Dalmia Bharat Group Foundation (DBGF) has emerged as an independent entity, to develop and execute the programmes and activities of the Dalmia Bharat Group’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) division. DBGF builds development practice on a robust foundation of experience in sustainable progress and partnerships with stakeholders. It gives us a unique opportunity to build relationships with people that are based on the principles of trust, interdependence and support, to be sustainable and to create value for all.

Our learning over the years has translated into significant programme initiatives in soil and water conservation, energy conservation & climate change mitigation, livelihood generation, and key social development focus areas including sanitation, health and infrastructure development. Across our locations in the South, North East and the North, our development programmes, directly or indirectly, impact over thirty thousand households, comprising the population of ten districts across about one hundred villages currently.

Our attempt is to adopt a holistic perspective to guide our work. This necessitates in depth analysis and complex solutions. True to this perspective, we consider working with each individual in a programme village, as critical to our purpose, as working with a collection of villages across the jurisdictions of multiple Panchayats. We are driven by the assessed needs and purpose, at each location.

Working on issues of water and soil conservation, in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu for example, we have joined hands with local communities to implement large scale watershed projects. Apart from these projects, we have completed and continue to plan and develop multiple water management programmes and structures, including building check dams and farm and village ponds, creating reservoirs, and implementing drip irrigation projects. The wide scope of outcome of these activities is visible as water harvesting and conservation in water scarce areas, reduction of the dependence of farmers on the vagaries of the monsoons, increased income with successful crop cultivation, establishment of good irrigation and sustainable agricultural practices and also great improvement in access to water for domestic purposes of the households in beneficiary villages.
Focusing on energy conservation and climate change mitigation, we are working with farmers to address issues of environmental pollution and health hazards caused by indiscriminate chemical pesticide use and the practice of burning cotton stalks. We feel proud of our 1200 farmers in Tamil Nadu, who now have a three year license for sustainable cotton from the global not-for-profit Better Cotton Initiative (BCI). Meanwhile, we continue to expand our activities towards the promotion and adoption of solar lighting technology, and have also piloted installation of solar mini grids for solar power generation and distribution to villages in Uttar Pradesh. Multiple products and devices that are energy efficient and explore energy alternatives, such as fuel efficient cook stoves, bio gas plants, solar lanterns, solar study lamps for school children, solar home lighting systems and solar street lights, are also being promoted by our teams.

In the area of livelihood and skill training, there are initiatives of potentially powerful impact that we have explored. These include training for the development of livelihood and entrepreneurial skills that attempt to cover the most marginalised populations in some of our locations. Through some of our programmes, we have specifically focused on capacity building and livelihood opportunities for women and for persons with disabilities. Facilitating loan finance and helping programme beneficiaries open bank accounts and access financial security related government schemes are a part of our activities. Economic security and improved quality of life are now a reality for most of our programme participants.

In the process of working with local communities, we get the opportunity to assess other development needs at the grassroots. One such priority, sanitation, is an area of great concern. We see sanitation as connected to all areas of our work. In some schools we are focusing on creating toilet infrastructure that provides, particularly for girl students, the toilet safety and privacy they require to be able to continue attending school. A significant step in this direction was the Foundation’s participation in Swachh Vidyalya Abhiyan wherein 52 toilets have been constructed in schools across our program geographies.

We are excited about all our endeavours, past, present and those that lie ahead. We attempt to facilitate and enable people’s initiatives through our programmes. Together we envision a future where resources are managed better, shared within communities and people create the strong networks they need to sustain their lives and dreams.

Gautam Dalmia
Puneet Dalmia

Dalmia Bharat Group

Dalma Bharat Group (DBG) celebrated 75 years of growth and business presence in 2014. The group has a strong presence in cement, sugar, refractories and power. It is a leader in specialty cements and the country’s largest producer of slag cement.

The Dalmia cement unit started in pre-independence India in 1935 and grew to become a key contributor to the process of building national infrastructure. In the decade of the 70’s and the 80’s, the company manufactured specially cement for railway sleepers and for oil wells, and went on to manufacture specialty cement for airstrips too. Our cement plants in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have a combined production capacity of 9 million tpa. We hold a major stake in OCL India Ltd. in Orissa. With the acquisition of Adhunik Cement Limited and Calcom Cement India Limited in the North East, our total expandable cement production capacity is 24 million tpa.

Our country is the second largest producer of sugar in the world. DBG entered the sugar business in the decade of the 90’s, with our first manufacturing unit in Ramgarh, Uttar Pradesh. We expanded our sugar business with additional greenfield plants in 2006 at Jawaharpur and Ngohi and capacity expansion of the Ramgarh plant. In 2013, DBG acquired a sugar plant, Datta SSK in Koh Napur and recently Naina Devi SSK in Sangli district, Maharashtra. We have world class manufacturing systems and processes and a strong presence in the retail and the institutional market.The total cane crushing capacity of the company is now 27300 TCD which makes us one of the leading sugar producers in the country. We also have facilities for processing of raw sugar. We are now a fully integrated manufacturer with cogeneration power plants and a distillery of 120 KLPD.

Power and refractories are crucial parts of the business portfolio of the group. Our business ventures in the power sector initially addressed the requirement for captive power by group companies. The power portfolio includes conventional as well as renewable power projects. Our captive thermal power projects have a combined power generation capacity of 289 MW including OCL. A 27 MW thermal power project is under development in Andhra Pradesh. In Uttar Pradesh, 3 bagasse based, multi-fuel cogeneration power plants with a combined power generation capacity of 79 MW provide captive power to our sugar plants, while 2/3rds of the power produced is exported to the state grid. Our wind farm in Tamil Nadu has a power generation capacity of 165 MW. Feasibility studies for increasing the performance, power generation capacity and reliability of wind technologies on the farm have been undertaken and the next level of improvements are under consideration. We also have solar power projects of a capacity of 80 MW under development in Rajasthan.

We have been in the refractories business for over 40 years. Shri Nataraj Ceramic and Chemical Industries Limited (SNCIL), a subsidiary of the Dalmia Bharat Group, is one of the oldest leading suppliers of refractories to cement plants in India as well as in the MENA (Middle East & North Africa) region. Dalma refractories is a total solution provider capable of handling turn-key projects for brown field & green field cement projects. We have three manufacturing plants located at Dalmiapuram in Tamil Nadu, Khabalala in Gujarat and Katni in Madhya Pradesh. In pursuit of growth, Dalma refractories is also entering other consuming industries such as Steel, Sponge Iron and Glass.

Through the decades, the group companies and their associates, collaborators and stakeholders have moved from strength to strength as a
result of sustainable approaches and operations. Sustainability has always been a central theme to our plans and strategies. As responsible manufacturers and significant players in industries that challenge fragile ecosystems and resource management, we integrate environmental and social impact assessment into our processes at every stage. Our aim is not just the mitigation of the negative consequences of business and manufacturing, but a proactive approach to prevent adverse effects upon people and the environment. We are of the view that business strategy, social development and environmental protection are integral objectives of planning and implementation. We believe we create and deliver value by responding with services and initiatives that are of real and material use to those who do not have access to opportunities or resources.

Dalmia Bharat Group Foundation

Dalmia Bharat Group Foundation, DBGF, is a not-for-profit organization registered as a Trust. The Foundation is committed towards carrying the seven-decade long legacy of Dalmia Bharat Group forward, through conscientious and proactive corporate citizenship. In the year 2009, the Foundation embarked on its journey as the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) arm of the company.

Our Vision
To unleash the potential of everyone we touch.

Our Mission
To facilitate the stakeholders hasten their social, economic and environmental progress through effective management of human and natural capital.

The DBGF footprint
The geographical footprint of our Foundation covers vast regions in the South, North and North-East with some new initiatives in the West and now East as well. In the Southern region we work in four locations across three states, Ariyalur and Dalmiapuram in Tamil Nadu, Kadapa in Andhra Pradesh and Belgam in Karnataka. In the North-East our programme locations are Lankia and Umongpo in Assam and Lumsning in Meghalaya. In the North, we operate in three locations in Uttar Pradesh, Ramgarh, Jawaharpur and Nigohi. In the West, our nascent initiatives are at a start-up stage and concentrate at present in Kolhapur, Maharashtra.

We have four programme areas that cast a wide net on the material development concerns of people across these locations. By material development, we mean the material needs and requirements basic to human life that impact human health and well being. These four programme areas are

Soil and Water Conservation
Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation
Livelihood Skill Training
Social Development

Our programmes combine in-depth long-term plans and strategies along with medium and short term initiatives and campaigns. There are great differences in the capacities of the multiple stakeholders across regions as well as the existing resources. This is why we adopt a flexible, multi-intervention approach that allows programmes and people to grow together and sustain each other.
Each of these regions and locations present their own specific development issues. Some of these issues and their consequences are common across locations, but due to differences of socio-economic and environmental context, they manifest differently. To us this has meant that there is no short cut, no single window approach to planning our programmes. Location specific formative research on needs, resource availability and existing capacity of people and the environment have been undertaken by our teams at each location. This has involved field work in tiny villages such as Dugganapalli in Andhra Pradesh with a population as small as 168, spread over just 42 households, as well as in big villages such as Lumshong in Meghalaya with a population of nearly 2,000 people and 367 households, or Yadwad in Karnataka with a population of 9,991 and 1,994 households.

In every village, communities struggle with the environment as their lives and livelihoods are closely connected to the land, natural resources and the eco system. Mixed farming systems dependant on crop cultivation and livestock impose their own burden on the land, on soil and water, while rain dependant agricultural practices are vulnerable to weather disturbances and climate change. In India, 60% of the net sown area is rain-fed. Livelihoods depend on the monsoons and India has had an erratic monsoon schedule over the years, negatively impacting livelihood. Agriculture is the primary occupation of over 70% of rural households in India. We are the largest milk producer in the world. We have over 118 million milk producing animals – again the largest number in the world. At the same time we also have the lowest milk yield per animal in the whole world. Such contrasts between high numbers and low performance is merely symptomatic and indicative of deep and widespread incapacity and vulnerability.

We believe resilience is the ability of individuals and communities to create, build upon and use the resources available to them to meet the challenge of adversity. Such adversity may be sudden due to disaster, or it may be accumulated over a period of time, spanning generations, due to socio-cultural or economic factors. Our role in the process of building resilience is that of facilitator. We view the
communities that we work with as participants in the development process, they help design and sustain the initiatives and also take ownership of them. In the long term this strategy puts the power in the hands of those who must drive the change. Ours is a bottom up approach and this has helped us build effective programmes in each of our focus areas.

We work in four programme areas. Each of these has been carefully chosen for the potential value that positive intervention can create. These programme areas are:

- **Soil and Water Conservation**
- **Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation**
- **Livelihood Skill Training**
- **Social Development**

As per 2013-14 statistics of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, food grain production in India was 265 MT. Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are among the top three producers of some of the major food grains cultivated, such as rice, wheat and maize. Karnataka in the same year was the second largest maize producing state. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu also feature amongst the top states in the cultivation of oilseeds, groundnut and sunflower. Uttar Pradesh was the top producer of sugarcane, Andhra Pradesh was the third largest producer of cotton and Assam of jute and mesta, these three crops being crucial cash crops.

All these states face their own particular agro-environmental challenges. The hilly regions of Assam and Meghalaya in the north-east are at risk of soil erosion by water, landslides and flashfloods. Intensive cultivation leads to a decline in soil fertility and increasing acidity levels. Soil degradation, decline in soil structure due to methods such as puddling for rice cultivation, residue burning, improper irrigation methods and overuse of chemical pesticides all contribute to a wasting away of this critical resource. Saline and alkaline soils are a part of the soil preservation and conservation challenges in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Soil is closely connected to water. As water scarcity increases and farmers dig deeper into the earth to access the water table, salinity increases. Water reserves and storage capacities require upgradation and techniques to replenish ground water must be put in place. Pollution of surface water due to human abuse and toxic waste has made much of surface water unusable for agriculture or human consumption.

Given this framework of understanding, DBGF teams are working with local farmers across project sites on soil and water conservation practices as well as capturing local, indigenous knowledge of good farming practices, before it is lost.

In the area of soil and water conservation, we work with local communities across regions and locations. Through outreach meetings and campaigns we create awareness of the need and long term benefits of sustainable, soil and water conservation programmes. We seek to ensure the buy-in of target populations and design programme activities in consultation with community stakeholders.

Our watershed projects are in full swing, though at various stages of their project life cycles, in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. As a result of these activities, we have managed to create an overall increase of water storage capacity across our south and north-east programme areas by about 1,80,000 m³ in 2014-15.

There are many intersections across our programme areas. Sustainable agriculture initiatives, both small and large scale are undertaken at DBGF areas. We are promoting organic agriculture in Udornkong, Assam. In Tamil Nadu we have begun an ambitious sustainable cotton cultivation project that will enable positive solutions to soil, water, energy, climate and livelihood issues. This too has been described in detail further ahead in this report.
Programme Highlights

The programme reached out to 45,000 beneficiaries and created an overall increase of water harvesting capacity by over 1,79,815 m³, adding to a total capacity of 5,91,462 m³.

3 Check Dams and 1 causeway have been built helping stop soil erosion; benefitting 7,300 beneficiaries and increasing water harvesting capacity by 32,700 m³. This would help in irrigating 90 acres of land.

Deepening of 100 farm ponds will help in irrigating 200 acres of land and benefit 570 people and create additional water harvesting of 80,774 m³.

6 village ponds were deepened for providing water for agriculture usage to 12,857 villagers. This will also help in increasing water harvesting capacity of 9,410 m³.

100 acres of land has been brought under drip irrigation in South, benefitting 300 people by reducing the consumption of water and enabling the farmers to grow two crops a year.

6 Ring wells were constructed in North-east for drinking water usage for 1,900 people.

An Irrigation Channel running 3 Kms was completed in South having water harvesting capacity of 16,000 m³.

A reservoir of 11,300 m³ capacity was created in South helping in ground water recharge of the area.

Soil and Water Conservation: Integrated Watershed Development Project

Watersheds depend on natural topography, on the physical structures and contours of land. Any area, where overground and underground water drains to collect and feed a larger water body, such as a lake or flowing stream, is a watershed. There are many obstacles to this natural process of water draining and collecting as it should. Some of these obstacles are natural, involving climate, weather, erosion and vegetation, while others are manmade, primarily caused by rampant, irresponsible human consumption and activity.

State of Environment (SoE) reports highlight some critical environmental challenges. Tamil Nadu is a water deficient state where over 40% of land is under agriculture. About 60% of the ground water resources have been utilized already. Chemical residues as a result of harmful agricultural practices have polluted both soil and water. Andhra Pradesh too presents a challenging picture. In a recent study carried out by the ground water department, it was found that the average drop in the water table is 25.3 metres, and the drop is 3.88 metres in Hyderabad city. In some districts that show the highest depletion, it has dropped by more than 5 metres. The drop in levels in Kadapa, one of our key programme locations is substantial. Drought was declared twice in Kadapa in the last decade. Around 1.85 million HA of land is irrigated by borewells; when the water dries up, farmers dig new wells. Some have dug as many as 100 borewells. However these have been short term solutions with desperate results - no water, agricultural losses and a cycle of rising debt.

Given this contextual framework the importance of effective water resource management is paramount. DBGF working in partnership and collaboration mode has taken up watershed development and management projects in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. The DBGF watershed project team has conducted a series of meetings and discussions with the local community. During these discussions the reasons for environmental degradation and multiple issues affecting people, such as shortage of resources (water, fuel, fodder), decreasing agricultural production, and migration, were identified and analyzed.

In Tamil Nadu, as a joint venture with NABARD, a watershed project has been undertaken in 13 programme villages, divided under four micro watersheds. These cover an area of 4000 hectares, evenly divided among the Kovvadakuinchi Watershed and the Melarasu Watershed.

In Andhra Pradesh, DBGF in partnership with NABARD is commencing a five-year project with the aim of developing 4,500 hectares of land on ‘Participatory Integrated Watershed Development’ basis. This project directly impacts all of the farming community across nine villages of Mulyavaram Mandal, in district Kadapa. During this project, the focus will be on multiple activities related to technical watershed development and management as well as community motivation, training, mobilization and participation towards meeting the requirements of future sustainability.
Most global energy consumption is dependent on non-renewable energy resources such as coal and oil that have been created over millions of years. Human consumption patterns are wasteful and unsustainable, due to socio-economic as well as psychological factors. In the case of large populations living in remote, under-developed areas, surviving deprivation on a day-to-day basis, coal or wood for a cooking stove is the primary concern and seems far removed from concepts of sustainability and renewable, non-renewable resources.

Our fast depleting non-renewable resources will soon be over. It has been predicted, for example, that at current rates of consumption, coal reserves may end in another 50 years. Many other negative impacts are associated with fossil fuels, CO₂ emission, pollution and climate change being key among them. Global warming is a visible reality, with reduction of polar ice caps and rising sea levels. Glaciers and ice sheets, the largest reservoirs of fresh water on the planet, are melting and disappearing, taking their freshwater resources with them. Climate change and weather pattern disturbances have become a regular part of life across the planet. As sea levels continue to rise, coastal regions, cities and populations become vulnerable to natural disasters and disturbed ecologies. Relocation of entire populations in the near future is not too difficult to imagine. However, the resources required for such efforts may not be available or at hand for many countries.

As per available data, between 2000 and 2012, the primary energy demand in India has grown from 450 million tons of oil equivalent (toe) to about 770 million toe. This is expected to increase to 1,250 or 1,500 million toe (according to different estimates) by 2030. The average annual energy supply in 2011 was 0.6 toe. Energy is a basic infrastructural requirement. The gap between demand and supply needs to be bridged before social development initiatives are effective in bringing about positive change.

One of the most crucial avenues being explored by countries and corporates, as well as energy and environment bodies around the world, is alternative and renewable energy sources. In particular, the potential of solar and wind energy to meet human energy consumption requirements is tremendous. Government policy is focusing on creating an environment where clean energy is promoted and the sector made viable for investment. Off-grid appliances are being seen as critical for their potential to meet lighting requirements in areas where power supply is either unavailable or interrupted.

DBGF is keenly aware of the energy crisis and climate change, viewing these as cross-cutting developmental priorities. We have undertaken micro initiatives that we sustain across our programme areas in the field of solar off-grid devices and also initiatives that have the potential for large scale impact, such as our sustainable cotton cultivation project. Well over 8,200 tons of CO₂ emission annually have been avoided through these efforts. Environment awareness and knowledge building outreach events are regularly conducted by us at schools and during community events and days of celebration or commemoration.
Programme Highlights

Energy Conservation initiatives reached 58,000 beneficiaries and helped in CO₂ emissions reduction by 8,200 tons per annum.

39 Bio gas plants were promoted reducing the CO₂ emissions by 1,95,000 kgs and decreasing the fuel cost for the beneficiaries.

994 Fuel efficient cook stoves were promoted benefiting 5,000 people by reducing the fuel consumption and its cost, cooking time, smoke and drudgery. This would also help in reducing CO₂ emissions by 3,265 tons each year.

Over 4,900 solar lighting products were promoted providing electricity to 25,000 people.

135 Solar Home lighting systems were installed wherein a household can use 2 bulbs and one charging point. 2 Micro solar grids consisting of 20 solar home lighting systems in each were also promoted.

2,557 Solar Lanterns were promoted among village households. Along with the basic benefits of lighting the lanterns have also enabled increase in income for petty shop owners and self-employed people by allowing them to operate after dark.

1,580 solar study lamps were given to school children. The children are now able to study 3-4 hours more than before and have shown improved grades in schools.

Solar streetlights are making the village roads easier to commute at night. 38 solar streetlights installed this year are benefitting more than 10,000 people.

Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation: Sustainable Cotton Cultivation

Cotton is a leading cash crop and cotton crop based products are used around the world for a number of purposes. Globally, cotton is a part of daily personal and domestic life, has multiple industrial uses including the making of plastics using cellulose, paper products and cotton seed oil which is used for cooking. About 25% of the global area under cotton cultivation is in India, approximately 12.2 million hectares. However, the yield per hectare is the lowest against global average figures. There are many challenges to be overcome for this situation to take a positive turn.

Taking advantage of the agro-climatic conditions and readily available market in Tamil Nadu, a majority of the farmers around our cement plants at Dalmiapuram and Ariyalur cultivate cotton to earn their livelihood.

Through our interactions with these cotton farmers we identified some key issues:

- Existing cotton production processes rely heavily on fertilizers and chemicals.
- Mis-management and depletion of freshwater resources for irrigation.
- The practice of burning cotton stalks in the field, causing pollution, emission of greenhouse gases, intensifying the greenhouse effect and causing climate change.
- Poor yield and low profitability in the short term and a question mark on sustainability in the long term.

As a pilot initiative aiming to address these issues, we initiated a sustainable cotton cultivation project with a strategic plan that involves the participation of 1,200 small and marginal farmers from Tiruchirappalli and Ariyalur districts, 4,350 acres of land is under this project. We are now linked to the global not-for-profit Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) for a 3 year period. BCI’s scope of work comprises a wide span of sectoral issues that include cultivation standards and practices, environment and resources management and supply chain management.

International licensing for sustainable market linkages is a key component of this project. DBGF has partnered with CottonConnect for leveraging marketing and technical support. CottonConnect develops and implements cotton strategies for sustainable cotton supply chains.

Seeing the positive results of this replicable, scalable intervention, DBGF is planning to expand this project next year, both in terms of numbers of farmers covered, and our geographical locations.
Billions of people in the world live at varying levels and conditions of poverty. According to the World Bank, India tops the list of 5 countries with the largest number of poor people in the world. Depending on the definition of poverty, whether it is income based, or calculated according to other indices as for multi-dimensional poverty, the statistics change. However, the fact remains that there are massive numbers of people in the country who do not have:

- Food security
- Economic security
- Access to water, sanitation, electricity, education and health services
- The capacity to improve their living conditions
- Access to resources

Economic growth and increased income, human development, effective delivery of public services, extending basic infrastructure networks and promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment are identified as key performance drivers for achieving reduction in poverty.

Resource allocation policies, outreach to serve those who have no access to public services and targeted social development interventions are therefore a large part of a possible approach to tackling the multiple challenges that result in poverty. In India it is our clear experience that particular country specific circumstances add to the complexity. Patriarchal norms and social systems particularly in the north are an obstacle to women’s ability to use services and interventions that may be targeted at them. Caste and class barriers take different forms across regions but cause multiple marginalization for many persons within already marginalized populations. Child rights and child protection are not as yet widely familiar concepts. In many areas, especially in the more remote areas, children do not receive the attention or the benefits that government plans and policies attempt to allocate to them. Persons with physical impairments or mental and intellectual disabilities remain invisible and hard to reach, while even the facts and figures around disability are inconsistent and unreliable.

At DBGF, we are drawing the connections across multiple layers of context. To us, the area of Livelihood Skill Training is beyond income generation and skilling. We assess the needs of a programme area in terms of existing and potential livelihood possibilities, social norms, market possibilities, gender equality and the overall resources available for use through collaborations and partnerships. We have also deliberately concentrated on the creation of as many women’s Self Help Groups (SHGs) as possible across districts. This has multiple benefits, of mobilization, organization, empowerment, savings and connections to financial institutions and loan products.

**Programme Highlights**

Livelihood Skill Training initiatives reached out to more than 8,500 direct beneficiaries and their families.

190 SHG’s were promoted, with a total membership of more than 2,300 individuals. Loans were availed of by some of these SHGs, amounting to a total of more than 6 lac.

237 Milch Cattle loans were disbursed to livestock farmers for the purchase of milch cattle. Multiple veterinary camps were held in villages.

294 school children went through three month Computer Literacy Programme and Certificates from Microsoft Corporation were awarded to students.

85 women from existing 10 SHGs got trained in Mushroom Cultivation and started the rural micro enterprise unit in their individual households. The women members are earning in a range of Rs.2,500 – Rs.3,000 per month.
Livelihood Skill Training: The Pragati Mahila Rural Development Cooperative Society

Pragati! The Sanskrit word for ‘Progress’

An apt choice of name, adopted by 20 women from Yadwad Panchayat in Belgaum, who took the lead, and with the facilitation of DBGF, started the first all-women’s cooperative of Yadwad Panchayat, the Pragati Mahila Rural Development (PMRD) Cooperative Society.

Enthused and motivated by this endeavour, another 191 women from different DBGF promoted SHGs came forward to create history.

The PMRD Cooperative Society raised a capital of Rs.1.91 lac. The women are the backbone of this cooperative and they have put in all of the tremendous effort that was needed, side-by-side with the DBGF coordinators, for completion of the registration formalities for the Bank.

The 890 strong membership of the Cooperative society represents 61 SHGs from 10 neighbouring villages. These SHGs have been promoted and strengthened by DBGF over the years, under the livelihood programmes aimed at empowering women. Through their SHGs, these women already have an additional source of income and earn up to Rs. 2,000 per month. With the realisation of the co-operative society, they aim to strengthen the SHGs, facilitate more credit facility to the members and help them increase their incomes.

In North-East, Weaving Training cum Production Centre has been set up in which 30 women were trained and now they are manufacturing products for marketing.

In South, 40 women members were trained at National Institute for Rural Development Hyderabad in home based chemical products and now the unit is earning Rs.10,000 per month as additional income.

In North-East 28 youth got trained in Heavy Vehicle Transport from Government ITI based out of Nagaon, Assam and have been absorbed by the different logistic companies as trained drivers.

More than 100 youth were trained in Para Military Security Guard trades in South & North-east locations and are earning monthly income in a range of Rs.8,500 - Rs.12,000.

A special Skill Development programme for 60 differently abled youth was organized in partnership with Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Institute for the physically handicapped.
Social Development

The status of people, not just of economic growth, is the greatest indicator of progress. People’s lives and contexts can be understood within the framework of common and key human concerns, primarily health, education, and quality of life including the opportunity for equal participation with all others, in social, cultural and political life.

Development indices across dimensions, such as life expectancy, infant mortality rate, maternal mortality rate, nutrition, sanitation, average number of years in school, housing, gender equality, safety, environment, life satisfaction and even happiness, have all found their way in different frameworks to measure the multiple dimensions of social development and human progress. While it may be possible to achieve accurate measures of some of these dimensions, it is not possible for all. It is also difficult for any one framework of measuring development to cover all the possible indices across dimensions.

At DBGF, we look at the communities that we engage with as our guides, with their own accurate assessment of their needs and desires. Based on this we engage in dialogue, knowledge and experience sharing and multiple consultations before arriving at a mutually agreed upon list of development priorities. There are certain cross-cutting themes that appear universally across our programme areas: These are health, sanitation, education, women’s empowerment and infrastructure development. We work in alignment with these themes, with government policies and schemes and with the expressed needs of our key participants in the development process – the communities themselves.

Overall, our social development activities have evolved thematically.

Health

Health and medical camps – Nearly 300 camps were organized this year across regions and for different purposes, general and specialized. General medical camps were about 158 in number. Ante-natal and post-natal care camps, gynaecological and paediatric camps, eye and cataract camps and surgeries formed the rest of the bulk of our efforts in health services outreach. More than 48,000 people, not including the over 8,000 infants covered by our immunization programs received medical services through this segment of our programme.

Sanitation

Sanitation and hygiene comprise a huge quantum of our work and investments. The DBGF team perceives sanitation as a foundational issue impacting everything.

In this year under review, our activities have included:

- Construction of 52 school sanitation blocks and the repair of some others that were unusable and in disrepair
- Construction of 90 low cost toilets in villages
- Conducting numerous events across our programme locations including awareness rallies, clean village campaigns, and other such activities under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

Education

A number of school events, both sporting and academic were organized through the year across different locations. Our Quality Education Initiative for children with learning disability was also implemented in the south. We provide Teaching Learning Materials (TLMs) to schools and anganwadis.

Our Functional Literacy programmes for adults was launched from Kovandakurichy village near Dalmiapuram. This is going to be a regular growing programme covering all our locations.
Infrastructure Development

School upgradation and infrastructure development has been undertaken in more than 25 schools; this includes the introduction of exciting concepts such as BaLA – Building as Learning Aid.

Various constructions to improve or add to infrastructure include roads and bridges, water tanks, overhead storage reservoirs, bore wells, community hall, ring well sheds, a diesel generator set for a remote village in the north-east and hospital beds for a PHC at the request of the local community.

Other Development Initiatives

Depending on the location specific needs assessed or expressed wishes of community members, some other development related inputs from DBGF have included:

- Water filters distributed to village households for safe drinking water
- Cattle care veterinary camps, mostly in the south
- LPG safety and awareness camps
- Child rights and child abuse awareness events
- Support to Anganwadis – including introduction of management concepts such as 5S, to sort, set and sustain organized processes and materials
- A number of sports events for schools and village communities

Across all programme locations, DBGF teams enthusiastically celebrate events marking national and international commemoration days. These celebrations serve many useful purposes. They improve and strengthen our relationship with people. They provide an opportunity to serve and support communities. They help spread awareness of key social development issues.

These celebrations most often take the form of micro-events and campaigns involving the participation of students, youth and community members from local institutions. They provide the opportunity for interaction between field resource people, local stakeholders, and community members who may or may not hold positions of social power and influence within the community. A number of these were celebrated through the year, in the effort to build knowledge and awareness of these issues amongst local communities.

These include in particular:

- Independence Day
- Republic Day
- World Diabetic Day
- World AIDS Day
- World Soil Day
- International Blood Donor Day
- World Toilet Day
- World Youth Day
- World Cancer Day
- World Environment Day
- Global Hand Washing Day
- World Breastfeeding Week
- World Literacy Day
- World Water Day
- World Health Day
- World Heart Day
- International Women’s Day
- World Diabetes Day

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83 health camps were organized for general as well as specific health issues across all our programme areas. The camps this year reached out to almost 48,500 beneficiaries.

18 Eye screening camps were conducted in schools and villages. We facilitated 177 cataract operations in the programme.

80 Maternal and Child health camps were organized benefitting more than 3,000 pregnant and lactating mothers.

4,600 cattles were treated through 54 Veterinary Camps.

8,000 children were immunized including 4,880 for Pulse Polio vaccines.

650 differently abled people were benefitted through our Artificial Limbs & Aids Distribution Camps.

We supported 25 Anganwadis with Teacher Learning Materials.

52 School Sanitation Blocks were constructed in 35 schools across locations benefitting around 5,400 students, including 50% girl students.

90 households were facilitated to construct low cost sanitation blocks in their houses to stop open defecation.

80 households were facilitated to construct low cost sanitation blocks in their houses to stop open defecation.

4,600 cattles were treated through 54 Veterinary Camps.
Social Development: Swachh Vidyalaya Abhiyan

As per facts and figures collected from different sources, there are over 2.5 billion people in the world who live in conditions of poor sanitation and 75% of them live in Asian countries. 90% of solid waste from towns and cities is mismanaged and there is a massive inadequacy of planned waste disposal systems.

The India government’s Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission) launched on October 2nd, 2014, has taken up the issue of sanitation intensively, across the country. Within the mission, the government has launched the Swachh Bharat Swachh Vidalaya Abhiyan, a national campaign focusing on schools - Clean India: Clean Schools. The purpose is to ensure that every school in India not only has a set of functioning and well maintained sanitation facilities, but that these facilities are used.

There are many cross-cutting areas between sanitation and health, school attendance and dropout rates, gender equality, crime, violence against women, education, livelihood, the development of sustainable human settlements, rural development, pollution and water resources management. In all the villages of our programme area, open defecation is the common practice. This leads to dismal sanitation conditions particularly at the periphery of villages.

DBGF has put great focus on sanitation projects, particularly in schools. All schools for intervention were chosen after discussions and analysis of feedback and responses of school staff, villagers, village panchayats and school children regarding the issue of unusable or non-existent school toilets.

Priority was given to those schools that had

- No functional toilet
- Higher number of girl students

Sanitation comprises facilities and infrastructure for providing potable water for drinking and cooking purposes, as much as it comprises toilet and personal hygiene and grooming facilities that are usable, regularly maintained and accessible to all. We have adopted the ‘Swachh Vidyalaya’ guidelines from the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

In the first phase of our school sanitation programme, we have constructed 52 toilets in 35 schools across our programme locations.

We have also provided financial assistance to individual community members for the construction of about 90 Low Cost Toilets (LCTs) for households in villages at our programme locations in the north.

Our approach to tackling the issue of sanitation combines concepts of hardware and software. Hardware comprises infrastructure and facilities assessment, planning and execution. This may involve renovation of existing facilities or construction of brand new facilities.

We have installed DRDO approved Bio-digester tanks for safe disposal of human faecal matter, going a few steps beyond compliance towards a desirable, not just a minimal facility. Bio-digester technology has been developed for the management of solid waste, through eco-friendly biodegradation processes.

Software to us signifies the people parameters. The implementation of sanitation works and the execution of facilities and infrastructure requires the buy-in of users, influencers and stakeholders, as well as their cooperation in the long run. A toilet alone will not change the practice and the approach of users. Behaviour change is at the core of our approach and has driven the planning and implementation of our sanitation programme.

In order to initiate conversation and behaviour change, as well as reinforce new learnings, DBGF has been working extensively with Information Education and Communication (IEC) tools. In the course of our programme, we initiated a village sanitation campaign ‘Clean India Program’ across all our programme locations, in partnership with the local village panchayats and school children.
Tamil Nadu, the 7th most populated state in India has a population of about 72 million (7.21 crore), with a growth rate of over 15%. A little over 50% of the population lives in villages.

Dalmiapuram

Dalmiapuram, is in Trichy district of Tamil Nadu. Agriculture and dairy continue to be the basis of the economy here. About 30% of the families in this district are dependent on milk production as their secondary source of income. Trichy is well industrialized with about 145 large scale industries, 802 small scale industries and 1,865 cottage industries operating across the district.

Population covered by DBGF – 19 villages, over 65,000 people, concentrated in over 14,000 households.

Outputs and outcomes of our activities, interventions and campaign events across focus areas

Soil and Water Conservation

1. Integrated watershed development project

The health of soil, air and water affects the health of a watershed. If water is contaminated by toxins due to human activity or degradation in the chemical composition of soil, it impacts all of the surrounding eco-system, with negative health and socio-economic consequences for human beings.

The DBGF watershed project undertaken jointly with NABARD near Dalmiapuram is evenly spread across the Kovandakurichi Watershed.
that includes Kovandakurichi, Pudurpalayam, Venkatalachalapuram, Alambakkam, Natham and Mangudi — and the Melarasur Watershed that includes Melarasur, Keetizarasur, Medhuvathur, Malvay, Varaguppai and Kallakudi.

The Kovandakurichi watershed Capacity Building Phase (CBP) area is situated a few kilometres south of Kallakudi (Lalgudi Taluk) in Trichy District. It covers a watershed area of 119 hectares. The CBP area is delineated from 2 micro watersheds and comprises Kallakudi, Alambakkam, Alangudimalahajanam, Kovandakurichi, Nathan mangudi, Venkatalachalapuram and Pudurpalayam villages.

The CBP of the Kovandakurichi and Melarasur watersheds have been completed and the DBGF watershed team is preparing a detailed project report of the activities completed during this phase, in preparation for the Full Implementation Phase.

Multiple activities were undertaken at Kovandakurichy including:

- **Formation of field bunds:** Most of the land under the CBP area was barren and without any field bunding. There were a few farmers cultivating the area and with minimal bunding. This resulted in heavy top soil erosion. Our field bunding effort has resulted in the creation of technically precise and appropriate field bunds for effective moisture retention and curbing of top soil erosion, covering an area of 53 hectares.

- **Laying of field bund pipe outlets:** To drain excess water during heavy rains, PVC pipe outlets have been provided across the field bund area, as per the drainage pattern.

- **Digging and deepening of farm ponds:** As an alternate source of water, to increase the area of cultivation and for effective recharge of the ground water table, storage capacity of 3851.78 cum has been created.

- **Jungle clearance work:** Around a quarter of the proposed area under the CBP was covered with Proposis Julifera weed. It was proposed to uproot this weed from the entire area, enabling useful plantation in its place. So far, we have cleared an area of 25.43 hectares.

- **Digging catch pits:** To ensure maximum harvesting of rainwater and retention of moisture for existing and newly planted saplings, 8500 catch pits (0.162 cum capacity) have been created.

- **Under the CBP, agro-forestry was proposed through planting 11700 saplings. Neem tree saplings, sourced from the Tamil Nadu Forest Department, were planted in Kovandakurichy village for this purpose.**

831 man days of local employment was generated due to these activities.

In Melarasur, a Gabion check measuring 6.50 meters length, 1.70 meters breadth and 1.20 meters height has been constructed to reduce soil erosion and hold rain water. A sangan pond has also been constructed to hold the rain water to be used by farmers for irrigation. This pond has a storage capacity of 1,116.5 m³ of water.

### Capacity Building Phase - Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Melarasur Watershed Development Project</th>
<th>Kovandakurichi Watershed Development Project</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field Bund of Cross Section 0.46 (10957RM)</td>
<td>Field Bund of Cross Section of 0.46 (8535RM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gabion Check (Nos.)</td>
<td>Field Bund Pipe Outlet (Nos.)</td>
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<td>Storage Pond (Nos.)</td>
<td>Farm Pond (Nos.)</td>
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<td>Agro Forestry (Plants)</td>
<td>Agro Forestry (Plants)</td>
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<td>11700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jungle Clearance (in hectares)</td>
<td>Catch Pit (Nos.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>8500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2 Water storage capacity increase by more than 30,000 m³, with construction and/or desilting of 22 farm ponds, 2 village ponds, 1 check dam and a weir

Farm ponds are dug in the farmlands to harvest rainwater and store it for further use instead of letting it go waste, allowing it to wash away the top soil. 36 ponds were identified for this purpose, one pond at Kovandakurichy village and the other at Palinganatham Village. The increased water storage capacity is of 3,250 m³, benefitting well over 6,000 members of the local community.

3 Drip irrigation covering an area of 10 acres

Drip irrigation is a technique that enables regulated and optimal use of water and fertilizer in agriculture, by allowing water and nutrients to drip directly and gradually to the roots of the plants through a network of pipes and valves. 10 acres of land were converted to drip irrigation, impacting 20 beneficiaries as we helped facilitate the process of availing subsidies from the National Horticulture Mission for the local farmers. This has enabled in increase of yearly income by Rs. 30,000/- on an average per farmer.

Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

1 Sustainable Cotton Cultivation

1,200 small and marginal cotton farmers belonging to four villages of Trichy district and five villages of Ariyalur district, are participating in a sustainable cotton cultivation pilot project initiated by DBGF. Project participants have been divided into 37 Learner Groups (LGs) consisting of 30 to 35 farmers per group, for training, capacity building and organizing purposes. All these groups together now comprise one producer unit. This ensures collective market linkages.

When Baby registered with DBGF as a cotton farmer, she was constantly stressed about farming for poor yield, in the face of multiple challenges that included crop pests and lack of water for irrigation. After joining the DBGF Sustainable Cotton Cultivation project, she attended Learner Group meetings and gained technical knowledge. She followed up by applying her learning to her farming activities, using better cotton production principles and management, as she had practiced during meeting and training. The result was a higher yield (1,800kg/acre) as compared to the previous year (1,500kg/acre). Disease attack and production cost was minimized.
The sustainable cotton cultivation project rests on 6 key pillars:

- Crop Protection
- Water Management
- Soil Management
- Fibre Quality
- Decent Work
- Habitat

Around 173 LG meetings have been conducted across programme villages to reinforce these 6 key pillars. The activities under the project aim at achieving a set of specific outcomes:

- Creating awareness and sharing knowledge on the latest technologies
- Preserving the fibre quality of cotton
- Setting up demonstration plots
- Managing and changing crop protection practices, thus minimizing the harmful impacts
- Optimised water usage
- Improved soil health
- Protecting the eco-system and biodiversity
- Promoting decent work standards
- Identifying, sharing and leveraging indigenous knowledge and methods that contribute to building best practices and high yields

Further efforts are underway for reducing input costs and increasing profits. Our Farmers’ Producer Organisation undertakes collective sourcing of seeds, need based farming inputs and collective selling of the produce, in alignment with Government policy and programs.

Recently, all 37 learner groups and 11 demonstration plots promoted under the project were assessed by a third party auditor nominated by Better Cotton Initiative (BCI). The report found that all 37 groups meet the criteria for a 3 year license to sell their produce in the international market. This means that their cotton lint will now be tracked as sustainable cotton throughout the supply chain.

Looking ahead, efforts are underway to support farmers with safe, environment friendly disposal of their cotton stalks instead of burning it in their fields.

2 Bio gas plants: avoiding 35 tons of CO₂ emission

A family size bio gas plant can meet the daily cooking and heating energy requirements of a typical rural family of 4-6 members, at a capacity of 2 Cu.m. We facilitated the availing of the Government subsidy and acquiring and setting up the plants for 7 households. As a result about 35 tons of CO₂ emission has been avoided during this year.

3 Fuel efficient cook stoves and solar lanterns, study lamps, and home lighting systems are changing the lives of close to 600 households while solar street lights are lighting up an entire village of 2,000 people. Helping avoid more than 804 tons of CO₂ emission
Fuel-efficient stoves were promoted among 10 target villages, with the multiple objectives of reducing the environmental footprint, decreasing air pollution and enhancing fuel wood efficiency by 60%. This year around 15 demonstrations were organised and 222 households bought fuel-efficient stoves. All these households return positive feedback about the stoves in terms of firewood consumption and time taken for cooking. It was encouraging to see that the lead farmers of the Sustainable Cotton Cultivation Project also came forward to adopt eco-smart cooking technology by purchasing these stoves.

As a renewable energy initiative DBGF has successfully harnessed 600 W of solar power and avoided 60 tons of CO₂ emissions by promoting 300 solar lanterns across villages. DBGF reached out to women’s SHGs, school children, farmers and petty shop owners for this initiative. Product demonstrations were conducted regularly in all the target villages with great success.

50 school children of Palinganatham village have received solar study lamps. Usage of solar study lamps was explained to students and these were handed over to them at a school function.

10 Solar Home Lighting System were promoted in 6 villages- Kovandakurichi, Vadugarpet, Venkatachalapuram, Malwai, Varakuppi, Kallakudi.

DBGF in partnership with the community at Pullambadi village near Kovandakurichi mines village has installed 5 solar street lamps. This effort benefits about 2,000 people.

Livelihood Skill Training

1 Self Help Groups

At Dalmiapuram, we have facilitated the formation of 34 SHGs with a membership of over 480 people. The SHGs have a savings amount of more than Rs. 5.5 lac.

2 Skills trainings

After a detailed field study, banana fibre products was identified as a good skilling option for skill training of women. DBGF partnered with the TVS Foundation for conducting a stage one training programme on banana fibre product conversion. This 14 day training had 51 women from Venkatachalapuram and Kallakudi villages participating in the programme. The entire batch of 51 women successfully completed their training programme and are geared-up for the stage two of training, the skill up-gradation programme.

The products include Water Bottle Casings, Pooja Baskets, Tea Trays, Pen Stands, Decorative Hangers, Table Mats, Yoga Mats, Flower Stands, Jewel boxes and Trays.

After mushroom cultivation training was organized for 30 rural youth, 23 women and 7 men, at Palinganatham Village. The 6 day program was organized in collaboration with SBI’s Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI). An experienced trainer was hired from a neighbouring district for this purpose. Demonstration units were set up in the village and about 150 mushroom producing beds were packed for mushroom culture. This activity can help generate additional income of up to Rs. 3,000/- p.m.

Microsoft Certified Computer Literacy Programme was organized for 134 students in Dalmiapuram. A basic working knowledge of computers is a great advantage in the employment market. However, access to a certified digital literacy programme is still a distant dream for many. Computer training centres do not have structured training or certified courses. DBGF in partnership with Datamation Foundation conducted training for 134 students from 8 villages.
Social Development

1 Health

Bridging the gap between health service delivery and access to services, DBGF conducted multiple medical camps in the villages across the Dalmiapuram location.

4 medical camps covering 2,000 persons from 7 villages were conducted in partnership with SRM Hospital, District Health Office, Ariyalur & AS Nursing Home, Ariyalur. Medicines and follow-up was provided by the partnering agencies. These are part of regular and ongoing facilitation of service delivery.

15 gynaecological and paediatric camps benefitting over 400 people were organized in partnership with the respective Primary Healthcare Centres, Asha workers and some private practitioners, at 8 villages - Muthuvathur, Melarasur, Pudurpalayam, Manakudi, Kaatipirunyam, Peniyanganur, Asthinapuram, and Ediyathangudi. Medicines were supplied through the government hospital as per the requirements. IEC posters and pamphlets on health and hygiene were displayed and distributed.

A free Cataract Screening Camp was organised at Palinganatham Village with the support of the Mahatma Eye Hospital Trichy and attended by 285 villagers. 34 persons underwent successful cataract operations. Extensive mobilization activities were undertaken in advance to ensure attendance.

- Meetings were conducted with SHG members, youth clubs, farmers, MGNREGS beneficiaries’ and school children
- Pamphlets were distributed -door to door
- Banners were displayed at prominent places for conveying the logistics
- Audio announcements were made repeatedly in the villages

A doctor and a 15 person nursing team were at the camp and screened the patients for Cataract. A 6 level screening was conducted for Basic vision, BP, Purple Test, Eye pressure, Vision Using Lenses and a final consultation with the doctor.

On World AIDS Day, as part of ongoing initiatives, an awareness and testing camp was organized at Dalmiapuram for truck drivers, helpers and cleaners. About 200 persons participated in the programme and 103 volunteered to undergo testing. The Tamil Nadu AIDS Control Society (TNSACS) extended their support for the day’s event through the Mobile ICTC (Integrated Counselling and Testing Centre) from Trichy. A team comprising one counsellor and two lab technicians were present with the complete kit for HIV/AIDS testing.

2 School sanitation

6 new school sanitation blocks have been constructed at 6 villages benefitting 1282 school children more than 50% girls.

The St Joseph Girls Higher Secondary School, Vadugarpet is a government aided school and with 169 adolescent girls on its rolls. As per the standards set by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, the school should have 4 fully functional sanitation blocks consisting of 12 urinals and 4 toilets. However this was not met and the facilities were only adequate for 50% of the school children. This situation was difficult for these young adolescents, particularly in terms of privacy and menstrual hygiene. Our team assessed the situation and came forward with a proposal of constructing a sanitation block with separate facilities demarcated to ensure privacy for girls.

On completion, the key to the sanitation block was officially handed over to the Head Mistress of the school.

World Toilet Day was observed at Varakuppai village. Three major events were organized for the day:

- Cleaning of an unused public toilet in the village. This public toilet building had been constructed under a government scheme and was shabby and in disuse. The DBGF team approached the villagers and motivated them to clean the toilet and make it ready to be used again. The panchayat has agreed to undertake repair of interior damages using the panchayat fund.
- School children were involved in creating awareness about using toilets and sanitation in general, and a rally was organised with the support of local youngsters.
- Banners with messaging on sanitation and hygiene were put up in prominent places, especially in the areas people use for open
defecation. A program was conducted at Muthuvathur Panchayath Union Middle School where a doctor, invited for interactions as Chief Guest, imparted information on sanitation. Panchayat leaders, the head mistress, PTA members, teachers and students took part in the event.

3 Education and literacy

A Children’s Science Exhibition was organised at Panchayat Union School, Melarasur village, to encourage children to engage with science through experiential learning. 40 students took part in the exhibition and demonstrated their projects. The panchayat leader was the chief guest and judge for the program.

The Dalmiapuram ‘100% Literacy’, a Functional Literacy Programme was flagged off at Kovandakurichy village. The women’s group was encouraged to attend classes regularly and also offered to depute a staff member as a resource person for conducting the classes. There were 20 beneficiaries of this programme and DBGF is aiming for 100% Functional Literacy in all its CSR target villages.

4 Other development activities

Veterinary camps were organized in 3 villages - one each at Kallakudi, Melarasur and Keelarasoor, in coordination with the Government Veterinary Hospital. Veterinary doctors from different blocks of the district extended their support for conducting these camps. 600 cows and 1,100 goats were seen by veterinary staff. Vaccinations for foot and mouth disease were administered to all cattle. Hygiene and diet good practices were shared by the medical officers with the community.

3 road safety awareness programmes were organised at Palinganatham Government Elementary School, Hastinapuram Panchayat Union School and Edayathangudi Panchayat Union School, for 800 beneficiaries. Good road safety practices were shared through audio-visual presentations and skits performed by the DBGF team.

A Child Rights and Child Abuse awareness program was organised with the support of CHILDLINE 1098, with the participation of 800 school children, at the Government High School, Palinganatham village, Panchayat Union Middle School at Allanthur Kattali and Vadugarpet Girls High School. The Program Coordinator from Trichy CHILDLINE participated as the resource person.

DBGF organised a community event at Kovandakurichy village and used the opportunity to identify 20 widows in the village willing to participate in the event. The team conducted a rangoli competition for them and distributed 20 fuel efficient stoves to each one.

A number of national and international commemoration days were celebrated to increase awareness of diverse themes. These included World Diabetic Day, World Soil Day, World Youth Day, World Cancer Day, World Environment Day, International Blood Donor Day and Global Handwashing Day.

## Snapshot of Programme Activities in Dalmiapuram

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<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
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<td>Farm Ponds</td>
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<td>Village Ponds</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
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<th>Beneficiaries</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bio Gas Plants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fuel Efficient Cook Stoves</td>
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<td>Solar Home Lighting Systems</td>
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<td>Solar Lanterns</td>
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<td>Solar Streetlights</td>
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<td>Solar Study Lamps</td>
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Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

- 839 tons CO2 Emission Reduction
- 883 from CO2 Emission Reduction

839 tons CO2 Emission Reduction
Ariyalur District centrally located in Tamil Nadu is an inland district with river Vellar in the North and river Kollidam in the South. In terms of topography it does not have well-marked natural divisions. Sugar cane and cashew are the major commercial crops grown here. Cotton farming is widely prevalent across both these districts.

Population covered by DBGF – 14 villages, over 19,000 people, concentrated in over 5,000 households. 15% of the population belongs to the SC category.

Outputs and outcomes of our activities, interventions and campaign events across focus areas

### Soil and Water Conservation

1. **Water storage capacity increase by more than 44,050 m³, with construction of 30 farm ponds and 1 check dam**

   The DBGF team worked with 30 local farmers across 5 villages, panchayat members and government line departments to create 30 farm ponds under the Tamil Nadu Government Scheme. This has resulted in an additional storage capacity of 26,700 m³.
2 Drip irrigation covering an area of 20 acres

The DBGF team in Ariyalur has been working with the State Government Horticulture Department for laying cables for drip irrigation. Prior to this collaboration, despite the subsidy provided by the government, farmers were unable to meet the costs that need to be incurred for drip irrigation. Now that the farmers, DBGF and the Government have come together making drip irrigation accessible for even the poorest, most economically marginalised farmers. The farmer volunteers labour and spends a little money for preparing the ground; the government lays cables and provides all the necessary equipment; DBGF meets all expenses not covered under the subsidy. The team at Ariyalur has converted about 20 acres of flood irrigated land into drip irrigated land.

2 Fuel efficient stoves and solar lanterns are now being used by about 550 households while solar street lights are lighting up an entire village of 3,000 people. Helping avoid more than 780 tons of CO$_2$ emission

247 fuel-efficient cook stoves were promoted among 9 target villages, covering 247 families. It was encouraging to even see a few beneficiaries continuously using the stoves in their commercial establishments such as tea shops and road side kitchens.

300 solar lanterns harnessing 600 W of solar power (avoiding 60 tons of CO$_2$ emissions) have been promoted in 8 target villages.

DBGF in partnership with Lion’s Club Ariyalur, has installed 5 solar street lamps in Ariyalur town. This effort is a dusk-to-dawn model. The system will harness sun light effectively and reduce the carbon foot print while benefitting about 3,000 people.

Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

1 Bio gas plants: avoiding 35 tons of CO$_2$ emission

DBGF engaged NERD, a voluntary organization working in the field of renewable energy in Coimbatore, to set-up family size bio-gas plants of 2 Cu.m under the State Government Renewable Energy Subsidy Scheme. We facilitated setting up of 7 bio-gas plants across 5 villages. As a result about 35 tons of CO$_2$ emission has been avoided during this year.

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3 Other environment initiatives

The DBGF field team conducted tree plantations, awareness programs and competitions on the theme of environment protection in the district. One such was a program organized for the students and community of Salayakurichi village on the subject of domestic power conservation. It was an orientation to water and energy conservation. Participants were also given information about the use of energy efficient bulbs in their houses and about the maintenance of electrical equipments. The awareness session was handled by a team of outreach staff from the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. About 150 villagers and 200 students took part in this program.

Livelihood Skill Training

1 Self Help Groups

In 2014-15, we have facilitated the formation of 17 SHGs with a membership of nearly 200 people. The SHG groups have a savings amount of over Rs.14 lac. Some of these SHG’s have availed of bank loans cumulatively crossing Rs.24 lac.

2 Skills training

Mushroom cultivation trainings were organized for 55 rural beneficiaries, (50 women and 5 men) from two villages, Ottakovil and Thamaraikulam. The 6 day long trainings were organized in collaboration with SBI’s Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI). An experienced trainer was hired from a neighbouring district for this purpose. Demonstration units were set up in each of the two villages and about 350 mushroom producing beds were packed for mushroom culture. The expected return from each unit is Rs. 20,000 and expected profits about Rs. 8000. Till end of March 2015, the sale of mushroom crossed Rs.15,000.
Shanthi earns about Rs.300 every day, spending just about 3 hours per day on this work.

Social Development

1 Health

2 mega health camps covering 4,000 persons from 7 villages were conducted in partnership with the District Health Office, Ariyalur. Access to quality health care services is a challenge for the community as good hospitals are at a distance and the village is poorly connected. A complete team of doctors, paramedics and lab technicians supported the camps. There were special consultations for pregnant mothers, seniors and children as well as provision for enrolling patients for eye surgeries. 10 patients had successful eye surgeries through these camps.

Regular interventions with pregnant women has resulted in the DBGF team reaching out to more than 200 pregnant mothers in the intervention area. The team identifies and monitors potential high risk mothers, registering pregnancy with the PHC, periodical check-ups and nutrition supplements. With the help of doctors from PHCs and local hospitals, ante-natal care camps are organized. Here participants attend health education classes conducted by doctors and take personal advice from medical teams for a healthy pregnancy and delivery. Free consultations and demonstration sessions on food and nutrition have helped improve the health profile of many women. A special camp was also organized to identify high risk mothers from the entire Ariyalur Block. In this camp 64 high risk mothers were identified including one who had undergone two subsequent still birth deliveries.

3 Milch cattle loans

DBGF facilitated the loan process for 18 families at Ariyalur District, for the purchase of milch animals under a NABARD Scheme. They were provided with a total loan of Rs. 4,50,000. This will enable these families to earn an additional monthly income of Rs. 2,000. In further support of this effort, veterinary and cattle care camps were organized across villages to help owners manage and sustain livestock rearing activity.

2 School sanitation

A study was conducted to assess the condition of toilets in some selected schools of Thamaraikulam and Ottakovil villages. It was found that

- 80% of the toilets were unused due to lack of water supply, damage and poor maintenance.
- In some schools, girls had to go home for a toilet break as there were no toilets available for them in school.
- None of the schools had working toilets for boys.

Our team constructed six urinals in two schools at Ottakovil and Salakunichi, and also two toilets in these schools that are exclusively for girls. Prefabricated structures were installed with water connections. This benefits many children, in particular over 115 girls studying in these schools.

On World Toilet Day, awareness sessions on personal hygiene were conducted for both boys and girls in schools of Thamaraikulam and Ottakovil.

3 Education and literacy

Three schools benefited through a school library upgradation effort as books worth about Rs. 25,000 were provided to them.

Out of 250 members of the local community, 60 persons successfully completed DBGF’s Functional Literacy Programme. Men and women around 25 years of age were identified for the programme in Ottakovil and Thamaraikulam villages, where the field team rolled out the Mission Literacy Program. The initiative triggered mixed responses among the community, some willing to enroll and some resisting due to shyness and lack of confidence.

4 Infrastructure support

4 local anganwadis were given ergonomic and infrastructure support to benefit about 120 children. The Anganwadi at Thamaraikulam was given a cement pavement another anganwadi with poor flooring, until for children was re-done with tiles. The 5S workplace organization method was also introduced and implemented in one of the Anganwadis.
A shed was constructed for the Ottakovil Panchayat Union Middle School. The shed is being used for multiple purposes such as meal time space, audience hall, rest and recreation and sometimes for conducting classes outside of the routine class rooms.

DBGF collaborated with the district administration through a government scheme called the Self Sufficiency Scheme.

- One third of the expense was contributed for the construction of two mini water tanks with borewell facility in Thamaraikulam village. Almost 120 households of the village make use of this facility on a daily basis.
- A road and a bridge have also been constructed in Thamaraikulam village and both see heavy use every day.

**5 Other development activities**

A veterinary camp was organized at Thamaraikulam, a small village with just about a 120 households. Access to veterinary services remains a challenge for many farmers who are unable to get the services of a well-equipped veterinary hospital at an affordable price. About 300 cattle were seen by veterinary staff and given vaccinations or medication as per the need.

The DBGF team at Ariyalur has been promoting sports, games and a variety of extra-curricular activities for students and the community.

- About 100 men and women of Thamaraikulam village participated in community sports organized in collaboration with the Block Development Office of Ariyalur.
- 150 children per school participated in the annual sports meets conducted at Ottakovil Middle school and at Ottakovil Kuthur primary school.
- About 400 children participated at sports meets conducted at Thamaraikulam and Salayakurichy schools.

Sports events were also conducted in collaboration with the Nehru Yuva Kendra.

DBGF organised 3 camps on LPG Safety and Energy Conservation Programme for about 120 participants. Representatives from Bharat and Indane Gas agencies handled the sessions and provided information on safe use of LPG cylinders, do's and don'ts and how to use gas economically.
Tamil Nadu: Ariyalur

**Promotion of new SHGs**
- **Number**: 17
- **Members**: 189

**Milch Animal Loans**
- **Number**: 18
- **Beneficiaries**: 90

**Mushroom Cultivation Trainings**
- **Number**: 2
- **Beneficiaries**: 55

**Maternal & Child Health Camps**
- **Number**: 7
- **Beneficiaries**: 200

**General Health Camps**
- **Number**: 3
- **Beneficiaries**: 4000

**School Sanitation Blocks**
- **Number**: 2
- **Beneficiaries**: 261

Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh has a population of about 84 million (8.46 crore) with a growth rate of about 11%. About 66% of the population lives in villages.

Kadapa

Kadapa district is located in Andhra Pradesh where agriculture is the main occupation of the people and over 40 lac hectares of land is under food grain cultivation. Rainfall is erratic and drought conditions happen often. Livestock rearing is a significant part of the farming sector. The state ranks sixth in milk production in the country.

Population covered by DBGF – 12 villages, over 18,500 people, concentrated in over 2,700 households. 100% of the population in two of these villages, Dugganapalli and Koanathapuram belongs to the SC category. The majority of the other villages have an SC/ST population of around 30%.

**Soil and Water Conservation**

1. Integrated watershed development project

A long-term and large scale watershed project is at inception stage here.

DBGF in partnership with NABARD is undertaking a five-year watershed project on a ‘Participatory Integrated Watershed Development’ basis.
for developing 4,500 hectares. This impacts nine villages of Mylavaram Mandal. The village community demonstrated their commitment to take up watershed development by contributing four days of shramdan. About 345 peoples from seven core surrounding villages voluntarily worked at deepening a pond, thus initiating the capacity building phase of the project.

Capacity building project activities:

- Community mobilization, training and development;
- Soil and land management, conservation and usage methods and patterns
- Water management conservation and usage methods and patterns
- Afforestation
- Pasture (fodder) development
- Agricultural development
- Livestock management
- Energy management

A one day exposure visit to the Viraballi Model being implemented by the District Watershed Management Agency (DWMA) was organized for sixty people from seven villages. These exposure visit participants witnessed the long-lasting positive impact of a successful watershed project in water conservation efforts, most materially translated as rising income and wealth for communities benefitting from the watershed. They were given an orientation to the process of forming a watershed committee, to the roles and responsibilities of the committee in the project, to the plantation work which enables availability of fodder through the year and to the different types of water conservation structures in a watershed area.

The DBGF watershed team has been working with the villagers to prepare a development plan using the survey number-wise planning process, for developing 280 acres of micro-watershed. Meetings and discussions have been conducted with the owners of fields that fall within the target area. The treatments and works to be carried out in the field have been planned and finalized with the consent of the owners. The compilation of data is in progress for implementation of Full Implementation Phase.

2 Water storage capacity increased by more than 50,034 m³, with construction and/or desilting of 46 farm ponds, causeway at one of the villages and 3 village ponds

46 farm ponds were created with the participation of the farming community across 6 villages - Chinnakomerla, Nawabpet, Peddakomerla, Dugganapalli, Bodupalle and Hanumantharayanipet. Nearly 1,000 farmers are utilizing the water. They have changed their crop pattern by adopting commercial crops such as cotton and chili whereas earlier they were cultivating bengal gram, maize etc. This year crop productivity has increased by 200 kgs. The water storage capacity due to these farm ponds is an additional 28,100 m³.

Village ponds were created at Nawabpet and Bodapalli. The increased water storage capacity is of 5,260 m³.

At Nawabpet village, a causeway has been constructed creating a storage capacity of 20,000 m³ water. This benefits 60 households who can cultivate an additional area of 30 acres of land.

Post this effort it has been decided by the farmers in consultation with us to opt for cotton or chili as the first crop and vegetables as the second crop. This will increase their income by Rs. 30000 per harvest.

3 Drip Irrigation covering an area of 69 acres

69 acres of land were converted to drip irrigation as we helped facilitate the process of availing subsidies from the Andhra Pradesh Micro Irrigation department at C Kottapalli, Talamanchipatnam and Chinnakomerla villages. 28 farmers are covered under this activity.

NAME: Ragendra
AGE: 12
VILLAGE: Dugganapalli
OCCUPATION: School student

Studying in Class VI, he once had difficulty focusing on his studies after sunset due to power cuts and dependence on a smoky kerosene lantern. A recipient of a solar study kit, his marks have shot up by 40% due to the sense of ease and comfort provided by the solar light.
Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

1. Bio gas plants: avoiding over 100 tons of CO₂ emission

20 Family size bio gas plants of a capacity of 2 Cu.m have been set up for 20 households in 5 villages. 7 of these plants are in Koananthapuram and 6 in Nawabpet. We facilitated the availing of the government subsidy through the New Renewable Energy Development Corporation (NEDCAP) of Andhra Pradesh. As a result of this over 100 tons of CO₂ emission has been avoided during this year.

2. Fuel efficient stoves and solar lanterns, study lamps, and street lights are changing the lives of close to 500 households while solar street lights are lighting up 3 villages impacting a population of almost 5,000 people. Helping avoid much more than 434 tons of CO₂ emission

100 fuel-efficient stoves were provided to users in 6 villages. These stoves are tested and proven to be 60% fuel-efficient, which helps avoid 329 tons of CO₂ emission per year.

Through a renewable energy initiative DBGF has avoided over 90 tons of CO₂ emissions by promoting 450 solar lanterns among 7 villages - Nawabpet, Dugganpalle, Chinnakomerla, PeddaKomerla, Talamanachappatinam, Peddakomerla and Hanumantharayanapet.

50 school children have received solar study lamps at Chinnakomerla and Nawabpet villages, making a big difference to the amount of time they are able to spend on studying at home.

Livelihood Skill Training

1. Self Help Groups

In 2014-15, we have facilitated the formation of 40 SHGs with a membership of 384 women. The SHG groups have a savings amount of Rs. 6.4 lac and we are working towards linking them to banks and government schemes. 14 SHG s have availed bank loans. 5 of the new SHGs took loans from the Village Organization Funds of Thalamanchipatnam.

2. Skills training

Training on home-based chemical products was organized for a group of women at the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad. Now the group has registered 2 units with the District Industries Center, Kadapa and many of the other participants are preparing to do the same.

Milch cattle loans

DBGF facilitated the loan process with the Village Development Committee (VDC) for about 174 applicants across 3 villages, Nawabpet, Chinnakomerla and Dugganpalle, for the purchase of milch animals. Financially, during the year under review, DBGF has leveraged Rs.3950 lac towards this livelihood initiative. This will enable these families to earn an additional monthly income of Rs. 2,000/ p.m. Veterinary and cattle care camps are organized across villages to help owners manage and sustain livestock rearing activity.

Social Development

1. Health

Based on needs assessment, DBGF has been focusing particularly upon 4 villages, Nawabpet, Chinnakomerla, Dugganpalle and Thalamanchipatnam. In these villages 48 medical camps were conducted where over 17,000 people were able to register and use camp services. Immediate medical response and follow-up is provided to all.

32 Ante Natal & Post Natal care camps were organized covering 235 pregnant women and 436 infants. The aim was to have every child covered under the immunization programme and to have pregnant women receive the care they require. This initiative is undertaken in collaboration with the ICDS, Vedduratal unit.

Eye camps were also organised and 65 seniors with vision problems were escorted to Aravindh Eye Hospital in Pondicherry for surgery.

As part of our health awareness campaigns, we conducted an event focusing on Swineflu at schools in two villages, Talamanchipatnam and S.Uppalapadu, covering 800 students.
2 School sanitation

One School Sanitation Block was constructed for Girls in a Government School in Chinnakomerala.

DBGF initiated the Clean Village Campaign in Kadapa, in alignment with the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Three camps have been organized at Peddakomerla, Chinnakomerla and Talamanchipatam villages.

- Over 450 school children and other members of the community participated in these events.
- They undertook the cleaning of schools and of village streets and helped spread awareness on sanitation related health issues.

3 Education and literacy

Efforts are being made to incorporate value based education into the system. We have reached out to over 165 students across 5 villages and engaged them in dialogue on themes such as good values, the teacher-student relationship, leadership, women’s issues, societal changes and relationships between teachers and parents.

4 Infrastructure support

Construction of 1,00,000 litre capacity Over Head Storage Reservoir (OHSR) at Chinnakomerala Village along with street-wise pipelines. This has changed life for 2,500 people. The DBGF team carried out a needs assessment exercise with the assistance of a technical resource person and in consultation with community members and others for a better understanding of the water situation in different seasons. There was enormous scarcity of water as one of the water source points was in a bad condition and people were forced to procure water from other places at a distance. Those without means of transport such as bullock carts were unable to manage. Essentially in the village, 80% of the people were not getting sufficient water. Hence it was decided that a permanent water solution is required.

2 new bore wells were drilled, one each at Nawalpet and Dugganpalli.

We have invested in education initiatives that include efforts to improve the learning environment in schools through the provision of teaching learning materials, access to sanitation facility and minimal infrastructure support.

DBGF provided 100 sets of school furniture spread across 4 schools in Nawalpet, Chinnakomerala, S Uppalpadu and Thalamanchipatnam to help create a better learning environment. This impacts nearly 500 students.

9 schools were supported with teaching learning materials.

6 anganwadis were provided with play resources for the children.

5 Other development activities

Veterinary camps were organized in 6 villages - Nawalpet, Chinnakomerala, Thalamanchipatnam, Dugganpalli, Peddakomerla and Hanumantharayanpet. A total of almost 2,000 animals were treated for various health issues in collaboration with the Animal Husbandry Department. Free medicines and food supplements were provided for the animals.

Regular sports competitions are organised for school children. 4 competitions were organized at the mandal level, covering Nawalpet, Chinnakomerala, Dugganpalli, Talamanchipatnam and Madapavaram villages for 450 young sports persons. Over 1,000 members of the local community participated enthusiastically as observers and audience.

380 bank accounts were opened under the Jan Dhan Yojana for residents of Nawalpet village.

Snapshot of Programme Activities in Kadapa
Andhra Pradesh: Kadapa

**Computer Training**
- Number: 1
- Beneficiaries: 60

**Promotion of New SHGs**
- Number: 40
- Beneficiaries: 384

**Milch Animal Loans**
- Number: 174
- Beneficiaries: 870

**Home Based Chemical Trainings**
- Number: 4
- Beneficiaries: 40

**Paper Bag Making Training**
- Number: 1
- Beneficiaries: 6

**Bio Gas Plants**
- Number: 20
- Beneficiaries: 100

**Fuel Efficient Cook Stoves**
- Number: 100
- Beneficiaries: 500

**Solar Lanterns**
- Number: 450
- Beneficiaries: 2250

**Solar Streetlights**
- Number: 28
- Beneficiaries: 5000

**Solar Study Lamps**
- Number: 50
- Beneficiaries: 250

**Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation**

**Maternal & Child Health Camps**
- Number: 34
- Beneficiaries: 235

**Immunization Campaigns**
- Number: 34
- Beneficiaries: 436

**Eye Camp**
- Number: 1
- Beneficiaries: 65

**General Health Camps**
- Number: 49
- Beneficiaries: 17350

**School Sanitation Block**
- Number: 1
- Beneficiaries: 26

**Livelihood Skill Training**

**Social Development**

**Annual Report 2014-15**

**534 tons CO2 Emission Reduction**
Belgaum

One of the biggest gaps between largest and lowest populated villages in the districts covered by DBGF programmes is seen in Belgaum, with a population of 200 in Manommi village and 9,991 in Yadwad panchayat which covers multiple villages. DBGF has included both in its programmes, with need specific intervention strategies.

Population covered by DBGF – 9 villages, over 25,000 people, concentrated in over 500 households. 12% of the population belongs to the SC category.

Soil and Water Conservation

1. Water storage capacity increase by more than 11,300 m³, with the creation of a reservoir out of an abandoned mine pit.

After talks and consultation with the local people, a plan was implemented by which rain water was channelized to an abandoned mine pit, thus enabling water storage of 11,300 m³ of water. This is recharging bore wells within a vicinity of 500 meters and impacting 25 beneficiaries. With the additional water, 10 farmers are planning to cultivate vegetables and gain an additional income of between 3 to 5 lac rupees, annually.

Karnataka

Karnataka has a population of about 61 million (6.11 crore) with a growth rate of about 15%. It is the 9th most populated state in India. Over 60% of the population lives in villages.

Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

1. Fuel efficient cook stoves and solar lanterns, study lamps, and home lighting systems are changing the lives of close to 600 households while solar street lights are lighting up an entire village of 2,000 people. Helping avoid more than 498 tons of CO₂ emission.

125 Fuel-efficient cook stoves were promoted among women SHG’s across 8 villages, with a series of demonstrations on the economic and environmental benefits.

10 training programs were also conducted to support the correct use of these stoves and gain the desired 60% fuel efficiency.

We have avoided well over 65 tons of CO₂ emissions by promoting 325 solar lanterns, also among women SHG’s across 8 villages. A small event was organized for handing over the solar lanterns to the users and a detailed demonstration was conducted.

100 solar study lamps were provided to 100 students of Moraji Desai School, Yadwad.

5 Solar Home Lighting System were promoted for households in 5 villages. The system gives a 24 hour power-back up and also reduces electricity bills.

Usage of these lamps was explained prior to handing them over.
Livelihood Skill Training

1 Self Help Groups

We facilitated the formation of 30 SHGs with a membership of over 400 people at Belgaum. These groups have a savings amount crossing Rs. 6,000 in 2014-15, with cumulative savings of over Rs.4 lac.

5 women SHG's promoted by DBGF were assessed and found eligible to avail of loans from the Loan District Cooperative Central Bank, Yadwad. The total loan amount of Rs. 22 lac was handed over by the Yadwad Branch Manager, who encouraged the SHG's and spoke to the members about productive financial investment.

2 The Pragati Mahila Rural Development Cooperative Society

One of our most successful efforts towards achieving gender equality and women's financial empowerment through our programmes has evolved at Belgaum, the Pragati Mahila Rural Development Cooperative Society. This initiative was led by 20 pathbreaking women from Yadwad Panchayat. 191 women from SHGs promoted by DBGF then joined the initiative, to lend strength to each other, to set the direction for a financially sound future.

Each member committed a share capital of Rs.1,001, thus raising initial capital of 1.91 lac. Facilitated and assisted by DBGF, they completed registration formalities and on 8th March 2015, they celebrated Womens' Day with the formal launch of the cooperative.

The launch event was well attended by around 400 women from 10 villages representing SHGs promoted by DBGF as well as by other organisations. Details about various schemes available for the benefit of SHGs were shared with all. Those who addressed the gathering, emphasised the need to use the money generated in SHGs to set up micro-enterprises and to aim at building performing assets for increasing the income of the members of the cooperative. 61 SHGs from 10 villages in Yadwad and Chikalpatti and nearly 900 women will benefit from this cooperative.

DBGF has provided the Pragati Mahila Rural Development Cooperative Society with material infrastructure for the office set up, and is facilitating networking with others including government departments. Efforts are on for the convergence of other SHG’s into the cooperative.

2 Skill trainings

42 rural youth from across 5 villages participated in a 3 month Paramilitary training programme. Most of the population of these villages are pre-dominantly dependent on agriculture, or employment in transport services, or as unskilled labour in industries. Those who have completed their schooling and beyond are interested in exploring new employment opportunities. Joining the armed services is an option many are interested in. There is a better probability of being selected in the armed services if candidates can get expert guidance and support. During our market survey we found that there are quite a few training centres in Belgaum but their fees are exorbitant. To address this gap, DBGF launched the Para-Military Training Programme - a 3 month package focusing on improving the physical fitness of candidates along with preparation for the written examination. 45 candidates completed their training, 10 of them further successfully cleared their physical fitness test for the forces and one has successfully cleared the written exam.

The DBGF team had assessed the market potential for absorption of security guards and identified a potential employer in SIS Agency.

• 2 Rallies were conducted in Yadwad village for the purpose of recruitment and selection. Nearly 100 attended the rally out of which 51 were shortlisted for a one month training. Now each of them is employed and earning a monthly income of about Rs. 9,500/ per month.

DBGF partnered with Datamation Foundation to bring “Microsoft Unlimited Potential Program (MSUP)” - a 3 month programme with certification for school children and rural youth. Under this programme the students of Yadwad Panchayat underwent 3 months structure training focusing on a basic knowledge of computers. Post completion of the training the students undergo tests, written and practical, to be eligible for MSUP certificates.

10 households actively participated in a Floriculture training program organised at
With the support of Yadwad PHC, immunization outreach was organised across multiple villages covering about 3,826 infants.

10 health awareness cum sensitisation programmes on different subjects were conducted, including on AIDS and health and hygiene for adolescent girls.

Gulaganikoppa village. A Professor from Horticulture University, Arabhavi, facilitated the training while focusing on the latest market trends of new flowering crops, ways to enhance the yield of present flowers and best practices for integrated control of insects and pests.

Social Development

1 Health

DBGF conducted multiple general and speciality medical camps across Belgaum villages.

17 bi-weekly camps were organised in Yadwad Panchayat across 5 villages, covering over 2,500 service users, over 350 of whom were pregnant women and over 300 were children. The PHC Yadwad played a key role along with their team of 25 Asha workers. DBGF also organised other doctors from different medical fields - ophthalmology, diabetics, gynaecology, orthopaedics, dermatology and general health.

DBGF partnered with KLE, Belgaum and organized a Dental Camp in Yadwad Panchayat. The KLE team comprising 10 dentists and a 7 member para-medical team attended to the oral health care needs of more than 300 villagers from across 9 villages.

Regular nutritional awareness programmes were organised across 13 villages and about 1,100 women, both pregnant and lactating mothers participated in these programmes. Knowledge and information was disseminated on nutrition and low cost home recipes.

2 School sanitation

On the eve of our 75th Founder’s Day event in December 2014, DBGF launched its school sanitation project in the Government Primary School, Kamankatti, Yadwad—extending support for the construction of a sanitation block. Students, teachers, members of the Dalma team and school management were present for the inauguration.

In Yadwad panchayat, 7 new sanitation blocks with bio-digester technology have been constructed for the use of 2000 children across 9 schools. The toilet blocks have been painted with IEC artwork, focusing on good sanitation practices.

On World Toilet Day, an event was organised at the Moraji Desai School, Yadwad. School children performed skits and sang songs of awareness of the need for sanitation facilities. Around 250 students participated; some of them made sketches visualizing what they wished to have in a perfect toilet facility.

An event was conducted under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan at Chipalkatti village, Belgaum. About 350 people participated, including representatives from 17 DBGF facilitated SHGs, gram panchayat members, cooperative society members, school teachers and many children. Volunteers undertook cleaning of the roads and drainage of Chipalkatti village.
DBGF partnered with the Gram Panchayat Yadwad, to organize an awareness rally under the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan campaign of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation. DBGF mobilized school children, anganwadi teachers, SHG members and the rural community of Yadwad, Kamankatti, and Grisagar for this rally.

3 Infrastructure support

Play resources and infrastructure support was extended to 12 anganwadies in the district for the benefit of more than 600 children.

4 Other development activities

A Children’s Gram Sabha was facilitated at Yadwad in collaboration with the Zilla Panchayat Belgaum, Department of Public Instruction Chikkodi, Block Education Officer Mudalgi and Gram Panchayat Yadwad, for child participants from Yadwad, Grisagar, Kopadatti, Kamankatti, Manomi, and Gulaganjikoppa village schools. During this program various issues related to children were discussed. There were 90 student representatives, the Block Education Officer, teachers, medical officer and anganwadi staff.

4 camps focusing on awareness of child rights and child abuse issues were also conducted.

DBGF partnered with Kannada Sena, Yadwad to conduct a mega Volley Ball Tournament. 13 teams participated from 6 villages.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme Activities</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fuel Efficient Cook Stoves</td>
<td>125 BENEFICIARIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Home Lighting Systems</td>
<td>5 BENEFICIARIES</td>
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<td>Solar Lanterns</td>
<td>325 BENEFICIARIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Study Lamps</td>
<td>100 BENEFICIARIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Promotion of SHGs</td>
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<td>Paramilitary Trainings</td>
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<td>Security Guard Trainings</td>
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<td>Floriculture Training</td>
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<td>Maternal &amp; Child Health Camps</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Sanitation Blocks</td>
<td>7 BENEFICIARIES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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498 tons CO2 Emission Reduction
Umrongso is located in Dima Hasao district, one of the two hills districts of Assam. The area is remote and poor transport infrastructure poses numerous problems to the development of the district. Government schemes do not reach many of the villages. Although there is railway connectivity to the district headquarters at Haflong, road is the only means of transportation to Umrongso. Basic amenities are lacking across health, education and livelihood sectors. Most people live under conditions of extreme marginalization and deprivation.

Population covered by DBGF – 5 villages, about 2,000 people, concentrated in about 350 households. Over 90% of the population belongs to the SC/ST/OBC category.

**Soil and Water Conservation**

1. Water storage capacity increased with the deepening of a village pond

Deepening of a village pond has been completed in Dithur village, directly impacting all the 55 households in the village. Water scarcity has been a major issue in this village with inhabitants having to spend most of their time and energy traveling far to source water for regular household and domestic purposes. Most of the population here comprises poor and marginal farmers and labourers. The water storage capacity due to this activity is 900 m³.
4 ring wells have been constructed, 1 per village, in Langcherui, Miyungpur, Longrung and Dithur, bringing huge relief in the matter of daily water sourcing to over 280 households. The rocky terrain made this construction activity a challenge. Local contractors and labour was sourced for this work as their expertise with the area is high. As at Dithur, the problem of water becomes a daily stress, particularly for the children and women of the household who have to travel to a source of water about 2 kms away, fill it in pots and containers and travel back.

These initiatives in these four villages impact the lives of over 1800 people - nearly 280 households.

**Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation**

1. **Fuel efficient stoves and solar study kits distributed across 4 villages**

   150 households were provided fuel-efficient stoves. These are being promoted by DBGF at the target villages. Communities are being informed of the multiple benefits to the environment, energy, human health and the household budget.

2. **Skill trainings**

   To increase the employability options of the youth in the programme villages of Umrongso, a series of focus group discussions were organized among the school dropout youths on livelihoods. The theme of these FGDs was employment possibilities and skills training. Twenty eight youths expressed their interest for driving training. The 28 interested youths were provided Heavy Transport Vehicle driving training through ITI Nagaon. The driving training was completed successfully by all the participants and all of them have got their driving license. The expected increase in income is approximately Rs. 6,000/- per month.

   Weaving is a popular activity in the Dimahasao District of Assam. The tribal women of Umrongso area are incredibly skilled in weaving. Although they do weaving only to meet their domestic needs of textiles but some households rely completely on their primitive style loom weaving for their livelihoods. The loom loom is one of the oldest devices and primitive technology of weaving without any physical frame structure. The productivity is very low in these traditional looms.

   Thus for providing training to the weavers a course on weaving was launched with a first batch of 31 trainees in improvised loom. One Weaving Training Center has been set up at Langcherui village of Umrongso. Four (4) Jacquard looms and accessories have been procured and installed in the training centre. One master trainer is deployed for imparting training to the weavers.

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**Livelihood Skill Training**

1. **Self Help Groups**

   12 SHGs with a membership of 168 members, were formed with the support of the DBGF team at Umrongso. These groups have built a cumulative savings approaching Rs. 75,000.

   A training program for womens’ SHGs was organized at Langcherui village. All the group members from the Athur and Samphri groups participated in this training. SHG norms, group management, accounts and record keeping practices were explained to the members during the sessions.

2. **Skill trainings**

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This is a proven technology serving as a means of livelihoods to the many households of Sualkuchi Assam. Sualkuchi is one of the world’s largest weaving villages often called the ‘Manchester of the East’.

The women trainees are happy to learn this high productive technique and interested to install this loom at individual and SHG level. Thus the new weaving technique introduced by DBGF for up-scaling of the traditional best practice is receiving a very good response from the women weavers.

DBGF has a plan to form a producers collective of SHG women to manage and operate this Centre as training cum production unit.

Social Development

1 Sanitation

An awareness event on sanitation was organized at Lovely Well Memorial School in Umrongso, for the formal launch of our ‘Swachh Vidyalaya’ project. All the teachers of the school were present. 70 students attended this program and 40 of them participated in essay and extempore speech competitions on the subject of sanitation and personal hygiene.

9 school sanitation blocks have been constructed in 6 schools. All toilets use bio digester technology certified by the DRDO. These sanitation blocks are being used by about 1,200 students; more than half this number comprises girl students.

2 Infrastructure support

A 2,000 sq.ft. community hall has been constructed for the community of 65 households at Langcherui.

Football is a favourite sport for the youngsters in the programme villages. To promote sports and fitness among the youth, Four football grounds were constructed, one each in Dithur, Miyungpur, Longrun and Langcherui villages. Total 281 Households from the four villages have been benefitted from this infrastructure development. One football was also given to the youth of each village.
Lanka town is in Nagaon, a centrally located district in Assam. Over 70% of the population lives in rural areas. The total cropped area of Nagaon exceeds 3,50,000 hectares. Floods are a major issue in this area and the rehabilitation of flood-affected people is a major development challenge. The economy of Lanka is purely agrarian. Rice is the staple and paddy is the principal crop grown. The district is well connected by road and rail. The famous sanctuary and tourist focal point Kaziranga is in this district.

Population covered by DBGF = 6 villages, about 4,300 people, concentrated in over 950 households. Majority of the population belongs to the SC/ST/OBC category.

Outputs and outcomes of our activities, interventions and campaign events across focus areas

**Soil and Water Conservation**

1. **Water storage capacity increase with deepening of 2 farm ponds and construction of an earthen dam, positively impacting the community across three villages**

   Most of the population of Monipuribosti, Udoipur and Lankajan villages comprises poor and marginal farmers. Prior to this initiative, there were no government supported irrigation facilities in the village. Therefore the farmers were dependent on rain-fed agriculture. Deepening of the community farm pond and construction of the earthen dam will help to harvest rainwater for agriculture purpose.

**Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation**

1. **Fuel efficient cook stoves and solar study lamps distributed across 6 villages**

   Fuel efficient cook stoves were promoted to the target villages and 50 households were provided the product.

   340 solar study lamps have been provided to school children across as many households.

---

Padram Sakia

**Village:** Udoipur

**Challenge:** Poor agricultural yield due to scarcity of water and lack of irrigation facilities

Padram and the other farmers of his village were dependent on rain-fed agriculture, with no irrigation facilities. Ten years ago they created an earthen dam in the village to harvest rainwater and in their experience this provided them some relief. They requested the DBGF team to construct another such earthen dam. The response was swift and effective. The technical team from DBGF assessed the requirements to plan the construction, and very soon a strong earthen dam had been built to harvest rainwater with positive results. The dam is capable of storing a lot of rain water that the farmers pump to their individual fields and use for cultivation, thereby increasing agricultural yield. Padram’s income, and the income of others like him. Now these farmers may plan more than one crop per year. They consider their water harvesting effort a best-practice model that could be implemented in neighbouring villages too.
Livelihood Skill Training

1 Self Help Groups

At Lanka, DBGF facilitated the formation of 14 SHGs with a membership figure touching 150. These groups have a savings amount of about Rs. 69,000. A training program on SHG book keeping and financial inclusion was organized at Sri. Srimanta Sankardev ME School Lanka as an orientation for the newly formed women SHGs on good book keeping practice and financial inclusion. 24 women from 12 groups attended the training program. 2 SHGs received loans of Rs. 50,000 each.

Social Development

1 Health

2 free medical camps covering about 400 persons were conducted in collaboration with Lanka PHC. Medicines and follow-up was provided to patients for 5 to 7 days. Resource persons included PHC doctors, pharmacist, ophthalmologist, dental surgeon and a doctor of homeopathy. The village headman, teachers, PRI representatives and other notable persons were present to support the camp.

Ten hospital beds have been provided to Lanka PHC. This was based upon a request from the community and the hospital authorities.

2 Sanitation

In Lanka, under the ‘Swachh Vidyalaya Abhiyan’, 3 sanitation blocks were taken up for construction in two schools using bio digester technology and are a first of the kind in this area. These sanitation blocks are being used by over 250 students; almost half of the students in these schools are girls.

3 Infrastructure support

DBGF repaired and refurbished the building of Sri Horidev High school at Bamungaon Village, Lanka. The school is recognized by the Assam Government and provides free education to the near about 130 students studying here. The school has very poor infrastructure and dilapidated classrooms with mud flooring.

Construction of two ring well shed was completed in Rehab Colony village bringing a positive change in the lives of all the 70 households in the village.

4 Other development activities

DBGF organised a cricket tournament at Lanka in which 8 teams participated. 6 sports clubs formed by DBGF in Lanka also took part in the tournament. To ensure safe drinking water, 70 Water filters were distributed in the Rehab Colony Village. The entire population of 70 households of this village depends upon the two ring wells provided by DBGF for drinking and other domestic purposes.

Snapshot of Programme Activities in Lanka
Lumshnong

Lumshnong is located in the Jaintia Hills district of Meghalaya. The DBGF project villages are under the Khliehriat Block of this district. Lumshnong is about 20 kms away from Jowai (headquarters of Jaintia Hills district) and 60 kms away from Shillong, the state capital. Although the main means of livelihood of the local population is agriculture, there is much industrial activity due to the abundance of limestone and the presence of cement factories. This is a landlocked region and there is an absence of railways, so roads provide the only transport lifeline. Many tiny hill villages lack easy access to larger towns or villages with health and education infrastructure and services.

Soil and Water Conservation

1. Constructed retaining wall, drain & culvert cum foot bridge in Thangskai

There is a stream located at Thangskai with the village habitations on one side and a football ground on the other. During the monsoons the water level in the stream rises by 5 feet thus cutting off access to the other side for almost 6 months of the year. This is the only piece of ground in Thangskai village that the community of over 650 people can use for sports and socio-cultural activities. The construction of this culvert cum footbridge has created a permanent access route across the stream to either side. The drain and culvert help to retain the water within the natural flow of the stream without loss and wastage.

Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

1. Fuel efficient cook stoves and solar study lamps distributed across all 10 villages under DBGF programmes

100 households were provided fuel-efficient cook stoves. These are being promoted by DBGF and communities are being informed of the multiple benefits of using these stoves for the environment, energy, human health and the household budget.

122 solar study lamps have been provided to school children across as many households.

Social Development

1. Health

3 free medical camps covering about 230 persons were conducted in Thangskai, Umstein and New Moosanglamare in collaboration with Lumshnong PHC. A doctor each from the PHC and from DBCL, Lumshnong conducted the medical examinations. The pharmacists from Lumshnong PHC and the DBCL dispensary assisted in distributing the medicines. Follow-up was provided to patients for 5 to 7 days.

Over 100 patients from Thangskai, 64 from Umstein and about 60 from New Moosanglamare were able to use the medical services provided at these camps.

In particular, for the inhabitants of Umstein, this was a much needed opportunity to focus on health. Umstein is a very remote and tiny village.
of just 28 households situated atop a hill. People have to climb up some 500, narrow, slanted and curved steps to reach the village. So there is great difficulty in gaining physical access to any services and facilities. This becomes a huge issue especially for the ill or disabled, for seniors and for very young children.

2 School sanitation

9 sanitation blocks were taken up for construction in 5 schools. All toilets use bio digester technology and are certified by the DRDO. These sanitation blocks are being used by about 700 students; about half this number comprises girl students. The community contributed for clearance of site as community contribution.

3 Infrastructure support

DBGF provided and installed one Diesel Generator Set (10 KVA - III Phase) in Thangskai village.

DBGF is also providing a free school bus facility for 80 children. The bus runs between Lumshnong to Khylemat.
Ramgarh

Ramgarh in Sitapur district, located, is about 85 kilometres from Lucknow. Agriculture is the primary means of sustenance for most families in this area. They cultivate crops like sugar cane, paddy, wheat, gram, teel and mentha on small land holdings. There are 327 village habitations near our programme areas and majorly produce sugarcane. Dalits comprise the majority of the population. Men and women are both engaged in farming, and women also run shops or undertake stitching and embroidery to supplement the family income.

Population covered by DBGF: 6 villages, over 6,000 people, concentrated in over 1,000 households. A large part of the population belongs to the SC/ST category.

Outputs and outcomes of our activities, interventions and campaign events across focus areas

Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

During our outreach and needs assessment work in villages in the program area it was observed that some of the villages effectively have no electricity. The availability of electricity is very erratic. As a matter of routine electricity is barely available for 4-6 hours a day and sometimes there is no electricity for many days together. In this situation the local people use a kerosene lamp which is popularly known as 'Dibbi'. Though the Dibbi fulfills basic lighting needs, it has harmful effects on health. Also it causes fire in the hutsments sometimes. Upon assessing the situation, DBGF
launched its Solar Energy initiative Solar home light systems and solar lanterns were promoted to replace the inconvenient Dibbi.

1 Smokeless chullahs, solar lanterns, solar study lamps, and home lighting systems are changing the lives of over 640 households while a solar mini grid is providing power to 20 households, helping avoid more than 453 tons of CO₂ emission.

To address the issues of indoor smoke and pollution of traditional cooking stoves and energy supply for domestic cooking, DBGF launched its Smokeless Chullah program during the year. Smokeless chullahs were promoted among the target villages near Ramgarh. A standard smokeless chullah consists of a main platform with two bumer points and a pipe connected to the smoke outlet. All the smoke emitted during chullah ignition is routed out of the kitchen through the pipe. 100 of these smokeless chullahs have been promoted at the Ramgarh location. Having used these chullahs, the local women report that they find it more convenient and fuel efficient as compared to the traditional chullah.

DBGF has successfully harnessed solar power and avoided about 78.4 tons of CO₂ emissions by promoting 392 solar lanterns across 6 villages. A solar lantern consists of a solar panel, battery and LED light. The solar panel recharges the battery which then lights up the light fitted along with. Battery charging time is about 8 to 10 hours and this gives a backup supply of 4-8 hours depending on the usage. DBGF subsidises the cost of the lantern. Out of the 392 lanterns distributed, 12 were provided absolutely free of cost to some girl students who were living in habitations without electricity or any other source of clean lighting.

113 school children have received solar study lamps. A solar study lamp is a miniature of the solar lantern. The major difference is in the cost and in the lighting style, which is uni-directional. A solar study lamp can cater to the lighting needs of 2 children together. It has been a great hit among the school going children because of its bright light and cost effectiveness.

39 Solar Home Lighting Systems were promoted in the 6 villages covered by our programmes. A standard solar home lighting system consists of a 40 watt solar panel, 40 mAh battery, a controller unit, one mobile charging port and 2 LED lights. A fully recharged system provides back up power of about 12-20 hours.

To address the issue of costly individual solar systems, a common usage system was considered—the Solar Mini Grid. A grid has been set up in Keshwamau village where 20 households have been connected to it. The grid works on the principle of main grid but caters to the energy needs of a limited number of households. Such a grid varies from 100 W to 10 KW capacity. A mini grid of 300 W can address the lighting needs of 20-30 households depending on the load factor. A standard load factor per household is 10 W which includes 2 LED bulbs of three watt each and a cell phone charging point. A single panel of necessary wattage is installed at one point and connected with the power bank and controller unit. Then individual household connections in a radius of up to 100 meters are provided. The total cost was borne equally by DBGF, Hareon Solar, our technology partner, and the users. Now all the grid beneficiaries have 6-8 hours of reliable and regular lighting.
Livelihood Skill Training

1. Self Help Groups

At Ramgarh, DBGF teams supported the formation of 19 SHGs with a membership crossing 200 people. These groups have built a savings amount of over Rs. 36,000.

6 training programs were organized for SHG members. During these programs, 141 participants from 12 different SHGs attended the training programmes and developed a fair understanding of the concept of self-help and group dynamics. They also learnt about documentation and record keeping.

Social Development

1. Health

During the year 4 gynaecological and paediatric camps were organized. In our programme coverage area, the health issues of women and children are not considered important and little to no attention is given to these matters. 541 people were checked by the gynaecologist and paediatrician at the camps. The visitors were counselled on nutrition and diet, another challenging area since women and children again suffer multiple marginalization.

To ensure that all the school children in the area receive vision care and check-ups, DBGF organized 6 eye check-up camps in schools covering over 350 students. We were able to ensure that 2295 children were administered pulse polio drops.

During the year DBGF partnered with four Pulse-Polio drives in all the villages in the programme area. During these drives DBGF engaged village volunteers and school children for outreach and to spread awareness on the Pulse Polio program. We were able to ensure that 2,226 children were administered pulse polio drops.

During the year, a Cataract Identification Camp at Ramgarh. There were 340 registered visitors who came for eye check-ups. 92 of them were found to be affected by cataract. All of them were then taken to Sitapur Eye Hospital for cataract surgery. After three days of hospitalisation and care, they were dropped back home.

An assessment camp for persons experiencing disability due to physical impairment was organized at Mishrirkh in collaboration with Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Institute for the Physically Handicapped. The camp was planned in advance and an effective publicity campaign was launched. Persons with disabilities living in villages near the Ramgarh and Jawaharpur location were contacted using intensive door-to-door outreach methods. As a result, over 1,100 individuals registered for the camp. Of these registered camp participants, 848 were assessed for assistive devices to be distributed during the distribution camp scheduled for a later date. 36 DBG employees volunteered from Ramgarh and Jawaharpur and helped to organize the camp smoothly.

The Artificial Limbs & Aid distribution camp was organized in the Ramgarh plant campus ground - as follow up to the assessment camp, and in continuing collaboration with the Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Institute for the Physically Handicapped. The camp was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, the Commissioner Lucknow Range. More than 610 aids, assistive devices and accessories worth Rs 26.9 lac were distributed amongst participants. The camp was attended by many local influencers including the DM, SP, ADM and other District Officials from Sitapur.
2 School sanitation

DBGF launched its school toilet construction project under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan at Ramgarh. 4 school sanitation blocks with water supply have been constructed in schools of Bartal and Gopalpur villages, also using technology based on the bio-digester system. These sanitation blocks are now used by nearly 300 students, the majority being girls. To ensure continued use and maintenance of these toilets, meetings were held with the school staff, school children and villagers in advance. All users and stakeholders were briefed about the benefits of school toilets, impact on attendance and on the learning environment.

Construction of low cost toilets in villages

Some members of the local community at our programme villages repeatedly told us that due to the lack of awareness of the ill effects of open defecation and certainly due to the poor financial condition of most households, people don’t construct toilets in their houses. To enable the villagers overcome the financial constraint, DBGF provided financial assistance to those who agreed to construct Low Cost Toilets (LCT) in their respective houses. By the end of 2014-15, 21 LCTs were promoted across all the villages in our Ramgarh programme area.
### Jawaharpur

Jawaharpur in Sitapur District of Uttar Pradesh strongly mirrors the socio-economic condition of Ramgarh.

Population covered by DBGF – 12 villages, over 8,500 people, concentrated in over 1,500 households. Some of the villages have a majority up to a 100% of the population belonging to the SC/ST category.

#### Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

1. **Bio gas plants: avoiding 15 tons of CO$_2$ emission**

   Three family size bio-gas plants were constructed in Tedwa village. Such a plant generally achieves break-even point in 18-24 months. DBGF subsidised the cost of each biogas plant installed. As a result over 15 tons of CO$_2$ emission has been avoided during this year.

2. **Fuel efficient smokeless chullahs, solar lanterns, solar study lamps, and home lighting systems are changing the lives of over 640 households, helping avoid more than 455 tons of CO$_2$ emission**

   100 smokeless chullahs of the same type as promoted in Ramgarh, were promoted among the target villages near Jawaharpur. Feedback has been consistently good from users.

   DBGF has successfully harnessed solar power and avoided about 80 tons of CO$_2$ emissions by providing 400 solar lanterns across 12 villages at a cost sharing basis as at Ramgarh. Out of the 400 lanterns distributed, 19 were provided absolutely free of cost to meritorious girl students who needed these and would not otherwise have been able to acquire them.

   155 school children have received solar study lamps. Again these have been a great hit among the school going children and their families.

   41 Solar Home Lighting Systems were promoted in the 12 villages covered by our programmes.
Livelihood Skill Training

1 Self Help Groups

14 SHGs were formed at Jawaharpur with the support of the DBGF team. The membership figure is almost 150. These groups have a savings amount approaching Rs. 25,000. 2 training programs were organised for SHG members. During these programs, 81 participants from 9 different SHGs attended the trainings and developed a fair understanding of the concept of self-help and group dynamics. They also learnt about documentation and record keeping. These training programs were also facilitated by the resource person who conducted the trainings at Ramgarh.

2 Skills training

Mobile Repairing & Bag Making Training program: In collaboration with the Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Institute for the Physically Handicapped, we established a Skill Training Centre at Ramkot in Jawaharpur under the Skill Development Training Program of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. 60 persons with disabilities, including men and women, were identified for skill training in mobile repairing and bag making for a period of 3 months. The training centre has now been converted into a production centre. The candidates post training are now making bags and/or assembling mobile accessories.

_Anuj’s story is a little different from the others in the DBGF case files, as it involves his marriage! Anuj and his family were in the middle of marriage celebrations. The generator providing power for these events had been running all day and just before the ‘Tilak’ ceremony in the evening, it broke down. This created panic, as with all the guests present and the ceremony to be conducted, the absence of light was an impossible challenge. DBGF’s solar power solutions came in of use. One of the neighbours present had the idea of collecting the DBGF promoted solar lanterns from their owners across the village. 9 or 10 of these were collected and strung together on a long rope in the courtyard to provide light for the evening’s activities. It worked very well. On this day, the solar lanterns made a bigger impression on the gathering than all the outreach work so regularly undertaken by the DBGF team._

Social Development

1 Health

4 gynaecological and paediatric camps were organized during the year – attended by over 600 participants for whom these camps provided the opportunity to access medical care and counselling. Continuing our collaboration with the Sitapur Eye Hospital we organized a Cataract Identification Camp at Jawaharpur. There were 89 registered visitors who came for eye check-ups. 29 of them were found to be affected by cataract. All of them were then taken to Sitapur Eye Hospital for cataract surgery, kept for 3 days of hospitalisation and care, and dropped back home.

During the year DBGF partnered with three Pulse-Polio drives in all the villages in the programme area and was able to ensure that 316 children were administered pulse polio drops.

2 School sanitation

5 sanitation blocks, also using bio-digester technology, have been constructed at the schools in Farah village. Meetings were held with the school staff, school children and community members to address issues of sanitation and future maintenance of these facilities. These sanitation blocks are now used by more than 185 students, over half of whom are girls.

DBGF facilitated construction of 19 Low Cost Toilets (LCT) in the individual households.
### Snapshot of Programme Activities in Jawaharpur

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bio Gas Plants</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smokeless Chullahs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Home Lighting Systems</td>
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<td>Solar Lanterns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bag Making Training</td>
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### Social Development

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Maternal &amp; Child Health Camps</td>
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<td>Immunization Campaigns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eye Camp</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cataract Camp</td>
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<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Sanitation Blocks</td>
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<td>185</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Cost Toilets</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>95</td>
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</table>

### Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

- 456 tons CO2 Emission Reduction

### Livelihood Skill Training

- Mobile Repairing Training
- Bag Making Training

### Social Development

- Cataract Camp
- Maternal & Child Health Camps
- Immunization Campaigns
- School Sanitation Blocks
- Low Cost Toilets

### Annual Report 2014-15

- Social Development
- Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation
- Livelihood Skill Training

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**Uttar Pradesh: Jawaharpur**

**NUMBER** 3

**NUMBER** 100

**NUMBER** 41

**NUMBER** 400

**NUMBER** 155

**NUMBER** 14

**NUMBER** 1

**NUMBER** 1

**NUMBER** 5

**NUMBER** 19
Nigohi

Nigohi is in Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. The villages and the surrounding areas lack basic infrastructure and services for education, health and livelihood generation. Community participation in administrative decision making is very low. A strongly caste conscious and patriarchal society, women are discriminated against, marginalized, and have little to no role to play in most decision making or in the management of community resources or planning. Power supply in the state is erratic, with problems of transmission and distribution.

Population covered by DBGF – 7 villages, over 6,600 people, concentrated in over 1,800 households.

Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

1 Bio gas plants: avoiding about 10 tons of CO₂ emission

Two family size bio-gas plants were constructed in Girgicha and Nekapur. As a result approximately 10 tons of CO₂ emission has been avoided during this year.

2 Smokeless chullahs, solar lanterns, solar study lamps, and home lighting systems are changing the lives of over 750 households while a solar mini grid is providing power to 20 households, helping avoid more than 477 tons of CO₂ emission

Livelihood Skill Training

1 Self Help Groups

DBGF facilitated the formation of 10 SHGs at Nigohi with a membership of over 100 people. These groups have a savings amount of about Rs. 26,000. We are working towards linking them to banks and government schemes.

Social Development

1 Health

4 gynaecological and paediatric camps were organized. 780 people received medical care and attention.

DBGF organized 5 eye check-up camps in schools covering over 599 students. We partnered with the Health & Education Officer (HEO) Nigohi for this initiative. 36 students were identified with eye problems of different types. All these students were referred by the ophthalmologist to further consultation with the eye specialist at the district hospital.

Continuing our partnership with the Sitapur Eye Hospital we organized a Cataract Identification Camp at Nigohi. There were 156 registered visitors who came for eye check-ups. 56 of them were found to be affected by cataract. All of them were then taken to Sitapur Eye Hospital for cataract surgery and post-op care. After three days they were dropped back home.

DBGF partnered with three Pulse-Polio drives in all the villages in the programme area and ensured that 1,904 children were administered pulse polio drops.

On the occasion of the 75th Founder’s Day of the Dalmia Group, DBGF Nigohi organised a wheelchair distribution camp in Shahjahanpur District for persons with mobility impairment. We partnered with the Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Institute for the Physically Handicapped and 40 wheelchairs were provided by them. DBGF transported these from Delhi to Nigohi for distribution at the camp. The Chief Medical Officer Shahjahanpur attended the event as the Chief Guest.

2 School sanitation

5 School sanitation blocks, based on bio-digester technology, have been constructed at the schools in Raghopur village. As at all our locations, meetings were held with the school staff, school children and community members to ensure correct usage and future maintenance of these facilities. These sanitation blocks are now used by well over a 200 students, more than half of whom are girls.
Construction of low cost toilets in villages

DBGF provided financial assistance for the construction of 50 Low Cost Toilets in Nigohi.

3 Infrastructure support

During Independence Day celebrations organized by us at local schools, we realized that some of these schools do not have flag hoisting platforms. We made a note of this and of some of the other school refurbishment requirements and undertook the tasks.

A flag hoisting platform was constructed in Bajhera village Upper Primary school.

The window mesh, toilet doors and window panes of Kasturba Vidyalaya were refurbished and replaced.

4 Other development activities

During our interactions with community members we learnt that those who practice livestock rearing or mixed farming don’t get enough attention from the Veterinary Health Department. We initiated the intervention by collaborating with the Veterinary Hospital at Nigohi as a result of which over 600 cattle received medical care.

### Snapshot of Programme Activities in Nigohi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bio Gas Plants</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Home Lighting Systems</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Lanterns</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>1950</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Study Lamps</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>1250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Mini Grid</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

- **Bio Gas Plants**: 2 numbers, 10 beneficiaries
- **Smokeless Chullahs**: 100 numbers, 500 beneficiaries
- **Solar Home Lighting Systems**: 30 numbers, 150 beneficiaries
- **Solar Lanterns**: 390 numbers, 1950 beneficiaries
- **Solar Study Lamps**: 250 numbers, 1250 beneficiaries
- **Solar Mini Grid**: 1 number, 100 beneficiaries

**Promotion of new SHGs**: 10 numbers, 100 members

**Maternal & Child Health Camps**: 4 numbers, 780 beneficiaries

**Immunization Campaigns**: 3 numbers, 1304 beneficiaries

**Eye Camps**: 6 numbers, 755 beneficiaries

**Cataract Camp**: 1 number, 56 beneficiaries

**Artificial Limbs and Aids Distribution Camp**: 1 number, 40 beneficiaries

**School Sanitation Blocks**: 5 numbers, 100 beneficiaries

**Low Cost Toilets**: 50 numbers, 250 beneficiaries

**Energy Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation**: 158 tons CO2 Emission Reduction
Kolhapur, the southern-most district of Maharashtra, is a vibrant, growing district, increasingly industrialized with sugar and textiles at the forefront. The majority of the population of this district is rural. Dairy farming is a large and prominent part of the economic landscape of this district. It offers connectivity by road and by rail.

This year has witnessed the start-up stage of our activities and interventions.
Social Development

1 Health

A multi-specialty health check-up camp was organised at the Asurle village elementary school. 165 members of the village community were registered and provided with medical services, consultations and medication as needed. DBGF partnered with Rotary Kolhapur and the PHC at Kotol Medical staff at the camp comprised a team of 5 doctors from Rotary and 1 doctor from the PHC.

Books were purchased and donated to the school library after discussions and interaction with the school children. All the books donated were selected by the students themselves.

An Informal Education center for the out-of-school children was inaugurated in the school premises. One class room has been allotted by the school authorities to DBGF for running the informal education classes for the out of school children from Asurle and Porle villages. During the inauguration event books, stationery and TLMs were distributed amongst the children who would attend the center. DBGF has engaged a qualified volunteer from the nearby village to run the center.

The main objective of the center is to ensure that all the children in the 6-14 age group in the villages under our programme area attend school. A detailed survey will be conducted in Porle and Asurle and all the out-of-school children will be enrolled in this center.

2 Education and literacy

We have launched our community development activities in Asurle village with the inauguration of a school library and informal education center at the village elementary school.

Books were purchased and donated to the school library after discussions and interaction with the school children. All the books donated were selected by the students themselves.

An Informal Education center for the out-of-school children was inaugurated in the school premises. One class room has been allotted by the school authorities to DBGF for running the informal education classes for the out of school children from Asurle and Porle villages. During the inauguration event books, stationery and TLMs were distributed amongst the children who would attend the center. DBGF has engaged a qualified volunteer from the nearby village to run the center.

The main objective of the center is to ensure that all the children in the 6-14 age group in the villages under our programme area attend school. A detailed survey will be conducted in Porle and Asurle and all the out-of-school children will be enrolled in this center.

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Programme Activity wise: Key indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme Activity wise</th>
<th>Key indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Soil and Water Conservation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Check Dams</td>
<td>Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earthen Dam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm Ponds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village Ponds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ring Wells</td>
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<tr>
<td>Causeway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Culvert cum Footbridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drip Irrigation</td>
<td>Acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watershed Project</td>
<td>Hectares</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irrigation Channels</td>
<td>Kms</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Energy Conservation &amp; Climate Change Mitigation</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family size Bio Gas Plants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fuel Efficient Cook Stoves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smokeless Chullahs (Uttar Pradesh)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solar Lanterns</td>
<td>N/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solar Street Lights</td>
<td>N/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Home Lighting Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Study Lamps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Mini Grid (Uttar Pradesh)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sustainable Cotton Cultivation Project</strong></td>
<td>Farmers</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Livelihood Skill Training</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Milch Cattle Loans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self Help Groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palm Leaf &amp; Banana Leaf Training</td>
<td>N/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tailoring &amp; Weaving Training</td>
<td>N/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Training</td>
<td>N/a</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HTV Driving training</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Low Cost Toilets - Individual Household</strong></td>
<td>N/a</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Home Based Chemical Unit</strong></td>
<td>N/a</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Paramilitary &amp; Security Guard Training</strong></td>
<td>N/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mobile Repairing &amp; Bag Making Training</td>
<td>N/a</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>School Sanitation Blocks / Units</strong></td>
<td>N/a</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Medical Camps</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mental and Child Health Camps</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Low Cost Toilets - Individual Household</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TLM Material (Anganwadis)</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Livestock Development Camps</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* The cumulative achievements includes data on key indicators from the year 2012-2013.
Programme Partners

- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Tamil Nadu & Andhra Pradesh
- CottonConnect / Better Cotton Initiative (BCI)
- New & Renewable Energy Development Corporation, Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh
- District Rural Development Authority (DRDA), Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu
- District Horticulture Department, Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu
- District Health Office, Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu
- Energy and Rural Development Development Society (NERD), Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu
- Block Development Offices (Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu; Jawaharpur and Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh)
- Livelihood & Skill Development, Dalmiapuram, Tamil Nadu
- Department of Agriculture (Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh and Belgaum, Karnataka)
- Animal Husbandry Department (Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh and Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh)
- Integrated Child Development Services, Department of Health (Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh; Belgaum, Karnataka; Sitapur and Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh)
- Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency, Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu
- Cooperative Bank, Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu
- Rural Self Employment Training Institute-State Bank of India (RSETI-SBI), Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu
- Agriculture Cooperative Bank, Tamil Nadu
- Primary Health Care Centres (Dalmiapuram & Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu; Belgaum, Karnataka; Nagaon, Assam; Lumshnong & East Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya)
- Department of Health, Belgaum, Karnataka
- Horticulture University Centre, Belgaum, Karnataka
- Community Health Centre, Belgaum, Karnataka
- National Service Scheme Unit of GNS Comp Pre-University Collage Yadwad, Belgaum, Karnataka
- Kannada Sene Karnataka Yadwad, Belgaum, Karnataka
- Industrial Training Institute, Nagaon, Directorate of Employment and Craftsmen Training, Ministry of Labour, Government of Assam
- Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi
- District Magistrate Office, Sitapur & Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Sitapur and Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- Department of Education, Sitapur and Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- Syndicate Bank, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh
- Government Veterinary Hospital, Nigohi, Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh
Programme Expenditure 2014 - 15

- 89 (14%) Livelihood Skill Training
- 77 (12%) Energy Conservation & Climate Change Mitigation
- 100 (16%) Soil & Water Conservation
- 50 (8%) Programme Execution Cost
- 50 (8%) School Sanitation (Bio Toilets)
- 243 (39%) Social Development

Programme Contribution

- 257 (41%) Leverage
- 368 (59%) DBGF

Expenditure year on year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>197 Lac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>216 Lac</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>363 Lac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>625 Lac</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Our Locations

Correspondence address:
Quantum Building,
2nd Floor, C-3, Sector-3
Noida-201301
Uttar Pradesh, India

Regional offices:
Fagun Mansion, 4th Floor
Commander -In-Chief Road
Chennai - 600105
Tamil Nadu

3rd and 4th Floor,
Anil Plaza II,
G.S. Road,
Guwahati - 781005, Assam

Locations:
Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited
Dalmiapuram, Lalgudi TK
Trichy - 621651
Tamil Nadu

Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited
SF No: 630,
Thamarakulam Village, Ariyalur (Post)
Ariyalur District - 621 705
Tamil Nadu

Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited
Chinnusarala Village
Mylavaram Mandal
Jammalamadugu
Kadapa District - 516434
Andhra Pradesh

Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited
R.S. No. 394, Yadav Village, Guskak
Tekuk, Belgaum - 591138
Karnataka

Dalmia Chini Mills, Ramgarh
UTI Mutual Fund
In Front Of Musa Ram Petrol Pump
Lal Bag Xing, Sitapur - 261 001
Uttar Pradesh

Dalmia Chini Mills
Unit: Jawaharpur, Post Ramkot
Sitapur District - 261 001
Uttar Pradesh

Dalmia Chini Mills
Unit: Nigohi, Mal Khane Mod
Shalabhanpur District - 242001
Uttar Pradesh

Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd.
C/O Calcom Cement India Ltd.
16 Kilo, Jamuna Nagar
Umroonga PO,
Dimahata (NC Hills) District - 788931
Assam

Calcom Cement India Limited
Village-Piplapukhuri No - 2
Town-Lanka
Nagaon District - 782446
Assam

Adhunik Cement Limited
Urmoor Monitoring,
Village - Thangipsa,
Lumshnong PO,
Jaintia Hills District - 793200
Meghalaya

Dalmia Bharat Sugar & Industries Ltd.
Hind Co-Op. Society Limited
Plot No. 59
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Kolhapur - 416005
Maharashtra

Email: csr@dalmiabharat.com

www.dalmiabharatfoundation.org
www.dalmiabharat.com