

CORD - LATHIKATA

CHINMAYA SEVA PROJECT

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Yogastha Kuru Karmani Sangam Tyaktva Dhananjaya I Sidhasidhya Sama Bhutwa Samatwam Yoga Uchyate II

The Lord advices to perform all the work, firmly established in Yoga and define Yoga as the mind in equipoise. He explains, "A mind unattached to things and beings and unmoved by the success and failure, only attains the state of equipoise".

All great undertakings in the world which have benefitted the whole creation have been possible, because of the mind behind work was established in Yoga. Scientists like Sir Ijak Newton, Sir Elbert Einstein, Madam Curie, Sir Pathani Samanta, and Sir C.V. Raman are only a few examples, who have contributed to the world, were the people whose minds were in a state of Yoga. In social and political field too, people like Mahatma Gandhi, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Binoba Bhave, Swami Chinmayanandajee and in recent times Baba Ramdev are burning examples of Yogis, whose minds were in equipoise.

We in CORD - Lathikata, create a ground for our workers to tune and train the mind to remain unattached to the personal priorities and unmoved to the opportunities and threats in the field of work. We emphasize on unfoldment of inner potentials by understanding the mind and its intricacies, in the daily morning assembly with Poojya Swami Kevalanandajee and Brn. Mudita Chaitanyajee. We insist on self motivation in planning and accepted responsibilities while executing activities creatively.

QUARTERLY REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

October 2010 - December 2010

Social Audit of MGNREGA

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) ensures 100 days employment as on entitlement in a financial year to any rural

household whose adult members are willing to do unskilled manual work. Under the act, social audit of the projects taken under MGNREGA from 1st April 2010 to 30th September 2010, in sixteen Gram Panchayats of Lathikata Block of Sundargarh district of Odisha was held in the Gram Sobhas called by the Sarpanchs between 23rd October and 29th October 2010 and was conducted by CORD-Lathikata under the direction of B.D.O, Panchayat Samittee, Lathikata vide letter No.2453 dt.29/09/2010.



A report on Social Audit was submitted to BDO-cum-Project Officer, Lathikata Block with a copy to PD, DRDA and Collector, Sundargarh for information. It was decided that CORD will be authorized to make on-line entry of the findings of the social audit on the official website of NREGA from the forth coming social audit, scheduled to be held in the month of May 2011.

Computer Literacy Programme (CLP)

The 2nd batch of the 3 month's Computer Literacy Programme, started in August 2010, completed on 30th November 2010. Thirty three youths, who have successfully completed the basic computer course in 1st and 2nd batch were given certificates at a special function held on 19th December 2010. Sri Biswajit Mahapatro, BDO-Lathikata gave away the certificates.



The 3rd batch of the Computer Literacy Programme was inaugurated on 24th December 2010, where 30 youths of near and far away villages have joined to receive basic training on computer. Slowly this programme has gained popularity and more and more youths are showing interest to join the programme.

CORD Participated in Swadeshi Mela

Centre for Bhartiya Marketing Development and Swadeshi Jagaran Manch, Rourkela jointly organized Swadeshi Mela at Rourekela from 15th December to 21st December 2010 to promote the product made in India by Indian investors. CORD participated in the mela by opening a stall where the products of SHGs, like Arhar Dal, Khesari Dal, Block gram Dal, Horse gram Dal, Neem Phenyl, Vermin Compost, Agarbati etc. were displayed.

More than 30 thousand people visited the stall and purchased product worth Rs, 28,300/-. Sri Lalit Mohan Pasayat managed the stall for the six days.

CORD Participated in the Block Level 'Samarthya Sibir'

Block Level Samarthya Sibir was organized on 28th December 2010 at Lathikata for differently abled people to issue physically handicapped certificate, resident certificate, bus concession pass, and physically handicapped pension under single window system.



CORD worker campaigned in the project area and contacted sixty five differently abled people and persuaded them to attend the 'Samarthya Sibir' to avail the government facilities. Out of 162 differently abled people, who attended the camp, 34 people contacted by CORD workers were examined for visually handicapped, mentally retarded, hearing impaired and physically handicapped.

Sri Kishore Chandra Singh, Sri Pramod Mishra & Sri Lalit Mohan Pasayat of CORD, volunteered in the camp at the registration counter.

'Sakshara Bharat' Programme Lunched.

80% of the India's non-literate lives in rural India. To impart functional literacy to non-literate in the age group of 15 years and above, in a time bound manner, Central Govt. has launched 'Sakshara Bharat' in 365 districts of India where women literacy is below 50%. Sundargarh district of Odisha comes under the coverage district where women literacy is 48%. CORD has been selected as the NGO representative in the Block Level Loko Sikshya Samittee for successful implementation of 'Sakshara Bharat' Programme in Lathikata Block.



'Sakshara Bharat' programme was launched in Lathikata Block on 23rd December 2010. A workshop was organised at the Conference Hall of the Panchayat Samittee, Lathikata to discuss about the various provisions of the centrally sponsored scheme. Participating in the discussion, Sri Hari Prasad Sahu of CORD pointed out some loose ends of the scheme and requested the Sarpanchs to take this programme seriously with utmost interest and enthusiasm.

Interactive Workshop on RTI

Panchayat Samittee, Lathikata organized a workshop on Right to Information on 9th November 2010 at Panchayat Samittee Conference Hall to create awareness on RTI.

Sri Sarat Kumar Pradhan ABDO-cum-PIO, presided over the function. Sri Hari Prasad Sahu represented, CORD, Lathikata in the workshop and spoke out on people's right to receive information from govt. and semi-govt. officers and organisations run under govt. funding. He also acted as a judge in the debate competition on RTI organised for the high school students during the workshop. Officials of Panchayat Samittee, Sarapanchs, Executive Officers of GP and teachers and students of high schools were present in the workshop.

CORD took the Initiative for Construction of Check Dam

A check dam at the foot hill of Betjharan village will irrigate about 15 acres of agriculture land and will benefit around ten farmers of the village. CORD took the initiative in mobilizing people to raise the issue at the Gram Sobha. On 25th October 2010, the village people raised the issue in the Gram Sabha to take up the work under NREGA and it was recorded in the minutes of the Gram Sa bha, passing a resolution for construction of the check dam.

CORD took the initiative in convincing the Assistant Engineer to take up the work by taking him to the spot and explaining about the benefits to the farmers. Subsequently Sri Biswajeet Mohapatra, BDO, Lathikata visited the spot and agreed to take up the work. The official proceedings are under way and the work is expected to begin in the last week of January 2011.

New CBOs Formed

Two new revenue villages of Ramjodi GP came under the operation of CORD, when Jeevan Jyoti SHG at Amjharan and Banashree SHG at Matkamjharan was formed by Sri Kishore Chandra Singh. Sri Rasananda Patra took the leading role in formation of Chinmaya Maa Mangala Mahila Mandal at Kanarsuan, Chinmaya Maa Laxmi Mahila Mandal at Lohadar & Om Shanti Mahila Mandal at Kansar.

Skill Development Training

Agarvati Making Training

A 5-days agarvati making training was organized at Chinmaya Seva Project from 27th December to 31st December 2010. Nine members from Sushila - A, Sushila - B, Kaushalya & Draupadi SHGs participated in the training. Smt. Doly Dash, a SHG member from Gayatri SHG, Lathikata promoted by CORD, who is engaged in agarvati making business trained the participants and assured them about marketing of the product. Sri Rasananda Patra organized the training programme.



Sewing Machine Repairing Training Organised.

Sewing Machine Repairing Training was organised by CORD-Lathikata from 16th November to 18th November 2010, where thirteen participants from various SHGs participated and learn the skill of repairing of the swing machine Sri Preetpal Singh of Rourkela, trained the participants.

Monitoring and Evaluation Team Visited Lathikata

Monitoring and Evaluation Team led by Sri Narendra Paul visited CORD-Lathikata from 10th November to 13th November 2010, to evaluate the ongoing development programmes. The team members visited the Chinmay Beteswara Krushak Sangha, Betjharan, Chinmaya Maa Mangala Mahila Mandal, Kanarsuan, Pragati Yubak Sangha, Dolakudar, Dipti SHG, Bolani, Jay Dharma SHG, Nuagaon and Radhakrushna, Maa Sheravali, Vaishnadevi SHG, Kansar. The team also inspected the books of accounts and gave their suggestions on maintenance of records and registers.

Children Camp Organised

Children camps in school and village were organized to teach the children about goodness of life and joyous living. Yoga & Pranayam, Tips on Health & Hygiene, Common Medicines for Common Diseases, General Quiz, Education & Life form the course contents of the camp. Both teachers and village elders participate in the camp proceedings and render necessary cooperation in organizing the camp.



The followings camps were organized by CORD during the quarter ending 31st December 2010, where Swami Kevalanandajee & Brn. Mudita Chaitanyajee conducted the camp activities.

Date	Name of the School	Name of the Village	No of Students Participated	Theme
24 th Oct.	Village Children	Sonaparvat	50	Goodness of Life
2 nd Nov.	Christian Missionary School	Karlakhaman	100	Joyous Living
11 th Nov.	Upper Primary School	Monko	50	Holistic Education

Matru Pooja Organised in Villages

The precious thing on this earth is 'Mother' and her love for the child. The blessings of 'Gandhari' to 'Duryadhan', exemplifies the universal feeling of the mother. During Dushera Celebration, Matru Pooja was organized in villages by

CORD workers where village children worshiped their mothers in a religiously surcharged atmosphere. The programme witnessed the enthusiastic participation of the mothers with their children to uphold the glory of the 'Mother'.



Brn. Mudita Chaitanyajee conducted puja of Goddess Durga, while the children worshiped their mothers. Swami Kevalanandajee addressed the gatherings invoking the love and blessings of the

mothers for transformation of the life of child.

Date	Village	No. of Mothers Participated	Facilitator
13 th Oct.	Sonaparvat	25	Amrita & Maa Laxmi SHG
13 th Oct.	Kansar	50	Vaishnadevi & Radhakrishna SHG
14 th Oct.	Lohadar	20	Satyavati, Kaushalya & Maa Sontoshi SHG
15 th Oct.	Bondh Tolla	20	Adi Dharam SHG
16 th Oct.	Dolakudar	30	Manasadevi SHG
16 th Oct.	Suidih	25	Mahila Mandal, Suidih

Construction of Dining Hall & Residential Rooms

The construction of dining hall and residential rooms at Chinmaya Seva Project is at the final stage. The tile fitting work is in progress and the pipe fitting, electrical fitting, and white washing work are almost completed, while the doors and windows are ready for fitting. The wooden furniture like chair, table, cot etc and the kitchen are yet to be made ready.



Rs 16 lakh has been spent so far on construction and the work is expected to be completed by the end of March 2011.

(Swami Kevalananda)
Project Director

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF CORD-LATHIKATA

CORD is a premier non-governmental organization working in tribal populated Lathikata Block of Sundergarh district of Odisha for comprehensive integrated rural development. Education has been a key area of the development strategy being adopted by CORD especially for the tribal children.

Lathikata being a tribal area, the women literacy is as low as 20%, while literacy among men is below 40%. Most of the children left school after primary education. Only 15 - 20% of the children could be able to complete the matriculation. Many of the children, who pass out in matriculation examination, could not go for higher education due to financial difficulties. The standard of education in government schools is very poor due to lack of interest and commitment of both parents and teachers.

CHILDREN EDUCATION

CORD's intervention in educational activities for children mainly comprises of

1. Coaching Classes
2. Value Based Education
3. Health Education
4. Distribution of Study Materials
5. Cultural Education

1. COACHING CLASSES

Coaching classes for school going children are functioning in few villages, where children are assisted in learning the school lessons beyond school timing in a convenient location of the village. Apart from school lessons, some prayers, action songs, yoga postures and games are also being taught to the children attending the coaching classes to create interest in them for study. The volunteers engaged by CORD also visit the houses of the children to convince and motivate the parents for continuance of the study of their children.



2. VALUE BASED EDUCATION

Swami Kevalanandajee & Brn Mudita Chaitanyajee, the resident acharyas of Chinmaya Mission, Lathikata regularly visits different schools of the block to deliver talks on "Education & Significance of Life". All the schools welcome the initiative of CORD to educate their children on 'how to take care of their day-to-day life'.



The children programmes organized in the villages address the simple, sensitive, tender and fresh mind to live a life of fullness carrying for the community and environment.

3. HEALTH EDUCATION

‘How to live in a hygienic environment?’, ‘How to take care of the health and sanitation?’, ‘How to deal with the common ailments?’ & ‘How to practice Yoga & Pranayam?’ are a few general questions addressed to the children under its health education. Through camps, school visits and children programmes in villages, children are educated to make them conscious about the precautions and practices to keeps them healthy and happy.



4. DISTRIBUTION OF STUDY MATERIALS

In order to encourage the children to sustain their interest for study, study materials as well as shawls, towels are being distributed to the poor children on different occasions.



5. CULTURAL EDUCATION

Ganesh Chaturthi, Raksha Bandhan, Matru Pooja on Dashahara, Diwali, Children’s Day etc are being celebrated in villages to keep the tribal children aware about the cultural tradition and the significance about it.



(Swami Kevalananda)
Project Director

