- ✓ Akshar Sathi will solely teach using the Adult Literacy Tool-kit developed by ILM.
- ✓ An individual from the community who is willing to teach a group of adult learners.
- ✓ Completed at least standard X.
- ✓ Has access to smartphones

GSP's Akshar Saathis were able to literate 1200 adult learners from 30 villages with complete learning classes, communication & through an exam.



Nirantara Classic Program– Organization Development support from Dhvani Foundation

Transformation and Growth– A Journey of Capacity Building and Strengthening Organizational Framework by Dhvani Foundation

Before Dhvani Foundation's intervention, the organization (GSP) was struggling to meet donor requirements and maintain a professional image. Key challenges included are

- ✓ Lack of strategic planning, annual plans, and proposed budgets for the year.



- ✓ Inability to provide log frame analysis and clearly defined organization goals.
- ✓ Incompatibility with donor requirements, leading to feelings of inadequacy.

- ✓ Failure to meet donor expectations on multiple occasions.
- ✓ Perception of being 'small' compared to other NGOs due to inadequate marketing materials.
- ✓ The organization was operating reactively, without a clear direction or structure, making it difficult to comply with donor expectations and establish credibility in the eyes of potential partners.

In an introductory session at Konak, by the Executive Director, **K N Gopinath**, and the advice of **Mr. Sabyasachi Chakrabarty**, our advisors, helped us to analyse the need for intervention in organizational Development. Before the intervention of Dhvani Foundation, our organization had the following **loopholes**

Several compliance issues were identified within the organization. Firstly, the Form 10BD filing is incomplete, and the Professional Tax registration is pending. Additionally, an external auditor has not been appointed with approval. Although the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) and Child Protection Policy (CPP) are available, a committee to oversee these policies has yet to be formed. Moreover, the POSH annual filing to the magistrate is incomplete, and the required posters are not displayed in the office premises. Furthermore, the donor list is not displayed, which is a requirement for transparency.

On the governance front, several challenges were noted. Specifically, there is a lack of a second-line leader, and the board member is not actively involved in decision-making processes. Meetings were conducted, but their outcomes and decisions were not properly documented or shared through official communication channels. Moreover, strategy planning was lacking, and the annual plan and budget were not adequately maintained.

In terms of accounts and finance, some discrepancies were found. The organization uses Tally software without a valid license. Moreover, loan and advance, as well as salary registers, are not being properly maintained. The annual plan and budget preparation were also neglected.

Human Resources also poses some challenges. A purchase and procurement committee has not been formed, and a Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) is not in place. Exit interviews are not being conducted, and the organogram is not displayed.

Marketing and fundraising efforts also require attention. Donor research data was not available, and individual donations were not pursued. Board members and staff were not involved in fundraising activities. Moreover, there was limited knowledge on creating effective donor pitches, and proposal writing was outsourced.

as well as salary registers, are being regularly maintained. The annual plan and budget have been prepared and approved by the board.

Human Resources has also seen positive changes. The HR policy has been modified and finalized. Guidelines for Risk Management (GRM) are also finalized by the board meeting. Exit interviews are now being conducted, and a two-way process has been introduced after modifications were made following remarks from Dhvani Foundation. The organizational structure has been modified, and the organogram is now displayed in the office premises.

Following the appointment of the Fund-Raising Manager (FRM), there has been a significant increase in previously sporadic fundraising efforts. Individual contributions have started pouring in through campaign mode. The marketing team has begun creating marketing collateral to establish a strong brand for the organization. Additionally, a comprehensive list of over 200 donors, including individuals, Foreign Contributions (FC), Non-FC, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) donors, and Government donors, has been compiled. The FRM has taken the lead in writing concept notes and proposals, bringing a sense of confidence to the organization.

The implementation of Goonjan software has created an opportunity for the organization to have all the necessary information on one platform, making it easier to access and manage data. This centralized platform has streamlined the collection and dissemination of information, enhancing overall efficiency and productivity

In addition to providing support in the above-mentioned modules, Dhvani Foundation has also guided the organization in program management, helping to develop effective leadership strategies and expand community outreach. Their expertise and mentorship have enabled the organization to strengthen its programmatic approach, build leadership capacity, and extend its reach to more communities, ultimately amplifying its impact.



Current Situation: Support from the Dhvani Foundation has significantly boosted our NGO's confidence. We now feel empowered to apply for any grant, thanks to the master data and necessary compliances being well-organized in one folder. Additionally, our board has become more active, and the hand-holding support and training on various modules have enhanced the capacity of our staff.

Future Improvements: Providing more training to board members, as well as organizing an all-staff training session, will likely enhance the organization's effectiveness. Regular field visits by the Dhvani Foundation to offer support, monitor progress, and facilitate connections with donors will also create an additional layer of support for the organization.

Menstrual Hygiene Support to Adolescents through Period Diary: She is the First

An innovative approach -The period diary initiative: The Period Diary Initiative is a



groundbreaking program aimed at promoting menstrual health, hygiene, and awareness among adolescents and young women. This initiative seeks to break down stigmas and taboos surrounding menstruation, providing a safe and supportive environment for individuals to track and manage their menstrual cycles.

Objective: The primary objective of the Period Diary Initiative is to empower young women with knowledge and skills to effectively manage their menstrual health. This is achieved through:

1. Education and Awareness: Providing comprehensive information on menstrual health, hygiene, and well-being.
2. Menstrual Cycle Tracking: Distributing a period diary to track and monitor menstrual cycles & menstrual flow in a particular month, as well as in a year.
3. Maintain Privacy: Creating a safe and confidential space for sharing experiences and seeking guidance.

Methodology: The initiative is typically implemented through schools, community centres, and healthcare institutions, targeting adolescents and young women aged 12-24. The program consists of

1. Workshops and educational sessions on menstrual health, hygiene, and nutrition.
2. Providing a physical or digital diary to track menstrual cycles.
3. Regular follow-up to support the adolescent groups by Kishori Saathi.

Benefits

1. Enhanced knowledge and skills to manage menstrual cycles.
2. Breaking down cultural and social barriers surrounding menstruation.
3. Empowering young women to take control of their bodies and well-being.

4. Improved understanding of menstrual health and its impact on physical and mental well-being.
5. The period diary will act as a reference for the family to consult doctors if any complication arises.

Challenges and Limitations

1. The period diary is in the English language, which is not easy to understand for the rural & migrant fisherfolk.

GSP initiative Period diary with adolescents of the fisher folk community of Penthakata: Our project location is the urban slum of Puri & coastal area where adolescents suffer due to a lack of awareness about sanitation, hygiene, food importance, self-development, and gender issues, leading to an unsafe future for mothers and children. They use of same regular cloth for a long period without proper cleaning, and they wash it in simple water and dry it under the cloth due to embarrassment, because in a slum, all houses are very close to each other. Periods at an early age, just at 10 & 11 years, and no communication between mother and daughter forced them to remain in the unsafe part of life, which leads to complications, to health birth complications and reproductive tract infection. Anganwadis are not effective in that area due to the language barrier. Gopabandhu Seva Parisad established twenty-three Kishori clubs, each with 20 adolescent girls. To understand their voice, we have established a peer support named Kishori Saathi, who have an understanding of both languages. With the support of She is the first (Girls First Network), we have provided 70 adolescent girls with two sanitary napkins and a tool called period diary on 26th October 2024. It is a useful instrument, as a diary keeps our important notes and helps us to remember everything; similarly, the period diary is very valuable. Previously, during our Advika training program, the parents always complained that their children are facing period irregularity, heavy blood flow, side effects of the period like joint pain, headache, mood swings, and stomach pain. But when they were asked about their period dates, they were unable to answer. But this diary will help them to track both menstrual flow and cycle in a month and work like a record to consult a doctor if any complication arises. It can calculate the track for a whole year. After this initiative few parents, especially mothers, suggested that this diary is very supportive in maintaining their privacy. There is no need to explain much to the doctor; the diary explained it completely, about their name, the date, and the flow cycle. We have provided support to four groups. we have an aim to support the remaining groups with a period diary and to introduce reusable sanitary napkins, which can be useful for them for a longer period.

The Period Diary Initiative is a vital program that addresses the gap in menstrual health education and support. By providing education, resources, and a support network, this initiative empowers young women to take control of their menstrual health, ultimately leading to improved overall well-being and quality of life.



Village Disaster Management Program: With the support of the Odisha State Disaster Management Authority, Community participation and community ownership in disaster risk reduction are factors in reducing the vulnerabilities of people and minimizing loss. Communities, being the first responders and having more contextual familiarity with hazards and availability of resources at the local level, are in a better position to plan and execute immediate rescue and relief actions, provided they are properly trained and involved in the planning process. Realizing the importance of community involvement in disaster management, it has been decided to prepare village Disaster management plans (VDMP) in the state by involving the respective communities of the village. The plan will address the preparedness, response, and mitigation strategies developed by the community with well-defined roles and responsibilities. The Village Disaster Management Plan is required to create an effective and realistic approach, an authentic and accurate database, foolproof documentation, and rehearsal in the community in the shortest possible time with minimum simple orders and procedures so that the people will get maximum benefit. The purpose of the plan is to help ensure a speedy approach for rescue, rehabilitation in the affected area. The plan will guide the community at the time of disaster preparedness and at the time of relief operation, providing courage to the community to face the eventuality more effectively. Village Disaster Management Plan (VDMP) is a document prepared by the village community themselves based on their hazard, vulnerability, risk, resource and capacity analysis, containing village profile supported by maps, emergency response and disaster risk reduction plans, listing out activities and pin pointing responsibility of the Village Disaster Management Committee (VDMC), Task Force Members and the community at normal times, before, during and after a disaster to save lives, livelihood and property and integrating it into the long term sustainable village developmental plan. GSP has started intervention in two districts, namely Puri & Malkangiri, and is operating in 88 villages.

SL NO	NAME OF DISTRICTS	NAME OF BLOCK	VILLAGE NUMBER
1	PURI	KANAS, DELANGA	28 21
2	MALKANGIRI	MALKANGIRI MATHILI KALIMELA	39

Community cadres have completed the formation of village-level committees in Delanga and Pipili Block.

Celebration of the Silver Jubilee Year for Gopabandhu Seva (2000–2025)

In 2025, Gopabandhu Seva proudly commemorated its 25th anniversary, marking a significant milestone in its journey of service and community development. The organization was founded on January 5th, 2000, and this year's occasion was celebrated with grandeur and a deep sense of achievement at the prestigious Hotel Naren Palace in Puri.

The Silver Jubilee Celebration brought together a vibrant gathering of distinguished guests, dedicated staff, community leaders, and well-wishers who have been part of the organization's journey over the years. The event was a testament to the organization's impactful work and unwavering commitment towards social welfare.

Notable Guests and Dignitaries

The celebration was graced by several eminent personalities and esteemed guests, including

- Sri. Manoj Kumar Tripathy, District Child Protection Officer, who is instrumental in child welfare initiatives.
- Sri. Mihir Mohanty, State Head of Dhvani Foundation, Odisha, known for his contributions to education and community service.
- Sri. Sambit Kumar Nanda, Zonal Manager of Catalyst Management Service, whose leadership in management training played a vital role.
- Sri. Suchit Ranjan Singh, a renowned Development Expert whose expertise has guided various developmental programs.
- Sri. Sushant Kumar Tripathy, ODMP Convener, contributing significantly to organizational development and management.
- Sri. Suresh Kumar, State Head of Goonj Organization in Odisha, known for his dedication to community empowerment.
- Sri. Jalandhar Baral, a retired teacher and Founder Member of Gopabandhu Seva, whose foundational role remains deeply appreciated.
- Sri. Dinabandhu Moharana, State Program Officer of Vitamin Angels Odisha, recognized for his contributions towards child health.
- Sri. K Rahul Agrawal, Chartered Accountant based in Bhubaneswar, instrumental in financial planning and management.
- Sri. Nakul Chandra Swain, Secretary of Jageswari Yuvak Sangh, representing youth engagement and leadership.
- Sri. Pradip Kumar, the Founder Member and current Chairman of Gopabandhu Seva, whose vision laid the foundation for the organization.

Program Highlights

The event not only celebrated the organization's 25 years of dedicated service but also showcased its continuous growth and future vision. Key highlights of the celebration included

- Inauguration of the New Logo–A new organizational logo was unveiled, symbolizing a fresh chapter in Gopabandhu Seva's journey and its renewed commitment to social development.

- Booklet Release- A comprehensive booklet on the adolescent development program was launched, highlighting the organization's focus on youth empowerment and health.
- Felicitations and Recognitions- Team members and esteemed guests were felicitated to acknowledge their unwavering support, dedication, and contributions in advancing the organization's mission.
- Participation and Community Engagement-The celebration saw enthusiastic participation from the board members, founder members, current and former staff, community leaders, and numerous well-wishers. Their collective presence underscored the community's trust and active involvement in the organization's initiatives.

In essence, the Silver Jubilee celebration not only honoured the past 25 years of Gopabandhu Seva's impactful work but also set a strong foundation for continued growth and service in the years to come.

