



ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

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ABOUT KALPAVRIKSH

BEGINNINGS

Kalpavriksh is a non-governmental organisation working in the area of environment education, research, campaigns and direct action. It began in 1979, with a youth campaign to save Delhi's Ridge Forest area from encroachments and destruction. Starting with these roots in local action, Kalpavriksh has moved on to work on a number of local, national and global issues. Kalpavriksh is registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1980(No. S-17439) and is based in Delhi and Pune.

PHILOSOPHY

Kalpavriksh believes that a country can develop meaningfully only when ecological sustainability and social equity are guaranteed, and a sense of respect for and oneness with nature and fellow humans is achieved.

GOVERNANCE

Kalpavriksh is a non-hierarchical organisation. One of the working principles that emanated from the philosophy of the group, was a democratic decision making process. All decisions are taken during group meetings and based on group consensus.

FUNCTIONING

Core function: include general administration, website administration, finance, accounts and publications. These activities are largely handled at the Pune office.

Projects and activities are related to the following themes:

- Environment Education
- Environment and Development
- Conservation and Livelihoods
- Urban Environments
- Alternatives

ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

The Annual General Body Meeting was held in Pune on 1st and 2nd October, 2017. Election of the governing body (core group), the office bearers and financial auditor was done at this meeting.

Secretary: Tanya Majmudar

Treasurer: Meenal Tatpati

Governing Body (Core Group) Members: Tanya Majmudar, Meenal Tatpati, Neema Pathak, Shruti Ajit, Milind Wani, Pradeep Chavan, Sujatha Padmanabhan, Shiba Desor, Kanchi Kohli, Prabhakar Rao, Meenakshi Kapoor, Manju Menon, Anchal Sondhi.

Auditors: Paresh Sarda, Chartered Accountant, Pune

PREVENTION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMMITTEE

Kalpavriksh has Internal Complaints Committees for its Pune and Delhi Offices. The committee in Pune was re-constituted in compliance with the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

The previous committee members were: Sujatha Padmanabhan (Presiding Officer), Shiba Desor, Prajakta Kulkarni, Neeraj Vagholikar, Advocate Rama Sarode (external member).

The committee members are: Meenal Tatpati (Presiding Officer), Prajakta Kulkarni, Shruti Ajit, Milind Wani, Advocate Rama Sarode as external expert.

Delhi: Meenakshi Kapoor (Presiding Officer), Anchal Sondhi, Seema Bhatt, Prabhakar Rao and Shalini Bhutani.

The annual meet of the Internal Complaint Committee was held on the 14th of October 2017. An orientation session was conducted with the staff, members and interns where Advocate Rama Sarode shared some of her experiences. The Act relating to the implementation policy on prevention of sexual harassment was discussed and introduced to new members and interns.

PART A: PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

1. ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION

Projects:

A. *Children's Books on Environment*

B. *Book on Food for Ladakh*

C. *Miscellaneous*

1A. Children's Books on Environment

Coordinators: Tanya Majmudar, Sujatha Padmanabhan

Project Team: Neema Pathak Broome, Neeraj Vagholikar, Sanjay Sondhi, Sharmila Deo, Tejaswini Apte-Rahm

Year of Commencement: 2017

Year of Completion: 2018

Funds Sanctioned: Rs. 15,56,500 (over 18 months)

Funding Agency: Foundation for Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship (Tata Trusts)

Developments:

Kalpavriksh is working on five Children's Books, which will be published in 2018. The developments for each book are as follows:

- 1) Book 1: A story about a Pangolin for children aged 6-8, titled *Po Tricks His Foe* written by Sharmila Deo and illustrated by Niloufer Wadia. It will be co-published with Eklavya, Bhopal in mid-2018. 2000 copies in English and 3000 copies in Hindi will be printed.
- 2) Book 2: A story about the efforts of a young Buddhist Lama in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh, to protect the wintering habitat of the black-necked crane. It is being written by Neeraj Vagholikar and will be illustrated in mid-2018.
- 3) Book 3: A book for very young kids on animal poop, titled, *The Poop Book!* This was written by Tejaswini Apte-Rahm and Sujatha Padmanabhan and is being illustrated by Priya Kuriyan.
- 4) Book 4: An informative book describing some creatures found in and around our homes, titled *Critters in Our Homes*. It was written by Sanjay Sondhi and is being illustrated by Sushama Durve.
- 5) Book 5: A compilation of 10 short stories (based on true events) about communities in India, their relationships with nature and wildlife and their efforts to conserve them. This was compiled by Tanya Majmudar and Sujatha Padmanabhan, with Neema Pathak Broome as the project advisor. The stories were written by different authors. The book is being illustrated by Nayantara Surendranath.

All books will be illustrated and 2000 copies of each will be printed in 2018.

1B. Book on Food of Ladakh

Coordinator: Sujatha Padmanabhan

Project Team: Shiba Desor; Tsering Angmo, Tsewang Namgail and Rinchen Dolma from Leh and Alex Jensen from Local Futures

Year of Commencement: 2017

Year of Completion: 2019

Funds Sanctioned: Rs. 166,926

Funding Agency: SLC US (Remaining funds from Ri Gyancha Dissemination)

Developments:

SLC-IT (Snow Leopard Conservancy – International Trust) was interested in developing a book on food that is localised to the Ladakh region. Shiba and Sujatha spent two weeks in Ladakh in July 2017. An outline for the book was worked out, and many interviews were conducted to collect information. Comments are collated and draft chapters are ready. A plan to take this forward is being discussed.

1C. Miscellaneous

Kalpavriksh continued work on the series on Conservation and Nature in Hindu Young World. This series is being coordinated by Sanjay Sondhi.

2. ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Project:

Dams and Environmental Governance in Northeast India

Project Coordinator: Neeraj Vagholikar

Year of commencement and completion: Ongoing since 2001

Funds sanctioned: 1,00,000/-

Funding agencies: Individual donation (Shantha Bhushan)

Developments:

Kalpavriksh has been closely engaging with social and environmental aspects of large dams in the ecologically and culturally sensitive Northeast of India since 2001. The current engagement on the issue of dams in Northeast India co-ordinated by Neeraj involves support to local groups on environmental and social aspects of the issue and advocacy at the regional/national levels on the same. In the current year the focus was primarily on: engagement with decision-making expert bodies on environment and forest clearances of certain hydropower and dam projects in the Northeast; continued focus on downstream impacts of hydropower projects on communities and sensitive ecosystems in the Brahmaputra floodplains; social and ecological impacts of certain projects on high-altitude ecosystems and species in the Eastern Himalayas; and provision of technical support to enviro-legal advocacy by local groups on the same.

3. CONSERVATION & LIVELIHOODS

Projects:

- A. Learning and Advocacy on Forest Rights Act*
- B. Community Conserved Areas in India*
- C. Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas in South Asia*
- D. Documentation and Outreach Centre for Community Based Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Security*
- E. Protected area update*
- F. Miscellaneous*

3A. Learning and Advocacy on Forest Rights Act

Coordinators: Neema Pathak Broome

Support Team: Shruti Ajit and Meenal Tatpati

Year of Commencement: N.A.

Year of Completion: N.A.

Total Funds Sanctioned: No funding received for the current engagement

Funding Agency: N.A.

Developments:

- 1) Kalpavriksh continued research and advocacy as part of national level learning and advocacy on Forest Rights Act, 2006 through the Community Forest Rights-Learning and Advocacy process (CFR-LA from here on).
- 2) Kalpavriksh is also continuing to document the Community Forest Resource (CFR) governance processes in Maharashtra. In June 2017, as a part of the CFR governance process documentation, a workshop was held in Ashoka Trust Research on Ecology and Environment (ATREE), Bengaluru in collaboration with Vasundhara, ATREE and Tata Institute of Social Sciences to share findings from the field about the challenges and best practices that have emerged with respect to CFR governance at the Gram Sabha level.
- 3) Kalpavriksh is also engaged on documenting incidents of Forest Rights Act violation in Protected Areas (PAs) and the findings of the report done in 30 PAs have been shared in a meeting organised at India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi, on November 2017. (<http://www.kalpavriksh.org/index.php/13-home/429-update-press-release-on-the-forest-rights-act>)

4) Kalpavriksh has also provided comments on various policy interventions including the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) rules and circulars on Critical Wildlife Habitat, Indian Forest Policy, Wildlife Action Plan, among others.

3B. Community Conserved Areas in India

Coordinators: Neema Pathak Broome

Team: Neema Pathak Broome and Sneha Gutgutia

Year of Commencement and completion: Ongoing

Total Funds Sanctioned: US\$ 4800 (in two half-yearly installments of US\$2400 each)

Funding Agency: ICCA Consortium

Developments:

Understand CCAs in the region:

- a. Finalization of the chapter on CCAs in Maharashtra for a book on Wildlife in Maharashtra.
- b. First draft of an extensive report on CCAs in the *dooars* region of North Bengal.
- c. Work on creating an interactive map/atlas for documented CCAs in India is in progress.
- d. A preliminary paper on “Forest Rights Act providing a space for legal recognition and protection of CCAs in India” has been drafted. This paper helps in understanding what legal recognition has meant for CCAs in India and conservation values of CFRs as CCAs. It has been published in the latest edition of our newsletter “People in Conservation”

Outreach and Information exchange on ICCAs:

- a. The support for editing the documentary film on *Orans* in Alwar, Rajasthan is on-going.
- b. Based on the field visit to *Dooars* of North Bengal, an article has been written and published on a recent order by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) regarding conferring CFR (Community Forest Rights) in Tiger Reserves.
- c. An article was published on biodiversity conservation and forest rights act in the journal EPW.
- d. The draft wildlife action plan was also published in EPW.
- e. An article was published on online portal www.countercurrents.org on mining in Gadchiroli district in Maharashtra.
- f. The next edition of our bi-annual newsletter titled ‘People in Conservation’ is focused on CCAs in India and South Asia. The newsletter will be published in September 2017. A paper on “Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in India – An Overview” was presented at a national workshop on “Conservation of the Community Conserved Areas (CCAs); Orans/Charnot” jointly organised by INTACH and Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Fort, in Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

On-ground legal support to ICCAs:

- a. Kalpavriksh is one of the coordinators for Community Forest Rights Learning and Advocacy (CFR-LA) process. As a part of this, legal help has been extended to many other CCAs in India including CCAs in Sikkim, Maharashtra and Uttarakhand.

Others:

- a. Help has been extended to develop curriculum on CCAs for Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Tuljapur, Maharashtra.
- b. Help to develop a curriculum on CCAs for Azim Premji University in Bangalore has also been extended.
- c. Currently working on a proposal seeking funds to support CCA work in India.

3C. Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas in South Asia

Coordinators: Neema Pathak Broome

Team: Neema Pathak Broome and Sneha Gutgutia

Year of Commencement: 2011

Year of Completion: ongoing

Total Funds Sanctioned: Part of the ICCA Consortium funding as mentioned above

Developments:

CCA South Asia Google group: regular emails are being sent to the members of the CCA South Asia Google group. New people continue to join this discussion forum.

Others:

- a. Following up with CCA activities in Nepal and Bangladesh and providing technical assistance as and when needed.
- b. Providing technical assistance to ICCA Consortium for the New ICCA-Asia Website
- c. Also exploring possibilities of collaborating with other members of the consortium like NTFP-EP and FES for work on CCAs in India.

3D. Documentation and Outreach Centre for Community Based Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Security

Coordinators: Milind Wani

Support Team: Pradeep Chavan, Subhash Dolas, Vikal Samdariya, Anuradha Arjunwadkar

Advisory Team: Neema Pathak, Pankaj Sekhsaria

Others Involved: Shiba Desor, Govind Khalsode

Associates (External): Kumar Shiralkar (Rashtriya Adivasi Adhikar Manch)

Year of Commencement: December 2014 (Phase IV), December 2017 (Phase V)

Year of Completion: November 2017 (Phase IV), ongoing (Phase V)

Total Funds Sanctioned: 79,100 Euros (Phase IV), 135,000 Euros (Phase V)

Funding Agency: Misereor, Germany

Developments:**Outreach related**

Production of 'People in Conservation' newsletters on

- CCAs

- Good Food for All (GFFA)-thematic
 - Alternatives is under way
- Production of briefing note on
- Forest Diversion
 - Good Food for All (GFFA)

Alternatives related:

- A Food Sangam was held from 6th to 9th October at URMUL campus in Bajju, Rajasthan. Co-hosts for the event were URMUL and Banayan Roots.
- A national sangam was held from 27th to 30th November at Udaipur, which was co-hosted by Vidya Bhavan Prakriti Sadhana Kendra.

Others:

- Proposal for Phase V (December 2017 to November 2020) of the project was submitted and accepted by Misereor, Germany.

Capacity-Building programme in Bhimashankar area of Pune District:

- Facilitated process of filing claim for CFR of Bhomale and Kharpud villages of Bhimashankar. Submitted the Bhomale CFR claim to the SDO office.
- Facilitated the process of women empowerment by organizing SHG workshops at Bhorgiri, Kharpud and Bhomale villages on different subjects like local seed conservation, Women's Gram Sabha, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, Forest Rights Act (FRA) etc.
- Facilitated the process of organizing Women Gram sabhas.
- Helping SDO office, Rajgurunagar in a FRA implementation.
- Helping Kisan Sabha in FRA implementation in Ambegaon Taluka of Pune district as and when required.
- Facilitated the Uncultivated Vegetable Festival at Garbewadi, Bhomale (Upper) and Kharpud villages with the help of Block Development Officer (BDO), Panchayat Samiti, Rajgurunagar.
- Facilitated the process of implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in the villages. Met BDO, Tahsildar and Assistant Project officer NREGA to start the work in the villages. Conducted survey to find out which persons need employment and the ones who do not have bank accounts.
- Helping Bhorgiri and Yelavali people with a democratic decision making process for Eco Village Development Committee (EVDC). Also helped Bhorgiri EVDC and local Self Help Groups to raise issues in the implementation of Eco-Village Development Scheme (EVDS). Helped women to raise their voice against the misuse of funds by Forest staff (i.e. without taking Gram Sabha's permission). Bhorgiri women organized a march on 15th December 2015 against the misuse of funds of EVDS.

3E. Protected area update

Coordinators: Pankaj Sekhsaria

Year of Commencement: 1994

Year of Completion: Projected Budget for April 2016 to March 31, 2017 – Rs. 7,00,000

Total Funds Sanctioned: Rs. 3,00,000 by the Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust
Approx Rs. 100,000 were raised through donations and subscriptions

Developments:

Production and Printing of PA Update

- Vol XXIII No. 3, June 2017 (No. 127)
- Vol XXIII No. 4, August 2017 (No. 128)
- Vol XXIII No. 5, October 2017 (No. 129)
- Vol XXIII, No. 6, December 2017 (No. 130)
- Vol XXIV, No. 1, February 2018 (No. 131)
- Vol XXIV, No. 2, April 2018 (No. 132)

A&N Islands

Ongoing co-ordination and moderating of the andamanicobar yahoo group

3F. Honey Bee conservation and Livelihood programme

Coordinators: Pradeep Chavan

Support Team: Neema Pathak Broome, Subhash Dolas, Sunil Bhokte, Manda Kathe, Parvata Wanghare

Year of Commencement: 2013

Year of Completion: ongoing

Total Funds Sanctioned: No funding received for the current financial year

Funding Agency: N.A.

Developments:

1. Facilitated the meetings and discussions with Honey harvesters on the conservation of bees and their habitats.
2. Facilitated the Honey enterprise by Jai Sadguru Women Self Help Group.

4. URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Project:

Urban Greens Delhi

Project Coordinator: Prabhakar Rao

Funding Agency: Voluntary

Developments:

KV was a part of the informal coalition that raised concerns about the felling of trees and commercialisation of public spaces by proposed redevelopment projects in New Delhi. Kalpavriksh members helped inform the citizen's collective about legal and regulatory procedures about tree felling and urban construction. Being on the Delhi Tree Authority it was possible to share the experience of compensatory plantations within the National Capital Region (NCR). This issue was particularly important given the critical air pollution levels in Delhi and northern India.

KV was invited to address and participate in a plantation drive by the India Professionals Congress in the large city park in Noida opposite Sector-15A. The Forest and the Horticulture department were part of this exercise. This was in the month of June on the World Environment Day. Some of the wrong pruning practices followed in the park were highlighted by Prabhakar Rao and the officials assured that this will be stopped in that season itself. This pertained to pruning trees like *Lagerstroemia indica* during flowering season. It was also agreed that the *Polyalthia sp.* trees will be allowed to reach their natural size instead of being pruned mechanically.

5. ALTERNATIVES

Projects:

A. Documentation, networking, outreach in India

B. Research, outreach, networking globally

5A. Documentation, networking, outreach in India

Project: Alternative Practices and Visions in India: Documentation, Networking, and Advocacy

Project Coordinator: Ashish Kothari

Project Team: Shrishtee Bajpai, Anuradha Arjunwadkar

Year of commencement: January 2017

Year of completion: December 2017

Funds sanctioned: Rs. 24,11,734.00 (2017) + part of 26,75,000 (2018)

Funding agency: Heinrich Boll Foundation

This is the 4th year of funding from HBF, for KV's work on documenting, networking, and building on alternative initiatives around India.

ALTERNATIVE PRACTICES AND VISIONS IN INDIA: DOCUMENTATION AND VIKALP SANGAMS

The Alternatives programme continued its work on documenting, making known, and networking alternative initiatives and visions across India, and linking these to global initiatives. This update is in two sections: activities and networks within India, and global activities or networking.

Stories by Media Fellow

The media fellowship was commissioned to a journalist Baba Mayaram who did six stories for the Vikalp Sangam website. The stories were documented both visually and textually in Hindi. Below is the list of stories by Baba Mayaram:

1. An initiative for children of school-going age belonging to a marginalised society, by volunteers in Madhya Pradesh, central part of India, to start a library in a tribal village with a collective effort of the community
<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/झल-म-लयबरर-in-hindi/#.WVYEffl96Cg>
2. A Medical centre in Chhattisgarh that aims to provide affordable medical services to the tribal people of the region.
<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/जन-सवसथय-सहयग-क-अनठ-असपतल-in-hindi/#.WlNCyiOB15>
3. Kabir Mandli, primarily based in Madhya Pradesh that is trying to bring back Kabir's socially relevant songs in the current context.
<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/मलव-क-कबर-स-एक-मलकत-in-hindi/#.WlNEHyOB1E>
4. *Vanastree* -a women-run seed saving collective in the Western Ghats of Karnataka-promoting biodiversity of forest home gardens and conservation education.
<http://www.vikalpsangam.org/article/महल-कसन-क-बज-करत-in-hindi/#.WlSCrCOB1E5>
5. Kashidakari – a story on the needle art that has been instrumental in changing the lives of women in Thar desert.
<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/थर-क-कसदकर-in-hindi/#.WlMyCfDXaCg>
6. National Sangam – a perspective piece on the national sangam held in Udaipur to review the Vikalp Sangam process and plan for the future
<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/वकलपक-समज-क-तलश-in-hindi/#.WlRy8SOB1E4>

For the year 2018, we have commissioned Baba Mayaram to do another six stories in Hindi on alternative initiatives in Sikkim, Rajasthan, and Karnataka.

Translations

Under the project we commissioned four translations of selected stories for wider circulation. The stories were translated into Hindi, Marathi and Tamil. The links are mentioned below.

1. Grandmother of the Jungle (in Hindi)

<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/जगल-क-बड-म-करल-क-एक-आदवस-महल-ज-लगभग-५००-औषध-क-नसख-क-अपन-समरण-शक्त-म-सजय-ह-in-hindi/#.WINCXyOB1E4>

2. Where are the Commons? (in Tamil)

<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/ஓர-பதய-அசுவன-அவள-கண்டபடத்தரந்தல-அத-உனத-என்ற-ந-நறவவய/#.WINFBSOB1E5>

3. The last straw that triggered the battle against plastic (in Marathi)

<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/कडच-आधर/#.WINFciOB1E6>

4. Why Storytelling Traditions Remain Relevant Today

<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/कहनय-क-महततव/#.WkYDOtKWa1s>

5. There was one voluntary translation of an English story- A Family Wedding as a Creative Project in Hindi

<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/ववह-एक-आतमय-परयजन-in-hindi/#.WjyxdDfhXIU>

Stories by a Story Fellow

The story fellowship is commissioned to a journalist and a writer, Nirmala Govindarajan. She did two stories which were documented both visually and textually.

1. The story is on *Vanastree* -a women-run seed saving collective in the Western Ghats of India-endorsing biodiversity of forest home gardens and conservation education.

<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/she-the-forest-home-gardener/>

2. Ruhamah Designs: a micro enterprise that empowers survivors of sex trade by generating livelihood options.

<http://vikalpsangam.org/article/survivors-of-sex-trafficking-fashion-jewellery-for-a-living/>

For the year 2018, we will be doing 4 photo stories. Four collaborators have been identified who will be accompanied by professional photographers to document alternative initiatives across India.

Booklet on 'Search for Alternatives'

A new booklet on 'The Search for Radical Alternatives: Key Elements and Principles', emerging from the experience of alternatives in India, and the Vikalp Sangam (Alternatives Confluence) process is out. It contains short descriptions and links to 30-40 grounded initiatives, located within a conceptual framework of transformation within political, ecological, social, economic, and cultural spheres. It is accessible at <http://vikalpsangam.org/static/media/uploads/Resources/alternativesframeworkbookletrevisedfinal1512.pdf>.

Independently of the project, a Hindi version was also produced, and is available at <http://vikalpsangam.org/static/media/uploads/Resources/alternativesframeworkbooklethindi.pdf>.

Alternative initiatives for Video Documentation

20 alternative stories have been documented by Video Volunteers and Srishti School of Design and Technology in year 2017-2018. All the videos have been put up by these organisations on their sites, on YouTube, and on the Vikalp Sangam website (see links below).

By Video Volunteers : <http://vikalpsangam.org/article/more-videos-for-vikalp-sangam-by-video-volunteers/#.Wvpsl5fhXIU>

Sr.	Topics
1.	<i>Shaheed Hospital, Chhattisgarh, born out of workers' struggle and owned by them, aims to provide affordable and respectful care.</i>
2.	<i>Forest rights, livelihoods and conservation at Payvihar, Melghat, Maharashtra</i>
3.	<i>Jai Bharat Shikshan Sansthan, Madhya Pradesh, is working on initiatives on direct democracy and self-governance in 20 villages</i>
4.	<i>Project Potential, Bihar, boosting entrepreneurship at the grassroots</i>
5.	<i>Optimist Citizen, Madhya Pradesh, a fortnightly focusing only on positive news, run by a group of youth for the last few years on a voluntary basis.</i>
6.	<i>Usha cooperative, West Bengal, a cooperative of over 20,000 sex workers that is helping to transform their lives, providing greater dignity, economic and social security.</i>
7.	<i>Rikhiyaasan Rath, Bihar, a community bus initiative to explore the history and identity of Musahar community that has been victim to caste prejudices.</i>
8.	<i>Banglanatak, West Bengal, a social enterprise working through arts to protect and uphold the rights of women, children, and indigenous communities.</i>
9.	<i>Green College, Odisha, is working to enable its students, young and old, to create innovative and sustainable means of livelihoods.</i>
10.	<i>The Forest is our Mother, Odisha, on conservation and sustainable living.</i>

By Srishti School of Art and Design <http://vikalpsangam.org/article/videos-for-vikalp-sangam-by-srishti-school-of-art/>

1.	<i>Rainbow Drive, towards transformation in an urban context, Bengaluru.</i>
2.	<i>Rhythm of Vayali - youth livelihoods, revival of music and dance, conservation of</i>

	<i>river ecosystem in Kerala</i>
3.	<i>Marudam Farm School - alternative learning and education, reviving forests in Tamil Nadu</i>
4.	<i>Avani: women's empowerment and livelihoods in Uttarakhand</i>
5.	<i>Doyennes Of Chizami: stewards of food culture and biodiversity in Nagaland</i>
6.	<i>Hunnarshala: promoting people-centric and environment friendly building designs in Bhuj, Gujarat.</i>
7.	<i>The Kumbhalgarh Raika Story: journey of the camel-herding nomadic community in Rajasthan</i>
8.	<i>Ode to Equality: Jogappas, transwomen musicians of rural Karnataka</i>
9.	<i>Reach for the skies: promotion of sports among girls in Ladakh</i>
10.	<i>A Sense of Belonging: lake rejuvenation in Bengaluru</i>

Srishti School of Art and Design and VV will be doing documenting alternative stories for 2018- 2019 as well. The process of commissioning and documentation has already begun.

The first story for 2018 by Video Volunteers is on forest conservation and livelihoods initiative in Bhimashankar, Maharashtra.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEBFGbGcEYw&index=11&list=PL60GAnFL6tn1Aa6hMjEZEdGrn0Z3PdZMU>

VIKALP SANGAM PROCESS

Kerala Vikalp Sangam, 10-12 April 2017

Badalukal 2017, the Kerala Vikalp Sangam, was held in Bodhigram, Adoor, north of Thiruvananthapuram from 10th to 12th April 2017. The Sangam was the seventh regional vikalp sangam, and was co-organised by Institute for Sustainable Development and Governance (ISDG), Chalakkudy River Protection Samithi, Kalpavriksh, Shanthigram, Gandhi Smaraka Nidhi, Sabarmathi Foundation, Darsanam, Thanal, and Bodhigram. Over the three days, about 130 people participated in the Sangam, though numbers declined rapidly on the 2nd and 3rd days. Participants included people working on health issues, activists working on land issues, academics, environmentalists, people's science movement activists, educationists and journalists, painters, musicians and theatre artists. The Sangam witnessed stimulating discussions, some fascinating grassroots examples, presence of well-known alternative artists, delicious local food, and dance/musical performances.

Please see the report attached

<http://vikalpsangam.org/static/media/uploads/Resources/keralavikalpsangamreport2017.pdf>

Vikalp Sangam Core group meeting, 30 Nov – 1 Dec 2017

The fourth Vikalp Sangam core group meeting was held at Swaraj University Campus, Udaipur from 30th November to 1st December 2017. 30 core group members representing various organisations across the country were present. The meeting was inspiring in many ways, for one, it had very intense discussions related to the Vikalp

Sangam process, second, that the core group showed ownership to the process and last, collectively the group listed exciting possibilities for the future like others in group taking up the coordination process.

The objective of this year's meeting was to review the VS process and its objectives, review the Alternatives framework note (5th draft), share reflections and learning's from the past sangams, and, the relevance of the process itself, and to collectively plan for activities in the coming year.

National Sangam - Udaipur, 27-29th November 2017

As part of the ongoing series (with 12 Sangams having been organised across India thus far), a National Vikalp Sangam (NVS) was organised on 27-29 November, 2017, at the beautiful Prakriti Sadhana Kendra of Vidya Bhavan, co-hosted by Shikshantar and Kalpavriksh. About 100 people from various backgrounds, ideologies and interests came together to share their diverse initiatives, discuss broader issues of development and radical alternatives, and build further collaborations. The Sangam witnessed stimulating discussions, some fascinating sharing of grassroots examples, a night session on the history of alternative movements, film screening, and exhibits of alternative products and work.

Please see the report attached

<http://vikalpsangam.org/static/media/uploads/Resources/nationalsangamreport10.01.2018.pdf>

Other Vikalp Sangams

KV was one of the co-hosts for a food festival organised in Munsiri from 17th to 19th May 2017 by Maati, Himal Prakriti, Himalayan Ark, Jungli School and the community of Sarmoli; see report at: <http://vikalpsangam.org/article/celebrating-food-in-sarmoli/#.WWOHYGW06qB>. Member involved: Shiba

Coordination work was done for a Food Vikalp Sangam due to be held in October 2017, as part of the project on 'Documentation and Outreach Service in Community Based Biodiversity Conservation Livelihood Security' (see elsewhere in this Newsletter). Member involved: Shiba

KV is participating in the planning of the Alternative Economies Vikalp Sangam, due to be held in 2018. Members involved: Ashish, Shrishtee, Sujatha.

Sangam of Sangams

As an offshoot of the Vikalp Sangam process, and in conjunction with several other networks, a Sangam of Sangams process was initiated in December 2016. The idea was to synergise movements and networks across India towards issues of justice and sustainability, facilitating the creation of peoples' agendas on various issues. KV is part of a core team coordinating the process. A second meeting was held on 12 March 2017; the third and much bigger one was to be held in September 2017, but was postponed. Subsequently, it was decided to merge this process with the larger Convergence of Movements initiative, since many of the objectives are similar. Members involved: Ashish, Sujatha, Sneha, Shrishtee

VIKALP SANGAM (ALTERNATIVES INDIA) WEBSITE

There are now about 900 stories and perspective pieces on the website. A coordinated effort is being made to bring about the following.

- vikalp-sangam-list@googlegroups.com e-group consisting of 500+ members discusses various aspects of alternative endeavour, and more members are being added to it.
- A Newsletter showing selected recent story titles and images hyperlinked to the stories is sent out each month to many members of the egroup as well as to those who subscribe solely to the newsletter. (The option to subscribe to the newsletter appears at the foot of the home page above the logos of the co-hosts of Vikalp Sangam.)
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/VikalpSangam/>) has links to stories newly uploaded on the Vikalp Sangam website. The newsletter also appears on this. Besides, we put up a curated selection of stories with a theme, like Economics & Technologies or Learning & Education, is on this page, from time to time.
- Stories are occasionally developed by encouraging authors of informative emails received (e.g. मी, लोकनृत्य आणि वृक्षदिंडी (IN MARATHI))
- In the VSCG meeting, members were requested to share links to stories on this website in their groups, and also to inform us about (or contribute new stories on) Alternatives being practiced in their geographical areas and among their associates.

Members involved: Anuradha, Shrishtee, Shruti, Ashish and Ashwin Parthasarathy (volunteer).

BOOKS ON ALTERNATIVES

Book on Case Studies

A book containing several case studies of alternative initiatives has been under preparation. As of March 2018, the book has been sent to press, and was expected to be out in May 2018. Members involved: Neema, others writing/modifying existing case studies.

Cases covered include:

Alternative education at Imlee Mahuaa school, Chhattisgarh

Community-based ecotourism at Hodka, Kachchh

Women's empowerment and livelihoods through Maati Sangathan, Uttarakhand

Adivasi resistance and alternative worldview at Niyamgiri, Odisha

Agroecology and community livelihoods, Timbaktu Collective, Andhra Pradesh

Urban citizen-led restoration of Kaikondrahalli lake, Bengaluru

Collective farming through Kudumbashree, Kerala

Book on Alternative Futures in India

The book *Alternative Futures: India Unshackled*, edited by Ashish Kothari and KJ Joy, was published by Authors Upfront with SOPPECOM, Kalpavriksh, and Oxfam India in November 2017. It contains 35 essays by over 40 authors, with a total of about 700 pages, covering various ecological, socio-cultural, economic and political issues. Subsequently it has been released with panel discussions in many places in India. For details, see <http://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/11/alternative-futures-unshackling-india.html>. Members involved: Ashish, Sujatha, Shrishtee

COLLABORATION WITH ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

In mid-2017, KV entered into a formal 3-year collaboration with Azim Premji University (APU) for generating case studies on alternatives, converting existing case material and stories into teaching resources, and engaging students in translating case studies and stories into various Indian languages. In 2017-18, several APU faculty members began case studies, and students have produced material relating to alternatives. Members involved: Shruti, Shrishtee, Ashish

5B. Research, outreach, networking globally

Project: ACKNOWL-EJ

Project Coordinator: Ashish Kothari

Project Team: Neema Pathak, Radhika Mulay, Shristhee Bajpai, Shruti Ajit, Meenal Tatpati and Arpita Lulla (intern)

Year of Commencement: 2016

Year of Completion: 2018

Funds sanctioned: 98,625 Euros (for all 3 years)

Funding agency: International Social Science Council

A number of activities are taking place as part of the Academic-Activist Co-generation of Knowledge on Environmental Justice (ACKnowl-EJ), the global collaboration with ICTA of the Autonomous University of Barcelona and other partners, including research, mapping, and dialogue. Additionally, members are involved with other global processes and networks.

EJ Atlas

For the Environmental Justice Atlas (EJAtlas) website, Kalpavriksh has commissioned or initiated cases from India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh. 19 cases were planned for 2017-2018; 12 have been approved so far and the rest are in process.

The cases can be accessed at www.ejatlasing.org.

Rights of Nature Feature Map

Work began on creating a feature map on EJAtlas for cases of Rights of Nature from different countries. This will also consist of summaries and documentation of policies and international agreements based on the idea of Rights of Nature. A concept note has been circulated for comments, contacts have been made with organisations and individuals in other parts of the world who are working on this issue, and cases are being put up.

Alternatives Transformation Format (ATF)

Having been finalized in February 2017, the Format is being used in the ACKnowl-EJ case study on Kachchh weaving (see below). It was also sent to other teams in ACKnowl-EJ, and elements of it are being used by other partners. It is also being used as reference in the case studies that Azim Premji University is doing and by its students, as part of a collaboration with Kalpavriksh (see above).

Case Studies

1. Kachchh crafts assessment of transformation

Location: Kachchh, Gujarat

Members: Ashish, Radhika, Kankana, Arpita (intern)

As part of ACKNOWLEDGE-EJ project, Kalpavriksh (Pune) along with Khamir (Kachchh) is undertaking a case study on the Weaving craft in Kachchh with the Vankar community. The objective of the study is to look at the Weaving craft as a whole through the lens of the 5 spheres mentioned in the Alternatives Transformation Framework (ATF). The case study aims to study the ongoing transformation within this craft and community and also, analyse the role of civil society organizations in these transformations. A joint team of artisans, community members, independent consultants, Khamir, and Kalpavriksh team members is conducting this case study over a period of one year. The ATF will be used as a tool for analysis to look at the craft and the community from a holistic perspective. Methodologies to be used are – survey for quantitative data collection, in-depth qualitative data collection and analysis through interviews, focused group discussions, participatory video and photography, and exploratory field visits to understand the current situation of the craft and the community.

In 2017-18, relevant teams were formed, orientation sessions held, and several field trips undertaken. While a broad study of all the villages in Kutch where weaving is still being practised is being done as context, the in-depth analysis using some key elements of the ATF is being done in about 15 villages. A women's team was formed in Avadhnagar in order to facilitate women's participation and perspective in the study.

A participatory video process has also been initiated with young members of the community; through this, they will make 5-6 short films in association with Drishti, a development communication organisation.

2. Worldview of adivasis of Gadchiroli on well-being and development

Location: Gadchiroli, Maharashtra

Members: Neema, Shrishtee

The case study site had to be changed the second time in April 2017 when the situation in Mohagaon and Jhada Papadia became difficult to work in. Finally in August 2017, after discussions with local team members from Gadchiroli, it was decided that the case study should be located in Zendevar, Bharitola, Sahle villages of Korchi taluka which also faces threats from extractivism and is currently experiencing local resistance against extractivism based model of development. It was also decided that this study should be done in collaboration with Amhi Amchiya Arogya Saathi (AAAS), an organisation working with the local communities for decades.

The Kalpavriksh team, along with Mahesh Raut and Mukesh Shinde (local team members) visited Korchi in September to discuss the case study and its feasibility. Discussions were held with Dr. Satish Gogulwar, Mrs. Shubhada Deshmukh, and Kumari tai of AAAS. Subsequently, discussions were organised with the members of an informal federation (Mahasabha) of gram sabhas in Korchi taluka. All present agreed to co-produce and document such knowledge and narratives. Jhendevar, Bharitola, and Sahle were selected for detailed study, while Korchi taluka as a whole will also be looked at through taluka level people's formal and informal institutions. Discussions were separately held with members of gram sabhas (including women) in three villages (Bharitola, Zendevar and Sale). After showing interest in the study and re-emphasising a need for carrying out a study of this kind, the villagers under the guidance of Ijam Sahi decided to form local teams to participate in this study. In a trip to the site, the team gathered the basic data for the district and the three villages. They also did seasonality charting, generational mapping and exclusive interviews with the members and activists. The team also attended the annual Yatra (pilgrimage) organized by the people of the region.

3. Raika pastoralist worldviews

Location: Kumbhalgarh area, Rajasthan

Members: Meenal, Shruti

Having had to shift the case study away from the Dongria Kondh worldview in Niyamgiri, Odisha, to the worldview of the Raika pastoralists in Rajasthan, the following field visits were conducted in 2017:

- 11th June-17th June 2007: Preliminary field visit to Lokhit Pashu Palak Sansthan (LPPS), Rajpura, Pali District to visit the Raika community in and around Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary
- 13th to 15th August 2017: Visit to LPPS to speak to the elders of the Raika community about the Worldviews on well being and development case study
- 3rd October-20th November 2017: Stay in Village Rajpura, District Pali, Rajasthan for the case study on Raika pastoralists

The initial aim was to carry out action-collaborative research with the Godwar Raika community, aimed at exploring the motivations of the community towards a pastoral lifestyle, based primarily on their notion of well-being which have prompted them to resist changes and interference by external factors; as well as to help the community to articulate any future visions of well-being and development that the community may have. During the course of the field work, the entire articulation for continuing a pastoralist lifestyle came from the men in the community. The Marwar Camel Culture Festival 2017, presented an opportunity to speak to some of the women in the

community. As part of the festival, it was proposed to have a panel of Raika women talking about their dreams and vision of the future. To prepare for the panel, the team visited a group of women from Ranakpur village. Discussions ranged across various topics that were of special interest to the women in the community, from social customs and norms which can often lead to a suppression of their voices and desires, to pastoralism-related issues, the need for education, access and importance of forests for the women, etc. While their role as keepers of traditional knowledge and maintaining the finances has been largely acknowledged, their social standing within the community has prevented most of the women from actively advocating for their way of life to the outside world. Many Raika women were involved in the resistance and mobilization against the grazing ban which was put in place due to the proposed declaration of the Kumbalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary into a National Park. Therefore by the end of 2017, the focus of the case study was narrowed further to look at the community through the eyes of its women, and highlight articulations put forth by women. The following visits were made in early 2018:

- 27th January-5th February 2018: Field Visit to Hirabaugh (Ranakpur), Rajasthan for gauging the possibility of carrying on case study with women from the village
- 17th March-23th March 2018: First field visit to Hirabaugh (Ranakpur), Rajasthan for the case study on Raika Women Pastoralists

Global Worldviews Dialogue

Within the ACKnowl-EJ project, KV is responsible to initiate a 'Global Worldviews Dialogue' (GWD). A brief concept note was prepared, and proposals for funding sent out by KV and other ACKnowl-EJ partners. Since ACKnowl-EJ itself does not have funding for this, it will take off once some resources are generated. Meanwhile, as and when worldviews get recorded as part of the India case studies described above, they can be shared with partners in other countries, and relevant material developed by them can be shared with communities here, for which also translation resources are being sought.

Project meetings

Members attended meetings of the ACKnowl-EJ project and of the wider Transformative Knowledge process of the International Social Science Council under which ACKnowl-EJ is being funded. These include:

- 5-11 June 2017: ACKnowl-EJ global project meeting and field visit, Beirut and South Lebanon: Radhika, Ashish
- 3 July 2017: ACKnowl-EJ and Transformative Learning teams' methodology and reflections session, Barcelona: Ashish
- 3-4 August 2017: ACKnowl-EJ Project India Advisory team meeting, Pune: Meenal, Shruti, Ashish, Radhika, Neema, Shrishtee
- 26 Aug -1 Sept 2017: Participation in Transformations 2017: Transformations to Sustainability Conference, Dundee, Scotland: Meenal, Neema
- 26-30 November 2017: Transformative Knowledge Workshop on presentation of Case-Study Methodologies, Buenos Aires, Argentina: Meenal Tatpati

RADICAL ECOLOGICAL DEMOCRACY WEBSITE

Project: REDWeb
Project Coordinator: Ashish Kothari
Project Team: Pallav Das
Year of Commencement: 2018
Year of Completion: 2019
Funds sanctioned: 15,000 Euro (for 2 years)
Funding agency: Misereor

After a few months of planning that included soliciting original material from thinker-practitioners in various regions, Kalpavriksh launched a new website, www.radicalecologicaldemocracy.org, online in late September 2017. This is the global equivalent of its Vikalp Sangam site, and will feature radical alternatives from various parts of the world. It is a substantial upgrade from a blog, <http://radicalecologicaldemocracy.wordpress.com>, that was being occasionally populated. Pallav is managing the new site, with Ashish, and with the technical support of Pramod Sadalage of ThoughtWorks (in his individual, honorary capacity).

OTHER GLOBAL COLLABORATIONS

Rosa Luxemburg Foundation's (RLF) working group called 'Beyond Development' held its annual meeting in May in Quito, Ecuador. Two KV members, Ashish and Neema, participated in it; Neema wrote a case study on self-governance in Mendha-Lekha for the meeting. While there, visits were also made to the Nabon community to understand their community-based initiatives, and to Otavalo to see community agroecology initiatives. A book of case studies including the Mendha-Lekha one is being brought out by RLF.

KV participated through Ashish in the Club of Madrid's process of producing a document on 'Shared Societies', aimed at providing guidance to governments, UN agencies, and civil society, on steps towards a more sustainable, equitable world. The report was finalised and released in July 2017. It is available at [http://www.clubmadrid.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Shared Societies-Report-13.pdf](http://www.clubmadrid.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Shared_Societies-Report-13.pdf)

Discussion has been initiated amongst various groups and individuals regarding the possibility and desirability of an Earth Vikalp Sangam, or Global Alternatives Confluence. The idea was mooted in 2016 and has gained ground, but slowly as there are many pros and cons of holding something like this, and various possible processes towards it.

PART B: PUBLICATIONS

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<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/05/agroecology-and-biodiversity.html>

Saving Beirut's public coast, 5 June,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/06/saving-beiruts-public-coast.html>

Israeli horrors faced by Lebanese (and Palestine), 11 June,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/06/israeli-horrors-faced-by-lebanese-and.html>

Protecting Lebanon's last turtle nesting beach, 12 June,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/06/protecting-lebanons-last-turtle-nesting.html>

Uprooting Gandhi, 28 July, <https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/07/uprooting-gandhi.html>

Sustainable development: New paradigm? 29 July,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/07/sustainable-development-new-paradigm.html>

Wonderful visits to Valley and Rishi Valley Schools, 31 August,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/08/wonderful-visits-to-valley-rishi-valley.html>

Crafts satyagraha!, 4 September, <https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/09/crafts-satyagraha-7th-september.html>

Protest the forces of hatred! 6 September,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/09/protest-forces-of-hatred.html>

Wild foods festival, yum! 11 September,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/09/wild-foods-festival-yum.html>

Declining Wockhardt Foundation Award, 14 September,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/09/declining-wockhardt-foundation-award.html>

Drowning of Narmada Valley for PM Modi's birthday, URGENT ACTION needed! 15 September, <https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/09/drowning-of-narmada-valley-for-pm-modis.html> and (Hindi), 17 September,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/09/blog-post.html>

Happy birthday, Mr. Modi: you effectively murdered democracy (again), 18 September,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/09/happy-birthday-mr-modi-you-effectively.html>

Drafting resolution on displacement and repression in Narmada Valley, by participants of Madhya Pradesh Vikalp Sangam, 20.9.2017,
https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/09/blog-post_23.html

A confluence of food alternatives! 15 October,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/10/a-confluence-of-food-alternatives.html>

Kachchh crafts: unique, threatened! 21 November,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/11/kachchh-crafts-unique-threatened.html>

Zealous bird protection! 2 December,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/12/zealous-bird-protection.html>

National Vikalp Sangam, Udaipur: Confluence of alternatives, 3 December,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2017/12/national-vikalp-sangam-udaipur.html>

Amazing aerial display, Bhigwan, India, 14 January, 2018,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2018/01/amazing-aerial-display-bhigwan-india.html>

In the college of 'Small is Beautiful', 29 January, 2018,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2018/01/in-college-of-small-is-beautiful.html>

Alternative Futures: India Unshackled, release videos, 3 February, 2018,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2018/02/alternative-futures-india-unshackled.html>

Incredible murmuration of starlings ... 3 parts of India! 24 March , 2018,
<https://ashishkothari51.blogspot.in/2018/03/incredible-murmuration-of-starlings-3.html>

Video clips

Chat with Merman Blix, breaking gender stereotypes, at Santarcangelo Festival (Italy),
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITz1VJFAIOM>

Interviews (series of 4) with Eric Duran on alternative currencies and economy, at Santarcangelo Festival (Italy), 7.7.2017,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqpAcLUaU-A>,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwtM9KzEles>,
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fOtSlaWF_Ws,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QifCeSmaL7U>

Interviews (series of 5) with Joel Morist I Boties, Cooperativa Integral Catalan (CIC), on CIC's work on cooperative work, exchange, and living, Barcelona, 20.7.2017,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QIxvksRzbDo>,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWLOOCqnTSM>,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1Ug-jmrbC4>,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BtF0qYe2wgU>, and
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aj1uk4JS73g>

Interview with Joel Morist I Boties, CIC, about the Social currency shop at CIC, Barcelona, 25.7.2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOFTvt8DOGQ>

Forest foods festival at Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra, 10.9.2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cIZSCyewbMo> and

Interview with Kasturi Patel of Navrachna, on indigenous / women's wisdom on seed diversity and conservation, at the Madhya Pradesh Vikalp Sangam, Orchha (Madhya Pradesh) 18-19.9.2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i6Ijb70TB3A>

Interview with Bharat Namdeo of Jai Bharat Shikshan Sansthan, on forest rights and village self-governance, at the Madhya Pradesh Vikalp Sangam, Orchha (Madhya Pradesh) 18-19.9.2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=voMDhQ9cTQI&t=2s>

On food diversity in the desert, at Food Vikalp Sangam, Bajju (Bikaner, Rajasthan), October 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BeSffrgha4U>,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9P1T5yMBmcE>,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HbledY7VLSS>

Interview with Ijamsai Katenge, on indigenous rights and self-governance, at Food Vikalp Sangam, Bajju (Bikaner, Rajasthan), October 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alq80XgRlnI>

Interview with Samat Tejsibhai Marwada, Kharad weaver, Kachchh (Gujarat), on loss of livelihoods due to modern markets & industrialization, November 2017, https://youtu.be/O_YI8dRWccQ

Samat Tejsibhai Marwada, Kharad weaver, Kachchh (Gujarat), on community story depicted in national award-winning carpet, November 2017, <https://youtu.be/C8s6rwLPGAs>

Mashru weaving by Babubhai Ratansinh Vanodia Vankar, Kachchh (Gujarat), November 2017, <https://youtu.be/4zKqd6e6ZIU>

Interview with Dharmendra Menaria, youth birder of Menar village, Udaipur (Rajasthan), on community conservation and his passion for birds, December 2017, <https://youtu.be/2-f92fwfZn8>

Interview with Omkarlal Menaria, elder of Menar village, Udaipur (Rajasthan), on tradition of community conservation of birds, December 2017, <https://youtu.be/osoUqHs18Ak>

Videos of birds, December 2017 – January 2018, including Spoonbill parent-juvenile interaction, <https://youtu.be/I0sOUviyls>, and Rosy starling murmuration at Bhigwan, <https://youtu.be/5K62yWjok7Y>, and at Bhuj, <https://youtu.be/Zixh2k1zoNQ>, <https://youtu.be/HDRsYNQ5fJM>, <https://youtu.be/hhiWdPRlpDk>, and https://youtu.be/3N_RkWXQGig.

Other work

A briefing note examining on-ground realities in the implementation of FRA in areas facing forest diversion. (Legislation brief published in English and Hindi)-Meenal Tatpati with inputs from Neema Pathak Broome, Neeraj Vagholikar and Milind Wani

Comments on a proposal for Ethical Consumption rating process, by Minhiz Ameen

Comments on Universal Declaration of River Rights, drafted by Earth Law Centre, USA

Comments on essay ‘Buen Vivir’, by Pablo Solon, Great Transition Initiative, January 2018

Petition to MoTA and NTCA against NTCA letter of not implementing FRA in Tiger Reserves (Neema Pathak Broome, Shruti Ajit, Meenal Tatpati) - 9.05.2017

Contribution to framing civil society response to Niti Aayog on draft Energy Policy, July 2017

Inputs to conceiving, building storyline, and final video outputs of film series by Video Volunteers and Srishti Institute of Art (Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari)

Inputs to ‘Living Utopias’ Masters course outline, Azim Premji University (Ashish Kothari)

Inputs to new series of posters on Alternatives, designed by intern Aparupa Das (Ashish Kothari)

PART C: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

April 2017

1-2: Participation in Honeybee Festival, Bhorgiri, Bhimashankar: Pradeep Chavan, Neema Pathak Broome, Ashish Kothari, Sneha Gutgutia, Sujatha Padmanabhan, Radhika Mulay

4: Presentation on Radical Ecological Democracy to students of School for International Training, Jaipur (on skype): Ashish Kothari

7-9: Birding trip to Arippa & Shendurney Sanctuary, Kerala: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Shrishtee Bajpai, Shruti Ajit, Ashish Kothari

10-12: Co-organising of & participation in Kerala Vikalp Sangam, Bodhigram, Kerala: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Shrishtee Bajpai, Shruti Ajit, Ashish Kothari

14-19: Mendha- Lekha and Mohagaon, Gachiroli (Neema Pathak Broome, Shrishtee Bajpai)

15: Presentation on Radical Ecological Democracy at Ecological Society, Pune: Ashish Kothari

19: Petition & press release against branding of Niyamgiri Suraksha Samit as 'Maoist'

23-26: Co-organising and participation in Himal Kalasutra bird and forest festival, Munsiri, Uttarakhand: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari

Field visit to Arunachal Pradesh for writing a children's story : Neeraj Vagholikar

29 - KV children's books stall at LitBug Fest, Pune: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Radhika Mulay, Sharmila Deo, Neeraj Vagholikar

May 2017

3: Petition to National Human Rights Commission on arrest of Dongria Kondh adivasi woman

11-18: Participation in meeting/field visits of 'Beyond Development' Working Group of Rosa Luxembourg Foundation, Quito and Nabon (Ecuador): Ashish Kothari, Neema Pathak Broome

20-21: Visit to agroecology initiatives of Otavalo communities, Ecuador:): Ashish Kothari, Neema Pathak Broome

29-30: Visit to Kachchh for ACKnowl-EJ case study: Radhika Mulay, Ashish Kothari

29 – 31 : Trip to Tumkur, Karnataka in connection with writing a story for children on the slender loris conservation efforts : Sujatha Padmanabhan, Yashodara Kundaji

June 2017

5-11: ACKnowl-EJ global project meeting and field visit, Beirut and South Lebanon: Radhika Mulay, Ashish Kothari

9: West Asia Vikalp Sangam, 'Regional Workshop to Discuss Strategies and Challenges for Environmental Justice', Beirut, Lebanon: Radhika Mulay, Ashish Kothari

12: Presentation on Radical Ecological Democracy, participation in conference on 'Environmental Justice: Sharing of Global Experiences, Resistances and Paths Forward', American University of Beirut, Lebanon: Radhika Mulay, Ashish Kothari

11th-17th: Field visit to Sadri, Rajasthan for Raika Case Study : Meenal Tatpati, Shruti Ajit

20-22: Meeting on post CFR Management at ATREE : Neema Pathak Broome, Shruti Ajit

21: Letter to Badwani District Collector protesting charge that Medha Patkar involved in mining sand

21: Reading & slides of 'Shero' storybook, St. Joseph's School, Pune: Ashish Kothari

26-28: Participation in Advisory Board meeting of ENVJUSTICE project, ICTA/Autonomous University of Barcelona: Ashish Kothari

28: Presentation on Radical Ecological Democracy, at Degrowth & Environmental Justice Summer School, Barcelona: Ashish Kothari

29-1 July: Editorial board meeting for 'Post-Development Dictionary', Barcelona: Ashish Kothari

29 – 8 : Field visit to Nagaland and Meghalaya for writing stories: Tanya Majmudar

July 2017

2-7: Dzongu, Sikkim for a legal training programme : (Neeraj Vagholikar, Neema Pathak Broome, Meenal Tatpati)

3: Participation in ACKnowl-EJ and Transformative Learning teams' methodology and reflections session, Barcelona: Ashish Kothari

7: Presentation on Radical Ecological Democracy, at MACAO event, Santarcangelo Festival, Italy: Ashish Kothari

12: Presentation on ICCAs to students of Environmental Anthropology, ICTA/Autonomous University of Barcelona: Ashish Kothari

14-16: Meeting on Orans in Rajasthan, Jodhpur : Neema Pathak Broome

5 – 21: Meetings and interviews in Leh on work related to putting together a book on Food issues in Ladakh : Sujatha Padmanabhan, Shiba Desor

August 2017

3-4: ACKnowl-EJ Project India Advisory team meeting, Pune: Meenal Tatpati, Shruti Ajit, Ashish Kothari, Radhika Mulay, Neema Pathak Broome, Shrishtee Bajpai

8: Participation in rally against displacement and repression in Narmada Valley, Pune: Radhika Mulay, Ashish Kothari

8: Sahyadri school for collaboration on Bhimashankar work (Neema Pathak Broome with Subhash Dolas and Manda Kate- Bhimashankar local team)

10-11: CSE meeting on post CFR Management in Delhi : Neema Pathak Broome, Kanch Kohli)

13-15th: Field visit to Sadri, Rajasthan for Raika Case Study : Meenal Tatpati, Shruti Ajit

17-19: Visit to Kachchh for ACKnowl-EJ case study, and orientation on Alternatives Transformation Format: Meenal Tatpati, Shruti Ajit, Neema Pathak Broome, Shrishtee Bajpai, Arpita Lulla, Radhika Mulay, Ashish Kothari

26-1 Sept: Participation in Transformations 2017: Transformations to Sustainability Conference, Dundee, Scotland; presentation of Alternatives Transformation Format in T-Lab: Learning from ground up transformations for sustainability through the conflict transformation and alternatives framework: Meenal Tatpati, Neema Pathak Broome

28-30: Presentations on environment/development at The Valley School, Bengaluru, and Rishi Valley School, Madinapalli (Andhra): Ashish Kothari

September 2017

6: Participation in demonstration protesting killing of Gauri Lankesh, Pune: Shrishtee Bajpai

10: Participation in Forest foods festival, Bhimashankar (Maharashtra), co-organised by KV and local women's self-help groups: Pradeep Chavan, Neema Pathak Broome, Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari, Arpita Lulla, Sujatha Padmanabhan, Sneha Gutgutia

15-18: Well being case study in Korchi taluka, Gadchiroli : Neema Pathak Broome, Shrishtee Bajpai

18-19: Participation in Madhya Pradesh Vikalp Sangam, Orchha, MP: Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari

27: Launch of global alternatives website www.radicalecologicaldemocracy.org: Pallav Das, Ashish Kothari

28: Self-assessment by KV using Alternatives Transformation Format, Pune: all Pune members and staff

29: Presentation on Environment and Development, Environment Science students of Azam Campus, Pune: Ashish Kothari

October 2017

1-2: KV AGM, Pune

6-8: Food Vikalp Sangam, Bajju (Rajasthan), Organised by URMUL, KV, Banyan Roots: Shiba Desor, Sujatha Padmanabhan, Shrishtee Bajpai, Sunita Rao, Milind Wani, Ashish Kothari

8th: Attended a Public Hearing on the implementation of the Forest Rights Act in Uttarakhand at the Pragatisheel Sanskruti Bhavan in Ramnagar. Organised by the Uttarakhand Van Panchayat Sangharsh Morcha, All India Union of Forest Working People and Delhi Solidarity Forum: Neema Pathak Broome and Meenal Tatpati

8th: Attended a consultation on Forest Rights Act and Pastoral Communities in Ahmedabad, organised as part of Living Lightly Exhibition by Centre for Pastoralism: Shruti Ajit

11-12: Visit to Desert National Park, Jaisalmer: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Shrishtee Bajpai, Milind Wani, Ashish Kothari, Shiba Desor

30: Visit to Devisar, Kachchh, to see work of Biodiversity Management Committee on Spiny-tailed lizard, with Sahjeevan / Sayara: Ashish Kothari

31-3 Nov: Visit to Kachchh for ACKnowl-EJ case study: Radhika Mulay, Arpita Lulla, Ashish Kothari, Kankana Trivedi

3rd October-21st November: Field visit to sadri, Rajasthan for Raika Case Study : Meenal Tatpati, Shruti Ajit

November 2017

1-3, 6-7: (as above)

3 – 6 : Trip to Thootha, Kerala in connection with writing a story for children on the community's efforts to clean up the Thoothapuzha river :Sujatha

4-5: Participation in Camel Festival, Kumbhalgarh (Rajasthan) organised by Lok Pashu Palak Sangh: Shruti Ajit, Meenal Tatpati, Radhika Mulay, Ashish Kothari, Arpita Lulla

11: Chair at Ganesh Devy talk on Knowledge, Language and Science, Vasant Palshikar Memorial Lecture organised by Aksharnandan: Ashish Kothari

14th- Attended a Consultation on the Compensatory Afforestation and Rights of Forest Dwelling Communities, organised by All India Forum for Forest Movements(AIFFM) and CFR-LA : Neema Pathak Broome, Shruti Ajit

15th - Organised a Consultation on implementation of Forest Rights Act in Protected Areas in collaboration with All India Forum for Forest Movements(AIFFM), Ashoka Trust For Research on Ecology and Environment(ATREE) and Vasundhara at India International Centre(IIC) in New Delhi : Neema Pathak, Shruti Ajit

21 : Story reading and discussions with children of Army Public School at Pagdandi Café, Pune :Sujatha Padmanabhan

25: Visit to Delwara, to see work of Seva Mandir, meet local community committee members: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Milind Wani, Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari

26: Birding at Menar village, discussions with local community re. conservation efforts: Ashish Sujatha Padmanabhan, Milind Wani, Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari

27-29: National Vikalp Sangam, Prakriti Sadhana Kendra, Udaipur, organised by KV, Seva Mandir, Shikshantar, Vidya Bhawan: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Milind Wani, Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari

24th November-3rd December: Transformations Knowledge Network Meeting on methodologies, Buenos Aires, Argentina : Meenal Tatpati

30-1 December: Vikalp Sangam Core Group meeting, Shikshantar, Udaipur: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Milind Wani, Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari

December 2017

1: (as above)

7-9: Birding trip to Thattekad Sanctuary, Kerala: Ashish Kothari

16: Story reading at Drive Change Learning Resource Centre (DLRC)'s Literature Festival, Pune :Sujatha Padmanabhan

19-24: Visit to Kachchh for ACKnowl-EJ case study: Radhika Mulay, Arpita Lulla, Ashish Kothari, Kankana Trivedi

January 2018

4: Release of *Alternative Futures* by Kumar Ketkar, Kitaab Khana, Mumbai : Ashish Kothari, Shrishtee Bajpai

5 - 7: KV children's books stall at Kirloskar Vasundara International Film Festival, Pune

5: Presentation on Radical Ecological Democracy, and release of *Alternative Futures* by S. Parasuraman, TISS: Ashish Kothari, Shrishtee Bajpai

6: Presentation on Rights of Nature, TISS course on Animal Ethics: Ashish Kothari, Shrishtee Bajpai

8: Talk with students of grade 5 in St. Mary's school, Pune on dams and development based on experiences of volunteering with the Narmada Bachao Andolan : Sneha Gutgutia

11-31: Well being case study, Korchi taluka, Gadchiroli : Neema Pathak Broome, Shristee Bajpai

12-13: Birding trip to Bhigwan reservoir, Maharashtra: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Meenal Tatpati, Sneha Gutgutia, Ashish Kothari

14: Release of *Alternative Futures* by Baba Adhav, SM Joshi Foundation, Pune: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Ashish Kothari, Swati Arjunwadkar

16: Presentation on Knowledge and Democracy, seminar on Sustainable Development Processes: Engagements in Knowledge and Democracy, Shiv Nadar University, Delhi: Ashish Kothari

16: Release of *Alternative Futures* by Jairam Ramesh, India Islamic Cultural Centre, Delhi: Kanchi Kohli, Manju Menon, Ashish Kothari

23-26: Lectures, exercises on Development and Alternatives, at 'Beyond Development' course, Schumacher College, UK: Ashish Kothari

24: Earth Talk on Eco-swaraj, at Schumacher College, UK: Ashish Kothari

24: Release of *Alternative Futures* by Satish Kumar, Schumacher College, UK: Ashish Kothari

25: Fireside dialogue with Satish Kumar, Schumacher College, UK: Ashish Kothari

27: Visit to Transition Town initiatives at Totnes, UK: Ashish Kothari

29th: Presentation to students doing masters in Social Work at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai on "Understanding biodiversity, CCAs and legislation governing them" : Sneha Gutgutia

29: Presentation on Radical Ecological Democracy, School of International Development, University of East Anglia, UK: Ashish Kothari

30: Discussion on *Alternative Futures* with Rupert Read, University of East Anglia, UK: Ashish Kothari

26th January-4th February: Field visit to Sadri, Rajasthan for Raika Case Study (Meenal Tatpati, Shruti Ajit)

February 2018

6: Release of *Alternative Futures* by Corinne Kumar, Indian Institute of Human Settlements, Bengaluru: Ashish Kothari, Roshni Kutty

7: Presentation on Radical Ecological Democracy to staff of Pradaan, Azim Premji University, Bengaluru: Ashish Kothari

7: Meeting on alternative case studies with faculty of Azim Premji University, Bengaluru: Shruti Ajit, Shrishtee Bajpai, Ashish Kothari

7: Sessions on case study methods, alternatives, and presentation 'Birds in Our Lives', Azim Premji University UG campus, Bengaluru: Ashish Kothari

10 : Story reading at ICS Colony, Pune :Sharmila Deo

11: Birding trip to Sinhagad valley, Pune: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Shrishtee Bajpai, Sneha Gutgutia, Ashish Kothari

17: Release of *Alternative Futures* by Shashanka Bhide, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Ashish Kothari

17: Participation in Chennai Turtle Walk: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Ashish Kothari

17-18: Participation in reStore 10th Anniversary celebrations, including presentation on Radical Ecological Democracy and release of *Alternative Futures*, Stella Mari College, Chennai: Sujatha Padmanabhan, Ashish Kothari

23-27: Visit to Kachchh for ACKnowl-EJ case study: Radhika Mulay, Arpita Lulla, Ashish Kothari, Kankana Trivedi

March 2018

6-9: Lectures, exercises on Development and Alternatives, including use of Alternatives Transformation Format, with Textile Design students of National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad: Ashish Kothari

6: Release of *Alternative Futures* by Sudarshan Iyengar, Gujarat Sahitya Parishad, Ahmedabad: Ashish Kothari

7: Presentations on Radical Ecological Democracy, National Institute of Design, and CEPT University, Ahmedabad: Ashish Kothari

9: Meeting with Jignesh Mevani, Rashtriya Dalit Adhikar Manch, on linkages with Vikalp Sangam, Ahmedabad: Ashish Kothari, Kankana Trivedi

10: Birding at Thol Sanctuary, Gujarat: Ashish Kothari, Kankana Trivedi

11-13, 15-20: Visit to Kachchh for ACKnowl-EJ case study: Ashish Kothari, Kankana Trivedi, Arpita Lulla

17-23: Field visit to Sadri, Rajasthan for Raika Case Study : Meenal Tatpati, Shruti Ajit

24-25: Presentation on laws and policies around Protected Areas in MAKAAAM meeting on Forest Rights Act : Meenal Tatpati, Shruti Ajit

14: Presentation on Environment, Development, and Human Rights, at Human Rights and Environment Conference, Ramanujan College, Delhi

18: Birding trip near Bhuj, Gujarat

PART D: POLICY SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS

Petitions

1. Petition against the use of the Myristica swamps of Elavupalam as a site for a hospital waste disposal,
<http://www.kalpavriksh.org/images/FeaturedArticles/KV-letter-to-Kerala-CM-for-Peringammala-Panchayat-Myristica-Swamp-25.01.2018.-Final.pdf> : Sneha Gutgutia, Neema Pathak Broome and Meenal Tatpati
2. Petition against the illegal order of National Conservation Tiger Authority forbidding implementation of Forest Rights Act in Critical Tiger Habitat(CTH),
<http://www.kalpavriksh.org/images/LawsNPolicies/PetitionagainstNTCAOrder.pdf> : Neema Pathak Broome and Meenal Tatpati as part of CFR-LA process
3. Petition to the NCST (National Commission for Scheduled Tribes) on the illegal order by the NTCA (National Tiger Conservation Authority), which violates the Forest Rights Act, 2006. <http://www.kalpavriksh.org/index.php/13-home/431-petition-to-ncst-on-pas-and-fra> :Neema Pathak Broome and Shruti Ajit

PART E: LIST OF KALPAVRIKSH MEMBERS

1. Neema Pathak
2. Yashodara Kundaji
3. Meenal Tatpati
4. Pradeep Chavan
5. Anuradha Arjunwadkar
6. Shiba Desor
7. Tejeswini Apte
8. Sujatha Padmanabhan
9. Ashish Kothari
10. Neeraj Vagholikar
11. Rashi Mishra
12. Shruti Ajit
13. Milind Wani
14. Sharmila Deo
15. Roshni Kutty
16. Sunita Rao
17. Tanya Majmudar
18. Pallav Das
19. Vandana Singh

20. Vasundara Krishnani
21. Saili Palande-Datar
22. Arshiya Bose
23. Pankaj Sekhsaria
24. Shantha Bhushan
25. Shrishtee Bajpai
26. Radhika Mulay
27. Sneha Gutgutia
28. Kanchi Kohli
29. Manju Menon
30. Farhad Vania
31. Sanjay Sondhi
32. Anchal Sondhi
33. Meenakshi Kapoor
34. R. Prabhakar Rao
35. Seema Bhatt
36. Vikal Samdariya
37. Nidhi Agarwal
38. Ajay Mahajan

PART F: LIST OF DONORS AND FUNDERS

DONORS

A. Education

Nirmala Bhide

Pratiksha Dange

B.Vijayalakshmi

B. P A update Newsletter

Anuradha Arjunwadkar

Minoo Vania

Lalita Sridhar

Krushnamegh Kunte

Ramkrishna Kumar

Sanjeev Jindal

Rohith Bhandary

Ajith Kumar

C. Alternative Work

Aashish Bhinde

Anuradha Arjunwadkar

C.K.Ganguly

D. KV General

Anuradha Arjunwadkar

E. Community Conserved Areas

Anuradha Arjunwadkar

F. North East Dams

Shantha Bhushan

FUNDERS

1. Heinrich Boll Foundation

2. MISEREOR

3. ICCA Consortium

4. Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust (DMNCT)

5. Vasundhara

6. Institut de Clencia i Tecnologia Ambientals (Autonomous University of Barcelona)

7. KNA Foundation

8. Foundation for Innovation & Social Enterprenurship (TATA Trust)

PART G: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Income and Expenditure Account

KALPAVRIKSH
Income & Expenditure Account
For the financial year 2017-18

SN	Particulars	For 2017-18	For 2016-17
		(₹)	(₹)
A.	Income		
	Grants utilised	95,17,601	1,08,56,884
	Donations received	5,000	57,070
	Fees from Activities	-	9,850
	Income from publications	1,91,659	2,77,389
	Other Income		
	-Interest Income	2,14,933	1,38,842
	-Membership Fees	19,500	17,500
	Total Income	99,48,693	1,13,57,535
B	Expenditure		
	Staff Payments and Benefits	26,44,634	30,55,906
	Professional Fees	33,85,015	39,54,492
	Rent, Rates and Taxes	3,61,800	3,99,526
	Communication Expenses	1,59,841	1,35,228
	Printing and Stationary	2,24,019	33,180
	Electricity expenses	16,080	15,820
	Travelling and conveyance expenses	17,92,206	14,99,967
	Remuneration to Auditors	59,000	57,140
	Other Expenses	12,02,727	22,38,835
	Repairs and Maintenance	2,85,590	23,851
	Depreciation for the year	54,793	28,672
	Total Expenditure	1,01,85,704	1,14,42,617
C	Surplus / (Deficit) (A - B)	(2,37,011)	(85,082)

As per our attached report of even date

For Paresh Sarda and Company
Chartered Accountants
FRN.: 140714W


Paresh S Sarda
Partner
M.N.: 143211
Pune

Date: 28th September 2018



For & on behalf of KALPAVRIKSH




Secretary

Balance Sheet

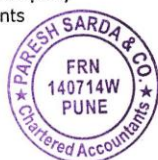
KALPAVRIKSH Statement of Assets and Liabilities As on 31st March 2018

SN	Particulars	Sch No.	(₹) As on 31st March '18		(₹) As on 31st March '17	
A	Sources of Funds					
I.	Trust Fund			2,26,314		2,26,314
II.	General Fund					
	Opening balance (Administrative Fund)		30,58,073		31,43,156	
	Add: Surplus for the year		(2,37,011)		(85,082)	
	Add: Deposit Adjustment		-			
	Less: TDS balances written off		-			
	Closing balance			28,21,062		30,58,073
III.	Restricted Funds					
	Conditional Donations and Grants	1		56,20,091		72,34,105
	TOTAL I + II + III + IV			86,67,467		1,05,18,492
B.	Application of Funds					
I.	Fixed Assets	2		1,72,664		1,28,415
II.	Investments in Bank Fixed Deposits	3		7,47,043		7,10,032
	Current Assets, Loans & Advances	4	80,13,330		98,62,680	
	Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions	4	2,65,570		1,82,634	
III.	Net Current Assets			77,47,760		96,80,045
IV.	Notes to Accounts	5				
	TOTAL V + VI + VII + VIII			86,67,467		1,05,18,492

As per our attached report of even date

Paresh Sarda and Company
Chartered Accountants
FRN.: 140714W

Paresh S Sarda
Partner
M.N.: 143211
Pune
Date: 28th September 2018



For and on behalf of KALPAVRIKSH



[Signature]
Secretary