



CP Raju
Canadian Baptist Ministries
Senior Program Coordinator

by Ruth Anna Dana

Since 2012, Canadian Baptist Ministries National Field Staff CP Raju has served in ministry in India’s Odisha and Andhra Pradesh states as the senior program coordinator. In his role of leading community development through the local church partners, he has seen the expansion of CBM’s ministries within India. This increase of programs has led to changes in project leadership and management.

The growth has also been beyond India as CBM develops new partnerships in Central Asia and the Philippines, the area north of the equator to the 30° latitude. In February 2023, Suraj Komaravalli, who had served as CBM’s India team leader for 10 years, agreed to take on new responsibilities as Asia team leader. Those

who attended Atlantic Baptist Women’s annual interMISSION event in May 2023 had the privilege to meet Job and Phoebe Santiago, and now recognize that Suraj will provide leadership guidance to projects in the Philippines.

This spring, in recognition of CBM’s growing outreach in northeast India, Imkummeren Jamir was newly appointed as program coordinator to work together with area church partners toward the sustainability and financial independence of existing and new projects. Imkummeren (who also goes by Meren) is reporting to the new Asia team leader, Suraj, who recognizes Meren’s “rich pastoral experience and his heart for the underprivileged.”

As CP and Meren serve in these different areas of India, working with many partner churches, they face challenges in implementing and resourcing the programs as well as maintaining monitoring visits to the projects.

Pray for each of CBM’s national field staff and for each of their local church partnerships, that they would “by love serve one another” (Galatians 5:13, KJ21).

In his June 2023 CBM update, CP outlines the progress of the Widows’ Empowerment Programs. Through the newly acquired skills in income-generating home businesses, these women have improved their living standards and are able to send their children to school.

Several church partner programs are reaching youth through literacy and tutoring centres, computer training centres, and sports skills training. One such program is with the Alempang Baptist Church, which is working with CBM’s Vennture business initiatives to provide job opportunities for recovered addicts and unemployed youth. Many agricultural

initiatives train farmers to grow vegetables in the off-season to improve income for their families. Animal husbandry is also providing livelihood for families.

CP reports that after a two-year break due to COVID, the large annual conferences of the Soura Baptist Churches Association, the Utkal Baptist Churches Association, and the Kui Baptist Association of Churches were able to peacefully hold their meetings. Several instructive workshops have been attended by pastors and deacons. Pray that these men and their wives will be able to apply what they have learned in each of their ministry contexts.

In a family update, CP shares that his wife Jane Swarna, who is an assistant professor at an engineering college, has graduated with a theology degree from Serampore University. She is serving among the youth, the women’s group, and in church services. Their son is working at Amazon in Hyderabad and his daughter is a dental hygienist in Prince George, British Columbia.

Photo courtesy of CBM



Through local partners, CBM offers empowerment programs for widows in India to help them support their families.

Sources: cbmin.org, including staff updates or ministry profiles from CP Raju, Suraj Komaravalli, and Imkummeren Jamir.