ASSIST/MORE:

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN LANKAVANI DIBBA

PROGRESS REPORT: JULY - SEPTEMBER 2026

Lankavanidibba is one of the backward villages located in Repalle Mandal of Bapatla District, Andhra Pradesh. The village has been largely neglected in terms of education and health services. Additionally, there is no proper road connectivity to the village, which further limits access to essential services.

Being situated close to the Bay of Bengal coast, the groundwater in the village has high salinity, which adversely affects agricultural productivity and results in low crop yields. Due to these challenges, many villagers are compelled to migrate to other areas in search of livelihood opportunities.

Considering these circumstances, the village was identified by ASSIST for development intervention, and support was sought from the organisation "MORE" in The Netherlands. We are grateful for the lead taken by Mr. Evert de Blok in getting the support of Mr. Arnold de Haan to the tune of 50% and Reborgh Foundation to the tune of 25% while meeting the remaining 25% from MORE, The Netherlands. On behalf of the villagers of Lankevani Dibba and the staff of ASSIST, we are grateful to all the concerned Directors and Members of all the three Foundations for taking up this project.

With the guidance of ASSIST staff, the community initiated various developmental activities from January 2026 onwards, aiming to transform the village into an ideal and sustainable community. Following report explains the activities executed in the 3rd quarter (from July to September of 2026):

1. People's Organisation:

The Brindavan Village Development Society's executive committee comprising of 11 members (4 male and 7 female) regularly meets with village leaders and project staff on the 1st of every month. These consistent meetings serve as a collaborative platform to discuss ongoing developmental activities and make strategic decisions for the development of this village. The following are some of the points discussed in this quarter:

- Collection of share capital from the members and depositing the same in the bank account.
- Participation of committee members and community leaders in the cultural camp and leadership training.
- Ensuring the villagers in maintaining village environment clean and tidy.
- Elimination of child marriages.
- Ensuring all the 6-14 years age children to go to school regularly.

- Participation of parents and SMC members in Mega Parents meeting.
- Ensuring the scheme of Talliki Vandanam (Support extended to mothers for educating their children) to all the eligible school going children.
- Participation of villagers in Independence Day celebrations in the local school.
- Participation in SMC election in the school campus on 29th September 2026.
- Identify and motivate eligible youth for vocational training.
- Organising medical camp.
- Distribution of kitchen garden seeds to the villagers.
- Application of new old age pension for eligible persons.
- Preparing 12 families for the construction of washing platforms.
- Ensuring the participation of all the villagers in VDS meetings.
- To speed up the house construction and also to support repairs to old houses.
- Preparing farmers to get registered with Agriculture department under suitable crops.
- Identification of members for new housing and old house repairs as well.

Impact:

Villagers and the village elders are joining hands to drive holistic rural development, actively tackling critical social issues like child marriages. Their strong community spirit is also evident in collective shramdaan (volunteer work), such as clearing weeds and shrubs from the village tank.

Through united decision-making and collaborative execution, the villagers and Village Development Society (VDS) members are successfully steering grassroots progress together.

2. Leadership Training:

During this reporting period three Leadership training camps were conducted.

S. No	Date	# Members		Resource Person details	Topics dealt
		Male	Female		
1	28-07-2026	8	24	Mr. Suneel Kumar Digital Assistant	• Importance of Education and child rights • Seasonal diseases and precautions to be taken • Village environment and hygiene
2	01-08-2026	7	24	Mrs. P. Venkata Lakshmi, Panchayat Secretary	
3	23-09-2026	6	24	Mrs. Sowjanya Bavireddy. Panchayat Secretary Village Secretary - women welfare	

Impact:

⇒ Ensured active participation of women (24 per camp), boosting their role in local decision-making.

⇒ Promoted preventive measures against seasonal diseases and community hygiene.
⇒ Reinforced community commitment to schooling and safeguarding child rights.
⇒ Four families recognised the importance of cleanliness around taps, leading to the construction of concrete platforms and proper drainage system to prevent water stagnation.

3. Awareness and Cultural Programmes:

On September 24, 2026, the Melukolupu team organised cultural programme near the local water tank, reaching a total of 106 community members, including 32 males, 46 females and 28 children. Using creative performance arts, the event effectively delivered critical health and social messages to the villagers.

The programme's central attraction was a theatrical skit titled *Keetakalu* (Insects), which highlighted the vital importance of household and environmental hygiene. The performance vividly demonstrated how mosquitoes and flies spread vector-borne and waterborne diseases such as dengue, malaria, typhoid, and lymphatic filariasis (elephantiasis), while also outlining practical preventive measures. Specific segments focused on typhoid as a waterborne bacterial infection and detailed proper handwashing techniques, alongside explanations of how mosquitoes transmit dengue and malaria. General health hazards like polio and contaminated food were also addressed.

Beyond disease prevention, the cultural programme integrated essential awareness on nutrition and financial literacy. The importance of vitamins was communicated effectively through placards and real-life examples, while a dedicated skit educated villagers on the benefits of financial savings, contrasting prudent money management with the severe debt traps caused by liquor and gambling addictions.

Impact:

The cultural camp successfully inspired a positive shift in community mindset, with villagers now consistently keeping their homes clean, maintaining hygienic surroundings, and utilising dustbins properly.

House Visits:

All the 169 houses were visited twice during this quarter, and they were told about the project and its goal and activities.

- During home visits to 24 families, high plastic usage and scattered waste were observed. After raising awareness on the health hazards of plastic, a follow-up visit showed that 12 families had switched to cloth bags for groceries and daily commodities, with a firm commitment to eliminating plastic use altogether.
- Fifty-two families identified with school-going children and motivated to participate in the mega parents' meeting held on 24th July 2026.

- Ninety-two families were informed about the distribution of 10 types of kitchen garden seeds, vermicompost and guided on using it for backyard cultivation.
- Seven families were encouraged and guided to prepare for sending their children to vocational training courses.
- Twelve families who lacked a washing platform were identified and convinced to construct one to keep their homes clean and tidy.
- Five families were assisted and facilitated in applying for old-age pensions.
- Awareness was created among 52 families regarding the election of School Management Committee (SMC) members to ensure a bright future for the school and its students.
- Forty families were identified and provided with horticulture plants.
- Families were informed about the importance of e-crop enrolment and the e-KYC process to help them receive timely government relief smoothly.
- Families were cautioned about the spread of seasonal diseases and advised on necessary preventive measures.

Impact:

Families have constructed proper washing platforms and successfully diverted wastewater to kitchen gardens, optimising water usage while keeping their surroundings clean and hygienic.

4. Children and Education:

There are 8 boys and 11 girls in the 3-5 age group in the village. All of them are going to Anganwadi and there are 0-2 age group boys 8 and girls 7 total 15. There are 34 boys and 32 girls in the age group of 6-14 and all of them are going to school.

Class	Total studying			Local School			Hostels outside		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1st class	5	5	10	5	5	10	-	-	-
2nd class	3	2	5	3	2	5	-	-	-
3rd class	2	4	6	2	4	6	-	-	-
4th class	3	3	6	3	3	6	-	-	-
5th class	4	3	7	4	3	7	-	-	-
6th class	4	4	8	3	4	7	1	-	1
7th class	3	4	7	1	2	3	2	2	4
8th class	5	3	8	3	1	4	2	2	4
9th class	5	4	9	2	2	4	3	2	5
Total	**34**	**32**	**66**	**26**	**26**	**52**	**8**	**6**	**14**

A mega parents' meeting was held at the local school on 24th July 2026, during which the LEAP app was introduced and explained to the attendees. Parents were briefed on

how the app tracks their children's educational progress, attendance, midday meals, school facilities, and overall quality education. 39 members (24 male and 15 female) have attended this meeting.

The Independence Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at the local school on August 15, featuring national flag hoisting by the headmaster and diverse cultural performances by children including songs, plays, ballets, and patriotic presentations in the gracious presence of SHG members, VDS members, the Village Sarpanch, and ward members.

Facilitated the Talliki Vandanam scheme for 98 children, successfully crediting a total of ₹12,72,000 (₹13,000 per child) directly into the respective mothers' bank accounts to support children's education.

School Management Committee (SMC) Elections: Completed the SMC election process on 29th September 2026:

- Classes 1 & 2: Parents convened to elect Mrs. Andraju Jyothi as President and Mr. Komaragiri Venkata Ramana as Vice President.
- Classes 3 to 10: An expanded 24-member SMC was formed (3 representatives per class), electing Mr. Chennu Narayana as President, Mr. Chilakalapudi Venkata Ramana as Vice President, and appointing Mrs. Gundala Kanakadurga as the Co-opted member from NGO. A dedicated WhatsApp group has also been established to share daily updates on school development activities.

Particulars of the 71 students studying 10th class and above are as follows:

Class	Total studying			Hostels outside		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
X class	4	4	8	4	4	8
Inter – 1st year	4	7	11	4	7	11
Inter - 2nd year	6	7	13	6	7	13
Degree – 1st year	2	1	3	2	1	3
Degree – 2nd year	4	3	7	4	3	7
Degree – 3rd year	3	4	7	3	4	7
B. Tech – 1st year	3	3	6	3	3	6
B. Tech – 2nd year	2	1	3	2	1	3
B. Tech –3rd year	1	2	3	1	2	3
T.T.C – 2nd year	1	2	3	1	2	3
Polytech – 1st year	4	2	6	4	2	6
Polytech – 3rd year	1	-	1	1	-	1
Total	**35**	**36**	**71**	**35**	**36**	**71**

Six youth who were sitting idle at home after completing their Intermediate and Degree studies were identified and successfully motivated to undergo vocational training in computer applications at Avanigadda. Accordingly, all the six candidates have completed Basic Computer Applications course in this quarter.

Impact:

Awareness camps, home visits, and personal interactions successfully drove high female representation and active leadership roles among the newly elected School Management Committee (SMC) members.

5. Community Health:

Through close coordination with government health workers, regular immunisation camps were successfully conducted on the third Saturday of every month. During this reporting period, 34 children aged 0 to 5 years (16 boys and 18 girls) received essential vaccinations, along with four pregnant women.

Maternal healthcare monitoring remained highly systematic and consistent. While five pregnant women were carried over from the previous quarter, two new pregnancies were registered and three successful deliveries were recorded, maintaining an active tracking cohort of four expectant mothers.

Strict adherence to vaccination schedules was maintained, ensuring children receive the three-dose DPT and polio drops on time to provide robust protection and completely prevent the risk of polio.

Health Camp:

On September 16, 2026, a free mega health camp was organised near the water tank, providing vital healthcare services to 448 villagers (216 males and 232 females). Expert consultations were given by specialists Dr. Prathap Kumar Chebrolu, MS, and Dr. Satya Kameswari, BAMS, from Bharathi Hospitals, Avanigadda.

Beneficiaries underwent essential diagnostic evaluations and received specialised care for various ailments including knee pains, eye issues, neurological conditions, and gynaecological concerns. All prescribed medications were distributed completely free of cost to referred patients, significantly improving local healthcare accessibility and community well-being.

Chronic diseases:

During routine household assessments, the field team identified a critical medical case: Mrs. Kokkiligadda Venkata Nageswaramma (wife of Yedukondalu), who was suffering from severe uterine complications causing heavy bleeding. Due to financial constraints, her family had been postponing her advised surgery, leading to severe physical

deterioration. When her condition suddenly worsened with acute stomach pain leading to hospitalisation in Repalle, doctors declared an emergency surgery to prevent life-threatening complications. Stepping in during this critical hour, the ASSIST field staff arranged emergency financial support from the project funds.

The vital surgery was successfully performed, saving her life. She has since made a full recovery, is in good health, and has comfortably returned to her normal daily duties.

Five challenged persons have been identified so far in this village, and they were given monthly medicines in coordination with VDS members.

Washing Platforms:

Prior to the project intervention, household wastewater management was a severe challenge, as women typically washed utensils, laundered clothes, and dressed fish in open spaces around their homes. Especially during rains, the scene is very pathetic. This practice led to widespread water stagnation, accelerated mosquito breeding, and highly unhygienic conditions that frequently caused illness among family members. Following targeted project mobilisation, community women have proactively come forward to construct proper domestic washing platforms. Building upon the 44 platforms completed up to the previous quarter (ending June 2026), 12 new platforms were successfully constructed during this reporting period, bringing the cumulative total to 56 platforms. This structural change has significantly improved domestic hygiene and minimised local health hazards.

Overall, these interventions have contributed to better sanitation, reduced health risks, and enhanced quality of life in the village, with increased community participation and ownership.

Community Dustbins:

Eight strategically placed dustbins have been installed across the village to encourage proper waste disposal. Villagers are actively utilising them for household and surrounding waste, leading to a noticeable reduction in littering, improved sanitation practices, and a cleaner, healthier community environment.

Tree Planting:

Forty families were provided with horticulture plants, such as sapota, mango, and coconut on 15th September 2026. These families are actively maintaining the plants through proper basin management and regular watering. All the plants are survived and are in good growth.

Kitchen Gardens:

To promote kitchen gardening among the 169 families, ASSIST distributed 10 varieties of seeds—including ridge gourd, ladyfinger, cucumber, tomato, brinjal, bottle gourd, moringa, chilli and leafy greens to help them establish backyard gardens. Additionally, each family was supplied with one kilogram of vermicompost to safely nurture the plants.

Impact:

The installation of 56 washing platforms including 12 built this period—has successfully eliminated open-air wastewater dumping, prevented mosquito breeding, and improved domestic hygiene by safely diverting water to kitchen gardens. Complementing this, the distribution of 10 varieties of seeds and vermicompost to 169 families has empowered them to establish organic backyard gardens for improved nutrition, while 40 households are successfully nurturing horticulture plants like sapota, mango, and coconut through proper basin management.

Facilitation of ANM House visits:

Health issues identified during home visits are promptly shared with the Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM), who conducts follow-up visits to provide targeted medical advice and preventive guidance. Based on ANM evaluations, patients are advised to visit the hospital for necessary blood tests and doctor consultations, followed by the free distribution of prescribed medications. The ANM actively cautions villagers against storing standing water in tubs to prevent mosquito breeding and reduce the risk of dengue and waterborne illnesses. Villagers are continually advised to consume boiled drinking water and use warm water for bathing to safeguard overall community health and hygiene.

6. Women Empowerment:

The village currently hosts 14 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) comprising a total of 148 members.

Particulars	Amount in INR
Balance of 14 groups of 148 members as on 30st June 2026	632,600
Add: Savings of 148 members of 14 groups (July-Sep 26)	44,400
Total	677,000
Internal loans recovered in this quarter – Principle	408,000
Internal loans recovered in this quarter – Interest	26,000
Total	1,111,000
Less: Internal loans extended to 29 members of 14 groups	435,000
Balance as on 30th Sep 2026	676,000

Group performance remains mostly steady: eight groups are highly active, systematically collecting savings and repaying loans by the 5th of every month. Conversely, three groups exhibit irregular repayment patterns, identifying a clear need for targeted financial literacy and awareness interventions.

Details of internal loans:

Particulars	Amount in INR
Internal loans outstanding as on 30st June 2026	1,386,400
Less: Internal loan recovered (July-Sep 26) – Principle	408,000
Total	978,400
Add: Internal loans extended to 22 members of 14 groups	435,000
Internal loans outstanding as on 30th Sep 2026	1,413,400

Bank Linkage Loans

Particulars	Amount in INR
Total Bank loans outstanding of 14 groups as on 30st June 2026	11,796,000
Less: Loans repaid by 14 groups in this quarter (July-Sept 26)	1,424,000
Bank loans outstanding of 14 groups as on 30th Sept 2026	**10,372,000**

All the 14 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) collectively contributing saving regularly and taking internal lending for their consumption needs. This leadership body is responsible for monitoring regular SHG activities, tracking financial operations, and ensuring institutional compliance within the village.

Impact:

The habit of savings and formation of groups enabled the villagers to increase their incomes through establishing various income generation units after taking loans. As a result, the villagers are educating their children, supporting housing and other developmental programmes.

7. Housing:

With the sanction of new houses, 14 families have started the construction of houses in this quarter taking the total number of new houses to 26 with the matching support being extended under the project. Two houses completed and 24 houses are being constructed in the village with the support of government and matching assistance from the project. The organisation has provided material support along with the assistance received from the local government. The following table shows the details of the present housing status:

Levels	As on 1st July 2026	As on 30th Sep 2026
Not started	10	12
Basement	-	10
Lintel	1	2
Slab	1	-
Completed	-	2
Total	**12**	**26**

Restoration of old houses/repairs:

27 families have restored their old houses including household toilets with the support of ASSIST by the end of this quarter.

Impact:

Villagers are showing interest in repairing their old houses and applying for new housing scheme of the local Government with the availability of matching grant.

8. Government Pensions:

To safeguard the livelihoods of vulnerable segments within the community, social security tracking was consistently maintained this quarter. A total of 71 eligible individuals is actively receiving monthly welfare pensions across various government schemes, injecting a collective financial support of ₹298,000 into the village economy each month. The details of people getting monthly pensions are as follows:

Pension Name	Members receiving pensions	Monthly Each INR	Monthly Total INR
Old age	14	4,000	56,000
Widow	18	4,000	72,000
Fishermen	29	4,000	116,000
Persons with Disability	7	6,000	42,000
Single women	3	4,000	12,000
Total	**71**		**298,000**

9. Land Development:

Spanning 35 acres of wetland, local farmers concentrated on land preparation this season and procured 34 bags of paddy seeds for sowing among 13 farmers from Rythu Bharosa Kendram. Accordingly, seedlings have been raised by the respective farmers, and the transplantation of paddy has been completed in all the 35 acres. Ongoing crop management includes regular weeding and timely fertiliser application are being attended timely. Families were informed about the importance of e-crop enrolment and the e-KYC process to help them receive timely government relief smoothly. The filed

channel restored last quarter helps farmers to get good flow of water during cultivation of paddy. It also helps tail ending farmers to get good amount of water for their wet lands.

10. Fisheries:

A total of 26 licensed boats, engaging 136 fishers, are actively involved in fishing activities. Benefiting from a fuel subsidy of ₹9 per litre, each boat received ₹2,700 per month. Consequently, a total subsidy of ₹210,000 was disbursed during this quarter (calculated as 26 boats × 3 months [July–September] × ₹2,700 per month).

11. Revolving Fund:

- Successfully opened an official bank account for the Brindavan Village Development Society at the Indian Bank, Gangadipalem Branch (Account No. 8381685537), to be operated jointly by Mr. Kopanathi Venkateswara Rao (President) and Mrs. Pothabathina Naga Kumari (Treasurer).
- Collected a membership fee of ₹100 from each of the 148 members, totaling ₹14,800.
- Mobilized a share capital contribution of ₹500 from each of the 148 members, amounting to ₹74,000.
- Both the membership fees and share capital collections have been securely deposited into the society's bank account to strengthen financial governance and institutional backing.

Place: Chilakaluripet	M. Vishnu Priya	J. Ranga Rao
Date: 16th October 2026	Associate Director	Director, ASSIST

Regular house visits by Community Organiser









Community Dust Bins









Children in School






2 3
1


HUMAN HEART
KIDNEY








EXIT
STOP
WAIT
GO
95
90

Taking care of Health by Government Health workers













Leadership Training Camp for Committee Members






COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
సమగ్ర గ్రామాభివృద్ధి కార్యక్రమము



Housing











Monthly Meetings of VDS Committee members



Monthly Meetings of Self-Help groups









Washing Platforms









Kitchen Gardens









Agriculture – Paddy farming















