



ONDEDE

ANNUAL REPORT

2016-2017

REVIEW REPORT

Ondede's vision is to bring convergence on the issues of dignity, voice and sexuality (DVS) through a rights based approach, among children, women and sexual minority groups. The effort towards this is through network and alliance building with groups working with these three constituencies.

During the period of 2016, as Ondede had just been formed, it has been in a process of trying to get its act together. With a very small team of only 3, essentially 2 full timers and one Founder Trustee who gave some time for coordination, the activities were conducted. In addition, with the support of other Trustees, Ondede was able to hold few trainings in a couple of colleges, hold public meetings including a meeting in Mangalore, to speak to the youth on issues of sexuality, women's rights focusing on DVS.

Ondede has been in the forefront of advocacy on, issues impacting sexual minorities, such as section 377 of the IPC and more recently the rising violence unleashed on transgender communities. This was lead by its Founder Member who is a transgender and works directly with the community.

Somehow, the focus on taking DVS through women's rights and child rights groups into the communities has not been very successful. But efforts are on.

Ondede was represented in several meetings both at the State and the National level through its Trustees. At the State level, Ondede is recognised more as an Organisation that works with sexual minorities as this area deserves attention. But as an Organisation focussing on convergence, surely dignity-voice-sexuality would be in the future focussed among women and children.

The Annual report details the activities that Ondede conducted during this period.

Ondede would also like to acknowledge the support it received from the different colleges, students, who came and interned with Ondede to help in taking its objectives forward.

Finally, it is only appropriate to acknowledge the support received from Grama Vikas towards the implementation of the Ondede project.

Aasha Ramesh

Management Trustee

DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANISATION

Ondede was founded on November 20th, 2014 in Bangalore. The concept arose from a focus group discussion on the need for convergence across three movements in the country- children's rights, women's rights and sexual minority rights; and crystallized into a registered trust on August 14th, 2015.

The Organisation is called Ondede, which means "convergence" in our local language, Kannada. By recognising and acknowledging the existing movements, Ondede endeavours to link these different but inter-related groups to various media platforms to foster productive community discourses, to conduct research and to instigate action on Dignity-Voice-Sexuality.

MISSION

Ondede's mission is "to promote dialogue, research and action to create awareness and to mainstream the issues of Dignity-Voice-Sexuality of children, women and sexual minorities.

CORE CONSTITUENCY OF THE ORGANISATION

Children, women and sexual minorities are the core constituency of the Organisation. The focus is on convergence across these three constituencies, in relation to Dignity-Voice-Sexuality.

April 2016

- **To address the issues of working class women and the transgender community.**

- The Reserve Bank of India, Bangalore for the first time invited Ms. Akkai Padmashali as the chief guest for the International Women's day programme organized for its employees. Ms. Padmashali gave an address about the notions of gender identity, socially constructed norms and the economic status of the working class women and the transgender community.

The regional director, Mr. Khatar made an assurance that necessary guidelines would be introduced in banking and economic policy in favour of these communities.

Ms. Padmashali as chief guest for the International Women's Day celebration for employees of the RBI



- **Amend Section 36A of the Police Act and propose police force training.**

- Ondede coordinated with women's rights organizations and sexual minority organizations to hold a meeting with the Home Minister of Karnataka, the Director General of Police (DGP), the Bangalore Commissioner and the Additional Commissioner of Police, to discuss communal harmony, the 36A Karnataka Police Act, 377 fabricated cases Hassan, and the section 377 state clarification-amendments.
- In the meeting, all the concerns of the above mentioned issues were brought before the Home Minister, and it was ensured that people will be living without fear and human rights violations.
- Hearing the concerns and issues raised by the people present at the meeting, the Home minister has promised that necessary action will be taken seriously to protect human rights and to withdraw false cases. He also instructed police officers to undergo training that respects differences of gender and sexuality and human rights.

- The Law Minister assured the organization that any law which is against sexual minorities will be revoked.

Meeting with the Home Minister and with senior officials from the Karnataka Police Force, to discuss the 36A Police Act.



- **To develop a policy on Sex Reassignment Surgery.**

- A Sex Reassignment Surgery Policy meeting coordinated by Ondede took place. The Bangalore Medical College, National Institute for Mental Health and Neuroscience (NIMHANS), Victoria Hospital, the MS Ramaiah Hospital, and the Department of Plastic Surgery at Victoria Hospital were present at the meeting.
- They discussed the process of sex reassignment surgery, to develop a sound policy that would function across the state.

The Sex Reassignment Surgery Policy meeting organized by Ondede



- **Training of the Police force.**

- The Karnataka Police Training School and Ondede, following up from the decision taken in the meeting on the 26th of April, jointly organized an awareness programme for police officers across Karnataka to educate and bring awareness surrounding issues of gender identity, sexual diversity and human rights.
- More than 480 police officers attended this jointly organized programme – the first time such an orientation has ever taken place. Members from the sexual minority community, including a gay man, a lesbian woman, a trans-women and an elderly hijra also shared their testimonies, which helped closely understand the issues faced by sexual minorities in Karnataka. The session was moderated by Ms. Akkai Padmashali.

Ondede members with police officers during the gender awareness programme at the Karnataka Police Training School, Chennapatna



May 2016

- **State Level Consultation on Class, Caste and Gender.**

- Ondede, the Karnataka Transgender Samithi, the Karnataka Sexual Minorities Forum, Payana, Samara, and Jeeva jointly organized a state level consultation on caste, class and gender. The guest speakers for the event were Honourable chairperson Shri Kantharaju of Karnataka State Backward Classes Commission, Ms. Yashodha - eminent dalit rights activist and founder of Dalita Mahila Vedike – and Ms. Gowri of Mahila Munnade.
- The event aimed to understand the difference between caste, class and gender, and to help understand the Supreme Court of India’s National Legal Service Authority v/s Union of India’s NALSA judgement – which recognizes the transgender community as an “other backward class” community – in light of these differences.

- More than a hundred transgender community members from across Karnataka participated in the consultation, and it was unanimously agreed that the transgender community must indeed be recognized as a “class” minority and not as a “caste and religious” minority. The programme was supported by the donations raised by the Hijra community at the Karnataka Administrative Service Auditorium, Bangalore.
- This consultation helped in affirming the recognition of the transgender community as a class minority. The meeting was followed by the submission of a report on the consultation to the governor, the chief minister and the minister for social welfare, demanding that the state government should follow the example of NALSA, and also recognize and treat the transgender community as a class minority.

At the jointly organized state level consultation on caste, class and gender



- **Gender awareness session for the Sub-inspectors.**

- The Karnataka Police Academy, Mysore and Ondede, jointly organized an awareness programme for sub-inspectors and senior officers across Karnataka, including the Director of the Karnataka Police Academy, to educate and bring awareness surrounding issues of gender identity, sexual diversity and human rights.
- More than 300 police officers attended this jointly organized programme. Members from the sexual minority community, including a kothi, a trans-woman, a trans-girl and a homosexual man also shared their testimonies, which again helped closely understand the issues faced by sexual minorities in Karnataka. The session was moderated by Ms. Akkai Padmashali.

Ondede members at the gender awareness programme for sub-inspectors, jointly organized by Karnataka Police Academy in Mysore and Ondede



- **Discussion on the Diversity, Identity and the Law.**



- Ondede coordinated with the Centre for Law and Policy Research to set-up a programme discussing the relationship between diversity, identity and the law. The programme consisted of a workshop and a panel discussion.
- The workshop elucidated the interplay between the recognition of different gender identities and sexual orientations within the law, and the rights accorded to them, with a specific focus on the legal perspective. The panel consisted of speakers representing the transgender, homosexual, feminist and gender non-conforming communities, wherein each speaker shared with the audience their opinion on the relationship between identity and legislation.
- Ondede was successful in creating a discursive forum that disseminated both the legal perspective and the perspectives of different communities in an accessible manner.

June 2016

- **A lecture towards radical inclusivity.**



- Jointly organized by Ondede and the Gender Sensitization cell, a public lecture was held at the St. Joseph's College Auditorium on the 5th of June, with guest speaker Dr. Smitha Radhakrishnan, who is a professor of Sociology at Wellesley College in Boston, USA.
- Her talk was an imagination of a radically inclusive world, where we embraced inclusivity in our work and professional spheres, in our societal norms, in our love and our relationships and in the manner in which we produce our knowledge. Her talk was followed by a question and answer session. The discussion was powerful and insightful, and drew in many perspectives from an engaged audience.

- **Discussion on Women's Reservation Bill.**



- Ondede and the Government Arts College jointly organized a discussion on the Women's Reservation Bill which states that 33% of all seats in lower parliament must be reserved on women.
- Aasha Ramesh, Management Trustee of Ondede gave a talk on the journey of Women's Reservation Bill in the country. The students were presented with the history of the bill as well as the current status of the bill, following which the floor was opened for discussion. The discussion was fruitful and insightful and helped everyone involved understand the many factors to be considered with legislation around reservation.

- Report on the High Level Committee on the ‘Status of Women in India’

Ondede led a campaign to raise the issue of non-transparency and non-consultative process in the preparation of the Status of Women in India report. It was a signature campaign that Ondede initiated and got endorsements from women’s groups in the southern states of India. The report is currently shelved and not accepted as an official document.

- **Discussion on the Transgender Person Rights Protection Bill.**

- Members of Ondede, along with allies from various different sections within the transgender community, as well as Humans Rights, children rights and women rights groups gathered for a conference to draft a set of suggested amendments to the government-proposed Transgender Person Rights Protection Bill 2016.
- The amendments were then submitted to the Standing Committee for evaluation. This Bill is a crucial legislative tool for the transgender community and constructive discourse over the provisions of the bill was useful in understanding the needs of the community in question.



July 2016

St Joseph college Gender Sensitization cell and Ondede presented
Towards Radical Inclusivity a talk by Smitha Radhakrishna

ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
"GENDER SENSITIZATION CELL, and "ONDEDE"
Invite you to Public Lecture On 5th July 2016 between 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
at St. Joseph's College, Auditorium Lalbagh Road Bangalore

Guest Speaker
Dr. Smitha Radhakrishnan
Wellesley College Boston, United States of America

Welcome Address
Prof. Kiran Jeevan, PRO

Introductory speech
Dr Akkai Padmashali,
Ondede and Community Radio Active-Jain University

Inaugural Address
Rev. Father Victor Lobo
Principal, St. Joseph's college

Moderator
Dr. Meera Chakrovarty
Former member, Karnataka State Women's Commission,
Research Faculty, Cultural Studies, Jain University, Bangalore

Cultural performances

Together for a just and non discriminatory world

Contact: Rakshitha - 7760609156
(Ondede Field Officer)

Looking forward to have you at the event

ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
GENDER SENSITIZATION CELL AND
"ONDEDE" PRESENT

**"TOWARDS RADICAL
INCLUSIVITY"**
TALK BY SMITHA RADHAKRISHNAN
Wellesley College Boston, U.S.A

July 5 2016
3:00pm to 4:30pm
Venue: St Joseph's
College Auditorium

ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF
ARE WELCOME....



- Very first time in the history to receive invitation by Reserve Bank of India to be part of Board of Directors meeting. It is happened to discuss with Hon'ble Governor Raghuram G Rajan about the economic status of Transgender community in India. He just instructed to Directors of RBI to take necessary action for inclusion of Transgender issue at all the levels. Kiran Mazumdar, MP Rajeev Gowda, NLS Vice Chancellor, Prasanna theatre Activist and other friends were met on 6th July 2016



- For the very first time Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (city corporation/government) allotted two crore rupees budget 2016-2017 for the welfare of Transgender community. Today was the implementation planning meeting with Mayor, Chairpersons of finance and social welfare. Ondede coordinated with KSMF, SAMARA's, PAYANA, JEEVA organisations. Shead
- Preparations, Discussions day before for Meeting-2 to followup with Mayor, Deputy Mayor, MLA, Chairperson, Special Commissioner etc on the budget allotted for the welfare Transgender community. Emphasis on education has much more expectation for community. Thank you BBMP for initiatives made for inclusive society!!! KSMF, PAYANA, SAMARA, JEEVA, Ondede presented!

- In a meeting to discuss state campaign to access fundamental rights and fight against 36 A police act with State Minister UT KHADER at Vikasa Soudha today

August 2016

- "Age of Consent", Democracy-Children and Women, Dalit and Minorities panel discussions under Joint program, Symposium on Democracy and Contemporary Situation in India made young generation to think for future society. Detailed discussion will be uploaded on www.ondede.wordpress.com shortly. Held yesterday in St Joseph's College-Xavier Hall



- ADGP meeting to discuss on the human rights violation against Transgender Sex workers in Bangalore Rural. A move after meeting which had given notices to vacate houses of Transgender community to house owner. Activism made it to withdraw the notice and demanded for opportunity. Followed by Lecture at Maharani college



October 2016

- Women philosophers meet in Sirsi - Udupi to discuss Tolerance means Victory



November 2016

Ondede organised convergence discussion on Transgender Persons Rights Protection Bill 2016 in Jain University on 3rd. Human Rights Groups, child rights groups, Women's Rights Groups, and sexual minorities took part. Co founder Elizabeth moderated the session



- Age of Consent discussion organised by Ondede with School of Social Work-Roshini Nilaya, NITTE Institute of Communication-Mangaluru. Speakers were Dr Ramila Shekhar, DEAN for Psychiatric, Sowmya and Veena Activist from Sexual Minorities, Shalini Mathew Psychologist, Vishnu Dept of Journalism-NITTE, Vidya Dinker Social Activist and Cofounder of Ondede-Mangalore moderated the session today!



December 2016

- Theologian students from China, Garment labour union International Human Rights Day, Humsafar Trust's LIKHO media awards ceremony in Mumbai, CLPR on TG rights and the law. Series of events are seen !

January 2017

- Hon'ble President of India with the team of Ashoka Innovators. Welcomed to the world social entrepreneurs who are social change makers! Today at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Thank you Ashoka Innovators for introducing issues of minorities before the President of India! With the team here in Delhi



- In a process of developing Sex Reassignment Surgery policy at government hospitals



March 2017

Ondede representation in Government of Karnataka constituted 22 members committee to study the status of sex workers in Karnataka. Here it is submitted to Hon'ble Chief Minister ! Ondede as a convergence organisation emphasised to uphold the human rights of women in sex work and thank the government for providing an opportunity to study the socio economic political of socially stigmatised community !

LIST OF TRUSTEES

1. Aasha Ramesh- Co-founder
2. Akkai Padmashali- Co-founder
3. Pinky Chandran- Co-founder
4. Dr. Elizabeth V.S- Co-founder
5. Vidya Dinker- Co-founder

LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS

1. Ms. Shakun Mohini- Trustee Vimochana
2. Mr. Vasudev Sharma- Director, Child Right's Trust
3. Ms. Sowmya Reddy, LGBT and Animal rights activist
4. Ms. Madhu Bhushan= Women's rights activist
5. Dr. Shaibiya Saldana- Gynaecologist and Trustee, Enfold
6. Prof. Nalini Arles- United Theological College and Dalit Rights Activist
7. Prof. Shailaja. Hiremath- Hampi University
8. Prof. Tissy Mariam- Christ University
9. Ms. N. Sudhamani- Researcher

STAFF MEMBERS AND INTERNS

1. Madhumitha.R- Assistant Research and Admin
2. Poojitha- Feild Officer
3. Rakshitha- Feild Officer
4. Prerana Kodur- Volunteer

INTERNS AND VOLUNTEER

1. Ajmal – MSW student St joseph college
2. Meril – MSW student St joseph college
3. Shravanthi – MSW student St joseph college
4. Yimtee – MSW student St joseph college
5. Anu – VOLUNTEER
6. Saeesh Magwani – UWC, Mahindra, Pune
7. Shiny – student St joseph college
8. Ayushi – student St joseph college
9. Moakum - student St joseph college
10. Praveen



Shifted to New office in Kamanahalli





ONDEDE

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