



# Annual Report

## 2012-13

[www.govindalaya.org](http://www.govindalaya.org)

*A peaceful and prosperous India is a myth so long as KBK (Koraput-Balangir-Kalahandi) region in Odisha suffers from lack of dignity - basic infrastructure, public hunger, unemployment.*

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## Chairman's Message

Govindalaya is a dream comes true for many who wanted to share their ideas and expertise for benefit of KBK districts. Informal efforts of a concerned group finally lead to registration of Govindalaya as a Public Trust on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2012. Its endeavour is to help and improve quality of lives in tribal region of KBK districts.

Issues that need to be addressed in this region are many; rural poverty, ineffective agricultural practices, decreasing agriculture production, lack of irrigation, poor health and education infrastructure. We attempt achieving sustainability through planning, better agricultural practices, creation of physical and knowledge infrastructure in health and education sectors – particularly in the fields of digital knowledge.

A major decision taken this year was to shape Nabarangpur office as Head Office of the organisation. Such decision was taken in order to ensure development of organisational resources in this Tribal district to ensure equal access to opportunities for have-nots in this part of India.

I encourage progressive farmers and professionals to offer guidance, mentoring and support to the have-nots in this region to show them a path of progress. Friends from Corporate, Govt. organizations and other voluntary organizations should come forward to work together for the causes of KBK region. Since inception we at Govindalaya are ready to work in collaboration and partnerships. The activities we undertook towards meeting our set goals during this year are detailed in this report.

I take this opportunity to thank all the tribal communities for their full involvement and participation from project planning to evaluation and also to all the supportive agencies and well wishers for their generous co-operation and support. I am thankful to the KBK Administrator, Department of Agriculture, District Collectors and all field level officials for having acknowledged our work. My thanks to all members of Govindalaya family who worked hard year long and enriched the lives of the beneficiaries.

Shanmuga Patro  
**Founder & Chairman**

## Organisation Profile

NAME OF ORGANISATION	Govindalaya
Address	Head office Govindalaya, Axis Bank Building, Main Road, Nabarangpur (Odisha), PIN - 764059, 06858-222588, 9178877588, 9438870005  Odisha office Govindalaya, Plot No. 1814/4070, Nigam Vihar Sriram Nagar, Old Town, Bhubaneswar (Odisha) PIN-751002 Mob. 9438870005  Regd. office Govindalaya, 90/4 (GF), Krishna Nagar, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi -110029, 011-26175190, 09891044766
E-Mail	contact@govindalaya.org
Website	www.govindalaya.org
Telephone and Fax	06858-222588, 9178877588, 9438870005 (Head office) 011-26175190, 09891044766 (Regd. Office)
Contacts of Organization	Shanmuga Patro - 9891044766 Umakanta Sahoo - 9438870005
Formation	Constituted as a Public Trust; registered with Sub Registrar IX, New Delhi vide Regd. No. 885 dated the 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2012 in Book No. 4, Vol No. 1,591 at pages 111 to 121.
12A Income Tax Act	Declared by Government of India as a not-for-profit organisation under Section 12A of Income Tax Act, 1961. Serial No. NQ.DIT(E) I 2012-13 / DEL-GR22546-18122012/144 Date: 18.12.2012
80G of Income Tax Act	Registered under Section 80G of Income Tax Act, 1961 vide NQ.DIT(E) I 2012-13 / DEL-GR24329-18122012/673 Date: 18.12.2012. This allows donors of Govindalaya to seek Tax benefits as permissible under Indian Law.
PAN number	AABTG7671E
Name of the Bank	(i) Union Bank of India, Moti Bagh Branch (New Delhi), IFSC: UBIN0546836, Account No. 468302010910931  (ii) Union Bank of India, Nabarangpur Branch (Odisha), IFSC: UBIN0562513, Account No. 625102010002393

### The milieu

Small group commenced working towards benefit of KBK region under this name Govindalaya in 2008. It was set up with an objective to evolve and improve social strategies, policies and solution by scientific and systematic investigation and analysis of problems and issues of regional, national and global priorities. A group of professionals shared a common dream and united together to work on people-centric development especially in under-developed KBK (Koraput-Balangir-Kalahandi) region

comprising 8 districts namely Malkangiri, Koraput, Nabarangpur, Kalahandi, Rayagada, Nuapada, Balangir and Sonepur of Odisha. These are among the Naxal-affected districts of the country with 60% Adivasis and more 65% people below poverty line. Govindalaya fights against the problems of health and nutrition, education and food security.

The evolution has taken a shape of a well-planned articulation of desired development goals and its processes for this region with a view to organize and implement various developmental projects directed to address the problems of poverty, illiteracy, hunger, disease, insecurity and environmental crisis. It has been providing innovative services and solutions in response to development problems, issues and projects; *Millennium Development Goals (MGD - 1-9)* at local, national and international level with a mission to promote and establish prosperous, happy and healthy living environment for the people in a sustainable manner. The organization gradually became known for its development and networking activities on various fields. In fact, all its initiatives are targeted to help and improve sustainable community living by joining hands with Funding Agencies to help them advancing their welfare and development initiatives and resources to the needy, weaker, distressed and disadvantaged families inhabiting within and around its operational areas. It emphasizes on innovative and integrated approach to address issues with active participation of relevant stakeholders including the targeted communities.

## Vision

To give everyone the power to create, work on and share ideas and of information without barriers; we value equity of access and opportunity for all. We offer opportunities and services that empower individuals to enhance their quality of lives and in getting integrated into a developed society with dignity.

## Objectives

Providing urban amenities in rural areas through Public-Private-Academia-Community-Partnership (PPACP) mode; and to act as resource-cum-facility centre for S&T applications, to promote and propagate scientific and rational outlook, enhance aspirations, inculcate happiness, create employability and avenues for meaningful engagement, handhold rural entrepreneurs; and to strengthen people's participation in governance.

## Areas of interventions

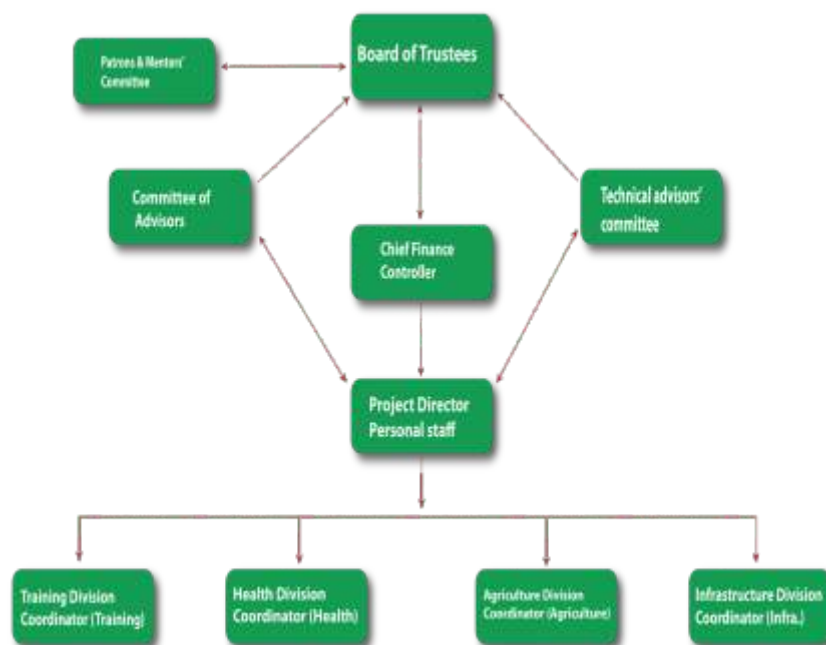
Preventive and community healthcare systems; creation of opportunities for earning while learning skills in agriculture, horticulture and animal sciences. Post harvest management systems and market linkage. Empowerment of tribal and women. Stay and recreation facilities for senior citizens. Promotion of computer literacy. Propagation of scientific and rational outlook amongst children.

## Organisational Philosophy

Govindalaya's mission is to bring about developmental changes to help KBK people live healthier, happier and more productive lives. We identify and locate specific strengths of people of this region, who excelled in different fields and living in different parts of the world and motivate them to give back from their strengths and achievements to society. To tackle challenges of KBK region such as low-level aspirations, lack of knowledge infrastructure and societal governance framework, we listen and learn carefully, and identify pressing problems that need immediate attention. Then we consider how to make meaningful difference with our involvement, influence and investments, whether it is through

setting up a model institution for masses or hand-holding a few deserving entrepreneurs and innovators. All our strategies have emerged after proper assessment of the situation at ground level, formulation of the processes to achieve all that we want to accomplish for people. Once we commit to an area or need, we define our major goals and identify a clear path, and leave no stone unturned to achieve set goals.

## Organizational Structure:



## Our Strength:

- Dedicated and committed Team to work at the grass root level.
- Panel of experts/specialists, development planners in various fields who act as the key resource persons for various development and public welfare projects.
- Development, media advocacy and networking activities in different areas of need.
- Association with organized people's and community organizations.
- 3 Training centers imparting vocational/skill trainings.
- Good rapport with targeted beneficiaries and local administration.
- Organization representation in Block level committees to facilitate effective implementation of Government programmes .

## Infrastructure

All our offices i.e. Head office, Odisha Office and Registered office are fully equipped to undertake projects of varying magnitude and diversity and are ready to launch large-scale national projects. We have qualified system professionals with knowledge of both software and hardware aspects. Also we have a smart office with 22 desktops and 2 laptops, broad band internet connection, telephone, audio-visual equipments etc. We established an information cell working from grass-root level. We recruit, project staff from people coming from same socio-economic conditions in which our targeted groups live, and our staff is aware of local conditions of our area of operation. All that apart we have 31 Acres of

organisation owned cultivable and irrigated, also institutional land in Village Soruguda of Nandahandi Block in Nabarangpur district at a distance of about 10 Kms from District Collector's office

## Management of the Organization

- A board of five trustees determine the areas for us to get involved. They avail advice from a group of visionaries including reputed professionals and get action plans made by credible consultants. Meeting of our trustees held at least once in a quarter to review progress of all projects.
- A team of employees, headed by a Project Director execute the plans with and without association of local volunteers depending on the nature of work.
- We have established an information cell for masses to avail useful information related to agriculture, health and education
- An Advisory Board supporting planning of execution of various projects; such board consists of retired bureaucrats, members of judiciary, academician, research scholars and social workers.
- Transparency is maintained at every level of work. We have financial display board displaying organizational receipts and the purposes for which funds received from various sources.
- We maintain requisite books of accounts on the computer and periodically update the same.
- We have networked with local administration and other N.G.Os working in the region.
- Our 95% transactions are through banks and A/c Payee cheques.

## Preparatory Activities

On 12<sup>th</sup> May 2012 Govindalaya got registered as a Public Trust to do public good in KBK region of Odisha. A formal organisational structure with its own rules & regulations came into existence. Since commencement and even prior thereto Govindalaya focused on development of the KBK region through innovative ways and improved access to opportunities. Promotion of social inclusion of the poor and vulnerable has remained a priority item for our organisation. Our efforts are to empower people, building cohesive and elastic societies, and making institutions accessible and accountable to citizens. By working with governments, communities, civil society and the private sector, we translate the complex relationship between societies' and state into operations.



On coming into operation detailed deliberations held between promoters who primarily are old students of various schools of Nabarangpur and advisor to develop a logo appropriately representing motto of the organisation; also about coining a phrase to indicate ultimate objects of the organisation. On brainstorming through a series of meetings between May and July the above logo was finalised; as also the phrase 'creating possibilities and positivity'. It was decided to seek registration of both these as organisational IPR. Further, to save money on stationery, mailing and to reach out to many interested in helping our organisational causes, website [www.govindalaya.org](http://www.govindalaya.org) was developed and launched on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2012. In order to declare our existence on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012 we got registered with Government of India & Planning Commission; Id. DL/2012/0055754 on NGO Partnership web portal <http://ngo.india.gov.in/> was issued to us.

Then time came to identify a suitable location for us to set up office in our area of operation. Nabarangpur district was chosen for the same being almost in middle of the 8 districts of KBK region. In Nabarangpur we chose Nandahandi block to work from. We managed setting up an office in Soruguda village of the said block.



*Soruguda village of Nandahandi Block in Nabarangpur district*

On 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012 we set up an office in the said village. Since then it has been providing key facilities for coordination, management and smooth functioning of our projects.





On 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2012 we purchased 31 Acres. of land in the same village which is about 10 Kms. away from Nabarangpur District Collector's office. Idea behind purchasing land was to create belongingness amongst the local staff and villages. One of the primary reason locals in our region not effectively participating in development projects is that the implementing agencies fail in creating acceptability amongst the locals for lack of organisational resources in the vicinity. Another important reason of owning land is to shape the organisation in a sustainable manner without depending much on aids from different agencies. The land can be utilised to raise revenues for the organisation in due course of time.



*31 Acres of land purchased by Govindalaya in village Soruguda*

Income Tax department 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012 declared us a charitable public trust and issued orders under Section 12A & 80G of Income Tax Act. Thereafter, looking at the interests shown by many to join the development works we initiated in the otherwise inaccessible part of Odisha on 2<sup>nd</sup> February a facebook account and page <https://www.facebook.com/Govindalaya> was created. In a short period social media acknowledged intentions and actions of Govindalaya. Through e-media we connect individuals with the causes, issues, people and villages important to them; our goal is to educate supporters, inspire advocacy and put people at the centre of the issues they care for.

The year under reporting was very meaningful. We identified various sustainable technologies and methods for sustenance of projects contemplated. Planning processes and introductory sessions amongst the identified communities were conducted and specific projects finalised. Community was encouraged to take active part in the planning and implementation. We recruited people with passion and some experience to execute grass root level work.

## Farmers' Awareness

In the 1<sup>st</sup> year of our coming into existence we realised many a reality in agriculture, horticulture and allied subjects, which remained predominant occupation for many in our areas of operation. We took note of felt climate change and related concerns in agricultural sector. Irregularity of weather and climate demands scientific and accurate information to maintain productivity of the land. Developing adaptive capacity in farmers with improved planning and better management decisions appeared a challenge. All these realisations forced us to plan a series of awareness programmes to enlighten farmers about importance of climate and its impact on crop and crop management. We conducted such programmes in 14 villages of Nandahandi block. Objective of these programmes was to secure and increase farmer self-reliance through accurate information about weather and climate risk

management; and to increase interaction between farmers and the Govindalaya. Around 120 farmers participated from different villages of in our programmes.

We invited well known agriculture professionals of the state for our programmes. Dr. Prabhu Lenka, Dr. Omkar Patnaik, Dr. Suryanarayan Behara all from applied agriculture science interacted with villagers. Our coordinator Jugal Kishore Tripathy made people aware about our intentions and facilities for their benefit.



*Awareness programme conducted in Sindhiguda: 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012*



*A month long campaign we organised in May 2012*

Through our programmes we tried increasing knowledge and awareness amongst farmers about increasing production of various crops; also about various farmer friendly programmes initiated by Government of India and State government such as Front Line Demonstrations and Extension through network of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), National Mission of Agricultural Extension & Technology (NMAET), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Soil Health Management Scheme, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

## Farmers' Information Centre

To augment information dissemination services in place, we introduced Farmers' Information Centre for benefit of farmers through access to updated information about flagship programmes of various organisations. Besides offering information through these centres we try answering queries of farmers on telephone in their own dialect and in person at our office. We availed voluntary services of two retired Village Agriculture Workers namely Shri. Gadadhar Das and Smt. Swarnamani Khuntia.

Our centre remains open 3 days a week and functions 6 hours a day on working day. Followings are activities conducted in the centre:

Compiling and sharing best practice guides, fact sheets and practical tools to help farmers fighting against significant farming hazards;

Compiling up-to-date information on national and state schemes relevant for local farmers.

Working with training organisations and rural service providers to offer one window solutions to local farmers on some aspects of agriculture.

Coordination with Agriculture Scientists and subject expert to establish linkages between them and village issues.

## Study Material Distribution

While working with and towards benefits of farmers in villages, we witnessed miseries of children. Books supplied in Government schools do not reach students in time. For many reasons some students irrespective of socio-economic status of their parents do not get books even till their examination. Villages do not have bookstores for villages interested to buy books for children somehow. And as children do not have or enjoy an exclusive or dedicated place at home to keep their books safe and secure, their books get spoiled for rains, termite and likes.

While we are working towards a permanent solution to this problem, in the year under reporting we provided educational material to poor children who attend Government Schools but for some or other reason cannot access to study material supplies made by Government. Our distribution material consist text books, notebooks, geometry box, pencils and pens. We select beneficiary children through personal visits to their homes to assess the family situations besides taking inputs from teachers. So far we provided such support to about 100 students studying in classes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 7th standard in Nandahandi block. We facilitate interested donors and sponsors interested in activities helping deprived school children.

## Motivational Activity & Helpline

On 25<sup>th</sup> July 2012 we arranged one day training for persons interested in volunteering in premises of Nabarangpur Block office. Few professionals and skilled resource persons imparted knowhow about volunteering and its benefits. 50 persons from different blocks participated in the training session. All appreciated training and exposure to be essential elements of volunteerism. Participants' attention was also drawn towards government policies meant for encouraging lifelong learning.



Using the gathering as a platform Govindalaya introduced Blood donors' directory and Mobile help lines 9178877399 & 9178877411 for people in need of blood. A specific format was finalized to collect particulars of donors such as name, address, age, telephone numbers, e-mail address, blood group and health condition of the person interested in donating blood. Through aforesaid help lines many a patient and their family members in need get in touch with interested blood donors who on receipt of information have been donating blood generously. This complete activity is volunteer driven.



The same set of volunteers who manage our help lines on 24.2.2013 conducted a blood donation camp in association with Sambad (Odia news daily newspaper) at district head quarter hospital. Total 42 Units blood was collected for the Blood bank through such event.

## Aid to Senior Citizens & Patients

Senior Citizens are a treasure to our society. They worked hard throughout life for development of family and community. They possess vast experience in different fields. We have much to gain from their experiences. We need to think of newer aging solutions to take care of them with dignity. Every day a senior citizen depends on many small things which we certainly can provide by organising ourselves better.

Govindalaya has plans to set up an old age-cum-retirement home for senior citizens, a first of its kind in the district to provide a holistic environment. Specially designed shelter homes with security, healthcare, quality food and hygiene for 100 senior citizens are planned in a rural environment. The facilities will have provisions for paying and non-paying elderly people. Facilities like yoga, meditation classes, library, computer surfing, e-mailing, and spiritual discourses, and recreational shall be set up; also provisions for recreation of uneducated persons will be planned.

While working towards achieving aforesaid long term goals, in the year under reporting we conducted a series of informal street meetings to understand plight of senior citizens in villages. During such meetings we identified immediate one time needs of 19 elderly persons above 80 years of age; purchased articles like portable commode, water bottles with sipper, flask bottle etc. and distributed them in Nabarangpur block



We on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2012 visited in-house patients to understand the gaps in patient management at hospitals of Nabarangpur. On such occasion we distributed fresh fruits. The initiative was taken to inculcate human values and dignity. Because hospital is a place where people are struggling and suffering; kind, concerned and helping words from someone during hospitalisation is worth millions.

## Acknowledgements we received for our initiatives

On getting to know about our activities many a great person encouraged us through mails and phone calls. An email received from Prof. (Dr.) M. S. Swaminathan is reproduced below:

MSS/DB/  
11 June 2012

Shri Shanmuga Patro  
Shanmuga\_office@yahoo.com  
Patro.shanmuga@gmail.com

Dear Shri Patro,

Thank you very much for your kind letter concerning Govindalaya. I am particularly happy that Govindalaya is serving the KBK region of Odisha. I am forwarding your letter to Dr Ajay Parida, Executive Director, MSSRF to extend whatever help we can.

With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

M S Swaminathan



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