



© 2021 Sankalpa Rural Development Society (SRDS)

All reasonable precautions have been taken by SRDS to verify the information contained in this publication. However the published material is being distributed without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. The responsibility for the interpretation and use of the material within lies with the reader. In no event shall SRDS be liable for damages arising from its use.

## Contents:

Contents:	3
Preface:	4
Message from the CEO	5
A Message from a Volunteer	6
From Chief Mentor's Desk	7
Saving Water for a Better Tomorrow	8
Infographic of the Twin Ring Method of Bore Well Recharge	10
Program Highlights 2020-21	11
Program: Water Rural Agricultural Bore well recharge	11
Program: Water Rooftop Rainwater Harvest	13
Program: Area Development and Gram Seva Project	14
Program: Covid Relief	17
Program: Self Help Groups (SHG's) and Micro-finance	18
Program: Other	19
Media:	20
Esteemed Donors	21
SRDS Team	22
Board of Directors	23
Get Connected	24
Financial Information and Transparency	25
Contact Us	26



## Preface:

# Sankalpa Rural Development Society (SRDS)

Mr. Sikandarsab Meeranaik, an entrepreneur in the field of modern-day rainwater harvesting, founded SRDS in January 2008 and dedicated his life's work to providing water for farmers affected by the falling water table and poor monsoon rains in rural India.

Over the past 13 years, Sikandar has worked tirelessly to bring water and a more sustainable life to thousands of poor and marginal farmers in the rural areas of 10 different states in India. He has assisted over 2000 farmers with a proven and economical solution to their water difficulties.

In early 2020 the pandemic hit and Sikandar and his team turned their efforts to community support. The rainwater harvesting efforts have continued, but much work has been done in this year to support the villagers and those affected by the lockdowns, shortages and challenges of these times.

## Vision:

**“Enough water for all” SRDS dreams of a world where there is plenty of water for everyone.**

## Mission:

To end water scarcity in India using an integrated rural development approach to create awareness of the imperative need for Rain Water Harvesting for farmers and for the communities.

We do this through area development, implementation of water harvesting solutions such as bore well recharge, rooftop water harvesting, farm ponds, as well as women's empowerment through self-help groups (SHG), education on financial literacy and better living. These strategies allow for the conservation of water and energy, and decreases farmer's cost.



## Message from the CEO



This year has been a challenge for all of us and most particularly for those who are less fortunate - the landless labourers and their families, many whom were stranded away from their homes and those who had little resources to carry them through the lockdowns.

I am so proud of my team who have stepped up in every way to assist those in need - they turned their hand to making thousands of masks, collecting, packaging and distributing food donations and building networks of support.

We have made it through the worst of the storm and with the support of our wonderful donors, have been able to continue to work to improve the lives of those who are suffering through both pandemic situation and the challenges of living in remote villages.

SRDS has moved fully into an Area Development Model - with rainwater harvesting as the backbone. I am ready to turn my hand to whatever is the need of the hour.. guiding our team with all of our new ventures and projects.

Water is essential - and in this time all the infrastructure that surrounds the healthy functioning of a village community is standing alongside of our water work.

This year we have continued to serve the women of the village empowering them with micro finance to assist in achieving their entrepreneurial dreams.

I am full of gratitude for the support of our team, our donors and all staff members for bringing us through the year and out the other side of these difficult times.

We are moving on and upward with plans to expand our influence and to assist many more people to have a clean abundant supply of water, a better lifestyle, and a healthy sustainable community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sikandarsab Meeranaik'.

Sikandarsab Meeranaik

## A Message from a Volunteer



I left India in late February 2020 - not knowing I would not be able to return for a very long time. But due to the ease of our online communication I have been able to continue to support Sikandar and SRDS - by WhatsApp and email. Sometimes it has been very difficult keeping my finger on the pulse of what is going on in Hubli and beyond but I have done my best and speak with Sikandar almost daily.

My passion for water and for supporting this wonderful organisation has not diminished in any way. Without this work my life would seem without colour!

I have been in awe of their efforts during the challenges of the pandemic. Sikandar's wife Raziya turned her whole tailoring team to the effort of mask making.. creating masks to distribute both free and very low costs for thousands of people. Funds were collected to make food and care packages for those stranded on the street on the long journey home to their villages during lockdown. And through it all the water work continued and SRDS expanded while so many around them were closing up shop. This was all due to the dedication of Sikandar and the support of his wonderful team.

They have continued to be supported by some committed donors both internationally and nationally. There is more on that further in this report.

Once again I congratulate Sikandar and his team for their ongoing perseverance and hard work and look forward to being able to return to work directly with them again when travel is again possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shazar Robinson".

Shazar Robinson - Water Harvest Foundation Australia.

## From Chief Mentor's Desk



It has been my great pleasure to support Sikandar and his efforts to grow SRDS and all his team over the past 15 years. His passion for his cause and his willingness to go the extra mile always in his drive to strengthen the rural communities never seems to wane.

In my role as Mentor, I am very happy to contribute in whatever way possible - through team trainings, building entrepreneurial skills, and injecting alternative ideas to assist in shaping future planning.

SRDS is growing and flourishing as a strong team. Their work of supporting the impoverished farming communities and serving the society continue to be the backbone of SRDS - and I congratulate them for another productive year despite all odds - and look forward to their future continued contribution to the rural society.

I am proud to continue to assist their work and feel privileged to help SRDS to grow and flourish.

Naveen Jha  
Chief Mentor

## Saving Water for a Better Tomorrow

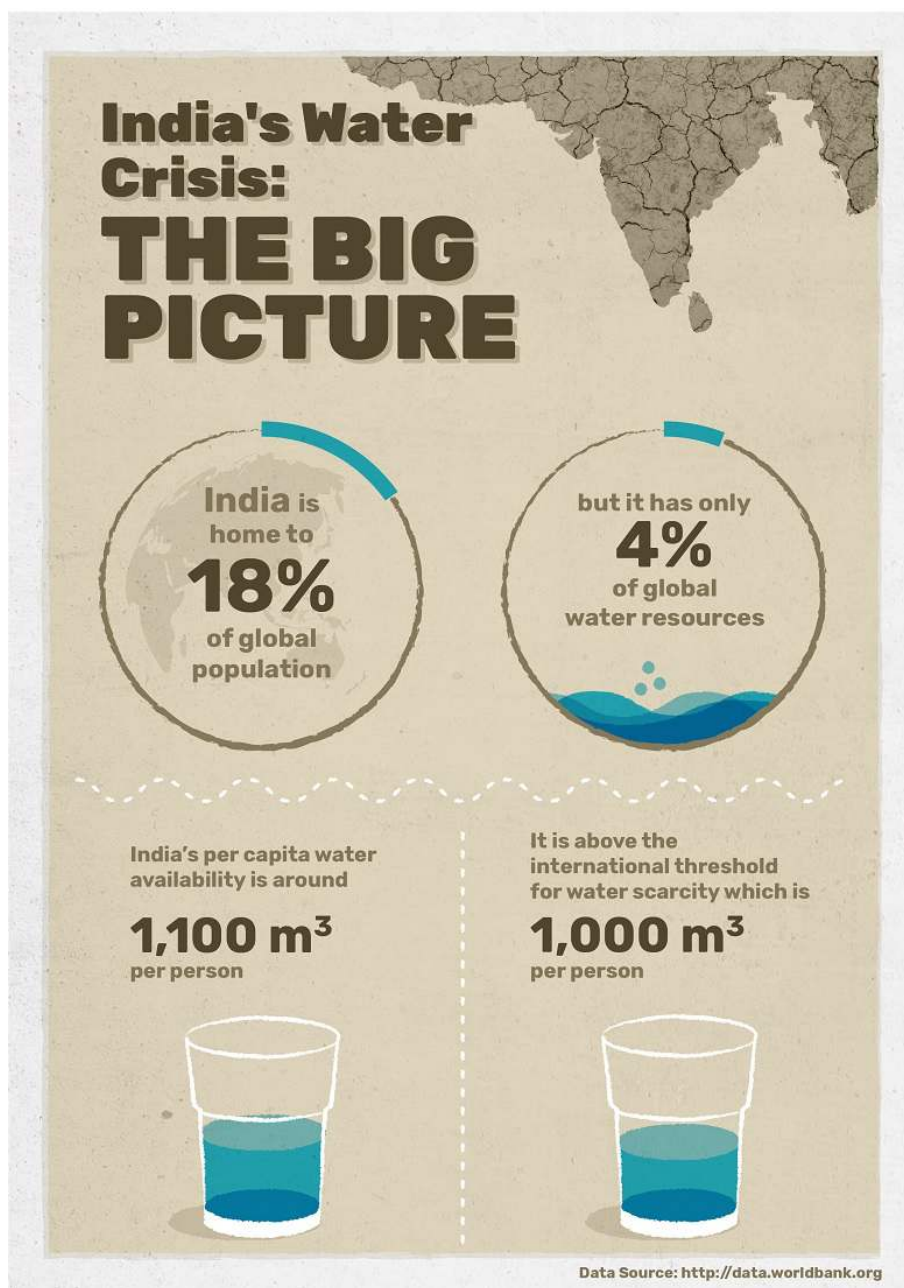
Through all the challenges of our year - there remains an underlying force that drives SRDS forward.

The continued and growing need of replenishing and sustaining the ground water of our land.

Climate change is altering our weather patterns - bringing drought to some areas and floods to others, and with increasing temperatures, subsequently greater evaporo-transpiration rates occur. The farmers tilling their small holdings, no longer know with any certainty when and if the rains will come. The timing to plant their precious seeds become a hit and miss decision.

Added to this, in the past year thousands upon thousands more bore wells have been drilled to suck up the rapidly depleting ground water - and the depth of the bore wells has increased to tap into the lower and deeper aquifers. These deep aquifers take years to replenish - this water is ancient ..what is brought to the surface today may have been a result of rain fall 1000 years back.

Groundwater continues to be the backbone of India's agriculture and drinking water use. India is still the largest groundwater user in the world (according to the World Bank Report)



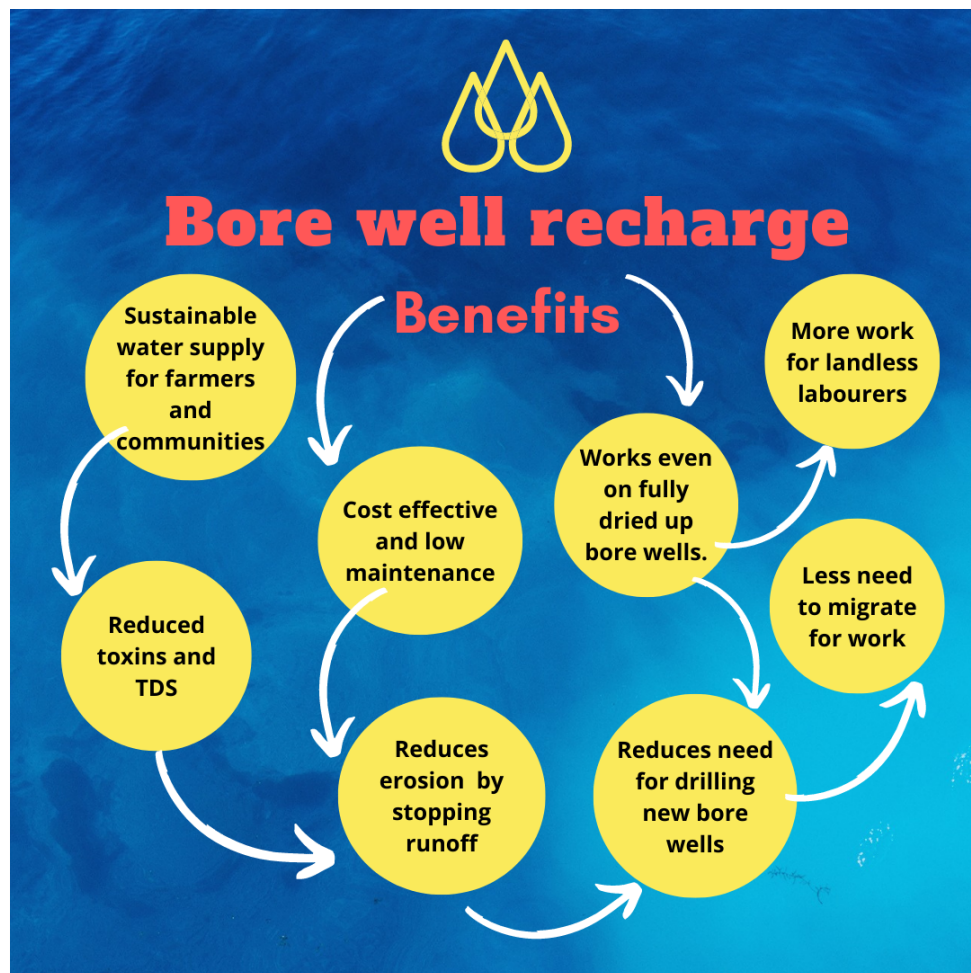


Climate change expresses itself through water. 9 out of 10 natural disasters are water-related. Water-related climate risks cascade through food, energy, urban and environmental systems. If we are to achieve climate and development goals, water must be at the core of adaptation strategies.

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/water/overview>


Sankalpa Rural Development Society addresses these issues with the innovative restoration of ground water through the recharge of bore wells - our motto is:

**Save Water for a better tomorrow - Stop Digging - Start Recharging.**



To date SRDS has completed over 2000 implementations of bore well recharge systems on existing bore wells. But there is much more to be done - time is precious, and we need to quickly act to "Save Water" for our better future.

# Infographic of the Twin Ring Method of Bore Well Recharge



**RAINWATER HARVESTING BORE WELL RECHARGE - TWIN RING METHOD**  
Day by Day - method

**Day 1**

**Materials collection**  
Signed agreement with farmer - collect materials for commencement

**Survey site**  
Choose water collection pond site  
Mark area for JCB work

**JCB Excavator**  
excavates pit around bore well casing and digs pond

**Day 2**

**Layering gravels**  
Base layer - 2 feet filtration materials - 40mm, 20mm and 6 mm stones in bottom of pit.

**Cut slits in casing and wrap mesh**  
Tech supervisor cuts water entry slits in bore well casing pipe. Tightly wrap nylon mesh - tie firmly.

**Placement of Cement Rings**  
Labour place 5 x cement rings around bore well casing pipe and 5 in tower next to this on pond side.

water from pond de-silted here

**Day 2**

**Seal Cement Rings**  
Gaps between cement rings are filled with cement to seal them.

**Fit feeder pipe**  
3" Plastic feeder pipe fitted between pond and first cement ring well to carry water from pond

**Day 3**

**Fill around casing pipe**  
The cement ring well around the casing pipe is filled (20mm stones.)

**Pit filled**  
All the pit on outside of cement rings now filled with stones.

**Completion**  
Farmer instructed in maintenance needs for pond and recharge system. Farmer signs off on completion.

**Results**

Every rainy season water enters bore well to store in aquifer for dry season

water from pond de-silted here

**Simple cost-effective permanent solution even for dried up bore wells**

## Program Highlights 2020-21

- Initial stage of the year saw the immediate need for support to the homeless and locked down communities due to the outbreak of Covid. Covid relief fund commenced.
- Mask making for the needy and for low cost distribution
- Continued work with Sustain Plus - mobile solar units in Koppal District and bore well recharge
- Work with the SBI Foundation and the Gram Seva Project in the Mundargi District was inaugurated and rapidly became well established and grew to support many villagers in a diverse variety of initiatives.
- Remote village support with Sanjeevani Medical Van - bringing medical attention to the villagers where it was badly needed.
- Many articles and publications spread the word about the work of SRDS throughout the year. (See Media below)
- Continued to work with more than 1200 Self Help Groups with over 7500+ women in these groups supported with micro-finance through the help of ICICI Bank and Micrograam.
- Our esteemed donors in the USA - Save Indian Farmers continued to support our bore well recharge work in Tamil Nadu and Andra Pradesh. And they created a fundraiser in the USA for daily wage workers and marginal farmers affected by the Pandemic.
- Throughout this year despite the restrictions of lockdowns we implemented 92 bore well recharge systems.

---

## Program: Water

### Rural Agricultural Bore well recharge

Our focus on bore well recharge this year has been difficult to maintain with the restrictions on travel and movement much of the year. However some funding continued to come in to do this important work and we continued to spread the word about the essential need to save water and recharge our bore wells. We worked in Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andra Pradesh. First exposing farmers to the potential for increasing their water supply by storing the water in the underground aquifer - through recharge. Once they saw the value in this then we encouraged them to partner with us to recharge their bore wells.

During the period of 2020 to 2021, we have worked in 3 different states and we have successfully installed 92 bore well recharge systems with a total of 476 acres irrigated - 12 Districts, 18 Taluks and 28 villages - were exposed to this technology.

In the Koppal District - Nittli Village in late April, we began working again on the rainwater harvesting with the support of Sustain Plus.

And through it all we continued in the Yelburga District to do bore well recharge work as despite the Covid-19





risk - water still badly needed for the rural districts.

In June we already saw good result in Itagi Yelburga Taluk, Mudhol Village with bore well recharge.. thru Sustain Plus who also supported Manjunathya Gunnalli's farm at Goralekoppa village with Bore well recharge.

In mid September with the support of Sustain Plus, we held a capacity building meeting for the farmers in Yelburga discussing borewell recharge, formation of an FPO group, drip irrigation, farm ponds, and community pond work.

Followed by capacity building meeting for farmers in Nitali Village TQ Kukanoor Dist Koppal for the Sustain Plus Project.

Sikandar continued to travel widely with water

education throughout Karnataka.

In December we completed 2 bore well recharge with the support of the TIGI Foundation in Damni Village Karjat Mumbai.

## Portable Solar Pumps

With the invaluable support of Sustain Plus and the advisory support of the SELCO Foundation, Portable Solar Pumps

are being trialed and utilized in the Koppal District. These pumps are to be shared amongst 4-5 farmers - they are easy to move around - and simple to use. We are looking forward to being able to provide this way forward with accessible power for farmers who often are either not connected to the grid or whose access to power is very limited.

Overall, 17 Portable Solar water pumps were supplied to support a total of 51 farmers in 10 villages - giving indirect benefit to approx 225 people.



You can view a video of the mobile solar pump in Koppal here on YouTube <https://youtu.be/zQ035qE7AUg>

Collective for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives( CINI) - Sustain Plus Bangalore is one of our eminent donors supported us during this year for the Sustainable Water Recharge and Storage Techniques.

## Program: Water Rooftop Rainwater Harvest

### Industry, Schools Urban Dwellings

During 2020-2021 we also continued our work in industrial and residential organisations, community and schools projects. When requested to implement rain water harvesting for industrial and residential organisations, our commercial arm - Sankalpa Water Harvesting Solutions is employed to carry out the work. During 2020 - 2021 the following projects have been completed.

In June we implemented 5 houses in Hubli for rainwater harvesting



The Help Us Build Ministries Trust in Hubli employed us to harvest the rain water from 5000 sq foot of roof area which will give a huge amount of water for the rain water harvesting.

The Veer Rani Kittur Chennamma residential school in the Betadur village Dharwad district requested support to supply rain water harvesting for their school in the Betadur village Dharwad district.



## Program: Area Development and Gram Seva Project

Farmer Producer Organisations were incorporated in June and July - the Bagalkot Amruta Farmer Producer Organisation and Amaravathi with the support of NABARD and thanks to Hasansahib Pinjar and the farmers involved!

These organisations have been handed back to the farmers to support their community.

On the 2nd of October the Inauguration Ceremony - for the the SBI Foundation Gram Seva Program - a CSR Initiative for Integrated Rural Development by Adoption of Villages - at Gandhi Jayanti - This was screened on Facebook Live during the inauguration so people all over the world could tune in and share.

Mr L K Atheeq the Principle Secretary of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj for Govt of Karnataka spoke on the occasion

SBI Foundation supported in the implementation of the “Integrated Community Development Approach and Digital Panchayat” in the Mundaragi Taluk and five villages.

This is a big project for SRDS and has given us a boost into the field of integrated Rural Development.

We completed the baseline survey for SBI Gram Seva in October working in Tamragundi, Basapur Kelur, Harogeri and Pet-Alur. This is a very challenging and interesting project being done with SBI - an integrated community development CSR approach. State Bank of India believes in this approach in following objectives:

- \* Promoting education for all in villages.
- \* Environment protection and creation of symbiotic relation,
- \* To sustain and develop the natural systems of livelihood,
- \* Integration of developmental activities through digitisation in Gram Panchayat.
- \* Skill development for all seasonal employment opportunities
- \* Improvement of preventive and primary health care in villages



The following are some of the activities that have been carried out in this Gram Seva Project over the year”

An event was held for World savings day on 29th October at Tamragundi Village at Mudargi - Gadag District our honoured guests present were Ms Rashmi - SBI Branch Manager Mundargi, Mahantesh Chief manager TCFI Gadag and Sandeef from Amulya FLC Mundargu.

We held a program for International day for Persons with disabilities to bring awareness to their needs.

Remedial teachers were trained and employed in all villages to support the children and young adults.

On 6th January we held a Walk of Shame, mapping and awareness of open defecation. Toilets and public amenities are being upgraded and refurbished to support this drive against OD.

A mechanical seed sorting tool was purchased and supplied for the use of the farmers.

26th Jan we celebrated inauguration of SBI Gram Seva in Kendra.

27 Jan tailoring workshop for readymade clothes. SBI Foundation and RSETI Hulkoti.



11 Feb. certificates for readymade clothing stitching.

12 feb. A health check-up camp was held in Tamragundi village of Taluk today under the SBI Gram Seva Program under the auspices of SBI Foundation and Sankalpa Rural Development Society. Dr. Sagar, the medical officer, said that it is very important to maintain health.

24th Feb. Today we inaugurated SBI Gram Seva Kendras at Kelur and Harogeri villages, inaugurated rural kabaddi tournament, Rangoli competition and SBI Sanjivini - mobile health van



17 March: ambulance inspection

20 March” health camp Pethalur

21 March: blood donation drive in Pethalur

21 March assisted with Ardhar card. Basapur Village we assisted the villagers with their Ardhar card, Pan card and opening bank accounts - this was welcomed by them all as before this local service was provided with the support of the SBI Gram Seva Kendra Project, the villagers had no local service and had to travel to the city to access these services

22nd March: In Petalur Village today we have found 6 open wells and did puja for beginning the work of rejuvenating these for the use of the villagers. A good start to World Water Day for Petalur with the help of SBI Foundation

Lets not “Save water “ for just this day! Lets save it for our future days.



## Program: Covid Relief

We collected funds to create food packs and our tailoring team led by Raziya Meeranaik swung into action to make much needed masks for the protection of those who were in need.



Food packs supported by Save Indian Farmers

By 10th April we were making thousands of facemarks both for local distribution to the needy as well as for bigger organisations - 1 billion masks (10th april masks pics on FB)



### MAY

Continued distribution of food packs and masks to the needy  
All self help groups were given masks for them and their families in Gadag district



Food packs distributed to the needy.

4th July: continued mask distribution in Gadag district



Distributing masks to villagers



## Program: Self Help Groups (SHG's) and Micro-finance

Women's Empowerment through Self Help Group (SHG) model and leveraging microcredit is another forte of SRDS. The organisation has a wide network of 1200+ SHGs in Gadag and Dharwad districts with 7500+ women as part of these groups. Loans are given through ICICI Bank to finance these women's small businesses and ultimately make them self-reliant. We support the sustainability of their work with financial literacy and a saving model for rural people. Our community bank now has more than 650 shareholders.

ICICI Bank continue to support SRDS to develop and prompt the sustainability of these Self-Help Groups (SHG's).

Their assistance for the rural women to receive micro credits means these women can find their way to independence and support their families to become self sustainable in their lives. Small business can be started - and their existing work expanded to building micro entrepreneurial business at the village level. In this year they have loaned funds to 1608 women with a total loan amount of Rs 3,65,53,74



## Program: Other

Team building is of great importance for without our team the SRDS work could not happen. On the 14th August we celebrated Independence Day at our main Hubli office. And on 30th August our monthly team meeting was held helping to keep our team motivated and up to date with the work being done.

The upcoming Gram Seva Project needed a special Staff Training on the 30th November. This project will requires concerted coordination and team work with a variety of programs and initiatives over the whole Mundaragi Taluk.

15 Jan inauguration of SRDS' 13th year service to rural India... celebration.



27th Feb. Chief guest in Global Collage at Hubbaalli ..Thanks to Global college team Sikandar was given the opportunity share his Entrepreneur journey with their students

## Media:

16 June article in news re sustain plus and solar pumps. Koppal District (pic available)

[https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hubballi/karnataka-joint-venture-to-empower-farmers/articleshow/76389165.cms?utm\\_source=whatsapp&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=TOIMobile&fbclid=IwAR2-aC15igx9gXLYwsjXJQjhXKVPClYlATdSoCzPlsQusiZGF2X35TmPs8](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hubballi/karnataka-joint-venture-to-empower-farmers/articleshow/76389165.cms?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=TOIMobile&fbclid=IwAR2-aC15igx9gXLYwsjXJQjhXKVPClYlATdSoCzPlsQusiZGF2X35TmPs8)

13th September LEAD- Leaders Accelerating Development program interviewed Sikandar about BWR on line. [https://youtu.be/9VwdbG\\_JBTM](https://youtu.be/9VwdbG_JBTM)

16 Nov.. times of india article on gram seva .. <http://toi.in/ywFa4a75/a31gj>

6th Dec coverage in local Vijaya Karnataka news

12th Feb. Prajavani news article

22nd March. Today Sikandar Meeranayak's work has been mentioned in the Udayavani Kannada news paper on the occasion of World Water Day. Sikandar has been working for water with SRDS since 13 years! and brining water to dried up bore wells across India.

and in dailyhunt.in. and epaper.udayavani.com. epaper.prajavani.net

---

## Esteemed Donors

Thank you for your kind generosity and support

SRDS is grateful to all our donors for their tremendous support and the encouragement for the sustainability of the community. It is the result of your kind generosity, that we have been able to deliver the required projects across India thus contributing the society and for our Motherland.



## SRDS Team



During 2020-2021, SRDS successfully managed a team of 25 members, who demonstrated a proven strategy for the betterment of the community.

They are the backbone of the organisation, and most of their work is done in the field assisting the farmers in the various projects: bore well recharge, micro-financing small loans to the SHG's women, or educating the farmers to get the best methods of irrigating the farm.

SRDS strongly believes in equality and provides equal opportunities and resources, thus maintaining the gender balance in the workplace and society.



“I am with SRDS for 11 years and I feel privileged to be a part of this organization. I started my career as a junior accountant and thereafter, have constantly moved up to work in various sector within the accounts department”.

Mr. Umesh Mugali Senior Account Manager



“I feel blessed and proud to be a part of this organization who is working for the betterment of the people. Sikandar sir has always supported and encouraged me to learn new concepts and guided me to face any challenges falling in my path”.

Miss. Laxmi Inchal Assistant Accountant

## Board of Directors

---



Sikandarsab  
Meeranaik  
President/CEO



Prakash S Ganiger  
Board Member



Shekappa Bandi  
Board Member



Girija Akki  
Board Member  
Vice President



Allasab Mulagunda  
Board Member



Sharanappagouda A  
Sanganagouda  
Board Member -  
Secretary

Moulasab Nadaf  
Board Member

---

## Get Connected

### As a Citizen



Having the thought of being without water, will send a strong wave of distress for all. Imagine those farmers completely rely on the groundwater for their livelihood and main source of income. No water, no irrigation, no crops, deep debt, no food and as a result, many farmers choose to end up their precious lives. IS THIS SACRIFICE REALLY WORTH IT?

As a citizen of India, you can do a lot of things to ease their suffering. Most importantly, developing awareness amongst them and sharing the same with others. You can even connect the marginal or needy farmers with the NGO's and the GOVT-managed institutions who work for their welfare. If you wish to be a part of this noble endeavour, you can always do it by volunteering at SRDS.

---

### As an NGO or Individual



Sankalpa Rural Development Society (SRDS) is open to collaborate with all people and organisations working for the benefit of marginal farmers/the upliftment of women and the empowerment of the community in any difficult circumstances. Please connect with us to discover how we may work together.

---

### As a professional Social Worker



If you are looking to explore, progress and work closely with the farmers, SHG's teams, or for the development of the community, then SRDS is the place you can rely on.



## Partner with Us

Sankalpa Rural Development Society has achieved tremendous experience working with various state, national and international donors. Throughout the year, it has developed and implemented many projects for the marginal and needy farmers, and for the upliftment and empowerment of rural women.

To find out more about on the nature of our work, please write to us at: [info@srdsindia.org](mailto:info@srdsindia.org) or visit [our website](#) or [YouTube channel](#).

---

## Financial Information and Transparency

Detailed Accounts with schedules & Audit Report are available at the Office. Also available online at <https://srdsindia.org>. We hold the 12A, 80G and FCRA certificates.

---

## Contact Us



SANKALPA RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY -SRDS  
1<sup>st</sup> floor, Yoga Center,  
Dr. Eshwar Menasinkai Building  
Near Samudya Bhavan  
# 52, Lingaraj Nagar North,  
Hubballi, 580031.  
Karnataka- India.

Cell: +919986840730

[info@srdsindia.org](mailto:info@srdsindia.org)

<https://srdsindia.org>

<https://linked.in/company/sankalpa-rural-development>

<https://www.youtube.com/c/Sankalparuraldevelopmentsociety>

<https://www.facebook.com/SankalpaRuralDevelopmentSociety/>