



Human Dignity
Social Justice
Social Democracy



Souvenir

32 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



DALIT BAHUJAN RESOURCE CENTRE

GUNTUR, ANDHRA PRADESH



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Ours is a battle not for wealth;
nor for power, ours is a battle for freedom;
for reclamation of human personality.

- Dr. B. R. Ambedkar



BABASAHEB

Dr. B.R. AMBEDKAR

— FATHER OF MODERN INDIA —

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Message from the Executive Secretary



Mr. Alladi Deva Kumar

Executive Secretary, DBRC.

It gives me immense pleasure to announce that Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC), a not-for-profit organization, is celebrating its 32nd anniversary alongside the inauguration of our Resource cum Training Centre building. Inspired by the ideology of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, DBRC was established on April 2, 1992, with the mission of empowering marginalized communities in Andhra Pradesh.

Over the past three decades, DBRC has embarked on a remarkable journey, marked by numerous significant achievements. Since its inception, our organization has been committed to fostering a holistic approach towards achieving inclusive education, providing accessible and quality healthcare, facilitating dignified livelihoods, ensuring respectable housing, combating violence and discrimination, and advocating for a fair share of the state budget for the socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh.

The souvenir encapsulates the outstanding moments of DBRC's journey and pays tribute to all the members of the DBRC family who have contributed to the growth and success of our institution. Their dedication and tireless efforts have not only facilitated the social and economic empowerment of our target communities but have also earned our institution an admirable reputation. They serve as a constant source of inspiration for us to continue carrying forward our rich legacy.

My heartfelt thanks to all our financial partners whose generosity has been instrumental in fueling our mission. Your contributions have played a pivotal role in enabling us to achieve our goals and make a positive impact on the lives of marginalized communities. Your support is deeply appreciated and invaluable to us.

I thank Brot für die Welt (Bread for the World), Germany for its continuous support for the cause of social justice and also special thanks to Sri. K Vinaya Kumar, Sri. Y.L Jayaraj and Sri. Bolimera Anand Kumar for their guidance all these years.

Thank you everyone who has been a part of our wonderful journey. Together, let us strive towards a more inclusive and equitable society.

With warm regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Alladi Deva Kumar'.

(Alladi Deva Kumar)



Mr. J. Chittaranjan

President

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre

MESSAGE



Dear All,

As we gather to celebrate the 32nd Anniversary of our esteemed organization and mark the inauguration of the Resource cum Training Centre, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude. This centre signifies our commitment to empowering the marginalized communities, enhancing their capacities, and fostering positive change in their lives.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Mr. Deva Kumar, our dedicated Executive Secretary, whose leadership has been instrumental in strengthening our organization and implementing impactful interventions for the betterment of marginalized communities. I also commend the Board for their valuable insights and continuous support towards the growth of our organization.

A special acknowledgment goes to the tireless team of Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre whose relentless efforts are shaping a brighter future for the marginalized groups. Let us continue to work diligently and extend our reach to the unreached communities, ensuring they too have the opportunity to thrive and live in equality with others.

Together, let's strive for a society free from poverty, discrimination and inequality.

Warm regards,

Mr. J. Chittaranjan

Ms. Franziska Kny

Brot für die, Germany

Programme Officer

South Asia Unit

Brot
für die Welt

Ms. Kathrin Treichel

Brot für die, Germany

Programme Officer

South Asia Unit

MESSAGE



On the occasion of the 32nd anniversary of DBRC we are sending you felicitations and most cordial congratulations from Brot für die Welt (Bread for the World), Berlin, Germany.

At this important event we would like to highlight our longstanding and trusted partnership for more than 25 years. During this long journey, Brot für die Welt was privileged to witness how relentlessly and uncompromisingly DBRC has striven towards a good and dignified life for the Dalit Bahujan Communities.

We experienced DBRC as a very dynamic and continuously learning and growing organization basing its work on the strong links to the diverse communities they work with, like farmers, waste pickers, safai karmacharies, fisher folk, women and many other vulnerable sections of the society, and developing strategies and programs in response to their real needs, requirements and aspirations.

An important milestone for DBRC is the construction of a Resource Center, which will not only serve as an office for DBRC but as a center for building capacities of marginalized communities and to exchange ideas and learn from each other.

This anniversary is a wonderful opportunity to appreciate all of DBRC important contributions. We have been appreciating and enjoying the cooperation with DBRC throughout all these years and we very much look forward to the years ahead of our partnership.

Thanks to the DBRC team, the Governing Body, all your members and partners who contribute to social change making a difference in people's lives.

May your work continue to be blessed.

With Warm Regards,

**Ms. Kathrin Treichel &
Ms. Franziska Kny**



Mr. Jayaraj Yeddanapalli

Executive Secretary
ALERT, Vijayawada.

MESSAGE



Dear Deva Kumar,
Jai Bheem!

I am delighted to extend my warmest wishes on the 32nd anniversary of the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC). As a founding member of this esteemed organization, I take pride in celebrating this significant milestone with you.

The DBRC's steadfast dedication to social justice and the empowerment of Dalit Bahujan communities is truly commendable. Over the years, the Center has been instrumental in raising awareness, mobilizing communities, and establishing strong foundations within the Dalit Bahujan community.

With the inauguration of the new Resource cum Training Centre, I have great hope that the DBRC will continue to lead the way in promoting innovative best practices for the advancement of Dalit Bahujan empowerment. I am deeply grateful for the Center's unwavering commitment to this noble cause.

Together, let us work towards building a more equitable society that paves the way for progress, prosperity, and peace for all.

With warm regards

Mr. Jayaraj Yeddanapalli

**Mr. Korivi Vinaya Kumar****Founder President,
Dalit Bahujan Front.**

MESSAGE

Jai Bheem!

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to DBRC as it celebrates its 32nd anniversary and inaugurates the Resource cum Training Centre. DBRC has been tirelessly working towards the social and economic empowerment, as well as the protection of the rights of oppressed castes, Denotified and Nomadic communities, and informal workers, all within the perspective of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Since its inception, DBRC has played a pivotal role in raising awareness about Dalit human rights, government Acts, and policies. Additionally, it has effectively represented unreached communities on numerous national and international platforms. Over the past three decades, DBRC's impact at both state and national levels has been profound. It gives me immense pleasure to convey my best wishes on these significant milestones achieved by DBRC.

DBRC has been instrumental in implementing the SC, ST POA-1989 and advocated for the establishment of the SC Commission, alongside amendments to the POA-1989. It has also played a crucial role in executing Justice Punnayya Committee recommendations, Koneru Rangarao Land Reforms, and SC ST Sub Plan. Through extensive awareness programs in villages, streets, and towns, DBRC has empowered Dalit-Adivasi communities, resulting in the emergence of leaders. Maintaining close collaboration with government agencies, DBRC ensures the welfare of marginalized groups, leading to widespread benefits from government schemes and services.

DBRC serves as an inspiration for achieving the rights and entitlements of Dalits, Adivasis, other Denotified and Nomadic Communities, green workers, unorganized workers, and other marginalized communities. Starting as an activist network, DBRC has now evolved into a resource center, fulfilling our collective dreams. I extend my gratitude to all friends and well-wishers for their cooperation and support throughout this journey. My sincere thanks and heartfelt wishes go out to DBRC and its dedicated team.

With regards

Mr. Korivi Vinaya Kumar



Mr. Anand Kumar Bolimera

CEO

Change Alliance, New Delhi

MESSAGE

**Dear Deva Kumar and Friends at DBRC,
Greetings!**

I extend my heartfelt congratulations on the inauguration of the new Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre building in Guntur, AP.

The inception of the DBRC was rooted in the collective vision of supporting Dalit and Bahujan social movements such as DBF and others in the state. The resource centre embodies a multifaceted approach encompassing ideological, social, psychological, and physical dimensions.

It brings me immense joy to see that the dream we all shared, including yourself, Vinaya Kumar Korivi, Bhagya Rao, Late Ismael Babu, Mr Anil Kumar, and many others in the social movement, has begun to materialize. I am grateful for the support we received from friends and well-wishers like Mr. Walter Hann, Ms. Franziska, Mr. Jayaraju, and Dr. Belinda Bennet throughout this journey. Your dynamic leadership has played a pivotal role in realizing a part of this dream, underscoring your unwavering commitment to the organization and its vision.

This momentous occasion signifies a significant milestone and speaks volumes about the dedication and perseverance of the entire DBRC team. Your efforts to establish a space conducive to learning, research, advocacy, and social mobilization are commendable. I am optimistic that the new centre will emerge as a cornerstone for collaboration, fostering the values of Social Justice, Dignity, Fraternity, Equity, and Equality. The impact of DBRC in transforming the lives of tens of thousands of people in the state is truly inspiring. It is an honour to be associated with this organization, and I wish you continued success in your journey towards social change.

Each member of the DBRC deserves heartfelt appreciation for their relentless pursuit of empowering marginalized communities and championing a society free from caste, ethnic, patriarchal, religious fundamentalism, and other divisive forces. The DBRC's mission serves as a beacon of hope in our collective endeavour to realize a just and equitable society.

Congratulations to you and your team on this remarkable achievement. May DBRC continue to draw inspiration from the ideals of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and remain committed to promoting social justice. May the centre evolve into a vibrant hub for progressive, democratic, and transformative initiatives, catalysing positive change in society.

I am privileged to be part of this journey and wish you all the best.

Warm regards,

Mr. Anand Kumar Bolimera

Smt. K. Sunitha, IAS

**Principal Secretary to Government,
Social Welfare Department,
Government of Andhra Pradesh**



MESSAGE

As you celebrate the 32nd anniversary of the DBRC and inaugurate the Resource Cum Training Centre, I extend my warmest greetings for this momentous occasion. I appreciate your commitment to social justice and empowerment. The dedication and hard work exhibited by the DBRC team are commendable. Your efforts to positively impact society are truly laudable, and I express my best wishes to everyone involved in this initiative. I look forward to seeing the completed souvenir.

With warm regards

Smt. K. Sunitha, IAS



**Financial Management
Service Foundation**

Mr. Sandeep Sharma

Executive Director
FMSF, New Delhi



MESSAGE

Greetings from FMSF!

I take great pleasure in conveying this message as the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre celebrates its 32nd anniversary. Reflecting on our journey with DBRC fills us with gratitude for the invaluable experiences and memories it has provided us. Throughout the years, DBRC has remained dedicated to serving the most vulnerable members of society, empowering communities, and inducing positive change. DBRC has shown unwavering commitment to achieving social justice and democracy, aiming to restore the human dignity of Dalit Bahujan Communities. Its efforts to transform the lives of these communities and help them realize their aspirations are commendable.

We highly appreciate our continued engagement with DBRC, built on trust and mutual respect. On behalf of FMSF, I extend heartfelt wishes to the entire DBRC team as they embark on the next phase of their journey.

We sincerely hope that the new Resource Cum Training Centre will enhance DBRC's ability to serve Dalit Bahujan Communities even more effectively.

With Warm Regards,

(Sandeep Sharma)

**Mrs. Kalamani**

Lead Consultant,
APMAS, Hyderabad

MESSAGE

I am truly honoured and fortunate to be associated with the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) for nearly three decades. I have seen the growth, significant achievements, struggles and challenges faced during its journey of transforming the lives of Dalit Bahujan Communities in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Now is the momentous period as DBRC is celebrating its 32nd anniversary and inaugurating its Resource cum Training Centre in Guntur. It gives me immense pleasure and deep satisfaction to write a message for the special Souvenir to be published in commemoration of 32 years of DBRC. It is a great pride to see this Souvenir that chronicles the journey and achievements over the years. I extend my sincere appreciation and best wishes for the success and wide reception of the Souvenir.

On the eve of 32 years of celebrations, I extend my heartiest congratulations to everyone who has been integral and associated with the evolution and the journey of the DBRC. It is with great admiration that I have been witnessing the growth of DBRC. Today, DBRC is an institution standing tall and visible in the civil society due its governance, transparent systems and significant achievements in its work with the Dalit Bahujan communities, who are vulnerable and underprivileged. The dedicated leadership and the boundless energy of Mr. Deva Kumar and the equally dedicated team have made DBRC what it is today. In the changing development context, there is much more to be done to enable the vulnerable communities to attain the level playing ground in the society and the relevance of DBRC becomes highly inevitable and essential. The passionate and committed leadership of Mr. Deva Kumar with the support of the dedicated team and the stakeholders in the ecosystem would definitely take the organisation to further heights in all aspects and in effectively addressing the development and human rights challenges being faced by the Dalit Bahujan communities. May this celebration be a reckoning force for working with and empowering the Dalit Bahujan Communities!

With Warm Regards,

Mrs. Kalamani



Mr. Kabir Arora
(Qabeer Jalandhari)

National Coordinator,

The Alliance of Indian Waste Pickers
Asia Pacific Coordinator,
The International Alliance of Waste Pickers

MESSAGE

Empowerment of Waste Pickers Under the Leadership of Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) plays a vital role within the Alliance of Indian Waste Pickers (AIW). My engagement with DBRC began in 2015 when I assumed the role of national coordinator of AIW. Over the years, DBRC has significantly expanded its efforts in organizing waste pickers across Andhra Pradesh, establishing thrift and credit cooperatives, and facilitating waste pickers' integration into waste management systems. The tangible impact of DBRC's organizing efforts became evident in a remarkably short period.

Recognizing DBRC's accomplishments, it was elected to serve as the national secretariat of AIW from 2020 to 2023. During its tenure, DBRC provided crucial support to waste pickers across India during the COVID-19 pandemic, coordinating relief efforts and demonstrating exceptional leadership. This experience led AIW to initiate a national database program aimed at strengthening waste pickers' organization and enhancing their inclusion in government-led social and livelihood programs. DBRC now serves as the Database secretariat of the Alliance of Indian Waste Pickers.

Presently, two thrift and credit cooperatives established by DBRC are affiliated with the International Alliance of Waste Pickers (IAWP). Additionally, Hari Krishna, a waste picker leader associated with DBRC, represents the interests of Andhra Pradesh's waste pickers in various national and international forums, demonstrating a commitment to policy engagement and learning English to better serve fellow waste pickers.

I take pride in my association with DBRC and extend my best wishes for their continued success in their future endeavours.

Sincerely

Mr. Kabir Arora

Dr. Naga Raju Chikkala

Professor, Tribal Cultural Research & Training Mission (TCR&TM), Tribal Welfare Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Rushikonda, Visakhapatnam- 45

Mobile: 94925 67297



MESSAGE

Distinctive Success of DBRC

Jai Bheem!

It is a great privilege to share my words towards the mission of the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) for the overall development of the Dalit and Adivasi communities to live with dignity and self-respect in society, as dreamed by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. Since my association with the DBRC in 2017, I have observed the incredible achievements of the DBRC that minimise the vulnerable conditions of downtrodden people and make them more empowered.

I am sure that the DBRC is one of the finest organisations in India, broadly working in the areas of development and social research, i.e., welfare of green workers, women empowerment, livelihoods, education, budget watch on SC ST components, rights and entitlements, and constitutional safeguards.

DBRC has a set of non-negotiable principles to achieve their objectives; many successful case studies are evident in the organisation's credentials. The never-enrolled children of green workers are attending school with future aspirations. People are being served legal education and assistance, creating new livelihood opportunities by imparting life skills training, etc.

I strongly believe that the mighty leadership of **Sri. Alladi Deva Kumar** has driven the organisation very successfully, standing for Dalits and Adivasis.

I congratulate **Sri. Alladi Deva Kumar and his great team** for the new beginning in their own office, which has all the infrastructure facilities. I wish the entire team of DBRC to work more effectively for the development of the organisation and extend its distinctive services across the state of Andhra Pradesh.

With Warm Regards,

Dr. Naga Raju Chikkala



Mr. Daniel Edwin Jaya Das

Trustee & Director (Programmes)
The Human Rights Advocacy and
Research Foundation, Chennai

MESSAGE



The 32nd anniversary of DBRC is at an important juncture of nation building. The progress of Dalit Bahujan's in all walks of life is unprecedented yet there is a long way to go in this journey of social justice. DBRC has played, and is continuing to play, an important role in making the constitutional pledge as laid out in the preamble a reality for communities that were historically denied these freedoms. Initiating and nurturing community institutions to monitor and ensure implementation of social justice and equity based development has been a singular contribution which will yield manifold returns for generations to come. HRF joins in the celebrations, marked by the inauguration of the new resource and training centre, in a renewed commitment towards its avowed goals.

With Warm Regards,

Mr. Daniel Edwin Jaya Das

**Mr. Neelaiah Jyothi****Development Facilitator**

MESSAGE



It gives me immense pleasure to pen a few moments of my association with Mr. Deva Kumar and DBRC. I had the opportunity of being part of several transformative initiatives undertaken by DBRC in its journey spanning over three decades. The journey touched the educational, social, economical and cultural facets of Dalits, tribals and other marginalized sections who remained oppressed and unreached for several decades.

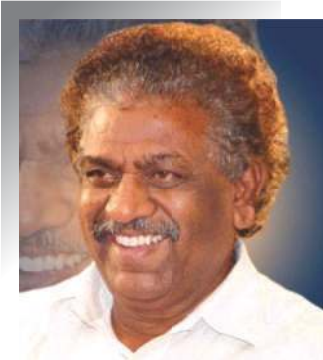
Deva's visionary approach, zeal, commitment, diligence exemplified in the nature of self sustenance initiatives for the marginalized sections. One such initiative is waste pickers cooperative which is owned, managed and controlled by the primary stakeholders—waste pickers, a unique initiative where the vulnerable sections are empowered to decide their economic and social growth.

On this great occasion, I remember Mr. Korivi Vinaya Kumar, Mr. Anand Kumar Bolimera and Mr. Y.L. Jayaraj for their unflinching support to DBRC.

I congratulate and appreciate Mr. Deva Kumar, the Board of DBRC and dedicated team for their unwavering efforts towards dalit self assertion.

In solidarity

Mr. Neelaiah Jyothi



Mr. K.S. Lakshmana Rao

MLC

Krishna & Guntur

MESSAGE

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) is doing commandable work for the for the upliftment of oppressed classes especially for Dalits. I convey of heart felt wishes on the eve of 32nd anniversary of DBRC and inaugural of the Resource Centre cum Training Centre.

I am aware of the activities of DBRC, which is doing good research for the benefit of the Dalits and conducting many workshops. When the Constitution of India entered in to 75th year, even now the 'Social Justice' is far away. We have to work further to achieve Social, Economic and Political Justice for the people. I wish a great future for DBRC to shoulder the burden of Social Justice.

With Regards

(Mr. K.S. Lakshmana Rao)

Mr. A. Srinivasa Rao,

MEO,
Sattenapalli



MESSAGE

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) conducts awareness camps and workshops aimed at empowering SC, ST, and other vulnerable communities across Andhra Pradesh. These initiatives focus on education, gender equality, women's leadership, dignified livelihoods, and health and hygiene practices. Through various programs, DBRC raises awareness about available government schemes and services, provides training on application processes, and assists communities until they receive benefits. Additionally, DBRC advocates for women's empowerment, addressing issues such as child marriage, child labor, and educational opportunities. DBRC helped Women and Child Welfare departments a lot in identifying drop-outs and never enrolled children in schools, pregnant and lactating women who needs nutritious food, etc. It serves as a guiding light for numerous Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the region, reinforcing its role as a torchbearer for social change.

My heartfelt congratulations to DBRC for celebrating 32nd anniversary and inaugurating Resource cum Training Centre. My best wishes to the DBRC management and its team.

Sincerely

Mr. A. Srinivasa Rao

About DBRC



Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre was established in 1992 and works for the Socio Economic and Cultural transformation of the Dalit Bahujan Communities with a special focus on women and children in Andhra Pradesh. DBRC focuses on transforming the lives of these communities by providing information, knowledge and capacity building. DBRC works for the promotion of livelihood, dignity and self-respect among Dalit Bahujan Communities.

Vision



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

Mission



To enable assertive interventions of dalit bahujan communities towards their socio economic empowerment.

Goal



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

Core Values of DBRC

The following core values of DBRC are derived from set of universal values and behaviours.

► Dignity

Dignity is upholding the self-respect and self-worth, physical and psychological integrity and empowerment.

► Social Justice

Social justice is equal access to wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society.

► Social Democracy

To follow the principles of liberty, equality and fraternity.

The above core values are central to all partnership that DBRC aims to create for the fulfilment of its vision and all DBRC members through their internal and external work aspire to live out these principles and behaviours.

Future Strategies

Sector Wise Programs and Long-Term Objectives

Budget Watch

Budget will have been allocated and spent in the correct proportion as per the spirit of SC/ST sub-plan, thus creating better opportunities for development for SC and ST communities.

Prevention of Violence and Discrimination

The instance of violence and discrimination against Dalits, Women, Children and Trans-gender will have significantly reduced.

Housing

The community partners of DBRC (SCs, STs, DNTs, NTs and other marginalised sections) will have access to and ownership of homestead land and safe and comfortable housing equipped with life's necessities.

Education

The community partners of DBRC (Children of SCs, STs, DNTs, NTs and other marginalised sections) will have access to quality education including higher education with age-appropriate learning levels and a sense of dignity and confidence, thereby opening opportunities for development in life.

Health

The community partners of DBRC (SCs, STs, DNTs, NTs and other marginalised sections) will be free of disease and possess healthy body and mind.

Livelihoods

The community partners of DBRC (SCs, STs, DNTs, NTs and other marginalised sections) will have sustained income at levels which can help them live a comfortable life with some surplus for thrift and saving for future needs.

Cross-Cutting Themes

Gender Equality

The community partners of DBRC (SCs, STs, DNTs, NTs and other marginalised sections) will have greater gender equality and a heightened level of respect for each other's genders.

Long Term Objectives

- Achieving economic empowerment and equal opportunities for women in the workforce, including equal pay for both men and women and promoting women's leadership in all six sectors.
- Eradicating gender-based violence and discrimination through legal reforms, awareness campaigns, and support systems for survivors.
- Ensuring equal access to education, healthcare, and reproductive rights for women and girls, promoting their overall well-being and agency.

Climate Adaptation

The community partners of DBRC (SCs, STs, DNTs, NTs and other marginalised sections) will have equitable access to resources and a healthier environment, enhancing their climate adaptation resilience.

Long Term Objectives

- **Foster Equitable Resilience:** Ensure equitable access to resources and knowledge, empowering marginalized and vulnerable communities to enhance their resilience to climate change.
- **Promote Sustainable Practices:** Encourage the adoption of sustainable and climate-resilient practices across various sectors in SCs, STs, DNTs, NTs and other marginalised sections by promoting eco-friendly alternatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Advocate for Policy Change:** Advocate for climate just policies that address disproportionate impacts of climate change on SCs, STs, DNTs, NTs and other marginalised sections.

Resource cum Training Centre

DBRC has established its own Resource and Training Centre with the aim of fostering livelihoods, dignity, and self-respect within marginalized communities. The core objective of the Centre is to promote comprehensive community development and empowerment through various avenues. The Centre mainly focuses on the following areas:

Research and Policy Advocacy: The research and policy wing conducts in-depth studies from the perspective of Dr. B R Ambedkar to fulfill his vision. Research endeavors focus on theories, principles, and policies aimed at fostering the socio-economic transformation and inclusive growth of marginalized communities. This wing aims to bolster evidence-based policymaking and engage with government entities to advocate for policy-level changes that positively impact the community.

Capacity Building for Community Leaders: The Centre organizes workshops, awareness camps, discussions to empower the community leaders from marginalized communities. These sessions provide comprehensive knowledge on state and central government programs, policies and acts, enhancing the community leaders' understanding to effectively engage with the government entities.

Strengthening Community Institutions: Through the Centre, a robust platform to promote and fortify community institutions will be established. These institutions create inclusive spaces where community members can come together, exchange ideas, and collaborate on initiatives that address local challenges and aspirations. Collaborate with the government and non-government agencies to achieve their individual and common goals. These foundations pave a way to sustainable livelihoods, quality education, and access to quality health, and reduce violence, etc. Strengthening these foundations will contribute to sustainable development and collective wellbeing.

Knowledge Hub and Catalyst: Establishing a library as a knowledge repository is crucial for fostering positive change within the community. This library will house academic texts, national and international journals, government acts, policy documents, reports, assessment studies, autobiographies of national and international subaltern leaders, Dr. Ambedkar writings, etc. This library serves as a catalyst for empowerment, the information disseminated will empower individuals and community leaders, inspiring collective action.

Skill Training and Career Guidance: This centre operates as a hub for skill development and career guidance, with a particular focus on empowering women. The Centre will collaborate closely with both government and private skill development

agencies to ensure that educated youth, especially women, who may currently be in menial jobs unrelated to their education, are motivated and trained in skills that are in demand in the job market. This initiative aims to enhance their capabilities and facilitate their successful integration into the workforce. Additionally, through this comprehensive career guidance services, particularly related to available higher educational opportunities in reputed institutions. This includes information on application procedures, exam patterns, and access to previous question papers. These services serve as a crucial resource for individuals seeking educational and employment opportunities,

Forum for Socio-Economic Development: This forum provides a dedicated space for discussions on contemporary socio-economic development issues. It conducts lecture series and special talks by intellectuals, academicians, and activists on current issues related to Dr. Ambedkar's contributions to society, education, health, women empowerment, violence and atrocities, as well as socio-economic and cultural challenges faced by SCs, STs, and other Denotified and Nomadic communities. Aim of the centre is to foster dialogue and collaborate to address the challenges and provide innovative solutions.

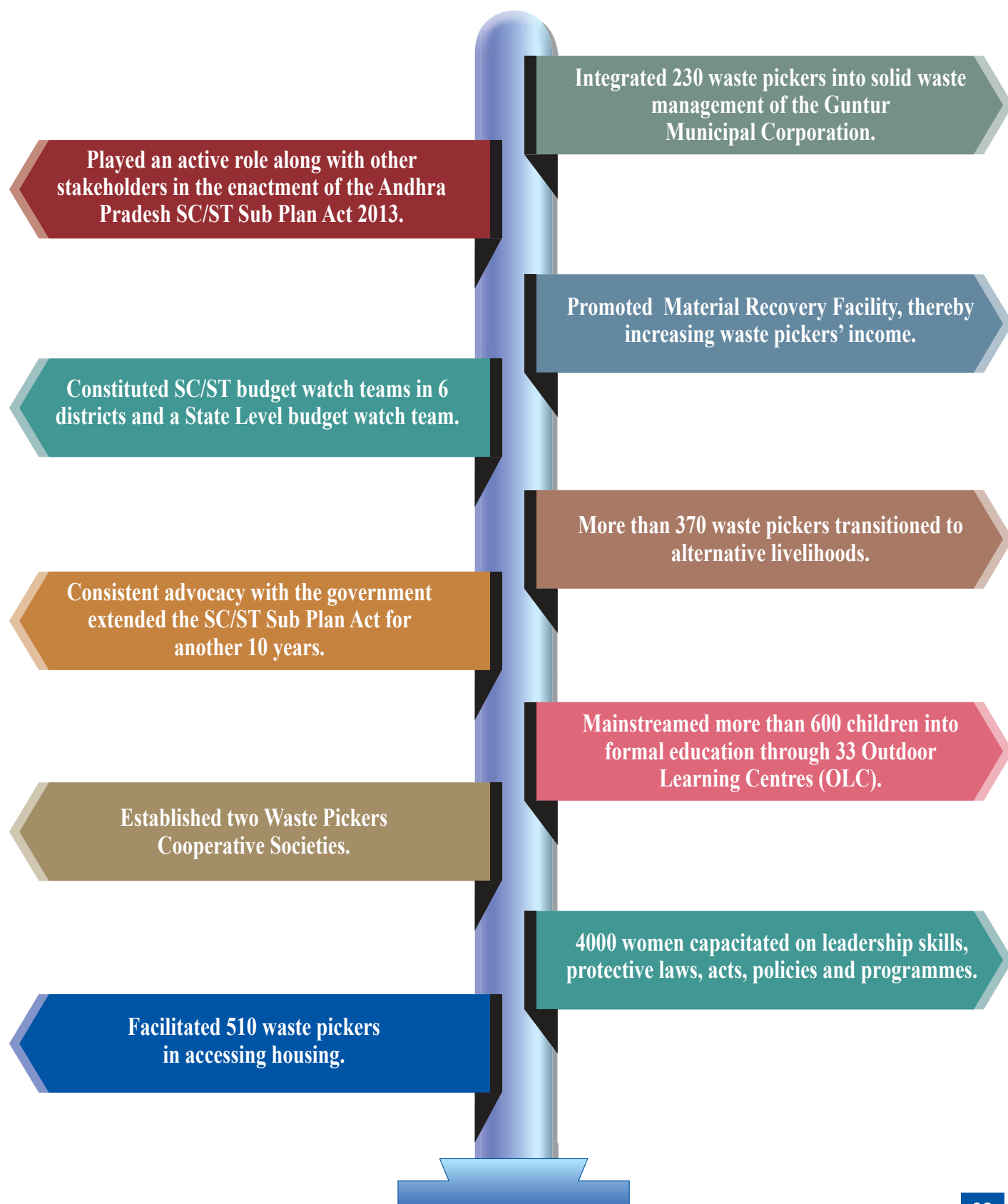
Promotion and Protection of Constitutional Rights: The centre promotes and protects the Constitutional rights of Dalits, Tribals, and other Denotified & Nomadic Communities, as well as other vulnerable communities. Create awareness among these communities and also advocate for justice, equality and inclusivity in alignment with constitutional principles.



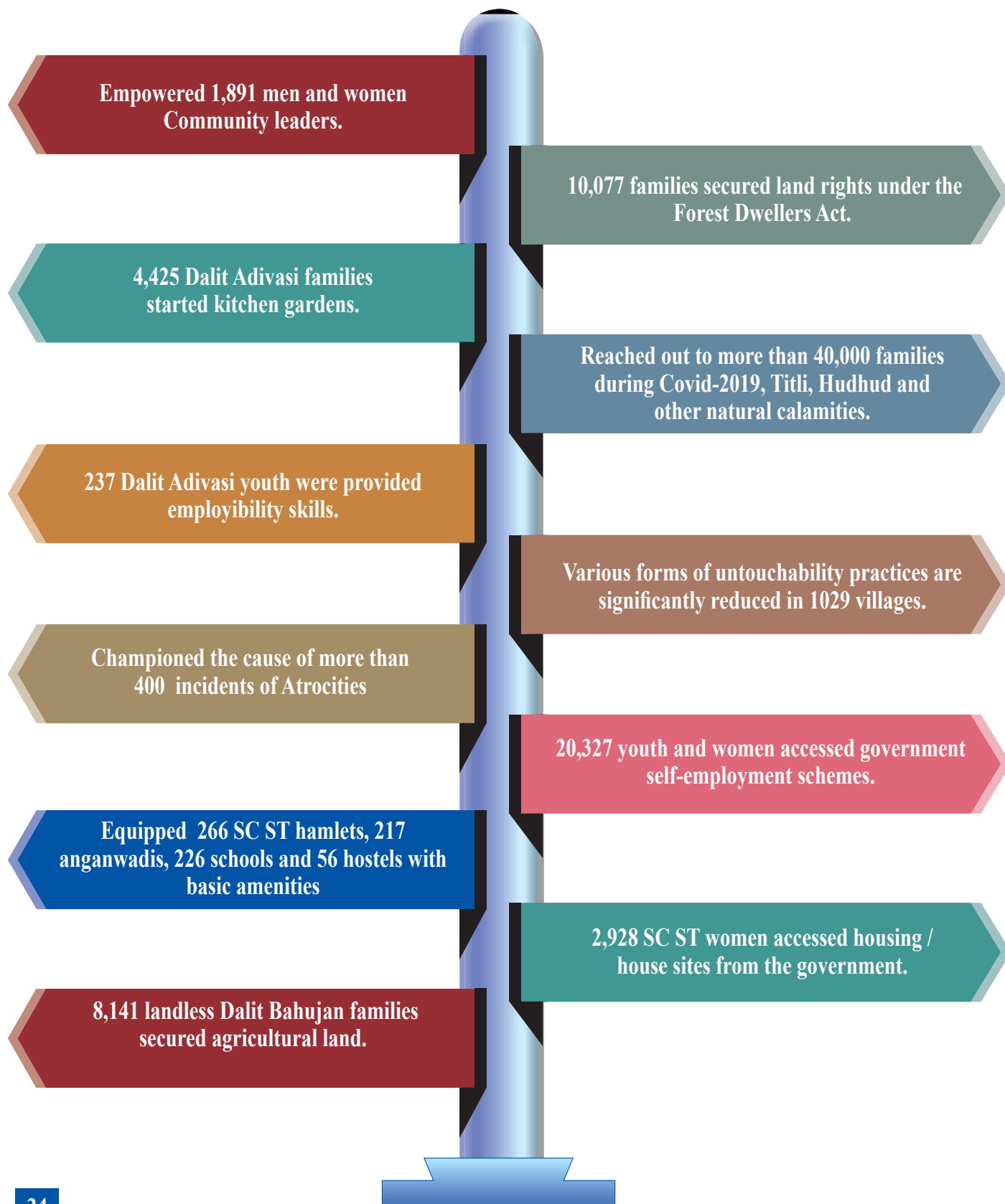
"We may forgo material benefits of civilization, but we cannot forgo our right and opportunity to reap the benefits of the highest education to the fullest extent ... Backward Classes ... have just realized that without education their existence is not safe"

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

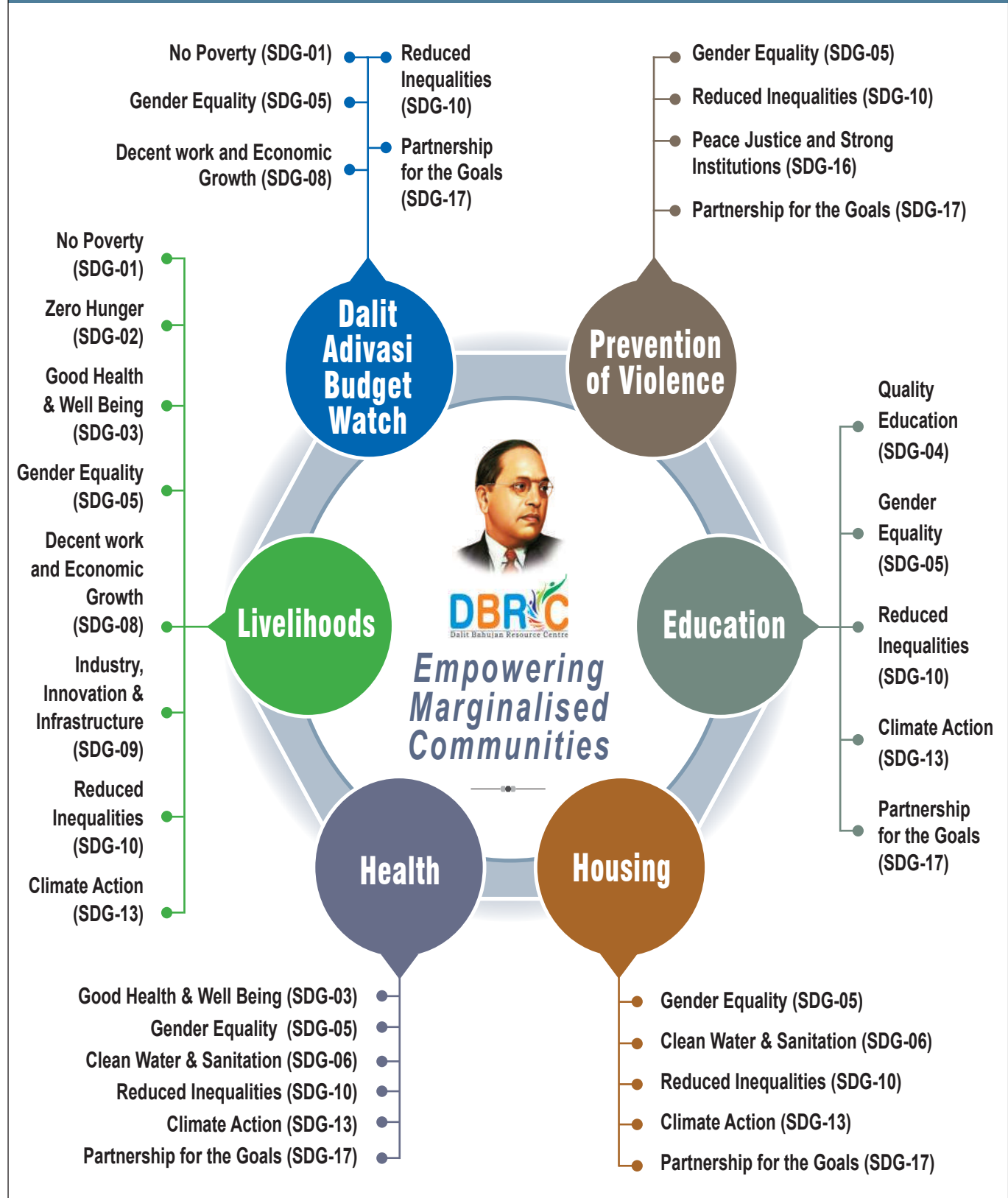
Achievements and Impact



Achievements and Impact



Interventions towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Research Studies

S. No	Name of the Study / Research	Description	Researcher (s)
1	A study on Vector-borne diseases in waste picking communities in Andhra Pradesh: exploring vulnerabilities and opportunities for improved control – 2023	Study identified opportunities to improve health outcomes for waste pickers by exploring the link between vector-borne diseases and their working conditions. Study was conducted in collaboration with Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK.	Ms. Beatrice Egid
2	A case study on the Municipal Solid Waste Management in Guntur – 2023	The study led to an understanding of the current waste management system, an evaluation of its effectiveness, and the identification of areas for improvement in Guntur Municipal Corporation.	Mr. Haris Najib & Dr. N Praveen
3	Needs Assessment Study of Previous and Current Intermediate Girl Students from APSWREIS	The study analysed career choices and aspirations of recent passed out intermediate students from AP Social Welfare Girls Residential schools, investigated factors influencing current students' career plans, and evaluated perceptions of their parents on educational outcomes.	Dr. Praveen & Mr. Deva Kumar
4	Nutrition Status and Health Risks in Un-Recognised Occupations”: A Case Study Of Waste Pickers in Andhra Pradesh – 2022 to 2023	The study comprehensively assessed the nutritional status and health risks faced by individuals engaged in waste picking. Additionally, recommendations were developed, and advocacy efforts were made for policy-level changes to address their health issues.	Dr. Nagaraju Dr. Sreenivas Mr. A Deva Kumar Mr. Ch. Samuel Anil Kumar
5	‘Health and Well-being’ survey of the waste pickers, including quantitative and qualitative means, to find out the current situation and issues of the waste picking communities – 2022	The study identified critical issues impacting the health, well-being, and overall situation of waste picking communities, enabling the development of targeted interventions and support programs. This study was done in collaboration with the George Institute of Global Health.	TGI & DBRC
6	Used Beverage Carton (UBC) Management Study For India – Kurnool City – 2019 and 2022	The study enhanced UBC waste management in Kurnool city through analysis of existing systems, identification of challenges, and development of sustainable solutions. This study was undertaken in collaboration with Teri University, New Delhi.	Teri University, New Delhi & DBRC

7	Study on present Socio- Economic status, Gap Analysis and measures to be taken for bringing the gaps & Upliftment and Holistic Development of Scheduled castes communities in A P.	The study concentrated on assessing the socio-economic status of Scheduled Castes communities in Andhra Pradesh by performing a gap analysis. Recommendations were made by the study for the upliftment and holistic development of these Scheduled Castes communities.	Mr. Deva Kumar Dr. Subhransu Subhransu Tripathy Mr. Pradeep Mr. Neeliah
8	A Study on Socio Economic Status of Sanitary workers in the Municipal Corporations of Guntur and Vijayawada.	The study provided a comprehensive understanding of the socio-economic well-being of sanitation workers in Guntur and Vijayawada, along with identification of key challenges and made recommendations for interventions to enhance overall well-being of sanitation workers.	Mr. Deva Kumar Mr. Samuel Anil Kumar
9	Socio Economic Status of Waste Pickers in 4 cities (Guntur, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Hyderabad) Andhra Pradesh – 2017	The study provided comprehensive insights into the needs and challenges of the waste picking community and formulated targeted interventions to improve their living conditions.	Mr. Isaac Newton Mr. Satya Mr. Deva Kumar Mr. Samuel Anil Kumar
10	Diagnostic study of Informal supply chain of Recyclables in Guntur and Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.	The study was conducted for an in-depth diagnosis of the informal recyclables supply chain in Guntur and Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. The study identified the operational structure, key actors involved, and potential areas for improvement within the system.	Mr. Kabir Mr. Samuel Anil Kumar
11	Comparative Study on SC ST sub Plan – Budget allocation and Utilization.	The researchers conducted a comparative analysis of budget allocation and utilization for the SC/ST Sub Plan. By examining implementation efficiency, the study provided insights into opportunities for improving fund utilization and overall welfare outcomes.	Mr. Deva Kumar Mr. Kennedy
12	Dalit Access to Urban housing – A case of Andhra Pradesh	The study unveiled the challenges faced by the Dalit communities in accessing urban housing within Andhra Pradesh. It provided valuable insights into the barriers and inequalities they encounter, and offered necessary policy recommendations to ensure fairer access to adequate housing.	Dr. Para Ramesh



Mr. Gandham Chandrudu, IAS, Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, organised a meeting to discuss the recommendations of the study conducted by DBRC on the educational development of girl students in Andhra Pradesh Social Welfare Gurukula Educational Institutions (APSWREIS) in Tadepalli. Pawan Murthy, APSWREIS Secretary, Sanjeeva Rao, APSWREIS Deputy Secretary, DBRC Executive Secretary Alladi Deva Kumar, District Coordinators and Teachers from social welfare residential schools participated in the meeting.



Retired IAS officer Shri T. Gopala Rao and retired IRS officer Shri Panabaka Krishnaiah releasing the study report on 'Nutrition Status and Health Risks of Waste Pickers,' conducted by DBRC under the supervision of Dr. Chikkala Nagaraju and Dr. Y. Srinivas, on July 31, 2023 at DBRC office, Guntur.

Partnerships and Collaborations

S. No	Name of the NGO / Institution	Purpose of Partnership / Collaboration
1	Alliance of Indian Waste Pickers (AIW)	To empower waste pickers and advocate for their rights, promoting their full integration into formal waste management systems.
2	Workers People Coalition (WPC)	To empower labour unions and worker rights organizations by providing a collaborative platform that facilitates communication, resource sharing, and collective action in the pursuit of social justice and fair treatment for informal sector workers.
3	Mission for Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas (MEPMA)	To alleviate urban poverty in Andhra Pradesh
4	Church Auxiliary Social Action (CASA)	To empower marginalized groups to participate in and benefit from sustainable development initiatives
5	ActionAid	To empower individuals and communities to overcome poverty, injustice, and inequality by promoting human rights, gender equality, and sustainable development practices
6	Women's Farmers Forum	To advocate for the rights and interests of women in farming and agriculture.
7	Ekta Parishad	To empower marginalized and landless communities, particularly in rural areas, by leveraging combined resources and expertise for the advancement of their rights.
8	Government of Jharkhand	To provide critical assistance to stranded people during the COVID-19 pandemic
9	Biodiversity Department of Andhra Pradesh	To promote sustainable development in target areas on biodiversity conservation and socio-economic initiatives.



I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved.

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar



▲ Participants at National Workshop on
‘Waste pickers Involvement in Extended Producers Responsibility’ in Vijayawada.



▲ DBRC Executive Secretary, Sri A. Deva Kumar addressing participants at a State Level
Budget Watch meeting in Guntur, 2023.



*A great man is different from an
eminent one in that he is ready to
be the servant of the society.*

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Our Initiatives

Dalit Adivasi Budget Watch

Government of Andhra Pradesh enacted the “The Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan (Planning, Allocation and Utilization of Financial Resources) Act, 2013” with the objective of achieving economic, educational, and human development and to ensure social dignity, security including the promotion of equity among SCs and STs. According to the Act, a separate budget has to be allocated in proportion to the SC, ST population. Even after the enactment of the Act, several gaps have been observed in planning, implementation, monitoring, transparency, and accountability, and the target schemes.

In response to this, the Dalit Adivasi Budget Watch forum has been initiated, consisting of NGO representatives, social activists, lawyers, retired bureaucrats, academicians, intellectuals, members of District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees, and other civil society organizations. The core objective of Dalit Adivasi Budget Watch is to monitor and assess the implementation of AP SC/ST Sub-Plan Act, 2013.

Key Activities

- **Budget Analysis:** Year wise review and analyse of the SC, ST component budget and identify the specific allocations for different programs, schemes, and initiatives aimed at the welfare of SCs and STs.
- **Expenditure Tracking:** Monitor allocated budget expenditure, ensuring effective utilization for intended purposes. Track fund usage closely, identifying any deviations or discrepancies in spending patterns, promptly notifying relevant authorities for corrective action.
- **Project Evaluation:** Assess the impact and effectiveness of various projects and schemes implemented

under the SC/ST Sub-Plan. Evaluate whether they are reaching the intended beneficiaries, addressing their needs, and achieving the desired outcomes. Provide recommendations for improvement, if necessary.

- **Beneficiary Identification:** Verify the beneficiaries of the SC/ST Sub-Plan schemes and programs. Ensure that the benefits are reaching the eligible SC/ST individuals and communities as per the guidelines. Identify any instances of misappropriation or exclusion and report them for corrective action.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Collaborate with government departments, NGOs, and community organizations who works for the welfare of SC/ST communities. Conduct regular discussions, meetings, and workshops to share insights and to ensure effective implementation of the Sub-Plan Act.
- **Awareness and Advocacy:** Raise awareness among SC/ST communities about their rights, entitlements, and the available schemes and benefits under the Sub-Plan.
- **Policy and Legislative Support:** Keep updating of relevant policies, laws, and regulations pertaining to the SC/ST Sub-Plan. Advocate for necessary policy changes or amendments that can enhance the impact of the Sub-Plan budget.
- **Capacity Building:** Organize training programs or workshops to enhance the knowledge and skills of budget watch team members on budget analysis, schemes evaluation, monitoring techniques and capacities, and community engagement.
- **Grievance Redressal:** Establish a mechanism like helpline or dedicated email for receiving and addressing individual and community grievances related to the SC/ST Sub-Plan budget.



Shri Nakka Anand Babu, MLA, delivering a speech at the State Level Round Table Conference on “Implementation of SC, ST Sub Plan and Development of Dalit Adivasis” held in Guntur.



DBRC Executive Secretary, Mr. A. Deva Kumar presenting at the State Level Round Table Conference.



▲ Shri Gopala Rao, I.A.S. (Retd.), delivering a speech at the State Level Round Table Conference on "Implementation of SC, ST Sub Plan and Development of Dalit Adivasis" held in Guntur.



▲ Sri Mallepalli Lakshmaiah, Chairman, CDS, addressing a state-level consultation on 'Implementation and Utilisation of SC/ST Sub-Plan Budget' in Guntur.



However good a Constitution may be, if those who are implementing it are not good, it will prove to be bad. However bad a Constitution may be, if those implementing it are good, it will prove to be good.

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar



▲ Participants at a Regional Level Consultation held at Guntur on setting up AP SDG Watch.



▲ Mr. M. Satish Chandar, Journalist, speaking at a state-level consultation on the Dalit Adivasi Manifesto-2019 in Vijayawada.



Life should be great rather than long.

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar



▲ Prof. Gundimeda Sambaiah addressing the gathering at State Conference on Implementation of SC, ST Sub-Plan Act-2013 and Budget Utilization.



▲ Sri N. Paul Divakar, General Secretary, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights, addressing the gathering at State Level Consultation on SC, ST Component, on 6th January, 2018 at Guntur.



Sri. K. Vinaya Kumar addressing a state-level meeting organized by Dalit Adivasi Budget Watch, to discuss the sustainable development of Dalit Adivasis in Andhra Pradesh in Guntur.



Participants engage in discussions at a conference in Guntur focused on 'Understanding Acts and Policies from Dalit Bahujan Development Perspective'.

Outdoor Learning Centre

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) is dedicated to implement interventions that uplift marginalized communities. One such initiative is the “Outdoor Learning Centre,” aimed at encouraging the education of never-enrolled and school dropout children from families engaged in occupations like waste picking, rat catching, fishing, and daily wage labour. These families often reside in remote slums, including areas such as dumping yards, roadside settlements, beside railway tracks, hilltops, canal bunds, and burial grounds. Due to their informal employment, they have limited or no access to government social security schemes.

OLCs operates for two hours a day, six days a week, offering a nurturing environment where children engage in productive learning activities. These activities foster a sense of belonging, making learning enjoyable and enriching. Children participate in diverse activities, including reading, writing, games, singing, dancing, life skills development, and cultivating good habits for behavioural change. Additionally, support is provided for completing homework assignments. Furthermore, extended sessions encompass activities such as video screenings, quiz sessions, exhibitions visits, and picnics.

The impact of OLCs has been profound. We have witnessed a notable improvement in children’s interest and proficiency in reading and writing. They have also developed new skills and interests, such as drawing, paper art, and clay work. Moreover, there has been a significant enhancement in school attendance, with increased engagement and a reduced dropout rate. Our efforts have also contributed to diminishing child labour and instances of child marriage. Furthermore, children have demonstrated improved effectiveness in completing homework and have shown behavioural changes towards cleanliness and hygiene.

Through the Outdoor Learning Centre (OLC), we are not just providing education; we are nurturing the potential of these children, paving the way for a brighter and more promising future.



Children engaged in joyful learning method at an Outdoor Learning Centre (OLC).



Children engaged in joyful learning method at Outdoor Learning Centres (OLCs)



Children at OLC celebrate Independence Day by paying tribute to the national flag.

India Labourline (ILL)



Working People's Coalition (WPC) in coalition with the collaboration of Aajeevika Bureau, has set up the India Labourline, which offers legal aid and mediation services primarily for migrant workers. The Labourline has expanded its reach with offices now established in seven states across the country. This initiative aims to address the pressing issues encountered by workers, particularly those in the informal sector, by providing free assistance regardless of the state they reside in.

DBRC in collaboration with WPC and Aajeevika, started a state facilitation centre in Vijayawada, and is actively involved in implementing the Labourline programmes in Guntur and Vijayawada. Since its launch in November 2022, DBRC has registered a total of 424 cases, focusing on areas such as wage theft, PF, ESIC, gratuity, accident/death claims, and government entitlements for unorganized labourers. Through mediation and legal aid services and successfully resolved 175 cases, totalling Rs. 22,43,401 in retrieved wages.

Moreover, DBRC has conducted extensive awareness campaigns, reaching over 3 lakh unorganized workers in these two cities. These campaigns have been instrumental in educating workers about various state and central government welfare schemes, including registration for building and other construction workers, Ayushman Bharat health scheme, E-Shram registration, skilling programs, and postal benefits.

DBRC has also initiated a special campaign in Andhra Pradesh to promote awareness about the five potential benefits of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) among unorganized labourers. This effort is to improve the socio-economic well-being of vulnerable workers in the region.

Overall, the collaboration between India Labourline, Aajeevika Bureau, WPC, and DBRC has significantly contributed to addressing the systemic vulnerabilities faced by unorganized labourers in Guntur and Vijayawada, providing them with essential support, access to legal assistance, and government welfare schemes. Through our combined efforts, we aim to empower workers and create positive change in the lives of informal sector workers.



▲
DBRC
sensitizing the
unorganized sector
workers about
Toll-Free Helpline.



►
Spreading
awareness about
government
schemes and
policies for
workers in
the informal sector



Waste Pickers Cooperative Society

In 2016, the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) initiated a study to comprehend the socio-economic conditions of Waste Pickers. The findings of the study blossomed into a series of transformative initiatives aimed at uplifting waste pickers and their families from the margins of society, fostering dignity, empowerment, and resilience.

Besides, facilitating them in getting entitlements and schemes, we have promoted the formation of 2 waste pickers cooperative thrift and credit society limited at Guntur and Vijayawada. The cooperatives serve as a platform for waste pickers to unite and empower themselves socially and economically. They provide a space for collective action and support, enabling waste picker communities to take charge of their own destinies and pursue livelihoods with dignity and resilience. Within these cooperatives, members save money and access loans to further their economic activities.

One significant aspect of the cooperative initiatives was the emphasis on livelihood strengthening. The cooperatives in collaboration with DBRC provided essential resources such as three-wheeler tricycles to waste pickers, alleviating the physical burdens they faced in carrying waste on their shoulders. This not only enabled them to collect more waste efficiently but also enhanced their income potential.

Furthermore, Cooperatives extended support for alternative livelihoods through initiatives such as providing four-wheelers. This support enabled waste pickers to diversify their income sources by starting petty businesses, such as selling vegetables, fruits, fish, plastic, and other goods. By offering avenues beyond waste picking, these initiatives aimed to create sustainable economic opportunities for waste pickers and their families.

In addition to livelihood support, DBRC established a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) to further enhance the income of waste pickers. The MRF provided a centralized platform for waste collection, proper weighing, and fair pricing of collected waste. This ensured that waste pickers received better prices for their collected materials, thereby significantly boosting their income and financial stability.

Through these cooperative initiatives, DBRC aimed not only to improve the economic well-being of waste pickers but also to foster a sense of community empowerment and resilience. By promoting collaboration, providing essential resources, and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities, these efforts sought to uplift waste picker communities and pave the way for a brighter and more equitable future.



Waste pickers' cooperative members meet in Guntur.



▲ Dr. Kumbha Ravibabu, Chairman of AP ST Commission, addressing Waste Pickers at State Safai karamchari Sammelanam in Vijayawada.



▲ Release of the DBRC Biennial Report 2020-22.



Interacting with waste pickers at Visakhapatnam, 2023



▲ Legislators Mr. N. Anand Babu, Mr. Mohd. Mustafa & Mr. M. Venugopala Reddy launch video documentary on waste pickers' living conditions in Guntur.



▲ A participant interacting with government officials during the interface meeting organized by DBRC in Guntur



▲ GMC Commissioner Sriresh Lathkar IAS., flagging off the state level campaign vehicle on sensitising the safai karamcharis on Constitutional rights and entitlements



▲ Sri. Vellampalli Srinivasa Rao, Honorable Minister for Endowments, addressing waste pickers at the grievance redressal meeting in Vijayawada.



Sri. Maddali Giridhar, MLA, distributing pushcarts and tricycles to waste pickers for strengthening/alternative livelihoods in Guntur.



Distribution of tricycles to waste pickers for alternative livelihoods at Naidupeta Dumping Yard, Guntur



▲ Children of waste pickers performing at cultural event organized as part of State level Safai Karmcharis Sammelanam in Vijayawada



▲ T. Krishna Prasad, Retd., DGP, Telangana, addressing the gathering during the event



▲ Smt. K. Sunita, IAS, Principal Secretary, AP Social Welfare, with the team of DBRC at the State Level Safai Karmcharis Sammelanam in Vijayawada.

Children

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre is committed to ensuring that every child, irrespective of their background, has the opportunity to excel. From facilitating their enrollment in schools, anganwadis, and hostels to dismantling barriers to education, we empower children from marginalized communities to realize their full potential. Beyond education, we're staunch advocates for children's rights and well-being, conducting targeted awareness programs to educate them about the harmful repercussions of practices like child marriage and child labor, instilling in them the knowledge and confidence to advocate for themselves and others. In essence, our approach is holistic and visionary, aiming not only to get children into school but also to equip them with the resilience and skills necessary to navigate life's obstacles. Through our steadfast efforts, we strive to create a future where every child can flourish, unimpeded by discrimination or injustice.





Children cutting the cake during the “Children Fest Celebration organized in 2018.
Chief Guest Sri. B. Ananda Kumar, CEO, Change Alliance and Dr. M. Prashant graced the occasion.



Winners of Quiz competition held on the occasion of Indian Constitutional Day, 2023



Distribution of certificates and mementos to the winners of quiz competitions on the Indian Constitution for students of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, Darsi, Prakasam District.



Children at Outdoor Learning Centers (OLCs)



▲ Observing International Girl Child Day in Venigandla, Guntur Dist.



Campaign on pre-metric scholarships for school children



Campaign on International Girl Child Day



Participants display the Disha App on their smartphones during a workshop on 'protective laws for SC/ST women'.



Girls reading the preamble on the occasion of Constitution Day Celebrations.



Children's Rights Week





DBRC members expressing solidarity during a campaign advocating for the demand for English medium in government schools in Guntur.



Children at an OLC



▲ OLC children performing at the Children's Festival 2023 in Vijayawada



Sri. Imtiyaz, IAS, SERP, addressing the children at the Children's Festival in Vijayawada

Women

DBRC focuses on empowering women from SC, ST, Other DNT & Nomadic communities and other marginalized communities in the society. We create awareness on the women and constitutional rights. We organize workshops and awareness camps to combat violence and discrimination against women. Our efforts aim to promote respectable and dignified livelihoods among women. We create awareness on healthy menstrual practices and also engage with the gross-root functionaries to facilitate the pregnant and lactating women to receive the nutritious food. Gender equality stands as a core and cross-cutting theme in all our sectorial interventions. We regularly organize women leadership promotions camps at Mandal, District and State level. Every year DBRC present the best women community leaders awards to women working at gross-root level on the occasion of International Women's Day. Our activities, interventions portrayed in the following...



Erukula, a DNT community at Singavaram village, Eluru district

- ▼ Prof. Challapalli Swarupa Rani from ANU addressing women participants at the State Level Grassroots Women Leaders' Summit in Vijayawada



- ▲ Felicitation of grassroots women leaders at the State Level Grassroots Women Leaders' Summit in Vijayawada



▲ Smt. K. Sunitha, IAS, Principal Secretary, Handlooms & Textiles, A.P., addressing participants during the State Level Grassroots Women Leaders' Summit in Vijayawada



▲ Sri. A. Md. Imtiaz, IAS, CEO of SERP, with women awarded as Grassroot Leaders



▲ Dr. K. Ramachandra Murthy, Public Policy Advisor to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, addressing participants at the Community Leadership Awards meeting in Guntur.



▲ State-Level Two-Day Training for Women on Leadership at Guntur



▲ Mrs. Kalamani, Lead Consultant, APMAS, facilitating the Workshop on Gender Equality in Guntur



▲ Submitting representation to the ministers Sri. Damodara Raja Narasimha and Smt. J Geetha Reddy



▲ Interaction meeting between Dalit Adivasi women and government officials in Darsi, Prakasam District



▲ Members of the fishing community submitting a formal representation to Sri M. Rukmandaiah, District Tribal Welfare Officer in Vijayawada



Participants at the Women's Convention in Kurnool, 2012



Women raising slogans during a massive rally at the 'One Billion Rising' program to stop violence against women, organized by DBRC in Guntur in 2013.



Women participating in a workshop during a state-level training for Dalit women leaders on land rights, held in Chiguru, Guntur district, in January 2014.

Atrocities Monitoring



▲ Release of Citizens Audit Report on implementation of SC ST Act in the presence of APSC Commission chairperson M. Victor Prasad & AP ST Commission Chairperson Sri. DVG Shankara Rao in Vijayawada.



▲ APSC Commission Chairperson Sri. M. Victor Prasad interacting with the victims of atrocities at Peoples review meeting organized by DBRC in Guntur

Agriculture

DBRC works toward the empowerment of small and tenant farmers from Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) in its target areas by providing orientation on various schemes and services available in agriculture and allied departments, both at the state and central levels. We advocate for sustainable, organic, and natural farming practices, including kitchen gardening. Through exposure visits, we facilitate farmers' understanding and adoption of the best and modern practices in agriculture and its allied sectors. Collaborating with KrishiVigyanKendras (KVKs), we enable farmers to access and benefit from relevant schemes and services. Our interventions and efforts in agriculture and its allied sectors are showcased as follows...



▲ Farmers' exposure visit to crop fields at Pulladigunta, Guntur.



▲ Distribution of free seeds and fertilizers to small and marginal farmers by KVK Director, Lam, Dr. Subrahmanyam, Dr. Ms. Ganga Bhavani, and others after an awareness conference on agricultural development and new farming methods held at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Lam, Guntur.



Distribution of plants to the community member at Nandigama, Sattenapalli Mandal, 2017



▲ Awareness campaign on filing application under Land Purchasing Scheme.



▲ Sensitizing farmers on Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) in Darsi, Prakasam District



▲ DBRC organized statewide awareness campaigns on Crop Cultivator Rights Cards (CCRC) for tenant farmers and landowners.



▲ Interaction meeting between agriculture and allied department officials and SC/ST farmers



▲ SC/ST farmers visit KVK in Darsi, Prakasam Dist.



▲ Exposure visit of SC/ST farmers to AP Agri-Tech Exhibition - 2021



▲ Training to Women farmers on Organic and Natural farming practices.

YOUTH

DBRC works towards the empowerment of SC/ST educated youth through various means, including conducting career counselling and guidance sessions led by experts such as professors, academicians, and counsellors. We organize awareness camps and workshops on higher educational opportunities available in reputable public institutions at the mandal, district, and state levels. Additionally, we collaborate with both public and non-public skill development agencies, motivating unemployed youth to join and enhance their skills. Our efforts to empower educated youth are depicted in the following pictures.



▲ State-level meeting on skill and employment opportunities for youth, held in Guntur.



▲ Sri. B. Rajasekhar, Professor, Central University of Hyderabad, speaking at orientation meeting organized with students on Education and Job Opportunities in Ongole



▲ District Level training to youth on Employment, Skill Development Opportunities and Challenges in Eluru



▲ District Level training to youth on Employment, Skill Development Opportunities and Challenges in Narasarao Pet.



▲ District Level training to youth on Employment, Skill Development Opportunities and Challenges in Chirala.



Goats are used for sacrificial offerings and not lions.

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Humanitarian Aid

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) implements a range of interventions, with its humanitarian response standing out as a pivotal component, offering swift and comprehensive aid during natural disasters. Through meticulous assessments conducted in affected areas, DBRC promptly gauges the scope of damage and discerns the needs of impacted communities. This approach enables DBRC to tailor its interventions effectively, providing timely support where it is most needed.

Employing a blend of on-ground surveys and consultations, DBRC ensures a holistic understanding of the situation, engaging with local leaders, community members, and government officials. Crucially, these assessments prioritize the vulnerabilities of marginalized groups, including the elderly, pregnant women, and persons with disabilities, ensuring that their unique needs are not overlooked in the aftermath of calamity.

Through these efforts, DBRC facilitates targeted and effective humanitarian aid, delivering assistance where it is most needed and ensuring that no community is left behind in the process of recovery and rebuilding.



Humanitarian support provided to HudHud Cyclone affected communities in Vizianagaram

During natural disasters, the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC) responds swiftly by conducting assessments in affected areas to gauge the extent of damage and understand the needs of the communities affected. These assessments involve on-ground surveys and consultations with local leaders, community members, government officials, ensuring that the vulnerabilities of groups like the elderly, pregnant women, and persons with disabilities are taken into account.

Working closely with community leaders and volunteers, DBRC conducts enumeration exercises to ensure that every affected household is reached and accounted for. Special emphasis is placed on identifying and prioritizing vulnerable groups, and beneficiary cards are issued accordingly to facilitate fair distribution.

Prior to aid distribution, DBRC conducts sensitization sessions with beneficiaries, educating them on safeguarding policies, proper hygiene practices, and coping strategies during disasters. Distribution is carried out systematically, prioritizing fairness, transparency, and inclusivity to ensure resources reach those in greatest need.

Throughout the response process, DBRC maintains a vigilant eye on aid distribution to ensure accountability and transparency. Continuous evaluation is conducted to assess response effectiveness, with feedback from beneficiaries and stakeholders informing future interventions. Phone numbers are shared with communities for direct communication, allowing them to report any issues or exploitation by relief teams. A grievance box is also placed in distribution areas for feedback, and post-distribution monitoring and follow-up are conducted.

In addition to immediate relief, DBRC implements long-term initiatives aimed at building community resilience. This includes organizing empowerment programs and capacity-building workshops to equip communities with the knowledge and skills needed to prepare for and respond to future disasters effectively.

Furthermore, DBRC facilitates linkages between government departments and communities, advocating for community concerns to be addressed. Issues identified during relief efforts are brought to the attention of government officials for redressal, ensuring that community needs are recognized and addressed.

In conclusion, DBRC's response during natural disasters is characterized by a holistic approach that prioritizes the needs of the most vulnerable while promoting community resilience and empowerment. Through collaborative efforts with donors, local leaders, and community members, DBRC strives to provide timely and effective assistance, upholding the dignity and well-being of those affected throughout the recovery process.



Political democracy cannot last unless there lies at the base of it social democracy. What does social democracy mean? It means a way of life which recognizes liberty, equality and fraternity as the principles of life.

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar



▲ Relief material provided to Hudhud Cyclone-affected people



▲ DBRC team interacting with Titli-affected tribals in Vizianagaram, 2018.



▲ Humanitarian support for communities affected by Cyclone Titli in Vizianagaram district.



▲ Distribution of relief kits to the Titli-affected people in Vizianagaram district



▲ Distribution of relief kits to the Titli-affected people in Srikakulam district



▲ Smt. Mekathoti Sucharita, Home Minister, Govt. of AP releasing the Covid Response Report of DBRC



▲ Distribution of relief kits to waste pickers at Vambay Colony, Vijayawada



▲ Mr. K. Mohan Kumar, Joint Collector of Krishna District, flagging off the relief program as part of the Covid-19 response



▲ Distribution of dry ration to waste pickers in Visakhapatnam



▲ Mr. Deva Kumar, CEO of DBRC, briefing about safeguarding procedures to Michaug cyclone affected people



◀ Women displaying their beneficiary cards.



Men are mortal. So are ideas. An idea needs propagation as much as a plant needs watering. Otherwise both will wither and die.

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar



Cyclone
Michaung effected
communities
displays their
mobile phone
acknowledging
receipt of
Rs. 4000 in their
bank account



Response to
Covid-19
Relief material



Stories of Change

Community Upliftment Through Sustainable Solutions



- DBRC facilitates integration of 230 waste pickers into municipal workforce.
- Regular income, job security, and improved living conditions for waste pickers.
- Enhances waste management efficiency of the city.
- Fosters community empowerment and positive change.

Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre is committed to creating a brighter future for waste pickers in Guntur city, who earn their livelihood by collecting discarded bottles, paper, and packaging materials from roadsides, railway tracks, dumping yards, bus stations, and other similar locations. These marginalized groups have historically been deprived of opportunities and are often neglected by society.

Mr. Alladi Deva Kumar, Executive Secretary, and Mr. Ch. Samuel Anil Kumar, Program Manager of DBRC, met with the Municipal Commissioner,

Smt. Anuradha, and the Municipal Health Officer, Smt. Sobha Rani to deliberate the possibilities of integration of waste pickers into the municipal solid waste management system. After a series of meetings and discussions, DBRC signed an MOU with the Municipal Corporation to integrate 230 waste pickers into municipal door-to-door waste collection work.

Mrs. Akkamma said, “Earlier, I used to collect waste, but there were times when I didn’t have access to waste. There were days when I had only one meal a day and struggled a lot. Now, I’m employed. I have a job. I work for the corporation, and I get my salary on time. I’m able to feed my family and take care of my children”

The transformation of waste pickers’ lives in Guntur city exemplifies the power of community action and collective effort. Through our initiatives and with the support of the municipal corporation, 230 waste pickers now enjoy improved job security, working conditions, and respect for their profession.



Goats are used for sacrificial offerings and not lions.

Stories of Change

- Koya Dora tribes migrate from Sarepale village to Nunna.
- Rapid urbanisation leaves tribes without land to graze.
- Government lacks concrete data.
- DBRC intervenes and provides migration and caste certificates.

60 families from the Koya Dora tribe migrated to the outskirts of Nunna village near Vijayawada five decades ago in search of better livelihoods. Originally, they are from Sarapale village in the Durgam Pahad mandal of Khammam District, erstwhile Andhra Pradesh. The Koya Dora tribes initially resided in temporary shelters made of cloth and tarpaulin sheets on the outskirts of Nunna. They began hunting and gathering from nearby hills to survive. Alongside this, they started livestock management as an additional source of income. Rapid urbanisation of Vijayawada city stimulated landowners in Nunna and nearby villages to sell their lands, leaving these tribes without access to their traditional grazing grounds. With no grazing land, they turned to wage labour and domestic work for survival.

During a community mobilisation exercise, DBRC identified the issues of this community. DBRC took on the challenge of integrating Koya Dora tribes into the mainstream. Staff members were deployed to educate them on various subjects, including women's health and alternative livelihood options. All households were encouraged to apply for migration certificates, crucial for accessing their rights and entitlements. Through the team's dedicated efforts, every household successfully obtained both migration and caste certificates from the government.

DBRC also understood that unless consistent livelihood security is provided to these tribes, ensuring sustainability to their families would be

Empowering the Voiceless



very hard to achieve. To create alternative livelihood options, DBRC facilitated their connection with the tribal welfare department, enabling them to access loans and other provisions under the ST Sub-plan.

Recognizing DBRC's sustained efforts, the government granted these families all necessary benefits and entitlements under the DBT component of the SC/ST Sub-plan. All the households received migration certificates and caste certificates; most of the eligible persons received social security pensions and the children of these deprived families got enrolled in government schools. In addition to this, community women received entrepreneurial training in collaboration with the Tribal Welfare Department and DRDA to establish their own businesses. Eleven women received tailoring training, leading 24 of them to start tailoring businesses from home. Four women opened petty shops, while three others launched home-based ventures.

DBRC facilitated the formation of 11 Self Help Groups (SHGs) to empower the women, fostering their development and promoting social solidarity. These results demonstrate that continuous support and education are two essential tools that can empower the voiceless, enabling them to contribute to their own development.

Stories of Change



Realizing the Distant Dream

- DBRC organises series of interface meetings to identify waste picker issues.
- Waste picking communities living under constant risk of evacuation.
- Government sanctions 144 houses to waste pickers.

Marginalised communities such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes (ST), and other denotified tribes are constantly subjected to violence and are often forced to take up menial jobs in society. Despite having several legal protection laws and constitutional rights, they are generally tagged as someone who catches rats, collects waste, manual scavengers etc. DBRC, since its inception, is committed to work for the upliftment of these communities.

DBRC organised series of interface meetings between the government officials and the waste-picking communities to understand their problems and identify people with no identity cards and entitlements. One major issue faced by these communities is lack of a permanent house. Most of these communities reside beside the roads, in isolated areas, near railway tracks, etc. and are often evicted during road widening or when initiating new railway lines. Hence, these communities

generally migrate from place to place and live in temporary makeshift tents.

Understanding the plight of these communities, DBRC, from 2017, has been consistently advocating with the MRO, joint collector, and collector to provide housing to these communities but in vain. In 2019, DBRC staff met the then collector, Sri. Imtiyaz and requested him to provide housing waste pickers. The collector visited their areas and interacted with these communities and understood that there is an immediate need to provide housing. DBRC staff requested him to provide housing under the JNNURM scheme. Then we were informed that each beneficiary must contribute Rs. 66,000 to avail housing under this scheme. This requirement caused significant disappointment among the communities as most of them could not afford the beneficiary share.

Faced with the communities' inability to afford the beneficiary share, DBRC further advocated with the TRICOR (State Tribal Welfare Department) and requested their support in allocating funds from the SC/ST Sub Plan funds. After consistent follow-up, TRICOR approved the request and has allocated Rs. 66,000 per beneficiary to 144 households in a phased manner. Now, they have a

permanent house to live in and we believe this will reduce migration among these communities.

Houses were allotted to 144 waste picker households across different places. To our dismay, we were shocked to see that there was no electricity, running water, drinking water, no doors and windows, and toilets were broken and were not in a usable condition. We promptly contacted the district tribal welfare officer and brought the issues to his attention. He subsequently visited the affected areas and initiated the process of providing electricity, drinking water, and other necessities by filing a request with the collector. The collector approved the request, and work on installing electricity meters and water supply is currently underway. The whole process took years of follow-up, and commitment of the team.

The following communities from different areas were sanctioned houses:

Bheemannavaripeta: Bheemannavaripeta, located on a hillock within Vijayawada city, is home to marginalized communities traditionally engaged in waste picking and manual scavenging. These families previously resided on footpaths and in parks before moving to Bheemannavaripeta. However, government initiatives towards urban development, including road construction, park beautification, and utilization of barren land for recreational purposes, resulted in their displacement. Consequently, around 60 families relocated to Bheemannavaripeta, started living in temporary shelters without access to electricity

or proper power supply. To make matters worse, the area is susceptible to landslides, posing a significant threat to the residents' safety.

Krishna Varadhi: Krishna Varadhi is a bridge built in addition to the Prakasam Barrage on the river Krishna. Krishna water is not released from the barrage unless it accumulates a considerable amount of water. As Krishna Varadhi is on the opposite side, it became a home for the poor. Waste pickers started living there by constructing temporary housing with the help of banners and sheets and are at constant risk of inflow of water. If barrage gates are released, it often sweeps their houses. They do not even have proper identities to apply for available government schemes.

Krishna Lanka: Fifty waste picker families are living in makeshift tents near the Prakasam Barrage, beside a graveyard. They face constant hardship during rains or floods as water often inundates their shelters, washing away belongings and forcing them to flee for safety. As they have migrated from different places and settled down here and lack proper documentation, they struggle to access essential resources and government schemes.

RR Peta: Raja Rajeswari Peta, an area within the limits of the city, has been home to several waste-picking communities. Around 88 waste-picking families live here and do not have permanent housing and access to government schemes as they do not have basic identity cards. Despite repeated appeals to the housing departments, no action was taken.



Constitution is not a mere lawyers document, it is a vehicle of Life, and its spirit is always the spirit of Age

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Stories of Change

From Invisibility to Visibility

The story of Chenchu Community in Kurnool

- DBRC discovers that most of Chenchu community children were out of school
- DBRC supports the demand for establishment of a school within Chenchu colony
- DBRC's efforts goes beyond the establishment of school

DBRC played a vital role in transforming the lives of 600 vulnerable Chenchu families in Kurnool. Mrs. Jyothi, DBRC coordinator, discovered that children from the Chenchu community lacked basic necessities and were out of school. They made a living by picking up waste and were living in dire conditions in the outskirts of Kurnool city, with inadequate housing and no access to any government aid. About 90 families and approximately 600 individuals from the colony were living in abject poverty.

These communities lived in temporary makeshift tents made from discarded sarees and waste flex banners. They lacked access to basic amenities like toilets, clean water, roads, and electricity. Their surroundings resembled a dumping yard rather than a habitable area. Shockingly, government aid and attention seemed non-existent, as residents lacked essential identity cards, access to welfare schemes, and even basic educational facilities.

Recognizing the gravity of the situation of the Chenchu community, DBRC embarked on a mission to uplift the Chenchu Community. Initially, DBRC started by helping the community members get ID cards, but soon realized more was needed to work. By talking and working together



with the community, DBRC built trust and became a partner in tackling the many challenges the Chenchu community faced.

DBRC collaborated with the community members with a core focus on securing education for the community's children. Forced to walk long distances to a government school where they faced ostracization and unequal treatment, education remained an elusive dream for these children. Determined to change this reality, the community, alongside DBRC, staged a powerful protest in front of the district office to demand a school within their own community area.

The community's passionate appeal captured media attention and the district authorities' attention. Recognizing the immediate need, the District Collector and Education Officer swiftly acted. Subsequently, a new school was sanctioned in the colony and was inaugurated on January 18, 2017. This moment marked a new chapter for the Chenchu children resulting in 145 students getting enrolled in the new school.

The impact of DBRC's efforts extended beyond the establishment of a school. Recognizing the community's wider needs, they continued their advocacy, engaging in negotiations with district officials and government departments. This persistence paid off when the District Collector recommended enrolling the Chenchu community in various government schemes facilitated by the Integrated Tribal Development Agency. This success story exemplifies the power of grassroots activism and community empowerment. DBRC remains committed to catalysing lasting change in the lives of marginalized communities.

New Salience of Caste

- Prof. K Y Ratnam, Department of Political Science, University of Hyderabad.



Mainstream development orthodoxies coming from academics and policy architects, in India, rubbishes the congruence between caste and socio-economic empowerment. Historically, caste has been the most important defining feature of India's social stratification and caste and socio-economic status are vigorously inter-related source of inequality and reinforce each other. Caste even today indisputably persists and perpetuates socio-economic inequalities and impedes/hampers human development. Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), the principal victims of the traditional hierarchical caste system continue to be a disadvantaged group.

Many research studies found that, the caste in the neo-liberal era has created hurdles and unequal access and opportunities for the SCs and STs. Caste as social hierarchy, its impact in rural inequality, in urban labor markets, in the business economy, and its effect on the policies of affirmative action in public-sector education and employment seems to be a greater challenge for the socio-economic empowerment of SCs and STs in the post-liberalization era.

Constitutionally and legally caste as a hereditary and hierarchical discriminatory category perceived as a source of disadvantage for designing the affirmative action policies. However, Caste has become a resource, perhaps best conceived as a network, a network of enormous durability and spatial reach offering social protection, access to jobs, business, and control over resources beyond state regulation (See David Mosse, 2018). Caste identity revived by current neo-liberal economic and political forces continue to produce disparities. Caste works both as a structure of disadvantage or discrimination and as a structure of advantage or accumulation working alongside gender, religion (D Mosse, 2018).

Caste involves processes of both “categorical exclusion” and “opportunity hoarding (D Mosse, 2018)”, it persists in the age of the market because of its advantages of opportunities for the dominant and its discrimination and threat of the advancement of subordinated groups (D Mosse, 2018). Capitalism under the neo-liberal market economy has not subverted, disrupted and destroy the caste system. Caste in the post-liberalization economy does not denote a single process or effect, it virtually present in market economy and travel back and forth from village to the city (D Mosse, 2018). The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. The NREGA self-targets poorer Dalit's is case in point.

Caste and market economy means taking many things into account. The delivery of public services is also a source of discrimination. Village rural health care study suggests that SCs and STs are experiencing untouchability, aversion to touch during diagnosis in the name of cleanliness from upper caste health workers. Midday Meals Scheme found caste segregation. Public Distribution System shown to discriminate against Dalits in shop locations, quality and price of goods and treatment of customers (D Mosse, 2018). Denied social honor and discriminates which also drive economic inequality.

Neoliberal industrializing India is shaped by inequalities inherited from village caste orders. Upper-caste village elites who controlled the village land had the privileged position are found withdrawing from the village economy and became the regional elites. Their dominance replaced by brokerage caste networks of contract business, mining, transport, construction, housing market, IT companies and corporate education and health. Their access to necessary credit, state schemes, market jobs are still unchallenged (D Mosse, 2018). Upper castes are able to respond to under/unemployment

by mobilizing capital and caste connections externally and to invest in village-based businesses which are unavailable to SCs and STs. Caste is ever-more important in accessing higher education, jobs or business as a resource or strategic network for access to the market economy. For many SCs and STs, the town represents escape from rural toil and risk of humiliation. Post-reform development has not broken caste networks (D Mosse, 2018). Upper castes with higher-status professions and SCs and STs with manual and casual labor low-end service such as masonry or carpentry, find themselves in the low-skill dirty units, as a self-employment. The gap in access to higher education widen in the post-reform period resulting disjuncture between higher education and employment. There is persisting caste-based disparity in earnings for equivalent levels of education, greater in the private than the public sector (D Mosse, 2018).

The question of why equivalently qualified SCs and STs earn less. Discrimination occurs at two levels. First, the job market implicitly demands of applicant's traits, skills, linguistic and cultural competences in which dominant class-caste culture bundled as individual "merit". Second, discrimination operates directly on identities. Especially in private firms, through socially framed norms, perceptions, interests and decisions rather than individual psychological prejudices (D Mosse, 2018). Upper-caste/class candidates experience privileged cultural capital and prejudicial norms and networks as casteless merit; whereas, SCs and STs with limited finance and weaker networks, understandable preference for the scarce public sector jobs (D Mosse, 2018).

Regarding occupational ranking and the differential valuation of work and workers, the caste-typing of jobs is strong in certain businesses such as restaurants. Brahman cooks and suppliers whereas sanitary work with SCs and STs labour. The self-represented elite sectors such as information technology as being matched to upper caste (Brahmin) knowledge and skills. Whereas identity-bound work stigmatized occupations, filthy,

dehumanizing and unprotected work of dealing with human excreta, known as "manual scavenging but still assigned to the lowest castes (D Mosse, 2018).

Highly mobile "super-exploited" seasonal labour force mainly recruited from SCs and STs, to distant construction sites, brick-kilns, factories and plantations, work on construction sites, in stone quarries, lime kilns and brick fields, has no chance to get skilled or better-paid work. They were pushed into waste business, dealing in segregated dry inorganic waste, often plastic (kabada), and the most stigmatized SCs and STs picking and dealing in unsegregated organic/inorganic waste (kooda-kachhra) what is known as waste economy (D Mosse, 2018).

Markets are indeed ranked, sectors such as mining/quarrying, construction and transport are found to be relatively open to Dalit's, while entry into health and education, food, hospitality, finance and the service sectors is much harder (D Mosse, 2018). High-symbolic-value markets like food or clothing and more interiorized the market, more caste-linked products like oil, milk or rice SCs and STs were excluded from even transport services were segmented: non-SCs and STs transported people/long distances; SCs/STs transported goods/short distances (D Mosse, 2018). Restricted access to capital or collateral (e.g., property undervalued because of its caste location), to business networks, premises, infrastructure, raw materials supply chains and markets controlled by other castes, all mean that SCs and STs the first generation to do so, have entered the business economy at the bottom, running petty shops, as dealers or agents (D Mosse, 2018). These are mostly survival-oriented rather than entrepreneurial businesses, owner-operated or reliant on family labor, without formal credit, and mostly rural and male are expected to be labourers; their entry into business is socially transgressive. Setting up a business, even selling fruit or fish, is not just an enterprise, it is a social assertion. Barriers to self-employment lead many educated Dalits to withdraw into unemployment (D Mosse, 2018). ■

Ambedkar's Idea of Prabuddha Bharath

A Dalit Political Philosophy

- Dr. Ramesh Babu Para*



Introduction

There is a considerable progress of Dalit communities in terms of socio-economic transformation. However, these communities still lag behind the rest of the society. Social exclusion, poverty, landlessness, unemployment, health and education are serious concerns for Dalit sections. More focused interventions are needed to enhance the pace of development of these communities.

One important dimension of the notion of inclusive growth is that the benefits of growth should reach socially disadvantaged sections like Dalits. Even before independence, the National Planning Committee (NPC, 1937) under the chairmanship of Jawaharlal Nehru made detailed recommendations on a whole range of social and economic issues relating not only to agriculture and industry but also to wider issues of distribution, social justice and social welfare. Dr. Ambedkar also had a vision for socially and economically disadvantaged sections.

There has been several programmes, progressive legislations and Constitutional safeguards to help Dalits. But, the vision of Nehru and Ambedkar have not been realised even after 75 years of Independence. This is also true of Andhra Pradesh.

In this context, this chapter gives an outline of the status of Dalits in Andhra Pradesh, their problems and prospects in the human development perspective. It presents the prevailing situation in respect of Dalits and their level of backwardness with respect to parameters such as income, land ownership, health indicators, educational attainment,

access to basic infrastructure and basic amenities like water supply, sanitation, electricity etc.,

The Idea of Prabuddha Bharat

Ambedkar intends to discuss how the concept of Prabuddha Bharath (enlightened India) was perceived as a political thought process for the emancipation of the large masses of the Dalits. Ambedkar became prominent in resolving social phenomenon received in the wider spectrum of morality and ethics in Buddhism to address Dalit political philosophy. Ambedkar begins by defining what is possibly meant by the term Prabuddha Bharath in his popular work Buddha and his Dhamma. Thus, laid the necessary foundation to present evidences for the existence of such individuals in India during the Buddhist epoch in modern times. While dealing with Buddhist discourses and teachings concerning the institution of Constitutional State and individuals' persuasion of liberty, equality and fraternity as a political philosophy. It further rests in focusing on the rationale in examining Buddha, Dharma, Sangha a response in Buddhism.

The conception of Dalit political philosophy depicted in the Constitutional State by analysing ontological discourses (social facts, social laws). The division between social laws and social facts theoretically made the ground in neo-Buddhism. The clear division over social laws and social facts which needs to be analysed from the perspective of people as social facts and from the perspective of the state as social laws. The mass conversion of Dalits into Buddhism after Ambedkar's deeksha (conversion)

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ceremony opened up the idea of human rights and individual attainments in the society over the fair distribution of resources, the impartial rule of law, and political freedom. Ambedkar's interpretation of Prabuddha Bharath raises many questions: does the conception of dukka (sorrow) in Buddhism addresses the established caste-Hindu social coercion be totalled as basis for social justice theory? What is important here is that the phenomenon of political power, dominates with action oriented political thinking though the existing social practices.

The quest for self-respect and cultural way of autonomous life among the Dalits is debatable until Ambedkar's revisiting to Buddhism. It relates to rereading Buddhism can be viewed as an alternative in the context of inequalitarian socio-cultural practices and systems existed in the name of Manu codes in the society. The resistance against inequal socio-cultural structures could be altered through legal means in bringing about the change in the society by promoting neo-Buddhist framework. Ambedkar's revisiting Buddhism gives an account of socio-cultural life in the form of Neo-Buddhism or Navayana Buddhism. It is important to the society based on the principles of non-discrimination, equality and respect. In recent times Ambedkar's standing quite relevant to the large masses on the idea of Neo-Buddhism not only survived but also expanding widely. The Buddha and his Dhamma spellbound to the entire generation Dalit movement led leaders and activists, academic circles and policy

makers. What is so interesting in this neo-Buddhism is that proclaimed the modern individual thoughts of liberty, equality and fraternity assured by practicing doctrinal basis of religion as against hierarchical caste based social structure in Hinduism.

Conclusion

The idea of neo-Buddhism through the Constitutional assurance for the construction of liberal autonomy of the Dalits in day-to-day socio-cultural life. An empirical analysis is made to examine the impact of Ambedkar's publicly adopted Buddhism at a deeksha (conversion) ceremony on 14 October 1956, at Nagpur. How did it influence Andhra society to follow Buddhism towards a liberation and emancipation thought process? The massive mass conversions brought a new emphasis on the secular ethics in Buddhism that took the campaign against caste-Hinduism/Brahmanism in two ways. Firstly, the interest in selecting Buddhism as an alternative renewed way of life and a set of doctrines which were different completely from prevailing ritualistic ordinances of existing religions in Andhra Pradesh. The choice of selecting Buddhism in this respect is based on "reason" rather than "revolution". In a way Ambedkar's Neo-Buddhism or Navayana Buddhism is to believe ultimately that the values guiding individual behaviour must have some basis independent of and outside human desire. ■



"It is not enough to be electors only. It is necessary to be law-makers; otherwise those who can be law-makers will be the masters of those who can only be electors."

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Challenges of Building & Other Construction Workers in Andhra Pradesh

- **A Madhava Rao**, State Coordinator, DBRC - India Labour Line



Construction work is one of the major works in the unorganised sector in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Workers engaged in construction, alteration, repairs, maintenance or demolition are defined as construction workers. This is in relation to buildings, streets, roads, railways, tramways, airfields, irrigation, drainage, embankment and navigation works, flood control works, generation, transmission and distribution of power, water works, oil and gas installations, electric lines, radio, television, telephone, telegraph and overseas communications, dams, canals, reservoirs, watercourses, tunnels, bridges, viaducts, aqua ducts, pipelines, towers, cooling towers, transmission towers and such work is defined as Building and other Construction works.

Government of India enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and it constituted a welfare board called Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board (BOCW) to assess and act on the issues of construction workers.

Construction Population Coverage, Andhra Pradesh

In Andhra Pradesh, there are 2,08,494 active workers into construction as per the records of BOCW. According to The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), a professional body for real estate said that "India's construction sector is the second largest employment generator with 7.1 crore workforce employed currently and the number is set to cross 10 crores by 2030".

There are more than 500 labour clusters (addas

or pick-up points) in the state of Andhra Pradesh in which thousands (7.1 lakhs workers) of daily wage workers gather every day in search of work including the construction workers. 60% of the workers found in labour addas are construction workers with women comprising of 10% of the total workforce. The day starts for these laborers as early as 5 am and ends at 5 pm, sometimes even longer. They arrive at the labour addas early to secure employment first from the contractor.

Migration in Construction Workers:

According to 2011 census, there are 37,37,316 (Male: 30,51,811, Female: 6,85,505) workers migrate from Andhra Pradesh and there is no exclusive data of construction workers in this regard. Interstate migrant workers make 35.4 percent of all the construction workers in the country's urban areas, according to the 2001 Census. Workers primarily migrate from states such as Odisha, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan to Andhra Pradesh. Intra-state migration happens from East Godavari, West Godavari, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram etc.

Classification of Construction Workers

Construction workers can be classified into two, one is Skilled labour; are the workers who possess a minimum skill-set are called skilled labour Ex. Mason, Centring Foreman, Flooring Forman, Plumber, Carpenter, and Fabricator painter etc.; Unskilled labour; are those who do their job as helping hands and with minimum/no skill. Ex. Male and Female helping hands in the construction work.

Besides this, construction workers classified into four types: 1. Temporary, 2. Independent

Contractors, 3. Employees, and 4. Union Workers.

Temporary: The temporary workers are from any agency, leasing or such staffing companies. These workers have less job security and no benefits from their construction owner. The workers' needs are taken care by their agencies.

Independent Contractors: The independent contractors are understood as "Self-employed" that means, the construction sites which use their services do not hold any right to directly mandate or supervise their time, work performance and method of work. However, the context of Andhra Pradesh state remains, a self-employed contractor supplies the number of workers for the site, and will look after their payments as a middle man.

Employees: Employees are those workers whom an establishment/construction work site builder directly hires them for work for a particular period of time. The owner has the full right in this case, as to terminate an employee's work at any point of time.

Union Workers: The workers who represent a union, or belong to a union are called the union workers. The registered unions not only provide them the work, but also ensure their socio-economic welfare by providing them a registration through which the union gives them future benefits such as, Work site Death Compensation, Accidental compensation. One such is Centre of Indian Trade Union (CITU).

Challenges & Constraints of Construction Workers

The construction workers face several challenges in their daily life and discussed them below.

Irregular Work:

Modernised machinery and construction material introduced in the construction work which has resulted the number of work days are reduced. The labour is not getting the work all 30 days in a month. The workers who the age of 40 are not getting work regularly as the construction work is being a tough job. The contractors are partial and more selective to choose the workers below the age

of 40. The uncertainty of work directly affecting the income of the head of the family, thus resulting in debts for high rate of interests, and pushing them into poverty.

Scope for Injuries:

It is widely accepted that the construction work is a risky industry. Workers have to be aware of falling off from the high roofs, ladders, and the faulty work equipment. The workers are also more at risk while working on the high roofs they should be more cautious of lightening and thunders. Besides that, cuts, eye infections, concrete burns, etc. are very common in the construction work. Above all, the safety precautions, and awareness on the same is very less.

Lack of Basic Amenities at Workplace:

It is very important, when it comes to constructing a building or a project, to have the basic amenities at work site. Majority of the construction work site, lacks the basic amenities such as clean drinking water, washrooms for both men and women, a proper shelter to have lunch or to hide when it rains, a safe shelter, electricity, water facility for migrant workers, and other basic home needs like groceries, vegetables, safe place, transportation facility, etc. These amenities not only support the workers but also contribute to safety and productivity. It is the responsibility of the builders/contractors to make sure the availability of these basic facilities.

Fraudulent activities by the Owners/contractors/builders:

There is a high prevalence of work-related frauds happen to workers such as wage theft, bondage, physical and verbal abuse, and non-payment of compensation to worksite accidents. Along with this, women harassment and sexual abuse also major challenges of the construction workers.

BOCW Act and its Implementation:

It is well known truth that majority of the construction worker are unaware of Building and Other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and other related schemes and services.

Government lack a concrete policy for the safety and empowerment of the construction workers. There are several gaps in implementing the BOCW act and to reach its objectives. It is high time to initiate new schemes and services for the welfare and empowerment of the construction worker in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Way Forward/Suggestions

- Andhra Pradesh State has 2,08,494 registered construction workers on the records, and the unregistered construction workers' number is said to be high. It required to government to take up initiatives to bring all the construction workers under the BOCW act.
- The worker's wages should be paid digitally to monitor reasonable/reliable payments as there are many wage theft face by the workers from their contractors/builders.
- The schemes and services both at the national and state level should be applicable to all the workers registered under BOCW irrespective of caste, gender, region, race, culture, etc. It helps the migrants to avail their benefits wherever they work in the country.
- Local labour registration centres will ease the efforts of labour department in registering

work and workers. However, the formalisation/ systematization of the informal sector, at least the construction industry will reap more benefits in the states that bring such innovations.

- Migrant labour should be provided the basic amenities like shelter, water, transportation, etc. and also the contractor or builder should provide clean drinking water, washrooms, safety equipment to the workers at the work sites to minimise the accidents and other injuries.
- Women safety and harassment should be taken as a high priority and take required measures to stop harassment and violence at work place.

Conclusion

The number of organizations working on the issues of construction workers is very limited. Construction workers also should avail the benefit of ESI scheme in spite of its limitations, reason is the construction workers are mostly illiterate, lack of awareness, it is here, the greater number of volunteers/organizations should pitch in, advocate on behalf of these workers. The informal sector in a way, requires the formalization as to see more benefits. And let us all spread awareness and hope positively that the rights of all workers are protected, worker related legislations take no diversions. ■



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- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Socio-Economic and Cultural Conditions of Denotified and Nomadic Communities in Andhra Pradesh: A Brief Review

- Dr. Gujju Umamaheswararao, Researcher, DBRC



Introduction:

The British Government in India enacted the Criminal Tribes Act-1871 (CTA-1871), which declared certain castes, tribes, communities, gangs, and classes as born or habitual criminals. Hundreds of caste groups, tribes, gangs, and other classes were designated as habitual offenders under this Act, which was extended to the entire British India region. While listing an entire community as criminals is atrocious, cruel, inhuman, and undemocratic, the Act remained active until India gained independence. The Criminal Tribes Act-1871 was repealed in 1952, and all the communities previously notified under this Act were denotified. However, the impact of the Criminal Tribes Act-1871 has continued to affect these communities, subjecting them to the stigma of criminality within both the legal system and society, leading to their social, economic, and cultural marginalization.

In 1952, government of India advised all the state governments to enact the Habitual Offenders Act, declaring a person as criminal if he/she has been continuously involved in criminal activities for five years. As of today, approximately 10 states in India have enacted the Habitual Offenders Act. In March 2007, the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination stated: “The so-called Denotified and Nomadic people listed for their alleged ‘criminal tendencies’ under the former Criminal Tribes Act (1871) continue to be stigmatized under the Habitual Offenders...” and asked India to repeal the Habitual Offenders Act and rehabilitate the Denotified and Nomadic tribes.

In 2005, the then UPA Government constituted a National Commission for Denotified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (NCDNT) under the chairmanship of Balakrishna Sidram Renke and submitted the report in 2008. In 2015, the BJP-led Government again constituted a National Commission for Denotified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (NCDNT) under the chairmanship of Bhuku Ramji Idate and submitted the report in December 2017. According to the Idate Commission, there are 26 Denotified Communities listed in several categories (SC-04, ST-06, OBC-16) and 34 Nomadic Communities (SC-15, ST-01, OBC-18) living in Andhra Pradesh. There are another 15 and 13 DNT and Nomadic communities are not included under any categories such as SC, ST, and OBCs. Chenchu, Yerukula, Waddera, Pardhi (Nakkala, Pittala, Shikari, Niti-Shikari), Pamula, Paidi, Pichaguntla, Relli, Yerukula, Yanadi, Dasari, Gangireddula, Budabukkala, Beda Buduga Jangam, Dommara, Jogi, Kati Papal, Madaari, Dakkala, Mashtin, Banda, Poosala, etc. are instances of Denotified and Nomadic communities in Andhra Pradesh

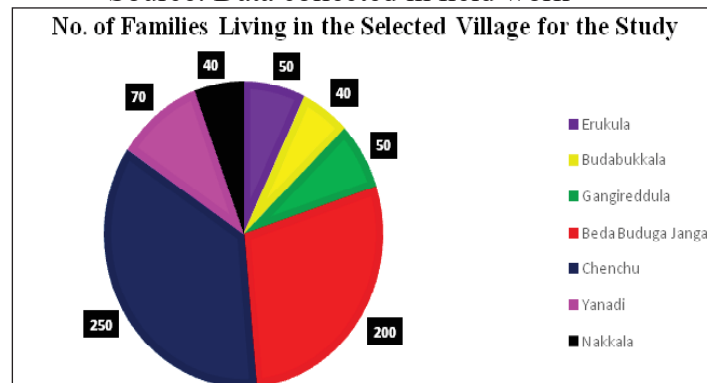
Profile of the Study

For the study, the researcher has conducted ten Focus Group Discussions (FGD) with Seven DNT and NT communities in Five Districts (See. Table-01). There was no age restriction to participate in the FGDs and all the respondents participated in the study were above the age of 15 years. Men and women were taken equally and the respondents were picked up for the study were not from the same family. Each FGD

consisted of 10 to 12 people and single FDG was conducted where there are 50 families or less than that. In case where there are more than 100 families, two FGDs were conducted.

Table-01. Profile of the Study				
S. No.	District	Village / Town	Community Name	No. of Families
1	Eluru	B. Singavaram	Erukula	50
2	Guntur	Joseph Nagar	Budabukkala	40
		Joseph Nagar	Gangireddula	50
		Venigandla	Beda Buduga Jangam	200
3	Palnadu	Sattenapalli	Chenchu	250
4	Bapatla	Ramanjuneya Colony	Yanadi	70
5	Ongole	Ongole	Nakkala	40

Source: Data collected in field work



Key Findings of the Study:

The researcher identified several key issues faced by the DNT (Denotified Tribes) and NT (Nomadic Tribes) communities during the field study conducted in the specified areas. The findings were based on field observations, notes taken during fieldwork, and personal discussions with members of the communities. These insights were crucial in shaping the field study's conclusions and recommendations.

1. Living Conditions

- The selected communities for the study are living in temporary houses made of tarpaulins, plastic covers, cloths, hanging flex banners, Kutcha houses, etc.
- They live in deserted places and outskirts of the towns/villages.
- Safety and security is one of the major issues of these communities.

2. Livelihoods and Alternative Livelihoods

- Majority of these communities selected for the study are engaged in the small businesses like selling silver and plastic household utensils.

- ii. Also Budabukkala (80%), Chenchu (40%), Beda Buduga Jangam (10%) Nakkala (25%) and Gangireddula (30%) communities engaged in begging.
- iii. Women in Erukula community collect the fallen hair for an exchange of plastic, steel and aluminium household utensils in the nearby towns/villages and some of them are into their traditional occupation i.e. foretelling.
- iv. The young among Gangireddula community repair rice cookers, mixer grinders, gas stoves, smoothening knives, axe, etc. in the streets, and also go for the traditional occupation during festival season.
- v. Nakkala community sells slingshots, plastic & steel spoons, combs, mirrors, knives, etc. in bust stands and crowded areas.
- vi. Men from these communities collect honey in the season, fishing also is one of the primary source of their livelihoods, and men from Chenchu community migrate to catch rats in the agricultural fields for about three months.

3. Basic Entitlements

- i. Nearly 65% of the communities are having basic entitlements like Aadhar, Ration Card, Arogyasri, etc. But newly married couple and children do not have these identity cards.
- ii. About half of the women are in SHGs, rest of them actually looking to form groups, but due to lack proper identity cards or bank accounts details they could not form SHG groups.
- iii. Lacks of access to clean drinking water, electricity, toilets, drainage, hygiene residential area, and other facilities like school, hospital, gross-root institutions, roads, grocery shops, transportation, etc.

4. Education

- i. 60% of the children are not in schools as they are either drop-outs, or never enrolled.
- ii. There is no guarantee that the enrolled children in schools would continue their education.
- iii. Drop-out rate among all the selected communities is very high. It is very hard to find a graduate from these selected villages and the graduates can be counted on fingers.
- iv. Parents are not interested to send girl-children to schools.
- v. Few of the children from Nakkala, Chenchu and Budabukkala communities are engaged in begging.
- vi. Nomadic life style in search of livelihoods also one of the major obstacle for child education

5. Cultural Barriers

- i. Child marriages still prevalent in these communities.
- ii. Not ready to leave their Caste/Community based occupations.
- iii. Still practicing Caste Panchayats to resolve their issues and not ready to use the existing legal systems.
- iv. One side, the community feels that they are not part of the village, on the other side, the villagers too don't recognize DNT/NTs as part of the village. At the end, they become strangers life in their own land.

Summary: It is well-known fact that DNTs and NTs lack access to basic amenities such as education, healthcare, adequate housing, and dignified employment, which are essential for human well-being. It is imperative for the government to take necessary steps for the development of these communities. ■

Testimonials

I am Harikrishna, Waste Picker from Vaddeswaram village, Guntur District. I express my deepest gratitude to DBRC for supporting me for the last 6 years. The support provided by them during my tough times, either during COVID, my wife's delivery, and also by supporting me with a tricycle, has made me believe that I am not alone. They and AIW have appointed a teacher to teach me English so that I could voice out the issues of the waste picking communities at the state, national and international platforms. I am now a member of the Asia Pacific committee of the International Alliance of Waste Pickers and I have achieved great respect because of DBRC. I can't forget the respect given to me for allowing me to fly to different cities in India and Nepal also. I pledge to continue my leadership for community betterment, profoundly thankful for DBRC's life-changing impact.



I am Pasthan Mahesh, residing in Budigi Jangala colony, Sattenapalle. My brother and I are both physically challenged and haven't been able to go to school. My mother takes care of us while my father, the sole breadwinner, goes to work. We decided we should also contribute to the family income and reached out to DBRC for support.

They provided us with financial assistance to buy food items and snack materials for a petty shop. Now, we're earning around Rs. 200 per day, and we hope our business will grow in the future. We wholeheartedly thank DBRC for supporting us.

I am Sirapu Venkateswamma, from Nunna village, NTR district, belonging to the ST Koya community. I sell steel and aluminum utensils door-to-door to make a living. In 2017, I met Mrs. Ramadevi from DBRC, who involved me in various programs organized by them. Initially, I was asked to speak about the issues and needs of our community, which made me very afraid. However, they organized women's leadership training programs at the district and state levels, and I participated in them. Slowly, I developed confidence, and now I voice out the issues of the community. I'm grateful to DBRC for nurturing me to become a leader, and I'm proud to advocate for my community. It brings me great joy when others recognize me as a leader, and I owe it all to DBRC.



Testimonials

My name is Yasagiri Sanjeev Rao, and I'm a 38-year-old fisherman from Vaysar Colony, Eluru. When COVID hit, it was a really tough time. Like many others, my fishing nets got damaged, and I struggled to provide for my family.

Thankfully, the Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre came to my rescue. They generously provided me with four new nets, free of charge. These nets have been a lifesaver! I can now fish in the canals and Kolleru Lake and bring home a good income. Thanks to their support, I can face the future with confidence, knowing I can take care of my family



My name is Chintapalli Malleswari, residing in Balijepalli Village, Rajupalem Mandal, Palnadu district of Andhra Pradesh. My father is a daily wage laborer and the breadwinner of our family. Unfortunately, he fell ill and became paralyzed, rendering him unable to work. I faced the fear of having to drop out of college. However, I reached out to DBRC, and they provided me with financial assistance to continue my education (B.Sc Nursing). I am deeply grateful for this opportunity and vow to honor it with unwavering dedication

I am G Bheemaiah, belonging to the SC community. I migrated from Srikakulam district to West Godavari district and settled here as a tenant farmer. The income I earn after paying off the tenant loan from the harvest is insufficient to meet our daily needs. Consequently, I had to take loans with high interest rates from money lenders. Under these vulnerable circumstances, I never considered my children's education a possibility. Then, DBRC approached us and raised awareness about various schemes and services available at the state and central levels, assisting us in accessing those designed for the empowerment of tenant farmers. DBRC also helped us obtain caste certificates, facilitating access to various schemes and services. Previously unaware of the value of education, child marriages were common in our community. However, now I am able to send my children to school, and child marriages have almost ceased. With the assistance of DBRC, I obtained a loan from the SC Corporation and now engage in cattle rearing alongside farming. DBRC has been instrumental in bringing about revolutionary changes in my life and family.



Testimonials



I am Venkata Ramanamma, from Manikeswaram village, Prakasam District. I belong to the Yanadi community and depend on fishing for my livelihood. However, I faced challenges in selling the caught fish at market price due to my inability to provide fresh fish immediately after catching them. The income from selling fish was insufficient to meet our daily needs, let alone afford to send my children to school. Consequently, I would take them with me to help in fishing instead. I was unaware of any government schemes or services available for our community until DBRC approached us. They provided awareness sessions on the available schemes and services, including marketing skills. DBRC also supported me in acquiring a two-wheeler TVS moped to transport fish on time and provided fishing nets to catch more fish with the help of the government. These interventions helped increase my daily income significantly. As a result, I am now able to send my children to school. DBRC has empowered me to become self-confident, self-respecting, and economically independent.

I am Thupakula Bharathi from Ganapavaram, Palnadu District, belonging to the Yanadi community. My life took an unexpected turn when my husband left me for another woman. Unable to afford the compensation required for a divorce, I found myself stranded, as my parents insisted that I can't stay with them without divorcing my husband. Desperate and with two children to care for, I resorted to selling seasonal fruits and puffed rice masala at the local high school. It was DBRC that changed my life's trajectory. They provided me with a four-wheeler pulling rickshaw, transforming my small business. Now, I can sell fruits and masala throughout the village, significantly increasing my earnings. DBRC did not just offer the rickshaw, they offered hope. Thanks to DBRC, I've found a path to a more dignified life despite the challenges I faced.



I am Gandhi Ramesh, from Vempadu village, Prakasam district, belonging to the Madiga caste. Since 1983, my father and grandfather have been farming a 1½-acre agricultural field, which was encroached upon by a dominant caste group in my village. They were on the verge of selling the land along with their own, and they threatened me, prohibiting my entry onto the agricultural land. Farming this land is the only livelihood opportunity for my family. Consequently, I approached a DBRC representative, who accompanied me to the Mandal Revenue Office and later to District Collector's office to submit several representations. Despite our efforts, these representations were ignored. After prolonged DBRC efforts to establish the original owners of the land, the government records proved that it was an assigned land and was not belong to anyone. However, considering that the Ramesh family has been farming the land for the past four decades, the government allocated a survey number and promised me to provide with land ownership documents (patta) soon.

Senior Team Members



Mr. Ch. Samuel Anil Kumar

Program Manager

Working since 2012



Mrs. J. Naga Lakshmi

Finance Manager

Working since 2009



Mrs. J. Ramadevi

Regional Coordinator
Eluru & NTR Districts

Working since 2008



Mr. M. Chinnappa
Regional Coordinator
Guntur & Palnadu Districts
Working since 1997



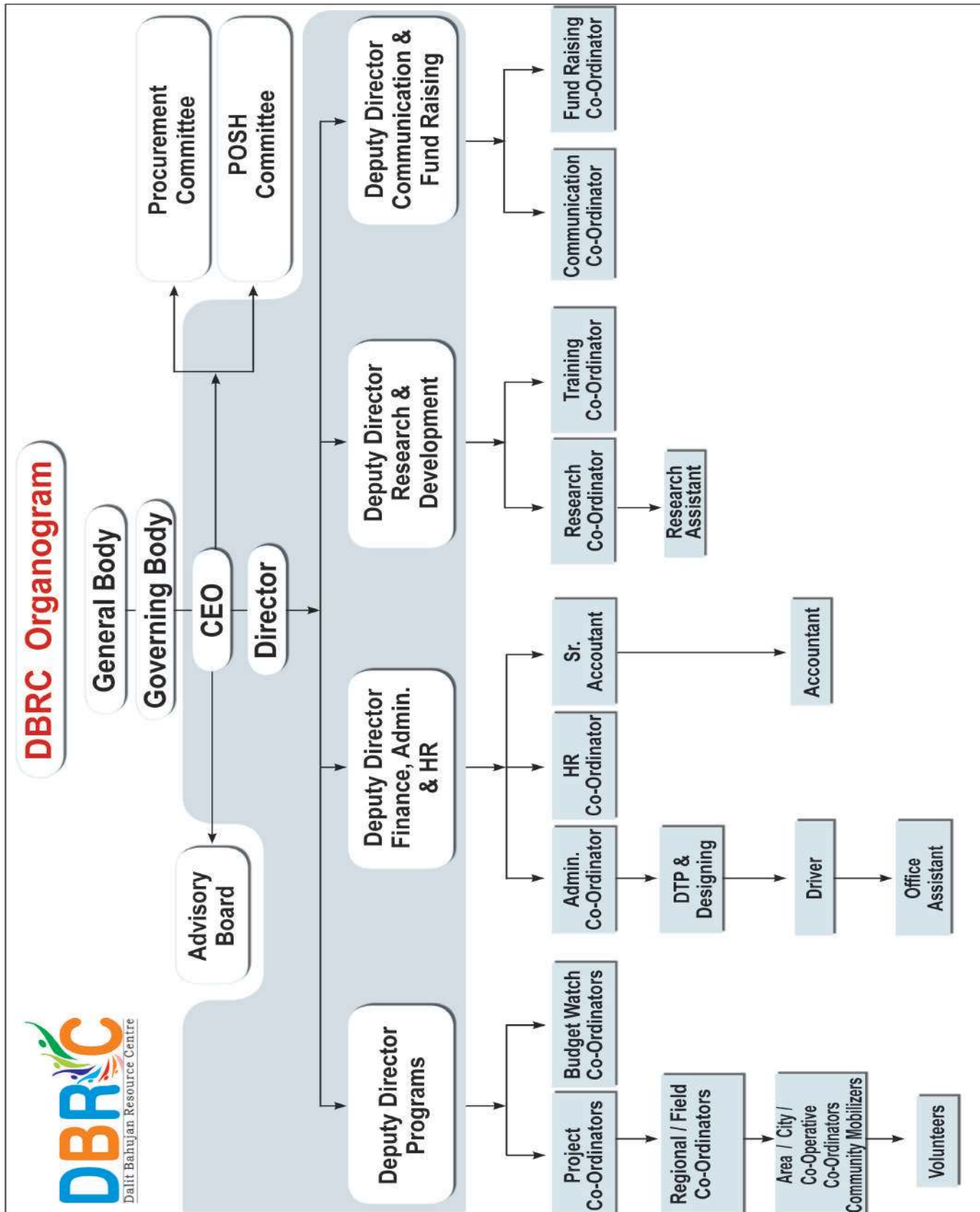
Mr. D. Koteswara Rao
Regional Coordinator
Bapatla & Prakasam Districts
Working since 2009



Mrs. S. Jyoti
Area Coordinator
Working since 2007



Mrs. G. Jhansi Rani
Area Coordinator
Working since 2012



Our Partners





DBRC team along with Mrs. Swantje, Bread for the world, Germany



Mrs. Franziska, Bread for the world, Germany interacting with the communities at Vijayawada



Mr. Md. Zia, Azim Premji Foundation at the material recovery facility at Guntur



DBRC Team



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సిడిపిడి

సమగ్ర శిశు అభివృద్ధి సేవా పథకము అధికాణి వారి కార్యాలయం,
ఐ.సి.డి.ఎస్. ప్రాజెక్టు, కొరిశపాడు.

Awards & Recognition



- **Sri. Alladi Deva Kumar**, Executive Secretary, DBRC was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by Sri Ch. Sriranganadha Raju, Incharge minister, Guntur Dist., A.P., on the occasion of Republic Day celebration in Guntur for actively involving and supporting the people during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2021.
- Mr. Alladi Deva Kumar was awarded the Karmaveer Chakra Award for the year 2023 to 2024 by international confederation of NGOs during the REX CONCLiVE held at Delhi in 2023.



Mr. Ch. Samuel Anil Kumar, Program Manager was awarded Certificate of Appreciation by Mr. Dinesh Kumar, IAS, Joint Collector of Guntur district, on the occasion of Republic Day celebration in Guntur for actively involving in the response to COVID-19 in 2021.



Mrs. P. Ramadevi, Regional Coordinator was awarded Certificate of Appreciation by Mr. Dilli Rao, IAS, Collector of NTR district, on the occasion of Republic Day celebration in Vijayawada on 26th January, 2023 for her contribution in empowering marginalized communities.



Mrs. J.Nagalaxmi, Finance Manager, was awarded the “WOW Award” by Confederation of Women Entrepreneurs of India on the occasion of AP Chapter Formation Day for her contribution to finance management of the organization on 17-11-2023 at Vijayawada.



Mr. Darla Koteswara Rao, Regional Coordinator was awarded Certificate of Appreciation by the Collector of Prakasam District for actively involving in the response to COVID-19 in 2021.

Mrs. Singavarapu Jyothi, Area Coordinator was awarded as Best Covid Warrior by Pride India at the National Integration Awards-2021 in Eluru.



▲ Smt. K Sunitha, Principal Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, viewing the photographs at a DBRC-organized photo exhibition in Guntur.



▲ Sri Venugopala Reddy, IAS, Guntur District Magistrate, viewing the photographs at a photo exhibition organized on the occasion of Babasaheb's birth anniversary celebrations conducted by DBRC in Guntur in April 2023.



▲ Sri. K.S. Lakshmana Rao, MLC, addressing a gathering on 'Ambedkar and Democracy' meeting conducted on the occasion of International Democracy Day in Guntur. Former minister Sri. Dokka Manikyava Prasad can also be seen in the picture.

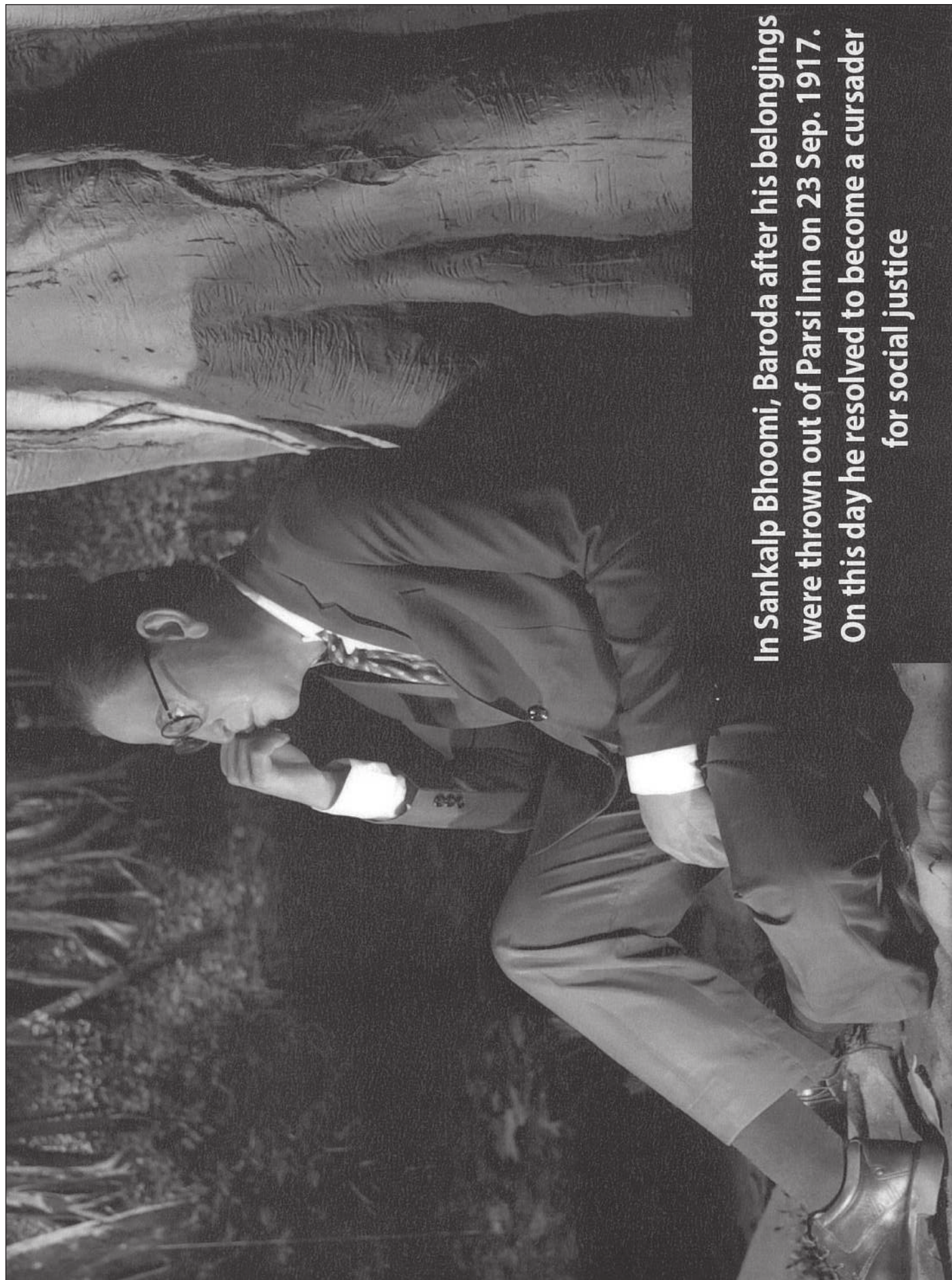


▲ On the occasion of 130th birth anniversary of Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, DBRC organized 'Walk for Equality' rally in Guntur.

Milestones in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Life



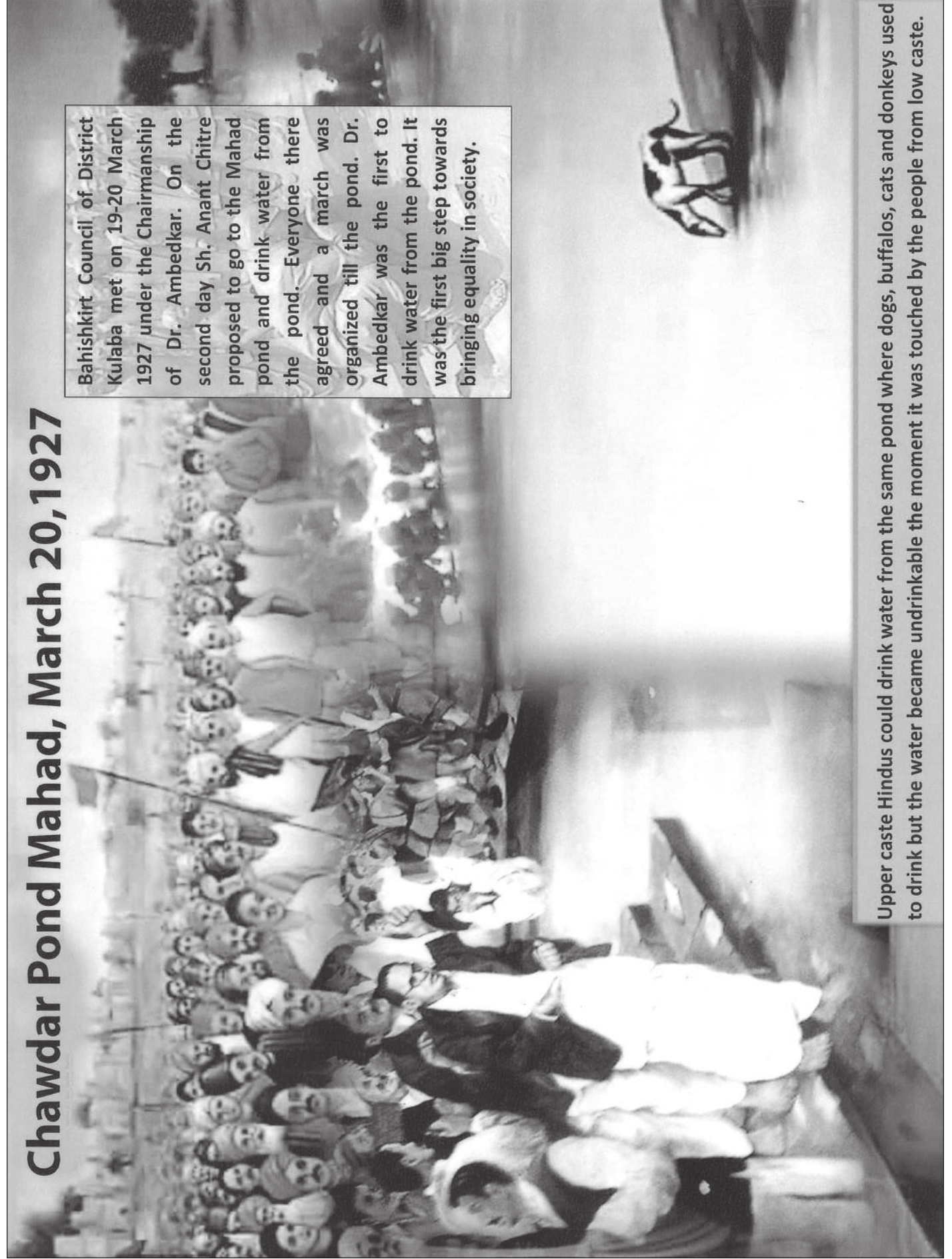
AMBEDKAR WITH HIS FAMILY MEMBERS AT RAJGRAHA IN FEBRUARY 1934. FROM
LEFT (CON) AMBEDKAR RAMARAI (WIFE) YASHVANTI (WIFE OF HIS ELDER
SON)



**In Sankalp Bhoomi, Baroda after his belongings
were thrown out of Parsi Inn on 23 Sep. 1917.
On this day he resolved to become a crusader
for social justice**

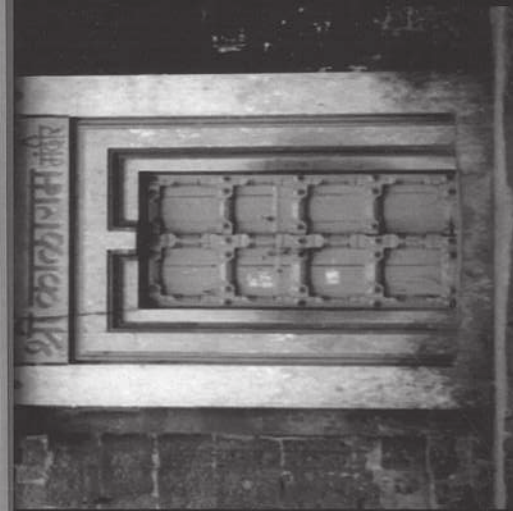
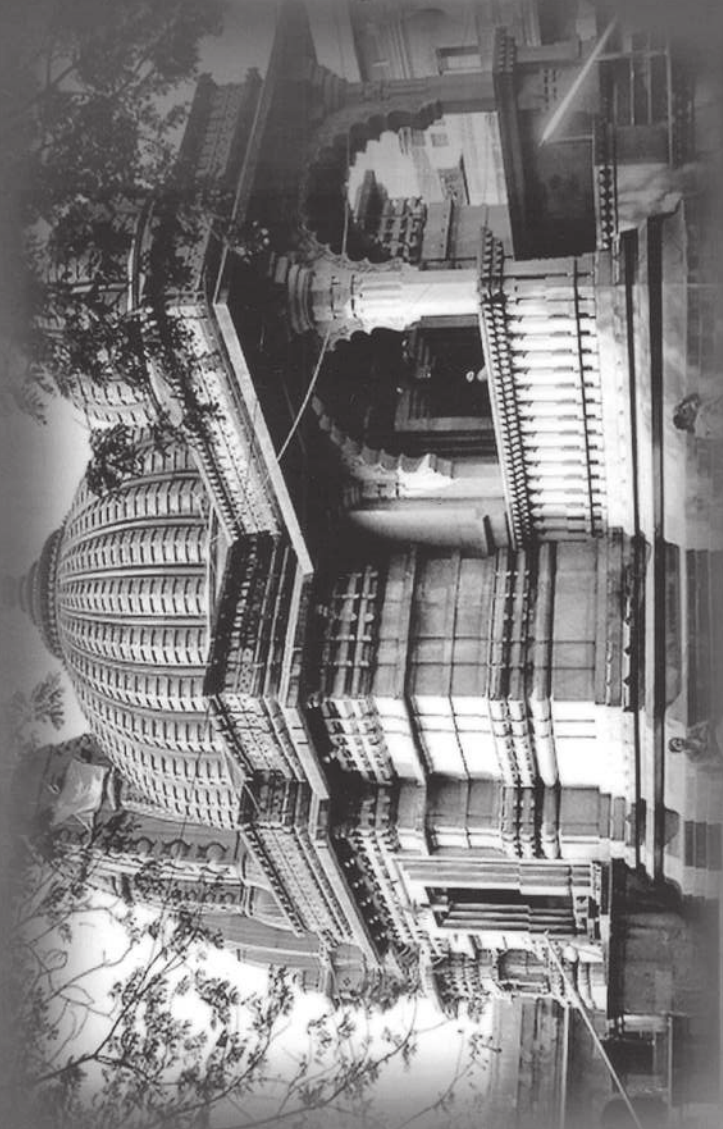
Chawdar Pond Mahad, March 20, 1927

Bahishkirt Council of District Kulaba met on 19-20 March 1927 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Ambedkar. On the second day Sh. Anant Chitre proposed to go to the Mahad pond and drink water from the pond. Everyone there agreed and a march was organized till the pond. Dr. Ambedkar was the first to drink water from the pond. It was the first big step towards bringing equality in society.



Upper caste Hindus could drink water from the same pond where dogs, buffalos, cats and donkeys used to drink but the water became undrinkable the moment it was touched by the people from low caste.

**Kalaram Temple Satyagraha, Nashik in
March, 1930 to ensure Temple entry rights
for the untouchables**





Mahatma Gandhi & Dr. Ambedkar Attended second Round table conference

DURING A DEBATE ON HINDU CODE BILL IN PARLIAMENT AFTER WHICH HE RESIG

Dr. Ambedkar's Resignation

EFFECTIVE FROM OCTOBER 6

Even Our special Representative
NEW DELHI, Sept. 28.
Mr. Nehru has accepted the resignation of the Law Minister, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, from the Cabinet and has agreed to relieve him at the end of the current session of the Parliament, expected to conclude on October 6.

Dr. Ambedkar intends to remain in Delhi after laying down the reins of ministerial office and help the Executive Council in the selection of the friend, guide, and philosopher in fighting the elections.

The Executive of the Federation will meet at Delhi on October 10 to consider the election manifesto and selection of candidates for the reserved constituencies both in Parliament and in State Legislatures.

"C.M.S." FEARS
P.T.I. adds: The Home Minister, Mr. C. R. Jha, will relinquish his office by the end of October, it was reliably learnt today.

According to informed sources, there will be no new appointments to the Cabinet. But the Prime Minister is expected to reshuffle the Law and Law portfolios among the existing Members of the Cabinet. The present indications are that the Food Minister, Mr. R. K. Khanna, who has announced that he will not contest the elections, will have additional charge of the Law Ministry.



All India Untouchable Women's Conference in Nagpur in 1942



THE FIRST CABINET OF INDIA

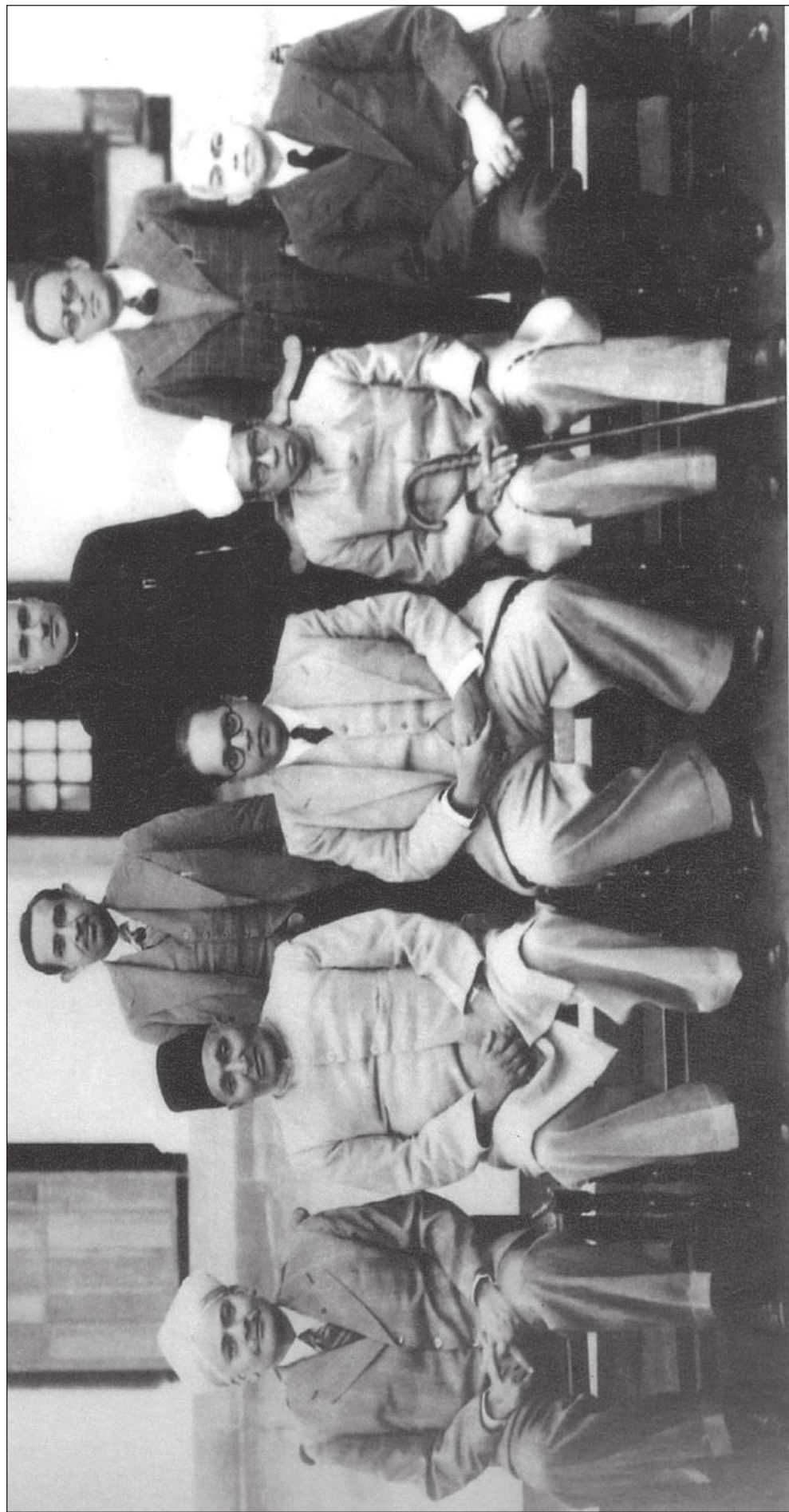


डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर ने 8 मई 1947 को स्वतंत्र भारत के प्रथम कानून मंत्री पद की शपथ ली।

राजनैतिक शक्ति समाज की सम्पूर्ण प्रगति की कुंजी है।

बाबासाहेब डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर

Taking Oath as First Law Minister of India



डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर 30 अगस्त 1947 को सर्वसम्मति से संविधान आलेखन समिति के अध्यक्ष चुने गए। डॉ. अम्बेडकर आलेखन समिति के अन्य सदस्यों के साथ।

मेरा आदर्श एक ऐसा समाज होगा जो स्वाधीनता, समानता और भाईचारे पर आधारित हो।

बाबासाहेब डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर

With Members of The Drafting Committee



संविधान आलेखन समिति के अध्यक्ष डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर ने 25 नवंबर 1949 को भारत के संविधान का अंतिम प्रारूप संविधान सभा के अध्यक्ष डॉ. राजेन्द्र प्रसाद के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया।

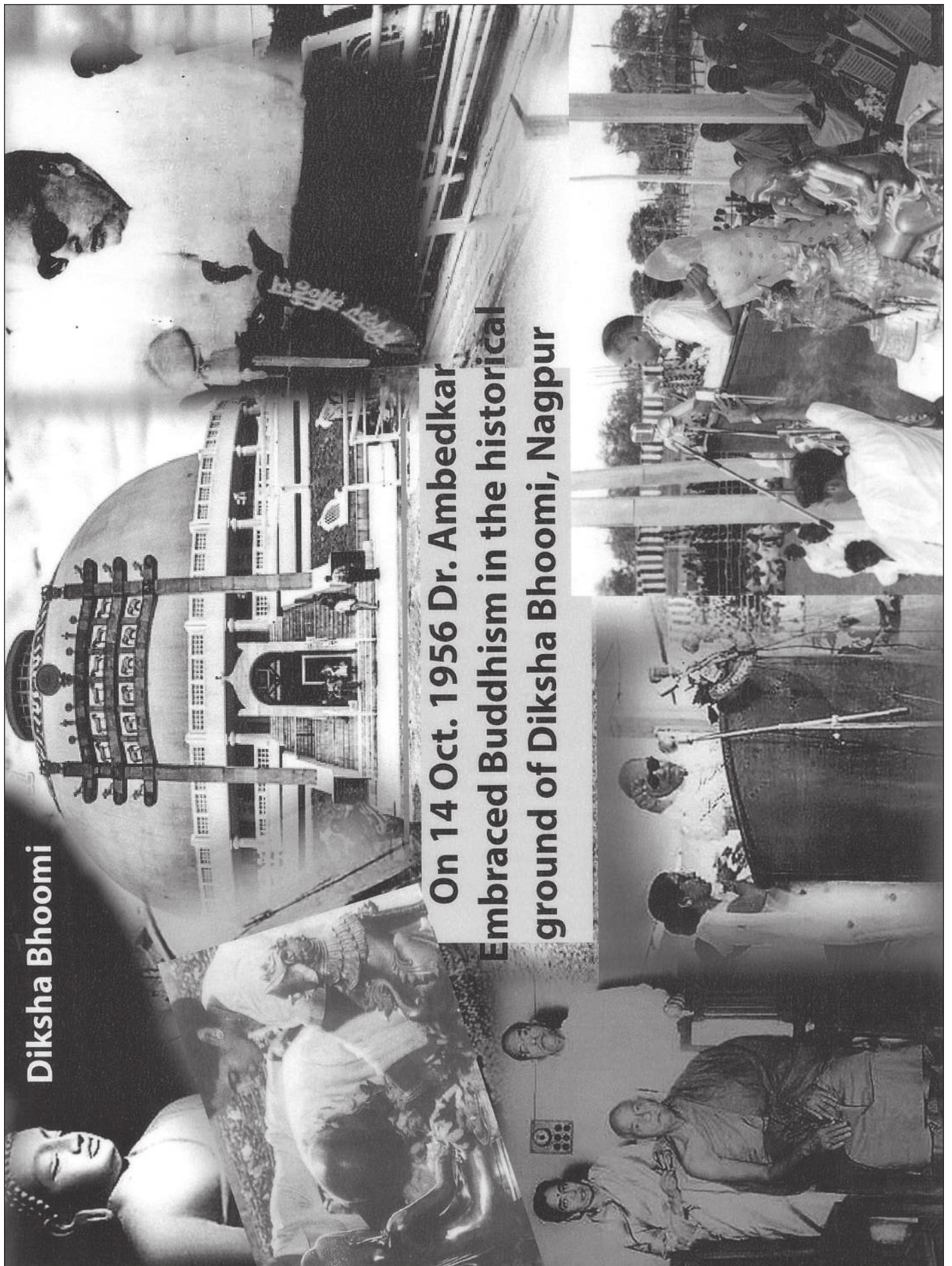
एक व्यक्ति, एक वोट, एक महत्व।

बाबासाहेब डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर

HANDING OVER THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

Diksha Bhoomi

On 14 Oct. 1956 Dr. Ambedkar
Embraced Buddhism in the historical
ground of Diksha Bhoomi, Nagpur





डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर ने 6 दिसंबर 1956 को अपने निवास 26, अलीपुर रोड, दिल्ली में 'महापरिनिर्वाण' प्राप्त किया।

मैं हमेशा आपके साथ रहूँगा क्योंकि मैं जानता हूँ कि आप भी मेरे साथ रहेंगे।

बाबासाहेब डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर

Maha Parinirvan on 6 Dec. 1956 at 26 Alipur Road Delhi



Jai Bheem! Jai Bharat!!

THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

PREAMBLE

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA,
having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a
SOVEREIGN, SOCIALIST,
SECULAR, DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLIC

and to secure to all its citizens:

JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

LIBERTY of thought, expression,
belief, faith and worship;

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity;

and to promote among them all

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the
individual and the unity and
integrity of the Nation;

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do

**HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO
OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.**



"Cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of Human existence" - Dr.B.R. Ambedkar

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