

Words from the Board

Time and Tide wait for none. Another year has passed and VARRAT has added another year to its age. We are ecstatic to publish the annual report containing the major activities and achievements accomplished during this financial year, 2016-17. Our relentless efforts during more than last three decades have brought many a changes in the target areas of Kendrapara and Keonjhar districts of Odisha, benefitting the marginal and weaker sections. We have not expanded the areas horizontally but the programs are stretched vertically with the limited resources and opportunities. Like the previous years we have intensified our focus broadly on local resource management for enhancing livelihood support system, health & sanitation and life stage interventions while the programmes on agriculture, education, skill building, thrift & credit and gender sensitization are kept intrinsic.

The basic conviction we have that working in isolation may bring good results but it will be sustainable if we work together. That is the reason in all of our interventions we try our best to work with the target communities to work for them. It makes us accountable as well as develops sense of ownership among the community members to march forward.

We convey our heartfelt thanks to the staff for their diligent efforts, board members for their guidance which really empowered us to cement our place in the developmental sector. We also express our gratitude to all the donors especially ChildFund India, Digital Green, Help-Age India, Govt. line departments of Odisha State and India for their collaborative and financial support to bring the changes. We appreciate very much the inputs provided by the resource institutions and persons for sharpening our strategies and adding values to the programmes.

We hope we are able to present the glimpses of our interventions during the last financial year before all of you and assure to march ahead with the same vigour and spirit in the coming years.



Prof. Dr. S.P. Das
Chairman, VARRAT



Dr. A.C. Das
Secretary, VARRAT



Mr. U.N. Behera
Director, VARRAT

PRELUDE

Voluntary Association for Rural Reconstruction & Appropriate Technology (VARRAT) is a non-profit making developmental organizations, came into existence way back in 1983 due to the strenuous efforts a group of committed development professionals, village level volunteers with the mandate to work for the betterment of the vulnerable, marginalized and underprivileged sections in the remote areas of Odisha being inspired by the ideology and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi, Father of the Nation.

As a legal entity VARRAT got registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 bearing No. 4444/114 in 1986. Subsequently it was registered under Section 12A of the Income Tax in the year 1995, bearing No. Jud 1/47/12A, and having FCRA bearing No.104860055.

To reach its target constituencies, VARRAT has established its head office at Boulakani in Mahakalpara block of Kendrapara district with its extended branch office at Erendei in Patna block of Keonjhar district of Odisha.

Since its inception, VARRAT has adopted the approach of empowering the communities by enhancing the capacities and skills of their associations and federations to help themselves to bring a sustainable positive impact in the area of local resource management, sustainable livelihood, health & sanitation, education, child development, youth development and women development.

Vision

“To be an efficient and leading development organization in empowering people by indoctrinating necessary changes in the society and establishing social justice”

Mission

“To initiate required action for the integrated development of the marginalized groups through strengthening people’s organization at village and regional level, maintaining proper coordination with Government and non-Government allies associated in the development field, innovating

appropriate technology in a planned manner, bringing about environmental equilibrium and upgrading the skills among groups and workers.”

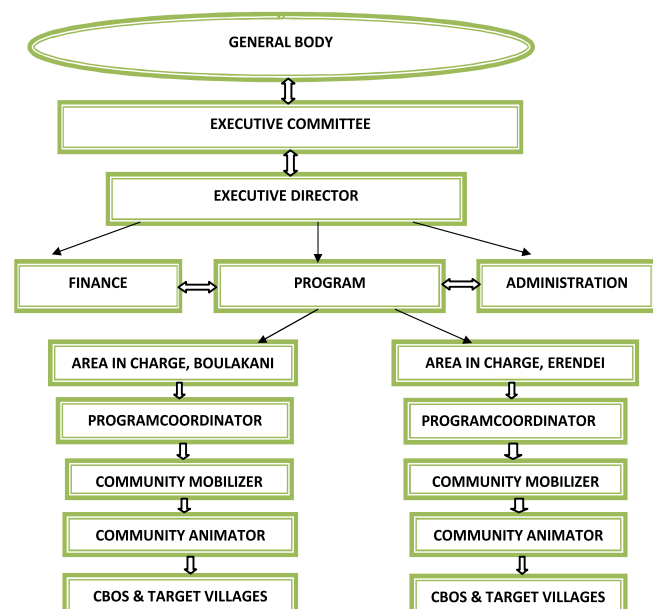
Core Values

- ❖ Empathy with the resource poor and needy populace and faith in their capacity.
- ❖ Transparency, Accountability and Democratic functioning.
- ❖ Secular in character
- ❖ Honesty to the values
- ❖ Integrity
- ❖ Sustainability

Structure and Governance System

For efficient management, a vibrant Governing Body is constituted with 5 members headed by the Chairperson. It includes other office bearers such as Director, Secretary and Treasurer and one member. The Director is responsible to act as the Chief Executive to look after the day-to-day functioning with the help of a Project Manager and other staff members down the line. The roles & responsibilities for all the office bearers have been elaborated in the bye-laws. The governing body meetings are held quarterly to review the progress and plan for the future AGM (Annual General Body Meeting) is organized on yearly basis to approve the plan of action, budget and takes the major policy decisions.

Organogram

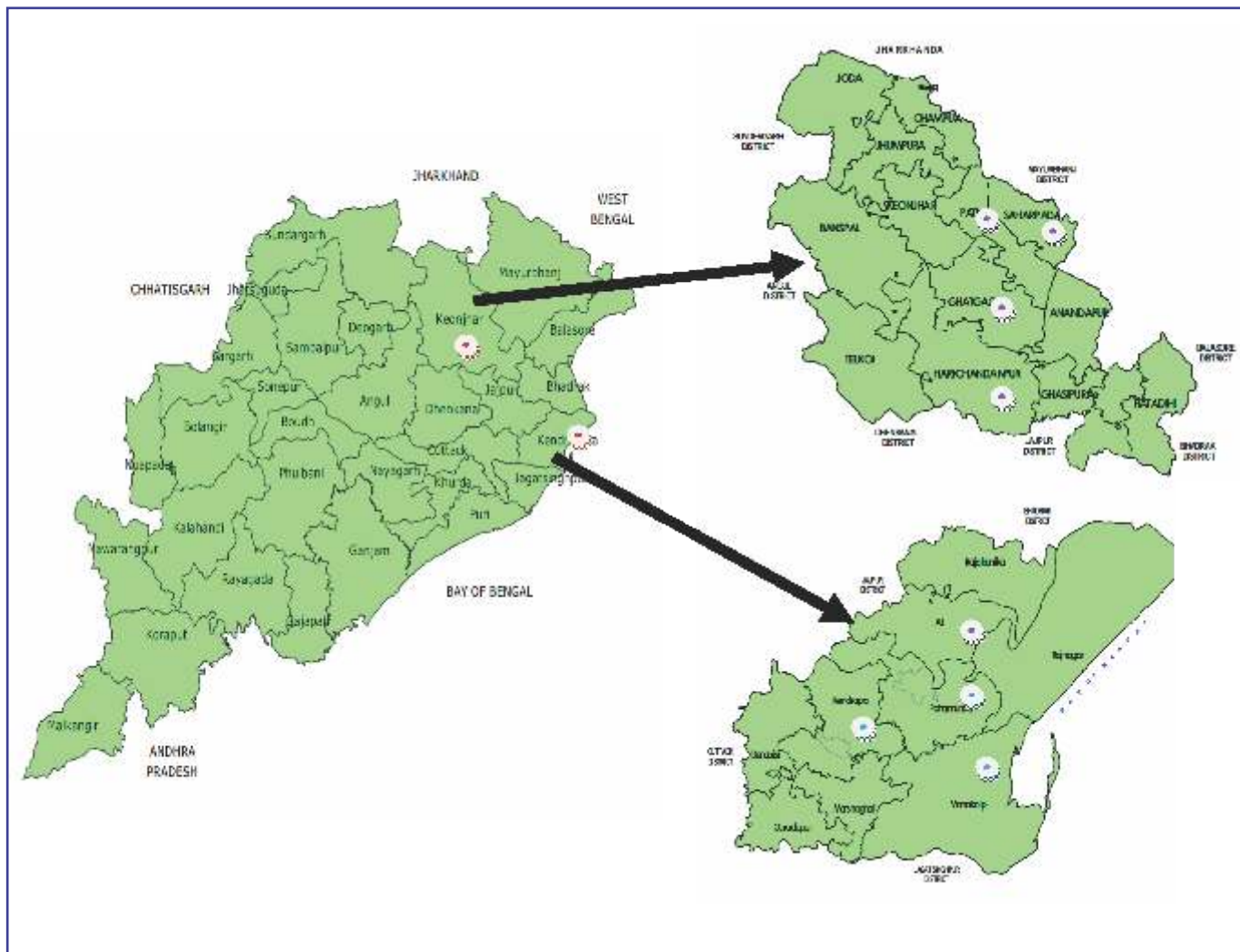


Geographical Coverage and Constituency

VARRAT, since its inception has laid emphasis on intensive community engagement to ensure that the primary stakeholders in general and marginalised sections like the poor and deprived sections in particular with a visible physical presence in total 201 villages catering 42149 families of Mahakalpada, Pattamundai, Aul, Kendrapara Blocks of Kendrapara District and Patna, Sadar(Keonjhar), Ghatagaon and Harichandanpur blocks of Keonjhar District, Odisha.

District	Block	No. of G.Ps/ Municipality	No. of Villages	No. of House Holds
Kendrapara	Mahakalpara	9 GP	50	8192
	Pattamundei	2 GP	09	1980
	Aul	1 NAC	02	366
	Kendrapara	1 Municipality	02	398
Keonjhar	Patna	18 GP	18	4070
	Sadar(Keonjhar)	10 GP	22	3552
	Ghatgaon	18 GP	47	11748
	Harichandanpur	5 GP	51	11843
Total			201	23961

Brief profile of the operational areas of VARRAT



(MAP OF OPERATIONAL AREAS)

It is relevant to divulge that both the target districts are unique and different from each other in terms of geographical situation, climatic conditions, economy, culture and traditions. While Keonjhar district is situated in the North of Odisha falling in the continuation of Chhotnagpur plateau area, Kendrapara district is located in the East of the State coming under the coastal belt. Keonjhar is rich in high mineral and dense forest resources with the operational areas dominated by the indigenous tribal. Contrary to this Kendrapara district is known for its coastal ecology and bio-resources with the target areas mainly inhabited by the marginal farmers, fisherman community, scheduled castes and migrants from Bangladesh, settled here with the Indian citizenship. However both the districts are now vulnerable due to climate change factors, depletion of resource bases and loosing of traditional livelihood mechanisms.

PROGRAMATIC INTERVENTIONS

With the passage of time and changing scenario in the developmental ambit, VARRAT has made some amendments in the style of working but has not deviated much from the original mandate of focusing on Local resource management, empowerment of the target communities & institutions and addressing the basic issues like health, sanitation, education and developing human resources. The target areas of interventions are rich in local resources. Looking into it VARRAT has adopted simple strategy to manage the local resources effectively with the local communities by making them aware and upgrading their skills to conserve, protect and manage those for supporting their livelihood support systems. During this year main focus was on sustainable livelihood promotion, quality seed conservation & use and capacitating lead farmers

to blend new techniques for better yield. The major commendable achievements accomplished this year are elaborated below.

IMPROVED FARMING FOR BETTER NUTRITION INTAKE:

Agriculture is the mainstay of livelihood support system of the inhabitants of the target areas in Keonjhar, though Forest also contributes significantly to it. With a view to enable the local farmers to yield more sincere efforts are taken by VARRAT.

A unique Randomized Control Trial (RCT) project 'Up-scaling Participatory Action and Videos for Agriculture and Nutrition (UPAVAN)' is implemented by VARRAT with the financial support of LSHTM (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine) through Digital Green wherein D-Cor, University College of London, SPRING (Leading Nutrition Organisation from USA) and JSI are the research and technical partners. The project has four arms. First being Agriculture + NSA, the second is Agriculture + NSA + MIYCN, the third is Agriculture + NSA + MIYCN + PLA and the fourth is the control arm. While all the arms are being implemented by VARRAT, the third arm has a partnership with EKJUT that promotes Participatory Learning and Action (PLA). Under the project 1000 women house visits are conducted and Formative Research video dissemination on relevant topics takes place in every 15 days. The data pertaining to the project activities are



uploaded in COCO- software and the information are displayed in Dash board. The project is implemented in 192 villages of Patna, Ghatagaon, Harichandanpur and Sadar block of Keonjhar district. The villages selected are untouched villages of VARRAT DG system and EKJUT PLA. The village selection is done by the Research Team on the basis of the village list submitted to them through a randomized system. The main objective of this project is to identify and explore barriers and opportunities to optimize Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture (NSA) and Maternal Infant Young Children Nutrition (MIYCN). Conscious attempt is made to empower the target communities through digital technology with the innovative approach of 'doing by watching'.



The activities implemented till March 2017

- ❖ SELECTION/IDENTIFICATION OF VILLAGES was a tough task because the villages enlisted which are not touched by any of the Implementing Organisations-VARRAT and Ekjut for Arm wise Randomization.
- ❖ CONSENT LETTER collected from the village people and PRI representatives to implement the program in their villages.
- ❖ LISTING OF CHILDREN from the community below 23 months and verifying the data with Anganwadi information across all the 138 villages.
- ❖ RECRUITMENT OF CSP's done in a process i.e. applications were collected from the villages where the programs will be implemented followed by Interview process with the participation of VARRAT and Ekjut senior staffs.
- ❖ INDUCTION TRAINING was conducted to make the new staffs acquainted with the thoughts of VARRAT and the programs



- ❖ PROJECT PLANNING AND REVIEW to start the implementation was conducted and all the aspects of the project discussed.
- ❖ DISSEMINATION TRAINING organized to make the CSP's familiar with the system of dissemination, handling of PICO
- ❖ PARTNER'S MEET VARRAT, Ekjut and DG wereorganised once in two months on a regular basis to review the status of implementation
- ❖ TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON MIYCN AND NSA AND FIELD LEVEL TRAINING organised by the team of SPRING personnel for selected staffs of VARRAT and DG to undertake the field level trainings
- ❖ REVIEW MEETINGS are organised twice a month (once in 15 days) to assess the progress and plan for the next month.
- ❖ PARTICIPATORY LEARNING AND ACTION (PLA) is implemented in one arm. For the CSP's of that arm, a special training was organised by Ekjut on how to organise the meetings smoothly.

- ❖ VILLAGE/CLUSTER LEVEL LAUNCHING EVENTS was conducted in all the villages and clusters to make the people aware of the program



- ❖ QUALITY ASSURANCE VISIT are conducted by the Block/Arm Coordinators, Program Coordinator on a regular basis with the specified mechanism and procedure.
- ❖ D-Cor has completed the Base Line study in collaboration with LSHTM, whereas formative research done by of SPRING with VARRAT, organized group formation and village level launching event. The district level launching event was also organized by VARRAT.

No of Villages/Clusters	138 villages/111 clusters in 4 blocks
No of control Villages/cluster	52 villages/37 clusters in four blocks
No of SHGs	1195 (all women, the formation process going on)
No of SHGs members	13359 (All women)
QA visit by Arm Coordinator/PC	24/5
No of video production	1 (growing Indian spinach for nutrition)
No of video dissemination	387
No of members viewed the video	7023

EMPOWERING THE ELDERS TO LIVE WITH DIGNITY:

District level Federation Meeting In the human life cycle, old age seems to be most delicate stage. In this stage a person after serving throughout the life needs care, support and most importantly self-esteem. Hence with this commitment VARRAT, being supported by Help-Age India, has launched a programme, called "ASTITVA", with the intention of enabling elderly persons of both sex attaining the age of 55 years, to be economically self-reliant and to lead active, healthy and dignified life in 21 villages of 6 GP's in Mahakalpara block of Kendrapara district.



Activities	Achievements
Elderly Self Help Group (ESHGs)	55 ESHGs, 5 village level federations and one district level federation are strengthened with regular follow ups
Medical Health camps	628 elders (Male-267, Female-361) were provided with health services and free medicines with the arrangement of 18 clinic camps.
IOL treatment	Cataract operation of 97 Elderly persons (M-40, F-57) done with regular checkups and they got back clarity in vision.
Capacity building programme	❖ 2 nos. of one-day training programme on leadership development are organized and 100 ESHG representatives have participated.
	❖ 72 elders have undergone 4-day Elderly Community Resource Persons (ECRP) training programme, facilitated by Adhikar, Bhubaneswar.
	❖ Orientation programme on Cob-Web (C.W).grading imparted to 35 elderly people, facilitated by the representatives of Help-Age India.
	❖ One elderly person have participated in one day orientation programme on Disaster Risk Reduction in Red Cross Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, organized by Help-Age India Bhubaneswar.
	❖ Ms.P.Srimati Rao.Program Asst. Project ASTITVA have undergone a 3-day training programme on 'Ending violence against Children' in Institute of Engineers, BBSR, organized by PECUC, Bhubaneswar.
Revolving fund support	Total 50 ESHGs, after assessing the micro business plans, are provided with revolving fund of Rs.5,00,000/- i.e. Rs.10,000/-per group for carrying out livelihood programme through the members.
Linkages	❖ 55 ESHGs linked are linked with different financial institutions for availing fund for their income generating activities.
	❖ Handholding support was provided to 55 ESHGs for linkages with National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM)

It is worthwhile to mention that total 55 ESHGs are formed and imparted with handholding support at regular interval for asserting their elderly rights and accessing social security schemes designed for them such as: old age & widow pension, IAY, PMJDY, PMSBY etc. A significant amounts of

Rs.3, 32,154/- has been generated from the members as their group savings which are used by themselves to meet the pressing need. One of the visible achievements is that 3 village level federations are acting as producer groups to secure the interest of the elders specifically.

TARGETED INTERVENTION FOR PREVENTION & CONTROL OF HIV/AIDS:

Kendraparais one of the economical growing districts of the state as it is the gateway to Paradeep port and tourist place of Bhitarkanika sanctuary. It is also happened to be a notorious place because of unethical activities including human trafficking and prostitutions. Mass Rally photo However unsafe sexin many cases leads to different fatal contagious diseases like Reproductive Tract Infection (RTI), Sexual Transmitted Diseases (STD), HIV/AIDS etc. The incidence is on the increasing trend. To prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS,VARRAT with the support of OSACS, has taken a package prgramme in the high risk areas of Aul, Pattamudai NAC andKendrapara Municipality



area. The support of the health departments at district and CHC level is one of the key contributing factors for implementing the programme successfully. The significant achievements under this programmes during the reporting period are depicted below.

Activities	Achievements
Behavioral Change in Communication programme and creating enabling environment	❖ 10993 persons are contacted personally by Peer Educators and made aware on sex practices and STD, HIV/AIDS.
	❖ 84nos. of hotspot level meeting and assessment of awareness level of participants done on STD, HIV/AIDS transmission & prevention, adoption of safe sex practices and treatment facilities. It was followed with providing updated knowledge to increase their awareness level.
	❖ Four advocacy meetings organized in Aul, Pattamundai and Kendrapara involving PRI members, NAC members, Police officials, Mediators and owners of Beauty Parlors.
	❖ Four Crisis Management Committee meetings were organized involving T.I. Counselor, Advocate and community members
Distribution and Social Marketing of Condo	❖ 116062 persons are provided with free condoms who are identified in indulging with unsafe practices with multi partners.
	❖ Condoms are procured and distributed through Peer Educators in 14 outlets. Total 1710 condoms were sold this year which is more than 50% more compared to last year. It proves that stigma and shyness about condom is slowly reducing.

Activities	Achievements
Tests, counseling and treatment	❖ 05 nos. of Health camps were organized in Kendrapara and Pattamundai.
	❖ 39 nos. of FSWs taken presumptive treatment and reduced their risk of vulnerability towards HIV/AIDS
	❖ 1513 nos. of Female Sex Workers (FSWs) have undergone health checkup on regular basis and to avoid the vulnerability towards STI, HIV/AIDS
	❖ In order to know about their HIV status 727 cases were referred of which 676 cases HIV testing done in Integrated Counseling & Testing Centre (ICTC).
	❖ 677 no. of risk cases are screened Venereal Disease Research Laboratory (VDRL) test for Syphilis.
	❖ 62 nos. of persons with risk/FSWs were counseled and treated at Private Preferred Provider (PPP) Clinic and reduced the risk.
Mass Awareness Creation	❖ General community got sensitized through observation of International Women Day and Rally by the college students in Kendrapara.

Brave young lady fought against all odds

A young lady was leading a happy family with her husband and two kids at Erasma of Jagatsinghpur district, adjacent to Kendrapara. But the super cyclone in 1999 spoiled everything. She lost her husband and kids. In search of livelihood & shelter she moved here & there. With much difficulty she reached Kendrapara town and got engaged in road side dhaba to earn her bread. But fortune did not smile and the agony did not end there. The dhaba owners and other ruffians made her life hell by engaging her in sex works. Within a span of three years she became a professional sex worker. But the unsafe practice resulted infections with clear symptoms of vaginal discharge and lower abdominal pain. The regular clients started to abandon her. Anticipating a disaster she gathered courage and contacted with one of the Peer Educators of VARRAT who made her aware on the services provided under the project and safe sex practices. With the facilitation of that Peer Educator, she made HIV test. Fortunately it was found negative. Due to regular treatment she got cured the infection she had. Now she is leading normal life leaving the sex work. For her livelihood she is working as a Tailoring Instructor. She is also taking a lead role in motivating other sex workers to practice safe sex and get regular medical checkups to avoid all sorts of complications.

(The name and address is not given with an intention of not disclosing her identity)



LIFE STAGE INTERVENTIONS FOR INFANTS, CHILDREN AND YOUTHS

General Program of ChildFund Odisha is one of the poverty stricken states where the status of children is in precarious situation and in Kendrapara district is also not so encouraging. The fact sheet of Annual Health Survey 2012-13 substantiates that while the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in the state is 56 it is 58 in Kendrapara district. Similarly Neo-natal Mortality Rate in the state is 37 and in Kendrapara district it is 43, Post Neo-natal Mortality Rate in Odisha is 19 and in Kendrapara district is 15. Many of the target areas of VARRAT are situated in the sea coast where the

situation is shakier. Considering the vulnerability, VARRAT, with the support of ChildFund India has been implementing a programme with age appropriate interventions.

Healthy and Secured Infants:

This programme is intended to make the infants in the age group of 0-5, healthy & secured under the basic premise of 'right to survival and development'. The focused activities under this are enabling the community in adopting appropriate practices to ensure safe motherhood, improve survival rate of the infants and ensure growth and development of infants and children.



ECCE in Action



Main achievements:

Activities	Achievements
Eight Early Childhood Care & Education centers are functional	Total 186 children are enrolled of which 98 are boys and 103 are girls.
Organizing and observing important days	❖ Pravesh Divas (Admission day or the first day in ECCE) in all the 08 ECCE centers involving the children and their mothers
	❖ ECCE day celebrated involving 2000 mothers and care givers
	❖ Celebration of the birth days of the children
Growth monitoring of the children	In each month in each centre the growth monitoring of the children is done and record is maintained. The same is shared with their mothers
Interface meeting with ICDS department.	One interface meeting organized among the mothers and ICDS officials for successful transition of pre-school activities.
TLM material distribution	TLM materials such as: bag, toys, color boxes provided to the children
PD/Hearth Session	One PD/hearth session was organized for 10 days at Sabarapara involving mother and children who shared locally available and homely made nutritious food
Capacity Building programme	❖ One training programme for 8 ECCE workers was conducted on development of ECCE curriculum, low cost TLM and joyful learning methodology.
	❖ Three orientation programmes for 75 mother committee members were conducted to make them aware on their roles & responsibilities as well as successful transition of sustainable pre-school activities
	❖ ECCE workers are trained on up-gradation of Balwadis on the basis of 30 Parameters.
	❖ Local ANM, AWWs, ASHAs and mothers of the ECCE children are oriented Vitamin A and its use

Handholding support and effective mobilization brought the change

Sabarapada, an interior village Mahakalparablock of Kendrapara district is inhabited by scheduled tribes. Most of them are illiterates and it was the least priority agenda among the parents as well as the children. There is one

I had a doubt that after merging of ECCE with Anganwadi, our children would be deprived of education, provided by VARRAT. But I am happy to see that I am wrong because the hand holding support and mobilization process reaped the encouraging result - Mr. Ramesh Bhakta, BM committee member

Anganwadi Centre in the village which remained locked most of the time except food distribution. Considering this one ECCE centre was opened by VARRAT with the support of ChildFund India to impart basic education to the children. However VARRAT ECCE Instructor took an initiative to strengthen the Anganwadi Centre so the villagers would avail the better service and Govt. effort will not be wastage. Accordingly along with the BM committee members she made an intensive interaction with the CDPO, ASHA, AWW, AWW Supervisor in an interface meeting which resulted in merging both the activities under one roof. The consequence was very encouraging as the AWW worker is regular and getting involved in ECCE activities as well running the Anganwadi Centre effectively. It is now difficult to conclude whether ECCE centre has been made sustainable by linking with the Anganwadi Centre or if Anganwadi Centre amalgamated the ECCE centre for a larger coverage in a sustainable manner.

Educated and Confident Children:

With a view to enabling the children/adolescents 'educated and confident' within the age group of 6-14 years, under the basic premise of 'right to protection and participation', interventions are focused on quality education without corporal punishment system, life skill education, and promotion of child friendly schools.



Main achievements:

Activities	Achievements
Capacity building programmes	❖ 22 project staff got trained on gender based discrimination and right to education.
	❖ 35 project staffs are facilitated to gain knowledge on SDP, RTE and School assessment.
	❖ 67 parents are trained on gender discrimination and right to girl's education.
	❖ 42 School Management Committee Members (SMC) are imparted training on School Development Plan (SDP) and monitoring.
	❖ 8 RIP Volunteers got refresher training on Reading Improvement Programme (RIP).
Social mobilization	❖ Counseling session with 177 parents on education are organized.
	❖ Interactive sessions with 210 parents & Children on education are facilitated to identify the issues related to education face in House, School and Community
	❖ 5 village level Child Resource Centers (CRC) are established with the membership of 150 children.
	❖ 5 Aflatoun Clubs are formed to impart knowledge on Social Financial Inclusion among the children for 150 at Schools.
Mainstreaming school non-goers	40 children have been successfully mainstreamed in age appropriate classes and 43 economically backward children are provided with education materials like Note book, white papers, pen, pencil, scale, Geometry boxes and science note
Complimenting and supplementing the school education centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ One Special Education Centre for dropout children is functioning with 22 children in Sabarpada village to mainstream the students in age appropriate classes. ❖ One Special Coaching Centre was functioning to enable 20 children to cope with the regular action. It functioned for seven months. ❖ Water filter provided to 15 schools for supplying clean & safe water to school children

Special coaching centre enable the children to make reentry to school

Baghuamedi, a village situated in the seacoast of Mahakalapara block of Kendrapara district is predominantly inhabited by poor tribal people who do hard labour to earn their bread. Education seems to be a negligible area of concern among the adults and the children too which is evident from their long absence from the school. Seeing this team of VARRAT tried their best to motivate the parents and children to go to school for education. With the untiring effort many children made reentry to the

We were feeling ashamed to come to schools because our school friends were giving bad remarks on our wisdom. But now we are coming with interest and self-respect as we are able to cope up. It could be possible due to the coaching provided by our Madam, Miis Sonali Swain says Laxmi Singh.



school but in no time they lost their interest as they did not cope with the education curriculum especially in the subjects of Mathematics, English and Odiya. Therefore VARRAT, with the support of ChildFund India, has established a temporary coaching centre with a teacher to guide and educate the children to match the course of the schools. The centre ran for nearly seven months and created a breakthrough. All the 20 children,

provided with free coaching, are now going to school regularly and the free coaching centre has been withdrawn by VARRAT.

Skilled and involved youth:

Youth hood is one of the important stages in the human life cycle. This is the stage when human being is being blessed with power, vigour, leadership and the inspiration to achieve. This is time they need direction and guidance to do some constructive for them as well as for the society. With this belief VARRAT is sincerely trying to enhance the skills & potentials of youths in the target area with specially designed activities.



Main achievements:

Activities	Achievements
Situational Analysis	With the active participation of youths a situation analysis has been done to assess their issues and opportunities
Establishing of centres for youth	Two SMART centres, four Youth Resource Centres and one Athletic centre are being operational with regular facilitation and follow ups.
Social mobilization programme	❖ One Mass Awareness Campaign on importance of higher education both boys and girls was organized.
	❖ Five cluster level sensitization programmes on gender based discrimination were conducted involving 245 parents and youths.
	❖ One Youth Festival was organized in order to observe National Youth day in connection with Swami Vivekananda Jayanti. It was participated by 250 youth members of 25 youth clubs & 11 Kalyani Clubs
Promoting entrepreneurship activities	❖ 5 youths are supported for Tailoring Training & 2 are supported for computer education training.
	❖ District Job fair was conducted at the District and VARRAT was coordinating the same on behalf of the District Administration where 73 youths from our project villages participated.
	❖ Regular contact is made with NSDC, Rural Skill & Employability Training Institute for training and placement.
	❖ 60 youths are imparted training on small entrepreneurship and business plan development.
Financial support for higher education	❖ 10 students are supported financially for their admission and tuition fees for higher education.



Dream comes true

Samson Behera, a young boy of Tankibellary village of Mahakalapara block of Kendrapara district had to discontinue his study after 12th and search for engagement due to poor financial condition of his family. Lack of skill was the main hindrance to get any job. However he came across with the team members of VARRAT who helped him to take admission in ITI centre in Marshaghai and his labour & perseverance made the task completed. Now he is gainfully engaged in "Jindal Company" ESSAR Project India PVT. Ltd. With a monthly remuneration of Rs.7000/-. When contacted, beaming Samson divulged "I was dreaming to work as a mechanic in Jindal Company since my childhood. But my education and family condition had diverted me to a different path. Due to guidance of VARRAT I could come to right track and my dream comes true now".



Sponsor relation activities:

Individual sponsors both inside the country and abroad play a vital role in supporting child focused interventions through sponsoring the children. Therefore the relationship with the sponsors is very much important as they have every right to know the development the children they sponsor. With the enrollment of 634 and 457 sponsored children the child focused interventions with then ChildFund India are being implemented in Mahakalapara block of Kendrapara district. The main achievements during the reported period are mentioned below.

- ❖ Quality letter writing on any such program photo
- ❖ Child Verification System has been done twice for 634 children within the interval of six months.
- ❖ Sponsor Day is celebrated with 698 which includes the alumni + enrolled children.
- ❖ Parents awareness program on sponsorship programme in 4 villages are conducted.
- ❖ Quality letter writing workshops for children in 2 clusters are organized.
- ❖ Staff orientation programme was organized on quality SR Management.



If there is will there is way

SankarMandal, youngest among four children of a poor family of Boulakani village of Mahakalpara block of Kendrapara district was deprived of education because of penury of his family. Seeing the interest and talent all the villagers requested the think tank of VARRAT to make some arrangement for his study. Way back in 2006 VARRAT has enrolled this boy who got sponsored in 2007. With the support he did not look back. In the year 2013 he came out with flying colours in HSC examination with 82% marks. He pursued higher study and completed Diploma in Mechanical Engineering 2016 and securing 80% marks. In the campus interview he got good rank and got the opportunity to work Tractor India Pvt. Ltd. as a Trainee Engineer in Kolkata, West Bengal with a remuneration of Rs 21,500.00 per month. He is now an example in his village.



Child Centered Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR)

VARRAT in partnership with Child Fund launched the project aiming at strengthening local capacity for Child Centered Disaster Risk Reduction in Odisha - India.



The project is being executed since July 2017 in 20 village communities named (Nuafeld, West Sunity, Panchagochhia, Kandarapatia, Kantilo, Benakandha, North Jamboo, Badapala, Bagagahan, Kanspala, Ambelary, Olopada, Boulakani, Arunnagar, Betabelary, Baghuamedia, Lunaghery, Lunimathia, Petechella, Sabarpada) covering 5 Gram Panchayats in Mahakalpara Block of Kendrapara district in Odisha targeting 560

direct children beneficiaries, 312 direct adult beneficiaries and 4668 indirect beneficiaries. The achievements are as follows;

- ❖ Concept sharing meeting in all villages was organized, experience of villagers shared and their cooperation solicited to effectively implement the programmes.
- ❖ DRR Startup Workshop on strengthening local capacity for child centered disaster risk reduction for Program Leaders organised at BBSR by Disaster Specialist of ChildFund
- ❖ Training on Child Protection in Emergencies (CPIE) for Staffs facilitated by Varsha Sharma expert in CPIE at ChildFund



- ❖ Training on Participatory Vulnerability Capacity Analysis (PVCA) for partner staff organised for Five Days out of which two days spent for field exercise.



- ❖ Community level PVCAs (including ICDS) and its analysis organised in all the 20 villages by the Project Staff. Total 1012 participants (Enrolled children-133, sibling 114 Non-enrolled children-278, and parents -487) attended in 3 days community level PVCA.
- ❖ School risk/vulnerability assessments and analysis undertaken in all the 23 schools in Project area. Total 746 participants (Enrolled children-124, sibling 137 Non-enrolled children-352, other stakeholders like teachers, SMC members-133) attended the program.



- ❖ Formation and strengthening of CGs, CPCs, VDMC and mothers group organised and reorganized in all 20 villages. All the Village Disaster Management Committees reorganized.
- ❖ Training to Anganwadi Workers on disaster risk reduction and contingency planning organised for 30 AWW workers. Participants were trained

on Child centered DRR concept like Risk, Hazard, Vulnerability and Capacity on how to identify the risks at ICDS level, tools for the preparation of action plan and how ICDS can work as an umbrella for Child Protection for LS-1 Child.



- ❖ Formation and strengthening of school disaster response task forces organised in 19 villages for 23 schools. For three category of Task Forces like Early Warning, Search and Rescue and First Aid 589 members selected



- ❖ Capacity building of school disaster response task forces organised in 19 centers covering all the 23 schools. 20 such programs organised where 603 participants participated and learned.



VARRAT GRAMIN MAHILA BIKASH MAHASANGHA

With the handholding support of VARRAT, some village women came forward to work for their economical development during the year 1995-96. Gradually in the name of Varat Gramin Mahila Bikash Mahasangha (VGMBM) they got united and registered themselves in 2007-08 as a separate legal entity. Making their intervention broad,



besides economic activities, various social developmental activities are also taken up. Currently there are 140 SHGs with 2100 women members in this federation. The significant accomplishments of VGMBM during the reporting period are enlisted below.

- ❖ 200 women have been trained on mushroom cultivation and incensed stick making.
- ❖ 140 SHGs have been trained on record maintenance and group building.
- ❖ 950000 INR has been given as loan to 10 member organizations for various income generating activities.
- ❖ Regular handholding support is being provided to member SHGs for gradation.
- ❖ Sharing of best practices among the member SHGs are done on regular basis.
- ❖ Under the Pradhan Mantry Jan Dhan Yojana, 2100 saving accounts are opened.

- ❖ International women's day was observed on 8th March with participation of 500 women.
- ❖ Awareness programmes conducted for women members for IHHL and institutional delivery.
- ❖ In each month working committee meets to assess the activities undertaken and chalk out future plan.
- ❖ Each year accounts are audited and income tax return filed.

Primary Health Services to People

For the last couple of years VARRAT is partnering with Health and Family Welfare department of Govt. of Odisha to run the PHC (N), Batighar in Mahakalpada block of Kendrapara district under the Public Private Partnership mode. There are seven staffs including two professional doctors. The PHC makes concerted effort to reach the public health services to the unserved people and create an enabling environment to seek and access public health services. While the broader goal is improving the management system, provide quality health services, mobilization of additional resources and widening the range of services and number of service providers, the focus so far has been to increase the number of OPD cases, reduction of child and maternal mortality ratio, increase the number of institutional delivery, ensure immunization, prevention and cure of endemic diseases, population control and gender balance. The tagible achievements are as follows.

Counselling of Pregnant Mothers & her family members:

10 counseling sessions were organized under the Batighar (N) covering 152 pregnant mothers and 132 puerperal mothers and family members in order to enrich the information and knowledge base of the community members on issues

related to RCH, ANC, PNC, nutrition, home based management of childhood illness etc. This resulted in increased number of early registration, 3 ANC check-ups, increase in number of pregnant women who took TT-I & TT-II & increased IFA tablet intake in the operational area.

Institutional Delivery:

The institutional delivery is a significant contributor towards reduction of MMR & IMR. To promote this 53 deliveries were conducted in PHC(N), Batighar and 06 ANC mothers referred to local CHC/PHC for institutional delivery by convergence with ASHA.

Follow up Immunisation:

Immunisation protects children from a number of diseases & protects them from infirmity & disability. Some diseases which could have been fatal are kept at bay because of timely immunisation. The health workers followed up the immunisation and ensured it through home visit.

Outreach Health Camps :

One Outreach Health Camp was organised by PHC (N) Batighar at Batighar village on 30th December 2016. Two experienced doctors Dr. Narayan Sahu and Dr. Alekh Chandra Das sensitized the gatherings on the need of institutional delivery, importance of personal health and hygiene, better sanitation practices. This programme benefitted total 172 service-seekers out of which 27 are pregnant mother, 55

are children and rest 90 are adult general patients. Free medicines were provided to all the patients in this outreach health camp.

Designated Day Observance:

World Health Day -7th April 2016, World Breast Feeding Week from 1st August to 7th August 2016 and World AIDS Day- 1st December 2016 were observed in the PHC(N) premises in which 97, 115, & 105 participants were sensitized respectively on the importance of the days.

Health Check up at Dispensary (OPD Cases):

Allopathic Services were provided to 5805 patients out of which 906 are male child, 866 are female child, 1909 are male adults, and 2124 are female adults till 15th January 2017.

Ayush Services were provided to 3168 patients out of which 254 are male children, 280 are female children 1393 are male adults and 1241 are female adults till 15th January 2017.

Pathology Services are provided to 1291 patients out of which 9 cases are stool test, 383 are urine test and 899 are blood test.

Referral Services Extended

Referral services were provided to 93 patients of which 39 are males and 54 are females, who were found to be critical for better attention and care in outside hospitals.

CRECHE: A support for Children in Need

When the parents of a child are working couple, the children are often neglected. Usually health, education and nutrition are get compromised. In cases where both the parents of the children are daily labourer or marginal worker, the child is more at a receiving end. VARRAT is implementing one CRECHE Programme under Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for children of working mothers at village Lunimathia with the support of State Social





Welfare Board, Govt of Odisha. At present 25 (Boys-18 + Girls-7) children in the age group of 2 to 6 are enrolled in it. A village level monitoring committee comprising of 5 members is functional. There are two creche workers and one Aya in the centre for taking all sorts of care of the children. The workers involve themselves in preparing low-cost and no-cost Teaching-Learning Materials for making the classroom transaction lively.



The activities undertaken are :

1. Exposure visit of the children local bank, temples and market places for gaining firsthand knowledge.
2. There is a mud-pit in the campus for the development of psycho-motor and the children prepare many earthen articles by using this mud-pit.
3. During the period 12 village level committee meetings have been organised and the committee has been succeeded in developing a kitchen garden in order to cater the supplementary nutrition of the creche-coming

children.

4. Health check-up camps on monthly basis and regular growth monitoring of the under-5 children on quarterly basis have ensured that no child remain in malnourished bracket.
5. Home visits are regularly organised to counsel the parents and care givers on Health and Nutrition aspects.

Programmes under taken in collaboration with NABARD:

So far the collaboration with NABARD in promoting SHGs, Financial Inclusion, Farmers Clubs and organising MEDP activities has come a long way and VARRAT continued this effort during the reporting period. The following few activities were under taken in collaboration with NABARD.

- ❖ A six days MEDP Training programme on Bee Keeping was organised by VARRAT in the Anwesan Training Hall of VARRAT at Boulakani in Kendrapara District from 21st to 26th January 2017 where in 30 Women SHG members were the participants. Mr Manas Kumar Behera, DDM, NABARD, Kendrapara and Mr Laxmidhar Mallick, Director RSETI, Chhata, Kendrapara inaugurated the Training programme in the presence of the Executive Director, VARRAT and other dignitaries of the day. Mr Goutam Nayak, the R.P. from Keonjhar facilitated the MEDP Training programme.
- ❖ Two quiz competitions among the school children were organized at Erendei in patna Block of Keonjhar with the support of NABARD with twin purposes of assessing the awareness level of the school children on financial inclusion and developing their understanding on the said theme which could be disseminated to their family levels.
- ❖ With a view to helping the rural people avail the banking and insurance facilities with the support of NABARD, interactive workshop were organized in the field office of VARRAT at Erendei, Keonjhar. It was participated by more than 100 SHG members, farmers and PRI

representatives. Mr. S.S Chaulia, DDM, NABARD, Keonjhar participated in the Financial Inclusion Program and facilitated the whole gamut of activities during the day. The NABARD officials made the group aware on opening of bank accounts, availing small loans, saving, bank transfer, insurance coverage including medical & accidental and other bank services with a special emphasis on Pradhan Mantri "Jan-Dhan Yojana"(PMJDY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY)

Facilitation of People's Organizations:

Developing and nurturing community based institutions across all its project area is one of the fundamental principles of VARRAT as expressed in its mission statement. VARRAT has been constantly striving to promote this with an objective to create community ownership and participation. Over the years Some of the community institutions are playing vital roles and actively participating in the development process for bringing positive change in the society. The organizations promoted and their activities are as follows

Jana Jagruti Sanghathan (JJS):

Jana Jagruti Sanghathans (JJS) are organized in the villages to foster development with people's participation. The basic function of this group is to identify the developmental challenges in the village, develop need based village development plan and encourage people to implement the said plan. Till date 13 JJS in 13 villages of Patna Block of Erendei area and 25 JJS in 25 villages of Boulakani area in Mahakalpara Block of Kendrapara District involving 15 members(five elderly people, four women, four youth and two children) have been formed and strengthened. This kind of composition creates enabling environment to address the issues of people from all age groups.

Central Jana Jagruti Sanghathan (CJJS):

Central Jana Jagruti Sanghathan (CJJS) comprising of 19 members from different clusters are actively

involved in preparing the development plans and implementation of the project activities in both the areas of Boulakani and Erendei. The CJJS used to sit once in a quarter for assessing the work progress of all the project activities. Necessary training /orientation have been organised for the strengthening of the Central JJS.

Village Level Children and Youth Clubs:

25 Village level children and youth clubs are formed and capacitated regularly in Mahakalpada block of Kendrapara district. At present they are organising child led and youth led activities in their respective villages. The Central Children and youth clubs are functional in Mahakalpara Block. During the period necessary inputs were given to strengthen the children and youth clubs.



CONCLUDING REMARKS

VARRAT takes the pride to be identified as the people's organization to work with them. We have sailed the boat successfully due to the team effort of our staff, EC members and well-wishers and timely support of the support organizations. In the coming year it will also work for its target constituencies laying emphasis on community participation, capacitating community based institutions, creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for the rural people utilizing the local resources, enabling the eligible people to access govt. social security schemes and programmes etc. However considering the context and need the programmes will be reshaped accordingly.

Dignitaries Visited VARRAT

1. Dr.S.V.Swain, OUAT, BBSR
2. Kristna Granger, SPRING, USA
3. Ashley Aakesson, SPRING, USA
4. Ashley Aakesson, SPRING, USA
5. Sarah Cunningham, SPRING, USA
6. Peggy Koniz Booher, Senior Advisor, Nutrition, SPRING, USA
7. Carrie Hubbell Melgarego, MS, Nutrition advisor, SPRING
8. Dr.Susen Kumar Panda, Prof.& HOD Dept. Veterinary pathology, OUAT, BBSR
9. Dr.IndramaniNath, Director, Clinic Veterinary, OUAT, BBSR
10. Dr.RitunPatra, Asst Prof., Dept of Veterinary, Anatomy and Histology, OUAT, BBSR
11. Dr.Bidyut Prava Mishra, Asst, Prof, Dept of LPT CVsc and AH, OUAT, BBSR
12. Sitansu Singh, MEE, Manager, WCD, BBSR
13. Sudhansu Sekhar Chaulia, DDM, NABARD, Keonjhar
14. Jaladhara Sethy, LDM, Bank of India, Keonjhar
15. Dr.Purusottam Mohanta, MO, Patna CHC, Keonjhar
16. Khaira Naik, Chairman, Patna Panchayat Samiti
17. Avinash Upadhay, Regional Manager, Digital Green, Bhubaneswar
18. RonaliPradhan, Senior Programme Manager, Digital Green, Bhubaneswar
19. Tapan Ku Pati – HOD, Dept. of History, Kendrapara
20. Adhikari Laxminarayan Dash- Department of Commerce Kendrapara
21. Bijay Ketan Sahoo – DCPO, Kendrapara,
22. Laxmidhara Malick Director of RSETI Kendrapara
23. Jyotasharani Dhar, OLM Mahakalpara
24. Kailash Chandra Behera, B.D.O, Mahakalpara
25. Manorama Swain, CDPO, Mohakalpara
26. Rama Rao, ChildFund India, Delhi Office
27. Siva Prasad Behera, Child Fund India, Zonal Office, BBSR
28. Badal Senapati, Sarapanch
29. Sisira Kanta Routroy, Chairman CWS, Kendrapara
30. Adaitya Kumar Mallik, ABEO Mohakalpara
31. Shashi Kanta Mohapatra, Program Officer, TSU/OSACS
32. Prashanta Patra, Team Leader, TSU/OSACS
33. Barnali Behera, Program Officer, TSU/OSACS
34. Sabana Parwin, M&E, TSU/OSACS
35. Dr. Susanta Swain, Joint Director (T.I.), OSACS
36. Maya Mohanty, Joint Director(ICTC) , OSACS
37. Dr. Amitav Das Mohapatra, State T.B. HIV Coordinator, OSACS
38. Dr. BhagabanMohapatra, Program Officer(STI), TSU/OSACS
39. Dr. BaishnabChSahoo, CDMO,DHH,Kendrapara
40. Dr. M.B.Baig, ADMO (PH), DHH,Kendrapara
41. Dr. Tirtharaj Das, M.O. STI clinic, DHH,Kendrapara
42. Anil Ku.Mohanty, DPMU, DHH, Kendrapara



What they Say...

Visitors' Book			
Date	Name & Address	Number	Year Valued Comments
10/11/16	Chandrashekhara D/O, Subrah Institutional Bldg, New Bellary - 561 002		It's always a pleasure to meet the VEEB D/O members. In spite of working hard, the enthusiasm of VEEB members and VARRAT team is commendable. Keep the good work going on!! <i>Handwritten signature</i> Visited VEEB D/O along with many things for the ESTEES and it looks how to manage in different level. <i>Handwritten signature</i> Had interaction with VEEB D/O members on various guiding which was really encouraging. <i>Handwritten signature</i>

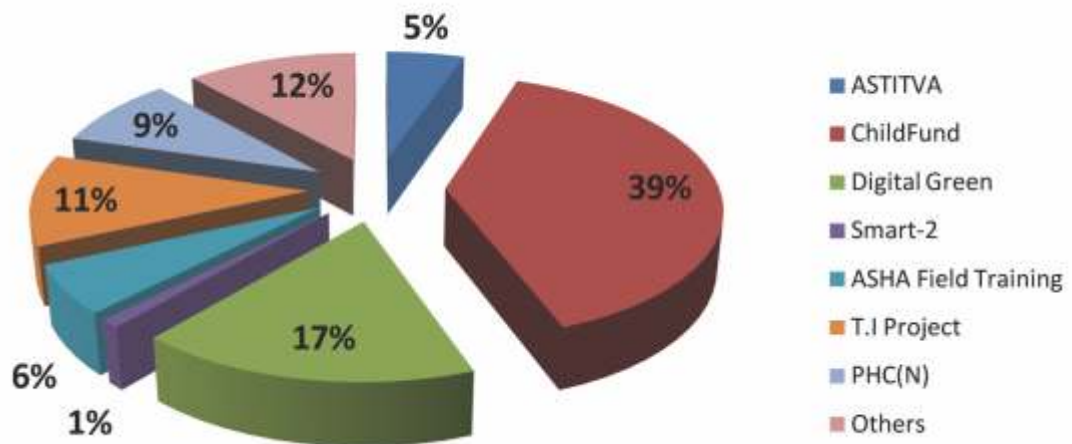
Visitors' Book			
Date	Name & Address	Number	Year Valued Comments
10/11/16	Subrah D/O D/O, Subrah Institutional Bldg, New Bellary - 561 002		It's always a pleasure to meet the VEEB D/O members. In spite of working hard, the enthusiasm of VEEB members and VARRAT team is commendable. Keep the good work going on!! <i>Handwritten signature</i> Visited VEEB D/O along with many things for the ESTEES and it looks how to manage in different level. <i>Handwritten signature</i> Had interaction with VEEB D/O members on various guiding which was really encouraging. <i>Handwritten signature</i>

Visitors' Book			
Date	Name & Address	Number	Year Valued Comments
10/11/16	Subrah D/O D/O, Subrah Institutional Bldg, New Bellary - 561 002		Thanks for such a great visit - we really appreciate your warm hospitality and showing us all your hard work. Thanks for your fantastic work - see you next time!

Visitors' Book			
Date	Name & Address	Number	Year Valued Comments
10/11/16	Subrah D/O D/O, Subrah Institutional Bldg, New Bellary - 561 002		Thanks for such a great visit - we really appreciate your warm hospitality and showing us all your hard work. Thanks for your fantastic work - see you next time!

Visitors' Book			
Date	Name & Address	Number	Year Valued Comments
10/11/16	Subrah D/O D/O, Subrah Institutional Bldg, New Bellary - 561 002		Thanks for such a great visit - we really appreciate your warm hospitality and showing us all your hard work. Thanks for your fantastic work - see you next time!

Income for 2016-17



Expenditure for 2016-17

