

# Annual Report 2014-15



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

The year under report is Govindalaya's 3<sup>rd</sup> year of formal existence. Major activities / achievements include the followings:

- 1. Infosys joining hands with us in our endeavours to promote digital literacy in the Tribal districts;
- 2. Google helping us to reach out masses spread over different parts of world through 'Ad Grant'
- 3. Odisha University of Agriculture & Technology extending support in conducting farmer-farm scientists' meets at our Centre of Empowerment on regular intervals;
- 4. Finalisation of designing and planning of 'Centre of Empowerment'; and
- 5. Staff training from prestigious organisations such as IRMA & NIESBUD

Friends, without your support and cooperation Govindalaya couldn't have achieved all that it did in the year. Being emboldened with the support we received from various corners we have decided to spread into other parts of KBK (Koraput-Balangir-Kalahandi) region of Odisha. In this direction our initial step was to set up a computer learning centre in Borigumma Block of Koraput district.

We have been constantly trying to find answers to how communities living in remote upland KBK districts can be an integral part of the nation? The issue of utmost significance is exclusion of these communities from constitutional guarantees. Govindalaya continues and will continue its fight to make the Constitution a reality for the tribal communities. We have experienced successes as well as failures; but we feel a sense of satisfaction that the tribal communities have gradually started coming to the fore and are working towards asserting their rights.

These successes are however in the midst of a financial crisis that poses real challenge. Albeit contributions from friends and concerned individuals, Govindalaya is facing problems in getting volunteers and professionals to work in remote tribal areas. It has become an uphill task to keep continuing our efforts. We believe that a conducive and productive environment cannot be achieved unless all parameters of the development equation are adequately addressed. Our efforts continue to improve transparency and accountability to donors, supporters, partners, allies and the communities we work with.

I express my sincere thanks to the supporting agencies, OUAT, NEILIT (erstwhile DOEACC), Government of India's Agriculture, Technology Management Agency (ATMA)'s, Odisha Bamboo Development Board, Infosys and Google. Shri. Bijayram Das at the age of 85 visited our site and finalised the design and planning of 'Centre of Empowerment'. We would remain indebted to him for that. I am also thankful to the district and block levels officials in line departments and education wing who extended their sincere co-operations to the organization in implementing various programmes. Staff of the organization worked in adverse condition to make all the programmes of the organization a success. I am thankful to them and hope them to continue good work with the same vigour and enthusiasm in future. Last, but not the list I extent my sincere thanks to all those faceless persons who associated themselves with the organization at different points of time for causes of social development.

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

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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 peoplecentric 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

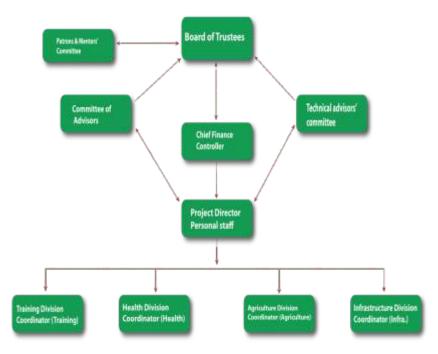
Preventive and community healthcare systems; creation of opportunities for earning while learning skills in agriculture, horticulture and animal sciences. Post harvest management systems and market linkage. Empowerment of tribal and women. Stay and recreation facilities for senior citizens. Promotion 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, audiovisual 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.

# Centre of Empowerment

Keeping in mind Govindalaya's objects behind developing its 31 Acres land into 'Centre of Empowerment', Shri. Bijay Ram Das, Former Director of Soil Conservation Department, Government of Odisha developed detailed designs. M/s. S. M. Consultants, Bhubaneswar provided the professional technical support such as contour mapping, graphic designing of the project.

#### Components of the project include:

- » A farmers' training institution to accommodate 200 trainees;
- » 30 demonstration-cum-production agriculture and horticulture farms;
- » Water body for pisciculture and rainwater harvesting structures;
- » Separate Hostels for men and women trainees to accommodate 300 persons;
- » An old age home for about 100 people;
- » A nature care centre comprising 50 bedded facility to render alternate therapies;
- » Herbal garden around the nature care centre;
- » A Bal Bhawan for Children with a Science park in that;
- » An amphitheatre with a community hall and space for rural art / handicraft exhibition;
- » Few Rural cottages to be used as guest houses; and
- » Office building for administration.

In the year under reporting, land levelling work, contour mapping, land and topography survey etc. was done and a project construction office was built on the land.



## Healthcare

While continuing all that we commenced in previous years, in the year under report we gave special emphasis to geriatric and paediatric care through alternate therapies. Followings are our achievements in this year:

i. Blood management: the concerned citizens group that we created periodically visited blood banks in Nabarangpur district, had interactions with the doctors in charge of blood banks, helped

medical authorities conducting blood donation camps in 17 villages and extended voluntary services to hospitals in filling the gaps seen in effective blood management. Our team had 16 such meetings besides volunteering time for the activities conducted by hospitals. This year we groomed 9 motivators and 126 blood donors. In total through blood donations camps we collected 112 units of blood; and against requests received on our helplines we arranged 43 blood donors at the time of need. Majority of calls were received from hospitals and some were directly from attendants of the needy patients.



Blood donation camp organised at DHH Blood Bank, Nabarangpur on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015

ii. Ambulance & Hearse Van services: this year we could provide more effective and prompt services in transporting 179 patients. Local businessman Shri. Venket donated us a Hearse Van in October 2014; such philanthropic instance helped us cutting down operational expenses over dead body transport services substantially. We transported 113 dead bodies from hospitals and places of accidents to interior villages. In some cases we brought dead bodies of locals from hospitals located in outside states as well.



Hearse Van donated by local businessman Shri. Venket in October 2014

iii. Under leadership of our Trustee Ms. Kallolini this year we could arrange weeklong awareness programmes 3 times in the months of June 2014, September 2014 and January 2015. These

programmes were conducted in 9 different villages of Nabarangpur and Nandahandi block of Nabarangpur district and Borigumma block of Koraput district. Total attendance in these programmes was more than 768 persons. Through these programmes awareness was spread about suitability of alternate therapies such as naturopathy, ayurveda and acupressure in geriatric and child care. Special attention was paid to women participants. Women being endowed with special attributes of caring others in family were told to acquire and hone skills of alternate therapies. Ms



acquire and hone skills of alternate therapies. Ms. Kallolini herself a well known acupressure practitioner conducted 6 sessions at different places.

**iv. Help line services:** realising practical difficulties associated with round the clock management of the help lines and increasing number of calls, this year two persons were specifically appointed to record and manage call logs, response and impact of our services. In total we received 693 calls during the year under report besides 32 calls of grievances about quality of our services. Complaints about services were addressed as promptly as possible at our end and further quality assurance measures were put in place.

**Help lines:** 9178877411 & 9178877399 **Complaints:** 9178877588

# Agriculture Trainings & Awareness programmes

Our Agriculture Information Centre did well in the year. We received 162 queries from local farmers, some of them personally visited the centre and some made queries on phone. All queries were addressed through counselling explanations and field visits. Most of the works were done in-house by our own staff; however, in relation to 17 queries we had to seek expert guidance from M.S.Swaminathan Research Foundation.

Acknowledging the good work we did in previous years on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2014 once again we were empanelled as one of the partner NGO to implement Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA)'s district level programmes for 2014-15. Under this scheme we covered 16 panchayats of Nabarangpur and Nandahandi Blocks of Nabarangpur district out of which 5 villages were new to us. In all these villages we imparted agriculture and horticulture trainings, gave demonstrations and extended support services to state agriculture and horticulture departments in their different farmer oriented activities; also we disseminated printed material known under the scheme as "farm information dissemination". Special emphasis was given this year to 'quality planting material'.

Odisha University of Agriculture & Technology (OUAT) supported some of our training programmes through its Directorate of Extension Education which refines technologies and disseminates knowledge to farming community through a network of KVKs in various agro-climatic zones. It also provides feed back to the research system for finding solution to the farmer's problems. It operates in the principle of teaching by doing and learning by doing and enables farmers to acquire up-to-date skills to boost up production in farming sector. Transfer of knowledge programmes are carried out through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK), University Extension Block Programme (UEBP), Information and Communication wing,

Distance Education, Video Project, Agricultural Technology Information Centre (ATIC), Kissan Call Centre (KCC) and Orissa Gender Resources Centre (OGRC). With such support we could regularise Farmer-Farm Scientists' interactive meetings at our Centre of Empowerment. In total we conducted 4 such interaction-cum-training session during the year under reporting. Farmers' from all 10 Panchayats of Nandahandi Block of Nabarangpur district benefited from such sessions. Total attendance this year was 1163 which involved landless farmers as well as women farmers.



Farm-Scientist & Farmers meet organised on 21.12.2014. Resource Persons were from KVK, Umerkote.

#### Bamboo Garden

Having taken note of the awareness we created in villages in and around our Centre of Empowerment, Odisha Bamboo Development Agency contacted us and requested us to be one of their resource centre to promote quality bamboo in the region. On our acceptance of their proposal we received 1000 plants of SUNDARI BAMBOO from the said agency. This year we planted those bamboo plants on our land to create a demonstration model for OBDA. It is to be noted that not only we planted bamboo over 2 Hectares of land but also we have taken care of the aesthetic and scenic beauty of the plant; hence, designed such plantation in the shape of a park. In 4 years time we expect bamboo to grow and create some revenue for the organisation; also we expect villagers to follow us in using their barren lands for bamboo plantation.

The bamboo economy ranging from resource generation to value added applications has supported approximately 8.6 million livelihoods in the country (source: 10th Plan). Smallholders at the forest fringes, in particular improve their livelihoods by processing bamboo growing it in their backyards. With planned development of integrated bamboo based clusters most value addition can be done closer to the resource, resulting in large scale socio economic benefits. Bamboo grows very fast. It is a natural renewable resource that grows twice as fast as a tree and matures within an average span of 3 years. When harvested, it need not be replanted, because it will grow a new shoot from its extensive root system. All these aspects were taken note while raising bamboo garden at our Centre of Empowerment.

# **Education & Awareness**

Acknowledging our services in promoting digital literacy in inaccessible tribal districts of Odisha, Infosys donated us 20 sets of Computers on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2014 for our Learning & Awareness Centre. With this new addition this year we started various new courses for school and college going children. Our

courses include the followings:

- » Basic Computer Course (BCC)
- » Course on Computer Concepts (CCC)
- » Computer Learning Aided Programmes (CLAP) for children;
- » Computer training for livelihood generation such as Digital Entrepreneurship, Business Accounts, Photoshop, Desktop Publication and likes.

In the year under reporting we trained more than a 1000 persons including house wives, farmers, school and college going children, small businessman, school teachers and local lawyers. We have been



Computer Centre and free internet facilities set up with the 20 computers donated by Infosys

offering short term courses (ranging between 1 week to 2 months) and long term programmes (ranging between 2 months and 1 year) to cater to the needs of our learners.

On 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014 NEILIT (erstwhile DOEACC), a Government of India's accrediting authority after having scrutinised our facilities declared our Learning and Awareness Centre as one of its Facilitation Centre. It is to be noted that ours is the 1<sup>st</sup> in the district to receive NEILIT affiliation.

#### **Common Service Centres**

On 2nd Nov. 2014 Govindalaya was granted permission to set up and manage 13 Common Service Centres to promote e-governance programme of Government of India. Training of Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLE) to manage such CSCs in each panchayat is undergoing. Training of Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLE) to manage such CSCs in each panchayat is undergoing. This initiative also known as Jan Seva Kendra Yojna is a part of the ambitious National e-Governance Plan (NeGP). The Common Service Centers (CSCs) have been positioned as front end delivery outlets for delivery of Government as well as Private Sector services to enable delivery of G2C (Government to Citizen) and B2C (Business to Client) services at Grampanchayat level.

Govindalaya became VLE in about 13 panchayats of 5 adjacent CD Blocks i.e. Nandahandi, Umerkote,

Papdahandi, Nabarangpur and Borigumma. Appointed and trained village youth to manage CSCs at Grampanchayat headquarters. Out of the little business linked voluntary contribution made by these 13 VLEs, we are now training another batch of VLEs. Through this approach we aim at setting up and effectively manage CSCs throughout 80 Blocks of KBK region thereby creating employment avenues for about 400 village youth before end of 2016.



Inauguration of 13 Common Service Centres granted to Govindalaya by OCAC officer.

# Women empowerment

Govindalaya continued its women empowerment activities this year as well. 126 women in total were trained in livelihood generating tailoring and computer programmes such as DTP, Photoshop and Screen Printing besides on farm and off farm trainings imparted to women agriculture entrepreneurs. Some women also trained in acupressure techniques to help their family members particularly elderly persons and children at home. Continuation of these programmes, however, posed serious issues like lack of eco-system around and motivation amongst men to facilitate women in livelihood generation.

#### Promotion of Science

Govindalaya's initiatives in this direction are aligned with India's continually evolving democratic and resilient information sharing ad inclusive communication strategies through Vigyan Prasar. These are to deliver appropriate information in a timely manner, build capacities to sustain access and enable an enriching learning experience. Science and technology are at the core of development. Citizens in all walks of life and spheres of activities particularly teachers and school going children should be enabled to comprehend the spread and depth of scientific thinking and applications of such insights. These are directly relevant to the quality of life and the roles they can play to sustain transitions. Knowledge systems in communities and individuals can also enrich learnings and sharing of insights. Like Vigyan Prasar we too believe in a vibrant two-way communication process to establish synergies between locally relevant thinking and larger scale knowledge hybridization and adaptation. Topical and temporal relevance are critical for success through this framework. Several themes and tools of communication have been the focus of initiatives during the period of report. Stakeholders included institutions that could enable large scale and wide spread outreach signifying synergies.

## Our science promotion activities in pictures



Science exposure programme conducted for Primary Teachers on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2014



Science exposure programme conducted in a rural school of Nandahandi Block for students of Primary Schools in 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January 2015



A science awareness programme conducted in association with Ascent Classes in a Telugu School on 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015



A fun filled science workshop we conducted on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2014 at R.C.D. High School Nabarangpur with volunteer support from vikram sarabhai science foundation.

# Capacity building

In the year under reporting we availed various kind of training for our staff



Staff availing entrepreneurship training conducted by Hindustan Uniliver, Domex and e-Kutir at Bhubaneswar: 21<sup>st</sup> February 2015.



Our associate Sh. Lingaraj Sahu availed EDP training on Solar Power at NIESBUD, NOIDA: 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2016



Our Project Director Umakant Sahoo participated in the MDP on Leadership Skills organised by IRMA: between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2015

## Some sweet memories



Laureate Shri. Kailash Satyarthi and drew his attention to the plight of children of KBK region: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015



Chairman of Govindalaya met Nobel Nabarangpur MLA Shri. Manohar Randhari joined us in celebrating 15<sup>th</sup> August 2014



Govindalaya, Axis Bank Building, Main Road, Nabarangpur (Odisha), PIN - 764059 06858-222588, 9178877588, 9438870005

# **Odisha Office**

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