

A Brief Narrative Report

On

COMPREHENSIVE INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, CORD AT DEULADIHA

(1st October 2010 to 31st December 2010)

CORD (Chinmaya Organization for Rural Development) activities launched at Deuladiha on nfrom 8th of May 2005. During the last five years we have experienced a lot in working with the people of our operational area. No doubt so many changes have been visualized both in attitude and action of the beneficiaries. But it is not sufficient what we desire to be achieved. On the other hand, the potentials of the staff have been harnessed in to action up to some mark. They have been energized and vitalized through various training programs both in theory and practical. Especially their skill and capability have been enhanced to bring the people into the trend of our aims and objects. The response expected on behalf of them is yet to be improved. In many cases their illiteracy and less education cannot cope with our participatory system of functioning. Besides that the implementation of various projects of the government machinery work against our system prevailed. Through different welfare activities the government directly or indirectly appeases the beneficiaries to gain the popularity and to capture the vote bank indirectly in future. The people in the government projects are not involved directly to realize their role and responsibilities in view to growing the economic status of the inhabitants, so while working with the people we find many times adverse reactions in them as government has implanted the habit of one-sidedness in form of welfare only. So the contrast ideas of the government machinery very often put us in trouble to implement our projects through various activities undertaken.

It is inevitable to mention that Telkoi block in Keonjhar district is a highly Maoist prone area where the very chance of danger on our staff those who are serving in most interior areas surrounded by mountains and forests. Still we are always in both welfare and development of the needy and downtrodden which propels us ahead to work selflessly for the better and greater interest of the people. We are trying immensely to develop our skill and to serve more vibrantly to give maximum happiness to the maximum numbers for maximum times.

Our project activities of the last quarter were as follows.

COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS

Self Help Groups



During the quarter we put emphasize on consolidating our work in making self reliance of the SHGs office bearers to maintain their records at their own. Our CDWs are providing them with training in hand holding till they understand the new system and manage at their own. Members of some SHGs who had expressed their

interest for training on cutting, stitching and tailoring during the last quarter are provided with training in two batches.

Tenant Farmer's Self Help Groups

Members of Chinmaya Tarini TFSHG, Deuladiha are riding the ladder of success step by step. Not only that these landless or marginal tribal farmer families are having stocks of food grain round the year through tenant farming now a day, but also they have a growing livestock population and a grocery shop owned by one member. The list of customers of that shop also includes a number of members from the upper caste. Two members out of them are taking up cultivation of water melon – a remunerative cash crop this year in two acres on rent too.

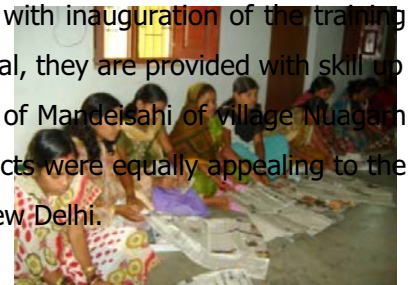
Mahila Mandals

Chinmaya Maa Durga Mahila Mandal – a new mahila mandal comprising of 36 members was formed in the village Bhaliadal during the current quarter. They are collecting royalty from transportation of sand from the river bed inside the village boundary by contractors and the people of other villages. The royalty amount collected will go to their development fund. During the first two months, they have collected Rs.1200.00 out of royalty and a bank account has been opened in the name of the mahila mandal. Three new mahila mandals – one each in the villages of Golagadia, Kardangi and SNPurgoda are in the series of formation meetings. They will be existent during the next quarter.



Yubati Mandals

The training need of the adolescent girls of the surrounding villages is met with inauguration of the training during the quarter. In association with some members of SHG / mahila mandal, they are provided with skill up gradation training on the same in two batches. Incense sticks made by girls of Mandaisahi of village Nuagam and Sarei found the route for sale in Seva Sangam in Coimbatore. The products were equally appealing to the customers of south like they were to the people of north in CORD Utsav in New Delhi.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Financial Inclusion

Encouraged by studying the impact of financial inclusion in the VDP Village Deuladiha after financial inclusion activity profiling of the village on overall economic development of a household, we thought of considering financial inclusion activity as a core component of our economic development activities in all the operational villages.

Cooperative officers of Government of Odissa were to visit all the cooperative non-members families

between 1st of November to 15th of December of 2011 for enrolling them as members under the awareness campaign "Cooperative for All". We provided the campaign with some more mileage in our operational villages by awareness generation by using our CBO platform.

Application for Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) for the people of Deuladiha GP was organized on 19th of November and on 21st of November for the people of Sarei in village Sarei. Due to peak of harvesting and movement of elephant, turn out of people in Deuladiha Large Sized Multi-purpose Cooperative Society (LAMPS) premises was poor. However, 21 farm families of Sarei applied for Kisan Credit Cards (KCC). Till date only 37 families had KCC. More families are interested to apply in the coming days. Over 40% households of the agrarian community of the village take up cultivation in the Rabi seasons. Most of them also are taking up cultivation of water melon. With direct access to banks and financial institutions they can have more cropped area and improved productivity through availability of enough resources.



Baseline Survey

Transact walk in all the ten revenue villages of SNPurgoda GP has been completed. During the quarter, baseline survey of 8 households of village Kamalang is completed so far. We expect to complete baseline survey works of all the households before end of the next quarter. Before continuing our focused work in the GP, basic data of all the households at hand will be of immense help to the newly posted CDWs in the GP.

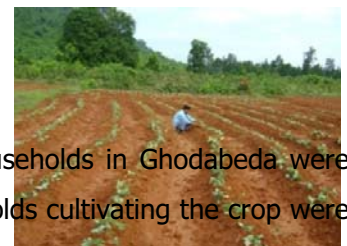
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Farm Mechanization

Farm mechanization will play an important role in this era of unsymmetrical growth. Shrinking ground water and drying streams will lead to water scarcity and crisis in production of food crops. Sprinkler sets can save energy, money and loss of water in transmission. Under farm mechanization scheme of horticulture department under National Horticulture Mission, two sets of sprinklers were booked for village Sarei and one set was booked for village Deuladiha. Similarly under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), one set of sprinkler each was booked for villages Deuladiha and Sarei.

Popularization of Tuber Crops (Sweet Potato)

Though the fields of sweet potato of the 5 households in Deuladiha and 5 households in Ghodabeda were frequently under the rampage of the wild boars, still 9 out of the 10 new households cultivating the crop were satisfied with the performance of the crop. All of them are expected to continue the crop without any type of support by us in the coming year.



People of the area having number of up lands turning waste will cash in on our drive to replicate / multiply the dynamic crop and help in improving the agricultural income of the area.

Demonstration Cultivation of Maize under RKVY

While we were under the stress of distress sale of the good output of demonstration cultivation of maize under RKVY, the people found rejoice in developing a culture of consumption of maize. Some of them having dairy animals are no more purchasing maize powder from the market and others not going to the market to purchase it, as they now can avail in their village. This shows the useful crop is accepted by the farm families of the village of Deuladiha. So people of the village will no more need any promotional supports to contain our efforts for crop diversification in the coming year.



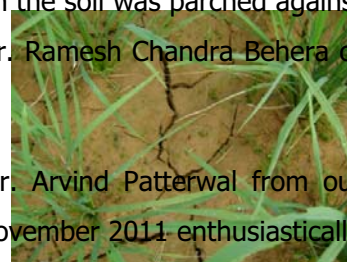
We are reaping the results of our demonstration cultivation of maize round the year continuously for last 3 - 4 years inside the ashram premises and selling them in the local market and use as fodder in house. Some farmers have even started producing maize both the season.

Cultivation of Mustards under ISOPOM

In village Sarei, 9 households have taken up cultivation of mustard under Integrated Scheme on Oilseed, Pulses, Oil palms and Maize (ISOPOM) of department of agriculture.

Cultivation of Paddy in SRI

Cultivation of paddy in System of Rice Intensification (SRI) under SRI Village Program of Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) was promoted in the VDP Village of Deuladiha. One square meter of demonstration harvesting from the field of Mr. Dhruva Charan Boita yielded 600 gms of paddy even though the soil was parched against a harvesting of 500 gms of paddy from the moistened good non-SRI field of Mr. Ramesh Chandra Behera of Madhyapur.



Mr. Jogeswar Nayak – a beneficiary from the village of Deuladiha told to Mr. Arvind Patterwal from our Resource Centre in Sidhbari during their last monitoring and evaluation visit in November 2011 enthusiastically that he will take up SRI in at least in 2 acres of land in the coming year. Similarly Mr. Dhruva Charan Boita committed the visitors cheerfully to take up SRI in at least 1 acre in the coming year. Both the farmers had taken up SRI under unirrigated conditions. Other farmers were also invited to observe the difference.

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Cultivation of Water Melon

Experiencing the improving profit levels over the years, more and more farmers are opting for cultivation of Water melon in the rabi. The availability of resources through credit and government schemes, it has become possible. In all the six villages of Deuladiha GP and Sarei of Kardangi GP the crop has been in the sowing phase.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Training on NREGS especially on the provisions of the scheme from Training Manual II was conducted for all the CDWs on 29th of October and 20th of November 2010. On 20th of December 2010, training on NREGS process implementation was also conducted for them.

The first two sessions were meant for build up capacity among the CDWs to conduct awareness among the members of the CBOs using the platform. The third session was meant for building capacity to facilitate 100 man days of wage employment to the needy especially the illiterate and the underprivileged.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

In the mountainous, rocky and hard soil areas, it is difficult to create irrigation potentials. To solve the problem, Government of Orissa came out with a scheme with assistance of NABARD under its Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF). Under the scheme of Biju Krishak Vikas Yojana (BKVY), with a subsidy component of as high as Rs.20000.00 or 90% or which is ever is low, one farmer in association with others in a patch of 5 acres of land can have a deep bore well. Four applications were collected from village Kantlei to Orissa Lift Irrigation Corporation Limited (OLIC). Seven applications are likely to be collected for submission for the purpose in the coming quarter.

MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME (MGNREGA)

During the month of December 2010, all the field workers generated awareness among the beneficiaries in all our operational villages, using the CBO platform. Even one to one campaign was also conducted for the underprivileged. We already have helped the HHs earlier in applying and availing job cards. Now we have to ensure them with 100 man days wage employment at the specified wage rate in line with the provision of the scheme.

In most of the cases, job cards are not with the job card holders. Muster rolls are not properly maintained. Machines are employed. Information is not provided wherever and whenever required. Contractors are doing the works in most of the cases in association with the department. We have to clean the system and maintain it.

HEALTH, HYGIENE & SANITATION

Gaon Kalyan Samiti (GKS)



During the quarter, three more GKSs in SNPurgoda were taken up for strengthening, taking the total number of GKSs to 10. Through these 10 GKSs we have helped in efficient management of fund for clean & healthy villages and served a numbers of extreme poor households to save their valuable lives. Our future plan involves strengthening of GKSs of all the operational villages as soon as possible.

Sanitation

Our demonstration toilet units in different wards of Deuladiha GP have generated awareness among people. Then our mobilization through CBOs in villages of Deuladiha GP had its impact on the process. Three SHGs – one in Udayagiri and two in Nuagarh have tied up with Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS) under Total Sanitation Program (TSP). Five out of twenty latrines so far completed under the scheme are used. One latrine each in the villages of Deuladiha and Udayagiri has been constructed and used by two households without any external assistance.

EDUCATION

Balmahotsav

We observed 'Bal Mahotsav' on 14th of November, 2010 in Children's Day at Sirigida High School of Telkei Block as that was senior Bal Bihar students, the junior ones left behind. So, the members along with the Acharyas decided to arrange a Panchayat level Junior Bal Bihar Meet on Republic Day. Events and competitions for the day were planned and responsibilities were given to the members. It was decided to award to the winners of each event.



MONITOREING & EVALUATION

The monitoring & evaluation team led by Mr. Narender Paul visited the office and the operational villages in association with Mr. Vijay Singh, Smt. Kaushalyadevi and Mr. Arvind Pattewal from our Resource Centre at Sidhbari from 14th of November to 17th of November 2010.

SEVA SANGAM

Three members team comprising of Mr. B. B. Pradhan (CDO), Mr. A. R. Padhy (CDW) and Mr. Bismaya Dalei (Volunteer) attended the four days seminar held from 7th of November to 10th of November 2010 in Chinmaya International Residential School (CIRS) in Coimbatore. The seminar was very inspiring and the participants gained a lots of knowledge on seva in Chinmaya Mission through CORD, Chinmaya Vidyalayas and Chinmaya Mission as a whole.



NETWORKING & COLLABORATION

While art and craft and culture is disappearing at a faster pace under the throes of erratic development, even tribes are not spared. Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation Limited (TDCC) had approached us to collect few samples of bamboo and wooden combs crafted by Juanga tribes for display in TRIBES INDIA - the retail shops under the management of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India. We had collected 3 for display. They were sold. Then another 11 procured by the Branch Manager in the second phase have been supplied.

For display and sale of unpolished organic rice in 'Sargi Phula' – an exclusive exhibition for the tribal goods in the exhibition ground in the state capital from 26th of January 2011 to 7th of February 2011, they had approached us as it is very difficult for the department to procure them for the purpose. We supplied 50 kgs of unpolished organic rice from a member of one of our SHG at a premium at Rs.22.00 per kg (Rs.15.00 per kg for polished rice).

RIVER LIFT IRRIGATION POINTS (RLIPs) APPROVED

Five numbers of river lift irrigation points (RLIPs) have been approved by Odisha Lift Irrigation Corporation Limited (OLIC) for the villages of Deuladiha, Madhyapur, Ghuntuposi and Pitanali – all located in our operational area. Basically the lift irrigation points in village Deuladiha would be installed in river Samakoi flowing adjacent to the village. We hope and aspire all the above points would serve a lot to the farmers of the above project villages improving the agricultural and the farming sectors.

Hari Om!

Project Coordinator

CORD, Deuladiha