



NISARGA FOUNDATION

A PROGRESSIVE FUTURE FOR
INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

REG. NO.: 05/1997-98

NISARGA FOUNDATION

Securing the future of indigenous communities

Established in the year 1997, Nisarga Foundation is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the socio-economic empowerment of indigenous and marginalized communities in Karnataka. Based in the tribal area of Heggadadevana Kote (HD Kote) Taluk of Mysore district, the Foundation started as a response to the oppression of local Adivasis who were displaced and dispossessed by dams, National Parks and encroaching urban developments in this region.

To promote the holistic development of tribal and marginalised communities, we work across various development areas including health and nutrition; education; women empowerment; community development; environment; tribal art and culture; and advocacy. We also implement various programmes in collaboration with government departments and development organisations at Taluk and District levels, including Sarva Siksha Abhiyana (SSA), National Child Labour Project (NCLP) and Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITDP). For us, nurturing indigenous communities goes hand-in-hand with protecting the surrounding nature, by promoting sustainable farming and preserving the local biodiversity.

OUR VISION

To enhance the dignity and quality of life for tribal communities.

OUR MISSION

To ensure positive socio-economic, cultural and political empowerment of indigenous communities, while protecting the local environment and nurturing the bio-diversity.





OUR PEOPLE

Governing Board

MV Narasimha Rao
President

Dr M Indira
Vice-President

Nanjundaiah
Secretary and Executive Director

Dilshad
Trustee

Devamma
Trustee

Baburaj PP
Trustee

Executive Team

Divya MR
Operations Manager

Prabhu N
Childline Coordinator

Dilshad
Spirulina Nutrition Program Coordinator

Chikkathimmanaika
NCLP Coordinator

OUR PARTNERS

Nisarga Foundation is supported by leading funding and institutional partners in the social sector.

Development Partner



Funding Partner



Resource Partners



www.missioninde.com

OUR APPROACH

EDUCATION

NCLP Rehabilitation School

The NCLP Rehabilitation School in Belaganahalli Road, near HD Kote town, focuses on rehabilitating child labourers, many of them working in hazardous occupations, and mainstreaming them through education. The school was established in 2007, in collaboration with National Child Labour Project Society, Sarva Siksha Abhiyana and Department of Labour. It is also supported by District Child Labour Project Society, District Administration, Mysore.

So far, 211 children, who were either school dropouts or had never attended school, have been educated through the centre. Through after-school tuitions, vocational training, extra-curricular activities and nutritious food, the school ensures the optimal learning and development of these children. Periodic tests are conducted once in three months to assess their learning progress and promising students are enrolled into mainstream schools.

NCLP Bridge School and Dormitory

The Bridge School helps school drop-out children return to mainstream education. Our field workers identify such children and admit them to our Bridge School. Through customised lesson plans and tab-based digital learning, they are brought up to date with their respective class levels, apart from being counselled to continue schooling. Once they meet the curriculum requirements, we admit them to government schools nearby. We continue supporting them through parent meetings, health camps and special exams to ensure their optimal progress.

There is also a dormitory within our campus for the Bridge School students, with separate floors for boys and girls, complete with kitchen, bathrooms and toilets. The NCLP Bridge School and dormitory have been supported by Areva/Mission Inde, France, and Denmark Lions Club.

PROJECTS

Our key projects include, implementing the Food Security and Livelihood issues of Tribes (FSLT) project in 20 tribal hamlets, supported by Terre des Hommes (TDH), Germany, during 2004-09; and 'Indigenous Jenukuruba Community Empowerment and Natural Farming for Sustainable Livelihood' in HD Kote Taluk, funded by International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), Italy, during 2008.

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Spirulina Nutrition Programme

To address the "silent scream" of malnutrition amongst tribal communities, we launched the Spirulina Nutrition Programme in 2014, supported by Mission Inde, France. We distribute Spirulina nutritional capsules, which helps boost the growth of malnourished children and provides vital nutrients to pregnant women and lactating mothers. Dr Gerry Pais, Mysuru, has been the programme consultant and advisor. The programme has proven to be extremely beneficial in the last five years and has been appreciated by CFTRI, Mysuru.

We identify malnourished children, pregnant women and lactating mothers, and conduct awareness programmes on spirulina nutrition supplement to overcome malnutrition. For pregnant women, we further facilitate Antenatal and Postnatal medical check-ups and timely vaccinations at government health centres. We also monitor the health and nutritional needs of breast-feeding mothers and encourage young mothers to avail "worm treatment" for their children. Public health and sanitation awareness programmes, training parents on food and nutrition, distributing deworming tablets, and spreading awareness about government schemes, are some of our other health initiatives for indigenous communities.

Child Helpline 1098 Project

The Child Helpline project was established in HD Kote Taluk, as a sub-centre for Child Line India Foundation, to ensure the safety of children in tribal and marginalised communities, supported by Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India.

We conduct regular Open House programmes for children, teachers, SHGs and community members, to build awareness about child rights, child labour, child marriage, education, POCSO Act 2012 and Child Helpline 1098. We form Youth Committees to train the tribal youth on addressing social challenges within their communities like child marriage, hygiene and sanitation, with the help of concerned government departments, gram panchayat and Child Helpline 1098. Children are further empowered to voice and address their concerns through Bala Panchayat, Youth/Children's Clubs and School Awareness Programmes.

ADVOCACY

Nisarga Foundation actively advocates for the rights of indigenous communities, particularly tribal forest and land rights, with the State government. We have joined hands with Budakattu Krushikara Sangha (BKS) to help implement public litigation for tribal rehabilitation policy, while supporting Karnataka State Adivasi Forum to implement FRA-2006. We also organise leadership development forums for tribal youth and regular workshops to address tribal issues.

We are actively involved in various NGO forums and support networks, like Village Forest Rights Committee (VFRC), Monitoring Committee, SHG Federation, Hejjenu Kalathanda, Thaluk Adivasi Grama Sabha Vedike, Rajya Moolanivasi Vedike, Adivasi Solidarity Council, Mythri, FEVORD-K and National Front Adivasi Self Rule, State Moola Nisavsi Forum, Disability NGOs Alliance and National Adivasi Alliance.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Nanjundaiah, Secretary and Executive Director, received:

-  **Maathru Bhoomi Seva Prashasthi** from Vande Matharam Seva Trust in 2017
-  Certificate of Merit from **National CSR Leadership Congress & Awards** in 2016
-  **Environment Protection & Neglected Communities Empowerment Award** in 2013
-  Finalist NGO Leader for **'i Volunteer Awards'** in 2012
-  Appreciation Award from **FEVOURD-K** in 2008

Accreditations

- Guide Star India Certification (GSN-11412)
- Member - Adivasi Solidarity Council; Tribal Joint Action, Karnataka; Federation of Voluntary Organisations for Rural Development, Karnataka (FEVORD-K); Indian Social Action Forum (INSAF); Disability NGO Alliance (DNA); National Adivasi Alliance (NAA); National Adivasi Council of Development Indigenous People (NAC-DIP)

OUR IMPACT SO FAR*

8675 people benefited through FSLT food security programme	211 child labourers rehabilitated and admitted to schools through NCLP programme	1,500 tribal groups provided nutritious food through Action Aid PTG programme
750 farmers trained in natural farming, ensuring food security for 200 families	15,745 trees planted across various tribal Haadis	6,000 children benefited from awareness programme to promote Adivasi languages
3,000 people benefited from implementation of Forest Right Act 2006, with over 70% of them getting land ownership	976 children rescued through Child Help Line	600 children moved from "malnourished to well nourished" through the spirulina nutrition supplement programme

* Data as of September 2019, based on NGO records.



You can help us secure the future of indigenous communities.

Displaced from their native lands and deprived of their livelihood, indigenous communities face oppression, neglect and exploitation. At Nisarga Foundation, we strive to empower them by giving them access to their rights, education, healthcare and livelihood. Donate now. Help us ensure a dignified life and promising future for indigenous and underserved communities.

₹500

Sponsor a Single Meal for 20 school drop-out children

₹1,200

Sponsor 1 Full Day's Meal for 20 School drop-out children

₹5,000

Sponsor Nutrition Supplement for 10 malnourished children

₹8,000

Sponsor the making of Kitchen Garden for 1 Haadi

₹12,000

Sponsor 4 Study Desks to accommodate 20 children

₹15,200

Sponsor 1 Bunker Bed for school drop-out children

₹18,000

Sponsor 1 child's Annual Education

₹40,000

Sponsor 1 Solar Water Heater for Bridge School Dormitory

Make a generous donation* today:

* Donations to Nisarga Foundation are eligible for 50% tax exemption under Section 80G of Income Tax Act, India.

Account Number: 123401010008784

Bank: Vijaya Bank

Branch: HD Kote

IFSC Code: VIJB0001234

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