

SAMVAD ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

SAMVAD was established in March 2001, by a group of social and cultural activists and intellectuals who were concerned about the declining Indigenous identity due to various internal and external factors. The Jharkhand state was carved out from Bihar and came into existence on 15 November 2000 as the people of Jharkhand region were very much hopeful that their centuries old traditions and practices would get recognition and they would also have opportunity to participate in the governance process. But very soon their aspirations were shattered. It was the time to mobilize the Indigenous communities, Dalits, Women and Minorities and spread awareness among them about their legal and constitutional rights to combat the situation. SAMVAD came at fore to reflect this process in its vision and approach.

SAMVAD believes that development is a sustainable process. It addresses not just the direct manifestation of the problems but also their structural causes, which are quite distinct and unique from other Voluntary Organizations.

Vision

SAMVAD envisions a society where relations between human beings and nature is balanced for preservation of the indigenous social values and creation of sustainable livelihood for people towards establishment of a society on a communitarian lifestyle, labor-oriented and egalitarianism which accepts the diversity and differences among human beings. This is the society of “**Indigenocracy**”.

Mission

SAMVAD strives for self-reliant and self-respectful society based on equality, gender-equity, labor-oriented universe, and self-governance by strengthening the communitarian lifestyle of the indigenous and downtrodden people. Efforts are on to empower Gram Sabhas and traditional governance systems in the villages of Adivasis, Dalits, Minorities, and the poor as a whole. It ensures equal representation and participation of women and men in community level decision making and development processes.

Legal Status

- Registered under Trust Registration Act- 1882, No. IV 278/2001/Ranchi, on 21.03.2001
- Registered under FCRA, 1976, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, No. 337800125, Dated 24 May 2004. Renewal No. 337800125 date 9-8-2016
- Registered under Income Tax Act 1961, 12A-VIII-48/12A/03-04 on 18 June 2004.
- PAN (Permanent Account Number): AADTS7279Q
- TAN (Tax Deduction at Source Account Number): RCHS03187C

- Registered under EPF Provisions Act, 1952 No. JH/RNC/32288 Date: 03/02/2011
- Registered online under NGO Darpan of NITI Ayog, JH/2017/0167751

Objective

- To promote and strengthen Self-Rule through Empowerment of Gram Sabha and People's Organizations
- To adopt and facilitate the methods and praxis of inclusive and sustainable development
- To empower indigenous skills and technology for promoting sustainable agriculture and climate resilient livelihood options
- To capacitate youth for Gender Sensitivity, Social Justice and Communal harmony
- To preserve & rejuvenate Indigenous Art & Culture from de-culturization process
- To develop a training and resource center for documenting and promoting regional Art Crafts and Culture
- To develop Audio-Visual materials for awareness and issue sensitization
- To promote Networks with like-minded groups and individual for policy centered Advocacy
- To adopt right based approach for excluded sections of society including women and children

Strategy

- Alliance building with like-minded groups and promote network for social transformation
- Public advocacy, policy analysis, discourse and information dissemination through community engagement
- Training and Capacity building through participatory approach
- Archiving, Resource material collection, compilation and publications
- Promotion and strengthening of CBOs, women and youth groups
- Adoption of development models to encourage sustainable livelihood

Our Reach

SAMVAD is working in 669 villages of 29 Blocks of 16 districts of Jharkhand. Apart from this we are part of Eastern India Dialogue Forum "Swashashan Abhiyan India" which is a network to promote and strengthen governance and Indigenocracy.

Samvad is associated with several organizations and networks such as Child Rights Alliance (CRA), Swashashan Abhiyan India (SAI), Mahila Garima Abhiyan, National Campaign on Dalit

Human Rights (NCDHR), National Advocacy Council for Development of Indigenous People (NACDIP), Climate Action Network in South Asia (CANSA), National Adivasi Alliance (NAA) and Gram Swashasan Abhiyan (GSA)

Areas in Jharkhand



Sl. No.	District	Blocks
1.	Ranchi	Itki, Bero
2.	Deoghar	Madhupur, Palojori, Karon, Margomunda, Devipur & Deoghar
3.	Jamtara	Fatehpur, Jamtara
4.	Dumka	Dumka Sadar, Shikaripara, Jama, Jarmundi
5.	Pakur	Maheshpur
6.	Sahbeganj	Borio
7.	Giridih	Giridih Sadar, Gandey
8.	Dhanbad	Baghmara
9.	Bokaro	Gomia
10.	Kodarma	Domchanch

11.	Hazaribagh	Katkamsandi
12.	E. Singhbhum	Potka, Musabani
13.	W. Singhbhum	Chaibasa Sadar, Tantnagar
14.	Gumla	Sisai
15.	Ramgarh	Chitarpur
16.	Saraikela Kharsawan	Raj Nagar

Our Projects:

	<p>Project Name: Deepening indigenocracy and promoting sustainable livelihood in Jharkhand,cont.</p> <p>Donor: BftW, Germany and Christian Aid</p> <p>Project Area: Total village 350, Block 23, District 14</p> <p>Project Duration: October 2016 - September 2019</p>
	<p>Project Name: LRP - Strengthening Indigenocracy through socio-economic development of marginalised communities in Jharkhand.</p> <p>Donor: Action Aid Association, Delhi</p> <p>Project Area: Village – 40, Panchayat – 6, Block – 4, District – 2 (Deoghar and East Singhbhum)</p> <p>Project Duration: Continue (From January 2018- Dec 2018- Dec.19 continuing)</p>
	<p>Project Name: Strengthening local self-governance in 90 villages of 8 Panchayats in Fatehpur block in Jamtara district of Jharkhand</p> <p>Donor: Partnering Hope into Action Foundation (PHIA)</p> <p>Project Area: Village – 89, Panchayat – 08, District – 1 (Jamtara)</p> <p>Project Duration: 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2020</p>
	<p>Project Name: Strengthen grassroots democracy among the poor and marginalized communities in Jharkhand.</p> <p>Donor: OAK Foundation, London, U.K</p> <p>Project Area: Village 140, Panchayat 16, Block – 4, District - 4</p> <p>Project Duration: 01.10.2018 – 30.09.2021</p>

Deepening Indigenocracy and Promoting Sustainable Livelihood in Jharkhand

This is a continuation of last project and the current phase has started on October, 2019 with a goal for strengthening the Indigenocracy and thereby promoting sustainable livelihood in Jharkhand through the process of Gram Sabha strengthening; rejuvenate traditional agricultural practices, increasing women participation in decision making processes, and so on. It also aims at strengthening at least 400 Gram Sabhas and upgrading the status of at least 200 Gram Sabhas to model Gram Sabhas. There are 8 selected criteria for considering a Gram Sabha as model Gram Sabha, which are as follows:

- Regular meetings of Gram Sabha
- Attendance of G.S. members
- Active participation of women.
- Standing Committees of Gram Sabha with 50% of women exercising their power and duties.
- Gram Sabha Sachiwalaya (Secretariat) regularly provide necessary support to the community.
- Village Development Planning and Submission to proper authority.
- Village Fund (Gram Kosh) - The village fund mean Households would contribute as decided in the Gram Sabha. It may be cash or kind (grains).
- Cultural centre (Akhra)- A place in the village where villagers come together to meet, dance and discuss relevant issues.

Outcome

- 350 Gram Sabhas Strengthened
- 100 Gram Sabha moved towards model Gram Sabha with having their own Gram Kosh and Akhra.
- villages attained its development as per their needs
- Women empowered and they achieved their rights to be benefited in village development work.
- **Gram Sabha Standing Committees:** During this reporting period Gram Sabha Standing Committees has been formed in 117 model villages with 50% women membership.
- **Gram Kosh:** During this reporting period out of 400 targeted model villages,350 villages exercised their village fund for betterment of the community. Having Regular Meetings, loan process continues etc. Crisis management in some village proved helpful.

- **Akhra:** During the reporting period out of 400 villages, 350 villages have rejuvenated their own Akhra (Cultural Centre) for having their cultural activities and social events and Gram Sabha meetings. Adivasiat preserved and strengthened through Akhra.
- **Women Participation:** women participation in model Gram Sabhas has increased up to 50%. Proposed and opposed by women in Gram Sabha meetings have increased up to 34%. This is a significant change in decision making process within Model Gram Sabhas during this reporting period.

Motivational Camp for the formation of Standing Committees

Total 117 Nos. of motivational camps were organised in 117 villages with the members of Gram Sabha. Total participants were 5999; among them 2514 were male and 3485 females. As a result, Gram Sabha Standing Committees has been formed in 117 villages.



Content Development on Gram Sabha

A three days workshop was organized at Samvad office, Ranchi from 3.12.2019 to 5.12.2019 with social activists and intellectuals. Total participants of this workshop were 18, where 14 were male and 04 females. As a result, the content “Gram Sabha Guide Book” has been developed and printed for dissemination.

Perspective building workshop

A two-day perspective building workshop was organized at Madhupur from 14.12.2019 to 15.12.2019 with village volunteers and supervisors. Total participants of this workshop were 46, where 23 were male and 23 females. Perspective and common understanding has been developed

among village volunteers and supervisors on objectives and indicators of ongoing project of BftW.

State level Annual Akhra celebration

A two days Annual Akhra celebration was held on 13th and 14th Sept.2019 at TRTC, Lupungutu, Chaibasa. Total participants were 245; among them 115 were male and 130 females. The theme of this Akhra celebration was "Je Nachi Se Bachi"(who dance will survive). Total six cultural teams participated in Jatra and took part in critical discussion on the theme along with traditional leaders, important members of Gram Sabha, elected leaders of PRI, intellectuals and activists.

State level consultation for quality education

A two days State level consultation meeting on New Education Policy, 2019 (proposed draft) held on 26th and 27th August, 2019 at SDC, Mission Chowk, Dumka. Total participants were 80, in which 37 were male and 43 females.

The proposed new education Policy focused on privatization of education. The representatives of Gram Sabhas and education activists criticized the proposed education policy and stand on in favour of equal education policy for all.

Regional Gram Sabha Federation Committee meeting

Seven Nos. of half yearly Regional Gram Sabha Federation committee meeting of one day duration was organized in all four different Zones i.e. Kolhan, Santhal Pargana, North Chotanagpur and South Chotanagpur. South Chotanagpur Zone has been formed newly on February, 2020, where only one meeting took place, whereas two meetings were held in all the rest three zones during one year of time period.



The total participants in these meetings were 207, among them 99 were female and 108 were male. These meetings were focused on the strengthening of Gram Sabha by formation of Gram Sabha standing committees, establishment of Gram Sabha Sachiwalya (Secretariat) and advocating framed rule on PESA. Plan of action and strategies of regional Gram Sabha Federation were prepared for next six months based on the analysis of present context.

State Level Gram Sabha Federation Committee Meeting

One half yearly meeting of State level Gram Sabha Federation held at SDC, Kamil Bulke Path, Ranchi on 20th July, 2019. Total participants were 28, in which 14 were male and 14 were females. This was also a preparatory meeting for State level G.S. Federation Convention. In this meeting also discussed about the membership of Gram Sabha Federation and initiating a WhatsApp Group for the members of State Gram Sabha Federation.

Swashasan Abhiyan India

Total 2 meetings of two days duration for strengthening the process of Eastern India Dialogue Forum – Swashasan Abhiyan India was organised during one year of time period.

- One meeting was held on 27th and 28th July, 2019 at Mati Resource Centre, Kataroli, Chattisgarh. Total participants of this meeting were 13, where 11 were male and 02 females.
- One meeting was organized at Madhupur, Deoghar on 21-22 December, 2019. Total participants were 10 in which 9 were male and 01 female.

Focused points of discussion of the meeting were; PESA, FRA and RTI. Representatives of this meeting were worried for diluting in RTI act by Union Govt. of India through amendment.

Annual convention of State Gram Sabha Federation:

A two day annual convention of State Gram Sabha Federation has organized at SDC, Kamil Bulke path Tanchi on 7-8 August, 2019 during this period. Total participants were 138; where male were 50 and female were 88.

The theme of the convention was "Role of Gram Sabha in participatory Democracy". All the delegated considered that the present Indian democracy is based on representative democracy. Presently it is not accordance with our participatory democracy and Constitution.

Motivational camp for farmers of organic farming and draught proofing methods

Total 5 Nos. of cluster based motivational camps were organized during one year of period. Total participants of these camps were 386, where 165 were female and 221 males.

- At Purnadih, Koderma on 11.3.2020
- At hathamendi, Hazaribagh on 15.3.2020
- At Purni Adra on 17.3.2020
- At Meyatu, Hazaribagh on 18.3.2020
- At Suggapahari, Deoghar on 18.3.2020

Farmers were motivated for organic farming and drought proofing during these trainings.

Training on organic manure and pest repellent

Two nos. of cluster-based training on organic manure and pest repellent was organized during the period. Total participants were 47, where 14 were female and 33 males.

- At Purnadih, Koderma on 12.3.2020
- At Meyatu, Hazaribagh on 19.3.2020

In these trainings, the farmers learnt the techniques of preparing organic manure and pest repellent with indigenous leaf, cow dung, urine and other waste materials.

Interaction between SHGs, Kisan clubs and Cooperative Societies

Three nos. of cluster-based one day meetings were organized during this one year of time period. Total participants were 124; among them 37 were female and 87 males.

- At Phulwaria, Koderma on 13.3.2020
- At Hathamendia, Hazaribagh on 14.3.2020
- At Adra, Hazaribagh, on 16.3.2020

In these meetings the participants were capacitated on entrepreneurship and linkages with the finance institutions; such as NABARD and other banks.

Kisan Mela

Two nos. of Kisan Mela (Farmers Fair) of two days duration was organised at Medhiya, Musabani and Lalpur, Madhupur. Total participants of these Mela are more than 5000 male and female. These Kisan Melas consists the events of Kisan Goshthi (Farmers meeting), Exhibition of agricultural produces by farmers, sports and traditional cultural folk dances and events.

- Two days Kisan Mela was organised at Medhiya, Musabani, East Singhbhum on 8-9th February, 2020.

- Two days Kisan Mela was organised at Lalpur, Madhupur, Deoghar on 14-15th February, 2020.

In these farmers fair, the farmers got honor by displaying their organic agricultural produces. The progressive farmers were awarded by Mementoes. Mutually shared knowledge, ideas and experiences by the farmers. The whole community were involved by observing the agricultural products, and enjoyed by participating the sports and cultural events.



Water Harvesting Planning Meeting with Gram Sabha

37 water harvesting planning meetings with 37 Gram Sabhas held during this reporting period, where the villagers discussed how to maintain the existing water structures and planned to excavate new water pond and Dobhas under MGNREGs. Total participants were 178, in which 590 were male and 1191 females.

As the result of it 35 nos. of Dova, 56 wells, 20 ponds and 2 check dams were mobilized by the Gram Sabha in 336 villages.

Climate Resilient Agriculture Practices

This initiative has promoted organic farming method, which not only minimize the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, but also reduce anemia and malnutrition that affects women and children specifically.

Outcome:

2500 Households from 300 villages adopted Climate Resilient Agriculture Practices. The traditional agriculture practices can enhance the food security and wipe out starvation. In this context in our working area, farmers are using organic manure, traditional seeds, traditional agricultural equipments and organic Pest repellent.

Formation of Co-operatives societies

Five numbers of Co-operatives have been formed during this period, which are as follows: –

- Jeevan Jioti Sahkarita Samiti Pvt.Ltd. in Lalpur. Total Members-101 (F-57, M-44)
- Chasa Hod Chigalpahri Mahadevraidi in Dumka. Total Members- 51 (F-20, M-31)
- Chando Tand Tarash Kisan Sahkarita samiti Ltd. in Media, Musabani, East Sinbhdhum, Total Members-51 (F-42, M-9)
- Kolhan Kisan Sahkarita Samiti Ltd. Tantnagar, West Singhbhum, Total Members-105 (F-36, M-69),
- Roushani Mahila Vikas Swablambi Sahkari Samiti Ltd. in Pahrol, Madhupur, Dist-Deoghar Total members-101 (F-101, M-0).

Outcome:

- 101 women solved their monitory problems through Puffed rice business.
- Their confident level busted up.
- Marketing concept developed among them.
- Life status of those women increased up to some extent.

Skill Enhancement training of staff on MIS

A three days skill enhancement training of staff on MIS was organized at Hotel Pratap Residency, Ranchi from 17th to 19th December, 2019. Total participants were 28, in which 18 were male and 10 were female. A monitoring tool and reporting format has been developed for the ongoing new project of BftW (2019- 2022)

Strengthening Indigenocracy through Socio Economic Development of Marginalized Communities of Jharkhand

This project was started in the month of November, 2017. This is mainly a child sponsorship project, but it is believed that no development of the children is possible unless we focus on their family. Therefore, this project focuses on strengthening Indigenocracy through socio economic development of marginalized section of the society. This project is supported by Action aid and we believe that children are the mirror of society and the actual situation of any society can be best reflected through the condition of the children. Before selecting the operational area, several meetings were organized with the villagers and with the children too in many villages. The villages were prioritized based on their utmost need. 30 villages in Deoghar district and later 10 other villages from East Singhbhum were selected as LRP area. Then it was time for selection sponsored children. There were few criteria for selecting sponsored children. In order to bring maximum families under sponsorship programme not more than one child was selected from one family. Details information of those children was collected in order to maintain their child profile. This project also focuses on strengthening and rejuvenating the traditional livelihood

practices. Women entrepreneurship is another important component of this project. SAMVAD is working on three synergic areas (land, water and women property) and the programme areas are the following-

- Land, water and forest rights
- Labour and livelihood rights
- Child rights
- Women rights

Training for un-organized labor on labor rights, wages Act and Social Security

- Various types of unorganized sector and involvement of workers and their conditions were discussed.
- Participants were informed about their labour rights, wage rights and various social security schemes.
- A campaign was carried in all the LRP villages for registering the unorganized labors through their labor cards.

The one day training and awareness programme based on the rights of the unorganized laborers was organized in the 52 Bigha Samvad office on Wednesday under the joint auspices of the SAMVAD and Action-Aid. Shankar Das said that the information given by the government to the unorganized laborers' right from the law to the right to insurance, children's scholarships, and health facilities was given by advocate Dhananjay Prasad. Regarding the unorganized laborers and their rights, Kundan Kumar Bhagat said that today the information about the facilities provided by the government is not reaching the common laborers. Shahnawaz said that in a planned way they are being deprived from their rights. The labors came from Madhupur, Margomunda, Potka Block in East Singhbhum District.

Strengthening Kishori Clubs:

- 6 kishori clubs are actively running in all the six panchayats of four blocks i.e. Madhupur and Margomunda blocks of Deoghar district and Potka and Musabani blocks of East Singhbhum.
- SAMVAD initiated in the formation of Football team among the active kishoris of Kishori clubs and in this regard 6 football teams have been formed and promoted for the sports & tournament. As a result Kishori clubs are participating in football tournaments at adjoining blocks.
- The clubs are strengthened up to maximum extent that they are now raising their voices against early marriage, School irregularity and dropouts, hygiene and sanitation, and other social issues.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS ON GENDER

A capacity building programme for adolescent girls was organized in Samvad. Total 4 Panchayet`s girls were invited to join this workshop, those are Patthaljor, Sikitiya, Baghmara, Kano. There are 10 villages of Pathaljor Panchayet, 7 villages of Sikitiya Panchayet, 7 villages of Baghmara panchayet and 6 villages of Kano Panchayet. From that 4 Panchayet 4 Gram Sathis were come, they are Basanti Soren, Mariam Tudu, Jakir Hussain and Ramesh Pandit. Total 40 adolescent girls were attended this programme.

All this 4 panchayet has 4 ‘KISHORI CLUB’, those are

- Jhanshi kishori club
- Marshal kishori club
- Akhil kishori club
- Laxmi kishori club.

The members of Kishori Clubs were joined with many type of right based programme, like- they work for to stop child marriage, maintain cleanliness in their village, they are spreading awareness about healthy life style, how to maintain hygiene.

The girls are engaged in different kinds of sports like- football, Kabadi, they have teams on it. They used to go to play in different states and used to compete them with other teams.

The main objective of making this Kishori group are-

- To become more engage in playing, studding, doing right based work in the village. Spreading right practices in the village.
- They are the sign of unity, unity is the strength. They are the builder of our nation.
- They are the symbol of loyalty.

In this programme Mr. Abrar Tabinda, Mr. Ghanshyam presented a speech on adolescent awareness.

Mr. Tabinda gave an overall idea about the topic, then after recess Mr. Ghanshyam shared about his experience on jungle rebellion, how can we use the Mahua in different ways, like- as an oil, laddu, mahua boiled water can be use for mouth infection, we can get rid of oral problems.

He inspired the girls by using a quote “Padhai ke liye ladai, ladai ke liye padahai” 5 girls were presented the closing song in their local language, by which this programme came to an end.

Strengthening of Gram Sabah

State level Adhiveshan on PESA

Two days state level Adhivesan programme on PESA was organised on 19-20 December 2019 at HRDC, Ranchi. The programme was organised with an objective to strengthen the existing Gram Sabhas by following the provisions of PESA Act. In this programme, Mr. Faisal Anurag and Mr

Sunil Minj expressed their lecture as resource person and key representatives Mr. Rajen Kumar from SGVV, Md. Safroj Khan from NAYEE PAHAL and others. Gram Sabah leaders participated from the fields of SGVV, Rania and SAMVAD. Total 38 participants consisting 30 male and 8 female participated in the programme.

Establishment of Swaraj library

On behalf of Action-Aid and SAMVAD the Swaraj Library was inaugurated at Patthaljore village in Patthaljore Panchayat on 27.02.2020.

The library was inaugurated by the Ward member Sahiran Banu and social worker Ramesh Marandi.

The men, women, children and teenage peoples of the village also participated in this event.

All the villagers who participated in this event seem very enthusiastic about this event. Mr. Gokul from SAMVAD Action-Aid delivered some statement about this event. He said that in this library the books are mainly kept for enlightening the children`s knowledge. They are very much informative and suitable for children and for others too.

ANANDSHALA: Cultural event in Anandshala

In Patthaljore village on 09.02.2020 a cultural programme was organised in Anandshala between the students of Anandshala. 50 students were participated in the programme they presented different kind of tribal and Hindi dance and songs, storytelling, recitation and a drawing competition was also held. This programme started on 12.00pm and ended on 4.00 pm. At the end of the programme some refreshment and snacks was distributed among them. The event was completed successfully under the supervision of Riyanka and Zakir.

World child Labour Day celebration

On behalf of SAMVAD, Action-Aid on 12th June 2020 the world child labour day was celebrated in Patthaljore village in Patthaljore panchayat. By the help of Mr. Gokul the project co-ordinator and Mr. Zakir and Field facilitator this event completed nicely. Total 29 children were participated in this event. Among them there were 16 boys and 13 girls.

The programme started on 11.00 am and ended on 1.00 pm. At first all the children and their parents got sanitized and then Mr. Gokul delivered speech on world child labour day. Face masks and some refreshment were also distributed among the children. The children made some posters to say no to child labour and yes to education.

Training of Vaidyas and Adolescent girls for documentation of extinction medicinal plants

A day-long workshop of Vaidyas and adolescent girls was organized on 29 February 2020 at ‘SAMVAD’ 52 Bigha for documenting extinct medicinal plants. The workshop was attended by

10 Vaidyas from Madhupur and Margomunda in Deoghar District and 40 adolescent girls from 3 Kishori clubs. Addressing the programme, Gokul said that 40 villages are working towards conserving traditional resources, courtesy of ‘Samvad’ and Action-Aid.

Pani Panchayat

To increase the income of the farmers and rain water harvesting and for best use of rain water 6 ponds renovation work has done in 6 villages in Madhupur and Margomunda block. In the bunds of 6 ponds fruit trees are being planted for preventing soil erosion and from the fruits fishes can get food and from this the farmers also can get additional benefits. They also provided 6 pump set with irrigation pipe. Also for preventing high soil erosions they build field bund LBCD, ECD.

The mapping of water resources has done in the 10 villages of the LRP area and the mapping of reasons for the declining water resources. On the basis of findings the conservation and rejuvenation of water source through traditional approach along with the convergence of the government schemes. Awareness of youth has also done for the water commons. Selection of ‘Jalmitra’ also done in every village. Total 50 Jalmitras were selected in 10 villages.

About sponsorship programme

They are promoting Healthy and friendly environment for learning of children. Motivating and educating the adolescents to overcome the social barrier. Regular intervention has done to support the children at the time of health emergency. The kids are regularly supervised and their updates are taken by the ‘Gram Sathis’. Twice a year the measures of improvement are taken from them through CMI sheet. There are 733 children in total 30 villages with in 2 Blocks, they are Margomunda, Madhupur. Total male children are 322 and female children are 411.

ST		SC		OBC		Minority	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
193	261	3	1	44	81	82	68

Strengthening local self- governance in 90 villages of 8 panchayats in Fathehpur block in Jamtara

This project was started in the month of 11th December, 2017. Main focus of this project is to strengthen the Gram Sabha to maintaining a balance between the modern Panchayati Raj System. Our work has been focused on strengthen the Gram Sabha, to create awareness among the community about the strength, power and rights of the Gram Sabha.

Executive summary

Worshipping nature is not only a customary obligation but a way of life for Tribes. The indigenous people have always tried to preserve and protect their ethics, value systems, societal

peace and harmony by means of their cultural praxis. Their indigenous culture is also the axle of collective struggle for preserving and protecting indigenous value systems. Orientation and empowerment of traditional leaders and now they are demanding for their rights from the government. Political awareness is increasing among people against communalism, globalization and fascism.

Empowerment of people's institution and awakening of poor mass about their rights and entitlement are the basic of GSA concept. Gram Sabha is the sovereign body for decision making in the villages. We educate, organize and empower the rural poor to promote development as a liberating force aimed at self-reliance. We added value during our steady march to provide the cutting edge to our intervention in the achievement of our mission.

In GPDP/ Village development plan, the practice of community control over natural resources and putting earnest effort with the participation of Gram Sabha in this process. Gram Sabha started to preserve and rejuvenate nature and natural resources so that community can gain control over decision making processes on these resources and that they play a big role in the democratic processes in the country.

Women are the most vulnerable section of society in the term of socio-economical and political frameworks. It is difficult to sketch the situation of women in the poor, weaker and minority section of society. We promote the role of women and youth in decision making and natural resource management, to rebuild the system of community control over resources. There has been a considerable progress especially in the participation of the women and vulnerable groups in the Gram Sabha.

In present scenario, the desire for self-governance alone is insufficient to bring changes in the lives of the poor. They need the livelihood option for survival. Gram Sabha take the initiative and demanded work for the migrants. With the support of government, we started plantation and other MGNREGA schemes at high speed to cover maximum hands for wages.

Our challenges have not dampened our enthusiasm, but have been an invaluable source of learning for us. Our successes have enabled us to broaden our horizons and scope through developing forward linkages. We will continue to focus on restoration of traditional governance system of the indigenous communities.

List of activities conducted

- Interface Meeting with BDO Fatehpur and sharing GSA project goal & Objective,
- Interface Meeting with PRI members of 8 Panchayats and sharing GSA project goal & Objective
- Facilitate Village Development Planning process in 8 Panchayats.
- Organize monthly meetings of all community members in tolas for discussion on PRI, systems, PESA and Self Governance

- Participate in State level GPDP training and facilitate Block level GPDP workshop.
- Organise monthly meeting with VO and sharing GSA project.
- Organise Gram Sabha meetings focused on human trafficking.
- Organise quarterly review and planning meeting and reflection at the staff level in addition to capturing project progress and change stories,
- Data entry in android base application through COLLECT APP.
- Use of CLART App in one Panchayat
- Provide support in MGNREGA and entitlements to administration.
- The project has started from December, 2017 and during three month of intervention SAMVAD act as per plan
- Funds are spent according to the plans.
- The management of the project has been executed as planned.

Progress made & challenges encounter

All the activities were completed as per the plan. The training backlog has been completed and the establishment of the Gram Sabha Secretariat is going on.

Organize monthly meetings of all Community Members– The monthly meetings are being organized by the Panchayat Facilitators and they are also following the interest and sincerity of Community members on the basis of their attendance in the meeting and the issues being raised by them in the Gram Sabha meetings. The discussions are going on with them regarding PESA, JPRA and proceedings of Gram Sabha meetings.

Interface Meeting with PRI members & BDO – Periodic interface meeting was organised at Panchayat level and Block level to orient them about our engagement in gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat. To develop understanding in elected representative about JPRA and PESA act and their roles and responsibility.

Village Development Plan- The very first time demand generated at grass-root level and ensures the maximum participation including vulnerable groups and women in Village development planning process.

GPDP- Gram Panchayat Development Plan is state sponsored program monitored by Department of Panchayati Raj. We participated in State level GPDP training and facilitated Block level GPDP workshop.

MGNREGA & entitlement- With the support of administration, we started plantation and other MGNREGA schemes at high speed to generate maximum wages.

Challenges –

- To maintain documents and running the Gram Sabha in absence of PF.
- Gram Kosh bank account for Gram Sabha is not opened by bank due to lack of understanding of bank manager and impact of cyber crime prone area.
- It is very difficult to organized Gram Sabha having agenda of recognition of tola level Gram Sabha due to unwillingness of Mukhiya and Panchayat Secretatry.
- GP assessment by using GP assessment tool generated the fear among Mukhiya and Panchayat Secretatry due to providing details of financial data and physical progress made by Panchayat in every financial year.
- Due to caste discrimination, people, mostly women do not participated in Gram Sabha, where there is mixed population.
- Standing committees were formed in Gram Sabha but they were not functional.
- The challenges that came in fulfilling the planned activities was, low motivation level of our Panchayat facilitators and Community Leader cum Data Operator.

Description of the key learning from the project

Every initiative in the sector of social development provides opportunity of learning. The most important among all is enhancement in capacity to learn and understand socio-economic dynamics of a village and Panchayat.

Important among these are:

- The desire for self-governance alone is insufficient to bring changes in the lives of the poor. They need the livelihood option for survival.
- MGNREGA & entitlements are low hanging fruits for the community. It provides the livelihood option for daily wage labors, PVTG & landless families.
- Promoting Gram Sabha to meet the demand of people and encountering the red-trapezium, JPRA refresher training played a vital role. It enhanced our understanding and gets to know about their powers and its proper uses.
- During VDP, we realized that more emphasis on developing capacity of people's institutions is required. To bring out the transparency in the planning process, we try to ensure maximum participation. Participatory rural appraisal method is one of the proven methods to ensure the grass-root changes.

Reducing poverty and strengthening grass root democracy among the poor and marginalized communities for establishment of Indigenocracy in Jharkhand

SAMVAD started this project in the year 2018 in four Blocks namely–Palajori, Jamtara, Rajnagar and Itki, in four districts of Jharkhand such as Deoghar, Jamtara, Saraikela and Ranchi

respectively. We have done regularly field visited in the villages and talked with Gram Sabha members, PRI members and other communities regarding the awareness of Government Schemes, Sustainable agriculture, Women rights, organic farming, Kitchen gardening, construction of vermin compost pit, group formation, women self-employment training etc. We have contentiously empowering the Gram Sabha and conduct meeting to increasing awareness in village about government's schemes. As we observed that the rate of female participation is low and our focusing area is to empower women members' active participation so that we have conducted Village level meeting in every week in all our concern villages based on the different topic related to the project. We have strengthen community to maintain resisters properly initially it help by our Community Mobilizer and gradually we will transfer ownership to the Gram Sabha members to maintain it .We have strengthening grass root democracy among the poor and marginalized communities, mostly Adivasis (Scheduled Tribes) for establishing "Indigenocracy" (indigenous value based method of governance Strengthen system) and self-rule. The project aims to address the underlying causes of poverty and injustice among the poor and the marginalized people. Strengthen grass root democracy among the poor and marginalized communities, mostly Adivasis (Scheduled Tribes) for establishing "Indigenocracy" (indigenous value-based method of governance system) and self- rule. The project aims to address the underlying causes of poverty and injustice among the poor and the marginalized people. People will be motivated to streamline the village economy as per the Gram Sabha rulings that take care of community ownership over the natural and man-made resources. Consequently, these steps will ensure the efficient participation, overcoming barriers and being forth the model of grass root governance 'emanating from below' with mutual consent. These activities will attempt to infuse the confidence and camaraderie that they are the custodian of their lives and they are capable enough to take formidable step. This will lead to more informed and well aware people towards their right and motivate them to further safeguard and promote the indigenous value system and governance structure, protect community claims and ensure sustainable livelihood options at their own effort.

Intervention and Initiatives

Baseline survey: We conducted base line survey of 9281 households. The survey report indicates that people are neither well aware about Gram Sabha (traditional governance structure in the villages), nor they have proper knowledge about the government schemes and organic farming (agriculture). The survey report also indicates that the participation of women is less in Gram Sabhas.

Initial village level Motivation and planning meeting: These meetings have enabled all stakeholders such as Village head, traditional community leaders, Mukhiya and PRI members and other frontline community service providers along with members of community on thematic issue of Gram sabha and local self-governance.

Two days Motivation camps: In each motivation camp youth participation is more than anticipated numbers, due to eagerness to know the functioning of Gram Sabha, role of PESA/ PRI and the role of youth to strengthen these institutions. In these camps youth motivated for their role and responsibility in traditional self-governance and PESA / PRI. The ground reality is that the educated youth unemployment is very high in project area and they always search for any scope for their better future.

Awareness Trainings on women rights: Around 65% of women are aware of their rights and entitlements leading to increase self confidence. Out of 315 women participants 196 are actively participated in 7 awareness trainings of 4 blocks. Meetings were organized for awareness on women rights, and their legal aspect. During these meetings they asked us different questions regarding rights of women. They are now enriched with right based approach and knowledge. Active participation means these women are questioning about Women rights and entitlements. Discussion on the following points:

- Domestic violence
- Witch craft
- Penetration of dowry in tribal community
- Unequal wages to male and female
- Women Rights under MGNREGA
- Early marriage of girl child
- Property rights
- Social Security Schemes (Pension)

Quarterly Review and Planning meeting The quarterly review meetings at Panchayat level took place in the presence of Mukhiyas, PRI members, and villagers. The main objective of these meetings was to make the local institutions effective and functional. In these meetings women and youth participation comparatively increased.

Participants also engaged in planning of organic farming and kitchen gardening in their villages.

Focus Group Discussions In the FGDs, villagers decided to form Standing Committees in their Gram Sabhas, where average women's participation was 57 percent. The local traditional leaders discussed the strategies for strengthening traditional governance systems in every village.

The Standing Committee will support Gram Sabha to take final decision in different developmental works in the village. Formation of Standing Committee in the Gram Sabha is necessary to exercise their power and duties.

Now Gram Sabhas of the villages are conscious for formations of Standing Committees.

In order to make successful resource mapping, firstly we met with villagers, PRI members, Mukhiya, Traditional leaders such as- Munda, Manjhi, Manki, etc. and talked about importance of resource mapping of the village and made them agree. A date and place were fixed for resource mapping according to their consent. Village meetings were organized at the fixed places according to the schedule. In the meetings PRI members, Mukhiya and villagers were present. After a detail discussion about Natural Resources, man-made assets and topographical situations, the villagers draw a map of their respective villages on the ground by indicating all the resources of the villages in a participatory manner, where the elders, men and women, youth and children were actively involved in the process. Finally, they prepared the map on chart paper. With the help of this resource- map, the villagers identified their needs and visualised how they want to see the villages in future, which have been shown on the maps in different colours. The villagers also realized that available resources are not utilised properly. While seeing the resource map, they got ideas to utilise their resources in better and sustainable way. Facilitators of SAMVAD facilitated the whole process of resource mapping. Around 35% of the participants in the different programmes were youth.

Awareness Meeting: On village development have been completed in 140 villages. The awareness meetings have been conducted for orienting community members on village development process, so that they can decide their own destiny.

Resources Mapping and Need Assessment: These workshops have been designed to enhance of women in resources mapping. The available local resources and assessing the present needs of the communities, which become basis for further planning of village development. People have begun to discuss about the prevailing health, sanitation, drinking water and farming related issues in the villages.

Orientation Camps on village's development: Orientation camps at Panchayat level is meant for awareness of community leader ongoing government schemes and social protection schemes. In these Orientation camps people have come to know the various development and flagship schemes and the procedure mechanism to claim it.

Flagship Programmes: Sixteen Panchayat levels meeting on flagship programmes have been completed. In these meeting community leaders, various stakeholders and relevant staff of government department participated.

After completion of those programmes, community leaders and senior citizens of the 140 villages become aware to communicate with Block Development Officer (BDO) for various types of pension and other social welfare schemes. Women and youth now visit BDO office for getting information about the rules and regulations of MGNREGAs, Public Distribution System, and Tribal Sub-Plan schemes.

Vermin-Compost: 140 vermin compost pits have been completed. Vermin Compost is used in agricultural process for enhancing yield with local resources for promoting organic farming for use of community.

Four Demonstration Farms: Demonstration Farms are promoting for climate resilient sustainable agro practices in the villages and they are meant for community use. The detail information regarding organic agriculture practices has been given to the farmers through demonstration centers. By Demo-plot, farmers are becoming aware and realized its importance to be sustainable in organic farming. They are intensively cultivating seasonal vegetables and fruits on their land following this practice.

“Lalpur Organic Agriculture Centre”: SAMVAD wants 'Lalpur' to be the “Traditional agriculture information centre”. Another programme is focused on organic vegetable and millets cultivation, fruit plantation, vermin compost pit, wastage compost preparation and use of land plotting, Jalkund (water body) etc. This demo centre has been divided into 22 plots and each plot has a Jalkund. In this plot 250 pits are prepared for plantation and 130 fruit plants have been planted. So far 70 farmers are motivated under this Agriculture Demo Centre.

Training Curriculum for Staff: One training programme was conducted with staff of SAMVAD on preparation of curriculum and the developed curriculum will be used for training and capacity enhancement.

.Orientation and Capacitation meeting for project staff of SAMVAD: Staff orientation/capacitating meeting was organized by SAMVAD on 12-13 Feb 2019 at Madhupur. In this meeting, the project goal, objectives, indicators and activities were disseminated and role and responsibility of project staff were finalized. The knowledge for monitoring and reporting of the staff was enhanced. They were also motivated on how to make relationship with the villagers and co-workers.

Two days orientation meeting with all staff: A meeting was held at Maithan, Dhanbad and all project staff were motivated on thematic issue of Adivasiyat (Indigeneity) and on the challenges Jharkhand is currently facing. Participants were also discussed the role of development-induced displacement that destroyed the nature and culture of Jharkhand.

Core Team on Communication: One day meeting was conducted with core team on communication and self promotion through extensive social media use.

One day meeting with trustee for development written document and describes the role and responsibility: The meeting was held to re-develop mission and vision of the organization and also to re-define responsibilities of each trustee and members of administration. In this meeting trustees discussed on ‘Child Safeguard Policy’.

Quarterly Staff Planning and Review meetings: In these quarterly staff planning meetings, office and field staff participated and they reviewed the works and progress of previous quarter and planning for next set of priorities were set.

Publication, Communication and Dissemination:

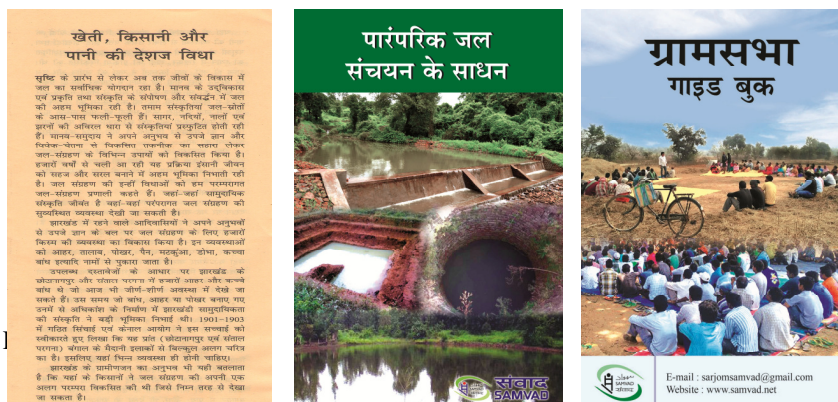
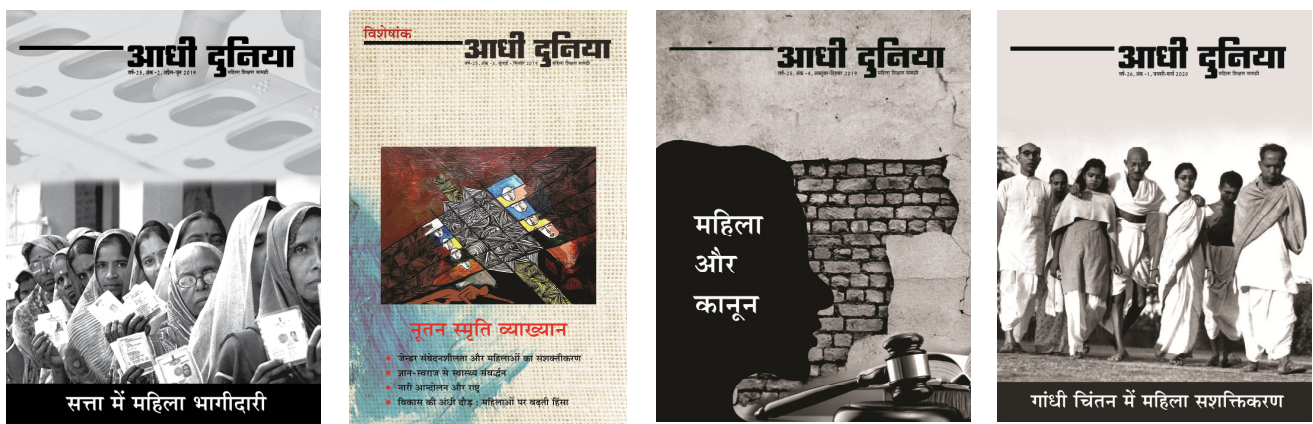
It is a continuous process. Under the process of publication. Communication and dissemination, four subscriptions of "Aadhi Duniya" on the issue of gender and women empowerment has been published and disseminated among stakeholders.

- Aadhi Duniya, April - June, 2019 was on women's participation in politics.
- Aadhi Duniya, July - September, 2019 was on gender, women empowerment and women's movement.
- Aadhi Duniya, October - December, 2019 was on women and the law.
- Aadhi Duniya, January - March, 2020 was on women empowerment in Gandhian perspective.

A reading material named "**Kheti Kisani Aur Pani Ki Desaj Vidha**" has also been published and disseminated which focuses on traditional agriculture and water harvesting systems.

A Booklet on traditional water harvesting structures named "**Paramparik Jal Sanchayan ke Sadhan**" has been prepared, published and disseminated during one year of time period.

A book named "**Gram Sabha Guide Book**" has been published and disseminated among SAMVAD Team and Community leaders as the reference book to strengthen Local self Governance



Case Studies:

Santoshi Devi campaigning for organic farming

There was a time, where the farmers do not want to cultivate any crop or vegetables without using chemical fertilizers. They believed that there will not be good yield without use of chemical fertilizers. But now this concept is changing slowly. Now the farmers more interested towards non pest organic farming. Now women are also having started organic farming.



Santoshi Devi of Lawaghain village of Itki Block, Ranchi is now campaigning for organic farming. SAMVAD has provided support to her for organic farming and from last two years she is doing organic farming in one acre of land. Her husband Mr. Sudhir Kachchap helps her in doing organic farming. She told that earlier also they were doing organic farming for their good health, but with the help of SAMVAD they have started organic farming in a commercial basis and as a result they have benefited economically. The vegetables they cultivate are more costly than the vegetables grown by using chemical fertilizers. Santoshi Devi has established an example in the area by starting organic farming. The villagers are impressed and started following her. By looking Santoshi Devi, six families from Lawaghain village have also started organic farming. They use only compost manure or vermin compost in agriculture practices. At

the same time they use only organic pesticide. They have 14 cows or bulls and 25 goats and because of this they don't need to purchase cow dung.

On the 1st year they have planted Mangoes, Litchi, and Papaya in the bund of the land along with the vegetables. Papaya is now started giving fruits. They do four crops in a year. Usually they crop Chilies, Coriander leaf, Tomato, Brinjal, Peas and Beens. They also cultivate Zinger. Her husband, Mr. Sudhir Kachchap is the Gram Pradhan (Village leader) of Lawaghain village and because of this there is a positive impact of this action in the village.

Santoshi Devi is non metric, but well understands about the importance of organic farming. Early morning she sells the vegetables in the village itself. As the villagers know that she is doing organic farming, they purchase all the vegetables from her. Now she is trying to find the market which can provide a good market price for the organic products.

Case Story of PVTG families

Village- Turka, Tola- Pahariya para, Panchayat- Bamandiha

This is the story of 11 PVTG families of Pahariya para.

They were settled by Gram Sabha about 25 years ago. They got 3 dismal of land and approved by CO. They got 11 Indira awash and one Samudaek Bhawan.

In the year of 2018, they got the notice by the CO to evacuate the land because they treated the land as Gocha Jamin . They ignored the notice at first and after 2 months they got another notice from CO. In 2019, SDO issued a notice to evacuate the land within 10 days, otherwise, face the consequences.

They got panic and rushed to the gram sabha to share the whole story by Manik Pujahar to Manjhi Hadam Santosh Tudu. Gram sabha takes the step and issued one letter to CO, stated that our area comes under 5th schedule and according to pesa act any such decision is taken by Govt. in concern with Gram Sabha. At present no such information shared by the CO to Gram Sabha and the Gram Sabha decided that the PVTG families settled by the Gram Sabha is legal.

Gram Sabha Initiatives against trafficking

Trafficking of Children and selling them in big cities with the temptation of providing jobs is a common incidence of Jharkhand state. The news of this kind of incidences we get through the newspapers and other media in our day to day life.

This is an incidence of such kind of the village Tangrai of west Singhbhum district. A girl named, Kalpana Devgam has lost her father and mother during her childhood. She is the eldest among her three sisters and one brother. She was working in a Ration Shop in Chaibasa to meet the livelihood of their family. At the mean time she met with an agent named, Sony Tirkey. Sony

tempted her to provide job in a big Company at Kodarma, Jharkhand @ Rs. 15000/- per month. Believing to this temptation, Kalpana went to Kodarma along with Sony Tirkey.

With the help of a village worker of SAMVAD, a Gram Sabha meeting was organized on 6th August, 2019 at the village Tangrai, where the matter of trafficking of Kalpana was discussed. Gram Sabha came to know through the family members that Kalpana is in Jhumri Tilaiya (Kodarma). As per the decision of Gram Sabha, a team consists of a SAMVAD worker, Sangeeta, Poornima Biruli and the women of SHG visited to Kodarma in search of Kalpana. With the help of Police Administration and the local people the team finds out the girl, Kalpana.

Kalpana was exploited by the Company. She worked there in that Company 17 to 18 hours by getting very nominal wages. The team brought back Kalpana to the village by releasing from the Company. Later on, the Gram Sabha decided to work towards creating livelihood opportunities at the village for her.

Village Sikitiya Steps up towards Organic Farming

There are 48 families in the village Dhawatand under Sikitiya panchayat of Madhupur Block. Santhal Adivasi dominated this village is surrounded by dense forest cover. The livelihood of the villagers depends on agriculture. Usually they use hybrid seeds and chemical fertilizers in their agriculture.

With the motivation of a village worker of SAMVAD, a farmer of the village named Fagu Kisku adopted the traditional method of agriculture and used traditional seeds and compost manure in his agricultural field. The rest of the villagers got motivated by watching the size and healthy growth of the crops in his agricultural field. They appreciated this kind of organic farming by using traditional seeds and compost manures. Manjhi Hadam (Village Headman) of the village, Mr. Baleshwar Soren, and Sonalal Murmu, Dinesh Hansda, Barki Devi etc. from the village Sikitiya are now decided to do this kind of farming in their agricultural fields.

This way the Adivasi communities of this village are now steps up towards Organic farming for their livelihood.

Vegetable Cultivation through Drip Irrigation

A village named Madhupur comes under Dhadhara Panchayat of Bero Block, Ranchi District. There is one SHG called Rani Mahila Swayam Sahayta Samuh in the village. This SHG was formed in the year, 2015. There are total 15 members in this SHG. The main occupation of the villagers is agriculture.

The members of SHG got the knowledge and information of drip irrigation through different kinds of media. They impressed enough with the drip irrigation methodology and decided to implement this kind of irrigation in their village. They put the matter in the village Gram Sabha Meeting. After the discussion on the benefits of Drip Irrigation, Gram Sabha decided to adopt drip irrigation in their agricultural practices.

After the decision, the villagers are growing the vegetables in about 2 Acres of land by using drip irrigation. The result of drip irrigation is so impressive. As an impact of this initiative, the villagers of the surrounding villages also have adopted the drip irrigation in their agricultural practices.

Agriculture through drip irrigation not only improves the production, but also helps to maintain the moisture of land and ground water level.

Initiative towards Women Empowerment

Presently, there are so many developmental schemes run by the central Govt. and the state Govt. for the empowerment of women. The women are also coming forward. It is the initiative taken by the women groups of village Dwar of Siyari Panchayat, Gomiya Bokaro without any Govt. support which has become a model in the area. It was appreciated and accepted by the local administration.

Dwar village of Siyari Panchayat is dominated by tribal population, where 55 families from Santhal tribe live together. There are Primary School and Anganbadi Centre in the village. The Panchayat vice Mukhiya (Chairman) is from the village itself.

At first sight, the village seems normal as the other villages. While discussing with the women groups, one can hear about the “Mahua Laddu”; a traditional food product, which has become an identity of Dwar village. This identity is not been established suddenly, but it is the contribution of women group for this fame. It is the result of continuous effort and hard work of Ms. Parwati Murmu, Babita Murmu and Meena Soren of this village. They have started preparing “Mahua Laddu” by getting training from SAMVAD and adopted this as an income generating activity. There was a big Religious festival of Sarna religion at Lalpaniya, Bokaro in November, 2019, where they displayed and sale “Mahua Laddu”. The women group got encouraged with the money they earned and decided in meeting to continue preparing Mahua Laddu as the income generating activity. This has also helped to check alcoholism in the area. The women stopped preparing local liquor from Mahua and started preparing Mahua laddu as a source of income. Preparation of Mahua laddu by the women group was highly appreciated by the farmers and the Block Agriculture Officer during the Kisan Mela (Farmers fair) organized at the Block level on January, 2020. The MLA of Gomiya was so much impressed that he announced an amount of

Rs. 2500000/- to start a training Centre at proposed Block of Mahuatand. The Deputy Commissioner of Bokaro assured that he will send the proposal to State Govt. for recognizing and promoting preparation of Mahua laddu as income generating activity to empower women groups.

The women group “Yug Marshal” has taken 63 numbers of Mahua trees in lease up to April, 2020 to collect and procure large scale of Mahua for their business.

Presently, the women groups of the Gomiya district come to Dwar village for the training of Mahua Laddu preparation. Now “Mahua Laddu” has become the identity of Dwar village. The initiative taken by the women groups of Dwar village has been appreciated in the area and the women of the area instead of preparing Mahua liquor, they are preparing Mahua Laddu, earn money and take care of their children and the families.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

Visit of representatives from BftW and FMSF:

Representative of BftW, Ms. Gerlind and representative of FMSF, Mr. Ben Chell visited the project area on the month of November, 2019. During their visit they had a meeting with board of trustee, a meeting with project staff on 7th November, 2019 and made a visit to village Medhiya, Musabani on 8th November, 2019 and had interaction with the villagers.



Visit of Ms. Paromita from OAK Foundation:

Representative from AOK Foundation, Ms. Paromita visited Ranchi on 11th November, 2020. During her two days visit, she had interaction with staff and visited the village Lawaghain of Itki Block, Ranchi. She observed the Demo Centre of Organic Agriculture and had interaction with the villagers of Lawaghain.

