

**PEOPLE'S CULTURAL CENTRE
(PECUC)**

Annual Report 2009-2010

People's Cultural Centre (PECUC)
Bhubaneswar – 751021,
Orissa, India
E-Mail – pecuc@hotmail.com
Visit us at: www.pecuc.org

Vision: “Another world in which peace, justice and equality prevails. Individuals and communities live in dignity and harmony respecting cultural and natural diversity. A world in which people participate and have say in their social and economic well being, prosperity and exercise their rights to a life of dignity.”

Mission: “Our mission is to empower and enable people especially children, women, the aged and other disadvantaged in society, to participate powerfully in their overall development. Our mission is to create and strengthen people’s institutions that sustain, promote and fulfill their development needs and rights to a life of dignity.”

PECUC since its inception have been working towards the causes of human suffering. It gained its legal entity in July 1990 increasing its commitment and accountability towards the people they are working for. With its rights based approach the organization strives to mainstream the disadvantaged and downtrodden in the society.

The organization completed yet another year and 2009-10 had been a challenging and enriching with new collaborators, broader focus areas, and wider scope of intervention, improved strategies and quality resources. It had been year of retrospection when the organization building on its experience of twenty years has moved a milestone ahead and developed its next 10 years strategy paper to address to the emerging needs of the society. The year’s focus have been protecting child rights, women’s rights, rights of aged persons, rights of people affected by disaster and in general right to livelihood of the disadvantaged sections. In order to advocate and seek rights of these targeted populations the organization’s main strategies were:

A. Children’s Rights:

- i. Education for all children through parent counseling, getting children to Shradha Bhavans, Shradha bhavan, strengthening school system including NCLP schools and enrollment of children in mainstream education system.
- ii. Securing Child Participation by organizing children in Sisu Sabhas, further protecting them by forming and strengthening Child Protection Committees and networking with bigger platforms for effective advocacy and lobbying.
- iii. Guaranteeing Health of children.

B. Women’s Rights:

- i. Organising women to assert their rights and strengthening them economically;
- ii. Guaranteeing Health of women;
- iii. Mainstreaming gender in local self governance;
- iv. Working against gender violence.

C. Rights of the Old Aged

- i. Working for care and protection of the rights of the old persons

- ii. Creating an enabling environment for Older Persons to live with dignity
- iii. Promotion of self-help capacity
- iv. Sensitising the community and facilitating community based socio-economic rehabilitation of the older persons.

D. Ensuring and protecting human rights in disaster situation

- i. Work for relief, rehabilitation and restoration of livelihood with a particular focus on children, women, aged and the marginalized community
- ii. Organising disaster preparedness training programmes at the community level
- iii. Provision of child friendly space

E. Right to livelihood:

- i. Improve on agriculture production;
- ii. Promote income generation initiatives;
- iii. Linking with government poverty alleviation schemes and service and bank linkages.

F. Right to democracy of all citizens respected through election watch.

- i. Organizing debates and discussion for political reform
- ii. Campaign for voter's awareness and analyze electoral process
- iii. Capacity building workshops are organized for the PRI members at the panchayat level, members of the Urban Local Body (ULB)
- iv. Ensuring fair electoral process and participatory good governance through dialogue approach with the Legislators

Area wise performance:

KHURDA UNIT

“Gender in Local Self Governance in Khurda District”

Geographic area coverage:

Baliana and Bhubaneswar Block in Khurda District, Orissa

Project Objectives:

The overall objectives of the programme is to ensure complete participation of elected women members in local self governance (panchayatiraj) system and develop leadership quality among frontline women leaders to create competitiveness.

Key Activities:

Monthly interaction with women PRIs members of both the blocks, Block Coordination Offices and the respective authorities in the Panchayat system till the block level to mobilize them and discuss on adequate representation of women PRIs in PRI meetings, Gram Sabha and Palli Sabha. The interactions focused on effective implementation of government schemes and services as- NREGS, Indira Awas Yojana, Madhubabu pension Yojana, S.G.S.Y scheme, Janani Surakshya Yojana,

etc. and fair utilization of funds as Chief Minister's fund, etc. to ensure that people's needs and rights are respected and addressed with a just and fair means.

In addition to this need based workshops were conducted with the women PRI members at different levels over the year to motivate and reinforce the importance of their participation as representatives of people's voice. The workshops also aimed at updating their knowledge base on emerging issues and concepts as RTI, changing provisions in acts and schemes as NREGS. Furthering this awareness level of EWRs on issues was raised with distribution of IEC materials and street plays. Media representatives were also sensitized through workshops to effectively publicize good practices and achievements of PRIs so that they are further motivated to take up innovations in their area of work.

Key Achievements

- Increased knowledge base of EWRs on relevant acts, government funds, schemes and services
- Increased confidence and participation of women PRIs at different levels in the Panchayat System in the targeted blocks, in Gramsabha and Pallasabha
- EWRs have started asserting their rights
- Intervened in opening of Liquor shop in Bhinagarpur, Bentapur and Satyabhamapur;
- Intervened in caste discrimination in mid day meal at Umadeiberhampur;
- On one case related to domestic violence which was pending in the Balakati Police Outpost, Santi Federation settled the case within two days by creating pressure on the police. They also solved one divorce case at Panchayat level with mutual understanding of both husband and wife.
- Monitored the BPL survey of their concerned areas in detailed (by the Pragati and Jagruti Federation members).

United We Stand, Divided We Fall

Subhadra Rath, daughter of Dolagovinda Rath, aged 37, is a ward member of 15 number ward of Bhingarapur Panchayat in Baliana Block. After her marriage Subhadra's surname has been changed to Mishra. Due to some family problem she got divorce from her husband and filed a case for claiming maintenance. In the court it was decided that her husband would give her Rs. 1500 /- per month. For this Subhadra had to open one account in State bank keeping Misra as her surname. But as ward member and SHG member she has kept her name as Subhadra Rath. From the last two years she has been working as ASHA worker and was drawing her salary as Subhadra Rath. But unfortunately the NRHM staff of Balakati came to know that she has an account in Bank with Mishra surname. So she did not get any cheque. She tried to make it clear to every one but no one listen to her. Finding no way Subhadra presented her plight before the Trisakti federation, in which she is also a member. All the federation members met medical officer in-charge and discussed the matter. After hearing this, the officer suggested to change her surname from mishra to rath. But the members told that it would create problem to her in getting the money from her husband. They proposed that better to change the surname from rath to mishra as ASHA worker. The officer agreed to them and advised her to get an affidavit based on which she has changed her surname. Here it proved that "United we stand, divided we fall". Now Subhadra is getting her money without any hurdle.

"Sponsor A Gran Parent - Programme-Rights of the Age"

Geographic area coverage:

6 villages of Bhubaneswar Municipality Corporation (BMC) of ward - 4 and 3 villages of Jagannathapur GP of Baliana Block.

Project Objectives:

To enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of disadvantaged older people and their families

Key Activities

- Providing primary and requisite medicare
- Organizing and strengthening Elder Self-Help Groups (ESHG) to be self reliant and restoring their dignity amongst the community members
- Promoting sustainable livelihoods through micro-credit and micro-finance amongst older people through ESHG
- Responsive Community based Age Care
- Organizing workshops/campaigns for ensuring the demands and due rights of the older people

Key Achievements

- Creation of space for the old aged within the social set up
- Ensured Food security through monthly food material
- Increased dignity in the family & community
- 18 person linked with Income Generation Programme .(Gotary, Paddy
- Processing, Beetle shop, Tea Stall)
- CBO's like SHG, youth clubs and children are taking care of old people
- Increased access to government plans and programmes including health facility

“National Child Labour Project”

Geographic area coverage: Bainchua of Baliana block, Ashoknagar & Mahima Nagar of Bhubaneswar

Project objective: Rescue children from work and integrate them back to education.

Key activities:

- Children engaged in different gainful economic activities like Dhabas, hotels, shops and establishments; brick kilns, construction sites, rack picking etc. were released and enrolled in the NCLP schools. The NCLP Schools provided the much-needed platform for the child labours of the locality by ensuring their right to education.
- A total of 50 child labours in each area were covered and enrolled from class one to class fifth in the schools. The schools were running from 10 O' Clock morning to 4 O' Clock in the evening. The government syllabus is followed to facilitate smooth mainstreaming process. Besides, Morning Prayer, mathematics, vernacular and English the students learn dance, music, vocational training and games to inculcate positive attitude towards education, develop discipline in life and to maintain cleanliness.
- The school also caters to the food and nutritional need of the children through provision of Flat rice and mid day meal (rice, dal, vegetables, boiled egg).
- Observance of different days such as Republic days, Independence Day, Child Rights days etc were part of their other activities.
- Parents' motivation, meeting with stakeholders as DPC, SSA, CDPO, Block Officials have been integral part of the project to help the children retain back in NCLP schools and then

integrating them in government schools for necessary support and services in form of books, nutrition, health check up and monitoring progress.

Key Achievements-

- Two students from Ashok Nagar & Bainchua NCLP Schools including Sri Santosh Nayak went for an exposure visit to Madurai from 19th to 26th April-09 to attend the programme on National Child Labour Day.
- The children along with all the staffs from three NCLP Schools attended the observation of Child Labour Day on 30th April at Lohiya Academy organized by DLO, Khordha. The children of Ashok Nagar performed Cultural activities.
- Total 150 children were rescued from child labour involving in different trades and were mainstreamed back to education along with vocational training like tailoring, toy making through NCLP schools in three project location,
- From Ashok Nagar NCLP school 18 students, from Mahima Nagar NCLP school 4 students, and from Bainchua NCLP school total 18 students were enrolled back in other Government schools.
- Effective linkage was set up with stakeholders to get support and services in the form of books, mid day meal, vocational training and health check up for children in these NCLPs.

Women Empowerment-Self Help Group Promotion

The women SHGs are being promoted to give fillip to the socio economic status of women so that they can play the role of a salvager in the long run. On the other hand, PECUC also facilitated the marketing linkages for the women groups by way of participating in different exhibition and displaying the rural product to the urban buyers. Major objectives of the programme are to capacitate womenfolk on their rights, make them aware about laws related to women, different trades, and orient the SHG group members on the need, relevance and process for effective documentation of the entire process.

Total Group	Total Member	Monthly saving	Internal loan	Bank deposit	Total fund
119	2182	43,737	31,45,927	15,02,714	4,268,998

119 SHGs promoted and strengthened in 8 gram panchayats of Baliana Block and One Word (Word No.4) under Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation

Capacity Building

To capacitate womenfolk to make them aware and to increase their negotiation with the external organization, training in different trade Dairy farm ,Poultry ,Goatery Shipary, Garment, Spices,Mixture ,Homeopathic bottle

Federation of SHG

Aimed at strengthening the self help capacity of women, developing better understanding, cooperation and information sharing and information sharing within the women groups, creating pressure group at grass-root, developing a self management system, PECUC has initiated the process of federating women groups at block and panchayat level.

Children Festival / SISHU MELA- 2009

A Week long festival was organized by PECUC from 14th November (Children's day) to 20th November 2009. In these 7 days various Competitions, Festivals & Cultural Activities were organized by Children. Around 173 Schools from different districts of Orissa including an average of 18 Children from each School had actively participated in the festival. Few eminent guests in the event were Sj. Prasanna Patasani, MP, Dr. Sarat Ch. Pujari, Cine Artist, Sj. Sahadev Sahoo, Administrator, Dr. Ambika Prasad Nanda, UNDP, Sj. Dillip Routray, Senior Administrator, Smt. Adaramani Boral, Sj. Bimala Prasad Das, Honorable Judge, Orissa High Court, Sj. A. S. Naidu, Sj. Pratap Jena, Minister, School & Mass Education, Orissa, Sj. Narayan Chandra Jena, Dist. Magistrate & Collector, Khorda, Sj. Rabindra Nath Das, Sj. Rakhel Mohanty, Sj. Subash Das, Singer, Sj. Saroj Samal, Sub Collector, Bhubaneswar, Sj. Laxmi Narayan Nanda, UNICEF, Sj. Sasank Padhi, Save the Children, Sj. Santaram Nanda, Save the Children, Smt. Snehaprava Samantray, Smt. Bandita Das and others.

Few distinguished awards given to children were – Baji Rout Memorial award to Tapan Dehury of Keonjhar, for out standing achievement in the field of bravery, Pranath Patnaik memorial award in the field of social work to Kumari Kajol Mohapatra, Ketaki Patnaik memorial award to Sambit Das for securing highest mark examination. Besides this, Swarup Jena memorial award for out standing achievement in the field of journalism to Dillip satpathy, Sisu Sathi award for the achievement in the field of children was given to Prof. Ganeswar Mishra, Educationist and the Akshaya Memorial Award was give to Barnali Hota. Along with this an Audio Cassette “Shanti Kapota” by the direction of Laxmikant Palit, was released and a book “Gachha Kahuchi Katha” by Prof. Ganeswar Mishra was published by Justice Sj. Das & Sj. Naidu.

Women's day celebration:

It is a day when women are recognized for their achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political. It is an occasion for looking back on past struggles and accomplishments, and more importantly, for looking ahead to the untapped potential and opportunities that await future generations of women. Organisations, governments and women's groups around the world choose different themes each year that reflect global and local gender issues. This year the theme centers round, **“Equal rights, Equal opportunities: Progress for all”**.

This year is the 100th anniversary of this occasion so Peoeple's Cultural Centre (PECUC) has organized one **“Human Chain and Signature Campaign”** in collaboration with Rotary Club of Bhubaneswar Heritage near Master Canteen Square in Bhubaneswar. Around 150 persons including students of different institutions like I.M.S, Swatik, NISWASS, Bijupattanaik Science & Education, members of Women Self Help Group, representatives of Panchayatraj Institutions and media persons participated in this campaign.

Guests as eminent journalist Sj **Pradosh Pattanaik**, chairman of State Social Welfare Board, Smt **Sulata Deo**, **Dr Jyoti Panigrahi**, Chairman of State Woman Commission, former D.G of police **Sri Amiya Bhusana Tripathy**, **Rtn Sri Ashok Kumar Tripathy**, IAS, Commission-cum-Secretary of State SC & ST Welfare Department, renowned educationist **Smt Adaramani Baral** and Smt **Sanjukta Mohanty**, Secretary of State Council of Child Welfare were present and gave their valuable felicitation on the occasion.

It was decided that this campaign will not stop here. This will be a continuous process and it will spread in all the educational institutions to create awareness among all to stop the atrocities on women for the year.

Odisha Election Watch

Geographic area coverage:

The Orissa Election Watch is active in almost all districts of Orissa .

Project objective:

- Promoting & ensuring free & fair election.
- Promotion of Voter's Rights (with more focus on voter's Right to know).
- Implementation of supreme court Judgment regarding electoral Reforms & disclosure.
- Helping people (voters) in making an informed choice.

The Orissa Election Watch (OEW) is a statewide civil society response and citizen led organizations working on electoral reforms, improving democracy and governance in Orissa. OEW is initiated by "Jana Adhikar Abhijan" an alliance of civil society organizations & Concern Citizens during 2003 .OEW is the State chapter of National Election Watch which is being coordinated at National Level by Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).

Key activities:

State Level Convention on Politics, Party, Public and Poll held on 4th March at Bhubaneswar 153 people was participated. Representatives of major political parties like BJD, BJ, INC & CPI. Representatives from, The Hindu, Economics times & NDTV, etc.and NGO partners from all the 30 districts.

State Coordination Meeting held on 23rd March at the district of Koraput. 36 peoples from all the 30 districts were participated.

Consultation with Election Commission held for necessary help & Electoral reforms, for online availability of detail information regarding returning officers of all the districts, for Online availability of Affidavits which were not available in hard copies (about 15-20 including MPs & MLAs) and for information sharing with State Election Commission, Media & district level partner NGOs.

Affidavit collection from all the districts & its Compilation: The OEW-members in all districts gave their best support for collection of hard copies of Affidavits from the returning officers. There is also manual compilation of 1st Phase Assembly Election.

Online data entry of affidavits: all the Affidavits Of both lok Sabha & Assembly Election were compiled in The Tool provided by ADR in 6 team.

Booth watches by district NGO partners: The district members also visited & gave information regarding any problem during polling. E.g. in the District of Koraput a group of 1000 peoples were not allowed to give poll. Due to the intervention of OEW-members they can able to vote.

Media release & advocacy: Two times we have media release. Before the first phase election-on dtd. 12th April & before the 2nd phase election on dtd. 20th April. On 12th April; we have released both Lok Sabha Constituencies (1st & 2nd phase) & 1st phase Assembly Constituency. On 20th April we have released only 2nd phase AC **Running helpline** on number 1800110440

Strategy Building Meeting for forth coming election held on 2nd July at Bhubaneswar with OEW-Coordination Team.

6th Nation Convention on Electoral & Political Reforms: 2 days convention was organized by National Election Watch & ADR (Association for Democratic Reforms) in collaboration with Bhopal Election Watch on 10th & 11th April 2010 at Bhopal. Participants from 21 state elections watch partners. The main objective of the convention was to discuss various problems during election-2009 & to prepare a draft action plan for forth coming election.

Odisha Allaince on Convention on Rights of the Child (OACRC)

Geographic area coverage: Entire state of Orissa.

Objective: **OACRC** is a state level broader alliance of child rights groups, women's association/networks, civil society organizations and state level leading child rights network/forums committed to work for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child in the state of Orissa.

Key activities:

Core Group Meetings: Two core group meetings were held to discuss on issues related to child rights protection. Few important decisions taken on priorities were-

- Child rights Education, monitoring & advocacy – as central focus which shall be coordinated by the Secretariat ,PECUC
- Education, Child Health, Juvenile Justice(Includes ICPS), Child Labour and Universalisation of Birth Registration would remain prime focus of the alliance, each to be coordinated by partner organisations.

Other meetings: Two days Core group and Strategy planning meeting was organized at Red Cross Bhawan on 13th & 14th October.

Meeting for planning of UNCRC 20th Anniversary Celebration was organized on 12th November at PECUC, Coordination Office and on 17th November 2009 at OVHA.

Core Group meeting was organized at Save the Children, State Office on 6th March to discuss on the project to be sanctioned by UNICEF.

Workshops and events:

Measuring Progress for Children: A workshop was organized by IACR (India Alliance for Child Rights) on 20th June 2009 with the participation of 130 members from 30 districts of Odisha. The

workshop was facilitated by Ms. Razia Ismail, IACR. The purpose of the workshop was to know the status of children in the State for the preparation of Country report on Children.

20th Anniversary Celebration of UNCRC: Held on 20th November at IDCOL Bhawan by the participation of 250 peoples including different eminent persons, policy makers, media, District OACRC partners, Core group members of the Alliance & youth of the society.

Measuring Progress for Children: 2 days workshop was organized on 18th & 19th January at New Delhi by IACR (India Alliance for Child Rights). The main purpose of the workshop was to prepare a draft action plan for children for the 11th Action Plan of the nation. The participants were from different state partners of IACR.

Key achievements

- Formation of thematic groups depending on various core issues related to children.
- 20th Anniversary celebration of UNCRC was done.
- Preparation of a State Action plan for 11th Action plan of the Nation.
- Fixed various objectives & action plans under OACRC depending on the issues.
- Steps taken to strengthen the Alliance.

“End of Violence against Women - We Can Campaign”

Geographic area coverage:

Project objective:

- Reduction of domestic violence
- Balancing of Gender equity in the society.
- Creation of a violence free society.

Key activities:

School Programme to End Violence on Women

A one day School programme was organized at Patana BRC Conference Hall on 28th February 2010. Total 60 participants participated in the workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to aware the school teachers about violence on women & how it could be stopped. Further, a follow up workshop was organized to end violence on women on 28th March 2010, as was demanded in the previous workshop. In this programme 38 people including 26 teachers from 5 GPs of Patana Block participated.

Re-activating change makers

To remind the old change makers about their role and responsibility one mobile van moved round 6 blocks of Keonjhar covering Telkoi, Baunsapal, Champua, Keonjhar Sadar, Swampatna and Anandapur for 2 days continuously. The old change makers thus became conscious of their duties once again and many new change makers were also mobilized.

Connector Training

On 27th February, 2010 training was imparted to the connectors regarding proper handling of IEC materials at Sahid Sadan of Keonjhar.

Key Achievements

- It was decided that in schools every Saturday one period will be devoted to discuss on domestic violence & girls' education at Patana Block, which is being followed by teachers now.
- It was felt by the teachers that they could aware children by giving examples from their own surroundings because a child spends 6 to 8 hours of his/her time in school and teachers should come forward to take necessary action to bring a change in the society as a whole.
- A group of 115 number of change makers have now been motivated to take forward the cause of preventing gender violence and create a violence free society where gender balance is respected.

KEONJHAR UNIT

“Participatory action for eradication of child Labour (PAECL)”

Geographic area Coverage:

20 villages of Swampatna Block of Keonjhar

Project Objective:

Complete Elimination of Child Labour from 20 villages of Swampatna Block of Keonjhar District- in the Community Development Block in which Arcelor Mittal's mega steel plant is going to be set up.

Key Activities:

In order to achieve the above goal the organization took up an integrated approach through the following activities:

1. Education Activities:

The organization believes school is the best place for children to prevent them from being child labors or potential child labors. Hence the most important strategy was to help children escape to schools. The first step was to motivate parents to send their children to school through parent counseling. Following this children were attracted to education through children camps and get them enrolled in Shradha Bhavans opened in 20 target villages. Here children were prepared for mainstream education and then enrolled in government schools. The final step was to strengthen the school education system where the PTAs, MTAs, school teachers and VECs were strengthened to ensure quality education for children.

2. Child Participation Activities:

Child labour is one of the gross violation of child rights apart from the many other exploitations children face in the villages. Thus with the aim of protecting children's rights as stated in the UNCRC Child protection Committees were set up in the villages and strengthened to oversee protection and promotion of children's rights in their respective villages.

Children were organized in Shishu Sabhas to help them to live their childhood, sensitise them about their rights and prepare them as advocates of their rights. This was a platform for their growth and a beginning for them to assert their rights to participation which is not respected in our society.



These groups are also federated at a cluster level to take their issues at a macro level before the adults.

3. Livelihood Activities:

Rights follow with some responsibilities and the immediate adults responsible to help children get their rights are their parents. But nothing is possible without economic sustainability. Most often women take up the main responsibility of bringing up their child healthily. Hence under this project women are organized and supported for economic sustainability so that with the increased income they nurture their children better. They are further linked with the government credit links to enhance in income generation activities.

4. Advocacy Activities:

Being a welfare state the final onus lies with the government to ensure all its citizens the basic human rights. But its not easily done as said so continuous lobbying and advocacy on behalf of the marginalized is required to ensure them their rights and entitlements. Here focus was made to link the vulnerable families with the different poverty alleviation schemes of the government and effective implementation of the welfare schemes and services meant for the target villages. Apart from this the issue of child labor and child rights continuously addressed at district and state level below the government for the effective implementation of CLPRA and other acts and provisions in favor of children.

5. Study:

An assessment study of the impact of proposed steel plant by Arcelor Mittal on the livelihoods, social, economy, cultural and environmental factors was undertaken. The findings of the study was disseminate among all the stakeholders. This study covers critical areas of attention for socioeconomic rehabilitation & resettlement and it suggests environmental protection measures.

Key Achievements

- 645 children between the age group of 6 – 14 (Girls – 341 and boys - 304) enrolled in 20 SB (Sradha Bhaban) centers functioning in 20 villages out of which 372 are child labours and rest are vulnerable to become child labour.
- 372 children rescued from labour are now no more seen working as child labour
- 84 no. of children are integrated in the general schools.
- 960 children (Girls - 488 and boys - 472) are organized in 20 Sishu Sabhas and have prepared their action plans.
- 20 CRPCs have been formed and members working as watch dog to rescue children from labour force & trafficking.
- 20 SHGs formed involving 220 women and linked with thrift and credit facilities for income generation.
- Preparation of a draft Action Plan for eradication of child labour in the state of Odisha.

“Stronger voice to Excluded Children in GOVT. and NGO Policies and Programmes.”

Geographic area coverage:

30 vilages of Swampatna Block of Keonjhar

Project objective:

To improve status of the most socially excluded children, with their voices heard and recognized institutionally formal and informal structures

Key activities:

Awareness generation

initiatives like meetings, consultation between children and communities, forming street theatre group and performance on issues by children, observing important dates and events as child rights week- 14th to 20th November'09, "World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse"-19th November'09, etc were undertaken with targeted children, families and communities to combat social exclusion.

Child protection and participation

Formation and strengthening of Child Protection Committees (**CPCs**) and formulating action plan on a quarterly basis to protect children from exploitation and address to rights violation cases.

Organised training workshops on 'child rights- focus on exclusion' at District level for duty bearers (VEC, CPC, health care providers, teachers, ICDS functionaries and PRI members).

Formation of 30 **Sisu sabha (child clubs)** involving excluded children in 30 target villages, who were further federated at the block level to take up rights violation cases. These children were sensitized on their rights and their role as advocates of child rights. Focus was on how they could raise their voice against exploitation, exclusion and violation of child rights through their organisation.

Installed **suggestion boxes** in 30 operational villages facilitated the process of opening of suggestion boxes. The Suggestion Box management committee members along with the CPC members, community members, SHG members opened the suggestion box in 30 project village on the fixed date of 20th of each month.

Trained children to generate IEC material, for dissemination through electronic and print media

Linkage with Govt Schemes and programmes

Identification and capacity building of community members amongst socially excluded sections to facilitate awareness and access to various government welfare schemes and services as NREGA, modiha mojami scheme, ICDS, etc.

Formation of task force

Facilitated interaction between children's organisations & structures of local governance and duty bearers at district, state and national level and form task force to prevent child exclusion.

Advocacy

Awareness generation of media persons leading to formation of a network/core group of sensitized media persons by championing the cause of socially excluded children. Media Volunteers and Children club members are now capturing cases of Exclusion and Discrimination in the area and further highlighting it.



Key Achievements

- Total 1281 (boys 660, girls-621, SC- 324, ST-762, OBC- 127, General-68) children are members in the child club
- The block level child federation has submitted a demand note to the block development officer, Patna block to support and link the excluded children in different govt schemes and programs.
- Children also wrote an application to the district project coordinator (DPC) SSA to provide quality mid day meals. It was accepted by the DPC and in connection to this he has circulated a notice to all the school
- In khireitangiree the panchayat level child club has identified 30 irregular to school children (boys-14, girls-16, SC-12, ST- 15 and OBC-3) and motivated them towards regular class
- 1056 Suggestion slips were collected from the 30 suggestion box installed in 30 programme villages. Total 436 adult (214 male and 221 female) and 620 children; (Boys-319 and Girls- 301) put their

suggestions. Total 168 suggestions were received regarding reduce discrimination in school, 98 suggestions were received regarding reduce Discrimination at village, 158 suggestions were received to link the children (Girls, Disable, Poor and Dominant Caste) and families of the village with Different Govt. Schemes and Programmes, suggestions to reduce drop out in schools etc.

- Total 30 CPCs in place in the target villages.

“Poverty Reduction in Orissa, India.”

Project goal: Poverty reduction for 1108 households from eight villages of the district Keonjhar in the State of Orissa.

Geographic area coverage: Eight villages - Nuapada, Kalighai, Sadangabahali, Rohiniduma, Kumulabahali, Rudhiapada, Chinamaliposi, and Godhirampada of the district Keonjhar in the State of Orissa are selected for intervention under the project.

Key activities:

Measure-I Lobby Work and Strategy Development:

Meeting with Government officials, local bodies and CBOs: At District and Block level initial communication and interaction have been developed with Local Government line officials such as: Collector, Superintendent of Police, Dist project coordinator, Sarva Sikhya Avijan, Additional District Magistrate, Block Development Officer Patana Block, Assistant Block Development Officer, Block Resource Center Coordinator (BRCC), CRCC (Cluster Resource Centre Co-ordinator), in charge of Community Health Center (CHC), Patana, Block Programme Organiser in charge of NRHM programmes, Block Education Extender, Agriculture Extension Officer, Veterinary Surgeon, Revenue Inspector etc.

Measure -2: Agricultural Production-

Erosion Protection/ Area Structures:

Construction of Gabion Structures surface ponds and injection well: To check soil erosion as to develop the micronutrient in the soil, a Gabion structure has been constructed in village Rudhiapada. One surface pond in Kumulabahali is in place and one well was dug in village Rudhiapada by the end of December and work is in progress in Kumulabahali village.

TOT (Training of Trainers) on Agriculture: A five day's training programme from 24th to 28th November, 2009 was organized in Dumuria.



Exposure Visit of farmers to a demonstration field: One exposure visit for farmers from the project villages was organized to “Sambhav”, a project demonstration center at Rohibanka village in Nayagarh District of Orissa.

Income generation initiatives for landless families / set up small animal farming:

Meeting with women SHGs: As part of promoting the target population into self motivated groups, develop understanding on group based enterprising on different livelihood options, etc. Meetings have been organized with 51 Women SHGs. The average group size varies between 10 – 15 members, which are ideal for promotion of group based activities. The groups are found potential to undertake income generating activities run at group level and sharing of benefits with the group members.

Livestock training: 15 numbers of training programmes on livestock rearing (Goat, Sheep, Pig and Poultry) was organized in 6 villages namely Kalighai, Rohiniduma, Sadangbahali, Kumulabahali and Nuapada and the training was facilitated by the local veterinary Assistant Surgeon (VAS). The training focused on care, diseases, feeding, and loss and profit calculation in the business from livestock keeping. A Booklet on each concerned livestock have been developed and distributed among the participants during the trainings.

Purchase and distribution of livestock:

Community preferred local variety of livestock. 22 SHGs were supported with 120 numbers of she goats, 6 numbers of Billy farm goats, 66 no of sheep and 4nos of male sheep, 54 no of pigs and 4 no of male pigs, have been purchased from the locality. This has directly benefited 243 families in the area.

Measure –3 Health Campaign:

Training to Health Committees: Two numbers of trainings were conducted for the GKS (Gaon Kalyan Samiti) members and the major topics of discussions were- hygiene and sanitation, safe drinking water, government health services, ante natal and post natal care and preventive measures for communicable diseases, etc.

Pregnancy care- Training to traditional Midwives: A two days training programme were conducted for the TBAs. The training module was focused on hand wash, pregnancy care, maternal care, baby care and safe institutional delivery.

Health Camps: 8 number of health camps were organized in all the 8 project villages. Messages on personal hygiene, preparation of Oral dehydration Salts (ORS), safe drinking water, maternal care, Baby care, immunization, and hand wash were disseminated through these camps.

Malaria Camps: 16 Malaria camps were organized in all the 8 project villages. The community people were made aware on preventive measures like using mosquito net, safe drinking water, using mosquito coil and to keep the environment clear. In the camps 116 no of the Malaria positive cases were found and referred to the Patna CHC for further treatment.

Repairing of existing Tube wells: 6 numbers of tube wells were repaired, 13 numbers of damaged Platforms around the tube wells were repaired in 6 project villages along with 2 tube wells platform in schools. Soak pits are constructed in all the 13 tube wells. To protect and prevent the tube wells stand from rust and damage 10 numbers of tube wells stand colored. The repaired tube wells are handed over to the community and are also intimated to the Panchayat and line departments.



Measure- 4: Development Programme – Children

Education Committees: Discussion with teachers and all the SEC members have been initiated with emphasis on activating the committee, organizing regular meetings, discussing issues related to the respective school management and performing their respective roles and responsibilities.

Training to School Committee members: A two days training of the School Committee members was organized at the Cluster Resource Centre Hall of Dumuria Primary School under Dumuria Panchayat. Mr Rabinarayan Panda and Mr Baidyanath Behera were the resource persons.

Sensitisation on Child led indicator - (CLI): A three days training on child led indicator was organized where. The sisu sabha members, School committee members, Mr Ranjan Mohanty, Secretary, PECUC, Mrs Anuradha Mohanty, Project Director, PECUC, field works and coordinators participated in the training programme.

School Enrolment- and Child Rights Campaign:

To Educate and aware the Common Mass about the Social Evils like Child Marriage, Child labour and the importance of Primary Education, Child Rights etc. different awareness generation activities were done as- 8 numbers of wall paintings, Posters developed and distributed on Right to education, Street Rally organized on Child Rights Week, etc

Wall magazine: In order to attract children to schools and enhance their creativity the concept of wall magazine was introduced in all the schools of the project intervention villages in consultation with the school authorities. For this 9 display boards were put up in the schools and children were provided with materials as drawing sheet, colours, pencil, papers, etc. The students of the schools were then asked to write stories, compose songs and do sketches for the wall magazine as they wished.

Children's festival: A week long children's festival from 14th to 20th November, 2009 was organized by PECUC at Ekamra Hat in Bhubaneswar to create sensitization among people regarding the rights of children. This year the festival centred round the theme -"Our rights, your responsibility". Forming human chain and signature campaign to protect child rights was the main highlight in the event.

Child Rights Child Protection

Child Right Teams:

Formation of child rights team: Eight Child rights teams are formed in 8 project villages, named as Sisu Sabha involving 487 children (boys 223 and girls 264) in the age group of 06 -18 years.. 114 weekly meetings of the child rights teams were conducted in all the project villages. A two days training of the child rights team (*sisu sabha*) on 19th and 20th September and a one day follow-up training on 10th October at the Anganwadi centre of chinamaliposi village under Chinamaliposhi panchayat was organised. Jyotirmayee Mohapatra was the resource person for both the training programmes. These two trainings were organized with the agenda to make the children understand UNCRC; aware them on social evils, few basic laws to protect their rights and management of sishu sabhas.

Child Rights Committees: 8 CRPC (Child right protection committees) involving 93 members have been formed in all eight project villages. The committee consists of School teacher, ASHA worker, AWW, Ward member, youth club member, *Gaon Sathi*, MCS (Model Cluster) School coordinator, community leader, SEC(school education committee) president, community leaders and concern citizens. Monthly meeting of the committees are organized. The committee is popularly/locally known as sisu surakhya samiti in local language.

In the month of October a two days training of the Child Rights Committees was organized to orient them on Child rights and concept of UNCRC, child protection issues and protection mechanism at different level, role of Child Rights Committee and facilitate a quarterly action plan. A quarterly action plan was prepared by CRPC members in the training.

Shradha Bhaban: There are 8 Sradha Bhaban (Child Motivation Centre) set up in 8 project villages and functioning regularly. Sradha bhawans are operating as motivation centers to increase the school enrolment, to control drop out rate, to motivate the child labourers towards



formal education. A total of 196 children are coming to Sradha Bhaban, among them boys - 89 and girls -107.

Key Achievements

- People from the target villages are benefiting from the linkage with Government schemes and services.
- Around 500 farmers would benefit from agriculture input and around 250 members of SHG would benefit economically from livestock support.
- 80 GKS members are aware of their roles and responsibilities and actively functioning.
- More than 500 people benefited from the health activities.
- Child led indicators are incorporated in 9 schools and are monitored by children.
- 487 children are organized in 8 sishu sabhas and actively advocate their rights.
- 8 Child Protection Committees are in place involving 93 members to protect child rights.

“Quality and Inclusive Education”

Geographic area coverage:

40 villages of Swampatna Block of Keonjhar

Project objective:

- By 2010 improve participation of community, parents, teachers & children in education planning, monitoring & management of education in 40 villages in Patna block of Keonjhar district.
- Strengthening quality of elementary education in order to ensure access & retention of children.
- Strengthening child protection mechanism within schools & communities in 40 villages in Orissa.
- To influence policy in order to bring systemic changes in education so as to ensure inclusion of disadvantaged groups

Key activities:

Assessment of implementation of Action activities: 40 no of village education plan which was prepared for the first time in the intervention area by C-EMIS has also been reviewed in the second phase.

Formation and strengthening of children group and child federation- 40 child rights clubs have been established to create opportunity for children to recognize their rights, to realise their dreams and reach their full potential.

Children Assembly-on highlighting the issues and recommendation to government for correction measures

On 25th March the Children Assembly was held at Municipality Kalyani Mandap, Keonjhar. Total 133 persons were present there. 80 different category of children from 40 villages mostly from Tribal community participated to stage a mock Assembly process resembling question answer session in the Orissa State Legislative Assembly. The highlight of the programme was that of the passing of right to education bill – 2009 with a thumping majority in the



final session of the Children Assembly. Among others Additional District Magistrate S. J. Bhagabatprasad Majhi, District Project Coordinator S. J. Tarinisena Sathy, SSA many Media representatives, the Programme Director of PECUC Mrs. Anuradha Mohanty, and general public were present.

Facilitating SB Centre (Community level child friendly centre) / Alternate

educational interventions for children: 36 Shradha Bhavan centres (community level child friendly centre / alternate educational interventions for children) have been established with 1125 children (Boys: 575 & Girls: 550).

Community level awareness programme: Campaign on education and protection related issues were carried out through rallies, IEC materials, street play and wall painting. PECUC also observed “No Child Labour Day” and “World Day against Child Labour” in 40 project villages with children to raise awareness on the issue in the project area.

Capacity building of civil society organization (CSOs like) SHGs, CPC, SEC, PTA, MTA, and PRIs on child rights, child protection and value of education- To make education instructive, fun and enlightening experience, the organisation involved parents, teachers and also communities. As the members from different categories like SHG, SEC, PTA, MTA, CPC and PRIs who are responsible in taking effective part in protection and promotion of child right and education in the community. For their capacity building one day training was given to civil society organizations in ten centre villages. Total 534 members (Male:- 297, Female:- 237) participating in the training programme.

Develop Minimum standards in 39 schools using Child Led Indicators (CLI)

In the words of Walt Disney, “If you can dream it, you can do it”. Children’s have their own dreams. To know about the dream of children for their school and to accomplish those dreams Child Led Indicators have been developed in all the 39 schools. **School suggestion box** is installed in all 39 schools as one of its components and children are freely giving their suggestion. Different issues like school infrastructure, prohibition of child labour work force, Health & sanitation and other Existing Village problems are coming in the same. Suggestion boxes are always opened in the presence of Suggestion box committee (PTA, School Head master, MTA, Child Protection Committee, Education Activist)

Capacity Building training programme for teachers on diversity issue, Inclusive education and positive discipline: This year a 2 days Training programme on Positive discipline was organized with the cooperation of SSA Patna at Kendeiposi Primary School. All total 135 teachers participated from the different schools in the operational area.

Orientation to staffs, Teachers and ICDS workers on UNESCO tool kits: A two days orientation to staffs and teachers on UNESCO tool kits training programme was organized on 12th and 13th January 2010 in CDPO training hall at Patna. Total of 98(M-31, F-67) participants participated in the programme from different villages of project areas.

Established **community based effective school monitoring and review mechanism** through regular discussion, meeting review information sharing coordination.

Establish Child Friendly Resource Center : 4 Resource Centers are functioning at Jamunaposi Primary School. Kantiapada U.G.M.E School, Kendeiposi U.G.U.P School and Patna Block Block Resource Center Coordinator (BRCC) Office. The resource centres have many instruments like globe, thermometer, barometer, rain gauge, various maps like India (political & physical), world map (political & physical), lens, beaker, test tube, glass jar. In the second phase many instruments like human lever, kidney, heart, brain model,

solar and lunar eclipse model, water voltameter, dynamo model, ammeter, galvanometer, periscope etc have been supplied to all 4 science resource centers.

Interface workshop with Education officials Teachers union, Govt line department on ensuring minimum standard and quality education: A Block level one day Interface workshop with education officials, Teachers union, Govt line department on Right to education-ensuring minimum standard and quality education was organized on dated 22nd January 2010 at Patna Primary schools. 380 teachers from 156 schools participated in the Interface workshop.



Publication of child bulletin “Bole Hun Ti” which highlights local issues, learning and sharing, and capturing creativity of child.

Formation and strengthening of child protection committees at community level.

40 Child Protection Committees (CPC) are functioning in 40 villages and they held 308 monthly CPC meetings to discuss child protection issues. Further other trainings were organized for their capacity building.

Others: Establish links between village child protection committees with CWC, JJB, Child Rights cell and Sensitization to Police, ICDS, CWC on protection issues and Child Rights Media advocacy done at different levels through different events to sensitise them on reporting child rights violation cases with sensitivity. Lastly, advocacy and lobbying on child rights issues was continued from block to state level.

Key Achievements

- 557 students (Boys: 239 & Girls: 318) have been mainstreamed to regular school during this year
- 36 SB centers with 1055 children (Boys: 575 & Girls: 480) are attending SB center
- CLI in place in 39 schools and stakeholders taking up actions to maintain it
- All total 276 suggestions were found in the suggestion boxes in this year put by children, which was addressed by the respective stakeholders
- Regularisation of meeting of SEC, PTA & MTA
- Regular monitoring of the teachers' attendance made them cautious towards their duty. This led to increase in attendance of children
- Enrolment in schools has increased and parent's awareness has also helped in declining child labour ratio of the areas
- School committee meetings were regularized and it helped in minimizing leakage of funds meant for improvement of infrastructure of the school
- Mid day meal got streamlined in many villages due to strict vigilance by the SHGs and other village level groups
- 2897 Children (Boys: 1458 & Girls:1439) are regularly conducting Sisu Sabha in all 40 villages
- 40 CPCs actively address child rights issues in their respective villages
- 250 children of 15 schools and 20 Teachers have used the resource materials according to their need

Children took a bold step

Galaphula is a small tribal village of Tangarapada Gram Panchayat in Patna Block of Keonjhar District. Around 800 people live in this village. Most of the people of this village are daily wage labourers.

With the initiation of Sri. Maheswar Nayak the president of Netaji Club Ajaya Ku Nayak and Secretary Anil Kumar Nayak took a decision to get rid of the selling of liquor in their village. So on 20th April 2009 they motivated all the villagers to gather in the Sradha Bhaban. There they took a decision to eradicate all liquor shops and stop the selling of the same in their village.

In a rally they all went to the person who sales liquor and told him to stop this practice. But he did not agree. So they went to Patana Thana talked to the officer in charge about the matter. He promised that in the evening he will reach there and also told them to be present there. The officer kept his word and reached in Galaphula village where the person was selling liquor. He took that person with him to thana by Zip. He also took away the liquor drum with him. The officer told if the Villagers will come to release him then only he will allow him to leave otherwise not. The wife, son and parents of that person requested to the villagers but nobody listen to them, as they had no faith on them. The very next day the Officer sent him to jail of Keonjhar. He stayed in that jail for 10 to 15 days and then came to the village. But from that day he is not selling liquor

“Education & Health Project in Patna Block, Keonjhar, Orissa”

Geographic area coverage:

20 villages of Patna block, Keonjhar district

Project objective:

Promotion of education and health care system for the children in operational areas

Key activities:

Community level child friendly center: Shradha bhawan is a motivational centre to provide educational and social opportunities to deprived children. The centre has been creating an atmosphere to develop and mainstream the non-school going & dropout

children. Here the children are also taught about their personal hygiene and cleanliness. It has been able to reach out to 597 (boys: 310 & girls: 287) children in the area.

Formal School Support by MPV (Multi Purpose Volunteers) to motivating children to attend through song, dance, story telling and playing game. They also take classes in the absence of any teacher.

Children Club (popularly known as Sisu Sabha)

20 nos of Sisu Sabha have been formed in operational villages including all total 1066 (boys: 551 & girls: 515 children between the age group of 6-18 yrs. They discuss about various issues like-forest and environment protection, sanitation, personal hygiene, bad effects of wine, increase attendance in SB center and formal school.

Village Education Fund (VEF/SBF):

The Village Education Fund is a sum of donations collected from parents, PRI, mother's SHG and other village leaders which is utilized for the repairing of SB centre and any other welfare activity for the children. Till now all total Rs 27,543 /- have been saved in bank.

Strengthening stakeholders of

Education: The parents, VECs, PTAs and MTAs are strengthened to take care of the education of the children and their education institutes including Shradha Bhawans.

Strengthening SHGs:

SHGs are taking care of SB centers, education and health of children. 10 SHGs have started their own business like rice processing, leaf plate making, gottery, seasonal business, poultry and agriculture, which are financed by UBI Dumuri, BOI Patna and VSS (Vana Sarakshyana Samiti) with an amount of 3 lakh 20 thousand. 5 SHGs got finance from Mission Sakti of Rs 5000.00. 2 SHGs got Rs 10,000 from ITDA, Keonjhar. 4 SHGs got permission from ICDS for preparing mid day meal.

Health Care:

All total 3088 (Boys: 1580 & Girls: 1508) children have been immunized through different programs like : in Polio total 1025(B:521 & G:504), in DPT 888(B:462 & G:426), in BCG 242(B:76 & G:166), in Vitamin 648(B:372 & G:276) and in Measles 285 (B: 149 & G:136).

Women have been motivated for regular antenatal care and institutional delivery. Out of the total 148 (B- 84 & G – 64) births, 70 % of babies were born in hospital.

Total 439 (M – 184 & F – 255) people were counseled on health and malaria in 20 villages with the help of our doctor, MPVs, ASHA, AWW, ANM. Some ayurvedic medicines were also advised for treatment. Information was shared about mosquito net using, proper sanitation, personal hygiene, properly hand wash, avoid bare foot at community level.

Children take action:

- In Bhaliadhipa village the children of Mahavir Sisu Sabha with the members of Maa Sarala SHG cleaned the surroundings of the pond.
- In Nadanabeda village the children of Mahatma Gandhi sisu Sabha raised the issue in village meeting that in one small pond (locally known as chuha) with human beings all animals like goat, cow also drink water from the same. After this all the villagers remove water from that and raised the boundary so that animals cannot drink any more. The work was done by the direct observation of the children
- Sardhar village is a tribal dominated area. Most of the children do not come to school. So the Birsa Munda Sisu Sabha children took initiative to visit every such home to counsel the family members to send their children to school. Till now 7 such children have taken admission to school.
- In Baunsdiha the children of Gopabandhu Sisu Sabha cleaned the road side and surrounding area of tube well with the Maa Tarini SHG members. 50 families depend on that tube well to get water.

Key Achievements

- 136 children (58 boys and 78 girls) were enrolled in formal school from the Shradha Bhawans.
- 4 children have appeared class X examination this year who were the students of SB centre in the year 2002 and were drop out students before coming to SB centre.
- In Baidabazar and Nadanabeda, Village Education Committee took charge of repairing and maintenance of SB centre along with others in the community. They utilized the Village Education Fund for this noble cause.
- In the Majhi Sahi of Tando village one person named Krusna Nayak was selling local made liquor in the square. in the nearby area the SB centre was running. So the members of PTA, MTA and VEC together stopped that totally which was creating negative impact on their children. Now that person has started one poultry farm.
- The PTA, MTA and VEC stopped the marriage of two girls namely Jamuna Nayak and Tulasi Munda who are below 18 years and bring them back to school again in Tanda and Sarada village respectively.
- Community motivated for care against malaria, mothers on ante natal and institutional delivery. So reduced child mortality and malaria deaths in the area.

Linkage to Govt Programmes and Policies:

Under NREGA 60 numbers of job cards have been provided.
20 persons got Indira Awas Yojna.
Under “Mo Kudia” Scheme 3 persons have been benefited
30 pregnant women have been admitted to hospital with the help of vehicle of Janani Surakhya Jojana and they have been provided with Rs 1400 /- each.
37 persons have been permitted to have farm pond.

BALASORE & KENDRAPARA UNIT

“Child Centred Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR)”

Geographic area coverage: 30 villages from two districts- Kendrapara and Balasore of Orissa.

Project objectives:

- To create community-based structures that would own and practice the disaster risk reduction process.
- To collaborate with the local and state administrations for influencing long-term policy and programme considerations in disaster risk reduction that clearly incorporate protection issues of children in emergencies.
- To create public awareness and pressure on government for better protection of children's rights in emergencies.

Key activities:

Child group formation and strengthening:

Total 30 nos of child right group in 30 villages of Kendrapara and Balasore were formed. Out of these 12 nos of Sisu Sabha formed in Kendrapara and 18 in Balasore. During the year 484 meetings were held with these groups, out of these 244 in Balasore and 240 in kendrapara involving 3068 (Boys: 1695 & Girls: 1373) children to sensitize about their

rights and issues in their villages and help them to strengthen to address to the problems they face during disaster specially.

Child protection committee formation and strengthening:

30 Child Protection Committees (CPC) were formed in the two operational areas. Out of these 12 are in Kendrapara and 18 in Balasore. These committees are constituted with the membership of ANM, AWW, ASHA, the PR representatives, teachers and the existing CBOs etc. In the CPC meeting the focused area of discussions are: issues of child right violation and about their health and sanitation. Master training of CPCs were on monitoring child protection in emergencies where 77 participants (47 in Balasore and 30 in Kendrapara) had taken part.

TOT on DRR: Village level children's group training was organized from 21st to 24th September, 2009 on Child Centered Disaster Risk Reduction and Child Protection in Emergency. Trainings were then completed in 30 operational villages ; 18 in Balasore and 12 in Kendrapara by the master trainers.

Community-based plans for child protection in emergencies were designed in 14 communities in Balasore and 1 in Kendrapara is in place.

School safety plans: The children along with the teachers developed the School Safety Plan and presented the same before the different committees of the school (PTA, MTA & SEC), SHGs, CPCs and DRR committees.

Wall painting of Child led DRR Plan was done in 10 Schools in Bhograi of Balasore and 1 in Kendrapara.

Orissa Disaster Preparedness Day and National day for Disaster Reduction was observed in both the operational

area on 29th October, 2009. The main motto behind this is to increase awareness on local disasters and to sensitize communities and the administration on the need and importance of disaster preparedness in the emerging situation.

3 nos. of **Child Safe Flood Resistant Shelters'** (2 in Balasore & 1 in Kendrapara) lay out have been completed and would be constructed in the next year.

Formation and strengthening of Farmer's group: 12 number of farmer groups which were formed hold meeting regularly to collect monthly subscriptions for the group and for the central committee. In the meetings they discussed about the issues pertaining to use and maintenance of modern equipments supplied by the project.

Agriculture support: For promotion of sustainable livelihoods in flood affected/prone areas in Bhograi and Kendrapara women Self-help groups (SHGs) and Farmer's group have been targeted respectively and 2000 packets of Khandagiri paddy seeds (one packet contains 30kg seeds) have been given to 142 SHG groups in Balasore. Thresher and sprayers were also purchased and handed over to the Samanya Samiti (a central committee of village level SHG federations) in Balasore. In Kendrapara pump set, paddy thresher and sprayer have been handed over to Federation of farmer groups.

Formation of SHG: Three Mother SHGs have been formed in Kendrapara. Their meetings are being regularly held and monthly deposit in the bank assured.

International Women Day World women day was observed in collaboration with Prayas Samanoya Samitee and PECUC at Kharid Chowk Nodal School in Bhogarai. All the SHG



members of Samonaya Samities participated in this programme. Ms Mamata Das former vice chair person had inaugurated the programme.

Formation of Gaon Kalyan Samiti: The Gaon Kalyana Samiti is formed, regularized and Rs. 10,000/- withdrawn from the account and planned to be used for various community purposes including support to affected families and village sanitation programme in Katcheripada village under Bagada Gramapanchayata

Coordination meetings on DRR: A State level Coordination meeting was organized by OSDMA. Special Relief Commissioner cum Managing Director, OSDMA presided the meeting. SC Focal person with partner representatives and all other INGOs and NGO representatives attended the meeting. Similarly a district level coordination meeting among Government Officials & NGO representative on disaster preparedness was held at Balasore at Collector's conference hall on 12th June 2009. District Collector presided the meeting. Revenue Officials, Block authority, PRI functionaries, Red Cross Officials, Print & Electronic media representatives and district NGO representatives attended the meeting.

Staff capacity building was done phase wise on different technical components of the project for effective implementation of the program.

Key Achievements

- 30 sishu sabhas and CPCs in place in the target villages and activated to protect child rights and get in place DRR.
- Children of Sisu sabha from Nachinda and Khusuda participated in Gramsabha and raised their concerns over the problems faced by children in school as well in village
- School safety plans are in place in the target areas.
- DRR is now an agenda of discussion amongst all stakeholders in the 30 disaster prone villages.
- Prompt actions were taken in emergencies as prevention during outbreak of swine flue; actions taken in epidemic break in Aruhabuti -2 is a village of Kharid pipal G.P. under Bhograi Block in Balasore where already 21 persons were affected; and emergency response during flood in Bhograi Block - three GPs namely Kusuda, Nachinda and Kharid Pipal.
- The SHGs' in Bhograi are managing 2000 individual storage grain banks and 80-grain banks at community level.
- Two number of mother SHG have been formed in Kendrapara

Smile came on the face of parents and children

Acute poverty made one parent to send their children to Kolkata only to get two squares of meals every day. In Ramdei Chak village of Kusuda Grampanchayat of Balasore district this situation has been observed. This has been happened with two children namely, Kamalkant Raul and Sumati Raul. They are siblings. Their father Mr. Narendra Kumar Raul and mother Smt. Indubati Raul work in the agricultural field as daily wage labourers. Their financial condition deteriorated to such an extent that they could not able to feed their children. This is the reason Kamalkanta and Sumati were sent to Kolkata to work as domestic labour. They were getting Rs 200 /- and Rs 100 /- only per month respectively. At that time the son was in class VII and daughter in class IV.

The father was a member of Child protection Committee. When other members of the committee came to know about the fact, they all told Narendra about the importance of education. They also considered the condition of the father and met the school teacher. The teacher agreed to exempt examination fees and to look after their study. Then the father brought back his children from Kolkata. Now the son is reading in Class VIII and the daughter in Class V. not only the children but their parents are also very happy after coming to school. The children are also the member of Maa Jagadhatri Sisu Sabha and enjoying the activities of the Sisu Sabha. They are regularly attending the meetings and participating in the discussions.

