



# INDIA LITERACY PROJECT

## 2008 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends,

Kofi Annan, former Secretary-General of the United Nations, said, "Literacy is a platform for democratization, and a vehicle for the promotion of cultural and national identity. Especially for girls and women, it is an agent of family health and nutrition. For everyone, everywhere, literacy is, along with education in general, a basic human right.... Literacy is, finally, the road to human progress and the means through which every man, woman and child can realize his or her full potential."

ILP's mission resonates deeply with Mr Annan's thoughts. In these times economic turmoil, it is even more important for us to bolster the tenets of democracy and self-sufficiency in India. With the goal of providing functional literacy to every individual we serve, ILP has been supporting programs across India over the past 18 years, creating sustainable project models across various age-groups.

In 2008, continuing on the strength of our Large Scale Literacy programs, we embarked on a new project in Telkoi, Kheonjar District of Orissa to provide education to tribal children. Our success and credibility in the 50 villages of Kudligi in Karnataka invigorated us to expand our program to cover 130 villages. In Rajasthan and New Delhi, some of our initiatives are approaching sustenance, as the community takes ownership of the programs and their execution. We take great pride in those projects that don't need our assistance anymore.

Over the next few years, our large scale programs in Karnataka and Orissa will have been executed in 529 villages with an approximate population of 580,000 people. In 2009 we will embark on some new projects in new states, to continue our philosophy of creating model projects to solve and develop solutions for unique social needs. At the same time, we will be growing our large scale programs to address the needs of the greater populace.

2008 was a remarkable year for ILP. Despite the tightening of purse strings across the globe, we saw a significant increase in our patron groups, urging us to believe that a good cause still draws large hearts. Similarly our burgeoning volunteer group proved to us that each pair of sturdy hands that joins us helps us inch a little closer to our aspirations.

"It is our choices that show who we truly are far more than our capabilities" said Albus Dumbledore in the Harry Potter series of books. The volunteers at ILP have, over the years, chosen to make a difference in the lives of children in India by giving their time, resources and undying passion towards the cause. Together we build and shape the foundation of tomorrow's children, helping them to read and to dream.

Thank you,

ILP National Coordinating Committee

## ILP AT A GLANCE

- \* Founded in 1990, 501(c)3 registered non-profit
- \* 76 projects completed, over 100,000 beneficiaries
- \* 4 chapters in US, 3 chapters in India
- \* Experience supporting education for children, livelihood training for youth and literacy / skills training for adults
- \* Empowering the community to take ownership of issues
- \* Philosophy to effectively utilize government resources

## VISION:

*To be a catalyst for 100% literacy in India*



# SPOTLIGHT

## Sedum, Karnataka

In 2008, ILP started a large scale literacy program to improve literacy levels in Gulbarga district of Karnataka starting with Kodla cluster in Sedum Taluk. Gulbarga is one of the bottom five districts in terms of literacy and income index in the state of Karnataka and has an appalling 45,000 children out of school. In Sedum Taluk, 5098 children out of school, 40% attendance in schools, only 5 to 10% of girls completing high school, poor enrollment in child care centers (Anganwadis), and prevalent child labor are but a few glimpses of the current socio-economic scenario that show an unequivocal need for action to be taken in this region.

Location	% Total Literacy	% Literacy (Male)	% Literacy (Female)
India	65.4%	75.3%	53.7%
Karnataka	66.60%	76.0%	57.0%
Gulbarga District	50.0%	62.0%	38.0%
<b>Sedum Taluk</b>	<b>44.8%</b>	<b>56.4%</b>	<b>33.4%</b>
<b>Kodla Cluster</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>42.8%</b>	<b>21.0%</b>

ILP selected Community Development Foundation (CDF) as our NGO partner to implement this challenging program. The initial objective of this program is to bring a substantial change in the education and literacy levels across the 13 villages in the Kodla cluster by reaching out to most of the village population in the form of

Activity	Number of people
Enroll out of school children in 6-8 years age group	~500 children (full data survey in progress)
Retain children in Schools – 0 to 14 years age group	~3800 children retained in 26 schools Child rights clubs in 15 schools of the area
Improve Quality of Education – Training for Teachers	48 teachers / helpers trained 60 teachers participating in field visits and alternate pedagogy training
Mobilize community to create awareness on education and child labor	~15,000 people (60% of population) reached out to. 3 child protection committees formed in 3 gram panchayats 20% of households with child labor risks linked with Govt. schemes/services

different interventions/activities.

### Road ahead

There are specific issues that are emerging calling for a planned response in the next few years by CDF and ILP.

- \* Girl child issues– A conservative estimate indicates that around 50% - the girls in the age group of 9-16 are out of school, working or engaged in household chores.
- \* Adolescent issues – Children in the 14+ age group have been left out of all development programs and consequently there is a huge population of young boys and girls neglected on the educational, vocational and personal development front.

The one year of preparation work by CDF in Sedum has enabled the team to arrive at a assessment of the ground realities. Given the situation in Sedum and also the severity of the issues this program becomes pivotal in facilitating a district wide awareness of issues, creating a network of resources and organizations to address

## YEAR IN REVIEW — PROGRAMS

Name of Project	State	Description	Beneficiaries	Funded (USD)
<b>Early childhood care</b>				
CARPED	Andhra Pradesh	Early childhood education centers for children of lam-bada community in Medak, Andhra Pradesh	200 children in 8 balwadis	4,723.00
Paraspara	Karnataka	Early childhood education centers for children of granite quarry workers in Bettalapur, Karnataka	150 children	9,152.00
<b>Back To School - Bringing out of school children and dropouts back to school</b>				
Adivasi Vikash Samity	Orissa	Non formal education centers for children living in the mining belt in Keonjar, Orissa	400 children in 10 villages	10,873.00
Janachetana	Karnataka	Residential bridge schools for rehabilitated working children in Raichur, Karnataka	100 children in residential bridge schools	13,353.00
Mahita	Andhra Pradesh	Literacy for women and non formal education centers for children in slums of Hyderabad	182 children in 2 basti centers 4 women's self help groups	6,576.00
SAYA	New Delhi	Non formal education centers for slum children in New Delhi	400 children in 10 learning centers	10,830.00
SEEDS	Karnataka	Residential bridge schools for rehabilitated working children in Davanegere, Karnataka	50 children in residential bridge schools	12,640.00
SNEHA	Karnataka	Strengthening the government schools by enabling active participation and awareness in the community on Kudligi, Bellary, Karnataka	8800 children in 50 villages	25,160.00
SRKPS	Rajasthan	Non formal education centers for children of migrant labor in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan	282 children in 8 Bal Mitra Vidyalaya	11,619.00
Vembu	Tamil Nadu	Drop out prevention, retention and increasing learning levels in secondary Tsunami affected areas in Vembar, Ramndad district, Tamil Nadu	325 children in 3 villages	8,302.00
Vidiyel Trust	Tamil Nadu	Drop out prevention, retention and increasing learning levels in secondary Tsunami affected areas in Vembar, Tamil Nadu	400 children in 3 villages	8,725.00
<b>Adult Literacy and Livelihood Skills Training</b>				
SWERA-Sharadhana	Rajasthan	Literacy and livelihood skills training for adolescent girls in Ajmer, Rajasthan	72 girls	12,197.00
VARRSA	Orissa	Literacy and livelihood skills training for women in Bhadrak, Orissa	800 women	8,656.00
<b>Mass Literacy</b>				
CDF	Karnataka	Mass literacy program initiated in Sedum, Gulbarga, North Karnataka. <b>Funded by ILP India</b>	Study in progress to identify out of school children and illiterate adults.	3,000.00
Karuna Trust	Karnataka	Mass literacy program covering the entire Yelandur Taluk, Karnataka	18000 adults 13000 children	2,450.00
<b>Quality of Education</b>				
EQUIP	Tamil Nadu	Quality of education project aimed at improving learning levels in Tamil, science, math in Madukarrai block of Coimbatore	80 schools in the block	15,843.00
SIDH	Uttaranchal	Quality of education project aimed at developing innovative curriculum and training teachers in Uttaranchal		9,803.00
IRCDS	TamilNadu	Improve quality of education for children of backward communities in Thiruvallur district, Tamil Nadu		5,666.00
<b>Project Monitoring</b>				
All		Project Monitoring & Review	Monitoring of all projects, consultations and reviews	10,602.00
<b>Total Program Spend</b>				<b>187,170.00</b>

**ILP-USA Income & Expenditure Statement**  
**For the year ending Dec 31, 2008 (UNAUDITED)**

<b>INCOME</b>	(USD)_
Donations to Programs *	276,660.74
Sponsorship/Admin Funds	48,257.00
Interest/Dividend	3,788.98
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>328,706.72</b>
 <b>EXPENSES</b>	
Grants to programs & Monitoring	187,170.00
Fundraising Events **	44,692.65
Operating Expense ***	5,483.30
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>237,345.95</b>
 <b>NET INCOME</b>	 <b>91,360.77</b>

*\* Include cash and non-cash donations by individuals and corporations*

*\*\* Funded by corporate sponsors and event registration fees*

*\*\*\* Funded by targeted donations from volunteers*

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2008

### ILP INDIA

#### Hyderabad Chapter

2008 has been a busy and a productive year for ILP Hyderabad. Our core activity, the shared reading sessions have been a joy for the children as well as the volunteer readers at schools in Masthan Nagar and Madhapur. We have a growing collection of "big books" which are bright and vibrant enough to capture the attention of a full classroom. Each book has an accompanying activity to engage the children and reinforce the learning process.

The big news for this year has been the opening of our community library in Madhapur. Over 2,000 children's books have been donated, logged and sorted according to different reading levels. We also have a growing collection of educational games, puzzles, coloring books, and resources for teachers and volunteers. Our staff member Neha decorated the rooms with photographs of the children and big stuffed plush toys to make it, an enticing space for kids to come and explore our collection. The library was opened and inaugurated on Children's Day and the children have since been visiting in large numbers.



In an effort to recruit more volunteers and raise awareness about our activities, we participated in a two-day "NGO mela" at Microsoft's Hyderabad campus. We are looking forward to doing more corporate-based volunteer recruitment in 2009.

#### Bangalore Chapter

During 2007-08, ILP expanded its scholarship program to cover 172 children in Bangalore, Davanagere, Raichur and Chittoor. All the children come from poor socio-economic background; many were school dropouts brought back to school through bridge school initiatives. Life Skills Workshops were organized, specifically targeted at 9th and 10th standard high-school students, who are receiving PURASKARA scholarships from ILP. The workshop covers a variety of topics relevant to students in their daily life such as: the art of studying, effective reading, designing an effective timetable, managing stress, understanding emotions, goal setting, time management etc.

Community Library: The community library at Siddarth Nagar, has grown from 40 memberships to 118 memberships in the last one year. About 40 children visit the library every day. A total of 1100 books were issued this year. Some children have been issued as many as 90 books!

Juvenile Justice Forms: ILP was invited to be part of the Rule Drafting Committee responsible for formulating the new rules based on the 2006 Amendments to Juvenile Justice Act 2002 and the GoI Model Rules 2006. ILP's main responsibility was to design forms for the proposed rules with the objective of standardization and automation. This effort was supported by DWCD and UNICEF.

# ILP US

## Bay Area, California Chapter

2008 was another incredible year for the California Chapter in the Bay Area. Every event was better than ever before in more ways than one. 2008 laid the foundation for many bright years ahead for our burgeoning chapter.

ILP's 10th Annual Race for Literacy in May 2008 had over 900 registrations - the largest ever. And they were treated to an efficiently executed event capped off with some of the best food in town, a free T-shirt with an exquisite 10th anniversary design, a number of kids' activities, and the usual array of raffles. Twenty participants signing up to volunteer for ILP was the ultimate indicator of the event's success.



ILP teams participated in the annual relay ([www.therelay.com](http://www.therelay.com)) organized by Organs'R'Us. In our 5<sup>th</sup> year of participation, 4 ILP teams of 12 members each ran 199 miles from Calistoga to Santa Cruz in a route divided into 36 legs. This year - for the first time - we also had a 12-member walking team that participated as well. After intense practice sessions that started in January, each member ran/walked 3 legs of approximately 5.5 miles each. It was 30 hours of non-stop fun. ILP is thankful to the participants for raising pledges to benefit our various projects.



ILP's annual benefit dinner was organized in October at the India Community Center in Milpitas. The event was kicked off by two young artists' groups with their exciting classical and acapella musical performances. With a "Yes, we can, Yes we will" theme to the night, we shared our progress on the "large scale literacy projects". Mr. Keerti Melkote and Mr. Pankaj Manglik - founders of Aruba Networks - spoke in tandem, of anecdotes, of responsibilities and of sacrifices on the way to starting a successful company in the Bay Area. In encouraging ILP in its efforts to bring opportunity to the underprivileged in India, they were emphatic about the necessity of literacy and education to one and all. As the evening continued, the crowd mingled, sharing the camaraderie and warmth that can only come from a feeling of having helped to make a difference.





## **India Literacy Project**

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