

23rd Annual Report of SEVA (2014 – 2015)

SEVA's activities can be broadly classified in to 2 areas

- 1) Development Activities towards Conservation of Local Livestock Breeds
- 2) Documentation and Dissemination of Indigenous knowledge and Grassroots Innovations

Documentation, Testing and Dissemination of Innovations

SEVA in collaboration with National Innovation Foundation (NIF), Ahmadabad documented 555 innovations / practices in agriculture, mechanical innovations and herbal medicine in the 9th round of competition for awards. Collection of plant samples, identification of plants have been carried out for selected practices.

Grassroots innovators meeting has been organized with 30 innovators at Mr. A.P.Alagarsamy moringa nursery, Pallapatti, Dindigul district on 2 June 2014 and displayed 10 innovations. Two visitors from Jannalal Bajaj Foundation Ms. Shubhangi and Ms. Minal Bajaj attended the workshop and interacted with the innovators for future scaling up of innovations.

State level workshop on grassroots technologies was organized on 10 August 2014 at Mr. Kuppusamy's coconut garden, Kengavaram village, Villupuram district. There were participation of 51 members and displayed their grassroots innovations including important medicinal plants.



Youth training on herbal medicine for animals, organic agricultural innovations and dissemination of innovations was organized on May 2-7, 2014 at Nadukkuppam village, Villupuram district 28 youth participated. SEVA has involved 7 students of Agricultural college, Kalavai, Vellore district on documentation of Innovations and they spend 1 week in this task during May-June 2014.

SEVA has been extending help for detailed documentation of practices of previous rounds, herbal plant samples collection, herbarium preparations and accompanying NIF staff for detailed documentation and testing of innovations. CDs on videos, PIC forms, Agreement letter signed for selected innovators all numbering more than 50 practices/innovations. Micro credit support for Mr. Parthipan loan for production of manual compressor machine Rs 20,000 has been extended through innovators association. Besides we are recovering loan extended to about 15 Innovators through Innovators Association in Tamil Nadu.

Capacity building of innovators have been organized at KCT school of business, Coimbatore and orientation programme organised during 25-28 Feb 2015 and for the subsequent one week 7

students involved in documentation and testing of innovations developed by Mr. Jayakrishnan, Mr. Subramanian, Ms. Pavithra, Mr. Senthil in Erode and Coimbatore districts.



In association with Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Chennai we organized an Exhibition cum demonstration of grassroots green technologies on 14th March 2015 with the innovators: Mr. Venkidasamy – Bone setting vaidyar, Virthunagar District, Mr. Jayaprakasam – Low cost Drip irrigation, Namakkal District, Mr. P.A. Sekar- Automatic warping machine, Vellore District, Mr. B.L. Banumurthy- Automatic weft insertion

handlooms, Thiruvannamalai District, Mrs. Subashree – Conservation of medicinal plants, Chennai, Mr. Chinnakannu – Arecanut plate making machine, Namakkal District.

Breed Saviour Awards for Conservation of Livestock Breeds

Recognition of livestock keepers who are involved in conservation of local breeds and developed best practices through cash awards (Rs 10,000) being is sponsored by National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai since 2009 onwards. The fifth The Breed Saviour Award Ceremony was inaugurated on 8th July 2014 with lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries honorable Dr. Suresh Honnappagol, Dr.S.L.Goswami, Prof. Anil Gupta, Dr.Arjava Sharma, and Mr. P.Vivekanandan. Dr.D.K.Sadana, Head of Animal Genetic Resource Division,NBAGR welcomed the participants. Mr. P.Vivekanandan briefed about Breed Saviour Award programme. He told that so far 4 rounds of the award distribution has been completed and the present ceremony is 5th round for the year 2013. Every year 20 livestock keepers are selected for awards in the form of Cash Prize and certificate. It is jointly organized with the help of NBAGR and sponsored by the National Biodiversity Authority, Govt. of India. He stressed the need for mainstreaming the proposal of national awards to breed conserving livestock keepers.

Awards were distributed to the following members :

1. Mr. D.M. Papanna, for conserving Mandya sheep, Karnataka
2. Smt. K. Roja – Malabari goat, Kerala
3. Mr. V. Paulraj – Vembur sheep, Tamil Nadu
4. Mr. K. Poovendran – Ramnad white sheep, Tamil Nadu
5. Mr. B. Ramakrishnan – Pulikulam cattle, Tamil Nadu
6. Mr. Ramavatar gurjar – Malpura sheep, Rajasthan
7. Smt. K. Arumugathai – Kanniyadu goat, Tamil Nadu
8. Mr. Murali Behera – Binjharpuri cattle, Odisha
9. Mr. Anadi Charan Das – Binjharpuri cattle, Odisha



10. Mr. Kuppan – Madras Red sheep, Tamil Nadu
11. Mr. Saravanan – Madras red sheep, Tamil Nadu
12. Mr. M. Velusamy – Katchaikatti black sheep, Tamil Nadu
13. Mr. K. Ramanathan – Kodiyadu goat, Tamil Nadu
14. Mr. Sathyanarayan gurjar – malpura sheep, Rajasthan
15. Mr. Vinodh – Kuttanadan duck, Kerala
16. Mr. Murid Ali – Gojri buffalo, Punjab
17. Mr. N.A. Jude Thaddeus – Malaimadu cattle, Tamil Nadu
18. Mr. Gandhras Minj – Kuji pig, Odisha
19. Mr. P. Govindan – Malaimadu cattle, Tamil Nadu
20. Mr. P. Pon Elangovan – Rajapalayam dog, Tamil Nadu
21. Mr. S. Sitar Khan – Beetal goat, Punjab



All the winners of Breed Saviour Award were awarded with cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- each and a certificate. The awardees at Serial number 20 and 21 were jointly awarded with cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- (Rs. 5000/- each).

Mr. Santhosh Kumar for conserving Punganur cattle in Andhra Pradesh and Mr. Sardar Mohammad Aftab Ahmad Khan Wattoo for conserving Sahiwal cattle in Punjab state of Pakistan were also honoured by giving them certificates from SEVA. Dr. P.K. Singh, Principal scientist, NBAGR read out brief back ground of breed conservators / awardees through power point presentation.

Every year since inception of the Awards in 2009, nominations received from the pastoralists, livestock keepers and breeders' associations are documented by SEVA volunteers and/or scientists from government institutions, and further evaluated by a panel of experts viz. Dr. D.K. Sadana, Dr. Kamal Kishore, Dr. Anil Nivsarkar, Dr.P.K. Singh. Of the 29 entries received from 9 states across the country, 21 entries have been selected for award for this year. These include 6 breeds of sheep, 4 goat breeds, 3 breeds of cattle and a breed each of a duck, buffalo, dog and pig from 6 different states namely Karnataka, Kerala, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. Dr. P.K. Singh proposed vote of thanks to all participants including the breed saviours, Pakistan delegates and acknowledged support of National Biodiversity Authority for sponsoring awards and SEVA, NBAGR, LIFE Network, Honey bee Network, Rainfed Livestock Network, NDRI, Uplana Gaushala members for their active participation and in executing the events. The programme ended with national anthem.

Workshop on Livestock Keepers Rights



Dr. Arjava Sharma in his facilitation highlighted the need for Livestock Keepers Rights and he stressed that it is not the same model evolved by Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Right Act 2001 but to fulfill the needs of local livestock keeping communities. Dr. Ilse Kohler Rollefson founder, LIFE Network told the history behind the LKR and it was first defined in 2002 during FAO conference. In 2007 Interlaken declaration LKR was mentioned officially. The Nagoya Protocol on ABS in 2010 obliges community protocol. Dr. D.K.

Sadana emphasised that the farmers should have the right to choose the bull/semen so that they can maintain their local breed animals as pure. Dr. Ahmad Ali mentioned about there are 15 poultry breeds in Pakistan and the importance of conservation is to be made through awareness. Mr. P. Vivekanandan mentioned legal frame work for claiming LKR through Forests Rights Act 2006, National Policy for farmers 2007, Biological Diversity Act 2002. He highlighted classification of category of farmers / livestock keepers, landless, Gausalas, breeders association, private companies for providing material and not material support to them. Dr. Kamal Kishore told that a couple of corporate companies are keeping only 20 bulls of Holstein Friesian to supply semen world wide, which affects genetic variability with in the species. Mr. P.K. Lal and Dr. Jayadevan of Kasargod cattle breeders association told that 1961 Livestock Improvement Act of Kerala led to castration of 2600 bulls in the year 2006 and penalty of Rs. 500 and jail if a person keeps bulls of native cattle breed. Dr. Anil Nivsaskar told that the Government decides the breeding policy excluding other stake-holders viz. NGOs and livestock keepers. To a question of Dr. Sethi, Former Director Buffalo Research Institute that institution decides the future of animal genetic resources, Mr. P. Vivekanandan told that institution shall play role of facilitator in the process of decision making while making awareness on the importance of local breeds in sustainable livestock production. All agreed to promote breed society / association at village level and means to support them through Govt. funds by creating national level authority.



One day visit to Uplana Gaushala

One day visit to Uplana Gowshala was arranged for the awardees, scientists, NGOs on 9/7/2014. The Gowshala has been upgrading the non-descript cattle by crossing with Sahiwal, Hariana and Tharparkar bulls through systematic breeding procedure under the guidance of NBAGR, Karnal. It also facilitated



interaction between Pakistan breeders with local farmers and scientists.

SEVA members have demonstrated preparation of herbal masala bolus and administered them to the cattle in the Gowshala. The Gowshala also exhibited different kinds of cow products as value added products of local cattle. It fetches income for the Gowshala.

Interactive seminar on conservation of Sahiwal cattle



One day Interactive seminar on conservation of Sahiwal cattle was organized at Chandigarh on 10/7/2014. This programme was organized in association with Punjab State Dept. of Animal Husbandry for interaction of expert breeders and Sahiwal cattle keepers. Visit to Sahiwal cattle farms at Bhaini Saheb, Jalandhar (Noormahal) was also organized along with expert breeders from Pakistan and India on 11/7/2014.

There was a special meeting with Chief Minister of Punjab to promote Sahiwal cattle breeders association with the help of Government advisor Prof Prem Kumar Uppal.

The participants passed on the following resolution to adopt as Karnal Declaration on the 9th July 2014

Karnal Declaration for Conservation and Augmentation of Indigenous Livestock Breeds

1. Breeder's Associations should be established for each of the livestock and poultry breed in the respective breeding tract. These associations should be linked/ registered with National level authority /Foundation or through a federation of animal breeders association and should meet at least once in a year to exchange the experience and views in different aspects of management of animal genetic resources.
2. National authority on animal genetic resources may be established to register, conserve and augment indigenous animal breeds. Such authority should be established under umbrella of an Act of Indian constitution. It shall promote capacity building of livestock keepers conserving native breeds through incentives and enable them access to grazing land, drinking water, shelter, health and bull services, credit and marketing their products.
3. The conservation of livestock and poultry breeds can be successful in true sense only under in-situ mode along with conservation of respective eco-systems. Therefore, conservation of pasture land and associated water and eco-systems are essential so as to conserve livestock and poultry diversity.

4. Computer applications should be developed on tablet or mobiles for pedigree and performance data recording of the livestock and poultry breeds on different aspects of management, habitat and climate adaptive potential. For this purpose training of livestock keepers and their children may be taken up at large scale.
5. Every member of parliament and legislative assembly should be persuaded for the expenditure of 5% of their funds on conservation of local breeds
6. Veterinary science UG/PG students should study and document animal breeder communities and their way of managing animal genetic resources during internship program for at least one month period with their stay in the villages.
7. Women's knowledge about livestock breeds behavior, psychology, peculiar habits, management needs etc. should be recorded and documented. Special training should be given to women for empowering them with respect to management of animal genetic resources.
8. National awards should be given to the livestock keepers, communities for their contribution in conservation of livestock diversity as well as eco-system especially pasture land.
9. Identification of markers and other indicators to enable children of breeders to maintain purity of breeds. A special scholarship scheme for encouraging youth to conserve breeds and as fixated knowledge systems.

Document outstanding practices / innovations of breed conservators and link with National Register of grassroots innovations and traditional knowledge of National Innovation Foundation for dissemination / recognition / rewards.

Documenting and Supporting Community Based Conservation of 4 Local Breeds



Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Rome has approved a project on “Documenting and Supporting Community Based Conservation for Four Local Breeds” under the Funding Strategy for the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources (GCP/GLO/287/MUL) to SEVA on behalf of LIFE Network partner NGOs. SEVA in Tamil Nadu (Pulikulam Cattle) in collaboration with Sahjeevan in Gujarat (Kharai Camel), Lokhit

Pashu Palak Sanasthan (LPPS) in Rajasthan (Boti Sheep), Vechur Conservation Trust (VCT) in Kerala (Attapadi Black Goat) to implement the project at four sites in India.

Breed descriptor for Pulikulam cattle and kharai camel has been completed. Case studies of 3 Pulikulam cattle keepers have been prepared. We prepared biocultural protocols for Pulikulam cattle and Kharai camels.

Registration of Rare Breed



Kachaikatty black sheep has been registered as a new breed by National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal with registration number india_sheep_1800 kachaikatty black_14040. SEVA has applied for registration of this breed through department of animal husbandry, Chennai few years back.

Projects Sanctioned / Fund Released during 2014-2015

- 1) National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai - Breed Saviour Award – 2013. Amount Released Rs. 1,25,000.
- 2) FAO, Rome - Documenting and supporting Community based conservation of 4 Local Breeds.(in partnership with NGOs : LPPS, Sahjeevan, VCT) - Amount Released Rs. 15,39,788.
- 3) National Innovation Foundation, Ahmadabad – Scouting and Documentation of Innovations in Tamil Nadu for the 9th Round competition for Unaided Technological Innovations. Amount Released Rs. 85,000.
- 4) Volunteers for Education Services in India (VSEI) – USA –Vocational Training for Youth. Amount Released Rs.48,539 .
- 5) NABRD, Chennai - Capacity Building of Dairy farmers through herbal remedies to improve animal health and productivity of dairy animals in Madurai District. Amount released Rs. 32500.
- 6) CEE (UNDP small grants programme), Bangalore – Conservation and management of Vembur sheep breed. Rs. 4,57,600.