

MAA RAMACHANDI FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

(A march towards empowerment of weaker sections of the Society)

Registered Office

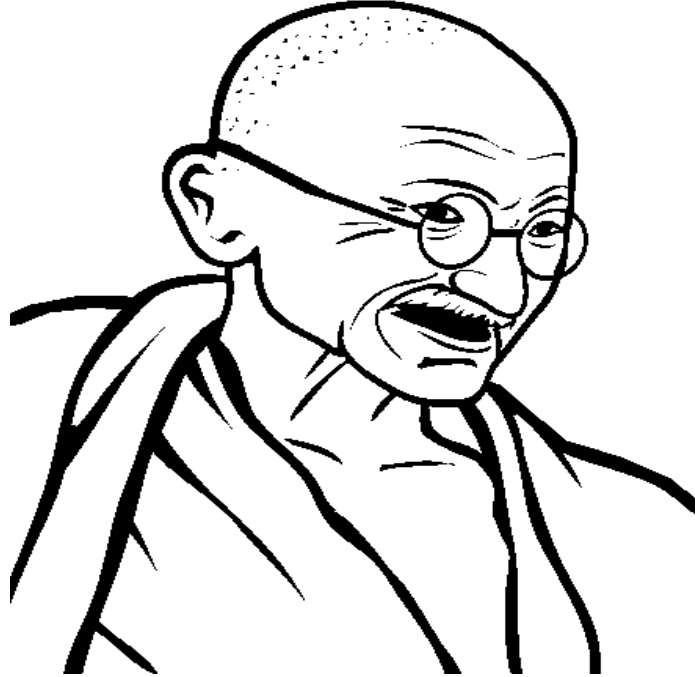
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2017-18



Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man (woman) whom you may have seen, and ask yourself, if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him (her). Will he (she) gain anything by it? Will it restore him (her) to a control over his (her) own life and destiny? In other words, will it lead to swaraj (freedom) for the hungry and spiritually starving millions?

Mahatma Gandhi

Message from the Chairman

We take this opportunity to present the Annual Report of Maa Ramachandi Foundation (MRF) for the year 2017-18. MRF is a leading Grass roots level organization, registered under the Trust Act of 1888 that aims at addressing slew of issues concerning the betterment of the rural poor particularly the weaker and unprivileged sections of the society. As an organization it has emerged as a true friend of the poor particularly the tribal, scheduled castes, women and children etc across the state and strengthened its professional, organizational and managerial capability to address diversified issues facing the deprived sections. Being registered at Bhubaneswar in Khurda district, the organization operates from Bhubaneswar to cater to the needs of diversified sections of people in society across the state.

The year 2017-18 has been a fruitful year for MRF, during which it undertook need based activities for the targeted communities that included women empowerment, education, environment, curative and preventive health care, care of the aged and person with disability, prevention of AIDs and other socially related relevant programmes with more focus on right based and livelihood promotion activities.

While presenting this Annual Report, we express our sincere thanks to all our donors including Govt and private organization, our well wishers who have always been a source of inspiration for us. More than the financial support we value their pragmatic guidance in the field of programme planning & execution. We extend our gratitude to our bankers, advisers, community members and volunteers for their invaluable guidance and inputs to the growth and development of the organization. The organization feels both humbled and honored to receive several distinguished dignitaries who found time from their busy schedule to visit the organization, its operational areas and realized the benefits the ultimate beneficiaries are receiving through MRF. We are indeed thankful to them.

We hope the annual report-2017-18 shall provide enough insight to the donors, all other stakeholders in both private and public domain on our programmes and overall achievement of MRF as an organization.

This report, documents all the achievements of the organization during the reporting period 2017-18. At the same time we have no hesitation in admitting our shortcomings, which are purely unintentional; we shall take care of not repeating them in future.

**Chairman cum Trustee
Maa Ramachandi Foundation (MRF)**

PROLOGUE

Maa Ramachandi Foundation (MRF) is one of the leading grass root development organizations in the state of Odisha that has been working since 2013-14 with the objective of developing the neglected sections of the society in the rural areas. Being registered under the Trust Act of 1888 in Bhubaneswar, it functions from Bhubaneswar with its extended branch offices in different locations of Odisha. Since its inception it has primarily focused on community based development with approaches of community participation, community based organization building and community empowerment.

Way back in 2013-14 a group of development professionals, young village level volunteers came together to take up the challenges of finding solutions to the problems faced by the most vulnerable communities of the society.

“Maa Ramachandi Foundation” aspires for an alternative self-reliant just society where people belonging to the weaker sections particularly tribal and scheduled caste communities, women and children and other vulnerable sections can grow with dignity, free from exploitation, oppression and gender bias, harmony with nature and self governance.”

It enables to empower the needy communities, capacitating and strengthening their associations in the form of S.H.Gs, farmer Clubs, producer federations leading towards sustainable development by promoting effective utilization of natural resources, rural art and crafts, sustainable livelihood initiatives, gender equity in a manner that is participatory, democratic and transparent in governance with holistic approach.”

It has been fortunate enough to find the likeminded partners over the years that believed in its concepts, philosophy and approaches to community development and extended their helping hand to carry forward the development initiatives. The strength of the organization stems from the dynamic leadership of a group of dedicated development professionals, academicians and committed group of village level volunteers and most experienced core team staff members. With the twist and turns of time the organization has fitted in well with the development needs of the people and priorities of the donors without compromising its core values and ethics.

Vision

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

Broad Objectives

The society has the mandate and the broad objective of promoting the work and life of the poor and needy rural populace belonging to deprived and weaker communities through addressing problems and issues by implementing need based programmes and empowerment of the communities with its own initiative or outside support.

Some of the Specific Objectives

SOME OF THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To empower women through group mobilization, skill development, awareness building and ensuring their constitutional rights.

To enhance the status of women in the society by creating a culture of entrepreneurship among women in rural areas.

To develop human potentials and values for an increase in standard of living of the commons.	To take up programmes/projects on environmental protection, rural development, social forestry, health & sanitation, agriculture and animal husbandry
To organize family planning camps, MCH camps, health check-up camps, eye camps, blood donation camps, RCH camps etc	To establish and manage education, training, vocational, professional condensed courses for women.
To encourage thrift and credit societies through cooperative efforts; create and foster the community services.	To undertake relief measures in aid to distress people affected by natural calamities.
To encourage and assist the development of traditional art and craft for providing engagement to rural artisans and their families by helping in production and marketing of their products.	To educate and empower communities to fight against injustice, oppression, subjugation and gender discrimination.
To popularize science and appropriate technology in the community.	To encourage pisciculture, sericulture, bio-gas plants and other rural industries in the society.
To promote development of children focusing on their physical, mental and socio-economical wellbeing	To develop successful models of entrepreneurship for emulation nationwide.
To promote sustainable agriculture through improved methods of agricultural practices and organic farming	To enable communities to have access to markets



Legal Status of the Organization

- Registered under the Trust Act 1888
- PAN Registration
- TAN registration

Area of Operation

Maa Ramachandi Foundation is mandated to work in all districts of Odisha and outside. During the reporting period it has focused its activities in the vulnerable and needy areas of different districts in Odisha.

Target Group

- Needy scheduled caste and scheduled tribe communities
- Artisans
- Women and children
- Farmers and Fishermen
- Unemployed youth
- Aged and senior Citizens
- Physically Handicapped

Priority Areas of Intervention

- Women and Child development
- Promotion of Environment
- Formation and strengthening of community based organization
- Livelihood promotion through individual and group entrepreneurship venture
- Awareness and education
- Sustainable agriculture
- Human rights
- Lobbying and networking for addressing issues facing the neglected and deprived communities.
- Social Security

Structure of the Organization

The Trust is managed by a Governing Body consisting of 10 trustees cum member headed by the Chairperson. The Chairman of the Trust who looks after the day-to-day functioning of the society with the help of a Project Manager and other Area level Coordinators, workers and volunteers down the line. The roles and responsibilities of office bearers have been clearly mentioned in the bye-laws. The governing body sits once in every quarter to review progress and plan for the future. The organization holds its AGM every year to approve the activities, plan of action, budget and takes the major policy decisions. The list of the present Governing Board of the Maa Ramachandi Foundation including the office bearers is as follows.

The Structure of the Governing Board

S N	Name & Address	Designation	Occupation
1.	Mr Rabindra Kumar Gouda	Chairperson	Social Work
2.	Mr Pradipta Kishore Nayak	Secretary	Social Work
3.	Ms Radharani Mohaptra	Joint Secretary	Social Work
4.	Mr Suryaknata Nayak	Treasurer	Social Work
5.	Mr Anil Kumar Sethi	Trustee – Member	Social Work
6.	Ms Kaberi Jena	Trustee – Member	Social Work
7.	Ms Simanchala Sahu	Trustee- Member	Social Work
8.	Ms Jasmin Swain	Trustee – Member	Social Work
9.	Ms Padmini Panda	Trustee- Member	Social Work
10.	Mr Ydhistira Mallick	Trustee – Member	Social Work

Present Staff & Volunteer Strength

Sl No	Nature of Staff	No
1	Core Staff	10
2	Project staff	20
3	Part time staff	30
4	Volunteers	150
	Total	210

Area of expertise

- Community mobilization and organization
- Micro level planning
- Grass roots level programme execution
- Community level institution building and strengthening
- Relief and rehabilitation

Activities and Achievements during 2017-18

The activities carried out during the reporting period are as follows.

- SHG promotion & formation
- Natural Resource Management
- Aged care programme
- Cultural Program
- Awareness prog on Drug- de -addiction
- Road safety programme
- Consumer Awareness Programm
- HIV &AIDS awareness programme
- Skill Development Program
- Handicrafts Training Program
- Residential primary school for SC Children
- Plantation Programme
- Environment Awareness Program
- Health & Nutrition Program
- Swatcha Bharat Mission Programme
- Yoga Training Program
- Tailoring, stitching, embroidery Program
- Computer Training Program
- Agricultural Program
- Water & Sanitation Program
- Income Generation programme
- Watershed management
- Awareness on child labour
- Capacity building training
- Lobby & Advocacy

1. SHG promotion and Formation

1.1 Formation of new SHGs

During the reporting period 400 new SHGs were formed in the districts of Sundergarh, Keonjhor, Kendrapara, Dhenkanal and Khurda districts. The accounts of the respective SHGs were opened in the local banks. It is envisaged to engage them in economic activities by mobilizing resources from the Govt. and non-Govt agencies.

1.2 Orientation Training for the SHG members

Five orientation training programmes were organized for the newly formed SHGs. They were oriented on creating regular saving habits, keeping the records of the SHGs such as meeting book, resolution book, accounts etc.

1.3 Business Activities of the SHGs

20 SHGs in Bolagarh block of Khurda district started Agarbati making while 10 SHGs started collective marketing of groundnut in Dhenkanal district. The field functionaries of MRF coordinated the forward and backward linkages of the SHGs.

2. Natural Resource Management

2.1 Maa Ramachandi Foundation did commendable work in the districts of Balangir, Nabarangpur, Deogarh, Kalahandi and Koraput where it has worked in the areas of natural resource management, particularly forest and land, given viable livelihood options to communities in the shape of NTFP based livelihoods and sustainable agriculture, mobilized government schemes and programmes to benefit the target populations, and also guided people on matters of self governance, natural resource management and village development plans and bio-resource governance. It has also helped communities affected by floods by providing them relief and rehabilitation.

2.2 MRF has taken up on a pilot basis an initiative for ecosystem conservation and livelihood development. The programme intends for ecosystem conservation and livelihood development in five GPs of Rayagada, Gajapati, Balangir, Nabarangpur, and Mayurbhanj.

2.3 In the districts of Balasore, Nayagarh, and Balangir Maa Ramachandi Foundation is going ahead with its water programme to provide access to and awareness about drinking water that is safe and free from salinity, fluoride poisoning and also working on sanitation facilities. It is taking steps to restore depleting ground water levels, and provide water for agriculture activities, keeping in view the flood prone and draught prone nature of the intervention areas. The focus has also been on building the capacity of the people, improving governance and replicating successful models. In the district of Puri MRF has worked to capacitate the community to face water availability and salinity problems in this coastal area that is prone to floods and saline water ingress and also build community resilience against natural disasters.



3. Aged Care Programme

3.1 Distribution of Blankets and food

MRF distributed 3000 pieces of blankets among aged people in the district of Kandhamal, Sundergarh, Keonjhor, Mayurbhanja where the needy aged people required such help.

3.2 Community Awareness to caring aged

It is said Old is Gold. The aged people are like gold for us. They have immense experience of life to teach the new generation people on how to sustain a good living. In this regard 05 such camps were organized in Khurda, Kendrapara and Dhenkanal district.

3.3 Stay of hapless aged

200 hapless aged people who have no one to take care were referred to Old Age Homes in Keonjhor, Khurda and Jajpur district. MRF coordinated with the old age homes in such districts and facilitated the stay of identified hapless people in such homes.

4. Cultural Programmes

MRF always focuses on preserving the cultural forms of our society. It identified DANDA Nacha, Ghoda Nacha, Chaunacha, Gotipua Nacha which are popular performing art forms of society. Through these programmes educative messages passes to people to make them aware. In this regard MRF in collaboration with local level NGOs in the districts of Puri, Angul, Mayurbhnja organized cultural events in which more than 10000 people participated. Blended with entertainment, the important messages on health and sanitation, child care, aged care, women empowerment etc. were passed on to people. This evoked good response from people as they could receive both education and entertainment from these programmes. MRF considered this programme as a measure to preserve and promote the traditional cultural forms of Odisha.



5. Awareness Programme on Drug-addiction

Drug addiction is injurious to health. Globally millions of people are dying due to drug addiction that causes diseases like cancer. Drug addiction is increasing in Odisha as more younger generation people are taking drugs including alcohol. MRF conducted massive campaign in five districts of Odisha such as Dhenkanal, Sundergarh, Keonjhor, Mayurbhanaja and Khurda. In this regards street plays, awareness camps were organized both in industrial locations and villages. About 20,000 people were sensitized on the ill effect of drug addiction. With the help of medical doctors the drug addicts were counseled on how to leave the habit of taking drugs.

6. Road Safety Programme

Road Safety and its relentless propagation by the Government and Non-Government agencies has already entered into repeated efforts and practices for sake of these modern living style people . It has been experienced in our daily life that, there is no impact of reflection of such awareness to follow road safety during plying with vehicle/vehicles through streets, roads and lanes. We find series of horrible incidents covered in the media and terrible demise messages delivered to their family members. In this connection he Trust decided to organize the different School Students for raising their voice against such unruly people who ply carelessly on the roads and meet un-natural deaths causing serious hurt news for their families. The MRF has organized Rallis and Campaigns in different district Head Quarters involving the respective School children to insist massive awareness. During this year of 2017-18 , there are 5 Rallis conducted in the district of Cuttack, Khurda, Baleswar and Jajpur for the purpose.

7. Consumer Awareness Programme

Every Consumer in daily walk of life very often being mistaken and cheated in terms of quality, quantity, and durability of the goods or commodities purchased from different markets /Hats/Bazars etc. The legal forum established by the Government is called as Consumer Redressal forums both at district and State level. The concerned consumers of the district may move to the district consumer forum for redressal for their grievances in simple method of applications with little expenses to get the justice with minimum and lowest expenditures. In this context, the organization has been organizing awareness camps in the project areas to sensitize the people for the same. The State Commission of Consumer forum is the appellate court against the decision of the district consumer forums. Thus, highlighting the simple procedure of legal steps, the organization has been conducting regular Awareness Campaigns in the district of Cuttack, Khurda, Dhenkanal, Baleswar, Kendrapara and Jajpur. During this year under report there were 12 nos of Awareness campaigns held in the above districts i.e two in each district involving different people of the project area. A total of 900 consumers i.e. 470 male and female 430 nos attended the workshops.

8. HIV & AIDS awareness programme

HIV/AIDS is the mass killer disease across the globe. Millions of people are dying every year due to this killer disease. In Odisha its prevalence is increasing day by day. There are millions of people of Odisha who go for migration every year. Due to sexual contamination they bring home the dreaded disease and the family is affected. Ganjam district is highest in AIDS prevalence. MRF took steps in this regard to sensitize people on the ill effects of this dreaded disease. In this regard 08 nos of sensitization camps were organized in the districts of Sundergarh, Ganjam, Kendrapara, Jagatsingpur (02 each in every district) taking the help of the local level CBOs. The discussion covered the aspects of causes of the disease, how to prevent it and social taboos associated with it. About 4000 people participated in the sensitization camps out of which majority were the migrant workers. AIDS related awareness literature was distributed among the participants.

9. Skill Development Programme

The large scale un-employment in Rural Sectors particularly viewed seriously and it has been decided to bring those un-employed groups under Self employment Schemes through different Vocational Trainings and to encourage them for their self employment. While the modern Society has changed its traditional outlook and diverted its attention towards technical and developed process of living followed with well equipped thoughts and activities thereon, the existing skill and capacity of the youth mass is to be increased following the rapid development and growth of the Society. There is no such proper facility and scopes either in concerned localities or any effort is being delivered for such deserving youths. In this background, it was decided to launch programs like trainings, orientations and Vocational Educations encouraging them for self-employment. Thus, during this year a total of 10 nos of Vocational Trainings were conducted in the district of Khurda, Puri, Naygarh, Keonjhor and Jajpur to accommodate the un-employed youths of the concerned districts. The Vocational Trainings included Mobile Repairing, Tailoring, Stitching & Embroidery, Food Processing, Carpentry, Pickle making, Candle making, Computer Training etc. The selection of candidates were made giving priorities for the

Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Minority, and Other backward Communities including Socio-economic backward classes of the project area. During this year under report a total of 500 youths (300 male and 200 female) were successfully participated in the training Camps. The subject matter specialists conducted the training following a syllabus. Effort was made by MRF to negotiate with different employers for possible employment of the trained youths.

10. Handicrafts Training Programme

10.1 The baseline survey conducted by MRF revealed that the traditional Artisans working in rural areas are leading distressed life since their traditional production techniques of their respective handicrafts do not keep pace with this modern society. Their traditional products are being treated as slow moving items and the customers are discouraged after going through the said products. Following the above mentioned negative and persistent affairs of the Rural Artisans, the MRF decided to conduct regular Awareness Campaigns & Training camps in the district of Khurda, Keonjhor, Cuttack, Nabarangpur and Sundergarh with an objective of providing update information about modern technology & process of new methods of production and simultaneously marketing. There are a total of 10 nos of Awareness Camps and workshops held in such districts for the purpose. In this regard, the Trust has already organized Self help Groups with involvement of traditional Artisan Groups and selected deserving Artisans for training purpose. The persons having expertise in the field of Arts & Crafts were engaged for trainings. The artisans from local villages sponsored for the training are 460 out of which 310 are women and 150 men members are men from different SHGs. The selected Crafts included stone carving, Bamboo, Coir Crafts, lacquer craft, Cane & Bamboo, , Appliqué and Textile.

10.2 Design Development Programme

In Khurda and Jajpur districts two design development programmes were organized in stone carving craft and Golden Grass Craft. One product designer was engaged for a month to work with the selected artisans to create new design products. As many as 60 new type products considering the contemporary market demand were produced. MRF took initiative for the market testing of new products and their commercial production by the artisans.

11. Residential Primary school for Scheduled Caste Children

11.1 “ EDUCATION” is the knowledge tank of the human being possessing all the characters of participation in the different fields of Society being essential for progress and meeting the prime features for development. It is such branch of knowledge which the complete man exploit its means of survival in the manner keeping in pace with the development of the modern society. . Therefore, in this context, the Constitution makers of this Society raised strong voice for ensuring Education & Trainings & Orientations so as to encourage and enhance the existing Socio-economic status of the People in general. Thus, it was resolved to organize and aware the people for encouraging their Children to the chapter of education and urged the identified target people for participation in

trainings, and orientations. The Organization has already identified the most vulnerable People. Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes, Other backward communities, Minorities got priority in the district of Cuttack, Khurda, Balasore and Jajpur and Kandhamal. In this regard 10 nos of Awareness Campaigns and 8 Nos of Trainings were organized wherein 1000 target people i.e. 2500 male and 500 female beneficiaries participated in the programs.

11.2 Running of Residential Primary Schools for SC children

MRF took initiative to run 04 residential primary schools in the district of Kandhamal, Koraput and Nuapada where 200 children belonging to the disadvantaged SC communities were given opportunity to stay and continue their studies. Experienced teachers were engaged to take care of them and send them to regular schools for study. Free books, dress etc. were provided to the enrolled children

12. Plantation Programme

The MRF is originated from the rural background and environments and is deeply concerned about environmental repercussions and its bad effects. The people in general is well experienced about the environmental strong bad impacts on the climate Change because Global warming, irregular Rain fall, natural Disasters, decrease in agricultural productions, etc. are the discouraging factor of progress and development of the Society. In this connection, MRF is sincerely committed and determined to meet a target for plantation of 25,000 saplings in each year supported by the concerned villagers. The plantation was covered in village forests, Community Land, including private lands/orchards etc. Top priority was also given for the village forests in this regard. The plantation made by the individuals is assured with commitment to take care of the planted saplings till there appears a complete growth and survival of the plants during the coming years. The selected plantation done by the particular individuals proved to be successful achievement in case of proper care and attention. The plantations covered are with the species of Casuarinas, Mango, Chakhunda, Eucalypts, Akashi, Gambhari, Tinia etc. Being the local varieties and very much useful for fulfilling the requirements of domestic wood and fuel woods for the people in large scale and simultaneously protection of degraded environment during the coming days. The plantations were done in the district of Cuttack, Khurda, Puri, Mayurbhanja, Koraput, Kendrapra and Jagatsingpur in Odisha State.

13 Environment Awareness Programme

The Environment is considered as most sensitive matter for every living being on this Earth. The Environment bad impact and serious effects has been experienced in various walks of life such as Agriculture, Rainfalls, Water resource, Factories, Productions, Industries and several other Commercial units. In this regard, the TURST could realize the importance of environment protection with the collective initiative of the people living on this earth. Thus, the organization conducted regular awareness campaigns in the identified districts namely: Sundergarh, Khurda, Puri, Angul, Dhenkanal, Kendrapara in Odisha. During this year we have organized the school children, teachers and volunteers of the respective villages and held rallies in different Gram Panchayats to save the environment by means of individual efforts and collective initiatives. The Students worked as peer

educators in this concept. The campaign was made successful through distribution of brochures, fixing big poster and pamphlets on the walls and conspicuous places of the different villages of the concerned district. A total of 12 nos of Campaign in the above six districts were organized in order to sensitize the common people. The beneficiaries involved in this programs are from - Self Help Groups, Mahila Samities, Local NGOs, and CBOs. Around 500 women and 650 men including 200 children participated in the programme.



14 Health and Nutrition Programme

14.1 “Health Care Service” is considered as a bare necessity of life along with other activities responsible for survival of man in the Society. The Organization has emphasized this programme as essential services for the poor and vulnerable in the society to have timely access into health Care Services provided by the Government at different locations. There is not enough scope and facility to these poor and poverty stricken people particularly SC/ST/OBC/minority and other Socio-economic backward communities to avail such services at the time of their need of the hour. The Government agencies manage the affairs with a group of conscious and designed people who mechanically deal the health care problems of the vulnerable classes and in consequence large sections of people face untimely death and loss of life since they have no means to meet their emergency needs and save their family from such sufferings. MRF could analyse the true problems and difficulties of these people and decided to conduct and organize health Care Camps in remote rural areas where the beneficiaries anxiously welcome to our such beneficial programs and attended the Camps for immediate solutions with free of services and treatment cost. During the year 2017-18 a total of 12nos of Health Care Camps were organized in the district of Kandhamal, Nayagarh, Bolangir, Sonapur and Bargarh district involving 1200 poor people where (500 male and 700 female) beneficiaries derived the medical attention .The Registered Medical Practitioners hired by the TURST attended the Health camps for the purpose. The Local PRI Members were invited to witness the Program for encouraging the participants.

14.2 Awareness on Health and Nutrition

MRF organized 04 refresher training programmes for the pregnant and lactating mothers on mother and child health in the districts of Cuttack, Jajpur, Bhadrak and Balsore. 120 women participated in the programme. The local health functionaries such as ANM, ASHA, Anganwadi workers discussed various aspects of health care of the pregnant and lactating mothers and new born babies.

15 Swachha Bharat Mission Programme

15.1 The organization has been working on the Campaign of “ SWACHHA BAHRAT MISSION being sponsored by the Govt. of India and Odisha. The Campaign was based on Sanitation arrangement in Rural areas for the people living in villages. In addition to this, the organization has been organizing the people for cleaning of streets, School campus, and disposal of solid Waste and Waste waters both at Individual and community level. The Programs are being implemented in the district of Puri, Khurda, Kandhamal, Koraput and Rayagada districts. During the year of 2017-18, the TRUST has organized the Awareness Campaign with the involvement and participation of School children, Teachers and volunteers of the respective villages including women Groups, Mahila Mandal and held rallies in the different Gram Panchayats. The theme of the campaigns are: to educate the people about process and techniques of Waste disposal and Plastic waste recycling along with waste water disposal and alter the use of plastic with Poly bags to prevent environment bad effects. The TURST has formed Village Development Committees in the project area and established a system for giving special and regular focus towards environment protection. 14 nos of Awareness Campaign were held across the said districts to encourage the people for joining in this campaign for environment protection and Swachha Bharat Mission and clean India.

15.2 Installation of Toilets

600 beneficiaries were facilitated in the aforesaid districts to avail the benefits provided by the Govt. for installation of toilets at homes. These resulted in good success as most beneficiaries availed the same.

16. Yoga & Meditation Training Programme

The modern way of life has made people restless, anxiety prone coupled with common diseases like diabetic, blood pressure, hyper tension. People rarely get mental peace to lead a peaceful life. Yoga Gurus prescribe for Yoga – Asan – that affects both body and mind. Yoga is based on Asanas, which are a scientific system of exercise developed thousands of years ago by Yogis. Asanas not only maintain good health of the body by stimulating circulation, limbering the joints, toning the muscles and massaging the internal organs, but they also help in calm and control of mind. To promote this MRF organized the yoga and meditation programmes in Khurda and Puri district. The participants who had learnt the skills in earlier programme were involved as resource persons to train others. A spiritual environment was created wherein people felt the ease of life. Four such camps were organized with the help of local level CBOs. 300 people from different walks of life participated.

17 Tailoring, stitching and embroidery Program

Empowerment of the women is the call of the day. It gets priority of the Govt also. In this regard MRF organized 06 training programmes where the adolescent girls and young women were provided opportunity to undergo training in tailoring, stitching and embroidery. The trained resource persons were engaged to impart training to 120 adolescent girls and young women in Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Subarnapur and Bolangir districts. The training continued for a month and the trained women are practicing the vocational trade at their homes.

18. Computer Training Programme

MRF has given top priority to the vocational training of the rural youth. In view of the importance of computer in every walks of life and its demand in office and work places the Trust organized for computer training programmes for the unemployed youths including boys and girls in four districts such as Bhadrak, Balasore, Jajpur and Subarnapur. The programme continued for a month and 120 unemployed youths (60 boys and 60 girls) received the training. Some of them have got employment in private companies with the facilitation role of MRF.

19 Agricultural Programme

According to recent statistical Reports, out of the total population of Odisha more than 80% of population living in Rural areas depend on agriculture as their principal livelihood. It has been experienced with much tragedy that frequent floods, droughts and other Natural disasters responsible for discouraging the farming society to accept the agriculture as their livelihood program. Because, untimely rains and irregular rain falls destroy the crops prior to reaching in harvesting stage. In this regard, there have been a lot of pathetic and grim affairs experienced by the people because, many more farmer's death and suicidal episodes are our past records. The matter was seriously taken up and it was decided to organize the farmers of different adopted districts and impart technical trainings about sustainable agriculture. During the reporting year of 2017-18 there are a total of 10 nos of Workshop conducted in the district of Cuttack, Puri, Angul, Kendrapra and Jajpur to sensitize the traditional farmer Groups about various processes and techniques of Sustainable Agriculture and innovative procedures of Crops, applying Seeds, process of low cost cultivation, application and use of indigenous technologies for agricultural purposes. There were a total 600 farmers who participated in the workshops and received the relevant and latest information about agricultural activities and available technologies for improvement of their productivity capacity. In order to educate the trainees Professional & Technical Personnel were invited from different organizations including the respective Dist. Agriculture Offices for successful implementation of the programs.



20. Water and Sanitation Programme

The Crisis of drinking water is day by day becoming more critical as revealed from the various media and the sufferings of the people particularly in inaccessible areas is a matter of great concern and needs immediate focus from the point of humanitarian point of view. Availability of safe drinking water in major parts of the State is considered as a matter of great concern & grave crisis. Majority of the people lack practical knowledge about safe drinking water and its use for sake of good health and problem free body. During our base line survey conducted earlier, it was revealed that in rural based areas large nos of people are deprived of availing Safe Drinking Water. Majority of them have no knowledge about what is called as Safe Drinking Water and from where it can be obtained. The necessity of awareness is essentially an effort to save the people from regular infections by using unsafe water and causing a great volume of health hazards and un-necessary expenditures in this regard. It has been experienced that, the people of our project area usually suffer from Water Borne diseases, such as Fevers, diarrhea, scabies, skin diseases, worm problems and other serious disease like hepatitis, typhoid, flu, etc. and the reason is use of unsafe drinking water. Thus, the TURST decided to conduct Workshops regarding use of safe Drinking Water in the district of Sundergarh, Jajpur, Koraput, Malkangiri and Kanhdamal especially where people are unaware of the safe drinking water. There are a total of 12nos of workshops organized in the above districts to sensitize the people about the use and benefits of Safe drinking water. The Workshops were conducted by the Resource Persons like Health Experts, Doctors, and professionals.

21 Income Generation Programme

Women Empowerment is the key focus of the programme wherein the women SHGs were empowered to run different trade based business activities to increase their income and sustain their livelihood. MRF in this regard facilitated the groups and linked them with the commercial banks to avail loan to start business in trades such as Stitching& Sewing, Making of Ropes from Sabai Grass, Pot Making, Cane & bamboo, Vegetable vending, Fish vending, Goatery, Poultry farming, dairy milk etc. for the purpose of income generation programs. 20 women groups were involved in these trades during the year. The profits generated were shared by group members. Seeing the successful operation of the business activities the Banks also came forward to support the groups financially. The number of groups covered district wise are; Khurda 05, Puri 05, Kendrapara 05 and Jajpur 05. The field functionaries of MRF provided the backward and forward linkage support to these groups and escorted them for successful operation of their business.



22 Watershed Management Programme

Watershed is an integrated concept under which based on water a holistic development of the community could be systematically planned. In this regard MRF made endeavour to establish water harvesting structures such as check dams, gully control measures, water percolation tanks etc. to promote watershed activities. These activities were carried out in dry areas of the states such as Koraput, Malkangiri, Jharsuguda, Bolangir and Kalahandi. 10 mini check dams were constructed on perennial water sources for diverting water for irrigation purpose. Similarly water percolation tanks were constructed in catchment areas for holding water that could recharge the ground water. As a result of these activities the vegetation increased in the area. People have been able to undertake rabi and summer crops using the reserved water. It increased their annual income. About 1000 people mostly the small and marginal farmers have been benefitted out of these programmes.



23 Awareness on Child Labour

There is standing regulation and prohibition of child labour act, 1986 enacted to curb the menace of increasing child labour being a sensitive matter in the history of a country. Lots of Schemes, Projects, and Programs already delivered both at State & Central Govt. level but still there are enough incidents of increasing the Child labour status in each State in India. The statistical figures exhibit the percentage of child labour found engaged in hazardous work like: Brick kiln, Construction of Roads and buildings, Hotels, Shops, Business Organizations, and other hard soil digging works etc. despite serious consequences for such owners, employers of Child labourers. The Administration has no feasible mechanism to search and detect their pathetic and sorrowful affairs. Some times after coverage of some print media the matter is reported to be active but subsequently it lost its fuel to work out the massive campaigns against child labour. Looking to these perennial plights of Child Labour the TRUST has opened Child Education Centres at the district Head Quarters of Cuttack, Khurda, Balasore and Jajpur to educate the Child Labourers for their safety and rehabilitation activities which are ensured at Government levels. The Experts from reputed Educational Institutions worked as Instructors at the said centres. The TURST meets the cost of establishment out of its own funds. The Capacity of child centre has been limited to 100 in a session.

24 Capacity Building Training

In view of increasing number of SHGs, MRF decided to organize capacity development training programmes for the leaders of the SHGs. The objective is to empower the SHGs to effectively run the business of SHGs. In this regard 20 capacity building training programmes were organized in the districts of Ganjam, Gajapati, Khurda, Puri, Kendrapara and Jajpur. The experts of SHGs imparted the training in the week long training programmes. The contents included costing and pricing, marketing management, accounts keeping, stock record keeping; correspondence etc. 600 SHG leaders got benefits out of this program.

25 Lobby and advocacy

The Organization believes in the theory of Proper Lobby & Advocacy to secure Right based approach basing on the concept of need based services of the deserving masses which cover: small & Marginal Farmers, backward Community, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, Minority, OBC, Women & Children, neglected parents and deserted women etc. Accordingly, the programme of Lobby & Advocacy through proper Networking was carried out with the participation and involvement of the respective Community, identified beneficiaries, Local PRI Members, Local CBOs, women Groups etc. in the districts of Sundergarh, Jajpur, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Sonepur, Angul. The issues such as safe drinking water, child labour, dowry, untouchability, migration, hunger, help for the helpless were taken up for advocacy. In this regard the participating groups took up the matter with the concerned district and state level officials and submitted memorandum for immediate attention. Block level campaigns and awareness programmes were undertaken to sensitize the people and the concerned stakeholders about the emerging issues that need immediate attention for solution.

Observation of National and International Events

Objective:

- To aware, sensitize and organize the community people
- To build up community power, fraternity and brotherhood within the community
- To remember them about the historical characters and social reformer
- To encourage them to fight for their rights
- To orient them for a social changes

Organized Events

January	13	National youth Day
January	15	Army Day
January	26	Republic Day/International Customs Day
January	30	Martyr's Day/World Leprosy eradication day
February	24	Central excise day
February	28	National Science day
March	08	International Women's day
March	15	World's disable day / Consumer's day
March	21	World forest day.
March	22	World day for water.
March	24	World TB day.
April	07	World health days
April	18	World heritage day.
April	22	Earth day/ International labourers' day
May	02	Mother's day
May	08	World Red-cross days
May	24	Common wealth day

May	31	Anti tobacco day
June	04	International day of Innocent children victims of aggression
June	05	World Environment day
June	26	International day against Drug abuse and illicit trafficking
July	11	World Population day
Aug.	15	Independence day
August	29	National sports day
Sept.	02	Cocoanut day.
Sept.	05	Teacher's day/Sanskrit day.
Sept.	08	World literacy day.
Sept.	16	World Ozone day.
Sept.	26	Day of the deaf.
Sept.	27	World Tourists day.
October	01	International day for elderly
October	03	World habitat day
October	04	World Animal welfare day.
October	08	Indian Air Force day.
October	09	World post office day.
October	13	UN International days for natural disaster reduction
October	16	World Food day.
October	24	UN day, world development Information day
October	30	World thrift day.
Dec.	01	World AIDS day.
Dec.	04	Navy day.
Dec.	18	Minorities Rights day.
Dec	23	KisanDivas .

Organizational Meetings and Legal compliance

- The meeting of the Governing Body of Maa Ramachandi Foundation (MRF) was held twice during the year.
- All reports and returns were submitted as per the TURST ACT

Visitors to the Organization

SI No	Name of the Visitor	Designation
1	Mr Shyam Sundar Barik	Freelance Development Consultant
2	Mr Tripati Mishra	AIDs Expert
3	Mr ND Mishra	Food Processing Expert

4	Mr Kailash Chandra Dash	Executive Director, RCDC
5	Ms Binodini Mishra	Gender Specialist and Women Empowerment Specialist
6	Prof. S P Das	Livelihood Expert, Xavier Insitute of Management, Bhubaneswar
7	Mr Umakanta Mishra	IT expert

Future Programmes

Maa Ramachandi Foundation (MRF) tried its best to mobilize resources for the implementation of different programmes in its operational areas. Whatever could be possible resulted in creating greater impact on the target people. Because of the constraint of fund all envisaged activities could not be implemented. We are making sincere effort and trying to implement the following activities in the forthcoming financial year.

- Empowerment of women and health
- Producer Federation approach to promotion of Cluster Development Programme
- Focus on Climate change, environmental protection
- Continuation of IGP activities through women SHGs
- Thrust on Education and health
- Natural resource management
- Diversification of Agricultural crops
- Promotion of Horticulture
- Value addition to both agricultural and horticultural crops
- Linking producers with the market system

Concluding Remarks

The year 2017-18 was a great challenging year for us facing ups and downs. We persisted hard to replicate our goals, as token of dedication for the sake of our target community. We are pleased with our effort and endeavour in satisfying the expectations of the target communities to the extent possible. We are very much thankful to all who extended their valuable time and co-operation to make MRF's Programmes successful. We extend our gratitude to our member Trustees for their whole-hearted acceptance and involvement in the programme implementation. We are also thankful to our NGO friends, govt. officials and well-wishers for their whole-hearted support and solidarity for the cause. Our special thanks to the authorities at Govt and private institutions for their co-operation to implement the livelihood support programmes effectively. We sincerely believe that our sincere commitment, deliberate attempt and socio-centric attitude, affirmative actions for peoples' development will be cherished in the near future getting alike support and co-operation from all corners.

