



# ROPES

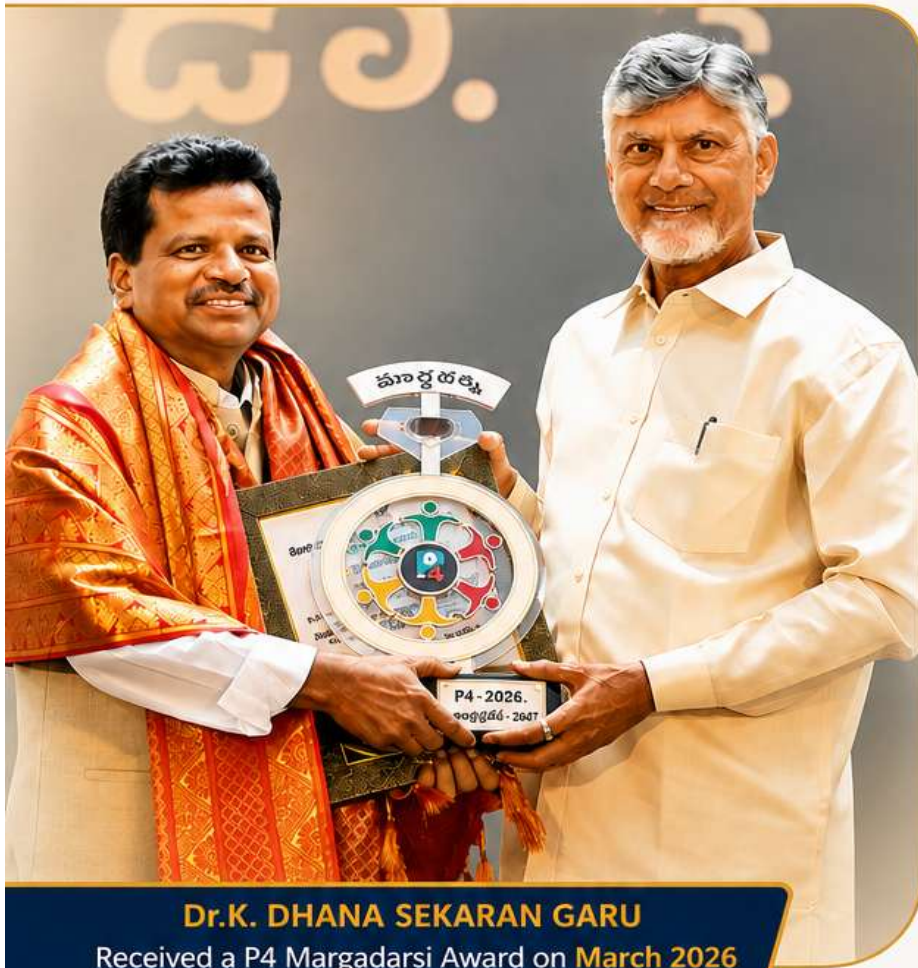
RIGHTS - PROTECTION - DEVELOPMENT

**RURAL ORGANISATION  
FOR POVERTY ERADICATION SERVICES**



## OUR VISION :

A society which every child and woman attains their basic right , protection and development



**Dr.K. DHANA SEKARAN GARU**

Received a P4 Margadarsi Award on **March 2026**

From Honourable Cheif Minister

**NARA CHANDRABABU NAIDU GARU**

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2025 - 2026

*Empowering Communities.*

*Building a Just & Inclusive Society.*



EDUCATION



HEALTH &  
HYGIENE



CHILD PROTECTION  
& PARTICIPATION



YOUTH  
EMPLOYABILITY



GENDER EQUALITY  
& SOCIAL INCLUSION

*Together for Rights. Together for Change.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN:



**Dear Friends,**

I am delighted to present our Annual Report for **2025–26**. This year has been an inspiring and impactful journey for all of us at ROPES. We have made significant strides in strengthening the quality of our programs and advancing our vision of creating a society where every child and woman enjoys their basic rights, protection, and development. Throughout the year, we had the privilege of working with thousands of children, youth, women, and vulnerable families from marginalized and excluded communities across Chittoor District. Our interventions focused on improving access to quality education, healthcare, livelihood opportunities, child protection, gender equality, youth employability, and community participation while enhancing access to government services and development opportunities.

Since our inception, ROPES has remained committed to promoting and protecting the well-being of children through our core focus areas—Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD), Education, Health and Hygiene, WASH, Child Protection and Participation, Youth Employability, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, Livelihood Promotion, and Emergency Response and Recovery. During times of natural disasters, we have extended humanitarian assistance across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and other parts of India whenever required. During **2025–26**, our programs reached over **1,20,000 individuals**, primarily children, girls, young women, and vulnerable families across **300 villages** in the mandals of **Bangarupalyam, Palamaner, Gangavaram, Peddapanjani, and Baireddypalli**.

We continued to strengthen community institutions and promote sustainable development through capacity building, awareness campaigns, and collaboration with government departments, Panchayati Raj Institutions, schools, healthcare providers, and community-based organizations. We are proud to have integrated gender equality and social inclusion across all our interventions, ensuring that women, girls, children, and marginalized communities have greater access to opportunities, protection, and participation in decision-making processes. The achievements highlighted in this report are the result of the collective efforts of our donors, government partners, network organizations, community leaders, volunteers, dedicated staff, and the resilient communities we serve. Their trust, collaboration, and commitment have enabled ROPES to create meaningful and lasting change.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our supporters for standing with us throughout this journey. Together, we will continue to empower children, youth, women, and families, building stronger communities and creating opportunities for a brighter future.

We look forward to deepening our impact and invite your continued partnership as we work toward a future where every individual lives with dignity, equality, opportunity, and hope.

**Warm regards,**

**K. Dhana Sekaran**  
**Founder & Chairman, ROPES**

## EDUCATION:

### School Enrollment Campaign:



ROPES conducted a School Enrollment Campaign in 40 villages to ensure that every child has access to quality education and remains in school. Through awareness meetings, door-to-door visits, parent counselling sessions, and community mobilization activities, the campaign highlighted the importance of education and regular school attendance. The initiative was carried out in collaboration with the Education Department, School Management Committees (SMCs), village leaders, SHGs, and community-based organizations. Special attention was given to identifying out-of-school children and encouraging their enrollment in nearby schools. The campaign helped strengthen community participation in education and promoted the right of every child to learn and build a better future.

### Key Achievements of the School Enrollment Campaign

- Reached over 2,122 community members through awareness campaigns, community meetings, and door-to-door outreach activities.
- Achieved 100% enrollment in 42 primary schools, 3 MPUP Schools and 9 High schools ensuring access to education for 69 out-of-school children.
- Successfully maintained zero school dropouts across all 40 villages through continuous follow-up and community support.



- The campaign successfully prevented school dropouts in 40 villages. Counselling was provided to parents who had migrated for livelihood, encouraging them to continue their children's education. As a result, 13 children were re-enrolled in Bangarupalyam SC Hostels, ensuring their continued access to education..
- Increased awareness among parents and caregivers about the importance of education and children's right to schooling.
- Strengthened the role of School Management Committees (SMCs) and community stakeholders in monitoring school attendance.

- Enhanced collaboration with the Education Department, village leaders, SHGs, CFAMs and local institutions to promote educational development.
- Encouraged regular school attendance and created a supportive learning environment for children.
- Established a strong community-led mechanism for sustaining school enrolment and preventing future dropouts.

### **Special Coaching for 9th & 10th Class Dalit & Tribal Students:**



ROPES implemented Special Coaching Classes for Dalit and Tribal students studying in Ragimanupenta and Bangarupalyam Government High Schools. The programme was designed to strengthen students' academic performance and improve learning outcomes in core subjects such as English, Mathematics, and Science. Through focused coaching, concept-based teaching, continuous assessments, and academic mentoring, students received additional support to enhance their subject knowledge,

academic skills, and preparedness for public examinations.

A total of 506 students from Classes IX and X benefited from the special coaching programme. The initiative enhanced students' academic confidence, improved their understanding of core subjects, and created a supportive learning environment that encouraged them to continue their education and pursue higher studies. Continuous mentoring and academic guidance helped students remain motivated, improve their learning outcomes, and reduce the risk of school dropouts.

The programme achieved outstanding educational results, with 252 out of 257 students successfully passing the SSC Government Public Examination, resulting in an impressive 98% pass rate. Among them, 131 students secured First Class marks in the SSC examinations. These achievements reflect the effectiveness of the focused academic support provided through the programme. Overall, the initiative contributed significantly to strengthening learning outcomes, promoting educational success, and creating better future opportunities for Dalit and Tribal students.

**Formation of Sports Clubs for Girls:** ROPES established Girls Sports Clubs in Ragimanupenta & Bodabandla High schools to promote physical fitness, leadership, teamwork, and self-confidence among adolescent girls. The clubs provided a safe and encouraging platform for girls to actively participate in sports and recreational activities.



Traditional games such as Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Baseball, and Tug of War were introduced through regular training sessions conducted by a dedicated sports coach. The initiative helped girls develop discipline, cooperation, communication skills, and a positive attitude towards health and well-



being. By encouraging active participation in sports, the programme also contributed to enhancing self-esteem and empowering girls to take on leadership roles within their communities.

A total of 243 girls actively participated in sports and fitness activities across two High Schools. The programme created safe and inclusive spaces for girls to engage in sports,

promoting physical well-being, confidence, and personal development. It helped challenge gender stereotypes by encouraging girls' active participation in sports and community events while increasing their involvement in community-level activities and fostering social inclusion. Through regular training and participation, girls strengthened their teamwork, discipline, communication, and leadership skills.



Several girls won medals and trophies in district-level and local sports competitions, demonstrating their growing talent and commitment. A remarkable achievement of the programme was the selection

of Ms. Nirosha, a sponsored girl, to the National Baseball Team. She also secured multiple medals and trophies in district-level baseball tournaments, bringing pride to her community and inspiring other girls to pursue excellence in sports. Another notable achievement was the outstanding performance of Ms. Nikitha, a sponsored child, who won several medals in Kho-Kho competitions at both district and national levels. Her success reflects the impact of the sports promotion initiative and serves as an inspiration to other girls to pursue sports with dedication and confidence.

The programme significantly enhanced self-confidence and motivation among girls, encouraging them to pursue both sports and educational goals. It also strengthened community support for girls' empowerment and promoted equal opportunities for girls through sports.

ROPES supports **50** special children by providing **₹500** per month per child towards travel expenses, with a total monthly support of **₹25,000**. This assistance is provided to encourage their overall development and motivate them to attend Bhavitha Centres regularly, enabling them to access educational, developmental, recreational, and skill-building opportunities. Through this support, ROPES promotes the inclusion, participation, and well-being of special children while strengthening their confidence, independence, and learning abilities.

At the Bhavitha Centres, children learn various new Skills through activities such as puzzles, skill-development exercises, and vocational training programs. These activities help enhance their confidence, independence, learning abilities, and overall development. Through this initiative, ROPES is committed to promoting the inclusion and empowerment of Special children. A total of **50 special children** actively participated in various recreational, educational, and skill-based activities. The programme enhanced their self-confidence, communication skills, social interaction, and active participation in group activities. Through a supportive, inclusive, and child-friendly environment, children were encouraged to showcase their talents and abilities through games, competitions, creative activities, and team-based exercises. These interventions promoted equal participation, strengthened social inclusion, and contributed to the overall development and well-being of physically handicapped children. The programme also increased awareness among parents and community members about the capabilities, rights, and potential of special children. It fostered a positive and inclusive environment that recognized and celebrated the achievements, talents, and strengths of physically handicapped children. Through continuous

engagement and awareness efforts, the initiative strengthened community support for the inclusion, participation, and overall development of special children.

### **Career Guidance Programme for Class X and Intermediate Students:**

ROPES organized Career Guidance Programmes for Class X and Intermediate (+2) students to help them make informed decisions regarding their academic and professional futures. A total of **979 students**, including **453 Class X students (Boys :222 Girls :231)** and **526 Intermediate students (Boys :270 Girls :256)**, participated in the programme. The sessions were designed to broaden students' understanding of various educational pathways, career opportunities, and skill development options available after completing their schooling.



An experienced resource person and career guidance expert was invited to interact with the students and provide valuable guidance on academic planning, higher education opportunities, career pathways, and future prospects. The interactive sessions covered subject selection, professional and vocational courses, emerging career fields, scholarship opportunities, and employability skills. Students were encouraged to identify their interests, strengths, and aspirations while exploring suitable career options aligned with their goals.

The programme enhanced students' understanding of higher education opportunities, professional courses, vocational pathways, scholarships, and emerging career options. It strengthened their confidence in making informed academic and career decisions, reduced uncertainty regarding future educational choices, and motivated them to pursue higher education, professional training, and meaningful career pathways. The initiative also contributed to preventing dropouts after secondary and higher secondary education by providing students with greater clarity about their future prospects.

### **Spoken English Coaching for School Children:**

ROPES conducted a Spoken English Coaching Programme at its Training Hall to enhance the communication skills, language proficiency, and self-confidence of rural and tribal students. A total of 100 school children participated in the programme, which was designed to equip them with practical English-speaking skills that would improve their academic performance, employability, and overall personality development.

An experienced English trainer conducted two batches of classes daily using interactive and learner-friendly teaching methods. The sessions included vocabulary building, pronunciation practice, conversation exercises, public speaking activities, grammar fundamentals, and group discussions.



Students were encouraged to actively participate in speaking exercises to develop fluency, confidence, and effective communication skills.

The programme resulted in significant improvements in students' English fluency, pronunciation, vocabulary, and conversational abilities. It helped students overcome stage fear, hesitation, and shyness, enabling them to communicate more effectively in both academic and social settings. Increased confidence and communication skills encouraged greater participation in school activities, debates, public speaking events, and elocution competitions. Enhanced English language proficiency also contributed to improved academic performance and learning outcomes. By strengthening essential communication skills, the programme prepared students for higher education, employment opportunities, competitive environments, and future career advancement.

### **Creative Learning Centre (CLC):**

ROPES established Creative Learning Centres (CLCs) in 32 villages across Bangarupalyam Mandal to provide quality educational support to Dalit and Tribal children aged 6–13 years. The programme aimed to strengthen foundational learning, improve academic performance, and bridge learning gaps among school-going children from marginalized communities.

The CLCs functioned as child-friendly learning spaces where children received supplementary academic support beyond regular school hours. Special emphasis was placed on improving literacy, numeracy, comprehension, and problem-solving skills while making learning enjoyable and engaging through activity-based and participatory teaching methods.



Subjects that children often found challenging, particularly Mathematics, English, and Science, were addressed through regular coaching, revision exercises, educational games, storytelling, group discussions, drawing activities, and creative learning exercises. These methods helped children gain a better understanding of concepts, strengthen their academic skills, and improve their confidence in learning.

A total of 1,536 children, including 772 boys and 764 girls, regularly attended the Creative Learning Centres during the reporting period. As a result of the continuous academic support provided through the CLCs, children demonstrated improved learning outcomes, performed better in examinations, and secured good marks in their school assessments. The programme contributed significantly to improving academic performance, classroom participation, learning confidence, and overall educational achievement. It also helped reduce learning gaps, strengthen foundational learning skills, and promote regular school attendance.

To further enhance the quality of learning, ROPES provided play-way learning materials to CLC teachers working with Dalit and Tribal children. These materials included educational games, puzzles, and activity-based learning tools that made classroom sessions more interactive, engaging, and child-friendly. The use of play-way materials improved children's cognitive abilities, critical thinking, problem-solving skills, creativity, concentration, and overall intellectual development while increasing their interest and active participation in the learning process.

Through these interventions, the Creative Learning Centres created an enabling environment for the academic growth, creativity, and holistic development of Dalit and Tribal children across 32 villages.

### **After-School Study Centres (ASSCs) :**

ROPES conducts After-School Study Centres (ASSCs) in eight Yanadi tribal villages across Palamaner, Baireddipalli, V. Kota, and Ramakuppam Mandals to provide academic support and learning opportunities for children aged 6–15 years from marginalized and economically disadvantaged communities. The programme aims to strengthen foundational learning, improve academic performance, and create a supportive learning environment beyond regular school hours.

Many children in these tribal communities face challenges in understanding classroom lessons due to limited academic support at home, inadequate learning resources, and learning gaps. To address these challenges, ROPES provides additional academic guidance and individualized support through trained Community Educators.



Special emphasis is placed on core subjects such as Mathematics, English, Science, and Telugu to improve subject knowledge, reading and writing skills, comprehension, numeracy, and overall academic performance. The programme follows a play-way and activity-based learning approach that makes education enjoyable, interactive, and child-friendly. Children participate



in educational games, storytelling, drawing, puzzle-solving, quizzes, group discussions, songs, creative learning activities, and practical demonstrations that enhance both academic and life skills.

A total of 233 children, including 110 boys and 123 girls, benefit from the programme. Through continuous academic support, children improve their learning outcomes, confidence, creativity, communication skills, and overall educational

performance while developing critical thinking, problem-solving abilities, teamwork, and leadership qualities.

### **Tony Blair Institute (Generation Global) Program in 2 High Schools & 13 CLCs:**

ROPES implemented the Tony Blair Institute Generation Global Programme in 13 Creative Learning Centres (CLCs) and 2 High Schools to promote global citizenship, intercultural understanding, communication skills, and active participation among children and youth. The programme provided a

unique platform for students, particularly those from Dalit and Tribal communities, to interact with peers from different countries through facilitated video conferences and dialogue sessions.



The programme focused on important global and social themes such as climate change, environmental protection, plastic pollution, cultural traditions, festivals, education, social media literacy, gender equality, and community values. Through structured online dialogues, students exchanged ideas, shared their experiences, and learned about different cultures and perspectives from young people across the world.

A total of 545 students (257 boys and 288 girls) participated in video conferences conducted in 13 Creative Learning Centres and 2 High Schools. Through these interactions, students enhanced their understanding of global issues and developed essential life skills such as communication, active listening, critical thinking, questioning, self-reflection, and respectful dialogue. The programme also contributed to improving English-speaking abilities, with 159 students demonstrating increased confidence, improved English proficiency, and reduced stage fear and shyness.

In addition, Dalit and Tribal students actively participated in essay writing and elocution competitions organized under the programme, with 47 students receiving awards for their outstanding performance. The initiative broadened students' perspectives, strengthened their confidence, encouraged global citizenship values, and empowered them to become informed, responsible, and active members of society.



### Child Designated Gift (CDG) Programme:

ROPES implements the **Child Designated Gift (CDG) Programme** to support poor, vulnerable, and marginalized children in Bangarupalyam Mandal. The programme aims to improve the overall well-being of children by providing financial assistance that supports their education, health, nutrition, and family livelihood needs.



Under the programme, approximately **1,500 sponsored children** received support during the reporting period. Financial assistance amounting to approximately **₹50 lakhs** was provided to beneficiary families to address the educational, health, and livelihood needs of children. The support helped families meet school-related expenses such

as uniforms, books, stationery, and other educational requirements, enabling children to continue their studies without interruption and reducing the risk of school dropouts.

A significant portion of the assistance was also utilized by parents to strengthen their livelihoods and improve household income. Many families invested the support amount in purchasing **milch animals**, which provided a sustainable source of income through milk production and sales. This livelihood investment contributed to improved economic stability, increased household earnings, and enhanced financial security for vulnerable families.

By strengthening family livelihoods, the programme enabled parents to better support their children's education, nutrition, healthcare, and overall development. The Child Designated Gift Programme contributed to improved living conditions, economic growth, and long-term well-being of beneficiary families while creating a more secure and supportive environment for children to achieve their full potential.

### **Awareness Campaign on Education and Child Marriage Prevention:**

ROPES conducted awareness campaigns on education and child marriage prevention across 40 villages to promote children's right to education and create awareness about the harmful effects of child marriage. The programme aimed to encourage school enrolment, improve regular attendance, prevent school dropouts, and protect children from early marriage.

The campaigns were carried out in collaboration with the Education Department, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), Self-Help Groups (SHGs), village volunteers, youth groups, parents, and community leaders. Awareness sessions highlighted the importance of education, provisions under the Right to Education (RTE) Act, child rights, and the long-term social and economic consequences of child marriage.

Through community meetings, awareness rallies, school-level activities, and stakeholder engagement, the programme reached **31,647** community members, including **15,966 males and 15,681 females**, across 40 villages. As a result of continuous awareness efforts and community monitoring, 4 child marriages were successfully prevented, enabling the affected girls to continue their education and pursue their future aspirations.

The programme also facilitated the re-enrolment of 29 out-of-school children through active follow-up by CFAM facilitators and village volunteers. A total of 944 children (469 boys and 475 girls) actively participated in (Child Friendly Accountability Mechanism) - CFAM clubs and played a vital role in monitoring and reporting child rights violations, including school dropouts, child labour, and child marriage. Additionally, 86 children (48 boys and 38 girls) reported cases of child marriage, abuse, and other



child protection concerns to Village Development Committees (VDCs), Child Marriage Prohibition Officers (CMPOs), and child protection helplines.

The programme was further strengthened by 200 trained CFAM facilitators, who regularly monitored child protection issues, promoted education, and increased community vigilance. Advocacy efforts by 15 SMC members from Vepanapalli resulted in the appointment of a female teacher, promoting gender-sensitive and inclusive education. Awareness sessions also enhanced the capacity of Dalit and Tribal children to address eve-teasing and other gender-based challenges. Furthermore, improved transport facilities in 11 remote villages enabled children to attend school regularly, contributing to better educational access and retention.

Through these collective efforts, the programme strengthened community ownership in protecting children, promoting education, and creating a safer and more supportive environment for every child.

### **Cyber Safety and Digital Awareness Programme:**

With increasing digital exposure among school-aged children, the risks of cyberbullying, online exploitation, social media misuse, and internet addiction are also increasing. To address these concerns, ROPES organized Cyber Safety and Digital Awareness Programmes in collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), DISHA Police, She Team, and the Education Department. The programme aimed to equip children with knowledge, skills, and preventive strategies to stay safe online

while promoting responsible digital behaviour.

A total of **950+ students** from government and private schools participated in the awareness sessions conducted across project areas. The programme covered topics such as cyberbullying, online privacy, safe use of social media, cybercrime prevention, online exploitation, digital responsibility, and available child protection mechanisms.



Through interactive sessions, children gained a better understanding of online risks and learned practical measures to protect themselves in the digital environment.

The programme resulted in a significant increase in awareness of cyber safety, privacy protection, and online threats among participating children. Students were informed about child protection services and reporting mechanisms, including **Childline 1098** and the **DISHA App**, encouraging them to seek help and communicate openly with parents, teachers, and authorities when faced with online risks. Teachers and school staff also committed to integrating digital safety discussions into regular classroom activities to ensure continued awareness among students.

In addition, **2,488 children and 10,940 parents** received guidance on online safety, prevention of exploitation, responsible use of digital platforms, and healthy screen habits. The programme strengthened awareness among both children and parents, contributing to safer digital practices, improved online protection, and a more secure environment for children in the digital age.

## Capacity Building for School Management Committee (SMC) :

ROPES conducted capacity-building programmes for School Management Committee (SMC) members to strengthen their role in promoting quality education, child protection, and inclusive school environments. The programme aimed to enhance the knowledge and effectiveness of SMC members in supporting the overall development and well-being of children.

Training sessions covered key topics such as child rights, school governance, school environment, Mid-Day Meal monitoring, student attendance, prevention of school dropouts, educational progress,



health and hygiene, child protection, prevention of corporal punishment, and addressing harassment and discrimination in schools. The programme also emphasized the importance of creating gender-equal, child-friendly, and inclusive learning environments for all children, particularly those from marginalized communities.

A total of 164 SMC representatives, including 74 men and 90 women from 40 villages, participated in the training programmes and gained a better understanding of their roles and responsibilities, including provisions under the Right to Education (RTE) Act. As a result of the training, SMC members became more actively involved in monitoring school functioning, including teacher attendance, Mid-Day Meal implementation, student attendance, and overall school management. Nearly 80% of SMCs reported actively participating in school monitoring and development activities.

The programme strengthened collaboration and accountability between schools, parents, and communities, leading to increased community participation in school-level decision-making processes. These efforts contributed to improvements in school infrastructure, learning environments, and the promotion of child-friendly, inclusive, and equitable education spaces for all children.

# HEALTH

## Maternal and Child Health Awareness Programme:

ROPES implemented Maternal and Child Health Awareness Programmes across 40 villages to improve the health and well-being of pregnant women, lactating mothers, and young children. Recognizing the critical importance of the first 1,000 days of life—from conception to a child's second birthday—the programme focused on promoting healthy practices that support maternal health, child survival, growth, brain development, and cognitive development.



Structured training sessions and awareness programmes were conducted through existing Mother's Committees to strengthen community knowledge on Antenatal Care (ANC) and Postnatal Care (PNC). Village-level orientations covered key topics such as safe pregnancy practices, maternal nutrition, adequate rest during pregnancy, institutional delivery, breastfeeding, the importance of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of a child's life, immunization, newborn care, early childhood development, brain

development, school readiness, and positive parenting practices.

Special emphasis was placed on the importance of balanced nutrition during pregnancy and early childhood, including the consumption of leafy vegetables, fruits, iron-rich foods, and nutritious diets to ensure healthy growth and maintain appropriate height and weight among children. Mothers and caregivers were also educated on birth preparedness, including arranging essential items for delivery such as baby clothes, necessary supplies, identifying a support person, planning transportation to health facilities, and ensuring timely access to medical care during emergencies.

The programme aimed to equip mothers and caregivers with accurate health information, encourage the utilization of government health services, reduce pregnancy-related risks, and improve the overall health outcomes of mothers and children. Through community participation and continuous awareness efforts, ROPES contributed to promoting healthier families and improved childcare practices in rural communities.

Structured training programmes strengthened Mother's Committees in all 40 villages, enabling them to effectively disseminate information on safe pregnancy, maternal nutrition, breastfeeding, immunization, newborn care, parenting practices, and child development within their communities. Through village-level orientations and regular follow-up activities, community awareness and adoption of healthy maternal and child care practices increased significantly, encouraging greater utilization of government health services and improved health-seeking behaviour among pregnant women and mothers.

## Bio-Intensive Gardening and Nutri Garden Initiative:

ROPES promoted Bio-Intensive Gardening (BIG) and Nutri Gardens in rural communities and schools to improve nutrition, food security, and access to fresh vegetables among vulnerable families. The initiative encouraged households and educational institutions to cultivate nutrient-rich vegetables, fruits, and leafy greens using sustainable gardening practices.



As part of the programme, 14 families across 5 villages received vegetable seeds and fencing support to establish and maintain Bio-Intensive and Nutri Gardens. In addition, Nutri Gardens were established in 2 Primary Schools, 1 MPUP School, and 2 Anganwadi Centres, creating practical learning spaces where children gained knowledge about nutrition, agriculture, environmental conservation, and sustainable food production.

The programme improved access to fresh and nutritious vegetables for children and families, promoted healthy eating habits, and enhanced dietary diversity at the household level. Through hands-on learning and community participation, children and community members developed a greater understanding of nutrition, sustainable agriculture, and environmental stewardship.



The initiative also strengthened household food security by reducing food expenses and creating opportunities for supplementary income through the sale of surplus produce. Overall, the programme contributed to improved nutrition, sustainable agricultural practices, and the well-being of vulnerable children and families.

## Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) Awareness Programme:

ROPES conducted Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) awareness programmes for adolescent girls from Dalit, Tribal, and minority communities to enhance their knowledge of health, hygiene, rights, and gender equality.



The programme aimed to empower girls with accurate information and life skills to make informed decisions regarding their health, safety, and well-being.

Awareness sessions were conducted in Bangarupalyam, Nadamanthram, Ragimanupenta, Bodabandla, Tekumanda, Thambuganipalli, Kanthalacheruvu, and Keeramanda, Mogili mittooru High Schools, as well as Bangarupalyam Junior College. A total of **1,877 adolescent girls** participated in the programme. The sessions covered important

topics such as sexual and reproductive health, menstrual hygiene management, adolescent health, personal hygiene, gender equality, personal safety, life skills, healthy lifestyle practices, and the importance of maintaining dignity and self-respect during adolescence.

To promote safe menstrual hygiene management, ROPES distributed **5,631 sanitary napkins** to **1,877 adolescent girls**, with each participant receiving **three sanitary napkins**. The distribution was complemented

by awareness sessions on menstrual health and hygiene practices, encouraging girls to adopt healthy behaviours, maintain proper hygiene, and improve their overall health and well-being.



The programme significantly improved awareness of sexual and reproductive health rights, menstrual hygiene, gender equality, and adolescent health issues. It contributed to better health and hygiene practices, enhanced self-confidence, strengthened awareness of personal rights and safety, and encouraged positive health-seeking behaviour among adolescent girls. Through these interventions, girls were empowered to make informed decisions regarding their health, education, and future aspirations while promoting dignity, self-respect, and overall well-being.

## Drinking Water Borewells & Sintex Tank Installation:

Access to safe drinking water is essential for improving health, education, and overall quality of life. To address water scarcity challenges faced by Dalit and Tribal communities, ROPES implemented a Safe Drinking Water Programme in Dalit and Tribal Communities.

As part of the intervention, ROPES drilled 2 drinking water borewells and installed 2 Sintex water storage tanks in Thambuganipalli and Paleru Tribal villages, benefiting Dalit and Tribal communities. In addition, 5 Sintex water storage tanks were provided in Doddipalli, Kapatlabanda, Gadduru Yanadi Colony, Thimmayyagaripalli, and Nadamanthram Tribal villages to improve

water storage capacity and access to safe drinking water for vulnerable households.

Prior to the intervention, women and girls often travelled long distances to collect water from private borewells, spending several hours each day meeting household water needs. This burden not only affected their daily livelihoods but also impacted children's education, as many students were delayed in reaching school.



The intervention significantly improved access to safe and clean drinking water for approximately 1,500 people. Improved water availability contributed to better health, hygiene, and sanitation practices while



reducing dependence on external and private water sources. The programme also reduced the burden on women and girls, saving time and effort previously spent fetching water and creating greater opportunities for livelihood and income-generating activities.

Children are now able to attend school more regularly and on time, as less time is spent collecting water. Overall, the programme enhanced the quality of life, well-being, and dignity of Dalit and Tribal families while strengthening community resilience through improved access to safe drinking water.



## **Livelihood and Income Generation Programmes:**

### **Rural Mini Hotel Support:**

ROPES provided financial assistance to rural Dalit women to establish and strengthen Rural Mini Hotels as a sustainable livelihood initiative. The programme was designed to promote self-employment opportunities, enhance household income, and improve the economic status of women from marginalized communities.



Through this support, women were able to start small food businesses by purchasing essential equipment, utensils, and raw materials required for daily operations. The Rural Mini Hotels serve local community members, workers, and travellers, providing a regular and sustainable source of income for beneficiary families.

The initiative helped women improve their financial stability, meet household expenses, support their children's education, access healthcare services, and improve family nutrition. In addition to economic benefits, the programme enhanced women's self-confidence, decision-making abilities, and active participation in livelihood activities.

By creating sustainable income-generating opportunities, the Rural Mini Hotel support programme contributed to poverty reduction, economic empowerment, and improved quality of life among rural Dalit women and their families.

### Food Cart Support:

ROPES provided food carts to rural Dalit women as part of its sustainable livelihood support initiative to promote self-employment and income generation. The support enabled women to establish small food businesses by selling snacks, fast food items, tea, refreshments, and other locally prepared food products within their communities.

Through these food carts, the beneficiaries were able to generate a regular source of income, improve their household economic conditions, and meet their family's daily needs. The additional income helped women support their children's education, pay school-related expenses, access healthcare services, and improve household nutrition and overall well-being.



The initiative enhanced women's financial independence, strengthened their entrepreneurial skills, and created sustainable livelihood opportunities. By improving household income and economic security, the programme empowered Dalit women to provide better opportunities for their children and build a more secure future for their families.

### Goats Distribution Support:

ROPES provided goats to 30 rural Dalit and vulnerable women as part of its sustainable livelihood support programme to enhance household income and improve economic security. Goat rearing was promoted as a sustainable income-generating activity that offers long-term economic benefits to poor families.

The beneficiaries rear the goats, and as the animals multiply, they are able to sell the offspring in local markets and generate additional income. This income helps families meet their day-to-day household expenses, improve their living conditions, and strengthen their financial stability.



The earnings from goat rearing also enable parents to support their children's education, pay school-related expenses, access healthcare services, and improve household nutrition. The initiative has contributed to poverty reduction, increased economic resilience, and improved livelihood opportunities, helping vulnerable families become more self-reliant and secure their future. Through this intervention, **30 women and their families** have benefited from sustainable livelihood opportunities and improved economic well-being.

## Petty Shop Support:

ROPES provided financial assistance to 6 women from Dalit and Tribal communities to establish and strengthen petty shops as part of its sustainable livelihood support programme. The initiative aimed to promote self-employment, enhance household income, and improve the socio-economic conditions of vulnerable families.



Through this support, the women were able to purchase goods and essential commodities for their petty shops, enabling them to run small businesses within their villages. The petty shops generated a regular source of income, helping beneficiaries meet their family's day-to-day household expenses and improve their economic stability.

The income earned through these businesses enabled families to support their children's education, pay school-related expenses, access healthcare services, improve nutrition, and meet other essential household needs. The initiative strengthened women's financial independence, enhanced their entrepreneurial skills, and created sustainable livelihood opportunities. Through this intervention, the programme contributed to poverty reduction and improved the overall quality of life of Dalit and Tribal families.

## Youth Participation & Skill Development:

### Tailoring Skill Development Program:

The Tailoring Skill Development Program is one of the key vocational training initiatives of ROPES, designed to empower rural women and young girls through skill-based livelihood opportunities. The



program provides comprehensive training in tailoring, sewing, garment cutting, stitching, and basic entrepreneurship skills, enabling participants to become financially independent and self-reliant.

A total of **39 women and young girls** successfully completed the Tailoring Skill Development Course. Equipped with practical tailoring

skills and confidence gained through the training, many beneficiaries have established their own tailoring shops, while others are undertaking stitching orders from their communities to generate regular income for their families.

The program has significantly contributed to improving the socio-economic status of the beneficiaries by creating sustainable livelihood opportunities at the local level. Beyond income generation, the initiative has enhanced women's self-confidence, decision-making abilities, and active participation in community development. Through this intervention, ROPES continues to promote women's empowerment and support the creation of sustainable and dignified livelihoods in rural communities.



## **Vocational Computer Education Course:**

ROPES conducted a Vocational Computer Education Course for unemployed rural Dalit and tribal youth to enhance their digital literacy, technical knowledge, and employability skills. The programme aimed to equip young people with practical computer skills required for higher education, employment, and career development.



A total of 40 youth, including 20 males and 20 females, participated in the programme. The course was offered in 3-month and 6-month training batches, enabling participants to gain both basic and advanced computer knowledge according to their learning needs. The training covered basic computer operations, MS Office

applications, internet usage, digital communication, file management, online services, and essential information technology skills. Participants received both theoretical and practical training to strengthen their understanding and confidence in using computers effectively.

The course improved participants' technical competencies, digital literacy, and employment readiness. It enabled youth to access better educational and career opportunities, use digital technologies effectively, and improve their prospects for securing employment, pursuing higher education, or engaging in income-generating activities. The programme contributed to enhancing the confidence, self-reliance, and economic opportunities of rural youth.

## **Vocational Beautician Course Program:**

ROPES implemented the Beautician Skill Development Programme as part of its livelihood promotion initiatives to empower rural young women and adolescent girls through vocational training and self-employment opportunities. The programme



aimed to enhance participants' skills, confidence, and economic independence by providing professional training in beauty and wellness services.

The training covered various aspects of beauty care,

including facial treatments, hair care, threading, basic makeup, skin care, beauty therapy, personal grooming, and customer service skills. Participants received practical hands-on training that enabled them to develop marketable skills and gain confidence in providing beauty and wellness services.

The programme created sustainable livelihood opportunities by enabling women and girls to establish their own beauty parlours, provide home-based beauty services, or seek employment in beauty salons and wellness centres. Through skill development and entrepreneurship promotion, the initiative helped participants generate income, improve their economic status, and support their families.

By strengthening vocational skills and self-employment opportunities, the Beautician Skill Development Programme contributed to women's empowerment, financial independence, and improved livelihood opportunities, helping them build a more secure and sustainable future.



## Disaster Risk Reduction Program (DRR):

ROPES implemented the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Programme to support poor and vulnerable communities affected by natural disasters such as floods, cyclones, and other emergencies. The programme aimed to provide immediate humanitarian assistance, reduce hardships, and help affected families recover from crisis situations with dignity and resilience.



During the reporting period, a total of **450 families** benefited from disaster relief and risk reduction interventions. As part of the emergency response, **380 dry ration kits** containing essential food items were distributed to vulnerable households to address food insecurity and ensure access to basic nutrition during disaster situations. In addition, **210 tarpaulins** were provided to families whose houses were damaged or who required temporary shelter and protection during emergencies.

ROPES also distributed food parcels, hygiene and sanitation supplies, safe drinking water, notebooks, and stationery materials to meet the immediate needs of affected families and children. These relief measures helped protect health and hygiene, improve living conditions, and ensure continuity of children's education during challenging times.

Through timely humanitarian assistance and community-based disaster response efforts, the programme reduced the impact of emergencies on livelihoods, health, and



overall well-being. The intervention strengthened community resilience, supported disaster recovery, and enhanced the capacity of vulnerable families to cope with future disasters. By addressing both immediate relief needs and long-term preparedness, the Disaster Risk Reduction Programme contributed significantly to protecting vulnerable populations and promoting sustainable recovery.

### **Awareness Building on Bonded Labour Prevention:**

ROPES launched a focused awareness campaign to educate Dalit and Tribal communities in Bangarupalyam and Palamaner Mandals about the illegality and harmful effects of bonded labour. Many vulnerable families, due to poverty, indebtedness, and lack of awareness, remained at risk of exploitation and were often unaware of their legal rights and available support mechanisms.

To address this issue, ROPES conducted 10 mass awareness campaigns using street plays, short films, posters, cultural programmes, and storytelling methods to communicate key messages in a simple and relatable manner. The



campaign also created awareness on the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, helping community members understand their rights to freedom, dignity, and protection from exploitation.

Through these efforts, the programme reached more than 50,000 people across vulnerable villages and generated community-level discussions on bonded labour and workers' rights. The awareness activities improved understanding of legal protections, government support systems, and rehabilitation services available to affected families. The campaign empowered community members to identify and report cases of bonded labour while promoting collective action towards the prevention of labour exploitation and the protection of human rights.



## **Bonded Labour System Abolition Day – A Statewide Movement:**



On 9 February 2025, ROPES observed Bonded Labour System Abolition Day through a statewide awareness campaign promoting freedom, dignity, justice, and the rights of vulnerable workers. The campaign aimed to highlight the continuing challenges of bonded labour and strengthen public commitment towards its eradication.

A range of activities, including cultural performances, awareness programmes, public meetings, and poster campaigns, were organized across Chittoor, Tirupati, Nellore, Annamayya, Sri Sathya Sai, and Kadapa districts. These events mobilized community members, government representatives, civil society organizations, and the general public to actively participate in raising awareness about bonded labour and workers' rights.

The campaign significantly increased public awareness and strengthened the visibility of bonded labour issues across the six districts. It also received strong support from government authorities, with the District Collector, MLA, Mayor, and members of the Judiciary in Chittoor officially launching the poster campaign on 14 February 2025. Their participation demonstrated a collective commitment to protecting vulnerable workers and promoting freedom from bonded labour, further strengthening advocacy efforts and public engagement on the issue.

### **Bonded Labour Awareness Workshop for Police Officials:**

ROPES organized a Bonded Labour Awareness Workshop at the Tirupathi District Superintendent of Police Office to strengthen the knowledge and capacity of police officials in



identifying, preventing, and responding to bonded labour cases. The workshop focused on the legal provisions of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, victim identification, rescue procedures, rehabilitation mechanisms, and the role of law enforcement agencies in protecting vulnerable workers.

The programme brought together police personnel and key stakeholders to discuss strategies for addressing bonded labour and

ensuring effective coordination among government departments. The workshop helped enhance awareness of bonded labour issues and reinforced the commitment of law enforcement agencies to safeguarding the rights and dignity of vulnerable communities.

During the event, Dr. K. Dhana sekaran was honoured with a shawl by L. Subbarayudu, Superintendent of Police Tirupathi District, in recognition of his valuable contributions and dedicated efforts towards bonded labour prevention, rescue, rehabilitation, and community empowerment. The event highlighted the importance of collaboration between civil society organizations and government agencies in the fight against bonded labour and labour exploitation.



### **Rescue and Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers :**

ROPES has been actively working on the rescue, restoration, and rehabilitation of bonded labourers across Chittoor, Tirupati, and Annamayya districts. Through continuous awareness programmes, field interventions, and close coordination with government departments, the organization has successfully facilitated the rescue and restoration of 141 bonded labourers. All rescued individuals received Release Certificates (Relief Certificates) from the concerned authorities, ensuring recognition of their rights and eligibility for rehabilitation support.



ROPES continues to work closely with government departments to ensure that rescued individuals and their families receive appropriate rehabilitation assistance, access to welfare schemes, livelihood opportunities, and social protection measures to support their long-term recovery and reintegration into society.

In addition, ROPES recently played a key role in the rescue of more than 500 bonded labourers from Telangana State and facilitated their safe restoration



to their native places in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh and parts of Tamil Nadu. These rescue operations were carried out in coordination with the District Collector, Superintendent of Police (SP), Labour Department, Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO), and other government officials. Through these efforts, ROPES contributed

to protecting the rights, dignity, freedom, and well-being of vulnerable workers while supporting their journey towards safety, justice, and a life free from exploitation.

## **Building Champions – Training Our Frontline Force**

ROPES organized intensive field and classroom training sessions to strengthen the knowledge and skills of staff, volunteers, and community mobilisers in addressing bonded labour. These sessions were designed not only to raise awareness but also to build a strong team of frontline personnel capable of identifying, reporting, and responding effectively to cases of bonded labour within their communities.

The training was conducted with expert support from the International Justice Mission (IJM) and focused on practical and legal approaches to bonded labour prevention, victim identification,



rescue procedures, rehabilitation processes, and survivor support mechanisms. Participants gained valuable knowledge and practical skills that enhanced their ability to support vulnerable individuals and families affected by bonded labour.

Through these training initiatives, ROPES developed a trained and committed network of frontline defenders dedicated to combating bonded labour and protecting the rights of vulnerable communities. The programme also improved the quality of case identification, reporting, and survivor support through professional guidance, strengthened coordination, and enhanced community-based response mechanisms.

## **Strategic Mapping – Illuminating Hidden Realities:**

ROPES conducted strategic mapping exercises in Chittoor and Tirupati districts to gain a deeper understanding of the systems, sectors, and communities vulnerable to bonded labour. The exercise focused on identifying high-risk areas, vulnerable populations, labour-intensive sectors, and key stakeholders involved in prevention, rescue, rehabilitation, and protection efforts.

The mapping process provided valuable insights into the prevalence and patterns of bonded labour, enabling ROPES to identify priority intervention areas and develop evidence-based strategies for prevention and response. It also helped the organization better understand community vulnerabilities and the factors contributing to labour exploitation.

Through this initiative, ROPES developed a clear and targeted approach for implementing interventions in high-risk locations. The exercise also strengthened coordination and collaboration with government departments, local authorities, and other stakeholders, creating a stronger foundation for future prevention, rescue, rehabilitation, and advocacy efforts aimed at eliminating bonded labour and protecting vulnerable communities.

### **Workshop on Human Trafficking & Bonded Labour Held in Chittoor:**

A district-level workshop on Human Trafficking and Bonded Labour was held at the Chittoor Collectorate, organized by the Labour Department in collaboration with ROPES and International Justice Mission (IJM), Vijayawada. Key officials, including RDOs from Chittoor, Nagari, Palamaner, and Kuppam, and officers from various departments participated.

The District Collector, in his keynote address, highlighted the continued existence of bonded labour despite its legal abolition under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. He praised the training by IJM and ROPES as practical and eye-opening, emphasizing the need for coordinated efforts to support vulnerable communities.

Sri Sam from IJM presented key legal frameworks and best practices for identification, rescue, and rehabilitation of bonded labourers. The Collector issued important directives, including forming divisional-level committees, conducting regular inspections, issuing Release Certificates, and involving the media for awareness.

The workshop concluded with renewed interdepartmental coordination, a commitment to quarterly reports, and a follow-up workshop planned within three months. The Collector commended the collective efforts, aiming to make Chittoor a model district free from bonded labour and trafficking.



## Rescue Operations – Breaking the Chains:

ROPES actively supported three rescue operations during the reporting period, helping individuals and families escape from situations of bonded labour. These interventions were carried out in close coordination with district administration, labour department officials, law enforcement agencies, and other relevant authorities to ensure the safe rescue of affected individuals and the protection of their rights.

The rescued individuals belonged to highly vulnerable communities, including Dalit, Tribal, Irular, and Yanadi groups, who often face exploitation due to poverty, social exclusion, and limited access to livelihood opportunities. Following the rescue operations, ROPES facilitated legal and administrative procedures to ensure that survivors received appropriate support and protection.

The programme not only secured the freedom of bonded labourers but also connected survivors to rehabilitation services, compensation benefits, government welfare schemes, and protection mechanisms. Through these efforts, ROPES helped survivors begin their journey towards recovery, dignity, social inclusion, and economic independence while strengthening community awareness and action against bonded labour.

## Jeevan Jwala – Survivor Leadership Training Programme

On 27 and 28 February 2025, ROPES organized a two-day Jeevan Jwala – Survivor Leadership Training Programme aimed at empowering survivors of bonded labour to become leaders, advocates, and changemakers within their communities. The programme focused on building leadership skills, self-confidence, community engagement, and the capacity of survivors to actively participate in awareness, prevention, and advocacy efforts.



The training brought together 35 survivor participants, along with ROPES Chairman Dr. K. Dhanasekar, senior members of Jeevan Jwala, and survivor leaders. Through interactive sessions, group discussions, experience sharing, and leadership-building activities, participants strengthened their understanding of their rights,

developed leadership skills, and gained confidence to support other vulnerable individuals and communities.

The programme helped build a strong network of empowered survivor leaders who are prepared to lead awareness initiatives, support community action, and advocate for the rights of vulnerable workers at the grassroots level. It also strengthened the Jeevan Jwala movement through vision sharing, leadership development, peer learning, and stronger bonds among survivors, creating a platform for collective action, mutual support, and long-term community transformation.



## Government Welfare and Development Program Mobilization:

|                        | Male | Female | Total | Amount     |
|------------------------|------|--------|-------|------------|
| Old age pensions       | 36   | 55     | 91    | 273000     |
| Widow pensions         | 0    | 36     | 36    | 106750     |
| House site pattas      | 0    | 0      | 71    | 1260000    |
| Govt houses            | 0    | 0      | 71    | 12580000   |
| Toilets                | 0    | 0      | 57    | 855000     |
| Drinking water taps    | 0    | 0      | 20    | 163160     |
| Street lights          | 0    | 0      | 111   | 105450     |
| SHG                    | 0    | 607    | 607   | 0          |
| Aadhar Cards           | 126  | 112    | 138   | 0          |
| Birth Certificates     | 102  | 112    | 214   | 0          |
| Livelihood             | 20   | 210    | 231   | 0          |
| Ration cards           | 0    | 0      | 88    | 0          |
| Employment Opportunity | 138  | 136    | 274   | 0          |
| Total                  | 422  | 1268   | 2009  | 15,343,360 |

ROPES, through Village Development Committees (VDCs), facilitated the submission of petitions and applications to government departments, enabling vulnerable families to access various welfare schemes and development programmes. As a result, **2,009 beneficiaries** received support through pensions, house site pattas, government housing, toilets, drinking water connections, street lights, SHG membership, livelihood opportunities, employment opportunities, and essential documents such as Aadhaar Cards, Birth Certificates, and Ration Cards. The total value of benefits mobilized during the reporting period was approximately **₹15.34 million (₹1,53,43,360)**.

**Conclusion:** The year 2025–2026 has been a remarkable year of growth, impact, and community transformation for ROPES. Through our programmes in education, health, child protection, livelihood, youth empowerment, and social inclusion, we have continued to improve the lives of children, women, and vulnerable families across our project areas. These achievements were made possible through the support of our donors, government departments, partners, volunteers, staff, and the communities we serve. We sincerely thank everyone for their trust and collaboration.

As we move forward, ROPES remains committed to building a society where every child and woman enjoys their basic rights, protection, and development.

**Together for Rights. Together for Change.**