

**Caritas Project**

**Establishment of low cost Organic Manure (INM) vermin Compost, Azolla & Vermi wash units.**



Our concern towards sustainable agriculture here came with a concrete result with the support of Caritas India. The organisation has constructed 15 Vermi-compost and Azolla tanks in 15 villages namely Tapkara, Kasira, Jaldega, Kionardand, Orbenga, Kurum, Tetertoli, Rokedega, Pithatoli, Lotwa, Dahupani, Khadpani and Kondekera, of Palkot Block. Since 2010 every year our target has been to construct 20 - 25 vermi-compost and azolla tanks. NSVK provided raw materials like cement, bricks and sand to the farmers on condition that the construction work will be undertaken by the concerned farmer as local contribution. Presently, our farmers are all set to market their organic product under the banner of NSVK's organic product. IN addition, so far 30 vermi wash units have also been established in 5 villages namely Tapkara, Kasira, Jaldega, Kionardand and Kondekera. The concept and promotion of vermi wash is to shrink and omit conventional pesticide use in our targeted area.

**Convergence with line departments**

**Irrigation Pump**

Jagmohan Sahu and Parmeswar Sahu of Kasira village received irrigation pump from ATMA, Palkot At 50% subsidy the both farmers paid Rs,8000/-.



Now the beneficiary are able to fetch water from different resources of water for cultivation propose.

**Janani Suraksha Yojna**



Asha Devi of Jaldega has benefited through the JSY scheme of Palkot Block. She received Rs. 1400.00 for the nutritious food for new born baby and for





herself. The project is trying to motivate villagers to adopt institutional delivery instead of home delivery so both infant and maternal mortality is averted and both mother and child receive necessary care and benefits from the government.

### Entrepreneurships

In the month of June, 2016 Deepak Mahila Mandal of Chapatoli, Orbenga and Kamal Phul Mahila Mandal of Upperkhamhan, Kurum village got new batch of chicks in their respective farms. Deepak Mahila Mandal got 200 chicks and Kamal Phul Mahila Mandal received 100 chicks. So far in both farms the birds are doing good with 0% mortality rate.



### Case Study

Rajni Devi, aged 36, W/o. Shri Jatru Lohra, belongs to Jaldega village, under Palkot Bolck, Gumla. There are 6 members her family, including two children and parents in-law. This family is an indigenous family of Jaldega village and is significantly marginalized. The occupation of the family is agriculture and livestock raising. As Jaldega village comes under un-irrigated area the family depends on monsoon agriculture especially on Kharif season. Therefore, livestock management and selling it is the secondary option for their livelihood and to stay alive. In livestock management of Rajni Devi, goat



raising is one of her preferences. Presently, she has 12 goats. In the year 2015 during a SHG meeting at Jaldega, Project Coordinator and MIS Coordinator discussed with the group members regarding livestock management and its health problems in livestock. Rajni Devi told that, the mortality rate of goat is about 40-60% as goats suffer from pneumonia, goat pox, skin disease (*khasra*). At that time Project Coordinator advised the SHG members to prepare a *Machan* (Goat Shed). Project Coordinator told that, as you are keeping the goat in the floor the diseases are coming. The month subsequent to this meeting, 15 SHG members prepared goat shed out of bamboo in their houses and started keeping goat in the shed. At the same time immunization and de-worming of goats was



undertaken from time to time as per advice from the veterinary doctor of NSVK. Currently, Rajni Devi has 12 goats. Last year she sold 4 goats for Rs, 16,000/-. Owing to her concern towards the

betterment of her livestock, the mortality rate of goats has reduced to 40%.

### **Oxfam Project**

#### **Capacity building of communities to file/ appeal for individual and community forest rights claim**

– Trainings were organized by Gram shabha through Rajkumar Pandey in Adwara village, Block of Bagodar District Giridih. The main topics in this meeting were related to IFR/CFR as well as planning for preparing IFR/CFR. VDP was trained to prepare resource map at the village level. No new claims were made due to lack of supporting document. President of Van Palan Committee, Shri. Anant Kumar Singh addressed this meeting and mentioned the ways in which good planning for Individual & Community forest rights can be done and relevant applications made. Mukhiya, Shri. Ramesh Kumar created awareness among the villagers regarding Forest Rights Act. He said that they should keep on meeting and raise their voice for their rights on the forest. He said that government was proactive in giving claims on individual and community forests. He also mentioned about the support the community is getting from NSVK in mobilizing people and facilitating their rights on forests.



#### **Project Harit Prayas (funded by Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiative)**

In the month of June several programs were conducted under Project Harit Prayas. These

programs aimed to build capacity of community groups to augment their income either through additional sources of livelihood or through skill enhancement. The programs which were conducted this month were – 1. Training and provision for livestock management (livestock, fishery, duckery, poultry) to identified individuals in collaboration with relevant institutions; 2. Training Farmers' Committee on soil, water and biomass conservation techniques (SCT, CCT, FFB, 5% model, ponds, wells, *chuan*, gabion structures, flow irrigation) (30% women committee members) and use of soil test kits; 3. Training on value addition to non-timber forest produce (Lac, *Mahua*, Tamarind, etc) to Livelihood Committees. In addition, panchayat level meetings with newly formed gram ekais were undertaken by animators in all the panchayats. A staff development program was conducted on FRA and PESA by Secretary of NSVK to build concepts regarding FRA and PESA among the project staff. Given ahead is some of the important highlights from these programs.

#### **1. Training and provision for livestock management (livestock, fishery, duckery and poultry) to identified individuals in collaboration with relevant institutions - Training for livestock**



management was undertaken at Jonha and Paika Panchayat on different dates. The resource person was Dr. Sushila Bage (Tour Veterinary Officer, Block – Angara) on both the dates. The main focus of the training was to improve the income of each



house hold of through livestock and consider livestock as second major source of income . The training was conducted by Travelling Veterinary Officer (TVO) Dr. Sushila Bage. She engaged the participants in interactive training sessions to make them understand the various methods and practises of livestock management.

**2. Training Farmer’s Committee on Soil, Water and Biomass Conservation techniques (SCT, CCT, FFB, 5% model, ponds, wells, chuan, gabion structures, flow irrigation) (30% women committee members) and use of soil test kits**



One day training in the form of exposure visit was conducted for selected small and marginal villagers from project villages in Angara. The exposure visit was attended by 40 participants (Male – 36, Female – 4) who are not only small and marginal farmers but also are leaders and innovators in their villages and communities. The farmers were taken for exposure visit to two villages in Gumla which have similar socio-cultural and ecological situation as in the Harit Prayas project villages. These villages are remote and are the communities are dependent on agriculture and forest for their livelihood. These communities were once significantly marginalized when NSVK started working in these villages around five years ago. However, presently community led interventions such as gravity flow irrigation, drip irrigation; use of vermi-compost, vermi-wash and azolla has significantly improved agricultural output and has

improved the level of income of the farmers. Further, farmers have taken up activities such as poultry, piggery, duckery, goater and lac processing. The participants in the training –cum – exposure visit were able to get firsthand experience of all these interventions, were able to interact with the farmers who have undertaken these initiatives, the challenges they faced while initiating and during the activities and how they were able to address those challenges. The participants were also able to see how a village had undertaken soil and water conservation measures through farm ponds and small check dams through its own contribution and how they are using improved moisture in the soil to grow vegetables and fruits such as melons through organic farming. The participants were also able to observe seed bank and were able to understand the concept of seed bank and look at its functioning and how the same has been scaled up as a micro-processing unit for agriculture and forest produce in the villages. These villages have started receiving benefits from seed bank and processing of agriculture and forest produce. The farmers are able to save money on fertilizers and costly pesticides and there has been a gradual increase in the demand of agricultural produce – processed as non-processed. NSVK is trying to market the products under the brand name Caritas Ahaar and very soon marketing set ups in cities will start stocking and selling these products. Such a model is also envisaged in the project villages under Harit Prayas so that the income of the small and marginal farmers can be augmented. It would



also give recognition to the small and marginal farmers and their products.

### **3. Training on value addition to non-timber forest produce (Lac, Mahua, Tamarind, etc) to Livelihood Committees**

A training each was conducted in Paika (17.06.2016) and Jonha (22.06.2016) Panchayat for women who



are already members of self help groups promoted by JSLPS. However, for almost all the women it was the first opportunity to learn processing of NTFP. The women enthusiastically participated in the training and as per their feedback; the training was useful for them to undertake processing at domestic level presently before they move on for processing for commercialization. The training started with understanding the benefits of various NTFPs and how they can be processed. The women were provided detailed recipe for each of the products to be prepared and then four different groups were formed. Each of the group was entrusted with the task of processing a particular NTFP. Each of the groups started working in close proximity so that



they also had opportunity to learn about the process in which other NTFPs were processed. Each of the group had a group leader selected among the group members who was responsible to take the process to the logical end. Once the products were made they were packed and stored as sample. This was followed by closure and feedback session. The women shared that this was the first time they had attended such training.

### **4. Staff Development Workshop for Project Staff**

The workshop was divided in to two parts. Day one of the program was completely devoted to building concepts around The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 and Panchayat Extension to



Schedule Areas Act. The participants were provided details on formation of Forest Rights Committee at the village level including procedure for formation of FRC, roles and responsibilities of FRC members, procedure of convening meeting, procedure for filling up Individual Forest Right (IFR) and Community Forest Right (CFR) claims, detailed process of filling up various formats and making request at various levels of the government.

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*Research and Coordination Office –  
H.No.129, Basant Vihar, Harmu, Ranchi – 834002  
Jharkhand, INDIA.*