

14th Chinna Shodha Yatra
by Palle Srujana
Ulavapalla To Racharlapadu, District SPSR Nellore,
Andhra Pradesh
26-28 Decemebr, 2014

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Shodha Yatra, a journey of exploration, is a pilgrimage to the forgotten temples of Knowledge. We believe that villages and the villagers are highly knowledgeable and so to understand their expertise in “living in harmony with the ever changing nature” is the mission of Shodha Yatra.

The inspiration for Chinna Shodha Yatra came from National Innovation Foundation ([NIF](http://www.nifindia.org)). A group of participants walk for three days to interact with the nature and the people in the villages for learning, sharing and mutual exchange of knowledge. Please visit <http://www.nifindia.org>, and/or <http://www.sristi.org> for more details on Shodha Yatra.

Palle Srujana, a non-profit, non-government and voluntary organization focused mainly on Rural Knowledge and Creativity, is the overall coordinator for the Chinna Shodha Yatras in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Please visit <http://www.pallesrujana.org> for more details about the organization.

Palle Srujana conducted 13 CSY so far in 12 districts of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. For details please visit www.pallesrujana.org and click “shodha yatra” web page.

Previous Yatras

First Chinna Shodha Yatra was held in April- May 2011 in Duggondi Mandal of Dist Warangal. 23 students (6 girls) from NITW, MRIM and others participated. The feedback indicated that the objectives were fully achieved.

Second Chinna Shodha Yatra was organized during 18-20 November 2011 in Kothaguda Mandal of Warangal Dist from the *historic Pakhal Cheruvu* (Reservoir) constructed by the Rulers of KAKATIYA Dynasty, 800 years back for irrigation purposes to Gangaram through tribal belt and reserve Forest. 27 participants (5 girls) from NITW, Vagdevi Inst of Management, Two Professors made the Yatra very meaningful by their participation.

Third Chinna Shodha Yatra was held during 24-26 February 2012 in Mahabubnagar District. The Yatra commenced at Achampet and ended at Bakaram. 28 (including 4 girls) Participants from NITW, MRIM, Vagdevi Inst of Mgmt, Gurunanak Engg College, ITC etc made the Yatra a memorable one. The drought stricken, barren lands of this region provided us a deep insight into the livelihood strategies of the tribal people living in this area.



Fourth Chinna Shodha Yatra was conducted in Dist Khammam during 15-17 June 2012 from Chintur to Motugudem. 26 participants including a farmer, inter students, and students from NITW, IIIT, IIT, Kharagpur etc. A distance of 45 km was covered in deep forests and amongst adivasis.

Fifth Chinna Shodha Yatra was organized in Dist Karimnagar from Kataram to Mahadevpur during 02-04 November 2012. 32 participants explored the agri-belt and forests besides enjoying the flooded rivers and rivulets. Bath in the mighty Godavari River was the highlight of the yatra. Walking more than half the route in mud was a great experience.

Sixth Chinna Shodha Yatra was held in Adilabad district mostly in Tribal belt. During March 1-3, 2013 the yatra journeyed from DhannuraB to Indravalli. Age group ranged from 65- 16 years. 36 participants spent very useful three days interacting extensively with women, children, farmers and elders.

Seventh Chinna Shodha Yatra was conducted from Palakonda to Veeraghattam villages of Srikakulam District during 21st – 23rd June, 2013. 26 participants walked through a scenic green hills for a distance of about 52 km. Yatries were composed from a wide spectrum making the interaction rich and varied.

Eighth Chinna Shodha Yatra was held from 27-29 September 2013 from SriKalahasti to Kotha kandriga in Chittoor District. 34 participants actively involved in the yatra and walked 51 kms. Few foreigners also participated in this yatra and shared their experiences as memorable and meaningful.

Ninth Chinna Shodha Yatra was held from 20-22 December 2013 from Nizampet to Narayanakhed in Medak District. 32 yatries walked 52 Kms along with two foreign participants from Japan and South Korea.

Tenth Chinna Shodha Yatra was held from Feb 28-Mar 2 2014 from Rajapet to Aleru in Nalgonda District. 30 yatries participated in the 50 km walk culminating in the residence of Innovator Mallesham.

Eleventh Chinna Shodha Yatra was held during May 9-11, 2014 Atmakur to Kapileshwaram, Kurnool District, About 20 yatries participated in the 50 km walk. For the first time, we've found innovators in the yatra.

Twelfth Chinna Shodha yatra was conducted in District Rangareddy from Ibrahimpatnam to Mall during 20-22 June 2014. 18 Yatries from various parts of India and one from US participated. Innovations such as Solar sprayer and coconut climber were demonstrated live by the volunteers. The distance covered was 52 Kms and the area was very scenic with hills, lot of greenery, and valleys.

Thirteenth Chinna Shodha yatra had seen a lot of rain and yatries enjoyed walking in the rain for almost 4-5 hours at a stretch. The scenic Nizamabad district area from Varni to Tadakapally enthralled the participants with hidden treasures of knowledge and amazing people. It was conducted during 5-7 September 2014. 25 yatries including two from US participated.

.Please visit <http://www.pallesrujana.org/sodhyatra.html> for the detailed reports, galleries and impressions of Shodha Yatries who participated in the Yatras.



14th - Chinna Shodha Yatra (CSY14)

Date: 26-28 December, 2014

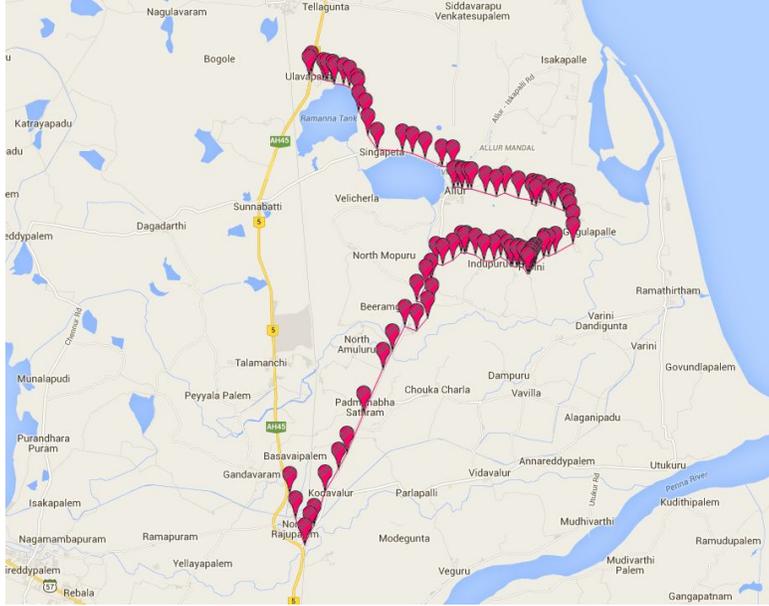
Location: Ulavapalla to Racharlapadu, Dist SPSR Nellore, Andhra Pradesh.

Start: The Yatra commences on Friday 26 December, 2014 at 8 AM

Ends: On Sunday, 28 December, 2014 at 5 PM.

Total Distance: Approximately 56 km.

Route Map: Visit the link <http://goo.gl/6EqQsQ>



Please note that this Google map does not indicate all locations of the current yatra, so the map is only a representative. The actual walking route will be different from that shown in the map but with the same approximate total distance aforementioned.

Exact route map, three days schedule and finer details will be communicated approximately a week before the Yatra.

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Objectives of Chinna Sodha Yatra:

- Promoting grassroots innovations
- Observe the bio-diversity and its changes over the route
- Observe the livelihood practices of Villagers.
- Understand the harmony among the villagers and the nature.
- Interact with villagers, learn and document their traditional knowledge.
- Identify creative people in the village and document their knowledge.
- Felicitate elders above 90 years at their door step.
- Understand the villagers' perspective on Development.
- Observe resources availability and their utilization including value addition etc.
- Assess the self reliance practices.
- Talk to children, share your knowledge and inspire them with your achievements.
- Assess the aspirations of village youth and their parents
- Identify technology gaps and see the appropriateness of the tools and equipment being used by the villagers.
- Study the crop pattern and examine their suitability to the environment, people's needs and its sustenance.
- Observe their food habits, health practices.
- Traditional practices in treatment to animals.
- Forest management and ownership of lands by tribal.
- Share the knowledge of other villages which is captured by NIF and Palle Sruajana.

Who can participate?

- Participation in Chinna Shodha Yatra is voluntary.
- School and College Students, any world citizen-male or female, boy or girl, who understands the mission of NIF and honeybee may participate in the Yatra. Visit www.nifindia.org and www.pallesrujana.org before volunteering to participate in the yatra.
- Physical fitness to walk 50 kms during the Shodha Yatra is essential.

Registration Fee

- A nominal amount of Rs 200 per participant as registration fee is to be paid at the beginning of the yatra which will be used against the expenses of planning and reconnaissance prior to the yatra by Volunteers of Palle Srujana.

Expenses

- All participants including students should bear their respective travel expenses and local expenses.
- Food and logistics expenses will be shared equally by the yatri.
- Yatra discipline needs to be strictly followed.

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Registration

Please click the link below and fill the details for registration furnish the details mentioned in the form by expressing your willingness to participate

<https://docs.google.com/a/pallesrujana.org/forms/d/1jGBAJSwDilawuei3aueXUKOmGMFPX1pC0FexrUKwgY8/viewform>

Please note that the registration does not automatically entitle participation in this Tenth Chinna Shodha Yatra. You shall be intimated if and when confirmed.

Last date for Registration: 20 December, 2014

Travel Advice:

Hyderabad is the nearest hub. We are offering travel advice from Hyderabad. Yatris from other locations can contact us for advice.

How to Reach Starting Point

Meeting point is Kavali Railway Station at 7 AM on 26 December 2014.

Kavali is situated on NH 5 in Nellore Dist. Buses and trains are available to Kavali from Hyderabad, Vijayawada and Chennai. Kavali is located on Vijayawada – Chennai road and rail trunk route. Train or bus takes 8-9 hours to reach Kavali from Hyderabad.

Return Journey:

28 December, 2014, Yatra terminates at Racharlapadu on NH5 which is 32 Kms south of Kavali. Buses are available to reach Kavali from there. You may book return journey from Kavali any time after 8 PM.

We will regularly share the details of the participants with all those who registered.. Coordination for travelling together to Kavali and back is left to yatris.

Please share your travel details to volunteer@pallesrujana.org

Coordinators for the Yatra

Kranthi
Sandeep

800 842 4645
879 097 5313

kranthikumar.nkk@gmail.com
anchor@pallesrujana.org

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By registering into this programme it is understood that you declare all the details that you furnished are correct and complete and in case you are student you have your parents consent. It is also understood that you abide by the Palle Srujana's mission and objectives of the Chinna Shodha Yatra along with its norms and discipline.

Participation is limited to minimum 20 and maximum 40. If more participants register, Coordinator will select the final list. Confirmation from the Coordinator is essential. Should the registered participants be less than 20, the yatra may get deferred.

Last date for Registration: 20 December, 2014

Subsequent to your confirmed reservations, please e-mail your travel details to anchor@palesrujana.org

Other Information

- Food will be centrally organized. Each yatri has to deposit Rs. 600 for the food on the first day. Accounts will be tracked and settled by a volunteer from the yatri before dispersal on 28 December.
- Boarding during the three days is free, we would sleep in a school, a panchayat office or a temple with no charges - courtesy village people but in very rare instances we may stay in a hostel and have to pay the expenses for stay.
- During the Yatra, we will be felicitating the old, knowledgeable and deserving villagers with shawls and other useful items. Voluntary contributions from yatri are welcome for this purpose. You are welcome to bring shawls and other items.
- Interaction with school children will be a major activity during the yatra. Idea competitions, bio-diversity competitions will be conducted for them. Volunteers are welcome to bring gifts like knowledge books, sketch pens, pencils, drawing books, pens, geometry boxes and other stationery and games kits for schools.
- Recipe competitions will be conducted for the local women
- For more details, please write to anchor@palesrujana.org, volunteer@palesrujana.org

• Each yatri is expected to do the following:

- Maintain a positive attitude and shift to learning mode.
- Keep active and participate whole heartedly.
- Interact with other participants extensively.
- Talk to villagers with respect and learn from them.
- Share impressions everyday and more on the last day.
- A detailed report on your impressions (along with your willingness to work in some activity) to be mailed in a week by 05 January 2015 to Brig. (Retd.) P. Ganesham sir president@palesrujana.org and volunteer@palesrujana.org.

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What to carry

- 1-2 sets of change of clothes
- Torch light with spare batteries
- Steel plate, tumbler and spoon
- Pad and pen/pencil
- Camera, video
- Bed sheets (2). Pillow(Only desirable)
- A Mug
- Water bottle
- Cap
- Suitable foot wear – avoid new shoes
- First aid kit
- Medicines, if you are using any
- One bag per participant will be carried separately in a logistic vehicle.
- No plastics please.

Useful Information

Kindly refer below for some important instructions/information for the Shodha Yatra:

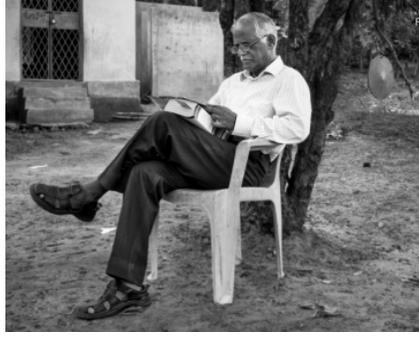
- Travel light and bring only as much luggage, which you can handle by yourself.
- Sleeping gear has to be brought by the participant as it will not be provided
- Mobile signals may not be available for most of the route
- It is expected that during the Chinna Shodha Yatra, the participants would walk with their friends/colleagues. The objective of this walk is to get to know other people and learn from them.
- No waste material like food packets/ wrappers/polythene is to be littered in the jungles, villages or the places where we rest/sleep. Participants are expected to dispose such material, if in possession, at the designated place or carry bag for disposal later.
- Closed bathroom/washroom facility may not be available.
- Sometimes due to unforeseen reasons, food may be delayed. Kindly bear all this in mind.

If we keep everything aforesaid in mind, Chinna Shodha Yatra would be a good learning experience for all. You will surely experience the excitement of living with minimal resources and facilities.



Mentor

Brig. (Retd.) P. Ganesham, VSM
President, Palle Srujana
Coordinator, Honeybee AP,
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Palle Srujana is a voluntary organisation based in Hyderabad. It strives to promote creativity at grassroots level in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

Our core activities:

- Scouting and supporting Grassroots Innovation
- Scouting, documenting and dissemination of traditional knowledge and healing methods
- Internships to anyone interested in learning from Informal sector
- Dissemination of grassroots knowledge through publishing a bi-monthly magazine in Telugu
- Exposing the Grassroots knowledge to school and college children and involve scientists, academia, economists, industry and other state actors in leveraging the sustainable benefit to the society from these innovations.
- Promoting entrepreneurship with grassroots innovations

Address:

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Moments from previous Chinna Sodha Yatras

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