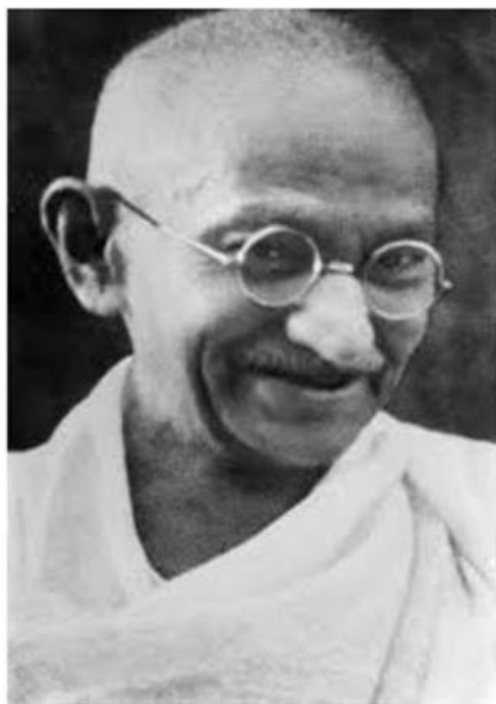


# ASSEFA 50

*Marching Ahead in Rural Development since 1969...*



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2017-18**



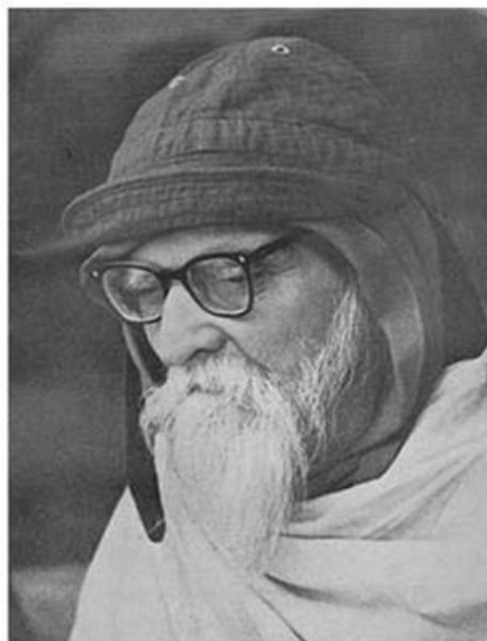
**MAHATMA GANDHI**

Father of the Nation

**His Principles  
and  
Philosophy  
is  
The Mission  
of ASSEFA**

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**VINOBHA SAID:  
SARVA SEVA  
FARMS  
is  
CLOSER  
to  
MY HEART**



**VINOBHA BHAVE**

Father of Bhoodhan Board

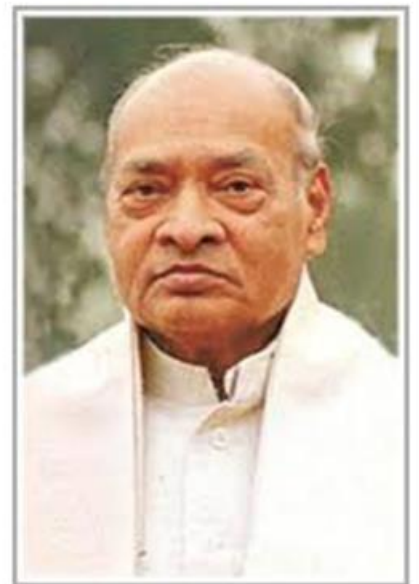


**R.VENKATARAMAN**

President of India

..... The Association of Sarva Seva Farms (ASSEFA) is rendering a great service in reviving the ideals of rural self-sufficiency and emancipation of the poorest of the poor. it has laid emphasis in self rule, swaraj, in villages and on elimination of exploitation of man by man.....

..... The Association of Sarva Seva Farms (ASSEFA) has been engaged in the commendable task of spreading awareness of their teachings and encouraging adherence to them.....



**P.V.NARASIMHA RAO**

Prime Minister of India



..... The ASSEFA's Peace movement's holistic approach which stresses non-violent conflict resolution, the importance of community and service and of taking care of the environment, are all important attitudes and beliefs in the creation of a peaceful person, community, and world.....

## MAIREAD CORRIGAN MAGUIRE

Nobel Laureate for Peace



..... The Association of Sarva Seva Farms (ASSEFA) is working in many states of India. Constructive work, according to Gandhi-Vinoba philosophy, is to be undertaken with three objectives, to help the poor in making them self-reliant, to bring about a nonviolent social change and to awaken the spiritual power of the individual.....



## NIRMALA DESHPHANDE

President - AKHIL BHARAT RACHANATMAK SAMAJ

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## 1. ORIGIN OF ASSEFA

When India got Independence in 1947, the major challenges laid before were to rejuvenate the rural India, especially to confront economic issues such as poverty due to imbalance of haves and have not's. Inspired by Gandhi ji, Social Action Institutions like HarijanSevakSangh, Khadi Institutions, etc., started addressing these challenges by receiving external supports including from governments.

AcharyaVinobaBhave, the spiritual heir of Gandhi jiresisted institutionalization and preferred individual or group social action. In 1951, watching the growing violence linked to the issue of unequal land ownership in the countryside, particularly in the Telangana region, he made a visit to the area and had a dialogue with the landless and the landlords.



*Vinobaji and his followers during foot marches*

In the village of Pochampalli, 40 kms from Hyderabad, Vinoba had an inspired vision based on a simple gesture by Ramachandra Reddy, the young son of a landlord, who offered to donate part of his land to the landless people in his village. Vinoba decided that he would make it his mission to persuade landowners all across India to voluntarily give part of their land for redistribution to the landless.

This was born the "Bhoodan Movement" (Land gift movement). Vinobatrekked by Padayatra incessantly for nearly 14 years throughout the length and breadth of India and managed to collect 4.8 million acres of land under Bhoodan by 1966.



As much of the donated lands were barren and needed substantial investment, the Bhoodan movement got stuck without the desired results. In response to this predicament, several Gandhian leaders came together to establish a project to settle the landless on Bhoodan lands, and help them make the land cultivable, provide irrigation, and basic agricultural implements and inputs.

This project was launched as a Sarva Seva Farms project in 1969, the centenary year of Gandhiji. Thus was laid the foundation for the origin of ASSEFA, Association for Sarva Seva Farms, as the second phase of the Bhoodan Movement.

Only in 1979, ASSEFA was registered under Tamil Nadu Societies Act to enable to raise resources from external sources such as International supporters, State governments, Union governments, etc., for the development of the villages including wasteland development with a focus on welfare of the women, children and small and marginal farmers.

Table 1: Status of Bhoodan Land Received and Distributed (as on 31 March, 2009)

State	Land Donated in Acres	Land Distributed in Acres	Land Yet to be Distributed as % of total recd
Andhra Pradesh	252119	116134	53.9%
Assam	877	877	0.0%
Bihar	648593	251430	61.2%
Delhi	300	180	40.0%
Gujarat	103530	50984	50.8%
Haryana	2070	2043	1.3%
Himachal Pradesh	5240	2531	51.7%
Jammu-Kashmir	211	5	97.6%
Jharkhand	1469280	488735	66.7%
Gujarat	103530	50984	50.8%
Karnataka	15864	5017	68.4%
Kerala	26293	5774	78.0%
Madhya Pradesh	410151	237629	42.1%
Maharashtra	158160	113230	28.4%
Orissa	638706	579984	9.2%
Punjab	5168	1026	80.1%
Rajasthan	546965	142699	73.9%
Tamil Nadu	27677	22837	17.5%
Uttar Pradesh	436362	418958	4.0%
West Bengal	16000	9000	43.8%
All India Total	48,67,096	25,00,057	48.6%

**Source:** Cholkar, Parag. *Sabai Bhoomee Gopalkee* Shukla, Nimisha and Sudarshan Iyengar, "Governing of Commons: The Bhoodan Way" Gujarat Vidyapeeth. 2010. The all India total has been corrected and the last column computed by the author, Sri. Vijay Mahajan of the paper "Bhoodan and Gramdhan – Are they relevant today."

## 2. EVOLUTION OF ASSEFA

ASSEFA is one of the pioneering national level Rural Development Organizations in India. Today, it has vast experiences as well as expertise in land and water resources development, dairy, livestock rearing, children education, empowerment of rural women, development finance, social security, environmental promotion, etc.

However, ASSEFA had begun its journey, in a humble manner, as the second phase of Bhoodan Movement with the blessings of Acharya Vinoba Bhave. The initial noble mission was to develop the waste lands collected under Bhoodan movement and settle the poor peasants.

### Phase I - 1969 to 1978

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#### *Development of Bhoodan Lands*



- The lands collected under Bhoodan movement were mostly less fertile with no irrigation facilities. The formerly landless Bhoodan beneficiaries could not benefit from the given lands, as they required capital for initial reclamation, leveling, etc., besides inputs such as bullocks, implements, seeds and fertilizers to make these lands productive.
- Bhoodan cooperatives were formed and distributed loans from the government, for reclamation and irrigation purposes. However, these efforts, which continued in the sixties, were unsuccessful due to various reasons such as lack of expertise, technical support, confidence, cohesion and self-managing abilities of the poor farmers.



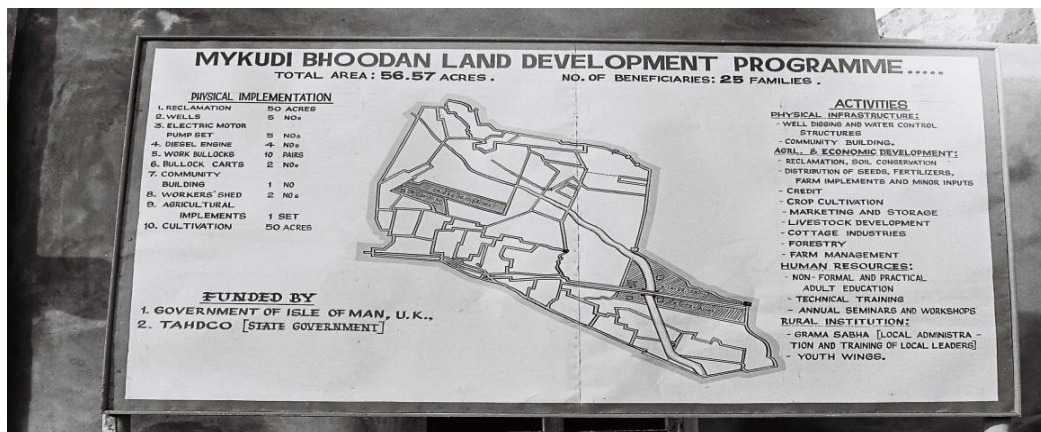
- It was at this juncture that a retired Italian philosophy professor and peace activist, Prof. Giovanni Ermiglia from Italy who was a Gandhian and inspired by what he had read of Vinoba's land-gift movement, came to India.



**Prof. Giovanni Ermiglia**

- Prof. Giovanni Ermiglia, met Sri Jagannathan and Sri S. Loganathan, who were directly involved in the Bhoodan Movement in Tamilnadu. Mr. Giovanni explained his vision of helping these poor villagers to become independent farmers, using Bhoodan lands and thus the seed was sown for the birth of ASSEFA.
- ASSEFA, in association with the Tamilnadu Sarvodaya Mandal State Bhoodan Boards, helped the Bhoodan farmers to mitigate their problems. Bhoodan cooperatives, Sarva Seva farms, as they were called, were formed, to enable the farmers to work on a collective basis sharing the available resources and man power and produce out of these lands.

#### **Bhoodan Land Development Plan – Mykudi Village**

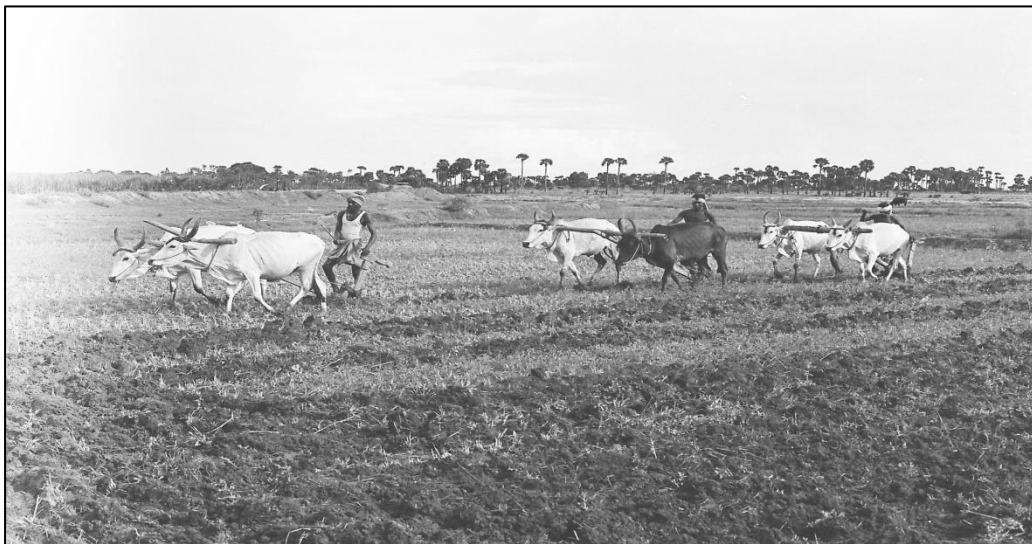


- The first SarvaSeva Farm was started at Sevalur in Ramnad district of Tamil Nadu. Initially, the beneficiaries were organized into a Group – Gram Sabha, to plan, design and implement the programs by themselves
- Need based supports such as wells for irrigation, land reclamation, adult education and recreation through a variety of local cultural artifacts was provided. With group cooperation, the land was soon reclaimed, leveled and cleared of rocks and scrub. A whole of 70 acres of lands were made productive.
- With the confidence gained by the success of the first project, the team soon replicated these actions in other areas and expanded to other states including Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka covering 9,844 acres, to benefit 3597 Bhoodan families.

## **Phase II - 1979 to 1988**

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### *Gramdhan and initiation of other welfare programs*



**Gramdhan Action in Natham Area**

- Though, the Bhoodan lands were developed for the individual allottees, it was felt the necessity to integrate the Bhoodanees with mainstream communities. Thus, ASSEFA introduced the concept of “Gramdan Development approach.”

- Under Gramdan, there was a complete surrender of property rights of the individual farmer to village community, with the revolutionary change in the village social structure that implied, the landless became equal members of the village community.
- ASSEFA piloted this concept in selective villages in Natham block. It set about the formation of Gram Sabhas in these villages, and gradually took up various aspects of community and economic development. Thus, ASSEFA gradually moved towards village based rather than land based development.

**Hon'ble Minister, Sri. Kulandaivelu Participation in Integrated project in  
Sethur of Natham Block (1983)**



- Accordingly, local communities were supported with facilities for child education and health care services. Schools were started in villages, where there are no school facilities. The first school was started in 1978 at Vadugapatti, a small village, in an informal way.
- Gradually, schools were opened in many villages for regular education for primary, middle, high school and higher secondary classes. In villages, where govt schools function, pailagam have been started to provide additional coaching for other school going children. For the students who completed schooling, vocational trainings are provided through Industrial Training Institutions.

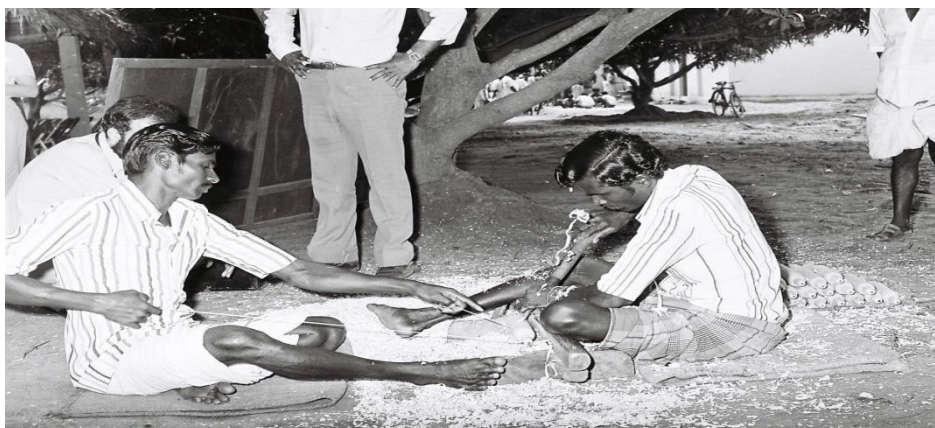


### SarvaSeva School in Natham Area – 1984



- Subsequently, ASSEFA initiated other welfare programs especially livelihood related. Major support was provided to the people under primary sector, as it forms the main occupation in the villages.

### Rural youths involved in Artisans work in Natham Area (1985)



- Artisans and educated unemployed youths were also trained and assisted in Khadi and village industries and other micro-enterprises. A separate Trust, Sarva Seva Gramodhyog Samithi was established in 1987 to provide these services with the approval by Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Government of India.

### Phase III - 1989 to 1998

#### Community Development through Integrated Programs



- During this phase, there was a rapid expansion of the geographical area as well programs. With the focus on “Community Development” integrated welfare programs were implemented in large scale.
- In order to sustain the livelihoods activities, ASSEFA promoted Sarva Jana SevaKosh in 1989, to provide development finance for livelihoods promotion. SJSK, registered under Company’s Act, is designed under Gandhian trusteeship model, where the shareholders are the federated bodies of the livelihoods groups formed at the village level
- Other initiatives such as social forestry, promotion of bio-gas, hygienic dwellings, hand-pumps & overhead tanks for supply of drinking water, health care services, children education, etc., were implemented to improve the quality life for the villagers.
- This process of diversification was a natural outcome of expansion as well as determination to do effective and long lasting work. The needs, in most cases, were identified by the people themselves, and the solutions were offered through participatory approach. This led to form various community based activity groups to sustain these activities.
- In the 1990s, ASSEFA decided to give more importance to empowering women. With the support of IFAD, ASSEFA in partnership with Government of Tamil Nadu, promoted a large number of women Self Help Groups (SHGs) in many districts of Tamil Nadu.



- These groups were capacitated and trained to address their problems through SHG Forums and to enable them to undertake various farm and non-farm enterprises.
- Dairy, being a suitable and viable enterprise, was promoted on a large scale to benefit rural women. Credit facilities were arranged to purchase milch animals and extension services to improve animal productivity.
- In the beginning, the surplus milk production was disposed through tie-up with government promoted dairy cooperatives. Due to various reasons, the women had difficulty to continue with these dairy cooperatives as they could not raise their voices to redress their grievances.

#### **Dairy Group in Action – Natham Area**



- ASSEFA broke this monopoly of the government and promoted people-owned dairy societies. Milk processing plants and bulk cooling units were established in suitable locations, where surplus milks could be processed and marketed via well connected networks in retail or bulk under distinct brands like 'Seva' and 'Sarvodaya'.
- The first dairy plant was established in 1996 at Uchapatti village, near Madurai. Subsequently, four more dairy plants were established in Natham, Pooriyampakkam, Gingee and Chinnasalem to provide integrated support to the dairy farmers.

#### **Phase IV - 1999to 2008**

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*Community Organizations towards Sustainability*





**Gram Shaba Meeting in Sethur area**

- ASSEFA uses the strategies of “Mobilizing Local Communities” and “Building community institutions” to develop self-reliant communities. Accordingly, the local communities are enabled to participate in the development process starting from identifying local issues, planning, developing & implementing suitable programs.
- Gram Sabhas<sup>1</sup> formed in the villages identify and mitigate village issues, mostly social. They also act as a mediator for negotiating with public organizations. Similarly women groups were formed to address women related issues. At the block level, these SHGs were federated and registered as Mutual Benefit Trusts with elected SHG members as Board of Trustees.
- Similarly, village level activity groups were formed for each program to develop action plans and to implement them. The activity groups were federated at the area level for co-ordination, external linkages and collective negotiation.

**Kundrakudi Adigalar with Nirmala Deshpandeji and Sivagangai Collector in Farmers Conference – Sivagangai - 2007**

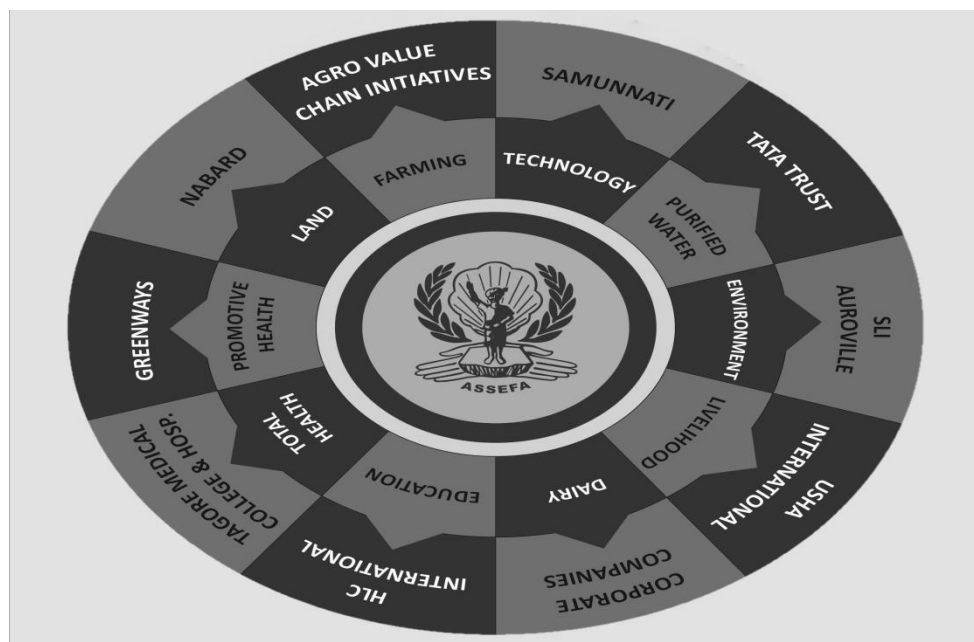


<sup>1</sup> Village assembly with interested men and women as members

- An Apex body with professional experts and with representation from local communities has been created for each program to coordinate and provide professional support. These community organizations are formed based on the concept of Trusteeship of Gandhi ji with the following features:
  - Decentralized with community representation in governance.
  - Independent and democratic functions
  - Transparent operation
  - Value addition of the local resources to meet the local demand
  - Production by the masses using appropriate technology and
  - Profit sharing with the beneficiaries. Generally re-invested for local development.
- ASSEFA has formed 160 community organizations, by July 2018 with appropriate legal status to carry out development programs. All these organizations are vibrant and actively involved in serving the rural communities.

### Phase V - 2009to 2018

*Collaborations for multiple services for quality life*



- In the recent years, India is witnessing a rapid change due to globalization. The aspiration of the people in rural area is also changing due to increase in livelihood opportunities in urban areas. Hence, migration of the manpower including youths to cities is happening from the rural area.
- ASSEFA has been experimenting and innovating with new programs to meet the needs of rural people. Having worked closely with the people for the last five decades, ASSEFA is able to understand their problems and assess the area of support required. However, it becomes a challenge to assist the people to their fullest satisfaction with our own resources and the expertise available in the local area.
- Hence, ASSEFA took new strides to bring in required expertise in terms of skills, technology and other resources by collaborating with other organizations in the local areas and strengthened the on-going activities with valued added services.

Today, with five decades of service to the rural communities, ASSEFA has created positive impacts to over a million poor families in more than 10,000 villages across eight states of India. Besides, it has developed successful models for others including Government to practice in development sector.

Moreover, ASSEFA had created a learning platform for thousands of youths including professionals to get first-hand experience in development practices. Later, these people went on their way and started contributing for the development of the poor and vulnerable people on their own.

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

‘To improve the economic, social and cultural status of the rural communities and enhance their skills and self-management capacity. Unite the rural communities without any kind of discrimination and work for the upliftment of the social, cultural and economic life of all and to establish self-sufficient, self-reliant and self-managed communities based on the principles of love, services and social justice’



### 3. ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE

Understanding the aspirations of the target population and helping them to achieve them are the important strategic steps for a successful intervention. When SarvaSeva Farms were formed, the prime aspirations of the Bhoodanallotees were to cultivate and produce farming products from the Bhoodan lands.



ASSEFA tasted success as the program developed was in line with the aspirations of the target people. However, rifts were felt from other quarters, as they did not get any support for their aspirations in developing their lands. Thus, the gap between Bhoodan allottees and the mainstream widened.

Hence, ASSEFA brought in other communities during phase II. While working with these people, other aspirations of them were identified. They were mainly looking to have improved basic needs: *potable water, health care, access to education and proper shelters* in their villages.

Thus, ASSEFA has successfully introduced other welfare programs such as children's education, health care services, livestock rearing, improvement of dwellings, safe drinking water, etc. ASSEFA had to create awareness on the importance of having such services in some villages, before introducing.

When ASSEFA started the schools in the late 1970's, many parents were reluctant to send their children. These children were all first generation learners. Hence, their parents

did not know the importance of education. In those villages, ASSEFA created awareness and convinced the parents to send their wards to the schools.

The same villagers, in the 1990's, approached ASSEFA to upgrade its primary schools into higher education, as they had widened their aspirations of providing good education to their children for bright future.



When these students graduated they got exposure in other sectors and hence their aspirations such as getting jobs other than agriculture, increased income, comfortable living, etc., become stronger. Hence, they started migrating to the cities for better livelihood opportunities.

These aspirations become stronger among rural youths, in the recent years, due to the following reasons

- Increase in literacy rate in the rural areas
- Exposure through advanced communication system such as smart mobile, internet, television, transport facilities, etc.
- Increase in scope in other sectors especially in service with better packages.

The farmers also encourage their children to shift to other jobs, as they feel agriculture is a hard job and the income is rather low.

Hence, the involvement of youth in farming and livestock rearing is decreasing. Only elderly people, who are above 40 years old, are engaged in agricultural activities.



This trend will pose a major challenge in our agricultural system in near future. Hence, the active involvement of rural youths in agriculture is necessary for sustainable agricultural systems.



ASSEFA is planning an intervention to create ideal villages where people will have a more comfortable life with their own families, farming better and more sustainably rather than seeking work in urban areas. This will involve

- Fulfillment of primary / basic needs
- Specific training in agriculture and livestock rearing practices
- Investment and working capital
- Involvement of technology to reduce labour and to improve systems
- Risk coverage and
- Marketing scope for their produce.

The aspirations of women are also addressed by ASSEFA by creating separate platforms – women SHGs & Mutual Benefit Trusts to constantly share their aspirations, develop programs and implement them under the guidance of ASSEFA.

The aspirations of the rural women are concerned with welfare of their children. Hence, ASSEFA has introduced programs such as *livelihood activities for women, toilet facilities, education for their children, community marriages, Mother and child health, wage loss compensation, etc.*, to fulfill their aspirations.

## 4. DESIGNING THE PROGRAMS

ASSEFA takes special care while designing the programs, as they have to be acceptable to the target people and comfortable for them to use, replicable to expand and sustainable so that they can enjoy the benefits for a long time.



Usually, the programs are designed to address the issues of the local communities. As an example, SarvaSeva Farms emerged mainly by addressing the problems of the Bhodanallottees bringing waste lands under cultivation.

Initially, farmers were brought together in a group. The needs assessment was carried out in the groups through a participatory approach. The necessary inputs were arranged based on the need and implemented through the farmers' groups. However, hand-holding support was extended for coordination, encouragement and guidance.

When other farmers were brought under ASSEFA fold, new issues came up. Hence ASSEFA designed new programs such as water management, technology for productivity enhancement, cost reduction and alternative market linkages for farmers.

In the 1980's, when ASSEFA took up women development as the main program, it came across women's issues such as over-dependency on men, restricted social movement, limited outside exposure and inadequate knowledge of health care.

Women's self-help groups were formed in the beginning. They acted as a platform for women to interact with each other, share their ideas, express their feelings and so on. Based on their interest and priorities, ASSEFA gradually designed programs such as

- Income generation through livestock rearing and dairying
- Health care through preventive, promotive and curative measures
- Respect and dignity through registering land/house title in their names
- Confidence and self-belief through access to timely credit services
- Exposure and experience through actively engaging in SHGs / SMBTs to render services to fellow women and
- Security and safety through community marriages, wage loss compensation, construction of toilet facilities, etc.

Within each program, different services were offered based on the issues / needs of the target group. For instance, when milch animals were given to the women for income generation, the problem of disposing the surplus had to be met.

#### **Women Group in Coastal Area**



Therefore, these women were linked with the state dairy cooperatives for marketing. However, this linkage brought other serious problems so ASSEFA established dairy processing units to provide comprehensive services to the producers from animal to marketing. Section 25 Companies were promoted with producers as directors for management of these Companies with engaging professionals.

Thus, ASSEFA programs were designed based on the issues / challenges encountered by the target section of the population. It does not introduce any program that is alien to the local people. Moreover, all the programs fit in with the aspirations of the rural people, which are mostly confined to primary basic needs.

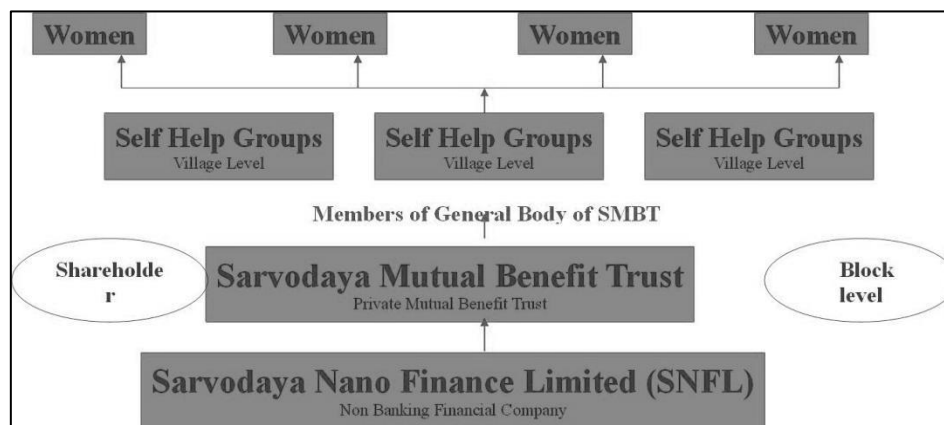
## 5. PEOPLE CENTRIC APPROACH

ASSEFA strategy to mobilize local communities and build community institutions is to realize self-reliant communities. Consequently, local people are brought under activity based groups such as dairy, farmers, women SHGs, gram sabhas, etc. They are trained and capacitated to assess their problems, develop mitigation measures, implementing and assessing the progress



Gram Sabhas formed in the villages identify and mitigate village issues, mostly social. They also act as a mediator for negotiating with public organizations. Similarly Women's groups were formed to address women related issues. At the block level, these SHGs were federated and registered as Mutual Benefit Trusts with elected SHG members as the Board of Trustees.

These MBTs have promoted a NBFC company, "Sarvodaya Nano Finance Ltd". The shareholders are the MBTs. The main purpose is to raise loans from the mainstream financial institutions to on-lend to women SHGs through MBTs. The profit earned at each level is reinvested for the development of the rural women.



Similarly, farmers' groups were formed for agriculture to develop action plans and to implement programs. These groups are federated at the block level and registered as Sarvodaya Livelihoods Ensuring Mutual Benefit Trust / Federation of Nidhi Foundation for co-ordination, external linkages and collective negotiation. In some cases, it is registered as Producers Company.

For dairy, milk producers' groups are formed at the village level and these groups are federated at the block level for coordination, external linkages and collective negotiation.

**Federation of Milk Producers – Thanipadi Area**



An Apex body of professional experts and representation from local communities is created for each program to coordinate and provide professional support. These community organizations are formed based on the socio-economic concept of Gandhian Trusteeship model with the following features:

- Decentralized with community representation in governance.
- Community ownership. No individual ownership
- Independent and democratic functions
- Transparent operations
- Value addition to meet the local demand
- Production by the masses using appropriate technology and
- Profit sharing with the beneficiaries. Generally re-invested for local development.

ASSEFA has formed 160 community organizations, as on March 31, 2018, with appropriate legal status to carry out development programs. All these organizations are vibrant and actively involved in serving the rural communities. The list of these organizations and their activities are given in the annexure.

## 6. ASSEFA, THE SALT IN THE SOIL

Having started with the development of Bhoodan lands in a remote village in 1969, ASSEFA's services to the humanity has grown like the banyan tree in the last five decades and set a new trend in the development sector in India.

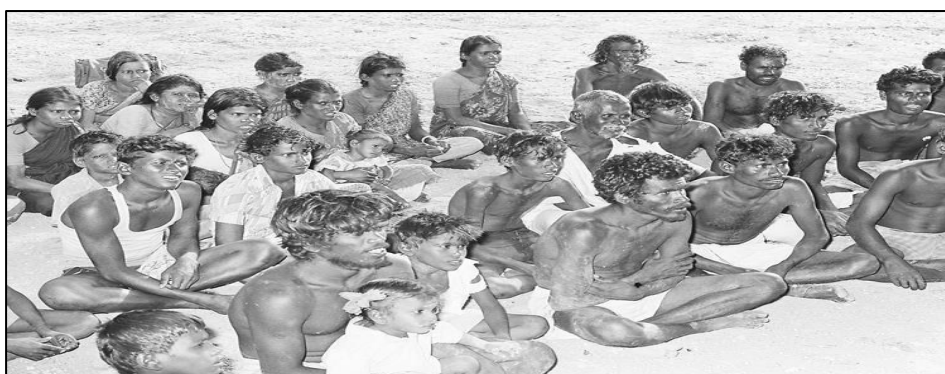
To date, ASSEFA has supported over a million families with multi-faceted welfare programs across India. Since the development programs are designed and implemented through community participatory approach, these programs have had greater impacts among the targeted families.

In fact, some of its programs acted as models to follow by other organizations including Government due to its relevance to wider people. Two such programs which had become popular and scaled up in large scale in India are **self-help groups** and **micro finance**. In addition, other welfare programs were followed by others and had created impacts on a large scale.

### a) SHGs and Micro-Finance:

The concept of working through self-help groups was adopted in the late 1970's under 'Gramdan' approach, where farmers were brought into self-help groups and supported to develop their lands collectively. The benefits earned are shared among the farmers on common ground. This concept of self-help group concept was followed, later, in other programs including that of women's development programs in the 1980's.

**Gram Sabha Meeting in Natham 1984**



'Micro-credit' was first implemented in 1978 under the concept of 'Gram Kosh' (village bank), wherein people pool their common resources at the village level and utilise it for income generation activities on a revolving basis. For better management



of these resources, ASSEFA established, Sarva Jana Seva Kosh in 1989, one of the pioneering non-banking finance companies in India.

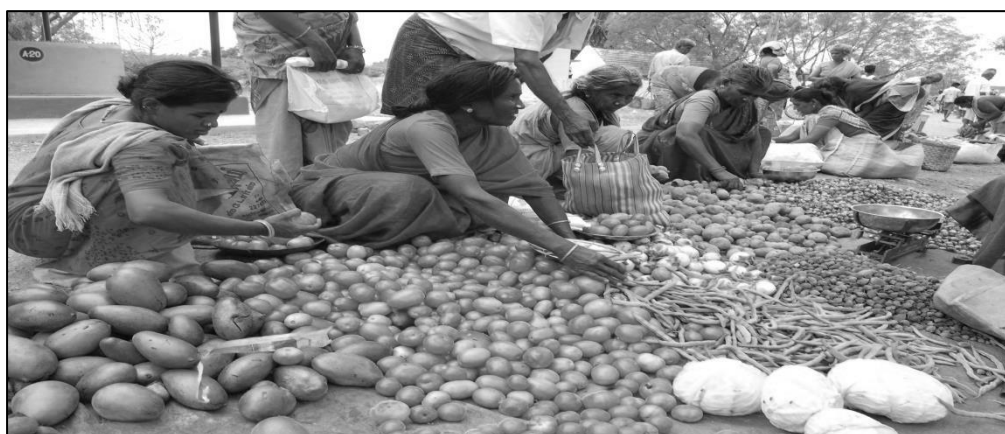
Similarly, ASSEFA established the first ever rural women owned micro-finance institution, Sarvodaya Nano Finance Ltd in 2001 in India. The success of this women owned micro-finance institution has not only attracted development practitioners in India but also abroad.

#### b) **Agriculture and Dairy Sectors:**

In the livelihood sector, ASSEFA has done incredible service. In the beginning, when others were struggling to create any significant changes with Bhoodan lands, ASSEFA intervened successfully and developed thousands of acres in many states of India. In fact, the intervention **added a new dimension to the Bhoodan Movement.**

In the 1990's, as part of supporting the farmers to avail better price for their produce, ASSEFA promoted **"Farmers Weekly Market"**. The concept was to enable the direct transactions between producers and consumers in a single place. The first market was established in 1994 in Mudukankulam village in Tamil Nadu.

**ASSEFA Market yard – Mallanginaru**



Similar market yards were established in Marakanam, Lathur and Mallanginaru areas. ASSEFA was happy that the concept was subsequently taken up by the State Government and promoted under "Uzhavar Santhai" in all districts of Tamil Nadu from 1999 onwards.

ASSEFA was the **first private organization** to provide comprehensive services through “**Dairy Program**” in Tamil Nadu. The services include training, supply animals, collection of surplus milk for processing and marketing. ASSEFA faced many hurdles in establishing the dairy factory from the State Government owned dairy cooperatives, but it successfully received permission under the Milk and Milk Products Order in 1992 from the Union Government.

This paved way for private firms to enter into dairy sector. At present there are more than twenty prominent private firms. This has created a healthy competition and due to which the milk producers are earning nearly Rs. 30 per liter of milk supplied than they earned Rs 5 per liter in the 1990's.

#### **Processing and Marketing of surplus in Natham Dairy Plant**



#### **c) In Education sector:**

ASSEFA has been the role model for other education institutions. Having started one school in 1978 with 28 children in a remote village, ASSEFA has grown and established many schools in villages, where there are no school facilities. Innovations and experiments are carried out with the sole purpose of providing the holistic development of a child - knowledge, body and mind.

These experiments were effective and attracted other Institutions to benefit the children. For instance, **Activity Based Learning**, adopted in ASSEFA schools, has been included as an important teaching tool in the government schools in Tamil Nadu.

### Activity Based Learning in Practice – Iyyanarpuram School



Similarly, the introduction of '**learning non-violence**' among ASSEFA school children, as the follow-up of the UN declaration of the decade (2001 to 2010) has not only attracted institutions in India but also abroad. ASSEFA along with its Friends in Europe had persuaded the UN to declare the decade 2001 to 2010 as the "Decade for the promotion of peace and non-violence for the children of the world", by enabling all Nobel Peace Laureates to appeal for it.

#### d) In Community Health

Mother and child health is one of the key activities under community health. This initiative is focused on minimizing IMR, MMR and underweight new born. Under this, two initiatives have attracted others, as it created a good impact among the pregnant women and young mothers.

- Wage loss compensation to pregnant women during the last three months of their pregnancy.
- Supplying newborn kits to the delivered mother to maintain personal hygiene among the mothers and new born babies.

### Distribution of newborn kits to young mothers in Marakanam



In 2015, the Government of Tamil Nadu introduced this scheme under, “Amma Baby Care Kit” benefiting hundreds of thousands pregnant women in Tamil Nadu. The kit containing 16 items including a baby towel, dress, bed, mosquito net, napkin, oil, baby soap, bath soap, soap box, liquid sanitizer, nail cutter, ‘gilugiluppai’ (rattle), doll and Legiyam introduced, which were similar to ASSEFA baby kit.

### e) Community Marriages

ASSEFA has been involved in organizing community marriages for more than two decades. This program was effective in addressing the social problems of dowry and lavish spending, which left many families with a lifelong loan burden. The simple mass weddings are inexpensive and bring the blessings and goodwill of the whole community to a dignified marriage.



ASSEFA with the support of women SHGs organizes community marriages as regular program, to promote communal harmony and inter-religious harmony in rural areas. To date, 2,345 couples have got solemnized as husband and wife.

**f) Professionals into Development sector:**

ASSEFA is pioneering in bringing professionals into the 'development sector'. There were periods, when the development work was carried out by the so called 'Sarvodaya workers'. ASSEFA has gone beyond this and brought in professionals for its development work. It promoted PRADAN (Professional Assistance for Development Action) in 1983, exclusively to attract professionals from reputed Institutions into the development field, by providing a platform to serve in ASSEFA.

**Prominent Development Practitioners with ASSEFA in 1980's**



Some of the committed professionals went on, later, from ASSEFA to set a new dimension to the development sector in India by establishing model organizations such as DEEPALAYA, BASIX, SRIJAN, DHAN FOUNDATION and so on. The professionalism in the development sector, that is seen today, is nothing but the growth of the seed that ASSEFA has sown in thirty years ago.

Thus, ASSEFA, in the last five decades, has brought in innovative ideas and programs that have created a tremendous impact in the socio-economic and cultural status of rural communities. Moreover, it has brought charismatic leaders and professionals into the development sector, which set the tone for many to serve the poor communities.

## 7. UPS AND DOWNS

ASSEFA has experimented with numerous innovations, in the last five decades, to address the issues of the rural people. Though, programs are designed and implemented with the concurrence of the target section, ASSEFA still faced difficulties due to the external factors. These include:

- Natural calamities – cyclone, storm, flooding, tsunami...
- Government policies
- Retention of potential human resources

ASSEFA has been working in the coastal area of Cuddalore district with the victims of the tsunami since 2004. It has established a chain of model schools to provide holistic education to the children of fishermen and neighbourhood vulnerable families.

However, this area is prone to frequent storms and heavy rains. Therefore, the education program often gets affected by bad weather and the school's infrastructure also gets damaged. Hence, ASSEFA needs to attend to the repair work regularly considering the safety of the children.

Further, our intervention with small and marginal farmers, in the same area, also gets disturbed by the weather. During those periods, ASSEFA needs to start again from the beginning to support them with livelihood activities.

Government policy is the other factor which affects the development sector. The recent policy in Andhra Pradesh made the micro-finance sector collapse in India. Although, ASSEFA initiated micro finance did not get affected, but had an impact when the Reserve Bank of India brought in lots of regulations subsequently.





The regulations had compelled ASSEFA's lending organizations to give credit to the individuals instead of SHGs. Consequently, the SHGs gradually lost their committed involvement in development programs.

Similarly, Government policies towards education forced ASSEFA to surrender schools in more than 100 villages with all infrastructure and facilities to the Government for management.



When ASSEFA was started, many youths joined and supported the cause for village development. During that period, there was limited scope for employment in other sectors. Hence, ASSEFA had manpower including volunteers who were subsequently trained, and placed in different development projects.

However, in recent years, getting youths into the development sector has become a challenging task for various reasons such as:

- Mobility has increased due to improved transport facilities.
- People are aware of many opportunities due to advanced communication system.
- Scope for jobs in other sectors has increased with attractive packages.

Hence, after higher studies, youths prefer to opt to other sectors due to attractive packages and scope in career growth. Even, the youths who join the development field, cannot be guaranteed to remain for a long term due to the above reasons.

Moreover, due to globalization, the economy is changing fast in India including its villages. As a result, the aspirations and needs of the rural people are also changing. This forces development practitioners to assess and amend the welfare programs that suit the needs of the target people.

## **8. SILENT MARCH OF THE PEOPLE, ASSEFA FOLLOWS THEM**

ASSEFA has been involved in introducing new programs besides implementing the on-going programs, during the year 2017-18. These initiatives are covered in the following sectors highlighting the major initiatives.

### **a) Empowering Rural Women...**

- **Digital Literacy Program:** This program is implemented in collaboration with TATA and Google India. In the first phase, 1057 women Saathis (friends) have been trained and engaged in enrolling and creating awareness among other women in their allocated villages. To date, nearly 800,000 women have been brought under this program across 3391 revenue villages in 16 districts.



- TATA has sanctioned the implementation of the second phase of the digital literacy program in the left over villages in the 16 districts. Under this phase, it is proposed to bring in 1500 saathis additionally to enroll 1,500,000 women from April 2018 to October 2018.
- To continue the first phase of the digital literacy program, FRENDA, a company promoted by TATA, is working with ASSEFA to design the digital livelihoods program.

A team from FRENED has visited the operational area of the Saathis and did a study on the scope for livelihood opportunities for the rural women.

- **Niti Aayog Program:** The Central Government of India and TATA has selected 72 backward districts to develop into model districts. Virudhunagar in Tamil Nadu is one of the districts selected under this program. The progress of the development of the district will be assessed on the following key indicators:

- ✓ Health & Nutrition
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Agriculture & Water Resources
- ✓ Financial Inclusion & Skill Development
- ✓ Basic Infrastructure

**Survey under NITI AAYOG program in Virudhunagar district**



- ASSEFA has been assigned to monitor the progress of the development of the Virudhunagar district using our Saathis. This would include the base line survey and development progress at regular intervals.

## **b) Rural Livelihoods Promotion**

- **Farmers Renaissance Program:** Farmers have received needs based support through eighteen FRS units established across six districts in Tamil Nadu. Over 12,000 farmers had been enrolled as on March 2018. During this period, the new initiative introduced was value addition and marketing to our SMBT clients. Products such as Coffee powder (2 tons), pepper (1.25 tons), coconut oil (350 litres) and rice (30 tons) were marketed through MBTs.

- **Promoting Producers Companies:** In order to give suitable legal entity to the farmers groups formed under the Farmers Renaissance Program the following “Producers Companies” have been promoted.
  - ✓ ASSEFA Livestock Producers Company in Kariyapatti area
  - ✓ ASSEFA Milk Producers Company in Chithamur area and
  - ✓ ASSEFA Seed Producers Company in Sothupakkam area

Further, it is planned to promote two more Producers Companies, one in Thandikudi area and another in Coastal area of Cuddalore district.

**Seva Coffee Powder**



**Seva Pepper**



- **Collaborations for Farmers welfare:** In order to support small and marginal farmers, ASSEFA is collaborating with Samunnati, an agro value chain company. During the last year, credit worth Rs. 172.03 million was arranged for 17,202 farmers through SMBT to undertake agriculture and livestock rearing activities.

Similarly, a linkage with Akshaya Pathra is being explored to supply milk and curd. Akshaya Pathra is a reputed charitable Bangalore based organization, involved in supply of nutritious food including milk and curd to school children.



**woman farmer taking produce to the local market**

- **Action Research Centre in Thonugal:** Thonugal is located in Kariyapatti block of Virudhunagar district. ASSEFA has been working there for **more than 3 decades**. It is located in the dry belt area. Mass migration of male family members takes place during the off season or failure of monsoon, as there are no other opportunities for employment.

In order to make these farmers work in their villages, ASSEFA is planning to establish action research centre to initiate activities in the following sectors.

- ✓ Agriculture & Water Resources
- ✓ Financial Inclusion & Skill Development
- ✓ Education and
- ✓ Health & Nutrition

**c) In Health Care Services...**

- **Community Drinking Water:** This is carried out in collaboration with TATA Projects Limited. As on date, 80 Reverse Osmosis water purifiers have been installed to benefit

35,000 to 40,000 families. These plants were supported by TATA, funding partners, individual philanthropists and loans from State Bank of India and Sarva Jana SevaKosh.

#### ASSEFA- TATA Community RO Plant in Mudukankulam village



- **Special Scheme for Cuddalore District:** In order to ensure safe drinking water year-round to the local people in Cuddalore district, which is often affected by natural calamities, ASSEFA is involved in installing 30 RO plants with the support of TATA Projects Community Development Trust.
- **TQ Mall, an entrepreneurship opportunity for Saathis:** This is a One Stop Shop for highway commuters, farmers and the rural population. TQ Mall with a typical size of 300 sqft will be installed in HPCL petrol pump outlets to offer safe affordable drinking water, packaged quality foods/beverages, Seva products, solutions & services.

TQ Mall is being initiated in collaboration with Tata Projects Limited (TPL). It is proposed to promote 25 TQ Malls, during 2018-19, to be managed by SMBTs via internet Saathis. The investment cost of each Mall is Rs. one million. The possibility of mobilizing these funds is being explored jointly with TPL.

- **ASSEFA, the Technical Partner of TATA** to install new RO plants as well as to attend service call for repairing of plants in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. ASSEFA has built up a technical team of five members, who are mostly selected from the rural areas. They were given in-house training by TATA in its factory at Hyderabad for four weeks.
- **Micro-water purifier plants for household purposes:** In collaboration with Green Ways Grameen Infra Pvt Ltd and Ion Exchange of Mumbai, ASSEFA is planning to provide micro RO plants for household purposes at an affordable price. The capacity of the plant is 10 LPH. Awareness creating among the people on the importance of the

product and pilot testing are being carried out. ASSEFA is planning to reach out to 1000 families during 2018-19.

**Ion Exchange domestic water purifier**



- **Toilet construction:** As part of promoting hygienic living, rural households are supported with the construction of toilet and sanitation facilities and improvement of dwelling places such as cross ventilation, replacement of roofing, flooring, electrification, etc. During the year, 2017-18, 1025 households were supported under this program. In order to give special thrust, separate structure is being created exclusively in implementing this program across Tamil Nadu.
- **Mother and Child Health:** Since the tragedy of the Tsunami in 2004, ASSEFA has been providing holistic Mother and Child Health (MCH) services to the fishermen communities. Due to poor knowledge on health care and inadequate hospital facilities, severe anemia among pregnant women, new mothers and adult girls are observed.

**Counseling to the Parents of ASSEFA School, Sittampoondi by the Doctor**



Comprehensive MCH services are provided in the coastal areas of Marakanam, Pondicherry, Cuddalore & Karaikal and in Gingee area. A team of 114 members including volunteers headed by an experienced lady physician had provided the following services during the year, 2017-18.

- Ante Natal Care services were offered to 595 pregnant ladies and Post Natal Care services to 532 young mothers.
  - Supplied nutritive mix to 3000 pregnant women, young mothers, school children and their parents.
  - Awareness camps conducted to benefit 420 adolescent girls about personal hygiene, human anatomy, anaemia, food and nutrition, child rights and physiology
  - Attendance of 1,700 out-patients in our mini clinics at Gingee and Marakanam.
- **Health camps:** In other project areas, ASSEFA organized health camps in collaboration with like-minded hospitals such as Meenakshi Mission, Aravind Eye, SKG, Sandhya Hospitals, etc.,.

During the year, 2017-18, organized:

- |            |   |        |
|------------|---|--------|
| - Camps    | : | 79     |
| - Coverage | : | 83,699 |

The treatments were done free of cost by linking under State Government Health Insurance policy.



#### d) Rural Education

- **Quality Teaching:** Started collaborating with organizations such as Teach for India (TFI), Karadi Path and Mathi Foundation, who have expertise in effective teaching methodologies. Their resource persons were invited to assess the caliber of ASSEFA teachers and train them to be more effective. Recruited four resource persons from Teach for India to improve the teaching standard in our schools in Madurantagam and Coastal Areas.

##### Karadi Path Training Session



- **Linking CSR for Improvement of Infrastructure:** ASSEFA has availed CSR from Ramboll India Private Limited, Chennai, in constructing toilet / urinal facilities as well as painting school buildings for schools at Periyakalakadi village. Requested the company to extend their support to other schools in Uthiramerur area.
- **Responsibilities of Managing SarvaSeva Schools:** Entrusted the responsibility of managing Sarva Seva Schools to the following local Education Trusts promoted by ASSEFA.
  - ✓ **Foundation for Holistic Development of Children:** Responsible to manage the schools in Madurantagam area.
  - ✓ **Seva Mission for holistic education:** Responsible to manage the schools in Uthiramerur area.
  - ✓ **Coastal area health and education foundation:** Responsible to manage the schools in Coastal area in Cuddalore district.
  - ✓ **Sarvodaya Health and Rural Education Foundation:** Responsible to manage the schools in Gingee and Marakanam areas.

- ✓ **Basic Education Foundation:** Responsible to manage the schools in Natham area.
- ✓ **Sarva Seva Education Trust:** Responsible to manage the Sarva Seva schools in Virudhunagar & Sivagangai districts and in Vadugapatti.

As on March 31, 2018, 11,870 children are benefited with primary, middle & high school education, Sarvodaya Pailagam for slow learners and other school children and higher education for youths with the support of 497 teachers.

#### e) Environmental Promotion

- **Climate Proofing Project:** Implemented in collaboration with NABARD. The purpose of this program is to help the farmers adapt to climatic change in respect of crop cultivation, livestock rearing, tree crop cultivation and use of clean energy. This program is implemented in three watershed areas of Madurai district. NABARD has sanctioned this program in three watershed areas in Sivagangai district also.

##### Farmers To Farmers Exchange Visit



- **Green to Greener:** In dry land area, promoting tree crop cultivation is essential to safeguard soil wealth as well as to generate income. To create a profitable model, ASSEFA is planning to promote tree crops cultivation in 100 acres of land in Kariyapatti and T Kallupatti areas. The suitability of tree crops and collaborative partners are being explored to implement this noble program.
- **Nursery for Tropical Tree crops:** Proposed to develop a nursery in Kariyapatti area with tropical tree crop samplings. This, being a dry belt area, will motivate the local farmers to cultivate tree crops as alternative income generating activities.

- **Introduction of Clean Energy:** Application of solar lights for domestic purposes is being introduced in collaboration with ECOLIFE Company in Tamil Nadu. These include

- a) Solar lantern
- b) Home lighting and
- c) Street lighting system.

1783 households were motivated to use the solar lighting system. In addition, ASSEFA has selected Thondamanpatti settlement, consisting of 60 households, near Chathrapatti in Madurai District to enable all households to use only solar lighting. This settlement does not have any conventional power supply.



**Solar Lantern**



**Solar Street Light**

## **9. A SEED FOR JUSTSOCIAL ORDER**

ASSEFA has been active in the development sector for the last five decades. During these years, it has experimented with economic, social and cultural initiatives to benefit

the rural people. ASSEFA has also gained vast experience in designing and implementing programs to create positive impacts among the target population.

Based on the learning and feedback, ASSEFA changed its focus and strategy every decade giving new dimensions to its development interventions. The focus of every decade broadly:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Decade: Development of Bhoodan lands
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Decade: Gramdan and initiation of community welfare programs
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Decade: Integrated programs for community development
- 4<sup>th</sup> Decade: Promotion & strengthening community organizations for sustainable development and
- 5<sup>th</sup> Decade: Collaborations for multi-services for quality of life

In the next decade, ASSEFA plans to focus on developing “PEACE ZONES” by integrating all development initiatives including filling of gaps in the selected areas. While doing so, it wants to develop a justsocial order for the people to follow.

Moreover, the fifty years of services of ASSEFA to the local communities coincides with Gandhi ji 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. Hence, ASSEFA’s focus to developing “Peace Zones” will be a fitting tribute to Mahatma Gandhi.

ASSEFA envisages the “Peace Zone” as the place where non-violent communities lead a happy and good quality of life with necessary primary/basic needs met in an eco-friendly environment. These zonesare expected to have the following salient features

**a. Structural aspects:**

- Decentralized structure with people / stakeholders representation
- Activity group based structure at village level
- Federation of these groups at block level for coordination and guidance
- Oriented to regulatory system and not control system

**b. Governance aspect:**

- Representation of active stakeholders at the governance level.

- Members' elected / selected for specific period. Process repeated to give others an opportunity to participate in governance.
- Decisions on consensus basis.
- Regular meeting to monitor the direction of the initiatives/programs as per the rules and regulations and
- Transparent operation.

**c. Economicspects:**

- People will attain food sovereignty / food security
- Production to meet the local needs
- Surplus sold to neighbouringcommunities
- Distribution by co-operative system
- Conversion of local produce to value added products to meet the local demand.

**d. Environmental aspect:**

- Green to Greener – *More trees / vegetation / fodder*
- Application of clean energy – *solar light / smart stoves / bio-gas*
- Use of bio fertilizers / pest / insect repellants
- Structures to harvest rainwater and preserve top soil
- Social environment by welcoming people from different faith and ensuring space for them

**e. Education aspect:**

Focus on developing children into good / responsible citizens through teaching:

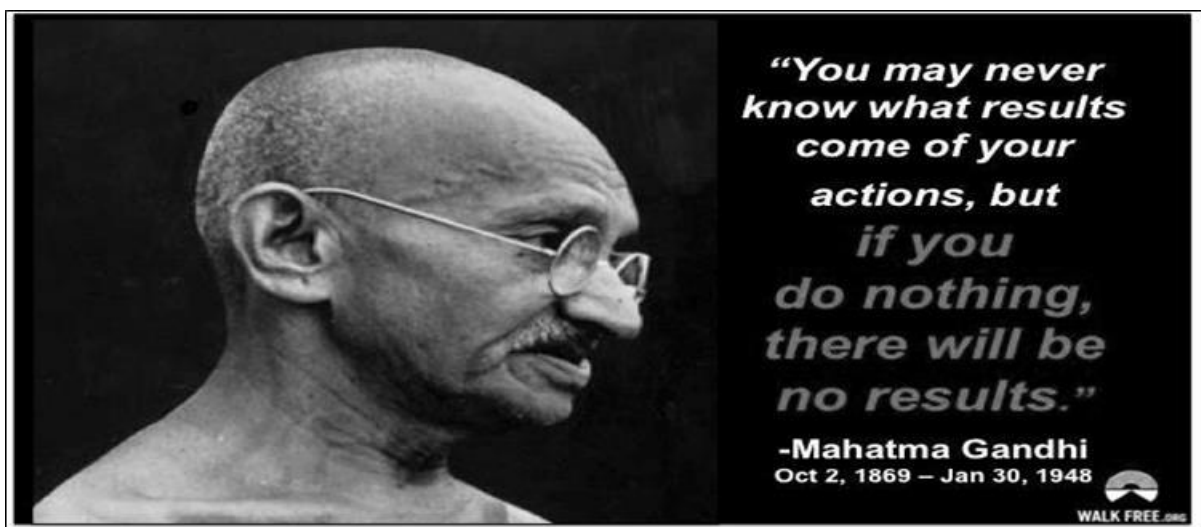
- Ethical values
- Respect for different faiths and gender
- Local history
- Skill development
- Farming and livestock rearing
- Environmental education to protect and promote natural wealths..
- Preservation of traditional culture, wisdom and knowledge
- Reverence for local initiatives

**f. Social aspect:**

- Simple living
- Hygienic living environment
- Use of toilets with proper sanitation facilities
- Access to safe drinking water
- Knowledge of first aid and traditional healing methods
- Linkage to hospitals / health care centers

Further, in all its operational areas, ASSEFA plans to implement Gandhian constructive programs such as supply of drinking water, improvement of dwellings, disposal of human waste, community organized marriages, wasteland development, reintroduction of traditional crops as well as trees, livestock promotion, etc., based on the needs assessment.

Seminars, workshops, exhibitions, etc., are also planned to educate our children, workers and beneficiaries of the relevance of Gandhian concepts even today and what ASSEFA has achieved in the last five decades. All stakeholders including beneficiaries, supporters, workers, etc., will be invited to these programs and their contribution will be acknowledged.





## Gentle Flow of ASSEFA since 1969..

Period	Focus	Partners	Programs	States Covered
Phase I (1969 - 1978)	Developing Bhoodan Lands.	Landless farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bringing waste land under cultivation</li> </ul>	Tamil Nadu Bihar, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Rajasthan
Phase II (1979 - 1988)	Developing Gramadhan and Introduction of other programs	Farmers, women and children	Integrated agri practices and initiation of other programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watershed &amp; improve Irrigation facilities</li> <li>Food crops cultivation</li> <li>Social forestry</li> <li>Animal husbandry</li> <li>Children education &amp; health care services</li> </ul>	Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Rajasthan
Phase III (1989 - 1998)	Community Development	Women, farmers and children	Multifaceted approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land development</li> <li>Agriculture promotion</li> <li>Dairying and livestock rearing</li> <li>Development finance</li> <li>Khadi and village industries</li> <li>Children Education &amp; health care services</li> <li>Women Development</li> </ul>	Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Rajasthan
Phase IV (1999 - 2008)	Promoting and strengthening Community based organizations	Activity based groups at village level. Federated at block and state level	Established C.B.Os with suitable legal entity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mutual Benefit Trusts (MBTs) <i>for women</i></li> <li>Livelihoods MBTs <i>for farmers, artisans..</i></li> <li>Education Trusts <i>for children education</i></li> <li>SJSK, a NBFC <i>for Development finance</i></li> <li>SSGS <i>for KVI activities</i></li> <li>SNFL, <i>microfinance for women</i></li> </ul>	Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh Maharashtra, Karnataka, Pondicherry & Tamil Nadu
Phase V (2009 - 2018)	Collaborations	Other Organizations having similar Objectives	Program wise major Collaborators such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NABARD <i>for Land development</i></li> <li>Samunnati <i>for Agri related technology..</i></li> <li>TATA <i>for purified drinking water</i></li> <li>SLI Auroville <i>for Environment</i></li> <li>Corporate Companies <i>for Dairy marketing</i></li> <li>USHA International <i>for Livelihoods</i></li> <li>HLC International <i>for Education</i></li> <li>Tagore medical college and hospital <i>for total health</i></li> <li>Greenways Company <i>for Promotive health</i></li> </ul>	Tamilnadu Major programmes in other states were entrusted to local Organisation

## ASSEFA PROMOTED COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

S. No	Institutions	Legal Entity	Purposes	Units
1	Sarva Jana SevaKosh	Companies Act	Development Finance Company for Livelihood activities	1
2	Sarvodaya Livelihoods Mutual Benefit Trusts	MBT	Federated body of Livelihoods Ensuring Groups. Avail credit support from Kosh	18
3	Sarvodaya Mutual Benefit Trust	MBT	Federated body of women SHGs. Mobilise resources from SNFL to meet credit demand of SHGs	113
4	Sarvodaya Nano Finance Ltd	NBFC	Micro Finance Institution owned by women SHGs. Raises external loans to meet the credit needs of SHGs via SMTB.	1
5	Institutions for Micro Enterprises	Trusts & Society	Apex bodies to promote micro enterprise based livelihoods.	3
6	SarvaSeva Habitat Promotion Ltd	Section 25 Company & Trust	Financial and non-financial support to construct new houses and improve existing houses	3
7	Milk Processing Companies	Section 25 Company	Women owned Companies to process, homogenise and pocket surplus milk to market	5
8	Education Trusts	Trust Act	Established to provide professional support to community managed Schools in ensuring quality education	9
9	SHARE	Trust Act	To promote community health and school health programs in ASSEFAproject areas	1
10	SARC	Trust Act	Action research, documentation, disseminating successful initiatives in development sector	1
11	ASSEFA Chits	Companies Act	Savings and Investment	1
12	Seva Tech Solutions Ltd	Companies Act	Introduce software applications in ASSEFA promoted organisations	1
13	Farmers Producers Company	Producer Companies Act	Established to provide a platform for the producers to collectively act for betterment of them	3
	<b>Total</b>			<b>160</b>

**Note:**Total manpower including full time workers, part time workers, consultants, volunteers, etc, as on 31 March 2018 were 3,359, of which women force represent 73% of the total manpower.

## ASSEFA – THE GLOBAL LINK AND SUPPORT

Mahatma Gandhi and Vinoba are the torch bearers to establish just social order based on love, co-existence and reverence for life on the principal of “Vasudev Kudumbam” (All belong to one family).

ASSEFA’s mission is not a mere development oriented, it is a never ending pilgrimage in which many individuals and organizations have participated. Our profound gratitude to them remains forever.

We list below some of them...

S. No	Organizations	S. No	Individuals
1	Action Aide, UK	1	Arunachalam K, <i>Formerly Chairman, Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Madurai</i>
2	Action Village India, UK	2	Bernard Faure, <i>Philanthropist, Switzerland</i>
3	Aide et Action, France	3	Carlo Zunin Ermiglia, <i>Founder, Livia Rubino Foundation, Italy</i>
4	ASSEFA Italy	4	Chris Wilde, <i>Co-founder of Action Village India, UK</i>
5	Bosque Government, Spain	5	Deep Joshi, <i>Recipient, Magasayay Award</i>
6	Caritas, India	6	Devandra Kumar Gupta, <i>Formerly Vice Chancellor, Gandhigram University</i>
7	CARPART	7	Franco Giordano & Rosanna, <i>President ASSEFA Alessandria, Italy</i>
8	CCFD, France	8	Franco Lovisolo & Elena Camino, <i>Coordinator, ASSEFA Orinus, Italy</i>
9	Christian Aide, UK	9	Giovanni Ermiglia, <i>Co-founder of ASSEFA</i>
10	CIDA, Canada	10	Itala Ricaldane, <i>President, ASSEFA Genova</i>
11	ILO, United Nations	11	Ivan Nutborn & Jennie Kitteringham, <i>Coordinator, AVI, UK</i>
12	Inter Pares, Canada	12	Jaganathan & Krishnamal, <i>Gandhian &amp; Alternative Nobel Prize Winner</i>
13	IREC, Switzerland	13	Jeyaprakasam, <i>Formerly Prof &amp; Head, Gandhian Studies, MK University</i>
14	Mani Tese, Italy	14	Marco Nikiferos, <i>Formerly President, ASSEFA Italy</i>
15	MSP, Italy	15	Mathew T K, <i>Founder Deepalaya, New Delhi</i>
16	NABARD	16	Paul Born, <i>President, Tamiraky Community, Canada</i>
17	PARTAGE, France	17	Peter Remegious Fr., <i>Bishop, Nagarcoil</i>
18	Plan International	18	Piere Bemand Lauba, <i>Senior Executive UNICEF, Switzerland</i>
19	Rastriya Mahila Kosh	19	Poojya Nirmala Deshpande, <i>Formerly President, Akhil Bharat Rachanatmak Samaj</i>
20	Save the Children, Canada	20	Ralph Richard Keithan, <i>Co-founder, Gandhigram, Dindigul</i>
21	Save the Children, Finland	21	S Pandian, <i>Member, All India Harjan Seva Sangh</i>
22	SDC, Switzerland	22	Solai, <i>Senior Journalist</i>
23	SFTN, France,	23	Sundaresan R, <i>Veteran Gandhian / Consultant</i>
24	Sight and Life, Switzerland	24	Swamy Vidhyanand Saraswathy, <i>Formerly Chairman State Bhoodan Board</i>
25	State Bhoodan Board	25	Tim Broadhead, <i>Formerly President Inter Pares, Canada</i>
26	State Education Department	26	Tony Mortlock, <i>Philanthropist, France</i>
27	Stichting Gilles, Belgium	27	Vijay Mahajan, <i>Chairman, Basix Group, Hyderabad</i>
28	TATA Trust	28	Yves Poirier, <i>Member, Global Solidarity Forum, Canada</i>

**Note:** If someone is missed we regret for it

## ASSEFA PROGRAMS & COVERAGE

# TAMILNADU

