



ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24



Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre

Annual Report – 2023 to 2024

About DBRC:

The Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC), established in 1992, is dedicated to promoting socio-economic and cultural empowerment for marginalized communities, including SCs, STs, OBCs, and minorities, who often face vulnerable conditions in rural and urban areas. Inspired by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar legacy of social justice and equality, DBRC works to address systemic barriers and foster dignity, justice, and empowerment for these communities.

DBRC's initiatives include awareness campaigns, capacity-building workshops, Training of Trainers (ToTs), and medical camps, with a special focus on women and children in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Through these programs, we aim to drive holistic development, create sustainable change, and empower marginalized groups to achieve socio-economic and cultural equity. Our efforts are rooted in the principles of empowerment and equity, ensuring marginalized communities can fully integrate into mainstream society.

Goal:

Our Goal is to enable Dalit Bahujans to actualize their dreams, a new society where Dalit Bahujans will become aware of their rights and entitlements; develop strong social and financial resources; and become part of decision-making bodies.

Vision:

To achieve social justice and social democracy to reclaim human dignity of Dalit Bahujan Communities.

Mission:

The Mission of DBRC is Enabling Assertive Interventions of Dalit Bahujan Communities towards their Socio-Economic Empowerment.

Objectives:

- ❖ To build and strengthen the marginalized communities to access, ascertain the human development indicators such as education, health, livelihoods and dignity
- ❖ To end Violence, Atrocities and Untouchability on Dalit Bahujan communities particularly women and children.
- ❖ Women Empowerment & Safety Concerns
- ❖ To eliminate and reduce the adverse environmental impacts by working on environment and climate change.
- ❖ To support and strengthen efforts of state, central and local governments in empowering marginalized communities.

Dalit Adivasi Budget Watch

Objective:

To achieve economic justice for SC/ST communities.

Interventions:

- Ensure effective utilization of budgets allocated under SC/ST components.
- Sensitize grassroots SC/ST communities about the SC/ST Sub Plan Act and government schemes.
- Organize orientation meetings and trainings for community leaders, CSOs, and NGOs working for marginalized communities.
- Conduct budget analysis and develop perspectives on SC/ST welfare.
- Study various schemes implemented through SC/ST funds.
- Dialogue with government departments to suggest welfare and development schemes aligned with community needs.
- Advocate with policymakers for equitable budget allocation and justice for SC/ST communities.

Empowering SC/ST farmers

Objective:

To enable socio-economic development for SC/ST small and marginalized farmers.

Interventions:

- Orient SC/ST farmers on schemes and services provided by agriculture and allied departments.
- Strengthen linkages with departments like agriculture, horticulture, fisheries, dairy, poultry, and animal husbandry.
- Promote Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) among SC/ST farmers.
- Organize exposure visits to Krishi Vigyan Kendras, horticulture hubs, and model farms for best practices.
- Encourage kitchen gardens for continuous access to fresh, residue-free vegetables.
- Protect the rights and entitlements of tenant farmers and agricultural laborers.

Green Workers Initiative

Objective:

To improve the living conditions of waste pickers by addressing human development indicators like education, health, livelihoods, and dignity.

Introduction:

Waste pickers play a crucial role in solid waste management by collecting, sorting, and recycling waste. Despite their environmental and economic

contributions, they remain marginalized, often lacking basic entitlements like Aadhar cards, ration cards, and access to government schemes. Most are illiterate, unskilled, and live in isolated areas near dumping yards, roads, or railway tracks.

Major Activities:

- Sensitize waste pickers on health, hygiene, and behavioural change.
- Conduct awareness campaigns against child marriages, school dropouts, and child labour.
- Enroll children into government schools and welfare hostels.
- Facilitate access to entitlements like occupational ID cards, E-Shram, Aadhar, ration cards, and health insurance.
- Link waste pickers to government schemes such as social security pensions, housing, and welfare programs.
- Strengthen connections with Anganwadi centers, primary health centers, and village/ward secretariats.
- Advocate for policy changes and integration of waste pickers into urban solid waste management systems.
- Support alternative livelihoods and strengthen existing ones.
- Organize interface meetings between waste pickers and government departments.

Outdoor Learning Centres**Objective:**

To encourage education among children from marginalized families involved in waste picking, rat catching, fishing, and daily wage work, ensuring a better future for them.

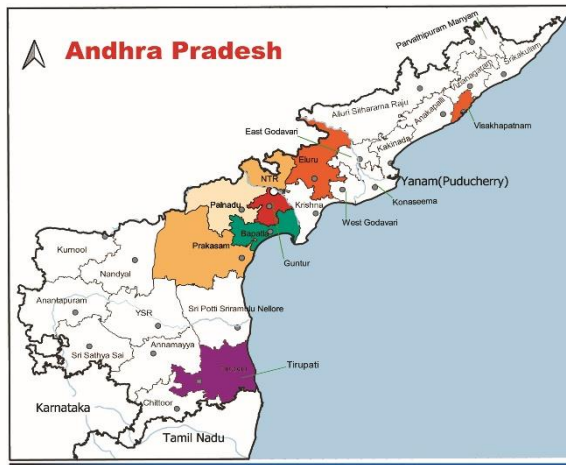
Interventions:

Outdoor Learning Centres operate in slums and target areas, running six days a week for two hours daily. These centers make learning fun and engaging while fostering a sense of belonging.

Activities Include:

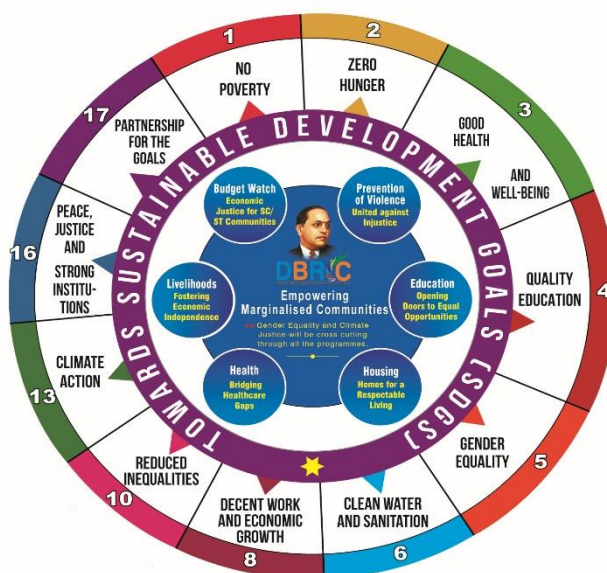
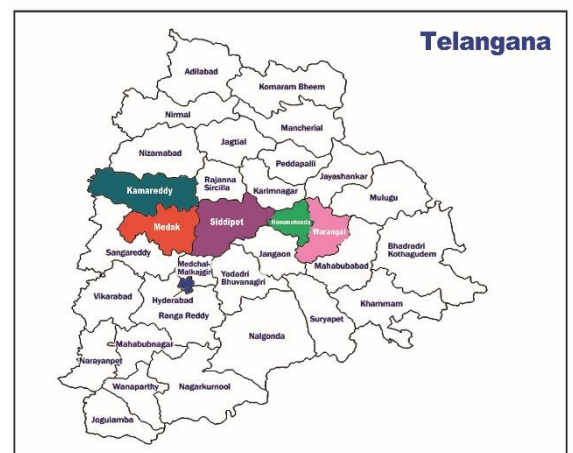
- Reading and writing exercises.
- Games and recreational activities.
- Singing, dancing, and creative expression.
- Life skills and behavioural change programs.
- Assistance with homework completion.
- Extended sessions for video viewing, quizzes, exhibitions, and picnics.

Target Areas:



In the state of Andhra Pradesh, the specific regions of focus encompass Guntur, Palnadu, Bapatla, Eluru, NTR, Visakhapatnam, Prakasam, and Tirupati.

In the State of Telangana, the focus areas encompass Hyderabad, Siddipet, Hanumakonda, Kamareddy, Medak, and Warangal.



This organization is dedicated to achieving sustainable development goals, which encompass: No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-Being, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Clean Water and Sanitation, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Reduced Inequalities, Climate Action, Peace, Justice, Strong Institutions, and Partnerships for the Goals.

Reach Out:

DBRC operates these centers in Guntur, NTR, Eluru, Prakasam, and Bapatla districts

Agriculture Development**Orientation for SC/ST Farmers on Sustainable Agricultural Practices:**

We organized a series of orientation programs specifically designed for SC/ST farmers, focusing on sustainable agricultural practices and natural farming techniques. These programs were conducted across 15 targeted areas, ensuring widespread participation and meaningful impact. A total of 648 farmers attended these orientation sessions, which aimed to educate them on sustainable farming methods, introduce best practices in natural farming, and create a platform for direct interaction between farmers and government officials from agriculture and allied departments.

The orientation sessions were structured to provide comprehensive knowledge about sustainable agricultural practices and natural farming techniques. In collaboration with officials from agriculture and allied departments, we facilitated insightful discussions and practical guidance. The programs also included interactive Q&A sessions, allowing farmers to address their specific concerns and challenges directly with government representatives.

The outcomes of these programs were highly encouraging. Farmers gained a deeper understanding of sustainable farming methods and natural farming best practices, equipping them with the tools to improve productivity while ensuring environmental sustainability. The initiative also strengthened the link between farmers and government resources, enabling better access to and implementation of agricultural schemes. Participants expressed positive feedback, emphasizing the value of practical knowledge and the opportunity to engage directly with experts. These orientation programs have made a significant contribution to our mission of promoting sustainable agriculture among SC/ST farmers, enhancing their livelihoods, and fostering environmental stewardship. We remain dedicated to continuing such initiatives, driving growth and development within these communities, and empowering farmers with the knowledge and resources they need to thrive.

Interface Meetings Between Dalit Adivasi Farmers and Agri-Allied Departments:

To bridge the gap between marginalized farmers and agricultural resources, we organized interface meetings between Dalit Adivasi farmers and officials from agri-allied departments. These meetings were held across four strategic locations, ensuring broad outreach and meaningful impact, with 256 farmers participating.

The primary goal was to foster direct communication and collaboration between farmers and government officials, enabling better access to agricultural schemes and services.

The meetings were designed to provide farmers with detailed information about the various schemes and services offered by agri-allied departments. Officials explained the application processes and shared practical guidance on how to effectively access these resources. Additionally, interactive Q&A sessions were conducted, allowing farmers to address their specific concerns and clarify doubts directly with the officials.



The outcomes of these interface meetings were highly impactful. Dalit Adivasi farmers gained a comprehensive understanding of the agricultural schemes and services available to them, empowering them to take full advantage of these

opportunities. The direct interaction with officials not only built trust but also enhanced farmers' confidence in navigating government systems. As a result, participants felt more informed and equipped to access the support and resources they need to improve their agricultural practices.

These interface meetings have significantly advanced our mission of supporting Dalit Adivasi farmers by ensuring they are well-informed about the resources available to them. The direct engagement with agri-allied department officials has strengthened the connection between farmers and government services, promoting agricultural development and sustainability within these communities. The positive feedback from participants highlights the importance of such initiatives in fostering collaboration and empowering marginalized farmers. We remain committed to continuing these efforts, ensuring that more farmers benefit from the support and services designed to uplift their livelihoods.

Promotion of Sustainable and Organic Farming Practices:

We have made significant progress in promoting sustainable and organic farming practices among SC/ST farmers by organizing sensitization meetings across 17 villages, with 704 farmers actively participating. These efforts have played a crucial role in educating and empowering farming communities to adopt eco-friendly and sustainable agricultural techniques.

During these meetings, we focused on raising awareness about the benefits of sustainable and organic farming. We highlighted the importance of reducing chemical inputs, improving soil health, and enhancing biodiversity through natural farming methods. The involvement of officials from agri-allied departments added significant value, as they provided expert guidance and insights into various sustainable agricultural practices.

Key activities during these meetings included interactive workshops where farmers learned about composting, crop rotation, the use of organic fertilizers, and chemical-free pest management. Officials also shared information about government schemes and resources available to support the transition to sustainable farming.

The outcomes of these sensitization meetings have been highly encouraging. SC/ST farmers have developed a deeper understanding of the principles and benefits of sustainable and organic farming. The direct interaction with government officials has boosted their confidence and ability to implement these practices effectively. Furthermore, these meetings have strengthened the connection between farmers and government resources, facilitating better access to and implementation of agricultural schemes that promote sustainable farming.

Overall, these initiatives have significantly advanced our mission of promoting sustainable agriculture among SC/ST farmers. By continuing to raise awareness and provide the necessary support, we aim to enhance the productivity and environmental sustainability of farming practices in these communities, ensuring a brighter and more sustainable future for all.

Organizing Exposure Visits to Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs):

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance the knowledge and skills of SC/ST farmers, we organized four exposure visits to Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and agricultural universities. These visits provided 84 farmers with practical, hands-on experience in advanced agricultural practices and technologies. During these visits, farmers observed demonstrations of innovative farming techniques, modern machinery, and cutting-edge agricultural methods. Interactive sessions led by agricultural experts and scientists covered essential topics such as crop management, soil health improvement, organic farming, and chemical-free pest control.

Farmers also received hands-on training in composting, vermiculture, biofertilizers, and biopesticides, as well as lessons on crop diversification and integrated farming systems. These visits created a platform for direct interaction with agricultural scientists, enabling farmers to ask questions and receive tailored advice to address their specific challenges.

The outcomes of these exposure visits have been highly positive. Farmers gained a deeper understanding of sustainable and organic farming practices, learned techniques to improve soil health, and discovered ways to enhance crop productivity while reducing dependence on chemical inputs. The visits also empowered farmers, boosting their confidence in adopting and implementing new techniques. Additionally, these initiatives strengthened the connection between farmers and agricultural research institutions, fostering ongoing support and knowledge exchange.

The positive feedback from participants underscores the value of these visits in improving agricultural practices and promoting sustainability within their communities. By continuing to organize such initiatives, we aim to further empower SC/ST farmers, contributing to the overall development and prosperity of their agricultural livelihoods. These efforts align with our mission to promote sustainable agriculture and ensure equitable access to knowledge and resources for marginalized farming communities.

Awareness Generation on crop cultivators Act 2019.:

DBRC conducted a comprehensive campaign on the 2019 Crop Cultivators Act across 13 villages, aimed at educating farmers and tenant farmers about the Act's provisions and benefits, particularly focusing on the issuance and utility of the CCRC card, which tenant farmers can obtain with the landowner's consent. 229 farmers were sensitized during this campaign. The campaign highlighted several key benefits of the CCRC card, including the annual financial support of ₹13,500 under the Rythu Bharosa scheme,

access to bank loans for cultivation, subsidized seeds and fertilizers to reduce input costs, and government compensation for crop damage due to calamities. To effectively communicate these advantages and encourage participation, DBRC employed various strategies, such as organizing interactive



sessions for farmers to ask questions and express concerns, sharing success stories of individuals who had benefited from the CCRC card, and conducting field demonstrations showcasing the advantages of using subsidized inputs. The involvement of village secretariat officials, agriculture assistants, and revenue officers added credibility to the information provided. Through these combined efforts, the campaign successfully motivated farmers and tenant farmers to embrace

the benefits of the Crop Cultivators Act, encouraging them to secure their CCRC cards and enhancing their agricultural practices and economic stability.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

District level Training to women on Protective Laws:

We conducted district-level training sessions on protective laws for women across six districts, in collaboration with the Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP). Women leaders from these districts were invited to participate and were sensitized about various protective laws and acts designed for women. The primary goal of this sensitization was to empower these women leaders with knowledge about their legal rights and protections, enabling them to advocate more effectively for themselves and their communities. A total of 297 women were trained.

Officials from SERP and the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) served as resource persons during these sessions, providing comprehensive information and guidance on relevant laws, including legal provisions against domestic violence, sexual harassment, and other forms of gender-based discrimination. By understanding these laws, the women leaders were equipped to address and combat injustices in their communities, fostering a safer and more equitable environment.

The training proved to be highly impactful, as it not only increased the awareness and understanding of legal protections among women but also built a network of informed leaders who can disseminate this crucial information further. This initiative has strengthened the capacity of women leaders to support their peers, advocate for their rights, and work towards the elimination of poverty and injustice in rural areas.

State level training to women on leadership:

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) conducted a state-level training program to empower 50 women from six districts in leadership skills. The training focused on enhancing their understanding of effective leadership, roles and responsibilities, and navigating government schemes, policies, and acts relevant to women. Mr. Alladi



Participants learned about leadership qualities, mobilizing community resources, and addressing community issues. They were also educated on

social security schemes, livelihood programs, health and nutrition policies, and legal protections for women.

The primary goal was to equip these women with the necessary skills to become effective leaders and advocates in their communities. By the end of the training, the women felt confident and ready to drive positive change, supported by a network of fellow leaders.

Jagadeesh, Mrs. Hemalatha:

DBRC plans to provide ongoing support and conduct similar training programs in other districts to expand the impact. This initiative marks a significant step in building a cadre of informed and capable women leaders ready to lead their communities towards a brighter future.

CHILDREN EMPOWERMENT

Orientation and facilitation services to enrol children in schools and hostels:

We conducted orientation and facilitation services aimed at enrolling children in schools and hostels and totally 896 of them were oriented during these meetings. Our initiative began by conducting 29 community meetings designed to sensitize both families and children about importance of education for their future.

During these meetings, we engaged community members in discussions about the benefits of formal education, emphasizing how it can break the cycle of poverty and empower children with knowledge and skills. We shared success stories of individuals from similar backgrounds who had transformed their lives through education, fostering a sense of hope and possibility among attendees.

Our team provided detailed information about the enrolment process, available educational resources, and the support systems in place, including scholarships and hostel facilities for those who need accommodation. We also addressed common concerns and misconceptions regarding education, ensuring that families felt informed and supported in their decisions.



As a result of these efforts, we successfully motivated families to prioritize education, leading to increased enrolment of children into local schools and hostels across all 20 areas. This initiative not only raised awareness but also strengthened community commitment to supporting

children's educational journeys. By enhancing access to education, we are contributing to the long-term development and empowerment of children in these communities.

Awareness generation on child marriages, No school dropout, health and hygiene:

DBRC conducted comprehensive awareness generation programs in 40 areas of 6 districts of our target areas, engaging waste pickers, workers, farmers, and daily wage laborers. These sessions focused on critical issues such as child marriages, the importance of keeping children in school, and promoting health and hygiene practices. By fostering open discussions, participants were sensitized to the negative impacts of child marriages on girls' education and community development. Success stories and interactive activities inspired attendees to prioritize their children's education and explore ways to support their academic journeys.

In addition to educational topics, the programs emphasized health and hygiene by providing practical tips on sanitation, nutrition, and preventive healthcare. Participants learned how maintaining a clean environment can directly enhance their health and well-being. Through these engaging discussions, DBRC aimed to empower community members to make informed decisions regarding education and health, fostering a sense of agency and encouraging proactive steps to improve their lives and the lives of their families.



Campaign on girl child protection and schemes meant for the welfare:

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) organized campaigns focused on girl child protection across 23 areas, highlighting the various government schemes available for their welfare. These campaigns aimed to raise awareness about the challenges girls face, including gender discrimination, child marriage, and limited access to education. Through workshops, interactive discussions, and community outreach programs, participants were educated about government initiatives designed to support girls' education, health, and safety.

The campaign achieved significant results. Community members gained a deeper understanding of the resources and schemes available to them, leading to a noticeable increase in girls' school enrolment and a decline in the acceptance of harmful practices like child marriage. Participants reported a heightened awareness

of their rights and the importance of advocating for the protection and empowerment of girls.

The initiative fostered a supportive environment where families felt empowered to prioritize their daughters' education and well-being. This shift in mindset contributed to a positive change in community attitudes towards gender equality and girl child protection. By continuing such efforts, DBRC aims to further strengthen the foundation for a more equitable and inclusive society, where every girl has the opportunity to thrive and reach her full potential.

Running out door learning centres:

The children attending the outdoor learning centers (OLCs) are primarily from marginalized backgrounds, including waste pickers, De-Notified Tribes (DNT) communities, and slum dwellers. These centers aim to provide a nurturing and inclusive environment that addresses the unique challenges faced by these children. By incorporating joyful learning experiences, such as games, singing, and cultural activities, the OLCs create an engaging atmosphere that captivates the children's interest and encourages active participation.

This approach not only fosters educational engagement but also helps build self-esteem and social skills among participants. Through collaborative activities, children learn teamwork, communication, and problem-solving, which are essential for their overall development. Additionally, the centers focus on bridging the gap between informal learning and formal education, empowering children to transition smoothly into the mainstream schooling system.

DBRC recognizes that these children often face significant barriers to education, including financial constraints and social stigma. By providing a safe and supportive space, the OLCs play a crucial role in breaking the cycle of poverty and inequality. The initiative also serves as a vital resource for families, offering educational support and resources that can positively impact their futures. Ultimately, DBRC's commitment to these children aims to create pathways for brighter opportunities and foster a sense of hope within their communities.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

State level workshops on employment opportunities:

DBRC organized state-level workshops focused on employment opportunities, aimed at orienting unemployed youth, marginalized communities, and key stakeholders about the diverse career paths available in both government and private sectors. 55 members participated in this workshop and it served as a comprehensive platform to inform participants about job openings, skill

development programs, and entrepreneurial opportunities across various industries.

During these sessions, experts from employment agencies, government departments, and private enterprises shared insights on the evolving job market and the specific skills in demand. Attendees were guided through



the process of applying for government jobs, understanding sector-specific qualifications, and accessing training programs to enhance their employability. The workshop also highlighted government schemes and financial incentives available to those interested in self-employment and entrepreneurship, encouraging the youth to consider starting their own businesses.

The state-level workshops created a collaborative environment where participants not only received valuable information but also had the opportunity to network with professionals, government officials, and training institutes. This initiative empowered the attendees by equipping them with the knowledge and resources necessary to pursue meaningful employment, significantly boosting their confidence and readiness to enter the workforce.

Mandal level orientation meetings to the Dalit Adivasi women:

DBRC organized Mandal-level orientation meetings aimed at educating Dalit and Adivasi women about various government welfare and development schemes. A total of 1200 women attended these meetings in 15 areas. During the orientation, participants were sensitized about the range of schemes and services offered by the government, focusing on those specifically designed to uplift marginalized communities.



The discussions covered key aspects such as eligibility criteria for different schemes, the necessary documents required for submission, where and how to apply, and the practical benefits of availing these services. The orientation

aimed to empower the women with the knowledge and resources needed to access government support, helping them improve their socio-economic conditions. The sessions also provided a platform for open dialogue, where women could raise questions and clarify doubts regarding the processes involved, ensuring they were well-prepared to navigate the system and claim their entitlements.

Interface meetings with skill & entrepreneurship development institutions:

DBRC conducted six interface meetings with skill and entrepreneurship development institutions, bringing together 310 unemployed youth from marginalized communities and key officials from both government and private skill development centers. These meetings provided a platform for youth to engage directly with institutions and government representatives, allowing them to explore various skill development and entrepreneurial opportunities available to them.

During the sessions, the youth were sensitized on numerous government schemes, vocational training programs, and entrepreneurial avenues that could enhance their employability and self-reliance. The discussions highlighted opportunities in sectors such as agriculture, handicrafts, digital services, and small-scale enterprises. Youth were encouraged to enroll in skill development courses, access financial assistance programs, and tap into entrepreneurship support networks to kick-start their own businesses or secure stable employment.

The interface meetings proved to be highly impactful. They helped bridge the gap between the youth and skill development resources, enabling participants to gain valuable information and insights into how they could improve their livelihoods. Several attendees expressed interest in enrolling in skill training programs, and the meetings facilitated direct connections with government officials and institutional representatives. These interactions not only boosted awareness but also empowered the youth to take proactive steps toward securing their futures, creating pathways for economic independence and growth within their communities.

Building Capacities of the members of the Governing body:

We organized a training program for 25 members of the Waste Pickers Cooperatives in Guntur and Vijayawada. The session, chaired by Mr. Ch. Samuel Anil Kumar, Deputy Director of Programs, included active participation from board members of both cooperatives. The training focused on cooperative governance, covering rules and regulations, roles and responsibilities of committee members, and strategies to encourage waste pickers to join the cooperatives. Group discussions facilitated valuable learning, allowing participants to share insights and address challenges. The program emphasized effective management of loans, savings, and accurate maintenance of books and records. The interactive sessions

enhanced members' understanding of cooperative operations and financial management, fostering greater engagement and collaboration.



Skill Training Programmes for Waste Pickers and De-Notified Tribes (DNTs):

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) organized two skill training programmes targeting waste pickers and members of De-Notified Tribes (DNTs). The trainings were designed to enhance their employability, promote sustainable livelihoods, and reduce their dependence on informal and exploitative work. A total of 58 participants (waste pickers and DNT community members) attended these sessions.

The training covered various aspects including:

- Income diversification strategies to help participants explore alternative livelihood options beyond waste picking.
- Financial literacy and savings, helping them manage their earnings more effectively and plan for the future.
- Awareness sessions on government welfare schemes and how to access them.
- Demonstrations of eco-friendly and skill-based trades such as cloth bag making, dry waste segregation, and simple recycling techniques.

The programme also served as a platform for the participants to interact with trainers, local officials, and DBRC facilitators to share their experiences and challenges, and seek guidance for their growth.

Through these trainings, DBRC aims to strengthen the capacities of waste pickers and DNTs to pursue dignified, sustainable, and safer livelihood options while also connecting them with formal systems of support and recognition.

Support for strengthening livelihoods members - 134 people were supported:

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) supported 134 individuals in strengthening their livelihoods or adopting alternative income-generating activities, resulting in enhanced income. Waste pickers seeking to improve their livelihoods were provided with three-wheeler rickshaws, while those interested in alternative livelihoods received resources to start petty businesses. Fisherfolk were supplied with fishing nets, and Denotified Tribes (DNTs) received fancy materials to support their trade, with all interventions tailored to participants' specific needs and

interests. This targeted assistance has significantly improved participants' income, fostering economic stability and self-reliance. The program's success underscores DBRC's commitment to empowering marginalized communities through sustainable livelihood solutions. Ongoing monitoring and support will ensure continued progress and impact.

Interface meetings:

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) organized 10 interface meetings in target areas, engaging 373 community members with representatives from the Municipal Corporation, SC/ST Corporation, MEPMA, and departments managing housing and documentation.

The meetings aimed to connect communities with government bodies, addressing critical needs such as access to welfare schemes, essential documents, and housing solutions. Community members actively raised concerns about the lack of permanent housing, toilets, drinking water facilities, drainage systems, and documentation required for government schemes.

Interactive discussions increased awareness of available resources and simplified processes for obtaining identity documents, subsidies, and housing support. The sessions fostered collaborative problem-solving, strengthened community-government ties, and empowered participants by enhancing access to services and promoting socio-economic inclusion. This initiative has established a platform for ongoing engagement, with planned follow-up meetings to address unresolved issues and ensure sustained support.

Motivation and behavioural change communication:

We conducted 59 motivation and behavioural change communication meetings across target areas, engaging 2037 community members. The meetings involved officials from village/ward secretariats, Women and Child Welfare Department, and MEPMA, and the communities were sensitized on critical social issues including child marriage, drug abuse, preventing school dropouts, cleanliness, hygiene, and WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) practices. Interactive sessions, supported by posters, videos, and other visual aids, effectively promoted positive behavioural changes and raised awareness about these concerns. The active participation of community members and officials strengthened collaborative efforts, encouraging community-driven solutions and advocacy for social change. This program has established a foundation for sustained engagement, with plans for ongoing sensitization and follow-up actions to address these issues effectively. Future efforts will focus on scaling these interventions to reach broader populations.

Skill training to waste pickers:

As part of its ongoing commitment to the empowerment and livelihood enhancement of marginalized communities, the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) organized two comprehensive skill training programmes targeting waste pickers and members of De-Notified Tribes (DNTs).

The trainings were designed to enhance their employability, promote sustainable livelihoods, and reduce their dependence on informal and exploitative work. A total of **58 participants** (waste pickers and DNT community members) attended these sessions.

The training covered various aspects including:

- Income diversification strategies to help participants explore alternative livelihood options beyond waste picking.
- Financial literacy and savings, helping them manage their earnings more effectively and plan for the future.
- Awareness sessions on government welfare schemes and how to access them.
- Soft skills training such as communication, self-confidence building, and group dynamics to improve their participation in community and institutional spaces.
- Demonstrations of eco-friendly and skill-based trades such as cloth bag making, dry waste segregation, and simple recycling techniques.

The programme also served as a platform for the participants to interact with trainers, local officials, and DBRC facilitators to share their experiences and challenges, and seek guidance for their growth.

Through these trainings, DBRC aims to strengthen the capacities of waste pickers and DNTs to pursue dignified, sustainable, and safer livelihood options while also connecting them with formal systems of support and recognition.

Awareness on rights:

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) conducted awareness programs on rights and entitlements across 14 targeted areas within GHMC limits and other regions. The initiative focused on educating marginalized communities, including waste pickers, hair pickers, and garbage collectors, about their legal rights.

Participants were informed about government schemes and the processes for obtaining essential documents like Aadhaar and ration cards. DBRC collaborated with village and ward secretariat officials to ensure accurate and credible information. The sessions addressed challenges in accessing entitlements and provided practical guidance. Topics included labor rights, social security benefits, and skill development opportunities.

The programs encouraged proactive engagement with government systems. Community participation was strong, with active discussions and queries. The involvement of local officials strengthened trust and cooperation. DBRC's efforts empowered communities to secure their entitlements. This initiative promoted socio-economic inclusion and equity. DBRC plans to continue such programs to support marginalized groups.

Training to promote leadership:

DBRC conducted awareness programs on rights and entitlements across 14 targeted areas. The initiative focused on educating marginalized communities, including waste pickers, hair pickers about their legal rights. Participants were informed about government schemes and the processes for obtaining essential documents like Aadhaar and ration cards. DBRC collaborated with village and ward secretariat officials to ensure accurate and credible information.

The sessions addressed challenges in accessing entitlements and provided practical guidance. Topics included labor rights, social security benefits, and skill development opportunities. The programs encouraged proactive engagement with government systems. Community participation was strong, with active discussions and queries.

The involvement of local officials strengthened trust and cooperation. DBRC's efforts empowered communities to secure their entitlements. This initiative promoted socio-economic inclusion and equity. DBRC plans to continue such programs to support marginalized groups.

Capacity building Training to budget watch team members:

As part of its initiative to strengthen community engagement in governance and budget monitoring, the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) conducted two capacity building training programmes for Budget Watch Team members. A total of 122 members actively participated in these sessions.



The meetings were chaired by Mr. Alladi Devakumar, Executive Secretary, DBRC. During the sessions, there were in-depth discussions on:

- The allocation of funds under the SC/ST Sub-Plan,
- The utilization of these funds by concerned departments,
- Gaps and challenges in the implementation of these allocations, and

- The role of community-based teams in monitoring and advocating for effective execution of the Act.

Participants were sensitized on how to analyze budget documents, track expenditures, and engage with local authorities to ensure that resources meant for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are used appropriately and reach the intended beneficiaries.

The training also focused on strategies to strengthen advocacy efforts, including building dialogue with government departments, preparing community evidence, and conducting regular budget reviews at the local level.

These capacity-building sessions aim to empower grassroots teams to play a proactive role in ensuring accountability and transparency in the use of SC/ST welfare funds, thereby advancing social justice and equitable development.



Advocacy Intervention with district level officials and Peoples representatives:

As part of the advocacy efforts to address the pressing issues faced by marginalized communities, the district teams of Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) undertook 24 series of strategic interventions and 116 members participated in this initiative with district-level government officials and elected people's representatives.

The team conducted visits to various government departments, including those dealing with social welfare, Tribal welfare, MEPMA, housing, health, education, and livelihood support. During these visits, they submitted formal representations highlighting the key concerns and unresolved issues affecting Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), waste pickers, De-Notified Tribes (DNTs), and other vulnerable sections.

Key issues raised included:

- Non-receipt of caste and income certificates
- Delayed pensions and welfare benefits
- Inaccessibility to housing schemes and basic amenities
- Barriers to accessing healthcare, education, and employment schemes
- Non-utilization or diversion of funds earmarked under SC/ST Sub-Plan

The team urged the officials to take immediate steps to resolve these issues and ensure that the rightful entitlements of the communities are protected. Importantly, the district officials and elected representatives responded positively and acknowledged the concerns raised. They assured necessary follow-up actions and linked DBRC with the relevant officers and departments for faster resolution of the grievances.

This intervention not only helped in bridging the gap between the community and the administration, but also strengthened DBRC's role as a facilitator in ensuring that policies and schemes reach the grassroots effectively.

Cyclone Michaung Response and Impact:

In the aftermath of Cyclone Michaung, which devastated parts of Bapatla District in 2023, the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC), with the support of Christian Aid, launched a targeted intervention to support the most vulnerable families affected by the disaster. The intervention involved a thorough enumeration process, conducted with the active involvement of community leaders. This ensured a comprehensive understanding of the needs and issues faced by the affected communities. Focus group discussions were held to engage with the residents, where their challenges and priorities were carefully assessed. Based on this, beneficiary cards were issued to eligible households, ensuring transparency and trust throughout the process.

A total of 350 households were provided with direct cash transfers of Rs. 4,000 each. Priority was given to single women, elderly people, individuals living with disabilities, pregnant women, and lactating mothers during the enumeration. The cash transfers were made directly to their bank accounts, enabling families to prioritize their spending and address their most immediate needs, such as food, healthcare, and temporary shelter repairs. For those without bank accounts, DBRC facilitated the opening of new accounts to ensure everyone received the financial aid. This intervention not only provided essential relief but also empowered the affected families to recover more quickly and regain stability in the wake of the cyclone's destruction.

Livelihood support:

DBRC implemented a comprehensive livelihood support initiative aimed at strengthening the livelihoods of daily wage labourers, waste pickers, farmers, construction workers, and others engaged in informal work. Recognizing the challenges faced by these communities, DBRC identified individuals in need and provided essential support during this financial year. This initiative seeks to promote alternative livelihoods and enhance the income potential of those who are often marginalized in the workforce.

Support measures included distributing fishing nets to local fishermen, supplying fancy items for resale, and providing pushcarts for businesses related to tiffin services, flower selling, and vegetable markets. Additionally, tricycles were provided to waste pickers, enabling them to transport waste more efficiently and increase their income potential. Groceries were supplied to shop owners to enhance their retail offerings. These targeted interventions were designed to equip individuals with the tools and resources necessary to improve their economic situations.

The impact of this initiative has been significant, leading to improved economic stability within target communities. The provision of pushcarts and tricycles has facilitated better mobility and access to markets, resulting in increased sales and income for many families. Furthermore, the support for fishing and retail businesses has empowered individuals to diversify their income sources, reducing their dependency on daily wages. As a result, community members have reported enhanced financial security, improved living conditions, and a greater sense of agency in their livelihoods.

Overall, the livelihood support initiative has fostered resilience and empowerment within these vulnerable communities, paving the way for sustainable development and an improved quality of life. By addressing the specific needs of daily wage laborers, waste pickers, and other informal workers, DBRC has made meaningful strides toward creating a more equitable economic landscape for all.

Achievements in Facilitating Schemes for Farmers:

During this year, we have successfully facilitated 748 farmers in availing 2,094 agricultural schemes, which include both male and female farmers. Among these beneficiaries, 188 are women farmers and 560 are male farmers. Our efforts have focused on ensuring that these farmers receive the support they need to enhance their agricultural practices and productivity.

Key schemes availed include crop loans, which we assisted 228 farmers in securing, providing them with essential financial support to manage their farming operations. A total of 509 farmers benefited from subsidized seeds, enabling them to access quality seeds at a lower cost. We facilitated 269 farmers in obtaining fertilizers, crucial for improving soil fertility and crop yield. Through the E-Crop initiative, 352 farmers were able to register their crops electronically, ensuring better tracking and management of their agricultural activities. We also helped 239 farmers enroll in crop insurance schemes, providing them with a safety net against potential crop failures and natural calamities. Furthermore, 300 farmers received technical support and training from Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), enhancing their knowledge and skills in modern farming techniques. Additionally, 197 farmers benefited from various other schemes tailored to their specific needs.

These achievements underscore our commitment to empowering farmers by linking them with essential agricultural schemes and resources. The support provided through these schemes has significantly contributed to improving the livelihood and resilience of both male and female farmers in our target areas. Our continuous engagement with government departments and allied organizations has been instrumental in ensuring the successful implementation of these schemes. The feedback from farmers has been overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the transformative impact of these schemes on their agricultural practices and overall well-being. We remain dedicated to expanding our reach and facilitating even more farmers in the future, driving sustainable agricultural development and prosperity in our communities.

Awareness Campaign in Guntur and Vijayawada:

The Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC), in collaboration with India Laborline and the local labor department, successfully conducted an awareness campaign for migrant workers in Guntur and Vijayawada. In Guntur, the campaign covered three labor blocks, 18 residential areas, and various construction sites, including Mirchi Yard, Autonagar, and Cotton Mills. The initiative was inaugurated by Deputy Labor Commissioner Mrs. A. Gayathri Devi, who emphasized the importance of workers' rights and encouraged them to report issues to the labor department or DBRC/India Laborline. In Vijayawada, Deputy Commissioner Mrs. A. Asharani highlighted the challenges faced by migrant workers and assured them of support in resolving their concerns. Assistant Commissioners Kishore and Rajesh, along with DBRC representatives Madhav, Eswar, and Suresh, actively participated in the program. This campaign was a vital step in educating migrant workers about their rights and providing essential support to enhance their well-being.

Participatory Rural Appraisal:

DBRC conducted Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRAs) across 40 villages of 7 districts in Andhra Pradesh, engaging local communities to explore their socio-economic conditions. The PRAs unfolded in three phases, systematically gathering data from diverse villages.

The main goal was to empower community members by involving them in assessing their own needs and resources. This participatory approach aimed to foster ownership and responsibility toward local development, enabling the community to articulate their challenges and opportunities.

Each phase spanned three days, with a dedicated team of six members—facilitators, observers, and reporters—conducting the PRAs. The process began with a transect walk in each village, offering insights into the layout, resource distribution, and local environment.

Focus group discussions (FGDs) followed, engaging various community segments, including women and youth. These discussions unveiled critical issues such as education, health, livelihoods, and social dynamics, allowing participants to share experiences and highlight service gaps.

In-depth interviews with key stakeholders' community leaders, government officials, and educators—provided deeper insights into structural challenges and collaboration opportunities. This information helped identify potential avenues for intervention.

Several mapping exercises visualized the data collected, including social mapping of demographics and networks, resource mapping of local assets, seasonal mapping of agricultural cycles, and health mapping of resources and challenges. A problem tree analysis further illustrated the root causes of issues and their interconnections.

The final phase involved disseminating findings back to the community, ensuring members understood the results and participated in discussions on potential solutions. This collaborative approach empowered the community to take an active role in their development, fostering stakeholder collaboration and emphasizing community-driven initiatives.

In summary, the PRAs conducted by DBRC provided valuable insights to guide future interventions in these communities. The engagement highlights the significance of participatory approaches in addressing local challenges and enhancing residents' quality of life.