

# KARUNA SOCIETY FOR ANIMALS AND NATURE



*Annual Report: April 2022 to March 2023*

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## Introduction

Karuna Society for Animals and Nature is a registered non-profit animal welfare organization in India under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860. We were registered in Anantapur on September 18, 2000, Nr. 685 of 2000. This year marks our 23<sup>rd</sup> Birthday!

### *Donations, Grants & Volunteers*

Karuna could not continue without the ongoing dedicated support of our many donors. We would like to acknowledge our special long-time supporters who give generously and continuously, year after year!

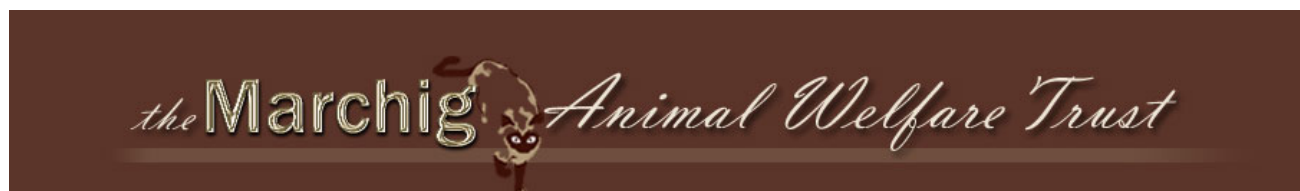
### *Help Animals India*

Help Animals India has been supporting our work for over a decade! This year, they gave generous help for maintenance of our new wildlife centre, cattle, a new facility for our cats and much-needed help towards salaries of our hard working staff. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS!



### *The Marchig Animal Welfare Trust*

The Marchig Animal Welfare Trust and the Foundation Marchig (UK) has come through every year with generous grants which relieve our financial anxiety and allow us to purchase desperately needed food and medicines. YOU MEAN THE WORLD TO US, THANK YOU!



## *Mission of Mercy Foundation*



Through his Foundation, Mr. Harcharan Singh has been supporting us now for several years, and is always ready to come through when we need help the most - with a heart full of care and concern for the animals. His dedicated monthly support gives critical help to the animals. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

## *Rural Development Trust (Anantapur, AP, India)*

Our association with RTD and its Executive Director Anne Ferrer has been a gift from heaven, with



generous monthly donations and helpful advice and guidance gathered from decades of their first-hand experience. THANK YOU FOR YOUR VALUABLE SUPPORT!

## *Animal Care Austria*

Animal Care Austria has been sending us loving annual donations for many years, for which we are always grateful. THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT!



Total Income: ₹. Rs 11,091,583

Total Expenditure: ₹. Rs 8,953,576



## KARUNA SOCIETY FOR ANIMALS AND NATURE

RECOGNIZED BY ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA,  
MRS. MANEKA GANDHI, HONORARY CHAIRMAN

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Behind S.C. Quarters, Enumulapalli  
Prasanthi Nilayam (P.O.) 515 134  
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### ANNUAL TREATMENT REPORT FOR ALL ANIMALS FOR THE FY: 2022 -2023

Cases of In & Out Patient animals	No. treated	No. of animals admitted	No. of treatments	Improved & discharged	Still under treatment	Natural death	Euthanized	ARV
Distemper in dogs	103	04	427	97	02	04	0	0
Parvo-Virus in dogs	261	06	1217	244	10	07	0	0
Rabies	14	12	27	0	0	01	13	0
Accident/injury	91	23	460	69	14	05	03	04
Surgery	18	04	84	16	01	01	0	03
Others	997	64	5518	940	33	22	02	190
Resident Animals	77	0	440	48	07	20	02	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1561</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>8173</b>	<b>1414</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>197</b>

Animals operated	ABC		Other surgeries	ARV
	Male	Female		
Dogs	229	274	25	528
Cats	0	01	0	01
Cattle	0	0	0	0
Others	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>529</b>

Resident animals	Number
Dogs	44
Cats	23
Cattle	196
Horses	04
Donkey	04
Wildlife	46
<b>Total number</b>	<b>317</b>

The total number for the Year 2022 -2023

Animal Birth Control: 504                      other surgeries: 43

Animals treated: 1561                      Treatments given: 8173

ARV given: 726                                  Rescues: 63

## Small Animal Clinic

Karuna Society's aim is to provide free treatment and shelter to all stray/street/free animals in need of help. After 20 years of service, continuing animal birth control, and medical treatment, the living conditions for animals in Puttaparthi has drastically improved. People bring injured and sick animals from far and wide, and we serve between 2,500 to 3,000 animals per year.

### *Paralysed Puppy Ankita*

*April 2022*

Ankita was born disabled and was found on the street by a well-wisher, a student of Sathya Sai Baba's school and classmate of our Secretary Narendra's daughter. Thanks to their efforts, Ankita was admitted as an inpatient. One of her two paralysed legs has improved and now she is running around happily! Another Karuna success story!



### *This Isn't My Dog, by Clementien*

*June 2022*



"THIS ISN'T MY DOG..."

.....is what many local people say when they bring a sick Indian dog to our outpatient department.

After many years of sterilisation of dogs in Puttaparthi there are no more "strays". Dogs are still everywhere and they belong to a street, an area, to one or more houses.

When a dog gets in an accident or falls ill, the people want to leave it with us even if it is their own Indian dog.

After many years of explaining to the public that they must share the responsibility for the dog's recovery, it is finally giving good results. There is no overcrowded shelter, and more animals can be treated. The recovery rate is very good as there is less stress for the animal. Finally there is a growing awareness that "caring" is not the same as ownership but that it is a sense of BELONGING together!

See information on our First Aid Centre for Stray/Street Animals in Distress here:

<https://karunasociety.org/hospital-and-shelter-for-small-animals>



### ***Mother and Puppies Left on our Doorstep***

***October 2022***

A mother dog with her five puppies, hardly a day or two old, were dumped in front of our Clinic, though we have no idea who did such a thing! We have taken in the puppies along with the mother, and they are all now well taken care of.

### ***Dolly, a Rescued Paralysed Puppy***

***February 2023***

A well-wisher noticed a paralysed puppy left outside a local orphanage, and brought her to us. Dolly is now a permanent resident, and definitely she is very photogenic! So cute, don't you agree? (Please note that the black spots on Dolly's bandages is Wokadine, an antiseptic and disinfectant medicine used to protect and treat wounds.)



## **ABC (Animal Birth Control) and AR (Anti Rabies) Vaccination**

After 20 years of animal care, ABC and Rabies prevention, Puttaparthi is a safe area for devotees, tourists, working people and farmers. As we do not receive any financial support from the local government, we depend upon donations.

Total ABC Surgeries: 504

Total AR Vaccinations: 529





## Cattle Rescue Project

Our rescued cattle live in two groups: one at the animal clinic/shelter in Enumulapalli where we keep the old and disabled ones who need special care; and the other group is at Karunapalli village several kilometres away, close to the forest. The 120 cattle at Karunapalli are healthy and are allowed to live their life freely in the herd as they go out grazing during part of the year when there is fresh green grass growing. A few cows are unsterilized as we could not catch them anymore for surgery, so occasionally there are a few new-born calves. This herd of cattle is slowly "Rewilding", remembering who they truly are.

### *Waking Up from Domestication, by Clementien*

*May 2022*

#### ***"Remembering Who They Are"***

There is a story by Louise Erdrich in which she writes about one of the last buffalo hunts in the US that left 1,200 animals dead. After that hunt:

*"The buffalo were taking leave of the earth and all they loved," said the old chiefs and hunters after years had passed and they could tell what split their hearts. "The buffalo went crazy with grief to see the end of things.*

*Like us, they saw the end of things and like many of us, many today, they did not care to live."*



#### **Karuna Cattle Grazing in the Forest**

(For the full story, click here: <https://www.aamboli.com/quotes/book/the-last-report-on-the-miracles-at-little-no-horse-a-novel> )

This is a moment that can be recognized as the fundamental destruction of the integrity and soul of the buffalo herd. They were never the same. "The buffalo went crazy with grief to see the end of things". Traumatized, in shock, their souls withdrew from their bodies. Even as they were physically surviving

on earth, their offspring could not be the same, they were less buffalo, “lesser beings” to be overpowered, domesticated, to be abused and used.

“Lesser Beings” are life forms that have been traumatized/compromised to the point of being incapable of being the life forms they are meant to be. They have experienced an existential trauma that makes them ‘less of themselves.’ It is my understanding that no cure or welfare measure will solve the problem, if the root cause of how ‘lesser beings’ are created is not acknowledged and understood.

### ***Domestication: The Fundamental Betrayal of Trust***



Domestication has provided us with power over nature. It will destroy us. Domestication is a centuries-long process of overpowering and controlling animals and nature for selfish reasons, generation after generation, destroying the natural trust that once existed between species.

The human rational mind has no problem recognizing and proving the inferiority of the traumatized life forms. They are all “Lesser Beings” without mind and soul. The result of this collective trauma affects

every individual of that species, and it is handed down to the next generation through the collective memory and locked into the genes. This happens to all species we have domesticated. Example: Cows and buffaloes are reduced to production units for milk and meat. Animals have become commodities, property, production units. It is easy to see for everybody that they are “not the same as us”. Even their pain and agony are not acknowledged.

Marc Bekoff Ph.D. (Animal Emotions) writes: “Domestication is one among several examples of collective trauma experienced by animals. We should include nonhumans among those who can suffer from collective encultured trauma and do all we can to coexist with them.”

See his article here: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/animal-emotions/202204/domestication-and-other-animal-models-collective-trauma>

## ***Karuna's Rescued Cattle and the "Wild Herd"***

Karuna has rescued cows and buffalo since 2002. All cows, bulls, buffaloes, donkeys, horses and a camel that have come to Karuna have a right to life and will be protected and looked after for the rest of their lives. They are not isolated or tied up, they are free to live in the herd and go out grazing in the forest. Cows and buffaloes are free from milk production for profit and most of them are sterilized or castrated.

At present there is a separate group of 120 healthy cows and buffaloes at Karunapalli (the second compound, close to the forest), they are sterilized and castrated. They are taken out for grazing in the forest by our long-term attendants, whom they know. They are being fed during the summer drought. They have no other purpose than "being themselves, remembering who they are!", overcoming the trauma of domestication. We call them "*The Wild Herd*".

This is a very special project for Karuna as it is providing a safe haven for cows and buffalo to recover from centuries long trauma to their species – an effort from our side to restore the trust between species.

If you want to be part of this process of liberation and carry with us the responsibilities, please send a WhatsApp message to me on 0091- 9490360218 or contact us on [karunasociety@gmail.com](mailto:karunasociety@gmail.com).

Warmly,

Clementien Pauws Koenegras



## ***Raja, Our Camel, Has Passed Away***

***August 2022***

Our rescued camel Raja has been with us for over 15 years! In 2007 his owner put a signboard on his body advertising the date of slaughter and price per pound of meat - it was even seen on TV! After rescuing the camel from the illegal slaughter, it took several years

of fighting court cases before Karuna Society won and he could live with us - a peaceful, comfortable and care-free life. He made friends with the other animals in our shelter, and was happy. Raja had a loving puja burial surrounded by staff who cared for him. Rest in Peace, Raja! 🐪🥰 (For the full story of Raju's rescue, please see here: <https://karunasociety.org/what-it-takes-to-rescue-a-camel>).

## **Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation**

We currently have 46 rescued wildlife animals, many of whom have been with us for many years! Most of them were brought in on the initiation of the local Forest Department, as our centre is the only facility within hundreds of miles to house injured and traumatised wildlife.



### ***Updates on Our New Wildlife Centre***

Our efforts to close our existing 6-acre Wildlife centre near to the Super Speciality Hospital, and complete the construction and transferring of our animals to our new 18-acres of land near to Rayalaseema, continued this year. In November 2021 we received a letter from the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) confirming the re-recognition of our Wildlife facility from 30 June 2017 until 15 November 2023. In December 2022, we sent the CZA our revised Masterplan with technical drawings. We are awaiting the official approval of the plans so we can continue construction of the new Wildlife Centre.

### ***Bear Cub Rescued and Released***

#### ***October 2022***

On October 16th at about 4pm, we received a call from the Puttaparthi District Forest Officer (DFO) Mr. Ravindranath Reddy, seeking our help to rescue a bear cub at Gudibanda Mandal, Mandalapalli village

(94 km from Puttaparthi). Due to heavy rains and thunder we could only leave the next morning at about 4 am: the DFO, the Forest Range Officer (FRO), our veterinarians, driver and myself (Narendra Reddy). We reached the location at about 6 am and observed that the area was remote and surrounded by hills and grounds where elephants and other wild animals roamed. It was also filled with muddy water from the rains, and difficult to access. People had laid traps for wild boars and a bear cub was stuck in a trap. The mother bear was there with the cub and protecting it. It was very difficult to get close to the trap because the mother bear was very aggressive and did not allow anyone to touch the bear cub.

I understood the situation and made a plan to get close to the bear trap with a tractor. Thankfully, we were able to access the trap and free the bear cub! The bear cub ran into the forest accompanied by its mother. By then a crowd had gathered and everyone was really relieved and happy at our success, they clapped and congratulated us!



I took the opportunity to educate the villagers about the protection of wildlife and how they are not dangerous to us if unprovoked. I felt my personal experience was amazing and exciting, helping to rescue the bear cub and encounter its mother in the wild, with our team. We were even featured on the local news! See this link: <https://youtu.be/NGvaF5CQFpU> - C. Narendra Reddy

## ***Sick Peacock Rescued, Treated and Released***

***February 2023***

We received a peacock from the Forest Department in Bukkapatnam - it was sick and needed treatment. We carefully housed and treated the peacock for several days and he



recovered from his illness. We could give the healthy peacock back to the Forest department so they could release it in the same place where he was found. Another Karuna success story, thanks to our knowledgeable and experienced vet and staff, and to all our donors who support us! THANK YOU!! 🙏

## Bannerghatta Zoo Training

February/March 2023

From February 27 to March 1, 2023, three of our staff attended a 'Zookeepers Training' conducted at Bannerghatta Zoo in Karnataka, through the Central Zoo Authority. For three days there were informative techniques taught, demonstrations of equipment, enrichment ideas and other useful ways we can



improve the lives of our rescued wildlife. Congrats to Sudhakar, Kesappa and Narayana for their participation!



## Wildlife Training at Tirupati Zoo

January 2023

One of our staff, V. Bhaskar, attending training for dealing with Wildlife, at the Zoo in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, on 27 and 28 January 2023. This training was offered to Veterinary Assistant Surgeons and topics included Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Strategies, Protocols of Capture, Rescue and Rehabilitation of wild animals, and Zoonotic Disease Management.



<b><i>Animal/Birds</i></b>	<b><i>Number</i></b>
Peafowl	5
Sloth Bear	6
Black Buck	16
Bonnet Macaque	14
Grey Tufted Langur	2
Sambar Deer	3
<b><i>Total Wildlife Animals</i></b>	<b><i>46</i></b>

## **Organic Farming**

Nearly 20 years ago we started our Karuna organic farm at Karunapalli, and a few years later we started the 'Ahimsa' product line. We ran our local shop on the noble and lofty ideals of promoting a vegan lifestyle and implementing eco-friendly farming methods such as using the byproducts of our rescued cattle. The profits were not as we hoped, and we finally had to close down our shop during 2020, just before the Covid lockdown.

We inspired many people to live a healthier life and all the proceeds helped the rescued animals under our care. Although our shop has closed down, we have never stopped growing vegetables. We have the land, and the dung from our rescued cattle to make compost.

For the Karuna clinic and wildlife centre we need lots of vegetables - cooking for the dogs, supplies of vegetables and fruits for the wild animals in our care, and all leftovers for the rescued cattle. To buy all this from the local market is a big expense. We try to grow as much as possible ourselves: lettuce, herbs, tomato, brinjal, onions, bottle gourd, carrots, radish, pumpkin, chilly, papaya and mangoes. The expenses mentioned below are for the ladies working in the garden. How much we actually save is not an exact science!

### ***Mangoes: A Treat from Nature for All Our Friends***

#### ***June 2022***

At Karunapalli where our wild herd of cattle lives, we have an old mango garden as well. For the last 15 years the trees have not been sprayed with pesticides but were fed with clean organic compost from our own cows. Generally, when mangoes are harvested for profit they are still green and the tree is spitting angry tears from the branches in protest. In storage they have to be sprayed with a chemical to let them ripe quickly for sale. However, we do it differently! Instead of selling off the crop for a small amount of money, we provide this delicious fruit to all our local friends and donors, to all our staff and our animals - to our bears, peacocks, monkeys, donkeys and cows.

During the final time that the fruits are happily swinging on the trees, they are visited by countless animals as well: birds, squirrels, flies and worms take their pick. We experience extreme happiness



because we have learned to share. We thank the earth and the trees, the sun and the birds for giving us so much! --Narendra Reddy, Secretary, Karuna Society for Animals & Nature

Total agricultural expenses this year: ₹. 2,83,489

Total agricultural income this year: ₹. 0



## **Other News**

### ***Moral Injury Article***

***May 2022***

Clementien writes: "Last year I was in touch with Karin Davis, President of United Poultry Concerns, USA. I shared my thoughts about chickens and also my personal uptake on why traumatised animals are perceived as lesser beings, to be used as humans see fit. The insights in this article concern not only humans and welfare workers but they also apply to all domesticated animals and animal activists." Please see the article here: [https://upc-online.org/education/211027\\_moral\\_injury\\_in\\_animal\\_advocates\\_and\\_nonhuman\\_animals.html](https://upc-online.org/education/211027_moral_injury_in_animal_advocates_and_nonhuman_animals.html)

### ***The Board of Karuna Society Meets in Person Again!***

***August 2022***

This year, we finalised the appointment of Mr. K. Adinarayana Reddy as our new Vice-President, and Mr. Irudaya Moan Fernandez as a Board member.

Karuna Society's Board came together in person recently for the first time in 2.5 years! During the Covid lockdown and Clementien's illness, all relevant meetings were held by speakerphone, video call and/or one-on-one personal visits. We missed interacting and seeing each other in person at the same time! It was good to pick up the thread of our activities and discuss problems and possibilities to improve the lives of animals in distress. As Puttaparthi has become a district headquarters now, all government offices and officials are close by and interaction to discuss problems will be easier.

Brainstorming was done about the problems with the Animal Birth Control (ABC) project as many owners do not want their dog sterilised; we need the help of the Collector and the Municipality. Policies around the in- and outpatient department were also discussed, and how we can interact more with the local community to create increased awareness about the suffering and possible improvements and human responsibilities. There were no final conclusions, but the issues will be followed up.



## ***Karuna Hosts Visit of TREP School Kids from Bangalore***

***December 2022***

On December 17th, Karuna hosted a visit from staff and students at the NGO named TREP (Total Residential Educational Programme), located in Bangalore. They provide value-based, balanced education for poor, needy, single-parent, orphan and talented kids.

In fact, TREP has been conducting field trips to Karuna for over 10 years! The kids learn about the importance of rescuing and caring for local stray animals as well as wildlife, for the safety of animals and humans alike. Our clinic Manager Narasimhulu showed them around and described all of our activities. The staff and kids really appreciated seeing in person the important work Karuna is doing! Thank you for your ongoing support to make this all possible!



## *Fundraising Appeal Newsletter*

*June 2022*

Dear Friends of Karuna,

I need to be blunt; this is a fundraising appeal, there is no way around it. Instead of writing about the latest good news for the animals and our accomplishments, this time we need to share our problems.

After the traumatic two years of Covid lockdowns, sickness and death, the world does not seem to be such a safe place anymore. Looking forward, we will face more consequences of climate change, the war in Europe and changing global relations. This has an impact on animals as their lives will become even less important. Wild animals lose their habitat or go extinct; animals trapped in the food production business will suffer more; and healthy soil, trees and clean water will be difficult to find.

This brings me back to our continuing efforts to relieve the suffering of animals. We need your help! Allocating funds to the different projects is a balancing act as some donors do not give for salaries and others have special wishes for supporting animals.

At present we are missing out on two grants: the Clinic and Animal Birth Control (ABC), simply because the previous grants were timebound. There is no replacement.

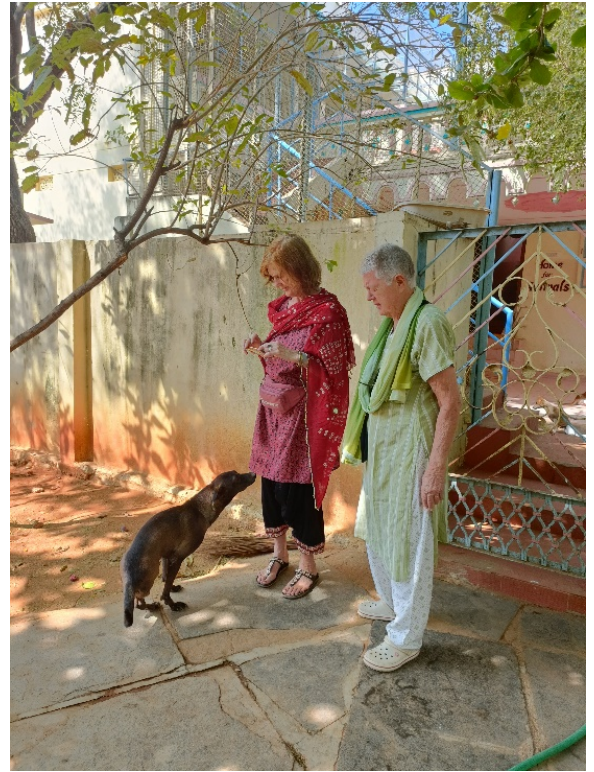
Apart from the basic needs of food, medicine and salaries, we still hope to finalise the construction of the new Wildlife Rescue Centre as soon as possible, to provide relief to the lifetime care wild animals presently under our care in the old centre.



## ***Sandra Kyle's visit***

***March 2023***

Sandra Kyle is a 74-year-old high-profile animal activist in New Zealand with her own radio show. She spent two months in India visiting several states, connecting with people who dedicate their lives to help animals – even making an appearance on All India Radio! She spent several days in Puttaparthi touring Karuna Society's premises, speaking to Clementien and others about animal rescue and care, and giving some attention to our rescued permanent residents. Thank you for your enlightening visit, Sandra!



## **PLANNING**

Most urgent for us is to complete the new wildlife rescue centre which has been in the planning and development for years. It is important that final decisions and permissions will be granted to us by the CZA in the coming year. The wild rescued animals in our old centre have been confined for too long in less-than-ideal living conditions. Although they are all looked after well by our staff, they deserve better.

Here are some of our future goals:

- Secure the CZA technical drawings permission, and the funds necessary to complete construction of the new wildlife centre.
- Find an all-round accomplished Administrator who can deal with CSR fundraising as well as general administration.
- Find and appoint an experienced Veterinary Surgeon, and apply for a grant to support their salary (about Rs.50.000/- or \$700 a month).
- Start applications for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) grant funding.

S.No	Project	Expenses 2022-2023 ProjectWise/Rs	Estimate Budget for 2023 - 2024 /Rs	Estimate Budget for 2023 - 2024 in USD
1	Animal Birth Control	INR 1,007,678.00	INR 1,010,000.00	USD 12,300.00
2	Cattle Project	INR 2,409,247.00	INR 2,410,000.00	USD 29,347.00
3	Clinic Project	INR 2,066,399.00	INR 2,067,000.00	USD 25,170.00
4	Wildlife Centre	INR 1,398,754.00	INR 1,400,000.00	USD 17,048.00
5	Administration	INR 1,788,009.00	INR 1,800,000.00	USD 21,919.00
5	Agriculture	INR 283,489.00	INR 290,000.00	USD 3,531.00
<b>TOTAL Expenses 2022 - 2023</b>		<b>INR 8,953,576.00</b>	<b>INR 8,977,000.00</b>	<b>USD 109,315.00</b>
<b>TOTAL Income 2022 - 2023</b>		<b>INR 11,091,583.00</b>		
Upcoming project WL Construction				

Total food and medicine cost                   INR 27,00,000/-  
Salaries & Professional fees                         INR 46,00,000/-  
Vehicle, PF, ESI, Maintenance                     INR 17,00,000/-

**TOTAL**   **INR 90,00,000/-**

