

# VILLAGE MATTERS



September News from AVI!

## Emergency Appeal: Kerala Flood Survivors



\*UPDATE FROM ACTION VILLAGE INDIA\*

Action Village India will double your donation - matching any donations given by individual supporters.

Help us close the appeal with a final push. Get the total over the £5000 mark!

Action Village India would like to thank all our generous supporters for donating to the Emergency Appeal for Kerala Flood Survivors. In a crisis situation, it's important to act fast in order to help those who have lost so much; and with your donations we will be able to help those most in need. Thank you for donating **£3790 so far!**

To be able to send as much money as possible to aid the flood victims in rebuilding their lives, AVI will be matching any donations given by individual supporters to this appeal.

**Read more**

**You can donate via:**

- **Just Giving:** [www.justgiving.com/campaign/avi-kerala-flood-appeal-2018](http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/avi-kerala-flood-appeal-2018)
- **Cheque:** payable to **Action Village India**
- **Bank Transfer:** A/C No: 00340397 S/C: 12-01-03 Bank of Scotland, London Chief Office, PO BOX 54873, London SW1Y 5WX

Thank you. All at AVI

## Om Yoga Show (volunteers needed!)

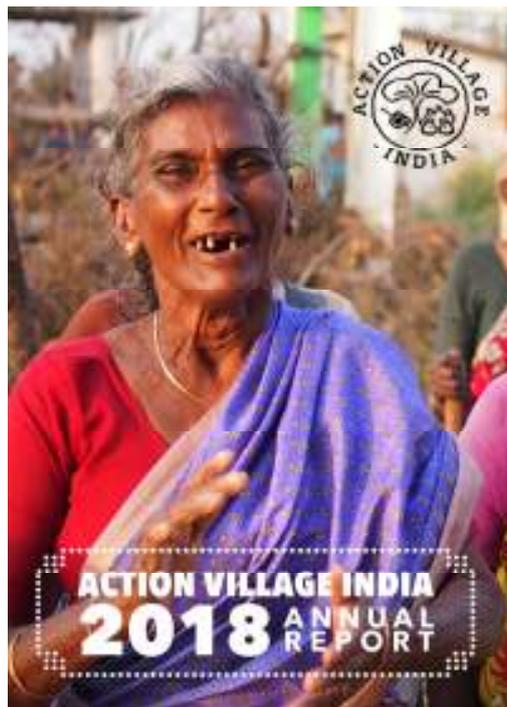
# Om yoga show London

YOU AND A FRIEND GET FREE TICKETS FOR THE OM YOGA SHOW!

**19-21 October 2018** AVI will have an information stand at the [Om Yoga Show](#) at Alexandra Palace in London this October. We'll be there for 3 days talking about the work of AVI's partners in India, selling products and promoting our fundraising events. If you're interested in volunteering for us for a few hours (and spending some time at the Yoga show) then please [drop us a line](#) with some information on why you'd like to work with us.

## Annual Report 2018

Thank you to everyone who came to the Action Village India AGM last month and thank you to Madras Cafe for a delicious lunch!



## Disability Rights: A Ray of Hope



*During the project period signs of improvement in the quality of life of people with disability, improvement in their participation, reduction in the incidence of discrimination, wider acceptance and participation in decision making processes could be observed.... Average accomplishment in the major indicators as on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 is 77.58%.*

The above are key findings in the external evaluation of the project, 'Disability Rights in Bihar and Jharkhand' that AVP's north Indian partner NBJK ran over three years to July 2018 with funding from the UK's Big Lottery Fund.

The project, which reached over 32,000 people living with disability across 2,274 villages, had four main achievements:

Over 12,000 people living with disabilities had received or applied for the all important disability certificates without which they cannot access to government programmes made for them.

The 25 disabled people's organisations (DPOs) set up to campaign for access to government programmes were all meeting regularly and engaging with government officials and medical staff to press for their rights.

Over 3000 people living with disabilities had joined special micro-credit (self help) groups and 159 of them had taken loans to start or expand a business or their agriculture. Others took vocational training to enable them to start a business or get a job.

Almost 1200 children with disabilities were enrolled in schools and another 478 were provided with spectacles after undergoing eyesight tests.

With all this activity, it is easy to see why the evaluator noted:

*The BLF-AVI support brought rays of hope, created foundation for entitlement, developed skill and confidence among the persons with disability, nurtured DPOs to protect their rights independently and sensitized the service providers.*



[Click to see a film of the project](#)

## SOAS Freshers' Fayre



This year Action Village India's first student support group will be appearing at SOAS Freshers' Fayre on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and we are very keen to make links with university students!

On the day we will be:

handing out leaflets telling students all they need to know about our group and AVI signing up new members to our group offering students the chance to win an Ekta Parishad bag by taking our 'How much do you know about India?' quiz, selling donated books and tea, where proceeds raised will be used to support our partner organisations.

We plan to hold termly events throughout the year in the form of lectures and film screenings followed by discussions. The student group is aimed at providing a space for critical debate and engagement around India today and development issues, along with opportunities to gain experience in international development.

We are keen to link and expand this group to other students at universities. Please [get in touch](#) if you're interested.

## Jan Andolan 2018



On Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, 2 October 2018, AVI's partner, Ekta Parishad will be starting another mass march of 25,000 people from Gwalior to Delhi to demand action on landlessness and people's control over natural resources in India.

Six years ago Ekta organised a similar march which ended in Agra when the Congress-led Government agreed a 10 point plan with the marchers. Since then there has been little progress in putting that plan into effect, so Ekta is marching again. with six demands including a National Homestead Land Act, National Land Reforms Policy and a Women Farmers Entitlement Act. Read more at on Ekta's website at [Jan Andolan](#)

## Women's Rights Exhibition



If you would like to host our [Summer Appeal: Women's Rights](#) exhibition at a venue near you, please [get in touch](#).

## Welcome To Our New Trustee



Elanor has worked in international development for 27 years, with 20 years of working on children's rights and women's rights and gender equality, including thematic expertise on violence against women and girls, women's political participation, discriminatory social norms, child rights, child protection and safeguarding, media and development, as well as monitoring, evaluation and research.

Elanor has been involved with AVI since 1994. Working as a Consultant over the last 10 years, she has supported organisations to improve learning and programme quality, and facilitated project evaluations and gender reviews.

She has experience of living and working in India, Costa Rica and Ethiopia, has worked in several countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and was Head of Programmes at ChildHope for 6 years. In 2015, she led a 4 country research project for Womankind Worldwide on women's political participation and in 2017 worked with Intrac to develop programme theories of change for Terre des Hommes. Recently she has been working as a gender advisor with British Council and BBC Media Action.

On behalf of the AVI staff, trustees, volunteers, and our partners working in India we'd like to offer you a big thank you for your ongoing support.

Action Village India