

March 2026

Edition 08

SUSTAINABLE HEALTH APPROACHES FOR KEY TRIBAL COMMUNITIES HEALTH INTERVENTIONS (SHAKTHI) PROJECT



Mr. Arun Kumar Kandukuri

Message from Head-Programmes

“ The SHAKTHI project reflects our commitment to improving community health through early detection and active community participation. I appreciate the dedicated efforts of our team and encourage continued work towards ensuring timely care and reducing stigma in the community. ”



SHAKTHI Project: Progress Overview

During this March month, the SHAKTHI Project continued its focused efforts on community-level screening, timely referral, and treatment initiation across project areas.

Disease-wise achievements for the month (new cases identified and initiated on treatment):

- Leprosy: 22
- Tuberculosis (TB): 21
- Lymphatic Filariasis (LF): 14
- Scabies: 428
- Sickle Cell Disease (SCD): 73
- Malaria: 4

These efforts reflect the project's strong commitment to early case identification, effective linkage to treatment, and continuous community engagement, with active contributions from Community Health Workers (CHWs), Supervisors, and Staff Nurses in community-level screening and follow-up. The SHAKTHI Project is actively contributing towards improved health outcomes and strengthening disease control measures in the community.

Patient Support Through Skilled Nursing



Along with medical guidance, staff nurse positioned at government PHCs and CHCs and also provide counselling, helping patients build confidence and stay motivated throughout their treatment. Their regular follow-up ensures better adherence to medication and reduces treatment dropouts.

They also play a crucial role in the confirmation of suspected cases, working closely with Medical Officers to ensure timely diagnosis and appropriate treatment. Under the SHAKTHI Project, staff nurses play a key role in supporting patients with self-care and proper medication practices.



They guide patients on hygiene, nutrition, wound care, and the importance of taking medicines regularly and correctly.

Strengthening Collaboration: NGO Coordination Meeting

A Development Partners' Coordination Meeting was held in the presence of the District Collector Shri Akash Chhikara (IAS) and CEO, Zilla Panchayat Shri Pratik Jain (IAS), Bastar (C.G.), bringing together representatives from various civil society organizations. Participants shared their project activities, achievements, and challenges, fostering coordination and knowledge exchange. The meeting strengthened collaboration and reinforced a collective commitment towards effective and impactful community development.



Driving Change Through SHAKTHI Champion Volunteer Network

A SHAKTHI Champion Volunteer Meeting was held at Ulnar Gram Panchayat, covering Malgaon, Kachnar, Mangnar, and Bakawan sectors, with active participation of 60 attendees including volunteers, field staff, nurses, and supervisors. The session focused on awareness of seven priority diseases—Leprosy, TB, LF, Scabies, Sickle Cell Disease, JE, and Malaria—highlighting early identification, prevention, and timely treatment. Volunteers were guided on their role in identifying suspected cases,



Enhancing Coordination with State Health Departments

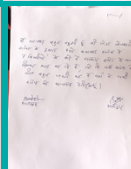
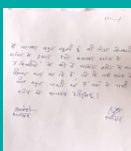
Mr. N. N. Sahu, Project Coordinator (SHAKTHI), met with State Leprosy Consultant Dr. Pargania and NHM Program Officer Mr. Javeed Qureshi at Directorate of Health Services DHH Raipur, where he shared updates on LEPRASociety's activities.



During the visit, he met Dr. Chinmaya, State Training Consultant, National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP), and Mr. Devendra Sahu, Program Associate (Chhattisgarh State), at District Hospital (DHH) Raipur to share the progress of the SHAKTHI Project.

Appreciation from Local Leadership

- Janpad President of Bakawand block Expressed appreciation in writing, acknowledging the impactful work of LEPRASociety in Bakawand Block in addressing seven major diseases and improving community health.
- Vice President Bakawand block Appreciated the dedicated efforts of the organization and its significant contribution towards strengthening community health services.



World Tuberculosis Day Observation

- Conducted on 24 March 2026 at Kolawal, Bakawand, and Karpawand Market areas, Theme highlighted: "Yes, We Can End TB – Led by Countries"
- Awareness rally flagged off by RMO Mr. Amit Das, with participation of students, Mitansins, and health volunteers
- TB awareness and sputum screening camp organized for community members, including suspected and under-treatment TB patients
- Night film show on TB and Leprosy conducted in outreach areas for tribal communities
- Visit by Regional Leprosy Training and Research Institute (RLTRI), Raipur team (Dr. Jayanta & Dr. Sarif) along with District Leprosy Officer (DLO), Bastar for review and appreciation of activities
- Focus on awareness, timely identification, stigma reduction, and treatment adherence under TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan



Case Study

During a door-to-door screening in Korta Village, Bakawand Block, a suspected hydrocele case was identified by the CHW and Supervisor. The patient was subsequently referred to Medical College Dimrapal, where he successfully underwent surgery. Following the operation, the patient has fully recovered from the condition.



With timely treatment and counselling, the patient gained awareness, overcame fear, and received strong family support. He is now resuming daily activities with confidence and aspires to lead a healthy, normal life.

This case highlights the importance of timely identification, proper referral, and continuous community support in improving health outcomes.

Meet Our Staff



Mrs. Renuka Mas
Staff Nurse- SHAKTHI

Q. What role do you play in disease screening and patient care?

I conduct screening for suspected cases of targeted diseases, provide basic treatment and dressing services, ensure medicine distribution, and support timely referral of complicated cases to higher centers.

Q. How does your work contribute to improving community health?

Through early identification, proper counselling, and ensuring treatment adherence, I help prevent complications and reduce stigma, which ultimately improves the overall health and confidence of the community.

Q. What does a typical day look like in your role?

My daily activities include village visits, patient follow-up, ulcer dressing, medicine distribution, maintaining records, coordinating with CHWs, and supporting health education sessions at community and school levels.

Q. How important is patient counselling in your work?

Patient counselling is very important. It helps patients understand their disease, follow self-care practices, complete their treatment, and avoid discrimination or fear.

Q. How do you coordinate with CHWs and PHC staff?

I maintain regular communication with Community Health Workers (CHWs) for case identification and follow-up, share updates with PHC staff, and ensure that all SHAKTHI activities are implemented as per government guidelines.

Thank you to LEPRASociety team for your unending support

Facilitated by

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