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Punarchith

Annual Report  
2024-2025



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# Preface



In 2024–25, Punarchith successfully completed its tenth year in Nagavalli village. During this period, a wide range of institutional, environmental, social, and rural activities were implemented. Programs were designed in ways that are closely aligned with local life, working in collaboration with farmers, women, children, and youth. Despite climate variability, agricultural activities were sustained.

Seed distribution to support small farmers, women's rights' programs, and creative expression initiatives for children were carried out successfully. Training programs for youth, students, and facilitators were impactful. Workshops on the importance of the Constitution and democracy, children's 'communal harmony; events and programs reflecting Kuvempu's ideas proved meaningful.

# Angarike Maala A Central Focus

‘Angarike Maala’, our restored land which now acts as a ‘living lab’ and a site for ‘experiential learning’ is now fully functional. The building took 2.5 years to complete. The contractor who had initially taken a large advance left without finishing the construction. In the last six months,



Punarchith’s team completed the remaining works—flooring, installing solar power, and rainwater harvesting systems. This required additional expenditure beyond the budget, which was met through Punarchith’s savings (corpus fund) and personal contributions.

Additional support came from Moonfrog Labs (Bengaluru), Aroon Raman, Gayatri Arakere and Dileep Ahuja, Tara Sinha, Tirthankar Ghosh, Richa Kumar, and other friends. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to them.



*Inauguration*

On September 22, 2024, the utility building was inaugurated in a simple ceremony attended by friends and supporters of our work. Guests included Chamarajanagar Deputy Commissioner Shilpa Nag, architect Mohan Rao, and former Punarchith trustee Sunita Rao.

The Deputy Commissioner appreciated Punarchith's work and suggested expanding training programs for farmers and youth. Sunita Rao inaugurated the seed bank room, realizing a long-cherished dream of creating a "Seed Treasury."

With the inauguration, the center became vibrant with training programs, children's activities, International Women's Day, World Soil Day, World Environment Day, local harvest festival (Suggi Habba) and guest visits.



*Suggi Habba*

### Remembering Puttaswamy Anna: ▶

Nagavalli's late Puttaswamy Anna, who played a vital role in the development of Angarike Maala, passed away, leaving a great void. His knowledge, labour, and dedication are remembered with respect.



### ◀ Climate and Environmental Challenges:

Extreme heat in April and December 2024, coupled with erratic rainfall, affected agriculture. Although rains began in June, the delay in September impacted ragi crops. Later showers revived the fields, bringing smiles back to farmers' faces. After two years, neem trees bloomed in March, bringing joy.

### Agriculture and Seed Sovereignty : ▶

To conserve indigenous seeds, ensure food security, and revive local biodiversity, small farmers were supported with seeds and financial aid, along with regular training and follow-up.



**Summary:** This year further strengthened Punarchith's ability to learn, act, and collaborate with the community. Amidst climate change, the search for new pathways, practical experiments, and effective activities have taken the organization forward.

# Challenges

- Panchayat systems have failed to implement decentralization, and local leaders have not come forward to take responsibility in Nagavalli.
- Community apathy toward environmental degradation and related health issues makes problem-solving difficult.
- Climate variability deficient rains, excessive rains, or drought makes crop protection and seed conservation major challenges.
- The overuse of chemicals, pesticides, and machinery threatens organic farming and the environment, leading to food insecurity and serious health issues. Urgent collective solutions are needed.
- Mobilizing small farmers for organic farming, prioritizing soil, water, and seed conservation, and sustaining community farming practices remain challenges.
- Rural youth are distancing themselves from agriculture and labour, making it difficult to retain them in villages and build sustainable livelihoods. Ensuring their participation in social and political processes is also challenging.
- Continuity in children's activities at the Aniketana center is hard to maintain, and providing guidance for college-age youth in moments of confusion remains a challenge.



# Key Program Activities

## Agricultural Activities

During March–April, due to the intense summer heat, 15 coconut trees dried up and fell. To support the fruit trees on the Angarike Maala land, Veeranna of Puttanapura and later Gurusiddappa, our neighbours, provided water from their borewell.

From October 16–18, Punarchith organised a three-day **sustainable organic farming workshop**, with Anshuman Das as the resource person. The training was effective and well-received.



## Monsoon Crops and Yields

In the 2024–25 monsoon, due to adequate rainfall, the following yields were harvested

- **Ayyana ragi:** 4 quintals from 30 guntas of land
- **Red ragi:** 40 kg from 12 guntas
- **Jagaluru ragi:** 30 kg from 10 guntas

Inspired by an experimental model by farmers of Yalachenahalli (Gubbi taluk, Tumkur district), part of the Angarike Maala agricultural land was mulched with **areca nut husk** (4 tractor loads).

## Conservation Zone



- The **farm pond and open well** were desilted and cleaned. Because of good rains in October and November, they filled up, leading to increased greenery and groundwater recharge.
- During summer, a fire line was created around the land for safety.
- For soil conservation, **mulching with grass** was done to protect against heat stress.
- On the advice of **Pristine**, a **drip irrigation system using drum water** was installed for sapling care, with good results
- For the first time, flowering and fruiting were observed in curry leaf, drumstick, neem, and mango trees around the lan
- After reviewing the **controlled fire experiment plot**, it was concluded that conducting such experiments in such a small area is not appropriate, and hence the controlled fire experiment has been discontinued.

# Trainings at Angarike Maala

Since the inauguration of the Angarike Maala building, around **100 visitors** (including farmers from Bidar and Bagalkot, youth from across Karnataka, and health workers), and **127 college students** from government and private institutions in Chamarajanagar, have visited the site. They participated in programs that oriented them on **climate change, dryland farming, mixed cropping, soil, water, and biodiversity..**



On **World Soil Day**, 94 children and 10 teachers from Dinabandhu and Doddamole schools (Chamarajanagar) participated, where soil demonstrations were conducted.

On **International Women Farmers' Day**, 70 women participated. Discussions focused on **land ownership, women's labour in agriculture, and their contributions.**



# Women's Program

In an attempt to enhance women's participation on broader platform and orientation, we continue to work on an integrated approach. Work has been carried out with a focus on **women's empowerment, health, participation, and equality.**

## Panch Payana (Five Pathways)

For women's empowerment, these five aspects have been prioritized:

1. Personal Growth
2. Social Awareness
3. Wellbeing
4. Democracy and Citizenship
5. Environmental Care



## Voter Awareness and Participation in Panchayat Processes

The agricultural activities conservation measures, and training programs at Angarika Maala have had a significant impact on local food sustainability and environmental conservation. These efforts mark an important step in fostering collaboration for the protection of natural resources.



## Kitchen Gardens

To encourage the use of local traditional seeds, nutritious vegetables, greens, and fruits, women were given vegetable seeds. A program called “Hittala Hitta” (Courtyard Harvest) was organized, where women shared and sold the vegetables, fruits, and greens grown in their kitchen gardens. They were also oriented on the importance of seed conservation, food culture, and the usefulness of local medicinal plants.



## Health Check-up Camp

For women's health and safety, a health camp was organized in collaboration with the Chamarajanagar District Health Department and Rotary Club, with the support of Punarchith Trustee Dr. Nagarjuna. Around **80 women participated** in the camp.

Doctors **Dr. Bharathi, Dr. Namrata, and Dr. Kaushalya** engaged with the women, who shared issues such as menstrual problems, skin and bone pain, blood pressure, and diabetes. Free medicines were distributed, and those requiring further treatment were advised to visit the district hospital.



## Women Farmers' Day Celebration

Women Farmers' Day was celebrated at Angarike Maala, with Ms. Nagaratna, President of the Janadhanya Collective (Kanakapura), as the resource person. She shared her experiences of women engaging in organic farming, building local market systems through the Janadhanya Collective, and how women's participation in marketing contributed to progress.

She also invited participants to visit their center. Discussions were also held on equal rights in property ownership and environmental responsibility.

## Summary

These activities have inspired women to take on **responsible and decision-making roles** in the world they live in, providing them with both motivation and pathways for achievement.

# Organic Farming Promotion Program – For Small Farmers

In 2024–25, Punarchith, in collaboration with Yuvalok Foundation, initiated a special program to promote organic farming among small farmers in the dryland areas of Chamarajanagar and Yalachanahalli (Gubbi Taluk, Tumkur District). This program aimed to encourage farmers toward organic farming through financial support and technical guidance..



A total of 68 farmers benefited (40 women and 28 men). Among them, 23 farmers received both seeds and financial assistance, while 45 farmers received seed support. In total, 49 acres of land were sown with finger millet, horse gram, and sesame. All the farmers were able to grow sufficient food grains to feed their families.

## Key Activities for Small Farmers

- Prior to selecting farmers, meetings were held to discuss organic farming, and visits were made to farmers' fields to provide soil improvement suggestions.
- Training was given on preparing organic manure, **Panchagavya**, and Trimurti tonic.
- Seeds were purchased from the **Janadhanya Collective (Kanakapura)** and distributed, along with awareness programs.
- The Punarchith team maintained direct contact and follow-up with the farmers.
- Farmers were taken on an exposure visit to the Janadhanya Collective in Kanakapura to learn about farmer collectives and value addition to crops.

## Changes Among Small Farmers

- Increase in mixed cropping and use of improved composting methods.
- Farmers have stopped threshing finger millet on asphalt roads and instead begun using machines for threshing.
- Greater attention has been given to traditional seed conservation.
- Two farmers in Yalachanahalli, Tumkur, used areca husk mulch on their ragi fields to retain soil moisture, resulting in better yields.
- Farmers who did not visit Janadhanya expressed interest in developing value addition for organic products like the groups there.
- Farmers returned the finger millet seeds they had been given for sowing back to Punarchith.
- All the farmers came together to honor their harvest, sharing meals in celebration and joyfully observing the **Suggi (harvest) festival**.

## Seasonal Context

After three years of excessive rainfall and one year of drought, the year 2024–25 saw adequate rainfall, enabling farmers to grow substantial quantities of finger millet. While they kept enough for household consumption, the surplus was sold to the Honneru Collective.



## Farmers' Experiences

- **Mahendra (30, Kulluru):** “Amidst my family’s disappointment, Punarchith’s support enabled me to successfully grow crops on my land.”
- **Kamma (50, Nagavalli):** “We grew crops without debt and are able to use them for our meals.”
- **Nagaraju (55, Nagavalli):** “During the climate risks, the support helped me restore my soil.”
- **Mariamamma (70, Nagavalli):** “For an elderly couple like us, this support for farming was very helpful.”



## Summary

This program has brought hope, confidence, awareness, and cooperation into the lives of small farmers. The fact that the supported farmers are ready to participate again in the coming year stands as a clear marker of the program’s success.



# Integrated Learning Program (ILP) & Training of Trainers (TOT)



In 2024-25, the Integrated Learning Program course focused on Training of Trainers (TOT). The aim was for relatively more engaged and experienced youth to undergo ILP training and then take this learning back to their own contexts and peer groups. The training covered both concepts and pedagogy, building on our earlier modules, with a focus on introducing them effectively.



## The objectives were to help youth:

- Understand contemporary trends
- Develop their own individual capacities to emerge as accelerators within communities
- Engage with public issues to strengthen democracy, and
- Emerge as leaders.



## Teaching Themes

- **Understanding Issues:** Awareness of local, state, national, and international trends.
- **Democracy and Leadership:** Democracy (history and contemporary trends); Constitution, elections, rights, active citizenship (panchayat system), politics, social movements, leadership development.
- **Environment:** Current trends and challenges; climate change, regeneration, and conservation.
- **Agriculture:** History and challenges; types of farming (situation of small and marginal farmers), sustainable farming; movements and alternatives.
- **Food and Health:** Everyday practices; local/non-local foods; issues of health and wellbeing.
- **Social Issues:** Family and society; caste, class, gender, religion, pluralism, and related concerns.
- **Education:** Trends in education; challenges; alternative learning.

## Personal Development

- Self-identification and reflection
- Communication
- Creative writing
- Analytical skills
- Leadership and teamwork
- Decision-making and conflict resolution
- Theater and songs



## Skills



- Meaningful reading
- Creative writing
- Social mapping and analysis (including activities)
- Public speaking and engagement,
- Basic accounting and management.



## Implementation

Focusing on the above themes, three phases of training were conducted for 18 learners from different districts of Karnataka, with support from resource persons specializing in each subject area.

## Summary

The ILP and TOT program is committed to enhancing confidence, leadership, and the ability of youth to work with their communities. Preparations for the training have been systematic, and the coming phase will see the program take more concrete shape. Getting more youth to participate in these programs continues to be a challenge as large numbers of youth prefer to be in non-agricultural and non-rural employment.

# AADI

In 2024–25, the Aadi program focused on working continuously with Soliga youth to preserve and document the community’s language, traditions, and forest knowledge. Through meetings, training, interviews, and walks held in B.R. Hills and elsewhere, the program recorded community knowledge and shaped it into lessons for the younger generation.

## Key Activities :

### **Introduction to the Soliga Alphabet:**

Eight trained youth introduced the Soliga alphabet to children of Navodaya and Kalludoddi schools through songs, dance, and the sharing of forest knowledge.

### **Review Meeting (June):**

A discussion was held in B.R. Hills about the team’s work, including interviews with elders and audio–video documentation.

### **Outreach and Documentation:**

Interviews with middle-aged and young people in seven podus recorded information about sacred sites, streams, medicinal plants, trees, folklore, and language.



### **International Indigenous Day (August 9):**

The team participated in the event in Chamarajanagar, continuing documentation of elders’ knowledge.

### **Kalyani Podu School Program:**

Activities included teaching children with an alphabet chart, introducing them to plants and trees, and lessons on environmental conservation.

### **Visit to Tribal Communities in Tamil Nadu (August 27):**

The Kadar, Malasar, and Malai Malasar communities were visited, and experiences were shared.

### **Video Production:**

Two videos were created and edited for YouTube, documenting the “Kattu Kaavalu” and “Hosa Ragi” festivals.



The Aadi program concluded in October 2024. It has been suggested that all records—including traditional knowledge, vocabulary, and other documentation—be handed over to the Soliga Abhivrudhi Sangha in B.R. Hills.

## Summary:

The Aadi program was carried out with deep commitment, bringing together youth, elders, and school children to preserve the Soliga community’s way of life, culture, language, ecological knowledge, and traditions. This process has helped ensure that future generations will not forget their heritage. We extend our gratitude to Dr. Sameera Agnihotri, who provided overall guidance for the program, and to Lakshmi Gowda from B.R. Hills, who served as the field coordinator.

# Gramasetu Activities

In selected villages of Chamarajanagar district and Gubbi taluk of Tumkur district, under the Gramasetu initiative, community organizers are working in 10 villages on issues such as women's empowerment, property rights, the importance of voting, environmental awareness, organic farming, establishing kitchen gardens, nutritious food, health camps, access to government facilities, personal hygiene, visits to gram panchayats, children's and women's village assemblies, NREGA work, tank cleaning, protection of trees and plants, the dangers of plastic, and children's reading and writing skills.



## Impact of the Program

### Women's Empowerment:

Women are learning to assert their rights through collective organization. Many women have participated in public gatherings and shown interest in farming and kitchen gardening. Children too are actively engaged in creating kitchen gardens. In some villages, women have successfully secured NREGA jobs through panchayats.



### Social Awareness:

Awareness has increased about personal hygiene, child health, and public services.

### Child Development:

Through children's village assemblies, evening lessons, and school-support activities, children have developed a stronger sense of social responsibility. Drama and songs have helped them build performance skills and learn the art of persuasion.

### Political Responsibility:

Information is being gathered about the state of gram panchayats, anganwadis, and libraries, drawing attention to lapses and mismanagement in these systems.



# Aniketana Children's Programs

With the objective of encouraging children's creativity, awareness, and rights, children from Nagavalli and Kulluru in Chamarajanagar district, and from Yalachenahalli, Alenahalli, Kodihatti, Dasara Kallahalli, and Byadigere schools in Gubbi taluk of Tumkur district, are participating in various activities.



## Activities for Children

- Every Saturday, children take part in activities on environment, agriculture, kitchen gardening, storytelling, songs, writing, art, and sports. Nutritious food is also provided. On average, around 30 children visit the learning center each week and engage in these activities.
- **Communal Harmony Programs:** In August, Nagavalli children visited homes of families from different castes and religions, shared sweets, and showed mutual respect.
- **Summer Camp:** A summer camp was organized from April 15 to 17, with resource persons Yugashree and Hussain. They engaged children in creative activities such as making paintings based on old objects, creating flowers, crowns, and stars with colored paper, and making cakes. Children participated enthusiastically and enjoyed the camp.
- **Children's Village Assemblies:** Children's assemblies were organized in Nagavalli, Chandakavadi, Haradanahalli, and Mamballi villages through the panchayat. These assemblies served as a platform for children to share their problems.



## Issues Raised by Children:

- Shortage of physical education (PT) teachers.
- Lack of playground facilities.
- Lack of toilets for boys.
- Unclean drinking water tanks in the village.
- Uncleanliness in school premises.
- Misuse of school premises by outsiders (substance abuse, alcohol consumption).



These concerns were brought to the attention of the Panchayat PDO, who assured that steps would be taken to address them. The PDO also informed children about their rights and educational support available to them.

## Other Educational Activities

- To improve language skills, online English classes were conducted for children by Punarchith members Suma and Sucheetra.
- Children took part in observing and protecting roadside trees in Nagavalli and Chandakavadi.
- As part of the Summer Camp the children visited the Suvarnavathi reservoir in Chamarajanagar taluk for an educational trip and the children from Nagavalli and Tumkur visited Kulluru village to understand local conditions.
- A trip was organized to Bandipur, where children learned about biodiversity and the ecological conditions there.
- At Rajkumar Kala Mandira in Chamarajanagar, children watched a documentary titled “Photo” about the Covid experience.
- At Guru Raghavendra theatre, they watched the film “Anna” performed and directed by Chamarajanagar artists.

In the year 2024–25, scholarships were provided to five children.

# Yuvachetana Program

For 27 young people from Nagavalli, Kulluru, and Tumkur, the following activities were organized:

- Bird watching, leaf and flower postcard painting.
- Sessions on the solar system and computer literacy.
- Orientation on higher education and career options.
- Through theatre: discussions on gender discrimination, environmental conservation, climate change, and expression of emotions.
- Introduction to the Soliga community by Nagamma from Kulluru.



## Impact of the Program :

- **Creativity:** Children's critical thinking was nurtured through drawing, painting, theatre, and writing.
- **Awareness:** Greater understanding of children's rights, environment, gender equality, and public services.
- **Scientific Outlook:** Exposure to the solar system, computers, and non-formal education encouraged scientific curiosity.
- **Communication Skills:** Participation in plays, village assemblies, and experience sharing strengthened public speaking abilities.
- **Social Responsibility:** Along with recognition of talents, children gained the confidence to directly present school and community issues to authorities.

Overall, these activities have fostered skills, confidence, responsibility, and social awareness among children. This is an important step toward shaping responsible citizens of the future.

Special thanks to Geetha and Yateesh from Gubbi taluk, Tumkur, who have been working effectively in the children's program.



# Climate Change Program

In 2024–25, the Punarchith team undertook a series of activities in Nagavalli village to respond to climate change. These were carried out with the support of the community, scientific information, youth participation, and local knowledge, focusing on both environmental conservation and agriculture-related work.

To follow up on this work, two geology students, Keerthan and Manjunath, joined the team on a part-time basis. They were introduced to previous reports, studies, and program approaches. They also met with the village elders, women, youth, PDO, and local members to seek support for the

Nagavalli Dodda Kere (large tank) restoration project. However, the expected level of support was not forthcoming from Nagavalli residents and the Panchayat members were expecting CSR funding to be arranged for such work.

With the cooperation of small farmers, the new members cleaned the area around the bund of Nagavalli's small tank, removing plastic, glass, and weeds. They also began collecting climate information from local farmers and online sources for the preparation of a new agricultural calendar. A video on the climate-related problems faced by small farmers is under production by Sumukh.



## Awareness on Climate Change:

Workshops on the signs of climate change, its impacts, and possible alternatives were conducted at Angarike Maala for various groups. In collaboration with RLHP Mysore, awareness sessions on climate change were organized for 17 youth and farmers from North Karnataka. In addition, 60 students from government and private degree colleges, 40 farmers, and 90 high school and middle school children from various schools around Chamarajanagar visited Angarike Maala and participated in climate change awareness activities.



## Summary:

Workshops on the signs of climate change, its impacts, and possible alternatives were conducted at Angarike Maala for various groups. In collaboration with RLHP Mysore, awareness sessions on climate change were organized for 17 youth and farmers from North Karnataka. In addition, 60 students from government and private degree colleges, 40 farmers, and 90 high school and middle school children from various schools around Chamarajanagar visited Angarike Maala and participated in climate change awareness activities.

# Kitchen Garden Establishment and Maintenance

A model kitchen garden was created to grow nutritious vegetables, conserve indigenous seeds, and inspire the community. Circular and rectangular beds were dug, filled with dry leaves, green leaves, cow dung, and household waste to prepare microbe-rich soil. The garden was established free from harmful chemicals.



Vegetables grown in the kitchen garden include fenugreek, amaranthus, spinach, coriander, brinjal, okra, cluster beans, radish, tomato, chili, cucumber, ridge gourd, field beans, snake gourd, and yam. Additionally, kidney beans, hyacinth beans, field beans, horse gram, pigeon pea, and sesame were cultivated. Special crops like wild turmeric and mango ginger were also grown, with their seeds collected and distributed to those starting kitchen gardens. Fruit trees such as lemon, mango, and papaya have also been planted.



## Community and Children's Participation in the Kitchen Garden

Children from the Saturday program were given training in voluntary labour and nursery packet preparation. They planted drumstick seeds themselves, which were then distributed to their homes. About 80 women, farmers, and children participated in Soil Day programs and training sessions, gaining knowledge about indigenous seeds.



# Seed Bank

Along with the seeds from the Punarchith kitchen garden, hundreds of indigenous seeds have been collected from places like Kulluru, Nagavalli, Haradanahalli, Tumakuru, Sahaja Samrudha (Mysore), and seed fairs in Kerala. Work is ongoing in seed cleaning, sorting, and storage for future sowing. Seeds from the kitchen garden and grains from Angarike Maala have been kept separately.



## Impact of the Kitchen Garden Program

- Families are achieving food self-sufficiency by meeting their daily vegetable needs with locally produced food.
- The use of chemical-free, nutritious food is increasing.
- Children gain hands-on learning about soil and plants, emphasizing the development of life skills.
- Awareness about the importance of indigenous seeds is growing among women, farmers, and children.
- Women, farmers, and children are directly participating in kitchen garden activities.

Overall, the kitchen garden is contributing to local food security, biodiversity conservation, and the promotion of natural farming. It also supports children's education, helps address malnutrition, and strengthens community food security.

# Honneru Rural Producers Collective



The **Honneru Rural Producers'** Collective at Nagavalli consists of women and youth engaged in traditional food processing and organic agricultural production. Over the past year, the group has been active in developing new products, refining operational processes, improving quality, expanding online sales, and strengthening direct consumer outreach.

## **Production:**

Collective at Nagavalli consists of women and youth engaged in traditional food processing and organic agricultural production. Over the past year, the group has been active in developing new products, refining operational processes, improving quality, expanding online sales, and strengthening direct consumer outreach.

## **Market Expansion:**

Stable orders have been secured through Thanal from Thiruvananthapuram, and collaborative efforts are underway to reach other markets. A WhatsApp community of 100 members has been created. The group also participated in organic fairs and local food programs.

## **Financial Performance:**

In the second year, sales increased fivefold. However, about ₹55,000 was used to build stock. While profits have not yet been achieved, the financial outlook remains positive.

### Future Plans:

Registration as a business trust is under consideration. For 2025–26, the goals include achieving ₹300,000 in sales, introducing new products, expanding into B2B markets, reducing production costs, and prioritizing support for local farmers.



### Election Awareness Campaign (April 2024):

In collaboration with Eddelu Karnataka, Punarchith organized an awareness campaign on the Lok Sabha elections across 255 villages of Chamarajanagar district.

### Key Activities:

Local women, youth, progressive thinkers, and volunteers played an important role in spreading election awareness. Community meetings, special gatherings, workshops, group discussions, and dialogues with leaders from diverse communities were organized. The campaign reached out to nearly 30,000 people, particularly from Dalit, Adivasi, Muslim, and Christian communities.



## Major Discussion Points:

- Threats to constitutional values
- Understanding the value of the vote and responsible voting
- Democracy, constitutional responsibilities, and leadership
- Impacts of economic and social inequalities
- Price rise and livelihood struggles
- Awareness against anti-farmer policies
- Election monitoring and evaluation of MPs' performance published in media



The outreach program significantly contributed to strengthening **democratic awareness, local participation, and rights-based empowerment** of marginalized communities in Chamarajanagar district. New friendships and learnings gained during the campaign were particularly valuable. At the same time, the team encountered pressing rural issues such as lack of infrastructure, public anger over constitutional amendments, rising prices, unemployment, and widespread discontent and frustration with elected representatives.

## Kuvempu Jayanti (December 30):

On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Vishwamanava Kuvempu, Punarchith collaborated with various organizations to organize a special lecture in Chamarajanagar district. The program brought together training-of-trainers learners, women from Nagavalli village, and progressive thinkers from different regions. The chief guest was Yogananada (from Rangayana) who highlighted the continued value of Kuvempu's message of humanitarianism.



## Protest Movement, Chamarajanagar:



Women and youth participated in protest movements against sexual harassment and violence against women. In particular, they demanded legal action against the accused former Hassan MP in the pen-drive case and joined protest marches and rallies calling for justice.

## Lectures, Publications, and Activities

### 1. Publications:

- A. R. Vasavi published articles on politics and elections in The Indian Express and Deccan Herald.
- On January 17, a discussion on rural India and a book release was held with the NRAS team.

### 2. Lectures, Panel Discussions, Meetings, and Trainings:

- Vasavi participated in more than 20 lectures, workshops, and panel discussions held in Kashmir, Pune, New Delhi, Bengaluru, Punjab, Shivamogga, and other locations.

### Overall:

In 2024–25, Punarchith actively engaged in discussions on democracy, climate change, women's rights, rural development, land rights, and education, contributing to knowledge exchange and encouraging critical thinking.

## We are grateful to the following organisations for their financial support

1. MoonFrog Labs, Bengaluru
2. Yuva Lok Foundation, Bengaluru.
3. RainMatter Foundation, Bengaluru.

## Resource Persons

We extend our gratitude to all the friends who collaborated with Punarchith as **resource persons, mentors, and supporters** across various programs and trainings:

1. Dr. Prashanth and Dr. Chitra Krishnan (Tumkur): Provided guidance and advice for the children's program and land restoration program.
2. P. Prabhu and Pranith (Pristine, Bengaluru): Set up a new drip irrigation system for trees and plants at Angarike Maala.
3. Sucheetra Srinivasan: Helped document content for the children's program and the Integrated Learning Program.
4. Ratheesh: A well-wisher of Punarchith, participated as a resource person in children's and youth programs.
5. Anshuman Das: Provided training on sustainable agriculture for the Punarchith team.
6. Shivasundar: Served as a resource person on "Current Political Structures and Trends in Karnataka."
7. Niranjana Radhya: Contributed as a resource person on current issues in education, education policy, and challenges.
8. U. N. Ravikumar: A Punarchith collaborator, shared expertise on water conservation.
9. Na. Divakar: Participated as a resource person on the socio-political situation of India and Karnataka.
10. Yugashree: Conducted sessions on self-development through art activities.
11. Ashwini: Served as a resource person on Constitution-related topics.

12. Tippeswamy: Shared insights on Panchayat Raj, youth, and children's participation.
13. Suguna, Hussain, Kavita, Charan, and Sendil: Involved in children's training activities.
14. B.N. Usha: Served as a resource person on women's rights and gender issues.
15. Nagratna (Janadhanya Collective, Kanakapura): Shared knowledge on women farmers and value addition.
16. Dr. Bharathi, Dr. Kaushalya, and their colleagues from Chamarajanagar District Hospital conducted medical check-ups.
17. Dr. Mahesh (Chamarajanagar District Hospital): Assisted in organizing a health camp.18. Dr. Nagarjuna (former Rotary president and Punarchith trustee), Nagaraju (Rotary), and Guruswamy (Rotary): Supported several Punarchith activities.
19. Deepa (KVK – Krishi Vigyan Kendra): As a resource person, shared with women the importance of millet consumption.
20. Samata Vedike members, Mysuru: Conducted sessions on gender sensitivity.
21. Sindhu: Worked with the Honneru women's group as a resource person for preparing new snacks.
22. Varsha: Provided training on banana fiber products and value addition from bananas.
23. Abhishekha Krishnagopal: conducted sessions on ecological sensitivity and updated the biodiversity survey of Angarike Maala.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the friends who have continuously supported Punarchith.

## **Trustees:**

Dr. Nagarjuna, C. Balachandra, A. R. Vasavi

## **Team Members:**

P. Veerabhadranaika, H. Suma, H. Muthuraju, Sundramma, Manujapriya, B. R. Chandrakant, Mahendra N, Vasantha, Shaila, Shraddha C Kukkuje, Sumukh Bharadwaj, S. Skanda

## **Audit and Accounts:**

Anantavardhana & Associates, Mysore

## **Website Design and Maintenance:**

Cheluvvaraju, Mysore

## **Report Preparation:**

P. Veerabhadranaika and S. Skanda

## **Report Design:**

Sumukh

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