



The SPARK

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ARM:NEWS:LETTER

ALTERNATIVE FOR RURAL MOVEMENT [ARM]

Volume I, No. 1

Center for Gender Advancement & Social Justice

January - March - 2007



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FROM THE COORDINATING MEMBER

Governance with a Mission

Sustainable Development demands:

- ♦ Rise of the meanest of the mean,
- ♦ Equitable distribution of wealth,
- ♦ Utilisation of natural resources and
- ♦ People's participation in governance and community advancement. Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) starting from the Grampanchayat to the District level in Orissa are champions of the cause of self Governance and Self Governance in turn, can show the way ahead.



Recent election in the state underline the extent of public support and importance the Panchayati Raj system enjoys in our country. Getting elected is not an end in itself but the means to self empowerment and development. Because, good governance requires accountability, transparency and participation in the process of responsibility sharing by the Govt. & public for public good. We the elected representatives must keep the spree & act accordingly.

There is no room for partisan thoughts, acts of avoidance or omission. All of the Sarpanch, Ward Members and Zillaparishad representatives have a mandate attached to them from their fellow brothers based exclusively on the perspectives of local area empowerment & self development. This mission needs to be remembered & fulfilled by the electees throughout the current tenure at all costs accepting all the voters as their supporters once the process is over.

This and only this could lead the light towards sustainable development as stressed at the outset.

Rajendra Kumar Rana

Coordinating member

POINT TO PONDER

How Safe are Gender Safety Laws ?

The recent promulgation of Protection of women from Domestic Violence Act is the latest addition to the already existing bunch of Equal remuneration Act, the prevention of Immoral Traffic Act, the Sati prevention Act and the Dowry prohibition Act, 1961. Poor enforcement and lack of socio-economic empowerment of women make mockery of the Dowry prevention Act-to cite one case.

The Domestic violence prevention Act allows enforcement officers to facilitate filing of complaints by women victims and a third party if required. But surprisingly, no affected women has the financial security or the required family backing to take such a step. Many often, matrimonial cruelties are sent right back from parents for fear of social ostracism.

Time has come, we must appeal our mothers community to change their mind set- the very stuff a female gender is made of. They must act to change their role from domestic serive providers & child bearers to social development partners and decision makers. Women Economic Empowerment is Paramount to social recognition and personal safety cum security. Hence women at all levels must perseue education, vocation and professions of their choice to live with dignity.

Chief Editor

SCRDC PROMOTES CHILDREN EXCELLENCE

The recent functioning of School Child Resource Development Centre at ARM campus by ACA, Denmark



support has taken up an array of talent promotion measures. Seventy nos of extra curricular interest students from 10 Governmental primary, Nodal and UGME schools have been selected and imparted course on art, craft, music & dance items. The project, functioning at its own building, has been able to organise 10 children clubs to inculcate leadership, rights thinking and inner skills alongwith annual scholarship aid to 100 meriturius primary students. Helpless parents find hope for their wards' future in this august initiative.

ARM WOMEN GROUP SAVINGS TOUCH ONE HUNDRED LAKHS

It is completely a different story to observe 280 flamboyant women group leaders lead 4230 backward



rural women of their respective villages towards socio-economic empowerment. Gone are the days when finance was a far cry. With a comprehensive cash savings of 90,15,190 at present, the WSHGs have been well loaned by local UCO Bank, SBI and Cooperative Bank to the tune of 3.94 crores to promote their micro-enterprises and incomeearning towards self employment ventures. Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarajagar Yojana alone, has extended 25.75 lakhs to 11 women groups as a token of Govt. recognition of their action & solidarity. ARM spares no effort in facilitating their literacy, health, leadership, self governance, management & lessoning skills of eternal self empowerment.

RISK - GIRLS FIND VOICE AND VOCATION

Child labour is deplorable and girl child labour cum trafficking is thus



henious. An emergency effort to spot the risk girls of the locality and bring them to literacy and employment fold through education, health, vocational training and legal support has thus been founded by ACA, Denmark. Form 400 initially oriented girls, some

200 interested cases have been guided in vocations like tailoring, stitching, Jute craft & canning by expert vocational teachers.

KKS INTEGRATES WOMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

After successful completion of 3 years of ICDP activities in 20 villages, the follow up is in progress to keep track of the already incorporated initiatives. Under the project support of KKS, Germany and European Commission about 441 WSHG members have availed loan to Rs. 46,97,000 for promotion of their micro-enterprises and self employment. The follow-up now includes regular SHG



meetings, loan repayment, products marketing and future networking to give the initiative a cooperative form for sustainable resource utilisation & income generation.

EDUCATION WITH A DIFFERENCE

Conceptualised on the back drop of stereotyped government primary education that breeds large scale wastage, stagnation & dropouts; the model school education of ARM, through "Adarsh vidya mandir" has been the centre of progressive children education at present in Baliapal Block. SC, ST and backwards

The greatest sin is to think yourself weak- Vivekananda

The good life is one inspired by love & guided by knowledge - Bertrand Russel

little children from Class - I are inducted here in to impart them joyful education till class - V where by they orient and continue higher classes in local High schools. Esteemed ACA, Denmak has been supporting this pristine institution to send till date 110 motivated students to secondary



schools without discontinuance and complete 10 successful years with 150 intake in 5 classes. Art, Craft, computer education & free lunch are some of its instructional adjuncts. More than 60% of children secured 1st division (60%) marks in each class with proficiency in extra curricular activities.

MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH ASSUMES PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE

Considering the future of a prosperous society is expectant of its mothers & children health, about 1000 pregnant mothers & malnourished children of 12 villages in 2 GPs of Pratappur & Balikuti GP are being



included under health & nutrition programme. Regular Fixed day service, Health Checkup, ante & postnatal care, immunisation, village health committee & liaisoning with local health administration are some of the routine activities been taken up with BSSS & CRS support. The success on immunization and antenatal care is wonderful with 97% of checkup and immunization achievement.

NANDA-BHAUJA CLUB : WAY TO RURAL WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Viewed as the 2 most young and active members of a rural household, the Nanda-Bhauja duo have been



included under an organisational structure in 20 villages of Baliapal



block with funding support of esteemed Miseror, Germany to address the innumerable problems of backward rural women. The NB club members have served as channels of intervention to decide the health and

social awareness needs of their peers and cooperated with ARM to conduct RCH mobile clinic camps. Till date some 265 RTI cases & 488 STD cases have been identified & treated with success.

COUNTER DISASTER : VDC'S VILLAGE RESILIENCE WAY

Recurring disasters in form of flood, drought and cyclones are causing innumerable loss of lives &



property in the coastal blocks of Baliapal, Jaleswar, Bhograi etc. A village resilience project to counter the challenges of sudden impact natural disasters has been supported by CRS through BSSS, Balasore whereby 20 village development committees (VDC) have been formed in 20 villages. Each VDC is supported by one Task Force Groups of youth volunteers who take up skill development & disaster preparedness training under the project. Farmers clubs are formed & trained to save crop & livestock in times of urgency. One village linked to farmers club named Bishnupur Farmers Club Farmers club formed under VR Project has been declared Insurance Village by LIC, India for its excellent activities & given a grant of Rs. 25,000 for developmental works.

FRIENDS IN NEED

The generous support and instant response of esteemed CRS, Bhubaneswar, AJWS, USA, Miseror,



Germany and our intimate local partner BSSS, Balasore in times of distress of our flood victims is noteworthy. All of them have come forward to support in cash and kind for which ARM could be able to save many valuable lives of mothers, children & poor flood victims by extending them food, medicine, shelter and farm input support that excelled many times the paltry relief effort of the local administration. We thank them all for their unstinted support & sterling cooperation.

LEARNING WITH PEOPLE

What is Advocacy :

Advocacy is a process to bring about change in the policies, laws and practices of influential individuals, groups & institutions.

Different ways of doing advocacy

- ◆ Advocacy can take many forms like written, spoken, sung & acted.
- ◆ It can take from one hour to several years.
- ◆ We can do advocacy work on our own or with others. Involvement of people affected by Advocacy issue.

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◆ Most powerful advocacy methods are led by people affected by the problem or issue or directly involve them.

◆ We must legitimately advocate or represent for them by way of their permission. Proactive or reactive advocacy

◆ The type of advocacy where the problem or issue is already there and we use advocacy to reduce those is called reactive advocacy.

◆ At other wise, it is possible to plan for the future, to set the agenda and use advocacy to create positive environment or prevent a problem before it happens. This is proactive advocacy.

Steps in Advocacy (Advocacy framework)

Step-1: Select on issue or problem you want to address.

Step-2: Analyse the issue or problem

Step-3: Develop specific objective or your advocacy work.

Step-4: Identify your target.

Step-5: Identify your resources.

Step-6: Identify your allies.

Step-7: Create an action plan.

Step-8: Implement, monitor & evaluate

CAMPUS NEWS

Sponsored Program

- ◆ NABARD sponsored SHG orientation training 30th Oct., 2006
- ◆ BSSS Seed fair-3rd & 8th Nov. 2006
- ◆ Block level NGO Consultation program on disaster management, CASA, 1st Dec. 06.

Staff Deputed for Training / Workshop

◆ Mrs. Kunimani Parida, Mrs. Arunabala Patra & Mrs. Kanchan Jena-Role of Village Health Committee for sustainable rural health: BSSS, Balasore, 24-25 Jan. 2007.

◆ Mrs. Sangita Das, Manjubala Giri-Training on module of Task Force- BSSS, Balasore, 23rd Jan. 2007

◆ Mr. Rajendra Ku. Rana, CM & Mrs. Sangita Das - SHG & Self Governance workshop- BSSS & CRS-20-21. Feb 2007

PROGRAMME AHEAD

◆ Village Health Committee & WSHG leaders Training- Apr, 2007 (SMCS Project.)

◆ Media Advocacy workshop April- 2007 (MGR project)

◆ First AID skill Training April -2007 (VR Project)

◆ Training cum workshop on Disaster Agricultural planning Apr- 2007 (VR Project)

◆ Advocacy seminar on Girl Child rights April - 2007 (MGR Project)

◆ Childrens' fair -April -2007 (Model School Project)

◆ Sports & Cultural Competition - Apr, 2007 (Model School Project)

