

1. Organizational Background

Prarambha, a charitable trust established in 1985, has been working on Disabilities, Rural development, social justice for Devadasi women, manual scavengers, Irrigation and commons-based natural resource management. The focus has been on:

- Restoration of degraded lands & dryland agriculture
 - Water & environmental sustainability
 - Providing dignity, hope and organised assistance to people overlooked by the Govt.
 - Livelihoods through commons development
 - Disability inclusion & rehabilitation services
 - Promotion of sustainable agriculture practices
-

2. Geographical Reach

- Districts Covered: Raichur, Koppal, Kalaburagi, Vijayanagar
 - Villages Reached: Over 370 villages across multiple taluks
 - Key Blocks: Devadurga (Raichur), Yalburga & Kanakagiri (Koppal), Hospet Vijayanagar.
-

3. Major Programmes & Achievements

A. Well Labs – Annual Activities Summary

Community Meetings & Awareness

- Farmers and labourers in Mandalagudda and Mukkanal villages were oriented on sustainable agriculture, green manure, and integrated cropping for soil fertility and biodiversity.
- World Labour Day (1st May) celebrated with 60+ participants at Mukkanal.
- Multiple focus group discussions with degraded land farmers in Mandalagudda and Malaksamudra.
- World Environment Day (5th June) celebrated at Mandalagudda, followed by farmer meetings on land management.

Seed Distribution & On-Groundwork

- Green manure seed distribution conducted across Mandalagudda, Mukkanal, Malaksamudra, and Chikkamygeri villages.
- Sowing of green manure seeds by farmers like Devappa Rajur.
- MGNREGA-supported works initiated in Malaksamudra (May) and Mandalagudda

Workshops & Stakeholder Engagement

- Taluk-level workshop at Yalburga Panchayat with EO, AD, horticulture officers, and 22 Panchayat Development Officers to discuss land restoration.
- September 2024: Joint Well Labs & Prarambha team meeting at Devadurga campus.
- December 20, 2024: PRI meeting at Mandalagudda with 21 farmers for identifying water resources and irrigation solutions.

Capacity Building & Training

- December 24–27, 2024: Intensive Master Farmer Training on soil health, pest management, and sustainable practices, facilitated by trainers (Vasu Soil & Lokappa). 26 farmers participated.
- December 26, 2024: Dedicated session on degraded land management with master farmers.
- January 2025:
 - Farmer Field School (FFS) sessions in Mandalagudda and Malaksamudra on pest/disease control and bio-input preparation (Neemastra, Jeevamrutha).
 - Trainings on crop monitoring, biomass management, composting, and environmental sustainability.
 - CRC Women’s training and meetings (20–25 women participated).
 - Community hydrology training with 36 participants for water resource management.
- February–March 2025:
 - Farmer meetings on seed procurement and management, highlighting the importance of jawar seeds.
 - Training sessions on seed management, cost-benefit analysis, and preparation of bio-inputs (Gokupamarutha).

Review & Planning

- Regular weekly and monthly review meetings between Prarambha and Well Lab teams for planning and monitoring.

Overall Outcomes

- Strengthened farmer knowledge on sustainable agriculture and bio-farming.
- Expanded use of green manure and bio-inputs for soil fertility.
- Enhanced women’s participation in livelihood and environmental discussions.
- Built local leadership capacity through Master Farmer and FFS models.
- Initiated water resource identification and irrigation planning for degraded lands.
- Improved coordination between farmers, Panchayat officers, and development teams for long-term sustainability



Farmers Meeting



PPR Group Meeting



Degraded Land Farmer (MGNRGA)



Sowing Green Manure Seeds



Green manure seed distribution



Oni Wise Meeting



World Environment Day



Talug Level Workshop



Degraded Landed MGNREGA Work



FFS Training



Degraded Lands Farmers Meeting

B. FES Report (July 2024 – June 2025)

Key Activities

1. Women's Meetings & Social Security Awareness

- **Conducted across Raichur (Devadurga block) and Koppal (Kanakagiri block).**
- **Focused on:**
 - **Government schemes: pensions, widow & disability support, family assistance, marriage grants, subsidies.**
 - **Health & Nutrition: maternal care, Anganwadi services, child nutrition, hygiene.**
 - **Livelihoods & Credit Access: NRLM group formation, loans at low interest, livestock health, agriculture schemes.**
 - **Public Property Awareness: protection of lakes, grazing lands, hills, forests, schools, Anganwadis, etc.**

2. Gram Panchayat & Taluk-Level Engagements

- **Federation meetings held in Raichur and Koppal involving GP representatives.**
- **Taluk-level workshops with officials, Panchayat leaders, and GPANS members to discuss commons management, irrigation, degraded land use, and fodder availability.**

- Issues raised: barren lands, need for tanks, burial ground land allocation, and access to fodder seeds.

3. GPANS (Commons Development Committees)

- Raichur: 31 GPs recognized, 31 restoration plans submitted.
- Koppal: 25 GPs recognized, 22 restoration plans submitted.
- Strengthened village-level monitoring through community commons conferences.

4. MGNREGA Works

- Raichur (Devadurga block): 26 villages covered, ~₹3.65 Cr spent.
- Koppal (Kanakagiri block): 16 villages covered, ~₹2.56 Cr spent.
- 500+ labourers engaged in Basrihal GP.
- Action plans prepared for additional GPs.

5. Livelihood & Commons Produce

- Communities earned through sale of commons produce:
 - *Raichur*: Fruits like Sitapala, local produce like Baarige and Jalle Putte.
 - *Koppal*: Similar produce with higher scale (small & big units sold at varying prices).
- Promoted livestock health, small ruminants, and fodder support.

6. Major Events & Celebrations

- World Labour Day (Suladagudda, 4 May 2025).
- World Environment Day (Chikkamadinal GP, 12 June 2025).
- Multiple village-level awareness and review meetings held across both districts.

Impact

- Women's empowerment: Improved awareness of social security, health, and livelihood schemes.
- Commons governance: Strengthened GPANS and community participation in managing land and water resources.
- Livelihood security: Enhanced income opportunities through MGNREGA, NRLM, and sale of commons produce.
- Capacity building: Strengthened grassroots leadership and coordination between villagers and government officials.



Women's workshop for introduction of Social Security



MGNREGA Work



World Labours Day

Talug Level Officer Workshop



GPANS Meeting

Hobli Level Meeting

C. Sustainable Agriculture

Project Overview

- **NPM-DCS Project implemented in Distributary-10 of NRBC region (Deodurg Taluk) with NVIDIA support.**
 - **Objective: Improve land & water productivity through Non-Pesticide Management (NPM) and Diversified Cropping System (DCS); strengthen Water User Cooperative Societies (WUCS).**
-

Farmer Engagement & Training

- **408 farmers (1504 acres) enrolled after crop planning workshops.**
 - **122 Farmer Field School (FFS) sessions conducted for cotton, paddy, and groundnut.**
 - **Training focus: line planting, de-topping, gypsum application, bio-inputs (panchagavya, jeevamrut, herbal extracts).**
 - **Adoption Results:**
 - **398 farmers adopted improved crop practices.**
 - **357 cultivated NPM paddy, 98 zero-pesticide cotton, 65 NPM groundnut.**
 - **107 farmers practiced DCS, 110 used line planting, 50% cotton farmers adopted de-topping.**
 - **Women participation: 159 women trained in paddy line planting.**
 - **Impact: Improved yields (+12% in cotton, +9% in paddy), income gains (+26%).**
 - **Production: 7911 tons of NPM produce (paddy, cotton, groundnut, bajra).**
-

Water User Cooperative Societies (WUCS)

- **2 WUCS formed with 466 farmers:**
 - **Gandhal WUCS (283 members)**
 - **Myakaladoddi WUCS (183 members)**
 - **Activities: share collection, elections, bank accounts, exposure visits to WALMI Dharwad & Bhadravathi, monthly meetings.**
 - **Achievements: canal-side cleaning, awareness on collective water management, pilot field irrigation channel with pipeline models (with WELL Labs & KBJNL support).**
-

Crop-Specific Initiatives

- **NPM Kandu Cotton:**
 - **Continued on 6 acres (9 farmers).**

- Yield: 33 quintals; sold at ₹8,700/qtl (higher than Bt cotton at ₹7,200/qtl).
- Issues: need for cleaner seeds, border cropping, and assured procurement.
- **NPM Chilli:**
 - 10 farmers in Chikkahonkuni cultivated ~20 acres.
 - Yield: 15 qtl dry chilli/acre.
 - Challenge: low market price (₹10,000–12,000/qtl) → poor farmer returns.

Key Outcomes

- Significant shift towards pesticide-free farming with measurable productivity and income gains.
- WUCS structures strengthened, enabling community-led water governance.
- Women's participation in sustainable agriculture increased.
- Challenges remain in procurement, price realization, and scaling of niche crops (like NPM chilli and kandu cotton).

Farmers Field School (FFS) trainings



Two field days, one each for NPM paddy and NPM Groundnut

D. Disability Inclusion & Rehabilitation

Coverage & Reach

- **Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) covered: 2,355**
 - **Therapeutic & rehabilitation services provided: 33,002**
 - **Villages covered: 317 across Koppal, Raichur, Vijayanagar, and Kalburgi**
-

Rehabilitation & Medical Services

- **Early Intervention Centers (Koppal & Devadurga): 428 PWDs accessed ~4,387 services.**
 - **Disability Clinics (Hospet & Kalburgi): 629 PWDs accessed ~1,337 services.**
 - **Naandi Social Rehabilitation Center (NSRC): 38 spinal cord injury/stroke patients received 6,795 services.**
 - **Community-based rehabilitation for SCI clients: 215 clients (mostly men) received 5,683 services across Koppal, Raichur, Hospet.**
 - **Medical support: 16 children with clubfoot corrected and given splints.**
-

Education & Awareness (Deaf & CWDs)

- **Early intervention for deaf children: 67 children (Koppal & Devadurga) accessed 2,633 speech therapy sessions.**
 - **Learning centers: 7 centers for 15 deaf children (0–11 yrs) covering language, math, social skills, hygiene.**
 - **World Deaf Week (Sept 2024): Awareness sessions, jathas, sports & cultural events with 245 participants.**
 - **Training for teachers (BIERTs, CRPs, BRPs): 23 trained.**
 - **Short stay camp (July 2024): 11 children & 10 parents trained on structured interventions.**
 - **School readiness: 20 CWDs + 20 carers received 3,600 therapeutic services.**
-

Support Programs

- **Health Insurance (Niramaya): 235 children insured.**
 - **Early intervention with DNA volunteers: 96 children supported with 3,172 services.**
 - **Parent training (Intellectual Disabilities – Maya NGO): 49 parents accessed 2,667 services.**
 - **Caregiver support: 175 carers received 2,090 services (info on govt. schemes, guidance).**
-

Livelihood & Carer Empowerment (AJWS Project)

- **104 carers supported across 3 districts, 21 taluks, 79 villages.**
 - **Livelihood activities included: sewing (24), provisions (8), goat/sheep rearing (60), small businesses (fruits, vegetables, petty shops, bangles, etc.).**
 - **Disabilities covered: spinal cord injury (47), intellectual disability (20), cerebral palsy (15), deaf (13), blind (2), others.**
 - **Majority beneficiaries were women carers and widows.**
 - **Process: beneficiary selection → livelihood material procurement (market days for goats/sheep) → distribution → follow-up monitoring & case documentation.**
-

Assistive Devices

- **New devices distributed: 631 (to 344 PWDs).**
 - **Repairs/maintenance: 294 PWDs supported.**
 - **NeoBolt Wheelchair Project:**
 - **52 assessed, 47 shortlisted.**
 - **Distribution on 7 Feb 2025 – 47 PWDs received NeoBolt wheelchair bikes with helmets.**
 - **Orientation provided by NeoMotion team.**
-

Community Events

- **Carers Day celebrated at Koppal.**
 - **Spinal Cord Injury Day marked at Naandi Rehabilitation Center.**
 - **Exposure visit: CBM CBID course trainees from Raichur visited Koppal Center.**
-

Key Outcomes

- **Reached 2,355 PWDs with comprehensive services.**
- **Strengthened rehabilitation access through centers, clinics, and NSRC.**
- **Advanced deaf education via therapy, camps, and awareness drives.**
- **Improved carer livelihoods with tangible income-generating assets.**
- **Enabled mobility & independence through assistive devices, esp. NeoBolt wheelchairs.**
- **Promoted community awareness & inclusion through public events and trainings.**



Neo Bolt Wheelchair Assessment & Distribution



Camps Carers Day celebrated, Koppal



Spinal Card injury day celebrated at Naandi Rehabilitation Center, Koppal



CBM CBID Course Trainees from Raichur visited Koppal Center for exposure visit

E. Devadasi Project Report (July 2024 – March 2025)

1. Policy & Advocacy

- **Aug 2024 – Koppal & Bengaluru:** Delegations met CM Siddaramaiah and PWD Minister Satish Jarakiholi, pressing for passage of the *Comprehensive Devadasi Bill 2018*.
- **Oct 2024:** Representation to Women's Development Corporation for rehabilitation & re-survey.
- **Nov 2024:** 150 MLAs reached with memorandums and copies of the Bill, creating significant political pressure.
- **Dec 2024:** State-level convention at Tavaragera reinforced collective demand for the Bill.

- **March 2025: Delegations met Women & Child Development Minister Lakshmi Hebbalkar and Social Welfare Minister H.C. Mahadevappa requesting *special packages* and stronger implementation.**
-

2. Community Mobilization & Meetings

- **June 2024 – Raichur: District meeting with Devadasi women/children.**
 - **June 2024 – General Body Meeting: Highlighted undercounting of Devadasi families (Govt: 46,660 vs Vedhike estimate 80,000+). Demanded fresh survey.**
 - **July 2024 – Koppal & Chitradurga: Legal awareness, health camp, and state-level review meetings.**
 - **July 2024 – Kandukur village: Borewell and land sanctioned for Devadasi woman.**
 - **July 2024 – Bengaluru: Launch of *Vimukta Dhani* newsletter + documentary “*Waves of Change*”.**
 - **Aug 2024 – Chitradurga: Rights & entitlements awareness camp.**
 - **Dec 2024 – Tavaragera: State-level convention with Devadasi families.**
 - **March 2025: District-level education meetings & surveys conducted in Ballari, Bagalkot, and Yadgiri.**
-

3. Welfare, Livelihood & Education

- **Borewells: 200 sanctioned till date; continued under Ganga Kalyana Yojana.**
 - **Land Ownership: More women accessed agricultural land via Ambedkar Development Corporation.**
 - **Education: By March 2025, data collected across Ballari, Bagalkot, Yadgiri on SSLC & PUC students; tracking system established for admissions and scholarships.**
 - **Employment/Self-Employment: Youth and mothers submitted applications under new special package loan schemes (₹10 lakh individual / ₹20 lakh group).**
-

4. Key Impacts till March 2025

- **Political advocacy momentum — Devadasi Bill 2018 close to Cabinet discussion.**
 - **Wider recognition — 150+ legislators formally engaged.**
 - **Women empowered — Vedhike membership expanded (431 women/children).**
 - **Material benefits — borewells, land titles, education support, and marriage incentives accessed.**
 - **Social change — mass marriages breaking stigma and strengthening community confidence.**
-

By March 2025, the project had firmly positioned Devadasi issues at the state policy level, while simultaneously strengthening grassroots organization, education, and livelihood interventions.



General Body meeting of Vimukta Devadasi Mahila Vedike – Karnataka



Legal awareness and health camps organized in Koppal district involving District judges and officials:



District level meeting in Chitradurga with district representatives.



Bore well dug in a land of devadasi Yamunamma, Kandakur village



Release of newsletter Vimuktha Dhani in Bangalore Press Club



August 12, 2024 Memorandum submitted to Mr. Satish Jarakiholi, PWD Minister



August 21, 2024 Daligation meeting with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Devadasi Draft Bill 2018



October 1, 2024 Representation submitted to Chairperson, Women Development Corporation



December 10, 2024: State level meeting cum convention held in Tavaragera.



On 16th March 2025 district level committee meeting held in Ballari with members on education related issues.

F. Undertrial Project (Apr 2024 – March 2025)

Association of Prisoners' Families for Justice (APFJ)

Overview

The project continues to support prisoners and their families through legal aid, awareness, and community engagement across Bengaluru.

Key Highlights

- **Field Outreach:**
APFJ convenors, Ms. Chandrashree and Mr. Gundappa, visited multiple slums and reached over 250 families of prisoners, identifying their challenges and connecting them to legal support.
- **APFJ Meetings:**
The association now has 7 executive members who meet monthly to review field updates and plan interventions. Two general body meetings were also conducted.
- **Public Hearings:**
Four public hearings were held, chaired by legal and social leaders including Justice Naga Mohan Das and Dr. C. S. Dwarkanath, highlighting systemic issues and mobilizing institutional support for prisoners' families.
- **Street Play Performances:**
The play *Nyayakkaagi Koogu*, directed by Mr. Shashidhar Bharighat, was performed in four localities, raising awareness about justice and rehabilitation.
- **Legal Aid Clinic:**
The clinic at St. Joseph's College of Law, active since May 2024, provided 89 instances of legal assistance.
- **Relief Support:**
 - Ration kits distributed to 110 families.
 - Educational kits provided to 60+ children; financial support extended to 6 students.
- **Legal Awareness Camps:**
Conducted 24 camps across Bengaluru with participation from local communities and legal experts, focusing on rights of prisoners and remedies against harassment.

- **Student Engagement:**
Students from St. Joseph's College of Law actively participated in field visits, police station visits, court assistance, and awareness programs.
- **Case Interventions:**
12 cases handled under the project; 2 acquittals, 2 bails, and remaining under trial.
- **Police Station Visits:**
APFJ teams visited 43 police stations in Bengaluru Urban and Rural to address concerns related to prisoner welfare.
- **Student Orientation:**
Two orientation sessions conducted for MSW and BSW students on undertrial issues and the criminal justice system.
- **Nyaya Sankalpa Newsletter:**
Released by Justice Naga Mohan Das on 19 November 2024, highlighting stories of prisoners and their families.
- **NGO Consultancy Meeting:**
Held on 18 January 2025 with 44 participants; 11 NGOs pledged collaboration for undertrial support.



Field Visits



Association of Prisoners' Families for Justice - APFJ Meetings



Public Hearings



Street Play Performance



SJCL Legal Aid Clinic



Educational Kit Distribution



Legal Awareness Camps



Student Involvement



Police station visits



NGO Consultancy Meeting